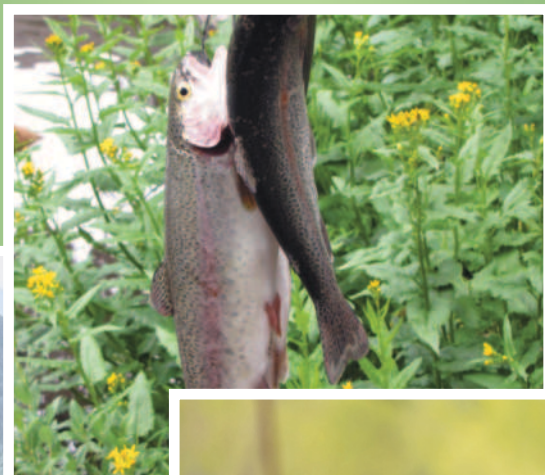


2022 Greenhorn Valley



*Your guide to Hiking, Camping, Lodging and Events
in the Greenhorn Valley and the San Isabel National Forest*



Free


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HUERFANO RIVER RANCH



Working ranch located about 10 miles northwest of Walsenburg in the lush Huerfano River Valley

Highlights:
*Over 1500 acres to explore!
 Trails for hiking, biking, ATV's
 An abundance of wildlife
a nature lover's paradise!*

Perfect for family reunions, small celebrations, overflow lodging for guests, and staycations!

Two historic, newly renovated homes and a modern tiny home

Sleeps 16

Pavilion with fireplace, outdoor seating and dining





HUERFANORIVERRANCH.COM

Working Cattle Ranch Gives Solitude and Hundreds of Acres of Adventure



A dad brought his 18-year-old daughter from Chicago to the Huerfano River Ranch 'to look at the stars'.

A Pastor from a church in Pueblo spent time at the ranch and had never been close to a cow in his life. He asked if he could help feed the cattle and got the opportunity to fill his dream.

"The time you have at the ranch is yours to figure out," shared Jasper Kenney. "We have a walking area of 2 1/2 miles by 2 1/2 miles, and we are really flexible on what you do with it. You can bring your pets, your horses, your ATV's, and the ranch can accommodate your needs."

Kenney bought the 1500-acre ranch from Huerfano County as an investment in 2020. As he hired and helped upgrade the facility, it was the workers themselves who planted the idea in Kenney's head that it would be a great destination for people who wanted peace and quiet.

A Mennonite couple who installed the hardwood floors stayed in a camper while they were doing the work and asked if they and their family could come back as guests instead of workers.



Thirty-five members of their family took the opportunity to spend time together, recharging and relaxing at the ranch a few months later.

One guest summed it up this way, "Picture your whole family together preparing a meal and enjoying time together. There is enough outdoor seating for almost any size family. Lovely, decorative touches bring a comfortable environment to relax and unwind, especially with no internet interruptions."

The ranch began as the William Craig Ranch. Craig leased property for a fort. His lease extended clear to the Pueblo County line. The fort was below the mouth of the St. Charles River in the NW corner of the grant. The lease was \$1.00 annually for 15 years. The water rights on the property were filed in 1892.

In the renovated home, the room that is the Master Bedroom was the

original house. A water cistern, used until the early 1900's, is still visible. Three or four families lived in the compound in the pre-1900's.

There is a county water recharge pond on the property and it is from the county that Kenney bought the property. A

headgate, ditch, and pond belonging to the county are on the property. Since 2018 the county has had a recharge pond on the property.

The property is not a dude ranch, but a working cattle ranch. And that, to Kenney, is a selling point.



The property is unique and is away from everyone else. The facility can sleep as many as 18, as long as, Kenney said with a smile, "It is a very close family."

It is listed on both VRBO and Airbnb, but Kenney also books directly.

You can contact the ranch at (719)240-3090 The website is <https://huerfanoriverranch.com>

"There are still a lot of things we want to do," shared Kenney. "Our main focus right now is more hiking trails in the area," he shared. "Come and take a look at the property. We are only about half an hour from Colorado City and about 15 minutes from Walsenburg."

Thanksgiving of 2021 saw the first paid clients.

They experienced the living water, the three different buildings from a main house to a tiny home. And the Taos Trail, a mere two miles from the primary building.

"You have 1500+ acres you can explore at your will," shared Kenney. "Time slows down, with two small towns close for shopping and restaurants. The feeling of being miles and miles away from everything is wonderful."

One recent guest shared, "The homes are very tastefully updated with rock and rustic woods that mimic the beautiful surroundings."

Her husband added, "We didn't even turn on the TV. It just seemed that it would disturb the peaceful ranch setting."

Scott and Cindy Swartwood, Owners
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dchucka@farmersagent.com

August

- 2 & 9 Rye Colorado City Saddle Club Gymkhana, 6:30pm, Team Sorting the 2nd and 4th Friday evening, 6:30 pm, 5604 Cuerno Verde Rd. www.rccsaddleclub.com
- 6 Beulah Cool Run Classic Car Show, see www.beulahvalley-artsCouncil.org
- 6-7 66th Annual Beulah Arts & Crafts Show- Beulah School of Natural Science, www.beulahvalleyartsCouncil.or
- 13-14 Hollydot Club Champion Golf Tournament, 719-676-3341
- 20 SilverWest AirFest - 7:30am-3:30pm, Butler Field, Westcliffe
- 27 Greenhorn Valley Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament at Hollydot, 719- 676-3341
- Aug 31- Sept 4 Wet Mountain Weaver Fiber Art Show and Sale, 10am-5pm, Greenstone Artworks, 100 Main St. Westcliffe

8/27-9/6 Colorado State Fair and Rodeo-Pueblo

September

- Rye Colorado City Saddle Club Team Sorting the 2nd and 4th Friday evening, 6:30 pm, 5604 Cuerno Verde Rd. www.rccsaddleclub.com
- 10 10th Annual High Peaks Music Festival- Westcliffe highpeaksmusicfestival.org
- 17 The Beulah Challenge, 5K 10K Half-Marathon www.beulahchallenge.com
- 18 Rye Booster Club Golf Tournament at Hollydot, 719-676-3341

9/24-26 Pueblo Chile & Frijoles Festival

October

- 8 7th AnnualCC/Rye Lions Club Annual Autumn Car Show & Craft Fair 9am-3pm, Greenhorn Meadows Park. (Rain, wind or snow date is October 22)
- 31 HalloweenTown- twilight, Main Street in Rye



May

Family Night at Hollydot Golf Course - every Friday, 1pm, Cost Per Day, All You Can Play, \$25 per person w/cart. Clubs available to rent. 719-676-3341

- 27 Rye Colorado City Saddle Club Team Sorting, 6:30pm, 5604 Cuerno Verde Rd. www.rccsaddleclub.com
- 31 Rye Colorado City Saddle Club Gymkhana - 6:30pm, 5604 Cuerno Verede Rds.. www.rccsaddleclub.com
- 31 Cuerno Verde VFW Post 7305 Memorial Service 9am, Colorado City Cemetery, E. Jefferson Street, right on Sandy Court

June

Colorado City Public pool - opening in June, hours of operation were not established at press time. Please call 719-252-5474 for open swim, lap swim and aerobics days and hours.

