



2025

INFORMATION FOR LIVING IN A RURAL SETTING

WELCOME TO
PUEBLO COUNTY
COLORADO



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Welcome Prospective Residents to Pueblo County

The Board of County Commissioners would like to present this document to you as you prepare to purchase property or build in rural Pueblo County.

Rural living has always had its challenges. The men and women who first came to this part of the country during the westward expansion of the United States were necessarily self-reliant. The values of integrity and personal responsibility guided their decisions, actions, and interactions. In keeping with that spirit, we offer this information to help the citizens of Pueblo County who wish to follow in the footsteps of those rugged individualists by living outside city limits.

It is important for you to know that life in the country is different from life in the city. County governments are not able to provide the same level of service that city governments provide because residents are spread out over a much larger area. To that end, we are providing you with the following information to help you make an educated and informed decision to purchase and/or build on rural land. We hope you find the information in this booklet useful. Welcome to Pueblo, Colorado.

Sincerely,

The Pueblo County Board of County Commissioners





ACCESS

The fact that you can drive to your property does not necessarily guarantee that you, your guests, or emergency service vehicles can achieve that same level of access at all times, particularly if private access roads are involved. Please consider the following items when constructing access to your property especially if it doesn't directly contact to main roadways in Pueblo County.

- **Emergency Response/Access**

- EMS/Fire response times are generally slower than in town response times due to the distance from the stations to rural property residences. If you have a gate or other items that are locked to the entrance on your property, you will need to provide EMS/Fire services with that code or an entrance route that they can access.
- EMS/Fire vehicles are often longer/wider than average vehicles so be sure to account for that when building driveways and turn around access points.
- Do not block water access with private property items that could limit fire fighting abilities.
- Have more than one way in and out of your property for emergencies.

- **Legal Access**

- Understanding easement access especially with adjoining neighbor properties is critical to establishing friendly neighbors.
- Are you unsure if you have/need an easement for your property? Unsure what a "landlocked" property means?
 - Click here for helpful information or scan the linked QR code:
 - <https://nationalland.com/blog/the-importance-of-property-access-understanding-access-easements/>
- The recommendation is to contact the Pueblo County Department of Engineering and Public Works for assistance.
 - **Engineering & Public Works: 719-583-6040**
- You can also contact the Pueblo County Assessors office for property mapping and property lines concerning easement access.
 - **Assessor's main line: 719-583-6597**

- **Road Maintenance**

- Pueblo County maintains 1,208 miles of road but many rural properties are served by private or public roads which are maintained by private road associations.
- This means access to snow plowing and grading may be limited.
- Pueblo County will not issue access permits to roads that are not maintained by the County.

- **School Bus Routes**

- School buses only travel on maintained county roads that have been designated as school bus routes by the school district.
- When moving to a more rural area, you will need to check with the connected school district to find information about where the buses travel to and the designated pick up/drop off locations.

Pueblo
Engineering &
Public Works



What is a
property
easement?



Pueblo
Assessors



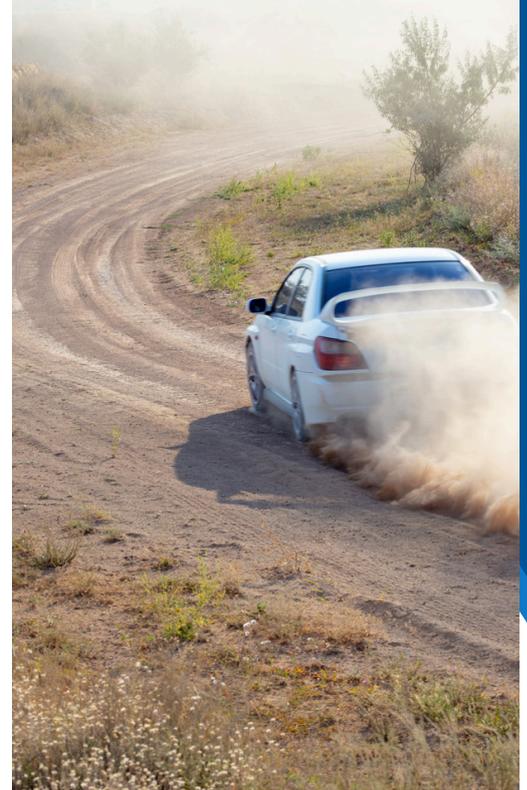
ACCESS CONT.

• Unpaved Roads

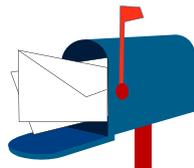
- Natural disasters, especially floods, can destroy roads. Be very careful driving on those roadways filled with water as vehicles can quickly become submerged and stalled in fast moving water.
- Unpaved roads generate dust. County maintained roads are treated to minimize this but it is just a part of living in more rural areas.
 - Wash out on dirt roads can cause a wash board effect that can affect suspension of traveling vehicles. Driving slow can limit the wear and tear that unpaved roads put on vehicles.
- If a road is currently unpaved, it unlikely will be paved in the future. When property is sold, it's recommended you check with the Pueblo County Department of Public Works to see if that road is available to be paved at a future date.
 - **Public Works Phone: 719-583-6040**

• Mail & Package Delivery

- Not all rural properties are available for direct mail/package delivery.
- Be sure to ask the nearest post office location about delivery options to your address.
- To find the closest post office, you can click the link below and enter your Pueblo zip code.
 - <https://col.st/jOUhU>



USPS Location Finder



Don't want washboard dirt roads?



Then go slow.



**TURN AROUND
DON'T DROWN**



6 INCHES of moving water can carry away an adult

12 INCHES of moving water can carry away a small car

18 - 24 INCHES of moving water can carry away most trucks



UTILITY SERVICES

Water, sewer, electric, telephone, and other services may be unavailable or may not operate at urban standards. Repairs can often take much longer than in towns and cities. Please review your options from the non-exhaustive list below.

