

Check Out Colorado State Parks 2023

Check Out Colorado State Parks provides a unique park pass and adventure backpack filled with field and exploration guides to library visitors of all ages. Started in 2016, this program is the result of a partnership between the Colorado State Library, Colorado Parks & Wildlife, and local libraries. The goals of this program are to provide access to and engagement with state parks, encourage nature exploration, and expand awareness of the variety of items available at our libraries.

In 2023, 260 borrowers completed a survey about their experience with the Check Out Colorado State Parks program. Their responses, as well as library reported statistics, tell the story of our much beloved program in the last year.

THERE WERE APPROXIMATELY **9,566** BACKPACK CHECKOUTS IN 2023. THAT'S MORE THAN **183** PER WEEK!

Patrons' activities while at the park:



69%

Trail/road activities



32%

Water-based activities



8%

Fishing



34%

Wildlife-related activities

Based on their experience with Check Out Colorado State Parks, patrons are likely to:

Recommend a visit to a state park. **99%**

Buy an annual pass to state parks. **73%**

Buy a day pass to visit a state park. **71%**

Communing with nature, socializing with members of the community and visiting park amenities made for a great day.

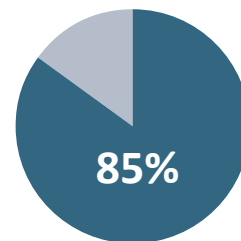
One new family was thrilled to see the circulating kits the library has to offer at no charge to them. They did not know libraries had extraordinary items such as this for families to use. Plus, they are able to check out a State Park pass and use it with other kits we have such as animal tracks or birdwatching, which adds even more impact.

We loved every minute we spent at the parks. We very much look forward to going back again! Thank you for making this possible! Our fun adventures might not have happened without the opportunity to check out this pass.

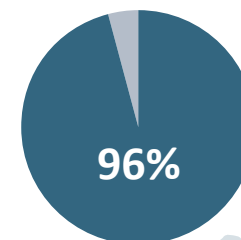
We had a couple who have been patrons of our library for many years check out a State Parks backpack for the first time. They were eager to give it a try. When they returned the backpack to us at the end of the week they did so with big smiles, telling us how delighted they were with the experience. This program helped long-time residents see the area they have lived in for many years from a fresh perspective. It helped them to fall in love with the region all over again.

Patrons learned about nature, state parks, and libraries.

This park experience helped us learn more about nature:



The Check Out Colorado State Parks program changed my view about what libraries have to offer:



THERE HAVE BEEN APPROXIMATELY **53,034** BACKPACK CHECKOUTS SINCE THE START OF THE PROGRAM.

Find out more at www.coloradostatelibrary.org/checkoutcostateparks