



**LOVELAND MOUNTAIN CLUB**  
**PO BOX 983, LOVELAND, CO 80539**

[www.LovelandMountainClub.org](http://www.LovelandMountainClub.org)

Vol. 69, #29, May 2025

## **President's Message**

I am sure you have all heard the saying that if you don't like the weather in Colorado, just wait ten minutes. That has certainly been true this spring! During the past few weeks, we have had weather ranging from scorching hot, dry, and windy to icy cold, snowy and sleety. Whatever the weather, there is always a good hike to do around Loveland. Many thanks to all the hike leaders who have braved the challenging conditions this month! Thanks especially to Stu De La Castro for leading the 3-day trip to YMCA of the Rockies. I was not able to go, but I heard that it was a great time for those who did go.

I am gearing up to do some training sessions for the new system LMC is going to be using for hike sign-ups (Meetup.com). I am including some Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) in this newsletter about the training sessions and the Meetup App. The goal is to make this as smooth a transition as possible. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me. In late June, I will be posting a Google Sheets slide deck that you can look at if you can't attend a training session. This will include step-by-step instructions on how to use the Meetup app to sign up for LMC hikes and events.

We had a great turnout for the April meeting, and the speaker, Dr. Ryan Olsen, gave a very nice presentation on hiking the high peaks in the Colorado Rockies. He shared some expert tips on how to prepare and what gear is needed to climb the fourteeners. His suggestions on what we need to carry in our packs in case of emergencies was especially helpful. Many thanks to Lynne Niemeyer for setting us up with this speaker!

**Below is a link to view the slides from the April Meeting speaker, Ryan Olson, a dentist, and avid hiker based in Loveland: "Strategies for Success on Colorado's Summits"**

<https://www.lovelandmountainclub.org/index.php/outdoor-activities/strategies-for-success-on-colorados-summits>

Plan to join us for the upcoming events:

- **April 24 and 26: Round Mountain Trail Maintenance: Contact Jane Davis at [jcdflyfisher@gmail.com](mailto:jcdflyfisher@gmail.com) if you can help out!**
- **Sunday, June 1: Loveland Bike and Trail Days. We will host a booth again this year; we are looking for volunteers to help staff the booth. If you are interested, please email me at [melpenn19@gmail.com](mailto:melpenn19@gmail.com)**
- **Monday, July 7: LMC Summer Picnic at Fairgrounds Park in Loveland, 6 - 8 PM**

There are about 40 people who have not paid dues for 2025! Our club relies on dues to pay administrative expenses like bank fees and website fees, as well as to provide food for the Summer picnic and the Round Mountain trail maintenance days, for supplies, and other necessary items. PLEASE pay your dues ASAP if you have not already done so. After April 30, all delinquent members will no longer receive club newsletters or be able to join in on club hikes or events. Steve Hatcher will be sending out emails to delinquent members; if you hear from him but you no longer want to be a member, please let him know.

That's about it for now! I hope to see you soon on a hike, or at a Meetup training session!

*Melanie Pennington*  
[melpenn19@gmail.com](mailto:melpenn19@gmail.com)

**Listed below are the Meetup training session dates: Registration is not necessary.**  
**Pick a date that works for you and simply show up!**

Monday, May 5 – **Hike Leader Meetup Training** - 5-6:45 pm – Trinity Lutheran Church

Sunday, May 11 - **Hike Leader Meetup Training** – 3-5 pm – 1949 Grays Peak Dr., Loveland\*

Monday, June 2 - Membership Meetup Training – 7-9 pm - Trinity Lutheran Church

Saturday, June 7 - Membership Meetup Training – 3-5 pm – 1949 Grays Peak Dr., Loveland\*

Sunday, June 29 - Membership Meetup Training – 3-5 pm – 1949 Grays Peak Dr., Loveland\*

Monday, August 4 - Membership Meetup Training – 5-6:45 pm – Trinity Lutheran Church

\*This is the Clubhouse in the Condominium Association in the High Plains Village Community Center in East Loveland. Steve Hatcher will be outside to designate parking spots.

## **Meetup App Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)**

### **Q: When will the Loveland Mountain Club Private Group appear on the Meetup Site?**

- Around May 1st; only LMC members will be admitted into the LMC Group

### **Q: When do I start signing up for LMC hikes on Meetup?**

- On July 22 you will be able to sign up for August LMC Hikes.