- **Telephone Service**
 - CenturyLink, Pine Drive Telephone Company, and Highline are the main rural area telephone providers that cover Beulah, Rye, and many parts of the Mesa area (Avondale/Vineland).
 - Contact these companies to discuss line expansion, construction costs, service areas, provided services, and availability.
 - Access to internet through the phone or broadband systems is generally available but may be weak in many rural areas in Pueblo County.
 - Some nationwide phone/internet companies do service the more rural areas depending on your address. Be sure to contact them directly to learn more.
- **Internet Service**
 - Xfinity is the main internet provider in Pueblo County unless your property is able to connect to Starlink Colorado. These services are address specific.
- **Sewer Service**
 - The realtor for the property will be able to tell you whether a sewer system is already in place on the property or not.
- **Septic Service**
 - If your property is not available for sewer service you will need to bring a septic tank.
 - This will depend heavily on the soil type and area available for a leach field which will determine the cost and function of your system.
 - Have the system checked by a reliable sanitation firm and ask for assistance from the Environmental Health Division of the Pueblo Department of Public Health and Environment.
 - **Pueblo Department of Public Health & Environment: 719-583-4300**
- **Wells**
 - If you don't have domestic water access from a tap you will need to use a well.
 - Well permit use may be acreage specific. To learn more you will need to check with the Division of Water Resources.
 - Permits for wells are granted by the Division of Water Resources through the Colorado Department of Agriculture.
 - To learn more or access a permit click here: <https://dwr.colorado.gov/services/well-permitting> or scan the QR code.
- **Electric Service**
 - San Isabel Electric, Xcel Energy, and Black Hills Energy are the providers for Pueblo County.
 - Company service is dependent on property location.
- **Gas Service**
 - Natural gas is provided in Pueblo County by Xcel Energy: www.xcelenergy.com and Colorado Natural Gas: www.coloradonaturalgas.com

CDA Division of Water Resources



Black Hills Energy



San Isabel Electric



Colorado Water Uses CSU Extension





THE PROPERTY

There are many issues that can affect your property. It is important to research these items before purchasing land.

Not all lots are buildable. The Pueblo County Assessor has many parcels that are separate for the purpose of taxation that are not legal lots in the sense that a building permit will not be issued. You must check with the Pueblo County Planning Department to find out if a piece of land can be built upon.

- **Easements**

- They may require you to allow construction of roads, power lines, water lines, sewer lines, etc. across your land.
- Some recorded utility easements are “blanket” easements that cover the entire parcel of land rather than just a strip across it. Check these issues carefully.

- **Mineral Rights**

- In Colorado, unless it is specifically outlined in your property deed, you may not own the mineral rights to the property.
- A different owner may have the mineral rights, meaning they have the ability to come onto the property and mine as they desire.
- Unsure if you or someone else owns your mineral rights? Check your deed and then check the State Land Board division page under the Colorado Department of Agriculture.
 - Mineral Rights Website: <https://slb.colorado.gov/lease/oil-gas>

- **Zoning Rights Per Acreage Size**

- Parcels of 35 acres or more may be exempt from State and County subdivision laws. For further information on this, you will need to check with Pueblo County Department of Planning & Development.
- Understanding what is allowed on various acreage sizes can be found in the Pueblo Unified Development Code which was adopted in October 2024.
- Questions?

- **Call the Pueblo County the Planning & Development Department:**
 - **719-583-6100**

- **Colorado Fence Law - Fence Out State**

- Colorado is an open range state meaning that livestock owners are not required to fence their animals in on their property. If they are zoned for agriculture use with livestock, it is the responsibility of the neighbors connected to that property to fence out the livestock animals.
- A fence destroyed by livestock must meet the “lawful fence” requirements.
 - More information about this policy can be found here: <https://ag.colorado.gov/brands/open-range-and-fencing>
 - This law is overseen by the Colorado Brands Division in the Colorado Department of Agriculture.

Pueblo Planning & Zoning Department



Pueblo Unified Development Code



Adopted Oct. 2024

CO Mineral Rights Information



CO Open Range & Livestock Fencing



THE PROPERTY CONT.

• Water Rights

- Water law and rights in Colorado are complicated and often very intense for anyone involved in it. Colorado is a headwaters state.
- If you have a ditch/stream or creek running across your property, unless you have specific rights to that water, you cannot divert or use that water for anything on your property.
- Water rights are listed as junior or senior rights.
- All water in Colorado is sold as “rights” which tells you how much water you can take, how much you must return to the rivers and when you can get the water. To learn more about your water rights you will need to contact your local water district listed below:
 - **Bessemer Ditch Company**
 - 719-544-8584
 - <https://bessemerditchcompany.org/index.php>
 - **St. Charles Mesa Water District**
 - 719-542-4380
 - <https://www.stcharlesmesawaterdistrict.org/>
 - **Beulah Water Works District**
 - 719-251-4331
 - <https://www.beulahvalleywater.com/>
 - **Pine Drive Water District - Beulah**
 - 719-485-3619
 - **Rye Water District**
 - <https://townofrye.colorado.gov/>
 - **Colorado City Metropolitan District**
 - 719-676-3396
 - <https://www.coloradocitymd.org/>

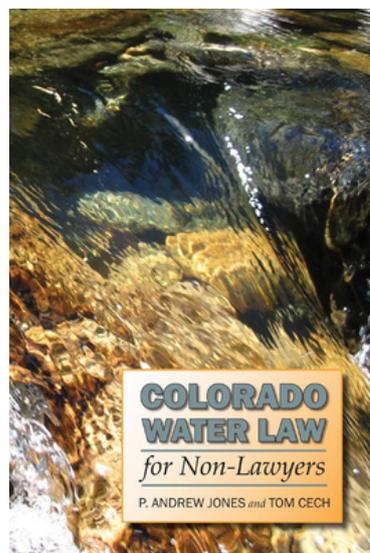
Erosion - Wind & Water

- Erosion happens over time due to weather and shifts in the soil.
- Addressing erosion control can be done by planting native plants and grasses that can mitigate the damage and build back soil structure.
- Pueblo experiences a semi-arid climate with limited rainfall.

