



2019 BOCES Classes Available through RMC

*** All single day classes are 7.5 to 8 hours of contact time unless otherwise noted.**

Level I: Short-distance walks on maintained trails and/or indoor classroom sessions in accessible buildings ♦

Level II: Short-distance walks through the day on primarily level terrain ♦♦

Level III: Moderate hikes of less than five miles per day with elevation gain of less than 1,000 ft. ♦♦♦

Level IV: Hikes of more than five miles per day with elevation gain of more than 1,000 ft. ♦♦♦♦

Natural History Classes:

Coyotes: The Song Dogs of the West

Jared Gricoskie March 23 \$80 per adult ages 16 and older

Coyotes are among this country's most successful and resourceful predators. Often misunderstood and maligned, the coyote's impact on our everyday life is profound. Explore the natural history of North America's second largest canine, Native American stories, coyote discovery by Lewis and Clark, and the animal's expansion to the East. Examine the coyote's anatomy and biology; then, head into Rocky Mountain National Park to explore coyote habitat, social structure and interactions. Learn how the coyote interacts with the ecosystem, its prey and humankind, and how wolves could impact coyotes in the future.

♦♦ (CSM credit available) Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute

North with the Spring: Bird Migration

Jeff Maugans May 3 \$80 per adult ages 16 and older

April in the high country is when we welcome back birds that have wintered in warmer climates. Ducks, shorebirds, warblers, swallows, flycatchers, sparrows, sapsuckers, bluebirds and many others return for the nesting season or stop to refuel before heading farther north. Explore several locations in and around Estes Park and Rocky Mountain National Park to identify as many species as possible by sight and sound while learning about each bird's unique natural history. ♦♦♦ (CSM credit available) Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute

Fire in Ecosystems: Friend or Foe

Scott Franklin May 4 \$80 per adult ages 16 and older

Coming off of one of the worst fires seasons in the known history of the West, both managers and citizens are grappling with the complexity of how climate change may alter fire disturbance regimes. Is fire still a natural disturbance in these mountain forests? What relationship does fire have with other disturbances such as drought and bark beetle outbreaks? During this all-day class, we will explore the role of fire in mountain forest ecosystems, typical fire regimes, synergistic disturbances, and predicted changes with climate warming. We will also discuss the history of fire policy ranging from the “10 am policy” to the “let burn policy”, including the caveat of the wildland-urban interface. ♦♦ (CSM credit available) Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute

There’s More to This Place than Meets the Eye: 100 Years of Environmental Change in RMNP
DeAnna Laurel May 3 \$80 per adult ages 16 and older

This course provides an overview of the history of environmental change in the park with an emphasis on human-caused change. Discuss the history of mining, water engineering, recreational development and tourism, atmospheric inputs of dust and nitrates, wildlife management, and climate change in the context of protecting and restoring natural environments within the park. Understand how past human activities influence contemporary ecosystems and options for management of natural resources within the park. ♦♦ CSM credit available Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute

NEW! The Surprising World of Lichens

Jennifer Frazer May 11 \$80 per adult ages 16 and older

You cannot hike, bike, climb, or ski in Colorado without encountering lichens, but few people take the time to notice or examine these ubiquitous organisms. Come take your blinders off and come be blown away by the biology and beauty of these fascinating communities of organisms that live where other life forms cannot. In this class you’ll learn about the inhabitants, anatomy, growth forms, and reproductive structures of lichens. You should invest in a 10X hand lens or loupe to maximize your enjoyment. Artists and photographers welcome! ♦♦♦ (CSM credit available) Meets at the Field Institute

NEW! Endangered Species of the Rockies: Evading Extinction

Gary C. Miller May 17 \$80 per adult ages 16 and older

Concerned about threatened or endangered species, and their preservation as part of our natural world? How do species come to be at the brink of extinction, and how can they be recovered? The answers lie in the landmark Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA), the emerging science of conservation biology, and the resulting actions taken by scientists and citizens. Using examples of species occurring in Rocky Mountain National Park, this class will delve into these topics and their application in recovery efforts. The case histories (including little-known “backstories”) of efforts to recover peregrine falcons, Canada lynx, North American wolverine, and greenback cutthroat trout each demonstrate different aspects of endangered species management. The class includes a visit to a nesting area of the once-endangered/now-recovered peregrine falcon.