### **Q: Do Hike Leaders need to attend a training session?**

- YES, IF YOU ARE A HIKE LEADER you must attend a training session. There are some extra things you will need to know how to do in order to lead a hike. Hike leader training sessions are:

Monday, May 5 – Hike Leader Meetup Training - 5-6:45 pm – Trinity Lutheran Church

Sunday, May 11 - Hike Leader Meetup Training – 3-5 pm – 1949 Grays Peak Dr., Loveland \*

\*This is the Clubhouse in the Condominium Association in the High Plains Village Community Center in East Loveland. Steve Hatcher will be outside until 5PM to designate parking spots.)

### **Q: Do all HIKERS need to attend a session?**

- IF you already are using the Meetup App and feel comfortable using it and signing up for as well as cancelling events, and can communicate via the event chat, then NO, you do not need to attend a session.
- IF you have never used the app or are not skilled at using it, YES you need to attend a session.

### **Q: Do non-hikers need to know how to use the Meetup App?**

- If you plan to sign up for the Holiday Brunch or other social events, it would be helpful to be able to use the app. Email sign-ups for these events will also be available so you can rest assured that you will be able to sign up one way or another!

**Q: When are the general training sessions?**

**Monday, June 2 - Membership Meetup Training – 7-9 pm - Trinity Lutheran Church**

**Saturday, June 7 - Membership Meetup Training – 3-5 pm – 1949 Grays Peak Dr., Loveland\***

**Sunday, June 29 - Membership Meetup Training – 3-5 pm – 1949 Grays Peak Dr., Loveland\***

**Monday, August 4 - Membership Meetup Training – 5-6:45 pm – Trinity Lutheran Church**

**\*This is the Clubhouse in the Condominium Association in the High Plains Village Community Center in East Loveland. Steve Hatcher will be outside until the meeting start time to designate parking spots.**

**Q: Do I need to register to attend a training session?**

**NO; just show up.**

**Q: How do I prepare for the training session?**

- **Checkout the Meetup website at [www.Meetup.com](http://www.Meetup.com) on your computer and familiarize yourself with the website**
- **On your mobile device, download the free Meetup App via your App store (Google Play or Apple Store), and install it on your phone. If you have difficulty with this, I will help you with it during the training session, but it will be helpful to already have it downloaded before you arrive, if at all possible.**
- **Bring your fully charged mobile device to the training session. You can also bring a laptop or tablet if you prefer to use one of those devices. I have found it easiest to use the mobile APP to sign up for hikes.**

**Q: Can I still sign up for hikes using email?**

- **Yes, you can still sign up for August and September hikes using email, but I encourage you to use the Meetup App if at all possible. After September, all sign-ups will be done on the Meetup App, with rare exceptions for technical difficulties.**

**Q: Will I still get a monthly LMC Newsletter?**

- **Yes, you will continue to get a monthly newsletter with all the hike info you are accustomed to getting. The hike descriptions will be posted close to the same date that the Meetup App signups are enabled for each hike.**

**Q: Will the [www.LovelandMountainClub.org](http://www.LovelandMountainClub.org) website still be available?**

- **Yes, the website will still be available and will have the hike calendar posted as usual.**

## **CLUB DUES ARE DUE:**

Membership renewal payments are due starting in January, 2025. Club dues are \$25/person or \$40/couple. Dues are payable to Loveland Mountain Club, and can be submitted to the treasurer, Steve Hatcher, at one of our meetings. You can also submit your payment for your 2025 membership renewal to **Loveland Mountain Club, PO Box 983, Loveland, CO 80539**

**April 30 is the deadline for 2025 dues, after which you will no longer receive club newsletters or emails, if you have not paid your dues.**

## **Rocky Mountain National Park Timed Entry Permit System goes into effect May 23, 2025:**

In 2025, Rocky Mountain National Park will implement a timed entry reservation system beginning on May 23, 2025. This reservation system provides for day use visitor access in a way that protects resources while creating opportunities for high-quality visitor experiences. There are two options available (<https://www.nps.gov/romo/planyourvisit/timed-entry-permit-system.htm>).