- Rye Colorado City Saddle Club Gymkhana, Each Tuesday evening in June, 6:30pm Team Sorting the 2nd and 4th Friday evening, 6:30 pm, 5604 Cuerno Verde Rd www.rccsaddleclub.com
- 4 1st AnnualColorado City Fire Run, 5K run/walk to support the RFPD, and Chamber Business EXPO -9am Greenhorn Meadows Park \$30- \$35 w shirt- www.ryefiredistrict.us
- 3-30 Westcliffe Farmers Market each Friday, 9am-1pm, 4th & Main Westcliffe, CO
- 11 Friends of Hollydot Golf Tournament, 719-676-3341
- 18 Cuerno Verde VFW Sponsored American Flag Retirement, 11:30am, at the Lake Beckwith parking lot. Burning flags that are no longer suitable for display.

July

Rye Colorado City Saddle Club Gymkhana, each Tuesday in July 6:30pm, Team Sorting the 2nd and 4th Friday evening, 6:30 pm, 5604 Cuerno Verde www.rccsaddleclub.com

- 1 Shakespeare in the Sangres, The Misanthrope, 6pm - 8:30pm, Feedstore Amphitheater, 116 W. 2nd Street, Westcliffe, CO
- 4 Cuerno Verde VFW Post 7305 - Veterans, Active Military & Family 4th of July Picnic - noon, Greenhorn Meadows Park. Call 676-2375 for info
- 4 Independence Day Parade - 10am-11pm, Main Street, Westcliffe.
- 7-10 High Mountain Hayfever Bluegrass Festival, Bluff & Summit Park, Westcliffe - highmountainhayfever.org
- 16-17 Hollydot Two Man Golf Tournament, 719-676-3341
- 23 Chamber of Commerce Casino Night, Las Vegas Style Gaming/Prizes, ColoCity Rec Center
- 23 Annual Mountain Aire Festival at Brush Canyon Ranch, 4:00pm. Tickets include dinner and a live auction, available at the door. All proceeds to benefit Santa's Helpers and other charitable needs in the Valley.



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The Lodge at San Isabel, Pine Lodge and nearby Aspen Acres Campground



Lodge this summer are newly purchased kayaks and paddleboard rentals for your enjoyment on Lake Isabel, just a short walk down from the Lodge. The store will be open, to meet your fishing needs, as well as new

ing to know that the renovations highlight the area with local wood from nearby Christenson's Native Lumber Sawmill, as well as photographs and stories describing area history. There will be a full bar and, of course, the main dining room with updates and changes in décor.

mer and winter seasons. The restaurant will be open for breakfast, lunch, and dinner, although the menu will be considerably different.

As the owners build relations with the local Forest Service officials and gain the required permitting, they will add a new boat dock to the features offered at the Lodge at San Isabel, allowing access for row boating and other small watercraft.



The Lodge at San Isabel, Pine Lodge, and Aspen Acres Campground owners, Jennifer and Doug Pollock, have some good news for Greenhorn Valley residents, as well as those traveling to the area this summer. Snow is melting and the campground will be open as of May 11, and final touches to the cabins at The Lodge and The Pine Lodge are being finished just in time for Memorial Day weekend. The cabins, some of which have been open since April, 2021, with new décor including

new linens, quilts, sheets, towels, kitchen cookware, new furniture and mattresses, will add to the delightful mountain retreat.

Also available at The

inventory ready for shoppers and browsers.

As the Lodge at San Isabel Restaurant is not yet open, owner Jennifer Pollock wants those wait-

trees, hikers, hunters and ice fisherman. Brand new appliances, water pipes and propane lines should eliminate unexpected closures throughout the sum-

For those interested mostly in camping, Aspen Acres Campground now offers full-hookup sites, cabins, outfitter tents, tent sites, and a remodeled bathhouse, with hiking, biking, fishing, ATV-ing, dirt-bike riding, paddleboarding, kayaking, and stargazing all at 9,200 feet in the beauty of the San Isabel National Forest.

Upgrades to the bathhouse add a fresh new look, and the owners took note of how large camper

See San Isabel Lodge p. 10

COLORADO CITY RESIDENTS - BE ON THE LOOKOUT

Community Connectors will be in the Colorado City community gathering input on what you feel would make your community better!

If you see them in your neighborhood, let them know your thoughts!

For more information call 719-583-4480



May 2022 - July 2022
Monday - Friday

SEE YOU SOON!

Supported by the Sangre de Cristo Volunteers for Community (VFC), Valley First, and Pueblo Department of Public Health and Environment



How will you KNOW? What will you DO? 2022

Pueblo County Mountain Community Preparedness Provided by the Rye Fire Protection District

Pueblo County uses Twenty First Century Communications for their Emergency Telephone Notifications System (ETNS).

- Web-based
- Telephone based backup system
- On the fly or pre-recorded campaign
- Map or Contact List launch
- Detailed Reports

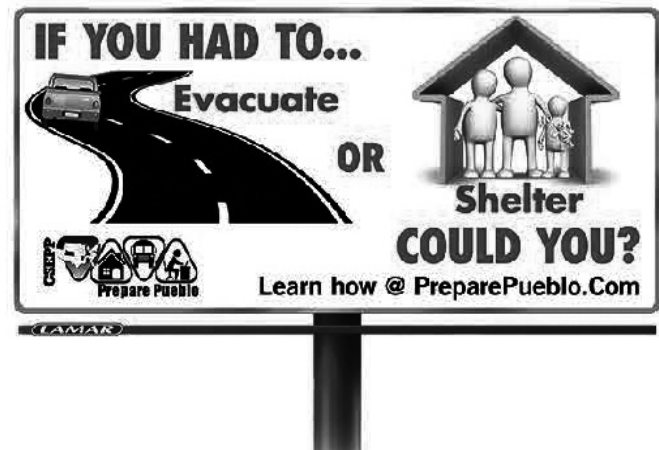
Home numbers are provided to the 911 center by local phone provider. Citizens can register their cellular phones or Voice over Internet (VoIP) phones at www.pueblocountyoptin.com

Aside from ETNS...First responders/officials notify via: Route Alerting (loud speaker patrol and door to door checks) telling residents to do one of two things.....

Evacuate or Shelter-in-Place

During an evacuation you will be asked to secure your home and take your family and pets (if able to load quickly) away from the threat. This is most likely requested by officials during a flood or wild land fire.

If you are told to shelter-in-place, it is likely a chemical or weather event. During this time period staying indoors is how best to keep your family safe. Going to an interior room with no windows and turning off ventilation systems may be requested.



The Pueblo County Sheriff's Office Emergency Services Center houses the 911 center as well as an Emergency Operations Center and a Joint Information Center. During a community disaster, these centers will coordinate and order resources, manage situational awareness, and distribute public information.

You can be better prepared by taking some preparedness steps:

Pack a 72 hour kit

Food, water, battery operated flashlight and radio, tools, first aid kit, cash, plastic sheeting whistle, a change of clothes, duct tape, matches, etc. This kit will be important if you find yourself shut in for extended time periods with no electricity but it is also a great item to grab if you have to evacuate quickly.

Keep copies of your Vital Documents somewhere secure and easy to get to if you have to evacuate.

Copies of....