Soil types vary but they mainly are dry, sandy/shale mix that is pretty alkaline in pH.

In Colorado there is a saying that goes, **“Whiskey’s for drinking and water’s for fighting.”**

To get more acquainted with Colorado Water Law, we highly suggest this book.



Bessemer Ditch Company



St. Charles Mesa Water District



Beulah Water Works District



Colorado City of Metropolitan District



Colorado Water Rights



FIRE

Not all properties in the County fall within a Fire District and may have limited response capabilities. If you live in a more rural area of Pueblo County, then the services available for fire and EMS may be limited.

In some unincorporated areas that might mean that there is only wildland fire protection but not structural fire protection.

To learn what services are available to you at your new residence, you should contact the local fire district near your new address. In many cases, it may be a volunteer fire department.

Fire Wise

- Many homes within Pueblo County exist within a Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) which increases the risk of the home and property being destroyed by fire if not properly mitigated.
- Mitigation is no guarantee that your home/property will be saved in a wildfire but it significantly increases the chances of survival.
- To learn more about Fire Wise and home/property mitigation, you can check out the Fire Wise program by clicking on the link below or scanning the QR code.
 - <https://www.nfpa.org/Education-and-Research/Wildfire/Firewise-USA>

Fire District Mitigation Teams

- Some fire districts have mitigation teams that will be able to conduct a mitigation inspection, make recommendations and may even be able to offer some assistance with the mitigation work.
- Ask your local fire district about the abilities of what they can offer you for the location you are choosing to buy or build on.

Staying Informed

- Follow the Pueblo County Sheriff's Office on
 - Facebook: facebook.com/pueblosheriff/
 - X (Twitter): bit.ly/4iuZSno
 - Or your local fire district for updates.
- Check local media outlets.
- Check the Pueblo Emergency Status Board:
 - <https://bit.ly/PuebloEmergencyInfo>
- Watch Duty (for Wildland Fires) is a free fire notification app and website that gives real time fire updates.
 - <https://app.watchduty.org/>



Prepare yourself by visiting iafc.org and reviewing the "Ready, Set, Go information"

Pueblo Emergency Status Board



Fire Wise



Watch Duty



Pueblo Sheriff's Office



FIREWISE USA®
Residents reducing wildfire risks



FIRE CONT.

Property Considerations

- Build using fire resistive materials such as: stucco siding, metal roofs, and enclosed decks and porches.
- Remove fuel (vegetation that can burn) within 10 feet of all structures.
- The next 90 feet in all directions of all structures should have grasses kept cut below 6 inches.
 - Trees limbed up from the ground up to 6 feet in the air.
 - Reduce the continuity of trees in this area to create 20 feet crown spacing between the trees.

Emergency Notifications

- This system allows for the Pueblo County Sheriff’s Office to send you an alert on your cell phone regarding natural disasters and evacuation orders based on your zip code.
- This is a voluntary program you can sign up for and not something you are automatically enrolled in.
- To sign up, you need to go to the Sheriff’s office website, click on the emergency telephone registration link and register your cell phone.

Emergency Notifications

Pueblo City Emergency Notification Opt-In Program



bit.ly/4jmOVFO

Pueblo County Sherriff Emergency Notifications



bit.ly/3YBJRor

Pueblo Fire Districts



- **Beulah Fire Protection & Ambulance District**
 - 719-485-2367
 - <https://www.beulahfireambulance.org/>
- **Rye Fire Protection District**
 - 719-676-3522
 - <https://ryefiredistrict.us/>
- **Red Creek Volunteer Fire Department**
 - 719-485-7283
 - <https://rcvfr.org/>
- **Pueblo West Fire Department**
 - 719-547-7337
 - <https://www.pueblowestmetro.us/161/Fire-Department>
- **Rural Fire Department**
 - 719-948-4646
 - <https://www.puebloruralfire.com/>
- **West Park Fire Protection District**
 - 719-564-0188
 - bit.ly/43XBZRU





EVACUATION INFORMATION

This information for staying informed during disasters is specific to Pueblo County only. For other areas in Colorado, you will need to reach out to that area’s specific emergency management department. ***If you are in need of immediate emergency assistance, please dial 9-1-1.***

Evacuations

- Be prepared to evacuate when a natural disaster strikes.
- Know your evacuation routes ahead of time.
- Prepare yourself by visiting the Ready, Set, Go information website to help you prepare for emergency actions.
- If you or a loved one needs assistance evacuating, if such an event would occur, contact your local Fire District to register such a need with them.
- In the event you have been evacuated, assist first responders by acknowledging you have been evacuated.
 - This form is available through the Pueblo County Sheriff’s Emergency Management website page.

Staying Informed

- Follow the Pueblo County Sheriff’s Office on
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pueblosheriff/>
 - X (Twitter): bit.ly/4iuZSno
 - Or your local fire district for updates.
- Check local media outlets.
- Check the Pueblo Emergency Status Board:
 - <https://bit.ly/PuebloEmergencyInfo>
- Watch Duty (for Wildland Fires) is a free fire notification app and website that gives real time fire updates.
 - <https://app.watchduty.org/>

Pueblo Emergency Status Board



72 Hour Kit Personal Preparedness



CSU Extension After The Disaster Guidebook



National Weather Service Radio All Hazards



NOAA
WEATHER
PROGRAM OFFICE



Prepare yourself by visiting iafc.org and reviewing the “Ready, Set, Go information”



FLOOD

Although Pueblo doesn't often get a lot of precipitation on a yearly basis, there are times when intense thunderstorms or snow melt can cause the rivers to raise quickly and create hazardous conditions. Always be aware of your surroundings and the daily weather forecast so you are not caught unaware when the weather shifts.

Building Considerations

- Building at the top of a forested draw should be considered as dangerous as building in a flash flood area.
- Steep slopes can slide in wet weather so be cautious when building on/near forested draws.
- Dry gullies can become rivers during the wet months of the year and should be taken into consideration when building.
- Having sand bags available for water diversion during spring run off is a wise mitigation tool. The County doesn't provide sand bags, equipment, or people to protect private property from flooding.