One reservation option, titled "Timed Entry (does not include access to Bear Lake Road)" will provide access to all areas in Rocky Mountain National Park, excluding access to RMNP's Bear Lake Road.

- These "Timed Entry" reservations will be in effect between the hours of 9am to 2pm daily from May 23 through Monday, October 13, 2025.

A second reservation option, titled "Timed Entry + Bear Lake Road" provides day use vehicle access to RMNP's popular Bear Lake Road Corridor (located on the east side of the park), as well as all other areas of the park.

This reservation option includes access to all destinations on the entire Bear Lake Road Corridor, including Moraine Park, Sprague Lake, Park & Ride, Glacier Gorge Trailhead, and Bear Lake. These reservations also provide access to all other areas of Rocky Mountain National Park.

- "Timed Entry + Bear Lake Road" reservations will be in effect between the hours of 5 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily from May 23 through Sunday, October 19, 2025.

All timed entry reservations allow park visitors to enter RMNP within two-hour windows of time. There is no set time for departure. The reservation system will apply to all areas of Rocky Mountain National Park. The cost associated with booking a reservation is a non-refundable \$2 Recreation.gov processing fee.



## Editor's Notes

As Melanie stated in her President's message, the weather this spring has been crazy! But that's Colorado for you, right?! I have been enjoying hiking again and really enjoyed my time with some club members at the YMCA of the Rockies in Estes Park. Thanks to Stu for arranging this great event! Below are pics Steve took of 4 of us "girls" having fun! I think the pictures depict the camaraderie we experienced on this club outing! Hope you all get to enjoy some camaraderie on some of the great hikes listed in this newsletter! Hopefully spring is here to stay!

**Lauren Hatcher, Newsletters Editor's Note**

[LAURENHATCHER53@GMAIL.COM](mailto:LAURENHATCHER53@GMAIL.COM)



**"It's fun to stay at the YMCA"! Holly, Mary, Me, and Betsy having fun!**

## Monthly Meetings

**Our meetings are held at Trinity Lutheran Church,  
3333 Duffield Avenue, Loveland**

**Monday, May 5th at 7pm:** Kim Skyelander will talk about the pros and cons of wolves returning to our backyard.

Kim worked professionally for the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) for 16 years as a wildlife biologist. During that time, she served as the USFS assistant information and education director for the Yellowstone Wolf Reintroduction.

She recently retired from the Center for Collaborative Conservation at Colorado State University where she mentored graduate students working on the Colorado Wolf Reintroduction project, and helped establish collaborative talks around the state between ranchers, environmental groups, indigenous people, recreationists, hunters, and communities about wolf reintroduction. She was also a guest speaker at the Institute for Science & Policy at the Denver Museum of Nature & Science's 7-part symposium on "Wolves in Colorado: Science and Stories". Kim has also been on the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Board of Directors since 2019 and serves on the Education Committee.

The topic of wolves is contentious and can create social conflict. The social conflict over wolves in Colorado is driven in part by different attitudes and beliefs about wolves and the effects they may or may not have on ecosystems and people.

**Hope to see you there!**

Interested in posting your "Club Hike" pictures to the club Facebook page? Please forward your pictures to [LMCphotos98@gmail.com](mailto:LMCphotos98@gmail.com) with Hike Destination and Hike Leader in the email subject line by the end of the day following the day of the hike. The number of pictures posted to Facebook is limited to 10, so it is possible that all your pictures will not be posted. Visit our Instagram and/or Facebook page, Loveland-Mountain-Club, to see photos from recent hikes.

When sending pictures to [LMCphotos98@gmail.com](mailto:LMCphotos98@gmail.com), please send a separate email only to this email address. Please do not hit "reply all" and include everyone who attended the hike when submitting your photos. Conversations about the hike should be enjoyed on your personal emails.

## LMC Backpacking Trip

July 16th - July 19th - Peer Creek Campsite, which is in the Wild Basin area of Rocky Mountain National Park. The campsite is 6.0 miles and 2,000 feet elevation gain from the Wild Basin Trailhead.

While at the campsite activities would include day hikes, fishing or reading a good book. If you would like more information or to sign up, please contact Douglas Baxter at 970-672-7629 or @ [douglasbxtr@gmail.com](mailto:douglasbxtr@gmail.com). Number of participants is limited to 7 people and will be on a first come first serve basis.