- Birth Certificates
- Social Security cards
- Drivers Licenses
- Adoption Records
- Wills
- Insurance policies
- Credit Cards
- Credit, Investments, and Bank Account #'s
- Titles, Deeds, Trusts

Know where to go for information during an emergency



Social Media Accounts

- **PCSO Facebook**
<https://www.facebook.com/pueblosheriff>
- **Twitter@Pueblo Count SO**
- **Twitter@Rye_Fire_Dist**

Websites

- www.puebloemergency.info
- www.ryefiredistrict.us

Emergency Alert Station

- KCCY 96.9

Valley Restaurants Offer Dining with a View



Bolt Burgers & Shakes is a locally owned, fast casual eatery with a modern spin on the classic burger joint. The beef is fresh Angus, and the chicken is hand-battered and fried to perfection. The sauces and green Chile are made in house, and they offer over 30 flavors of milkshakes and malts! Check out the menu at www.boltburgersandshakes.com. Located at 6675 Highway 165, and can be reached at 719-676-6297.

High Octane: Our specialty is BBQ, steaks and pasta. Our BBQ comes from a 750-gallon oakwood barrel. We have a wide variety of comfort food and lots of side items. We also have a full bar. Watch sports on our total sports package 11 tv system. Dine on the patio or our roof top patio or inside. 8900 S. I-25, Colorado City (719) 676-2440.

Round Table at Hollydot offers cool patio seating with a full view of the mountains, while you enjoy a burger or sandwich with fries, appetizers or a fresh salad. Breakfast Burritos and sandwiches also available for the early birds. 55 N Parkway Drive, Colorado City, CO. Open 7 days a week. 719-676-3300.

Rye Café, where old friends meet and new ones are made. Come visit the century old Cafe in Rye, CO. The Rye Cafe is nestled in the foothills of the Greenhorn mountains and is less than 10 miles from the I-25 off of highway 165. Stop on in on your way to

San Isabel, Bishop's Castle, or any of the other beautiful nearby areas. Make our quaint and cozy Cafe your go to spot for Pizza and more. 2115 Main St. Rye, CO. 81069 (719)489-3131

Subway Sandwiches at Fastbreak Convenience offers a wide variety of hot or cold sandwiches, made just the way you like them. Located across from the Travel Center at exit 74.

Three Sisters Tavern & Grill: Truly delicious food and great service. The owners really are sisters and they make getting off I-25 worthwhile. For an unforgettable view take your meal outdoors or enjoy an ice-cold beer or glass of wine at the bar. Hwy 165, Colorado City. Open Sun-Thurs, 11am-9pm, Fri and Sat., 11am-10pm. 719-676-2276.

The Valley Grind offers a delicious cup of coffee and iced or frozen drink to meet anyone's tastes. Friendly and fast drive through coffee shop, located in the Ace Hardware parking lot on highway 165. Daily Specials posted at the drive-up window. Open Mon – Fri, 5:30am – 4pm, Sat. & Sun, 7am- noon, Delivery avail-

able Mon-Fri , 7 to 9am. 719-676-2905

Valley Market- Fresh Deli sandwiches, Chester Fried Chicken, or piping-hot Hunt Brothers Pizza may be just the thing as you begin your adventure in the Greenhorn Mountains. Stop in and stock up on cold drinks and all your camping

needs. Open Mon – Sat, 8am-7pm, 719-676-3348

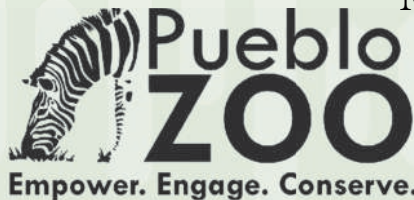
Viktorio's Pizzeria: has a wide variety of Italian and American menu items, with some big surprises for a small town. Join the pool tournament Friday or Karaoke on Saturday. Located on Bent Bros Blvd. in Colorado City.

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Baileys Put Heart and Soul into The Abriendo Inn



Flower Shop, and the Bailey's embarked on making The Abriendo Inn shine. Jeff laughed, "We retired so we could work at this 24/7."

The Inn had been in business as a bed and breakfast, but that business closed in 2012. The building had been used as office space until the Baileys purchased it in September of 2020.

Jeff shared, "We wound up closing on the deal right after things started to shut down with the pandemic and the unknowns were absolutely nerve-racking. We didn't know whether everything would be locked down or what would happen."

Because the Inn had been used as office space just prior to their purchasing it, there was no furniture at all and some of the rooms had been rearranged for offices. Jeff credits Cindy with haunting estate sales and auctions and finally finding a business in Colorado Springs that dealt in quali-

ty antique furniture.

The Baileys spent from September of 2020 to May of 2021 upgrading rooms and features, repainting, repairing, remodeling, and restoring as well as furnishing the mansion with lovely time period-appropriate furniture.

The Baileys opened for business on June 1, 2021. They feel that was a good time because the vaccine was becoming widespread and people were ready to travel again after having been confined.

By October 2021, they were booked and busy nearly all the time as word spread about the lovely venue and its warm hosts.

Originally built for Walter Brewing Company founder and president, Martin Walter, in 1906, The Abriendo Inn mansion is one of the largest and most elaborately detailed Foursquares in Pueblo. The unique mansion screams peacefulness and quality, from the wrought

See *The Abriendo Inn* p. 9



The Valley Grind

 Open Mon-Fri
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 Saturday & Sunday
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When Rye High School's long-time, beloved teacher and coach Jeff Bailey retired, he and his wife Cindy made a tough decision to move to Pueblo and buy the historical mansion, The Abriendo Inn.

Cindy closed her valley favorite, Forget Me Not



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- Annual Memorial Day Observance
- Colorado City Cemetery
- Buddy Poppy Distributions
- Supporting Veteran Services





The Abriendo Inn
Continued from p. 8

iron fence surrounding it to the lush green lawns and the lovely shaded porch. Enter the front doors and the view of the lovely sitting room, dining room, and stunning curved staircase are just breathtaking. Mention is certainly due of the many handpicked antiques and delightful décor.

The Baileys have seven luxurious suites they rent out, including Honeymoon suites with jacuzzi's. They are available for weddings, retreats, bridal and baby

showers, club events, and nearly any special event. They recently hosted sell-out events

for Valentine's Day and Mother's Day. They can handle up to 30 people at indoor events and up to 100 at outdoor events. The Baileys have put their hearts and souls into keeping this historical mansion charm available to their guests, and their passion and love for it shows through with every sentence you speak with them. Jeff will tell you his favorite thing about run-

ning the Inn is the people he gets to meet and the stories they share, and the guests seem to depart feeling they are lucky to have gotten to stay there.

To view the photo gallery or book reservations at The Abriendo Inn, visit <http://www.theabriendoinn.com> or call 719-626-9676.