Outdoor Awareness Tips

- Large rocks can roll down steep slopes and present dangers to people and property.
- Washed out gullies, dry creek beds, and other places can easily trap you and cause drownings during flash floods.
- The topography of the land can tell you where the water will go in the case of heavy precipitation. When property owners fill in ravines, they have found that the water that drained through that ravine now drains through their house.
 - Be very aware of this when hiking along the Arkansas or Fountain Creek River.
 - Areas to be cautious also include many areas of the Lake Pueblo trail system.

FLOOD WATCH

A Flood Watch is issued when **flooding is possible.**

Stay tuned to trusted news sources and be ready to seek higher ground.

Be Prepared.

FLOOD WARNING

A Flood Warning is issued when **flooding is happening or about to happen.**

Move to higher ground immediately! Never drive or walk through floodwaters.

Take Action!

weather.gov

Do You Really Know How Deep the Water is?

12 inches of fast-moving water can carry away a small car.

6 inches of fast-moving water can knock over and carry away an adult.

18-24 inches of fast-moving water can carry away most large SUVs, vans and trucks.

WHEN FLOODED TURN AROUND DON'T DROWN

NOAA

Driving through Flooded Roadways

- Be aware of low areas such as under bridges that can cause running water to pool and collect causing a hazard that could stall out vehicles during floods.
- Flash floods can come rapidly and unexpectedly with flooding happening within a few minutes of excessive rainfall.
- Be cautious at night when driving through rain or suspected flooded areas, this limits your visibility to see and accidents can easily occur.
- Water can hide dips or damage to roadways underneath the water surface that wind up severely damaging your vehicle.
- If there is no other route, proceed to higher ground and wait for the waters to subside.
- Play it smart and safe. Turn around and don't drown!

STAY OUT OF FLOODWATERS

Floodwaters hide dangers that can cause sickness, injury or even death.

Animals & insects

Live wires

Harmful bacteria

Dangerous chemicals

Sewage

Sharp objects & debris

weather.gov NOAA

NOAA Flood Info

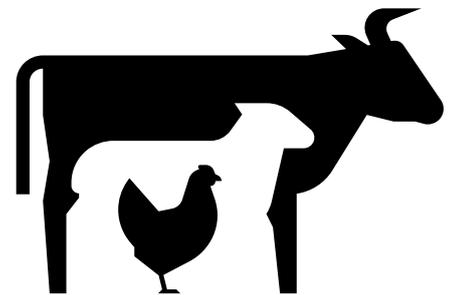
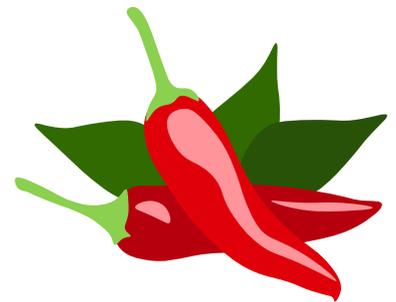




AGRICULTURE

The people who tamed this wild land brought water to the barren, arid east slope of the Rockies through an ingenious system of water diversion. This water has allowed agriculture to become an important part of our environment. Owning rural land means knowing how to care for it. There are a few things you need to know:

- **Pueblo Right To Farm and Ranch Resolution**
 - Pueblo has a rich history in agriculture.
 - Colorado is a right to farm state and Pueblo has added its own resolution to this.
 - This protects agricultural landowners and operators from unreasonable requests from people who move into rural areas to change their agricultural practices or operations.
 - To learn more about this resolution click here: [https://county.pueblo.org/sites/default/files/2020-01/Right to Farm %26 Ranch Policy.pdf](https://county.pueblo.org/sites/default/files/2020-01/Right%20to%20Farm%26RanchPolicy.pdf)
- **Normal Agricultural Operation Items**
 - Agricultural producers may burn irrigation ditches prior to the ditches being turned on in March to clear them of debris and plant litter that could clog up the waterways. This is done in conjunction with responsible fire use and abiding under fire ban laws.
 - Ag operations can create dust, noise, smells, and other unpleasant temporary experiences that cross boundary lines. These are unavoidable items and are a part of rural living. If ag operations truly affect your ability to enjoy your property, we encourage talking to your neighbor politely about these items before taking it to the County.
 - Livestock animals make noises and smells outside of standard working hours. These are to be expected when living in a more rural area.
- **Pueblo Climate**
 - Pueblo is a dry and hot area of the state known as the “donut hole” of the state.
 - We receive on average 11 inches of precipitation a year. This can make dryland farming rather difficult.
- **Pueblo Agriculture**
 - Common items grown/raised in Pueblo are listed below. If you are curious about these items we encourage you to reach out to the Pueblo CSU Extension office to learn more.
 - Common ag items: Pueblo Chiles, Proso Millet, Sunflowers, Cattle, Sheep, Chickens, Grapes, Corn, Hay/Alfalfa, and many other vegetables.
 - **Pueblo CSU Extension: 719-583-6566**



NOXIOUS WEEDS

Colorado has many invasive and noxious weed species that you will want to be aware of when buying rural property. Pueblo County does have an ordinance that requires property owners to control noxious weeds.

- **Identification**

- Properly identifying plants is key to management planning.
- Notice what plants bloom during the seasons.
- Call the Pueblo CSU Extension office for a noxious weed book and a local weed guide that has a helpful management factsheet tied to each listed species.
 - Pueblo CSU Extension: 719-583-6566

- **Noxious vs Invasive**

- Noxious = plants designated by a government authority as being harmful to human health, agriculture, recreation, wildlife, or property.
- Invasive = non-native plants that are harming the native species and surrounding environments.

- **Sample Species - Not a Complete List**

- Russian Olive
- Tamarisk
- Russian Thistle
- Bindweed
- Puncturevine



- **Reasons to Mitigate**

- Weeds reduce land values.
- They can limit wildlife habitat.
- Weeds can be harmful to people or pets that interact with the plant.
- They can restrict the land's use for recreation.