## Hike Offerings

### Thursday, April 24: Round Mountain Trail Maintenance (B)

This is your opportunity to give back to your community! We will hike up to the 3-mile point at Round Mountain and then work our way to the top to clean water bars, trim vegetation, and mask areas where people try to shortcut the trail. Expect this to take most of the day. The hike to the top is 4-3/4 miles and there is close to 3,000 feet of elevation gain. This workday is not for the meek! There will be another opportunity on Saturday to work on the lower part of the trail. You need to bring work gloves, eye protection, water, and snacks. I will provide tools. Fully Covid vaccinated hikers only for carpooling. At hike leader's discretion, non-vaccinated hikers may meet at the trailhead. Contact Jane D. if you would like to help out at 260-413-2686 or [jcdflyfisher@gmail.com](mailto:jcdflyfisher@gmail.com)

### Saturday April 26: Trail Maintenance Day Round Mountain (A)

It is that time of year again to do some clean-up on the Round Mountain Trail. This work mostly consists of cleaning water bars, trimming vegetation and masking areas where people try to shortcut the trail. We will work on the lower 3 miles of the Summit trail and possibly all of the Nature Trail, depending on how many sign up to help. Fully Covid vaccinated hikers only for carpooling. At the hike leader's discretion, non-vaccinated hikers may meet at the trailhead. Contact Jane D. if you wish to sign up

@ [jcdflyfisher@gmail.com](mailto:jcdflyfisher@gmail.com)



## Tuesday, April 29: MacGregor Falls (A)

This out and back hike near Estes Park starts at Lumpy Ridge and takes the Black Canyon Trail west through an open grazing area with clear views of Longs Peak and Mount Meeker to the south and rock formations like The Twin Owls and The Needles to the north. After going through a green gate, the route skirts along the MacGregor Ranch Conservation Easement to connect to the MacGregor Falls Trail. The trail then runs along Black Canyon Creek with its cascades of water until it ends up at MacGregor Falls. This A rated hike is moderately challenging and makes for a nice spring outing. Round trip distance is 6.5 miles with 977' elevation gain and maximum elevation of 8,330'. Fully Covid vaccinated hikers only for carpooling. At the hike leader's discretion, non-vaccinated hikers may meet at the trailhead. To sign up contact Tom Bruch @ [tombbruch1964@gmail.com](mailto:tombbruch1964@gmail.com)

## Thursday, May 1: Cub Lake (A)

This moderately challenging and rewarding out and back hike will take us from the Cub Lake Trailhead to Cub Lake in Rocky Mountain National Park. This hike is approximately 4.6 miles, with an elevation gain of 540 feet. The hike features wonderful views of rivers, meadows, and moraines, and of course Cub Lake, one of nicest lake settings in the park. Fully Covid vaccinated hikers only for carpooling. At the hike leader's discretion, non-vaccinated hikers may meet at the trailhead. Limit is 8 hikers. Please indicate if you have a National Parks Pass and would be willing to drive. Contact Steve Hatcher

@ [skhatcher57@gmail.com](mailto:skhatcher57@gmail.com)

## Saturday May 3: Rabbit Mountain Trail Hikes: (A)

This hike in Longmont, CO is a combined hike of approximately 6 miles with a combined elevation gain of approximately 900 feet in the Rabbit Mountain Open Space Area. This hike will feature an out and back hike of the Little Thompson Overlook Tail which is 3 miles round trip with an elevation gain of around 450 feet and the Eagle Wind Trail Loop which is 2.5 miles with an elevation gain of around 450 feet. After taking in connectors and all, the combined mileage should be around 6 miles or so. This hike is mostly unshaded and offers outstanding views of the Front Range. Fully Covid vaccinated hikers only please for carpooling. Non-vaccinated hikers may meet at the trailhead. Limit is 8 hikers. Contact Steve Hatcher

@ [skhatcher57@gmail.com](mailto:skhatcher57@gmail.com)

