



Communication Services Department
5334 South Prince Street
Littleton, Colorado 80166-0001
Phone: 303-795-4284
Fax: 303-738-7894
www.co.arapahoe.co.us

For release: August 29, 2006

Contact:

DANIEL EINARSEN

Open Space Natural Resources Coordinator

Direct: 720-874-6723

E-mail: deinarsen@co.arapahoe.co.us

MINDY EDSTROM

Communication Services Specialist I

Direct: 303-734-5464

Mobile: 303-961-3410

E-mail: medstrom@co.arapahoe.co.us

New park available to Unincorporated Arapahoe County residents

Littleton, Colo. – Welch Park opened to the public on Saturday with a dedication ceremony to the citizens of Arapahoe County. The four acre park, located at 9015 East Jewell Circle, in the 4-Square Mile area of Unincorporated Arapahoe County, was purchased by Arapahoe County from the Welch family in March of 2002.

Steps began in early 2005 to rezone the property from Residential to Cultural. The property, originally an open field, has been transformed into a landscaped park with winding trails, native grasses and turf play areas. Site preparation for the park included removal of Russian Olive trees and stumps; relocation of three large Blue Spruce trees; tree pruning and stockpiling of landscaping mulch to be reused on site.

The park was purchased with the intention of being a passive public park, meaning the new park will not be programmed or rented for scheduled activities, but available at no charge on a first-come, first-serve basis. As part of the County-wide Comprehensive Plan, certain areas or properties are to remain undeveloped or developed as passive parks within the area of Arapahoe County known as the 4-Square Mile Area.

Welch Park also features a picnic pavilion, tot lot play area, a water quality dry detention pond, parking area, diverse landscaping and scenic views of the Rocky Mountains. Park hours are from daylight to dark. Maintenance will be provided by the Arapahoe County Recreation District.

For more information, contact Daniel Einarsen, Open Space Natural Resources Coordinator, at 720-874-6723.

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