- **Ways to Control**

- Culturally
 - Using techniques like crop rotation, cover crops, tillage practices, and others.
- Mechanically
 - Using techniques like mowing or hand pulling.
- Chemically
 - Use of specific chemicals (may require a pesticide license).
 - Pesticide license testing is available at the Pueblo CSU Extension office by registering on the Colorado Department of Ag's website.
 - Be careful when using chemicals and always fully read the application label.
- Biologically
 - Many plants can be impacted by insects and can be controlled that way.



RUSSIAN OLIVE TREE



MILK THISTLE



BINDWEED



PUNCTUREVINE
"GOAT HEAD/STICKER WEEDS"

NOXIOUS WEEDS CONT.

Taking Action

- Before You Buy: Conduct a thorough inspection of any potential property for noxious weeds.
- Identify: There are lots of online guides and app-based smartphone identifications tools.
- Proactive Management: Implement preventative measures to minimize the risk of infestations.
- Integrated Pest Management (IPM): Develop and implement an IPM plan that combines various control methods for effective and sustainable management.
- Contact Us:
 - For more information or assistance in developing an integrated weed management plan
 - **Pueblo County Noxious Weed Reporting Hotline**
 - 719-583-2969
 - **Pueblo County Parks and Natural Resources**
 - 719-583-2966
 - NaturalResourceTeam@co.pueblo.co.us
 - **Pueblo CSU Extension**
 - 719-583-6566

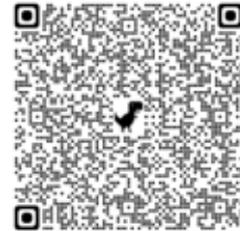
Native Grasses & Plants

- There are a lot of native options for Colorado and you can explore the internet for other options but this list helps you get a start if you'd like to go native!
- Grasses
 - Blue Grama - Colorado State Grass
 - Western Wheatgrass - Drought resistant
 - Little Bluestem - Erosion Control
- Plants (Wildflowers & Shrubs)
 - Blanket Flower (*Gaillardia aristata*)
 - Rabbit Brush (*Chrysothamnus* spp.)
 - Apache Plume (*Fallugia paradoxa*)
 - Yucca (*Yucca* spp.)

CDA NOXIOUS WEED ID



CSUE NATURAL RESOURCES



CDOA - EARLY DETECTION RAPID RESPONSE MAPPING RESOURCES



PUEBLO COUNTY PARKS & REC



PUEBLO COUNTY NOXIOUS WEED SUMMARY



Blanket Flower



Rabbit Brush



Yucca



Tamarisk

Photo Credit:
Dante Archuleta
Parks & Rec

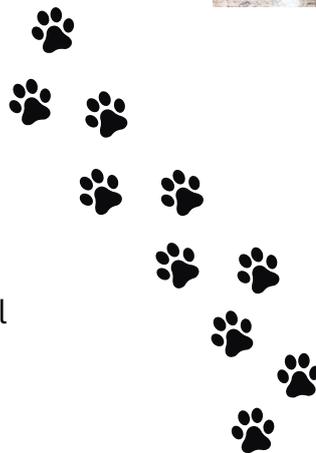
LOOSE ANIMALS

All loose domesticated animals can be captured by animal law enforcement officers. Loose livestock animals can be handled by animal law enforcement staff and the local Colorado Department of Agriculture Brand Inspector.

Pueblo County Brand Inspector:
Zach Kuhns - 719-225-0137

Loose unclaimed animals are expected to be retrieved by the owners. Feral cat colonies are managed by the Humane Society of the Pikes Peak Region. Ranging livestock animals are governed by the Colorado brand board and Colorado is a “fence-out” state. More information regarding livestock animals can be found in the agriculture section of this booklet.

Other resources for loose or stray domestic animals include PAWS for Life animal shelter. All animals are encouraged to be kept safe, secure, and within residential homes to ensure animal and human safety. Both of these organizations are always looking for volunteers and are a great way to give back to the community especially if you have a soft spot for animals.



PUEBLO HUMANE SOCIETY

719-544-3005



PUEBLO PAWS FOR LIFE

719-543-6464



Pueblo Animal Control
719-544-3005
Volunteer Opportunities:

- Dog Walkers
- Shelter Help
- Animal Fosters
- CART - Animal Rescue
- DIY Projects
- Many more!!

WILDLIFE

Pueblo has a range of wildlife animals that can be seen in both urban and rural areas of our community. There are three types of poisonous snakes in Colorado. In Pueblo, you most commonly can encounter the Prairie Rattlesnake also called the western rattlesnake or the great plains rattlesnake. Other common species that are not poisonous include the bull snake and the coach whip or “red racer.” You can also find green garden snakes here as well. All wildlife should be left to their own devices and keeping wild animals as pets is not permitted in Colorado. All wildlife concerns are handled by staff from the Colorado Parks & Wildlife office.



Black Bear



Mule Deer



Black Widow Spider

DO NOTS:

- Wildlife aren't pets.
- Don't feed them.
- Don't harass wildlife as they can become threatened and attack.

DO'S:

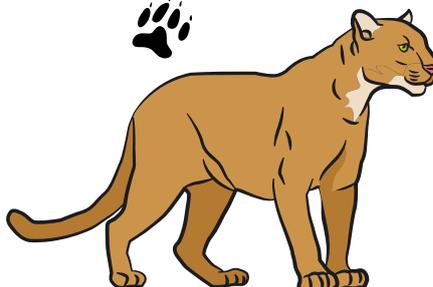
- Secure trash cans indoors and only put out garbage cans on collection day.
 - For trash can information click below or scan QR code on this page.
 - <https://cpw.state.co.us/protect-your-home-wildlife#230548828-1144682588>
- Seal crawl spaces and enclose outdoor buildings to discourage nesting areas for small mammals.
- Keep properties mowed to manageable heights to discourage snakes and burrowing animals.