## Tuesday, May 6: Lone Pine Trail (B)

This hike is in the Cherokee State Wildlife area off Red Feather Lakes Road. This area is only open to hiking for part of the year, from May 1 through August 31. The hike will be along the Lone Pine Trail, in the hills above Lone Pine Creek. The area is mostly unshaded, so this area is best hiked early in the season. In early May, we should see wildflowers along with interesting rock formations and scenic views. The hike is mapped out as an out-and-back of approximately 10 miles with an elevation gain of approximately 2,300 feet, putting it in the "B" category. Fully covid vaccinated hikers only for carpooling. Non-vaccinated hikers may meet at the trailhead. Limit is 8 hikers. To sign up contact Matt Dane

@ [mdane4trails@gmail.com](mailto:mdane4trails@gmail.com)

## Thursday, May 8: Walker Ranch Loop (B)

This moderately challenging trek near Boulder is a great hiking and mountain biking trail through Walker Ranch Park and Eldorado Canyon State Park. Features include open areas, forests, rock formations and a scenic river. We will go clockwise from the Walker Ranch Parking Access and descend to a canyon with cascading South Boulder Creek. Then we will ascend a series of steep stairs up to the top of a ridge and continue upward to the Crescent Meadows TH. From there we will descend again down to the creek, then work our way back up to the starting point. This B rated hike consists of 8 miles up and down trails with 1,900' elevation gain and maximum elevation of 7,400'. Fully Covid vaccinated hikers only for carpooling. At the hike leader's discretion, non-vaccinated hikers may meet at the trailhead. Contact Steve Hatcher @ [skhatcher57@gmail.com](mailto:skhatcher57@gmail.com)

## Saturday May 10: Ruby Wash/Red Mountain Open Space (A+)

This hike is approximately 8.5 miles with 1,500' elevation gain in the Red Mountain Open Space, northern Larimer County. The hike will loop through Ruby Wash, Salt Lick and Sinking Sun. Expect an early start and long day for this hike and drive. Fully Covid vaccinated hikers only for carpooling. At the hike leader's discretion, non-vaccinated hikers may meet at the trailhead. Limit is 8 hikers. Contact Laurette Terrell @ [lsaterrell@gmail.com](mailto:lsaterrell@gmail.com)

## Tuesday, May 13: Anne U. White (A-)

This is an easy 3.5-mile hike located in a Boulder County Open Space. The elevation is from 6,000 to 6,500 ft. This trail follows Fourmile Canyon Creek and offers a variety of wildflowers at this time of year. We'll meet at Jax (west Eisenhower and Wilson) and carpool to the trail. The trailhead is about 45 minutes from Jax. Ride Share costs will be \$7/person. Fully Covid vaccinated hikers only for carpooling. At the hike leader's discretion, non-vaccinated hikers may meet at the trailhead. Please contact Cindy Brusko if you are interested @ [cbrown7417@icloud.com](mailto:cbrown7417@icloud.com)

## Thursday, May 15: Upper Beaver Meadows Loop (A)

This hike is 5 miles round trip with an elevation gain of 902 feet. This hike goes through a meadow, woods, and over streams. This is a great spring hike. Hopefully wildflowers and flowers will still line the trail and occasionally views of elk can be seen. Great views of Longs Peak. Fully Covid vaccinated hikers only for carpooling. At the hike leader's discretion, non-vaccinated. Open for 8 hikers. Please contact Merry Boggs @ [boggs@hotmail.com](mailto:boggs@hotmail.com)

## Saturday, May 17: Hewlett Gulch Trail (A+)

This hike is 8.2 miles round trip with an elevation gain of 1,160 feet. The first 2 miles are flat then the ascent begins. The ascent is gradual but there are a couple of short steep ups and downs. The views are beautiful and plentiful. A special feature of this trail are the multiple views from different perspectives. Wind can be a factor. Fully Covid vaccinated hikers only for carpooling. At the hike leader's discretion, non-vaccinated hikers may meet at the trailhead. Limit is 8 hikers. To sign up, contact Merry Boggs @ [boggs@hotmail.com](mailto:boggs@hotmail.com)