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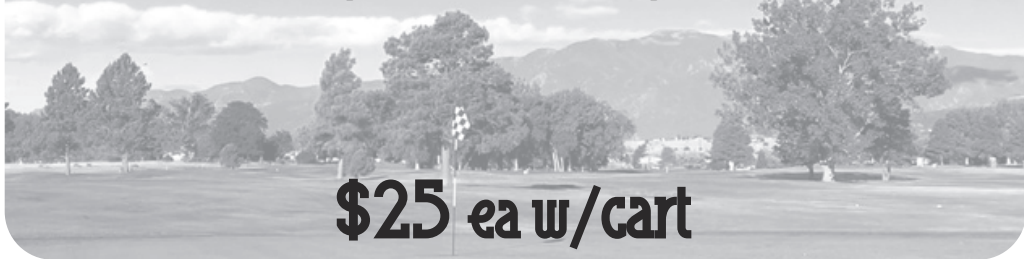
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Lodge at San Isabel Continued from page 5

trailers and RVs are now compared to when the campground was built, widening all of the pull-through sites. The pull-through sites offer 50amp electric as well.

Information for The Pine Lodge and The Lodge at San Isabel can be seen at the San Isabel Lodging and Restaurant website at

<https://www.SanIsabelLodging.com>. The phone number is (719) 489-2280 and the email address is sanisabellodging@gmail.com. Aspen Acres Campground website can be accessed at <https://www.aspenacrescampground.com>, their phone number is (719) 485-3275, and their email address is aspenacrescamping@gmail.com



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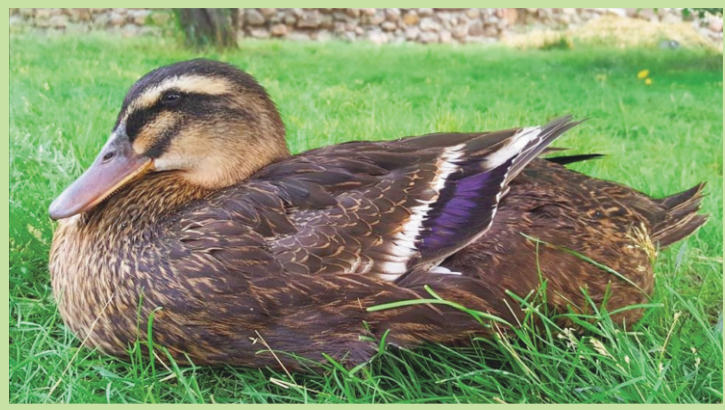
Make a Stop at Lucky Ducks Farm in Rye



Lucky Ducks Farm owner/operator introduces herself to the valley:

Lucky Ducks Farm in Rye started with this Rouen hen duck. Six years later, she's still a happy, healthy, and very much the boss hen of the farm! Duck eggs have grown in popularity in recent years for baking and cooking just as you would chicken eggs and we now have them readily available.

I grew up in West Virginia, moving to Colorado at the age of 12. Back in West Virginia, the Grandparents on both sides of my family had large gardens full of heirloom vegetables and herbs. I can still remember the amazing smell of walking through the gar-



dens, picking and snapping the beans with my cousins. My parents also grew a garden full of fruits and vegetables. I learned at a young age how to plant, grow and harvest while saving enough seeds to plant for the next year.

My favorite part of gardening in Rye is that the soil is so rich here, very few amendments are needed for growing healthy crops. I never use any chemicals or pesticides. The ducks are gra-

acious enough to eat the grasshoppers and other pests for me! My husband rototills the rows every Spring. The ducks assume he does this just for them, as the whole

going into the gardens, we'll have buttercrunch lettuce, carrots, corn, squash, zucchini, sugar sweet pie pumpkins, cushaws, butternut squash, blue pumpkins (jarhandle pumpkins), red, black, yellow, and white tomatoes, green, yellow, burgundy and tongue-of-fire beans, watermelons, cucumbers, cilantro, sage, thyme, dill, sweet basil, purple basil and green onions and more.

We always have free

range duck eggs available. I hope you can come visit us in Rye any time for duck eggs and for farm fresh crops, this summer-fall at the farm stand Fridays-Saturdays. For more information, hours, and weekly crop availability, please join our email list at luckyducksfarm@gmail.com. Hope to see you this year! Your neighbors, Ryan & Amanda Brimley and a whole lot of happy quackers!

flock follows right on his heels to collect every grub that gets tilled up! They just know all that effort must be solely for their snacking delight. The spoiled hens line up at the garden gate when they hear the rototiller start!

We will be doing our farm stand here this year. To name a few things



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Don't Miss the Historic Pope Barn



This picturesque barn had a wooden floor that was used a dance floor for the all-night get-togethers early settlers enjoyed. The barn was built on the Nicklas and Benedicta Peterson Christenson homestead. Nicklas was the older brother of Magnus Emil Christenson, whose descendents still live in the Rye area.

Both Nicklas and Benedicta immigrated to the United States from Sweden in 1881. They claimed this land, where they built the barn about 1886. On August 15, 1888, Nicklas became a naturalized citizen making him eligible for their

homestead. The land was awarded in 1890 [24S 68W Section 7 SE ¼; SE ¼].

Nicklas and Benedicta had at least three children that lived to become adults. The children grew up on the ranch; but the family left the land a year or two after Benedicta's death in 1919 to live in Pueblo. The land was leased and after Nicklas' death in 1939, son Nels Barnard Christenson inherited it with the barn.

Nels was a widower by this time. He had married Mary Ann Savage, the daughter of George Washington and Adelia Matilda Austin Savage who homestead north of the Christenson homestead. Nels and Mary Ann's only child, Myra was born and died in 1920. After her death, Nels took Mary Ann to California where they lived almost ten years. Mary Ann died in 1932, after they returned to Colorado. Nels lived in Pueblo until his death in 1955.

The Pope family acquired the Christenson Ranch. Daniel Lincoln and Ina Constance Price Pope combined her family's homestead into his family's Pope Valley Ranch. This land is located between Colorado City and Beulah off of Siloam Road.

Daniel and Ina Pope had one child, Walter Thomas born in 1927. Walter grew up on his family's ranch and married Mildred Marie McLallen in 1947. The couple worked his family's land and had eleven children.

The Nicklas Christenson homestead became Popes' Snowslide Valley Ranch. Eventually the land was sub-divided and sold; but the barn and the Pope name remain.



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Camping Near the Wet Mountains



campground is situated along Squirrel Creek at an elevation of 8,900 feet. There are 31 campsites in the campground. Twelve are back-in campsites suitable for small

The KOA Kampground is just to the west at the Colorado City/Rye exit. Featuring excellent camping and RV parking, with great views and fun events throughout the summer, the KOA is a popular spot in southern Colorado. An inviting pool and minia-

ture golf are open for young and old to enjoy as you get to know your fellow campers. Cabins are also available at the KOA. The Ophir Creek Campground is located about 48 miles southwest of Pueblo, eight miles north of Lake Isabel. This

RVs. The remaining nineteen are walk-in tent sites. Each campsite has a picnic table and fire grate. Some of the sites are in an open meadow while the rest are shaded by spruce and aspen trees. This area is very pretty, especially in the fall and it is a great place to tent camp. Reservations are not accepted. Open May through mid October

From Pueblo, go 25 miles south on interstate 25 to exit 74. Go west 26.5 miles on state Hwy 165 to FSR 400. Turn left and travel about a half mile to the campground.

Activities
FISHING: Fishing is

available in Ophir Creek, Lake Isabel and St. Charles Creek.

HIKING: Hiking is available on the Second Mace, Squirrel Creek, Silver Circle, Dome Rock and South Creek trails.

BIKING: Biking is available on the Second Mace, Squirrel Creek, Silver Circle, Dome Rock and South Creek trails.