Poisonous Colorado Species

- Prairie Rattlesnake
- Midget Faded Rattlesnake
- Plains Hognose Snake
- Massasauga Rattlesnake
- Black Widow Spider
- Brown Recluse Spider

Colorado Predators

- Wolves
- Mountain Lions
- Coyotes
- Foxes
- Black Bear
- Lynx
- Bobcat



CPW - WILDLIFE & TRASH



CPW - LIVING WITH WILDLIFE



CPW - LIVING WITH MOUNTAIN LIONS



Pueblo USDA APHIS Staff

Free services for handling urban wildlife calls for Pueblo. Contact the Pueblo CSU Extension office for staff information. Call 719-583-6566

Colorado Parks & Wildlife - Pueblo Office

Phone: 719-561-5300
Address: 600 Reservoir Road, Pueblo, CO 81005



SNAKE ID



Poisonous

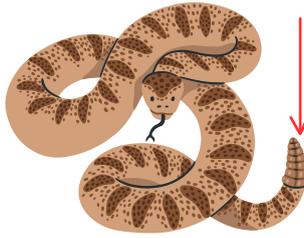
Knowing what snakes are around is vital for understanding what actions need to be taken if a bite occurs on humans or pets.

Many snakes can mimic other species so be sure and look for the identifying marks on their body.

Any snake bite (poisonous or not) should be treated by medical professionals at nearby medical facilities or ***if you need immediate assistance dial 9-1-1.***

Rattlesnakes:

- Scales at the end of the tail that shake like a rattle.
- Slit/Vertical Pupils.
- Typically dark in color.
- Have triangle shaped heads and their heads are wider than their bodies.



Bullsnakes:

- No tail scales but can mimic a rattle noise by rubbing their scales together.
- Circular eyes on the side of their head.
- Narrow heads in line with their body.
- Lighter in color - almost a yellow hue.

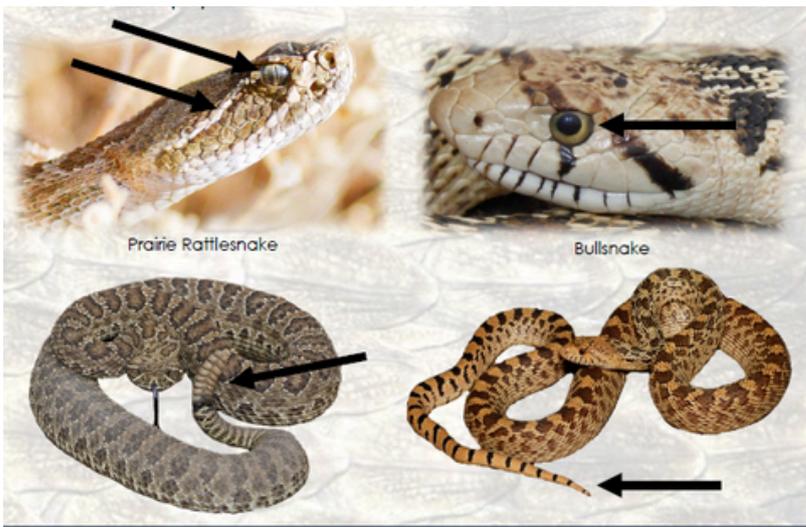


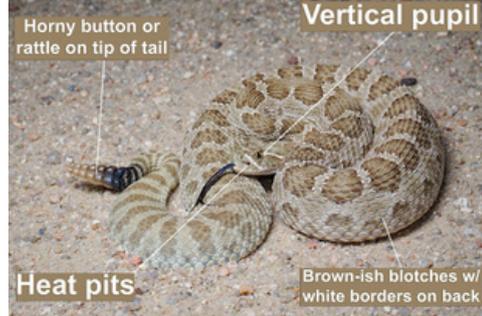
Photo Credit: Adaptive Environmental

MOW TALL GRASS/WEEDS!