## Tuesday, May 20: Horsetooth Falls Loop (EZ)

Enjoy a spring day on this lovely trail that offers vast views of the Horsetooth valley area. We will stop at a picturesque waterfall to enjoy the sights and sounds, then proceed on to the trail that loops up and around the valley. There's a mix of sun and shade on this trail and we should see a variety of wildflowers. The route is approximately 3 miles. The beginning elevation is 5,991 ft. with an elevation gain of 636 ft. Fully Covid vaccinated hikers only for carpooling. At the hike leader's discretion, non-vaccinated hikers may meet at the trailhead. Limit is 10 hikers. Melanie Pennington and Mary De La Castro are co-leading this hike. To sign up contact Mary @ [mary@delacastro.com](mailto:mary@delacastro.com)

## Thursday, May 22: Sprague Lake (EZ)

This loop trail will start and end at the Sprague Lake trailhead in Rocky Mountain National Park. We will hike to Glacier Basin Campground then catch the Glacier Creek Trail, hiking to the intersection with Prospect Canyon Trail, where we will turn back to Sprague Lake. This hike is approximately 3 miles, mostly flat, and much of it is in the shade. There may be a couple of creek crossings, depending on spring melting. The Sprague Lake Trailhead is at 8,688 feet elevation. Fully Covid vaccinated hikers only for carpooling. At the hike leader's discretion, non-vaccinated hikers may meet at the trailhead. The limit is 8 hikers. Please indicate if you have a National Parks Pass and would be willing to drive. Contact Holly Gordon @ [holly1960@gmail.com](mailto:holly1960@gmail.com)

## Saturday, May 24: Homestead Meadows Hike (A+)

This hike will begin in lovely Hermit Park at the Moose Meadows trailhead going down through a scenic forest until reaching open grassy areas with several homestead ruins. We will explore three homestead sites as we imagine the life, rewards, and hardships faced by pioneers over 100 years ago. First we will visit the Irvin Ranch (1917) with the most extensive buildings remaining, then Griffith (1923), and rounding out the loop of the homesteads at Brown (1918). This hike is rated at A+ with 8 miles RT, 1,115' elevation gain and highest elevation about 8,800'. The return leg is a climb back to the trailhead for a good workout. Fully Covid vaccinated hikers only for carpooling. At the hike leader's discretion, non-vaccinated hikers may meet at the trailhead. For more information or to join up, contact Tom Bruch @ [tombruch1964@gmail.com](mailto:tombruch1964@gmail.com)

## Tuesday, May 27: North Fork of the Big Thompson River Trail (A)

This A rated hike starts at the Dunraven Trailhead. We will hike 6.3 miles (roundtrip) to the homestead meadow. The hike features a river and a homestead ruin. The elevation gain is 1,007 feet. Limit is 8 hikers. Fully Covid vaccinated hikers only for carpooling. At hike leader's discretion, non-vaccinated hikers may meet at the trailhead. To sign up, contact Kris Millard **(note the underscore)** @ [millard\\_bobkris@msn.com](mailto:millard_bobkris@msn.com)

## Tuesday, May 27: Poudre Bike Trail (A)

This is a 20-mile bike ride on the relatively flat Poudre Trail in Fort Collins. We will start at 9 a.m. and will be riding at about 10-12 mph. I expect we'll be done by around 2p.m. The meeting place will be a small parking lot across from Liberty Commons School, 1725 Sharp Point Drive, Fort Collins. If the group agrees, we could stop at Me Oh My Coffee and Pie Shop in LaPorte for lunch or pie (this will add about 1/4 mile on the road). The limit is to 10 people. Be sure to have a helmet, water, and sunscreen. Fully Covid vaccinated hikers only for carpooling. At the leader's discretion, non-vaccinated hikers may meet at the trailhead. To sign up, contact DeLynn Anderson @ [delynn.anderson@aims.edu](mailto:delynn.anderson@aims.edu)

## Thursday, May 29: Elliott Ranch (A+)

Here's a new one for us. This hike takes us north nearly to Wyoming for starters then our hike adds up to 8 miles on the open plains with 900 ft of elevation gain. The Elliott family ran cattle on over 12,000 acres from 1910-1943. What is left is wide open spaces, a creek, a school house and a homestead. Fully Covid vaccinated hikers only for carpooling. At the leader's discretion, non-vaccinated hikers may meet at the trailhead. To join this hike, contact Gail Frasier @ [billgailfrasier@gmail.com](mailto:billgailfrasier@gmail.com)