MOTORIZED TRAIL RIDING: ATVs are permitted on the Second Mace, Squirrel Creek, Silver Circle trails.

Ophir Creek Road
From the campground follow Ophir Creek Forest Service Road #360 12 miles, then turn left on Greenhorn Forest Service Road #369, which continues another 13 miles.

Trailheads along this road include the Cisneros, 9 miles in on FSR# 369, Pole Creek, and the western trailhead of Barlett Trail at nearly 17 miles along #369. From the origin at the Ophir Campground to elevations above 11,000 ft., witness a beautifully changing variety of wildflowers culminating with abundant purple Wild Lupine scattered among the deep forest green of towering Poderosa Pine.

For the very determined, continue on FSR #369 and spend the afternoon fishing in the remote and peaceful alpine lakes at 11,2200 feet.s.

Greenhorn Meadows Campground-

Located on highway 165, just a few miles from from the I-25 exit. The campground has 15 RV sites with electricity and numerous tent sites, city water, full shower and bathroom facilities, a gazebo and a cave if you can find it!

St. Charles Campground-

Located about 40 miles southwest of Pueblo near Lake Isabel, the elevation is 8,800 feet. Fifteen campsites suitable for both RVs and tents. About one mile

to Lake Isabel from the campground. No hookups for RVs. Ten of the campsites are reservable and five available on a first come/first serve basis.

The campground is one of three in the San Isabel Recreation Area. Firewood is available for a fee. The nearby community of San Isabel offers limited groceries, paddle and rowboat rentals and a small restaurant for a cooks night out.

Hiking-Snow Slide Trail - 5 miles/Cisneros Trail - 15 miles

Fishing-Brown and Rainbow trout in the reservoir and Brook trout in the St. Charles headwaters. Open Memorial Day through Labor Day weekend.

Directions-From Colorado City, CO, take State Rt. 165 west 12.2 miles to San Isabel Recreation Area sign. Turn left at sign and go 1.1 miles to campground sign. Turn left at sign and go 0.3 miles to another campground sign. Turn right at sign into campground.

Davenport Campground-

Davenport campground stretches along Squirrel Creek among spruce and Aspen at an elevation of 8,500 ft. Widely spaced sites provide a spacious feeling and privacy. The camp ground is primarily for tent camping,

Hiking-Squirrel Creek Trail #1384 (foot, horse, mountain bike & dirt bike) - 4.5 miles, Second Mace Trail #1322 (foot, horse, mountain bike & dirt bike) - 7 miles

Fishing-Brook trout

Directions-From Colorado City, CO, take State Rt. 165 west 18.2 miles to campground sign (Forest Rt. 382). Turn left at sign onto Rt. 382 (dirt, single-lane with turnouts) and go 1.4 miles to campground.

(This is bear country; practice safe food storage techniques.)

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The NWDC is the perfect location for your next wedding, corporate retreat, or family reunion! Our scenic River Campus in Pueblo provides a covered pavilion, as well as a spacious deck with a panoramic view of the Arkansas River. The Mountain Campus in Beulah offers the eco-friendly Horseshoe Lodge, with charming dorms and nature-themed rooms to sleep up to 90 people. The Mountain Campus also offers an outdoor amphitheater and a rustic WPA-era pavilion.

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The Picturesque Hollydot Golf Course



The 18-hole Hollydot Golf Course which celebrated its grand opening in May of 1973 is nestled in the Greenhorn Valley with the beautiful Greenhorn Mountains towering majestically as a background for the golf course located just 20 minutes south of Pueblo in Colorado City.

The Par 71 course has five different tee-off spots:

Gold(6854 yards), Blue(6443 yards), White(6,000 yards), Red(5,000 yards), and Orange for Seniors (5,500 yards). The white was recently lengthened and the red was shortened slightly.

Phillip Spicer, Head Pro at the golf course, has been at Hollydot Golf Course for nine years. Phillip offers lessons for all ages and experience levels.

Hollydot Golf Course is very well run, well laid out, and the weather seems to be unusually co-operative. The course hosts tournaments throughout the season with local teams, as well as many from Pueblo and other surrounding communities. The rates are very affordable, with junior, family and senior rates available.

The Hollydot Pro Shop is

filled with top notch golfing apparel and equipment to choose from. Just right for a gift if you have a golf enthusiast.

The Round Table Sports Grill allows diners a choice of the cool air-conditioned bar and restaurant or dining alfresco on the patio with a full view of the Greenhorn Mountains. Don't miss this relaxing experience.

You'll enjoy the interesting mix of small-town locals and golfers who travel from far and wide to play at Hollydot Golf Course. Helping keep Hollydot in top shape are the Friends of Hollydot, a non-profit volunteer organization that helps in a myriad of ways from painting, to picking up, cleaning, and just ful-

filling their mission statement which is "to promote, support, and enhance the golf experience for the benefit of the community."

Hollydot History

The first nine holes of the Hollydot Golf Course were completed in 1961. Holland and Clyde Young designed the course and Ron Higgins built it. The course name is a combination of the owners of the land the course was built on: Holland and Dorothy Duell's first names: Holly and Dot. The West nine holes opened in 1965 and the clubhouse was built in the winter of 1966 to 1967. Eventually the course grew to 27 holes. The official Grand Opening was held in 1973

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Beautiful Lake Beckwith in the Heart of Colorado City



The naming of Lake Beckwith in Colorado City can be attributed to three possible men: some claim it was named for a Mr.

Beckwith who enlarged the small lake in the early 1900's; others attribute the name to a well-loved Dr. Beckwith who settled three

miles east of Rye in 1876; and many associate the name with Lieutenant (later Brigadier General) Edward Griffin Beckwith who led the

Calvary escort for Captain Gunnison's ill-fated railroad surveying expedition and visited the Greenhorn Settlement in the summer of 1853.

The expedition roughly followed the 38th parallel, through Kansas and up the Arkansas River. After they left the Arkansas, Gunnison sent Lieutenant Beckwith out to find a guide to take them over the pass to Fort Massachusetts, the new military post in the San Luis Valley.

Beckwith found his way to the Greenhorn Settlement. He was greeted by Marcelino Baca and his Pawnee wife, whom Beckwith admired as a courteous lady of "matronly grace and dignity." Beckwith found six Mexican families living in a cluster of low adobe houses. For protection from the Utes, each house had a yard in front enclosed by poles planted in the ground, fastened to horizon-

tal strips of wood with rawhide thongs. In back, a corral was made the same way.

Baca agreed to guide Gunnison's party to Fort Massachusetts and Gunnison began the survey of a possible route, via the Huerfano River, through Cochetopa Pass. Captain Gunnison seeking to speed up the mapping divided his team into two detachments.

Gunnison and the eleven men in his group were attacked by a band of Paiute (Ute) Indians. Gunnison and seven of his men were killed. Survivors of the attack alerted the other detachment of the survey team led by Beckwith who rode hard to aid Gunnison and his party. Arriving too late, they buried the victims and Beckwith took the survivors to Salt Lake City to spend the winter of 1853-54.

The 7th Annual Lions Club Autumn Car Show



The 7th Annual Colorado City/Rye Lions Club Autumn Car Show and Craft Fair will be held on Saturday, October 8, 2022 beginning at 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. With an alternate wind/snow/rain date of October 22, 2022.