♦♦♦ CSM credit available Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute

NEW! Owls of Rocky Mountain National Park

Jeff Maugans May 17 \$80 per adult ages 16 and older

Participants will explore Rocky Mountain National Park in search of 3-4 species of owls during the spring courtship and nesting season. Students will be listening for the vocalizations of Northern Pygmy, Northern Saw-whet, Flammulated and Great Horned Owls. The group will head into the field well before dark as Pygmy Owls are diurnal which provides a great opportunity to get great looks at this species. After dark participants will listen for the other species and hopefully locate a nesting pair or two while seeing first-hand the habitats these species require. ♦♦ CSM credit available Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute

NEW! Early Wildflowers of RMNP

Leanne Benton June 1 \$80 per adult ages 16 and older

Some of the park's early blooms are the loveliest, from tiny alpine forget-me-nots to colorful Calypso orchids. Search out these beauties with former Rocky Mountain National Park interpretive naturalist Leanne Benton as we explore from high alpine ridges to lower montane meadows depending on what is blooming. Participants will get up-close with the mountain flora to discover their adaptations for survival and interesting stories behind their beautiful faces. Identification techniques will be honed, and participants will gain confidence using a simple flower key. ♦♦ CSM credit available Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute

NEW! North American Eagles

Perry Conway June 1 \$80 per adult ages 16 and older

Colorado has both North American eagle species, as does Rocky Mountain National Park. The evolution, ecology, behavior, anatomy and population status of both the bald and the golden will be discussed using a highly professional illustrated lecture. In addition, a beautiful live female golden eagle, with a 7' wing span, will be used to reinforce the lecture's content. After lunch, we will travel to nearby nests to see what kind of habitat is needed for reproduction. We will drive as close as possible to the nest sites, but participants should come prepared for short hikes to the best viewing areas. □□ CSM credit available Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute

Edible & Medicinal Plants of the Rockies: Plants for Hunger & Health

Abby Schreiber June 7; August 3 \$80 per adult ages 16 and older

Explore the flora of the park with a former RMNP interpretive ranger and Master Herbalist. Focus on plants that have been used historically by Native American tribes as food and medicine and those in current use. Herbal remedies based on popular traditions, herbal lore and cultural customs will be complemented with knowledge of therapeutic value discovered by scientists for a holistic portrayal of medicinal plants found in the Rocky Mountains. Discover the edible plants, their pharmacology, identification, conservation and ethics surrounding their harvest and use. Seeds and berries will be discussed at the August class. ♦♦ CSM credit available Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute

Rocky Mountain National Park Butterflies: East of the Divide

Paul Opler & Evi Buckner-Opler June 8 \$80 per adult ages 16 and older

Butterflies are easily observed in every life zone of Rocky Mountain National Park. Learn basic butterfly biology, behavior and identification. In the field, visit several different habitats on the east slope of the park to search for summer species, such as pale swallowtail, blues, several fritillaries, hoary comma and Weidemeyer's admiral. Learn to identify these species, and also discuss their life histories and ecology, host-plant associations and conservation concerns. Observation will rely on binoculars and digital photography; however, the instructor will have a net-and-release permit to allow participants a close-up look at a variety of species. ♦♦ CSM credit available Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute

NEW! Untangling the Mystery of RMNP Native Orchids

Marlene Borneman June 8 \$80 per adult ages 16 and older

What is an Orchid? The orchid family (Orchidaceae) is the largest family of flowering plants, about 35,000 species. Surprisingly there are about 26 species native to Colorado with many growing in the montane and subalpine zones of RMNP. Our day includes learning the characteristics of the Orchid family, Orchid terminology, their symbiotic relationship to other plants, history of uses, and looking at specific Orchid species found in RMNP. We will see how many species we can find and identify in the field, while enjoying these elusive and mysterious plants.

♦♦ CSM credit available Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute

NEW! Birding RMNP by Ear

Nathan Pieplow June 21 \$80 per adult ages 16 and older

Birds are far more often heard than seen – but learning to identify them by ear can be a challenge. This course will introduce the most common bird sounds of Rocky Mountain National Park. We will begin with a field trip in the morning to several different habitats, to hear and practice identifying as many birds

as possible. In the afternoon, we will reconvene indoors for a class session to reinforce and extend the learning from the morning. Both indoors and out, we will work on learning a standard vocabulary for describing sounds, and visualizing sound using spectrograms, so that our eyes can help train our ears.
◆◆ CSM credit available Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute

NEW! Grand Lake Area Class

The Glacial & Geologic History of Rocky's West Side

Keith Graham June 22 \$80 per adult ages 16 and older

In this course, participants will spend time in the field examining features of glacial and geological interest. The goal of this course is to provide both a general knowledge of the geologic history of this region as well as the thought processes and geologic tools used by geologists to decipher this history. We shall also point out that much remains to be learned about some of the geologic processes that shaped the geology and glaciology of the western part of the park. ◆◆ CSM credit available Meets at Farview Curve

Wildflowers of RMNP

Leanne Benton June 29-30 \$160 per adult ages 16 and older for both days or \$90 for each day

Explore the wonder and diversity of the park's wildflowers with a former Rocky Mountain National Park interpretive naturalist. The park's vertical topography allows for variety of habitats; this class will search out lush wildflower displays from montane meadows to high alpine ridges. Get up close with the mountain flora to discover their adaptations for survival and interesting stories behind their beautiful faces. Hone identification techniques, and gain confidence using a flower key. Day 1: montane and subalpine wildflowers; Day 2: alpine wildflowers. ◆◆ CSM credit available Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute **This class has over 16 hours of contact time for 1 credit.**