## Saturday, May 31: Triple Bar and OT Trail Loop (A)

This relaxing and rewarding A rated hike near Livermore, CO is a loop of just over 5 miles with an elevation gain of approximately 825 feet. This hike is in the Eagle's Nest Open Space, which is one of Larimer County's gems. The local landmark Eagle's Nest Rock has been home to nesting golden eagles for over a hundred years. Along the North Fork of the Cache La Poudre River, this open space has breathtaking views of the Laramie Foothills. The mountain mahogany foothills interspersed with rabbitbrush and ponderosa pine provide a diverse habitat for a wide variety of wildlife. Fully Covid vaccinated hikers only for carpooling. At the hike leader's discretion, non-vaccinated hikers may meet at the trailhead. Limit is 8 hikers. Contact Steve Hatcher @ [skhatcher57@gmail.com](mailto:skhatcher57@gmail.com)

## Tuesday, June 3: Sunrise on the Coyote Ridge (A)

Start your day by joining us on an early morning hike along the scenic Coyote Ridge Trail. This invigorating out-and-back trek covers just over 4 miles, with a rewarding 600-foot climb — much of it packed into the final, half mile to the summit. At the top, we'll experience the magic of watching the sunrise paint the landscape with light. We'll take time to soak in the moment before making our way back down. To celebrate our morning adventure, we'll gather at a local café for a well-earned breakfast together. Limit 8 hikers. Fully Covid vaccinated hikers only for carpooling. At the hike leader's discretion, non-vaccinated hikers may meet at the trailhead. To sign on, contact Stu De La Castro

@ [stu.delacastro@gmail.com](mailto:stu.delacastro@gmail.com)

## **Tuesday, June 3: Ceran St. Vrain (A)**

This 4-mile hike is in a beautiful, wooded area that follows the St Vrain River in the Roosevelt National Forest. The elevation is from 8,000 to 8,300 ft. It's wonderful to hike along and hear the roaring river. I hope we will also see many wildflowers in bloom. We may need to cross small streams depending on the snow melt. We'll meet at Jax (west Eisenhower and Wilson) and carpool to the trail. Rideshare costs will be \$7.50/person. Fully Covid vaccinated hikers only for carpooling. At the hike leader's discretion, non-vaccinated hikers may meet at the trailhead. Please contact Cindy Brusko if you are interested

@ [cbrown7417@icloud.com](mailto:cbrown7417@icloud.com)

## **Thursday, June 5: Elkhorn Creek and Disappointment Falls (A)**

This is "twofer hike", you get two out and back hikes from the same trailhead for an amazing outdoor adventure in the beautiful Red Feather Lakes area. It all starts at the Elkhorn Creek Trailhead. For the first hike we climb up the ridge on the Elkhorn Creek Trail through forest and rock formations and drop down to meet Elkhorn Creek nestled in the trees. Then we go back to the trailhead taking in the views as we descend the ridge. This trail is about 3.2 miles RT and 550' elevation gain. For the second hike, we take a trail across the creek and make our way through a valley passing an abandoned cabin to find Disappointment Falls, which should be at its best this time of the year for no disappointment. From there we return to the trailhead, much of it along the creek. This trail is about 2.5 miles RT with elevation gain of 250'. This area in June is notable for lush greenery, flowing waters, and dramatic rock features. Doing the math, this hike is rated "A" with about 6 miles RT, 800" elevation gain and highest elevation around 8,000'. Fully Covid vaccinated hikers only for carpooling. At the hike leader's discretion, non-vaccinated hikers may meet at the trailhead. For more information or to join up, contact Tom Bruch

@ [tombruch1964@gmail.com](mailto:tombruch1964@gmail.com)

## **Sunday, June 8: Devils Backbone - Wild & Hunter Loops (A)**

This will be an A hike of 6 miles and about 500 feet of elevation gain. We'll hike by the Loudon Ditch, the area where gypsum was mined for drywall, the gray rock that's part of the Morrison Formation dating back over 150 million years, the erosion caused Keyhole, then onward to the Hunter Loop with views of the spine of the Backbone. Fully Covid vaccinated hikers only for carpooling. At the hike leader's discretion, non-vaccinated hikers may meet at the trailhead. Limit is 8 hikers. I have a county pass and can take 3 other hikers. Please let me know if you have a pass and are willing to drive. Email Cine Webb

@ [fwebb100@aol.com](mailto:fwebb100@aol.com)

**Welcome to New Members! 😊**

Bob and Ginny Crawford; Welcome Back!