Registration for cars will be from 9:00 am to 10:00 am. The registration fee is \$30 for cars and vendors.

The car show is open to all years, makes and models of anything with wheels. Plaques will be awarded for the TOP 20 cars with a trophy for the BEST OF SHOW.

All participants are requested to bring a bag of candy for Trunk or Treat for

the kids and there will be an adult Halloween costume contest.

There will be music by a DJ, a 50/50 raffle, and door prizes every thirty minutes at this family event. The Lions Club Chuckwagon will be serving lunch.

There is no admission for spectators, although donations would be appreciated.

For over half a century the local Lions Club has served our community through a multitude of programs including meeting the visual needs of young children in our community, providing Christmas food boxes and toys for deserving families in our Community and providing scholarships for Rye High School students, among other projects.

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Colorado City Parks and Recreation Swimming Pool, Park and Pavilion



The Colorado City pool opens in June, and at press time operating hours had not been established. Please call 719-252-5475 to check the days and hours for swimming. The cost is just \$4.00 per person, with punch passes of 12/\$40 available as well. Children under two years of age swim free. There

will be swim lesson sessions throughout the summer, lap swimming and Areobics. Again, for the lap swim and aerobics hours call 719- 252-5474.

The swimming pool, as well as the nearby recreation center, is available to rent for pool parties and celebrations by calling 719-676-3059.

The new pavilion at Greenhorn Meadows Park features 14 covered picnic tables, lighting and electricity. It is available to all and can be reserved for special occasions. Play baseball, kickball, soccer, frisbee or just enjoy the beautiful grass at the ball fields. Play on the playground (12 and under),

enjoy a pickup game on the basketball courts, picnic at the many tables in the park; take a walk along the creek.

Cross the creek into Greenhorn Meadows Campground. The campground has 15 RV sites with electricity and numerous tent sites, city water, full shower and bathroom facilities, a gazebo and a cave if you can find it! The campground now offers Wireless Internet access for visitors.

Walk around Lake Beckwith or stop and fish the lake (stocked by the DOW), launch your boat (no gas motors allowed), have a picnic.

There are numerous shady spots to enjoy, and ample parking on the west and east side of the lake.

Locals make use of Lake Beckwith for moonlight paddle-boarding or kayaking excursions throughout the summer on warm moon-lit evenings.

Please make use of the designated trash cans and help us keep the beauty of this area clean and maintained.

For more information about Colorado City Parks and Recreation by calling 719-676-3059 or checking out their website at cocity-parksandrec.com.



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August 27



4 Person Scramble Tournament
at Holly Dot Golf Course
Benefits Jr. Golf League

December



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The Rye Colorado City Saddle Club

The Rye Colorado City Saddle Club, according to records, started in the early 1960's with the main focus of the Club to be a family fun event where people can get together with friends and neighbors who share an interest in horses. This club didn't invent Gymkhana but they do know how to run the patterns and can be quite competitive all while having fun. The events do teach a variety of skills for every age. To the casual observer it may appear to them that the rider just

'sits' on the horse and the horse just runs off on its own. The non-horse person has no idea the challenges and skills that it takes to do this. They are athletes, both horse and rider. The skills to handle, control, teach/train the horse to maneuver a course is not easy. A non-horseperson doesn't understand the enjoyment, the intense physical workouts and the mental training it takes to work with a horse. You have to work as a team.

Physical attributes: rid-

ing helps develop balance, improves coordination and motor function. You train and strengthen all your muscles, riding provides joint mobility, improves circulation etc. You learn patience and self-discipline all the while increasing your confidence. If you don't think it is exercise, then read this part. At a walk, you burn calories at the rate of five calories per minute, up the intensity and you will burn that much more.

You are always learning new things about your horse which then leads to doing more with them. The end result is this, you connect with the horse and yourself. You are a TEAM now. Ready to work as one.

The competitive side of riding and showing teaches young and old to prepare and to muster the courage to compete. They learn respect, and responsibility for their actions. You take risks and enjoy the rewards and learn to handle the disappointments. But the overall consensus is that FUN is the number one priority.

The RCCSC is a large group of hard working, dedicated, friendly, family-oriented people who



enjoy the outdoors. They meet up weekly to challenge their skills by participating in the gymkhana's. The events vary from barrel racing, pole pending, stake races, keyhole, stake, and flag races. They offer year end awards and a banquet.

Each Tuesday evening May through August features the Rye Colorado City Saddle Club Gymkhana, 6:30 p.m. et registered before the 6:30 p.m. start time. Membership & Liability forms must be signed & dated. (www.rccsaddleclub.com).

The RCC Saddle Club team sorting will be held on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month, May through September, with entries starting at 6:00 p.m., and riding starting at 6:30 p.m. Entries are \$6 per person, \$12.00 per team. Sign up can be done online at <http://www.rccsaddleclub.com/> The club also organizes some trail rides and they participate in the State Fair parade.

To join in on the fun and for scheduling changes see rccsaddleclub.com.

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For relaxation after a fun day of hiking and biking, we have built a dry sauna

with a perfect view of the glorious Greenhorn Mountain. It also has a lovely deck if you just want to sit and enjoy the view with a nice beverage. We have also added more benches around the property to enjoy the perfect view of abundant wildlife or read a book in nature. If you would rather explore, there are trails through the wooded area of the property as well as the 160 acres next door. If you prefer something a little more

challenging than horse-shoes, we have recently added an Archery range to test your skills. If you really want to just enjoy the outdoors with a spectacular view without being confined by a house, we have several tent sites and a compost outhouse to set the mood (although you can use the house toilet if desired). This year we plan to expand on this experience by adding a large Yurt to the property. Perfect for that private get-

away from the city or a little privacy for the married couple as they start their honeymoon.

Most people don't know that we also have an RV site with full hook-ups available as well. So get outdoors and enjoy what the Greenhorn Valley has to offer and spend your nights glamping in luxury

in the Lodge or sleeping in the outdoors on the property.

For more info visit our Website www.craftsman-lodge.com or see what's new on our Facebook page.

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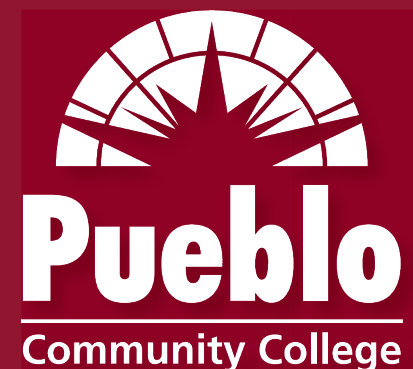
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Favorite Hiking Trails in the Greenhorn Mountains



The Wet Mountains, also called the Greenhorn Mountains, are named for the amount of rain that has traditionally fallen on the range. Located within the San Isabel National Forest, it covers an area of 220,000 acres and is part of the San Carlos Ranger District. The Wet Mountains are one of Colorado's lower ranges when compared to other major ranges in Colorado. It spans for fifty miles in a north-south direction beginning at the Arkansas River near Canon City and ending

at the Huerfano River just north of Walsenburg. The dominant peaks are Greenhorn Mountain at 12,347 feet; North Peak at 12,220; St. Charles Peak at 11,784; and Deer Peak at 11,572. Approximately 22,000 acres of the Greenhorn Mountain, is protected by the Colorado Wilderness Act. This designation provides an atmosphere that seems virtually untouched by humans. It also has eliminated all motor vehicle traffic, limits the number of hikers during cer-

tain periods of time, and requires strict camping guidelines.

