



Water Safety Tips

- DO learn to swim. If you like to have a good time doing water activities, being a strong swimmer is a must.
- DO take a friend along. Even though you may be a good swimmer, you never know when you may need help. Having friends around is safer and just more fun!
- DO know your limits. Watch out for the “too’s” - too tired, too cold, too far from safety, too much sun, too much hard activity.
- DO swim in supervised (watched) areas only, and follow all signs and warnings.
- DO wear a life jacket when boating, jet skiing, water skiing, rafting, or fishing.
- DO stay alert to currents. They can change quickly! If you get caught in a strong current, don’t fight it. Swim parallel to the shore until you have passed through it. Near piers, jetties (lines of big rocks), small dams, and docks, the current gets unpredictable and could knock you around. If you find it hard to move around, head to shore. Learn to recognize and watch for dangerous waves and signs of rip currents - water that is a weird color, really choppy, foamy, or filled with pieces of stuff.
- DO keep an eye on the weather. If you spot bad weather (dark clouds, lighting), pack up and take the fun inside.
- DON’T mess around in the water. Pushing or dunking your friends can get easily out of hand.
- DON’T dive into shallow water. If you don’t know how deep the water is, don’t dive.
- DON’T float where you can’t swim. Keep checking to see if the water is too deep, or if you are too far away from the shore or the poolside.



10 Things to Do Before School Starts

Soak up the last few weeks of summer with these fun family outings. As you prepare to say goodbye to summer vacation, consider what is left on your list of things to do before school begins. Take a break from back-to-school shopping with these 10 fun ideas. Make the final days and weeks of summer memorable.

- 1. Take a hike.** Maybe you weren’t able to get in as much mountain time with the family as you hoped. Set aside a day for a kid-friendly hike, such as St. Mary’s Glacier. For added fun, pack a lunch to enjoy at the top while you chat with your children about what they loved best about their summer.
- 2. Camp out.** Camping with little ones takes advanced planning, so aim for simple, carefree camping fun in your backyard. Invite a friend or two and play a game of tag with flashlights when it gets dark. Roast hot dogs and

marshmallows in an outdoor fire pit or over the grill. Snuggle up under the stars, point out constellations or play a game of “would you rather” with your kids. (Examples: Would you rather have the power to fly or be invisible? Would you rather live in the mountains or at the beach?)

- 3. Bike along Platte River.** There are 28 miles of trail along the Platte River for families to enjoy together, whether you tackle the whole length or just a short portion of it. It’s an outing filled with exercise and fresh air, and you can stop along the way as much as you like. Start the trail at the REI Denver flagship store and make your way through Denver to enjoy the city from

a different perspective. If the kids aren’t much for biking, try a leisurely stroll to admire the art painted along the walls. Point out unique buildings, sculptures, and other features you see along the way.

- 4. Check out a Rockies game.** Spend a day rooting for the home team. With Rockpile tickets priced so low, there’s no reason not to head to the ballpark for a hot dog and some action-packed baseball with the whole family.
- 5. Catch a sunrise.** Whether you’re peering over Lookout Mountain, posted up at Red Rocks Amphitheatre, driving up Guanella Pass, or cozy in your own backyard, a sunrise in Colorado is one of the most wonderful beauties to witness. Wake your kids up early just one morning (if they aren’t already up) to share in the first light of the day. Just think, maybe they’ll go to bed early that night, and you’ll be on your way to an earlier bedtime schedule for school. After sunrise, beat the breakfast rush and grab a stack of pancakes at a great spot near your home, or just enjoy breakfast on your own porch as a family.
- 6. Pick some fruit.** August is the month for sweet strawberries and red raspberries at Berry Patch Farms in Brighton. Load up the car with the entire crew and head out into the fields to pick fresh berries. It’s like an easy treasure hunt with the best payoff ever.

Property Manager

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10 Things, *continued from front page*

- 7. **Take a sunset stroll.** Walk around any of the metro area’s beautiful parks in the evening. Choose one with a playground so the kids can play until the sun sets, then stop and admire the last rays as a family. It’s a great time to share hopes for the next school year, too.
- 8. **Spend the day at a mountain resort.** The winter slopes transform into family-friendly playgrounds each summer, with a plethora of activities the entire crew can enjoy. From scenic chairlift rides to hiking trails and alpine slides, there’s a little something for everyone. Head to the mountains early for one last summer hoorah.
- 9. **Drive up Trail Ridge Road.** If you have yet to make your way up Trail Ridge Road this season, now is the time. Spend the day enjoying everything that Rocky Mountain National Park has to offer, including hiking around Bear Lake and searching for elk herds. Make the drive up Trail Ridge Road to stand above the treeline and gaze over miles and miles of mountains and sky. Let the kids take their best photos along the way. You must make a reservation to get into Rocky Mountain National Park.
- 10. **Ride the Georgetown Loop.** A scenic ride on an old mining railroad is an exceptional way to close out the summer with your family. The Georgetown Loop takes reservations online, and for an additional fee, you can enjoy a tour of a mine while learning about the history of gold mining in Colorado.

