Contact: Jeff Moline
Open Space Superintendent
City of Lafayette Parks, Open
Space & Golf Dept
www.cityoflafayette.com
jeffm@cityoflafayette.com

787 N. 95th Street Lafayette, CO 80026 Phone 303.665.5588 ext.3615 Fax 303.665.6581

Lafayette Parks, Open Space & Golf Department





FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lafayette Open Space Advisory Committee to host 14th Annual Open Space Day on October 19, 2013

Efforts will rebuild and open the Lafayette segment of Rock Creek Regional Trail

LAFAYETTE, **CO** October 9, 2013 – For the fourteenth year in a row, Open Space Day, a day to appreciate, protect and enjoy Open Space properties, will be celebrated in Lafayette. With just under 1,300 acres acquired and nearly 20 miles of trails laid since the program's inception, Open Space Day volunteers have a hands-on opportunity to understand the importance of trail connectivity throughout Lafayette's exceptional system.

This year's event is unique. It will focus on rebuilding trails damaged by the recent flood along portions of Lafayette's segment of Rock Creek Regional Trail. Volunteers will perform much needed trail building on the project site.

"Open Space staff is incredibly grateful to the community for its outpouring of support for our trails and properties that were damaged in the flood" says Jeff Moline, Open Space Superintendent. "At our volunteer work day on October 19th we will be able to channel that energy into the repair of the Rock Creek Trail. The work of our dedicated volunteers will allow us to open the Lafayette section of the Rock Creek Trail this month."

Volunteers, committee members and city staff will make the trail improvements on sections of the regional that were damaged during the September flood. Participants are asked to register online for the event on the 19th. Lunch will be provided to all volunteers who pre-

Page 2

Lafayette Parks, Open Space & Golf Department register online. As always, participants are encouraged to walk or ride their bike to the event. Parking is limited at the Rock Creek East Trailhead (2001 ^{1/2} South 120th Street) although on-street parking is permitted on nearby public streets.

Lafayette welcomes the opportunity to hold this event to open Rock Creek Trail for the community after receiving such a large number of willing volunteers in response to the extensive flood damage. "It has been hard for the trail community to see wonderful regional resources that took over twenty years to build so severely damaged by the flood. With the Coal Creek Trail we respectfully request the community's patience while we determine how best to repair and restore the trail and open space corridor" adds Moline. "We understand how important our trails are for people so we are doing our best to leverage the help and funds of our partners as well as the efforts of volunteers where possible."

###

For more information on the Open Space Advisory Committee visit the City's website at http://www.cityoflafayette.com/index.aspx?nid=387.

See a Lafayette regional trail flood damage assessment listing at http://www.cityoflafayette.com/index.aspx?NID=161.

For more general information about Lafayette's Open Space program visit http://www.cityoflafayette.com/OpenSpace.

Lafayette Open Space Day October 19, 2013

Coal Creek Trail
Near 2001 1/2 S. 120th Street/ Lafayette, CO 80026
Event runs: 9:00am–1:00pm (lunch at noon)
Lunch provided to registered volunteers
Online Registration at http://www.cityoflafayette.com/TrailVolunteer
Individuals, Groups and Families Welcome

About Lafayette's Open Space Program

Lafayette owns just under 1300 acres of open space. Open space is acquired and maintained thanks to two separate open space taxes. The POST tax was approved in 1991 for 0.25% and the Legacy tax for 0.25% was approved to run from 2005-2014. Open Space land preserves and restores natural areas, including the plants and animals that live there; protects water resources and wildlife habitats; provides a place for light recreational use such as walking, photography, or nature studies; retains land for agricultural use; shapes the development of the City; limits urban noise and congestion; and, safeguards the land for its contribution to your quality of life and the value of your home. For more information about the Open Space program visit http://www.cityoflafayette.com/openspace or Like our City of Lafayette Open Space Facebook Page.

About the recent damage to the Coal Creek/Rock Creek Regional Trail System

In an ongoing collaborative effort over the past 20+ years, regional governments have partnered to create the Coal Creek and Rock Creek trail systems. Participation from City of Lafayette, City of Louisville, Boulder County, City and County of Broomfield, Town of Erie and Town of Superior has allowed two highly enjoyable trail systems to highlight significant open space parcels and connect the communities in eastern and southern Boulder County. Unfortunately, the September 2013 flooding left this system with significant damage to large segments, particularly to Coal Creek Trail through Lafayette, Louisville and unincorporated Boulder County. Repairing pedestrian bridges and two underpasses as well as replacing trail materials in Lafayette will require careful planning and construction. Therefore, key partners are working together diligently to prioritize repair and funding strategies so that the important community links can be reopened. To learn more, visit http://www.cityoflafayette.com/trails or http://www.cityoflafayette.com/trails or http://www.bouldercounty.org/os/parks.