Judy Thompson!

## Thanks to our March Hike Leaders

Steve H., Tom B., Merry B., Laurette T., Gail F., Matt D., Cindy B., Stu D., Becky S., Jane D., Greg V.

Many thanks to these wonderful people for organizing great hikes!

## Hike Coordinators

**(Volunteers who gather hike information and send it to the newsletter editor)**

Weekend Hike Coordinator: Steve Hatcher: [skhatcher57@gmail.com](mailto:skhatcher57@gmail.com)

Tuesday Hike Coordinator: Matt Dane: [mdane2001@yahoo.com](mailto:mdane2001@yahoo.com)

Thursday Hike Coordinator: Gail Frasier: [billgailfrasier@gmail.com](mailto:billgailfrasier@gmail.com)

## Hike Ratings

**EZ Hikes: Hikes of less than 4 miles and less than 600' of climbing; highlighted in yellow.**

- A. 4 to 8 miles maximum round trip with elevation gain up to, 1,200 feet
- B. 8-12 miles maximum round trip with elevation gain of 1,200 to 2,500 feet
- C. 12-15 miles maximum round trip, and/or elevation gain of over 2,500 feet. Steep or rough terrain may be encountered
- D. More than 15 miles round trip, and/or elevation gain over 3,500 feet. Trips in this classification may require additional climbing skills
- E. Designates peaks of any classification as dangerous. Basic mountaineering skills and/or the approval of the leader will be required

Some hikes will not exactly fit these ratings and may be designated A/B or B/C, etc. to convey the real nature of the hike. In those instances, pay close attention to the stated distance and/or elevation gain and discuss with the hike leaders when you arrange to join the hike.

**HIKE LEADERS NEEDED - ALL LEVELS!** This is a great opportunity for new hike leaders to learn the ropes. A current hike leader will "mentor" new hike leaders, by not only going on the hikes, but also helping with the hike description process. If you are interested in leading hikes, please contact the appropriate Hike Coordinator.

**We have open dates to fill! If you're interested in leading a hike on the dates listed below, please contact the weekend hike coordinator Steve Hatcher @ [skhatcher57@gmail.com](mailto:skhatcher57@gmail.com)**

**Sun. 4/27, Sun. 5/4, Sun. 5/18, Sun. 5/25, Sun. 6/1**



**To read important information listed below, click on the link (hold the control key). This information can also be found on our website @ [www.LovelandMountainClub.org](http://www.LovelandMountainClub.org)**

**Join LMC:**

<https://lovelandmountainclub.org/index.php/about-lmc/join-lmc>

**Membership Renewal and Waiver Form**

**Hike classifications:**

<https://lovelandmountainclub.org/index.php/outdoor-activities/hike-classifications>

**Writing a hike description:**

<https://lovelandmountainclub.org/images/LMC-Hike-Leader-Guide-2024.pdf>

**How do I find a hike to lead?**

<https://lovelandmountainclub.org/images/LMC-Hike-Leader-Guide-2024.pdf>

**Hike Archive:**

<https://lovelandmountainclub.org/index.php/outdoor-activities/hike-archive>

**What is my role as a hike leader?**

<https://lovelandmountainclub.org/images/LMC-Hike-Leader-Guide-2024.pdf>

**Enjoy your hike! Here are some day-of-hike guidelines to remember:**

<https://lovelandmountainclub.org/images/LMC-Hike-Leader-Guide-2024.pdf>

**Can I choose other activities to do before or after my hike?**

<https://lovelandmountainclub.org/images/LMC-Hike-Leader-Guide-2024.pdf>

**What should I do in case of an emergency?**

<https://lovelandmountainclub.org/images/LMC-Hike-Leader-Guide-2024.pdf>

**Useful Resources:**

<https://lovelandmountainclub.org/index.php/outdoor-activities/useful-resources>



**Steve took this picture during his Volunteer shift at the Bear Lake trailhead in RMNP.  
This beautiful fox is saying goodbye to winter and looking forward to spring!**