–<https://www.coloradoparent.com>

Alpers Farm

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News Articles

The deadline for news articles is the 15th of the month before the next month’s issue, except for the Jan. issue which is Dec. 10th. Please email news articles to the editor at klarson@pcms.net. All “Letters to the Editor” must be signed and include a daytime phone number in case there are any questions. Letters may be printed without the author’s name if requested.

Advertising:

The deadline for advertisements is the 15th of the month for the next month’s issue, except for the Jan. issue which is Dec. 6th.

To place an ad, call **Colorado Lasertype, 303-979-7499**

Email: getinfo@coloradolasertype.com

To find ad rates and discounts, go to

www.ColoradoLasertype.com

and click on the “Advertising Rates” link.

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August Gardening Calendar

By Eileen Tully, Colorado Master Gardener, CSU

As gardeners, we enter a slower, more easy-going phase in the garden process. There's always something to do in the garden but we don't need to keep up the frenetic pace of planting-mulching-weeding that April and May demand. June's blooms may have faded, but with proper pruning some may make a reappearance in August. July's heat is over and there's still a lot of summer left.



- Peppers can be harvested anytime they achieve the size you need or want.
- Water tomatoes regularly until late August. After that, fruit will ripen more quickly when water is withheld.
- After harvesting and areas become empty sow cover crops, like annual rye grass, often called green manure, to build garden soil.

In August harvesting our gardening efforts has begun, but we can take time to do it right, even enjoy the process. If we pay attention, August presents a wisdom not available any other time of year. The garden is maturing now. We can see our mistakes, our successes, and the intrusions on our efforts that nature presents on her own. In August there's time to look around and appreciate the garden...and then get back to work.

MAJOR CHORES FOR AUGUST

Vegetables:

- Plant spinach and lettuce mid-month for a fall harvest.
- Harvest cucumbers intended for slicing when they are 6 to 8 inches.
- Onions are ready to harvest when their green tops fall over. Lift the bulbs and brush off loose soil. Bring them to a protected area like a porch or covered shed. Lay them out in a single layer on a surface that permits ventilation top and bottom. When the outer skins have turned papery place them in a mesh bag or old panty hose and place them in a dark and cool place.

Lawn:

- Begin lawn renovation and repair. Build up low areas with garden soil and over-seed areas that are thin or bare.
- Attack persistent weeds like bindweed with a 2, 4-D product. But the ultimate goal is to grow a thick healthy turf that will choke out weeds.

Garden:

- Newly planted perennials, trees and shrubs need consistent watering to get established.
- Fertilize roses for the last time around August 15th. Fertilizing later may stimulate new succulent growth that could damage the plant if there is an early frost.
- Divide spring blooming perennials if needed. Ways to tell if a perennial needs to be divided is if the plant has a 'hole' in the middle and doesn't look as attractive as it used to, if blooms decrease or stop altogether or if the plant is crowding out neighboring plants.

Take advantage of plant sales. Usually starting mid-to-late-August and into September many nurseries will have plants sales with prices as much as 50% off.

—<https://tra.extension.colostate.edu>



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Concerts in Clement Park

Littleton plays host to Concerts in Clement Park, a series of FREE evening concerts on Thursdays at 7 p.m. Two Performances left at the Grant Family Amphitheater. Bring your family and friends to picnic in the park and enjoy this wide range of talent. Blankets or lawn chairs are allowed. No glass containers.

Here's the 2023 Concerts In Clement Park schedule:

- August 3 — Michael Friedman Band
- August 10 — Lucky Catch

Parking is free, but please do not park at Columbine Library. Amenities near the Grant Amphitheater include restrooms, playgrounds, walking paths and picnic shelters.

Picnic Shelter rentals are available by calling 303-409-2600. If shelters are not rented, they are available on a first come, first served basis.

—<https://www.ifoohills.org/>

Farmers Market

@ Aspen Grove

Shop local! Shop The Metro Denver Farmers' Market at Aspen Grove on Wednesday's from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm through September. The Farmers' Market will be located in the parking lot near Lululemon. It will feature local produce, food, clothing, artists, and more.

—<https://aspengrovecenter.com/>

Book Lovers Day, Aug. 9.

An unofficial holiday encouraging everyone to celebrate reading and literature. People are advised to put away their smartphones and technological distractions and pick up a book to read.



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Teen Services

Hire a teen from our neighborhood to help out with household chores. Teens are available for Babysitting, Pet and House Sitting, Lawn Care and Snow Removal.

To add your teen, email **Colorado Lasertype** at getinfo@coloradolasertype.com and include the following: the **neighborhood you live in**, your age, parent email and the categories you would like included. Categories: **(B)** Babysitting; **(*)** Red Cross Cert for CPR; **(L)** Lawn care; **(S)** Snow removal; **(P)** Pet & House sitting. No recommendation or endorsement of any of the names on this list is implied or stated by the HOA board or Colorado Lasertype.

National Farmers Market Week, Aug. 6-12.

National Farmers Market Week is a great opportunity to show the nation how much value markets bring to their communities. With fun events, specials, contests, and activities, the week helps to boost market attendance and visibility.

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