Western Massasauga Rattlesnake

Photo Credit: COPARC



Prairie Rattlesnake

Photo Credit: COPARC



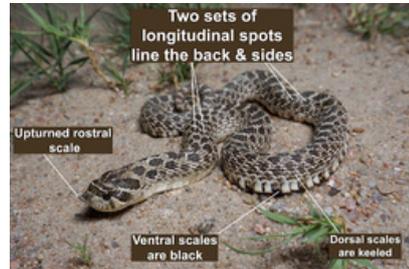
Gopher/Bull Snake

Photo Credit: Northern CO Pest & Wildlife Control



Red Coach Whip/Red Racer Snake

Photo Credit: COPARC



Plains Hognose Snake

Photo Credit: COPARC



Midget Faded Rattlesnake

Photo Credit: COPARC

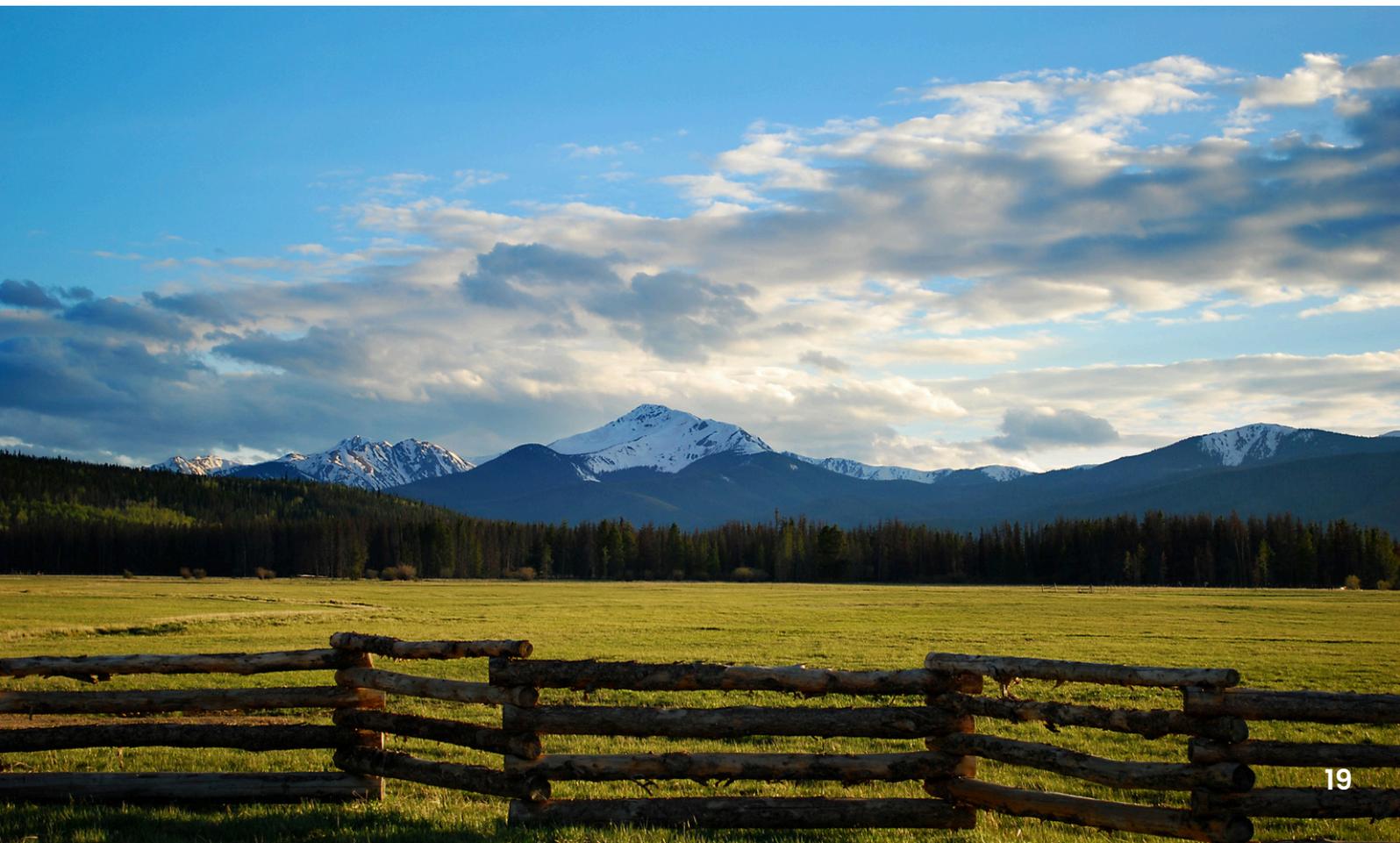


CONCLUSION

This information is by no means exhaustive. There are other issues that you may encounter that we may have overlooked and we encourage you to be vigilant in your duties to explore and examine those things that could cause your country lifestyle to be less than you expect.

Pueblo is a hub of activity with a long and rich history of agriculture, industry, community connection, military service, and so much more. We hope this booklet gives you a good place to start and we encourage you to look into other community resources that could benefit you in making Pueblo County your new home.

This booklet is updated biannually on behalf of the Pueblo County Emergency Services office and corresponding county departments and associated program areas.



GLOSSARY

- **Alkaline Soil**
 - Soil with a pH level higher than 7 on the pH scale.
 - Characterized by elevated levels of calcium, sodium and magnesium.
- **Assessor Office**
 - Government office that is responsible for evaluation and determining the value of real estate and personal property for taxes.
- **Brand Inspector**
 - Individual who is empowered by the State of Colorado through the Colorado Department of Agriculture in regards to livestock animal ownership and identification.
 - Livestock theft is also handled by this division and so is livestock fencing disputes.
- **Defensible Space**
 - An area around an building in which vegetation, debris, and other types of combustible fuels have been removed to slow or stop the spread of fire.
- **Emergency Notification**
 - These are the optional ways you can get emergency alerts from Pueblo County.
 - Pueblo also uses the IPAWS system which is not an optional enrollment feature that the county can use to warn citizens of danger.
- **Erosion**
 - The process where the top layer of soil is removed from the land surface due to another natural conditions (i.e. wind or rain).
- **Fire Wise**
 - A national program that helps communities and individuals reduce their risk from wildfires.
- **Gully/Gullies**
 - A natural forming ravine created by the movement of water across the land.
- **Headwater State**
 - A state where the source or headwaters of its major rivers originate within its borders.
- **Junior Water Rights**
 - In Colorado, these are water rights that have a later priority date on one singular source of water.
- **Invasive**
 - Non-native organisms that thrive in areas where they don't naturally exist and cause significant harm to this new environment or animal life in that area.
- **Noxious**
 - A state governed plant species that is considered to be harmful to the environment or animals.
- **Landlocked Property**
 - A parcel of land that doesn't have direct access to a public road or thoroughfare.
- **Open Range**
 - Livestock animals are allowed to graze unhindered unless another property owner wants to fence them out of a specific area.
- **Property Easement**
 - A legal right to use another person's land for a specific purpose like access without owning the land itself.
- **Senior Water Rights**
 - In Colorado these are water rights that take first priority on one singular source of water.
- **USDA APHIS**
 - The USDA division of Animal Plant Health Inspection Services.
- **WUI**
 - Wildland Urban Interface where human development and wildland vegetation meet or intermix.