Lake San Isabel a 40 acre reservoir was created by the WPA in the 1930's entirely for recreation. Other interesting sites include the abandoned **Marion Mine, Maes Creek Burn Out, Apache Falls, the Blue Lakes, Chicken Lookout Point, Marion Lake and Dome Rock.** Elevations: start 8,000', high point 11,580', end 11,580'

The Bartlett Trail #1310
Length: 12.1 miles, Rated: moderate, Use: summer and early fall; hiking, horseback riding

The Bartlett Trail is in the Greenhorn Wilderness Area, so wilderness rules and regulations apply (especially no mechanized vehicles, including mountain bikes and hang gliders). If hiking from the Rye end of the trail, it's a long way up to the junction with the South Apache Trail on the southern shoulder of Greenhorn Mountain. At that junction, if you go north you'll come to the other trailhead for Bartlett. If you go south, you'll go deeper into the Wilderness Area. The Bartlett Trail skirts the upper part of Greenhorn Mountain by staying south and west of the upper mountain.

Access: The lower trailhead is south of Rye. Go through Rye on Main Street, turn left on Boulder, left again on Graneros Road, right on Hunter and right again on Baxter to the trailhead.

The upper trailhead is the same as for the Greenhorn Trail. Take SR 165 to Ophir Creek Forest Service Road #360. Go west for about 12

miles and then turn left on Greenhorn Mountain Road #369, go 17 miles to the parking area at the end of the road. USGS Maps: Rye, San Isabel

The South Apache Trail #1311

Length: 4.3 miles, Rated: hard, Use: summer and fall; hiking, horseback riding
Elevations: start 9,600', high point 9,600', end: 7,300'
This trail is a hard drop off the eastern side of the Greenhorn Mountain Wilderness. The trail ends at private property so the only way out is to go back up that relentless hill. At the parking area at the end of the road, follow the signs for the Bartlett Trail. Follow the Bartlett Trail for about 5 miles to the junction with the South Apache Trail. Go right and follow the trail down the hill paralleling South Apache Creek.

Access: From State Highway 165, turn west at Ophir Creek Road (FR 360). Go about 12 miles and then turn left (south) on the Greenhorn Mountain Road #369. Go another 17 miles to the end of the road at the edge of Greenhorn Mountain Wilderness.

USGS Maps: San Isabel, Rye, Badito Cone, Hayden Butte

Cisneros Trail #1314

Length: 10.4 miles, Rated: moderate, Use: year around; hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking, ATV, Snowmobiling
Elevations: start 8,940', high point 11,220', end 11,220'
This trail rises from Lake Isabel into the heart of the Wet Mountains. It winds through gorgeous country alternating between heavy forest and open parks. Lots of wildlife and great wildflowers.

About three-quarters mile from the Lake Isabel Campground is a trail junction with the St. Charles Trail. St. Charles Trail will take you north onto St. Charles Peak (11,784') while the Cisneros Trail turns left and heads southwest towards Greenhorn Mountain (12,347').

Access: The upper trailhead: From State Highway 165, turn west at Ophir Creek Forest Service Road #360. Go about 12 miles and then turn left (south) on the Greenhorn Mountain Road #369. Go another 17 miles to the end of the road at the edge of Greenhorn Mountain Wilderness.

The lower trailhead: Go

through San Isabel around to the west end of the Lake to the upper campground. The Trail begins on the west end of the campground.

USGS Maps: San Isabel Greenhorn Trail #1316
Length: 7.8 miles, Rated: moderate, Use: summer and fall; hiking, horseback riding
Elevations: start 7,460', high point 12,000', end 11,340'

Although the summit just nudges above the timberline at 12,347 and only ranks as the 1,107 highest peak in the state. There isn't a higher mountain for over forty miles. So Greenhorn's summit provides a wonderful 360 degree view. The endless vista of the Great Plains makes up the views to the east. The spectacular and rugged looking Sangre de Cristo Mountains dominate the view to the west.

Looking south the Spanish Peaks with their twin looking summits rule your vision, and Pikes Peak makes its appearance to the north.

Access: The upper trailhead: Take SR 165 to Ophir Creek Forest Service Road #360. Go west for about 12 miles and then turn left on Greenhorn Mountain Road, go 17 miles to the parking area at the end of the road. The lower trailhead: Turn left into Rye off highway 165 onto Main Street. It becomes Park Road. Veer right at the Y in the road veer onto Cuerno Verde Road. The road heads west and then south. After 1.6 miles there will be a small parking lot with a bridge crossing over Greenhorn Creek. This is the trailhead. USGS Maps: Rye, San Isabel

#1317 Millset

Length: 5 miles, Rated: difficult, Use: summer and fall; hiking, horseback riding
Elevations: start 8,000', high point 11,244', end 11,244'
Access: 9 miles nw of Rye 165 west side end at FDR 369

The Snowslide Trail #1318

Length: 5.7 miles, Rated: moderately difficult, Use: summer and fall; hiking, horseback riding. Elevations: start 8,720', high point 11,500', end 11,500'
This trail climbs slowly up a ridge to the south of the Lake Isabel Recreation Area. This is pine and aspen country with great views and lots of wildlife. Bring lots of your own water.

See *Hiking Trails* p. 22



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Find a Fishing Hole and Spend the Day



The two obvious choices for fishing are Lake Beckwith in Colorado City, and San Isabel, further up highway 165. Lake Beckwith has something for everyone in that there is a wide variety of species available. For the warm-water fisherman there are Largemouth Bass, Crappie, Perch, Saugeye (Sauger and Walleye hybrid) and catfish, as well as stocked rainbow trout, and wild brown trout. There is deep, rocky bottom off of the dam, and a nice shallow shelf where the boat ramp is located.

Throughout the lake there are areas where

there are submerged brush piles which make excellent structure for large bass and other predatory fish. This makes it an excellent location for any type of fisherman, whether it be a fly-fisherman, bait fisherman, or working structures with a spinning rod. Boats are allowed on the lake as well as electric motors. This is a technique I like to use, in order to reach locations that the shoreline fisherman cannot.

San Isabel is also an excellent location. It does not have the variety of species that Lake Beckwith has, but makes up for it with an abundance of

trout. It has lots of shoreline access, for bait, spin and fly-fishermen alike. Rainbows and/or Cuttbow Trout are stocked frequently, as well as wild Brown and Brook Trout. Fish are taken with a wide variety of techniques. Bait fisherman tend to do well with a variety of options including worms, salmon eggs and powerbait. There are a lot of spinners that work well too.