Community Directory

- Avondale Water & Sanitation District, 321 3rd St., Avondale, CO 81022, 719-947-3186
- Beulah Fire Protection & Ambulance District, 8675 Central Ave., Beulah, CO 81069, 719-485-2367
- Blende Sanitation District, 719-543-4722
- Board of Water Works, 319 West 4th St., Pueblo, CO 81003, 719-584-0203
- Colorado City Metropolitan District, 4497 Bent Brothers Blvd., Colorado City, CO 81019, 719-676-3369
- Pueblo County CSU Extension, 701 Court St., Pueblo, CO 81003, 719-583-6566
- Pueblo Division of Wildlife, 600 Reservoir Rd., Pueblo, CO 81005, 719-561-5300
- Pine Drive Telephone Company, 8611 Central Ave., Beulah, CO 81023, 719-485-3400
- Pine Drive Water District, 8435 Hwy. 78, Beulah, CO 81023, 719-485-3619
- Pueblo Animal Control, 4600 Eagleridge Pl., Pueblo, CO 81008, 719-544-3005
- Pueblo County Government Information, 215 W. 10th St., Pueblo, CO 81003, 719-583-6000
- Pueblo Department of Public Health & Environment, 101 W. 9th St., Pueblo, CO 81003, 719-583-4300
- Pueblo County Public Works, 211 E. D St., Pueblo, CO 81001, 719-553-2295
- Pueblo County Emergency Management & Sheriff Office, 101 W. 10th St., Pueblo, CO 81003 719-583-6200
- Pueblo County Planning & Development, 201 W. 8th St., Ste. 110, Pueblo, CO 81003, 719-583-6100
- Pueblo County Parks and Recreation Department, 1543 Cooper Pl., Pueblo, CO 81006 719-583-2960
- Pueblo Waste Water Department, 211 E. D St., Pueblo, CO 81003, 719-553-2489
- Pueblo Rural Fire, 29912 Hwy. 50 East, 81006, 719-948-4646
- Pueblo West Fire-Station 1, 51 E. Hahns Peak Ave., Pueblo West, CO 81007, 719-547-7337
- Pueblo West Metropolitan District, 356 S. McCulloch Blvd., Pueblo West, CO 81007, 719-547-2000
- Rye Fire Protection District, 4495 Bent Brothers Blvd., Colorado City, CO 81019, 719-676-3522
- San Isabel Electric, 781 E. Industrial Blvd., Pueblo West, CO 81007, 800-279-7432
- St. Charles Mesa Water District, 1397 Aspen St., Pueblo, CO 81006, 719-542-4380
- West Park Fire Protection District, 3296 Goodnight Ave., Pueblo, CO 81005, 719-564-0188

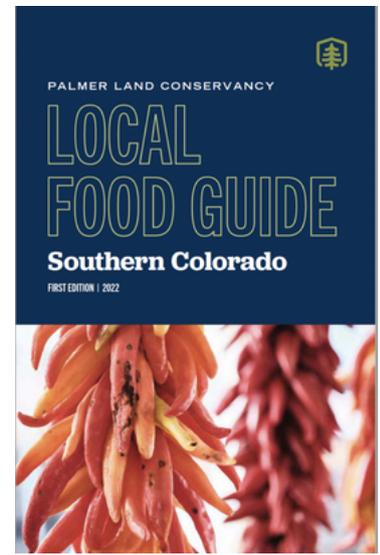
RESOURCES



Other Helpful Community Guides

These are other helpful guides we encourage you to check out to visit places in Pueblo and learn more about your new community. This is not an exhaustive list of all the available resources.

- **Southern Colorado Food Guide**
 - A guide to local farmer markets and direct farm/ranch to table sales for consumers.
 - <https://col.st/wZ3jP>
- **Visit Pueblo**
 - Your one stop shop for everything Pueblo! Find local events, places to tour and so much more.
 - <https://col.st/P6nfc>
- **Greater Pueblo Chamber of Commerce**
 - <https://pueblochamber.org/>
- **Pueblo Star Journal**
 - The local paper both hard copy and digital!
 - <https://pueblostarjournal.org/>
- **CDA Farm Fresh Directory**
 - Statewide directory to farmer markets & other fresh produce.
 - <https://coloradoproud.com/resources/farm-fresh-directory/>
- **Hay Directory**
 - Statewide directory for hay sales.
 - <https://ag.colorado.gov/markets/hay-resources>
- **Pueblo County Trail Guides**
 - <https://www.pueblo.us/342/Trails>
- **Pueblo Mountain Park - Trail Maps & More**
 - Nature & Wildlife Discovery Center:
 - <https://www.hikeandlearn.org/>
 - Raptor Center
- **Pueblo Means Business**
 - <https://pueblomeansbusiness.com/>
- **Pueblo Zoo**
 - <https://www.pueblozoo.org/>
- **Parks & Rec Department - Community Centers**
 - <https://county.pueblo.org/parks-recreation-department/recreation-centers>
- **Lake Pueblo State Park**
 - <https://cpw.state.co.us/state-parks/lake-pueblo-state-park>



Lake Pueblo - Photo Credit CPW



Agricultural & Community Groups

This is not an exhaustive list of community groups but simply a few to check out.

- Pueblo County Stockmen's Association
- Pueblo County Beekeeper's Association
- Pueblo Chile Growers
- Pueblo Food Project
- South Pueblo Conservation District
- Turkey Creek Conservation District
- Southern Colorado Horseman Association
- Pueblo West Horseman Association
- Rye/Colorado City Saddle Club
- Beulah Historical Society
- Pueblo Historical Society
- Pueblo Archaeological & Historical Society
- Pueblo Sheriff's Volunteer Groups (ADD INFO)
- Palmer Land Conservancy
- Southern Colorado Greenback Trout Unlimited Chapter
- Ducks Unlimited (Southern Chapter)
- Southern Colorado Audubon Society (BIRDS)
- Pueblo County Farm Bureau
- C.A.R.T. - Community Animal Response Team



RESOURCES



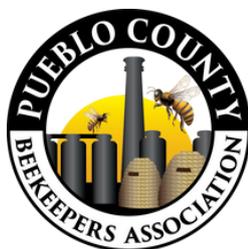
**PUEBLO
FOOD
PROJECT**



**PUEBLO ARCHAEOLOGICAL
AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY**



**RYE - COLORADO CITY
SADDLE CLUB**
PO Box 636, RYE, CO 81069
WWW.RCCSADDLECLUB.COM



**NATURE
& WILDLIFE
DISCOVERY
CENTER**



**PUEBLO COUNTY
C.A.R.T.-LD**
COMMUNITY ANIMAL RESPONSE TEAM
LIVESTOCK DIVISION

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PUEBLO COUNTY
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