Kastmasters are always a good option, as well as 1/8 ounce Krocodiles, Jakes Spin-A-lure, and Panther Martins. Another great technique is to fish a wet fly like a Pistol Pete or Wooly Bugger behind an

Adjust A Bubble. My personal favorite technique is to get out on my float tube, and cast a double dry fly rig, towards the shoreline. Often, I can find some of the wild Brown Trout patrolling there, and have an opportunity for some of the bigger fish. For the more adventurous there are some excellent options that are a little bit off of the beaten path. There are a number of small streams around here for those willing to do a little walking and a little bit of bush whacking. There aren't a lot of big fish, but you find some very ravenous and aggressive smaller ones. The key to success on these smaller fast moving streams is to make a stealthy approach, using some of the brush to break up your outline. Rainbow's and Brown trout are found at the lower elevations and can be had on just about any type of well presented fly. But as you work your way upstream you will find fewer Rainbow Trout, and more Brook Trout. Finally as you get near the upper reaches of the streams you can get into some

Greenback Cutthroats as well. Greenback's are excellent fighters, but need to be returned immediately as they are currently on the "Threatened" list. North and South Apache Creek, Bartlett Creek, and Graneros Creek are closed to all fishing above the forest service property lines. Check the fishing regulations manual before you fish these.

Finally, Blue Lakes, at the top of Greenhorn Mountain have had a very healthy stock of Cuttbow and Rainbow trout. They are a little bit bigger than the stockers found in Lake Isabel and Beckwith, and are a bit more finicky as well. Blue Lakes are located at the end of Ophir Creek road at the very top of Greenhorn Mountain, with one of the prettiest camping spots around. Fish there are caught using a variety of standard techniques. My best advice here is to bring different options, so you can find the one that they are biting on. It's one of my favorite places to camp out and hopefully cook a couple of fresh trout while I am at it.

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from the east end of Forest Service Road #335, off of the Greenhorn Mountain Road, that gives easy access to those just wanting to climb St. Charles Peak (11,784').

Access: The northern trailhead is in the Lion Park area, about 1.8 miles south of Bishop's Castle. The southern trailhead is at the confluence of Amethyst Creek and St. Charles Creek, at the west end of the Lake Isabel Recreation Area. USGS Maps: St. Charles Peak

#1330 Lakeshore

Length: .5 mile, Rated: easy, Use: year around; hiking
Access: FDR 317 to lake Isabel

The Squirrel Creek Trail #1384

Length: 4.8 miles, Rated: moderately difficult, Use: year around; hiking and horseback riding, ATV, Snowmobiling. Elevations: start 9,200', high point 9,200' end 7,800'
In the east central Wet Mountains this trail parallels Squirrel Creek down the hill

from the main ridge of the Wet Mountains. Aspen and pine forest, big eastern views, lots of wildlife.

Access: The west trailhead is at the end of Forest Road #382, about 1.5 miles east of State Road 165 near Bishop's Castle. The east trailhead is reached by passing through Pueblo Mountain Park along Squirrel Creek Road off of State Road 78 south of Beulah. USGS Maps: St. Charles Peak

The Dome Rock Trail #1387

Length: 2.1 miles, Rated: moderate (more difficult due to lack of maintenance) Use: summer and fall; hiking and horseback riding. Elevations: start 7,740' high point 8,860', end 8,860'

This short but almost overgrown and undefined trail rises 1,120' quickly on the eastern slopes of the Wet Mountains. But the views to the east over Beulah, Hogback Mountain and Signal Mountain and out onto the Plains toward Pueblo are hard to beat.

Access: The west trailhead is off Forest Road #382, about 1.5 miles east of State Road 165 near Bishop's Castle. Follow that to Davenport Campground and the Dome Rock Trailhead.

The east Trailhead: Take State Road 78 towards Beulah but stay left towards Pueblo Mountain Park. Turn right (west) on Squirrel Creek Road and go to the trailhead at the end of the road. USGS Maps: St. Charles Recreation Area.

Wachob Trail #1319

Length: 1 mile, Rated: easy, Use: summer and fall; hiking. Elevations: start 9,020' high point 9,160', end 9,160'

The trail follows a ridge-line south and ends above

Lake Isabel on the hill on the east side of the State Road 165. It's an easy stroll through the forest with good views.

Access: About 1 mile north of Lake Isabel on State Road 165, turn east on Forest Service Road #380 (toward the San Isabel Scout Camp). The trailhead is one-quarter mile on the south side of the road. USGS Maps: San Isabel, St. Charles Peak

#1320 San Carlos Trail

Length: 1.6 miles, Rated: easy, Use: summer and fall; hiking. Elevations: start 7,360', high point 8,160', end 8,160'

This trail follows the "upper deck" of the eastern side of the Wet Mountains. Hiking through pine and aspen forests you might get glimpses of Kansas far off to the east. But you'll also be looking out over Pueblo, Rye and the plains below. Access: Take State Road 165 to Forest Service Road #320, north of the Lazy Acres Girl Scout Camp. USGS Maps: St. Charles Peak, San Isabel, Rye, Beulah

Horse Ranch Trail

#1397
Length: 3.3 miles, Rated: difficult, Use: summer and fall (especially hunting season); hiking and horseback riding. Elevations: start 8,500', high point 11,200' end 11,200'

This seldom used trail connects Forest Road #630 with Forest Road #419. There are a lot of streams in the area but this trail sticks mostly to the ridge top as it climbs to the junction with Forest Road #419.

Access: The trailhead is off of Forest Road #630, an access road that comes north off of State Road 69 just north of Gardner. USGS Maps: Bear Creek

Hiking Trails
Continued from page 20

Access: The lower trailhead is about 8 miles northwest of Rye on State Highway 165. To reach the upper trailhead take SR 165 to Ophir Creek Forest Service Road #360. Go west for about 12 miles and then turn left on Greenhorn Mountain Road #369, go 17 miles to the parking area at the end of the road. USGS Maps: San Isabel

St. Charles Trail #1326
Length: 7 miles, Rated: moderately difficult, Use: summer and fall; hiking,

horseback riding. Elevations: start 9,200', high point 11,200', end 8,200'

From the northern trailhead, the St. Charles Trail works its way up to the west and wraps around the western edge of the St. Charles Peak summit "block" before heading south. The trail follows Beaver Creek for a short distance before rising again and crossing the ridge into the Amethyst Creek drainage, which it follows down to the lower trailhead. This is a beautiful hike through a lush aspen and pine forest with great views.

There is also a spur trail





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rounds large portions of the castle.

The entire sight is free although donation jars are available. The site is open seven days a week from

According to Roadsideamerica, "for most" of the 40 years he has worked on the castle "Bishop was engaged in a

running battle with Washington bureaucrats over the rocks that he used," which came from the National Forest surrounding his property. "Bishop felt that they were his for the taking, the government wanted to charge him per truckload." That dispute has been settled. In 1996, he was challenged by the local and state government over unsanctioned road signs that pointed to the site. They settled the dispute by issuing official road signs.

The site has become a tourist attraction, describing it as a medieval fantasy construction"

Located on Highway 165 in the Wet Mountains about five miles north of San Isabel, Bishop's Castle was begun in 1969, and for 40 years, Jim Bishop has been building the castle in the mountainside, himself.

Bishop estimates that every year since then he has gathered and placed over a 1000 ton of rock a year.

Visitors can climb steep steps or they can enter from behind to the second floor. The grand ballroom is one of the most impressive features. Unique pieces of stained glass decorate the windows. A dragon sits atop one of the towers and a balcony sur-

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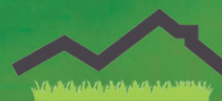


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