Birding the Life Zones

Jeff Maugans June 29-30 \$160 per adult ages 16 and older

Rocky Mountain National Park is a birder's paradise during the nesting season. This two-day class will explore the various ecosystems (life zones) of the park to find 50-70 bird species. We will identify hawks, falcons, eagles, ducks, white-tailed ptarmigans, brown-capped rosy-finches, swifts, broad-tailed hummingbirds, swallows, tanagers, sparrows, warblers, American dippers, wrens, woodpeckers, owls, nuthatches, chickadees, kinglets, jays, common ravens and other corvids, and a number of other members of the area's avifauna. We will discuss the natural history of both the birds and the montane, subalpine, alpine, and riparian environments they inhabit. ◆◆◆ CSM credit available Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute **This class has over 16 hours of contact time for 1 credit.**

NEW! Longs Peak Up-close

Marlene & Walt Borneman July 6 \$80 per adult ages 16 and older

Have you ever wondered about those who have explored and studied this unique and famous feature? Ever wondered about the character of Longs Peak itself? Join Walt and Marlene Borneman for a day of intimately connecting with Longs Peak's history, heritage and folklore - from geology to colorful characters. Along the way, Marlene will point out various flora and fauna.

◆◆◆ (CSM credit available) Meets at the Field Institute

Grand Lake Area Class

Birds of the Kawuneeche Valley

Jeff Maugans July 6 \$80 per adult ages 16 and older

This all-day birding excursion will begin with a brief indoor session followed by a day spent in the field within Rocky Mountain National Park. We will identify birds by sight and voice and learn about their natural history. This is prime time to find birds nesting, and we expect to locate woodpeckers, bluebirds, swallows and wrens at their cavity nests. We will break for lunch at a restaurant in Grand Lake and then

resume our field explorations in the Kawuneeche Valley. ♦♦ CSM credit available Meets at Kawuneeche Visitor Center

NEW! Alpine Wildflowers: The Beauty and Resourcefulness of Life in Miniature

Abby Schreiber July 13 \$80 per adult ages 16 and older

Spend a day in the rugged environment of the alpine tundra and explore how life survives and thrives. Plants have adapted to these harsh conditions allowing for a lushness that begs to be seen and experienced up close. We will explore the ecosystem; specifically, how alpine plants adapt to extreme forces. The class is scheduled to make the most of the seasonal wildflower display. Come play up top in the crystalline air with spectacular views! ♦♦ CSM credit available Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute

North American Bears: Ecology, Behavior & Evolution

W. Perry Conway July 13 \$80 per adult ages 16 and older

Bears are the iconic symbol of the American wilderness. North America has three of the world's eight species. Historically, the park had two of the three – now only one. Learn the natural history of all three North American species – their evolution, behavior and habitat needs. With illustrated classroom sessions and field trips, you will learn which areas of the park provide proper black bear habitat, what they eat and their population status. In addition, instruction as to where to view and safely photograph North American bears will be provided. ♦♦ CSM credit available Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute

NEW! Glaciers in Rocky

Dr. David Lindsey July 20 \$80 per adult ages 16 and older

During the ice ages, glaciers moved down the valleys of the Fall River and the Big Thompson. Glaciers carved U-shaped cross sections into formerly narrow stream valleys and left natural dams of glacial debris at their terminus. Striated and grooved bedrock, glacial erratics, and ridges of debris along valley walls are some of the other calling cards of ice. The ebb and flow of glacial advance is controlled by astronomical phenomena: the eccentricity of the earth's orbit, the tilt of the earth's axis of rotation, and the precession of the equinoxes. These move in cycles that combine to produce glacial maxima about every 100,000 years. The last glacial maximum was about 21,000 years ago. Since that time, the earth has warmed, not steadily, but in fits and starts that reflect other complex but poorly understood processes. Today all of these natural processes are further affected by man's activities. The class will examine classical glacial features in the Fall River and Big Thompson valleys and discuss the processes that formed them. ♦♦ CSM credit available Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute

Bats of Colorado & RMNP

Jeremy Siemers July 26 \$80 per adult ages 16 and older

Colorado is home to 19 bat species, and 8 are found in the vicinity of Rocky Mountain National. The evolution, ecology, behavior, anatomy, threats and population status of Colorado's bats will be discussed. Examples of survey equipment, video, and acoustic materials will be used to reinforce the lecture's content. After dinner, we will travel to nearby foraging habitat to observe and listen to bat activity. We will drive as close as possible to the field sites, but participants should come prepared for short hikes. ♦♦ CSM credit available Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute

Bighorn Sheep: Ecology & Management

Jeff Connor July 27 \$80 per adult ages 16 and older

The bighorn sheep is the rightful symbol of Rocky Mountain National Park and the state of Colorado. It is one of the most highly esteemed mammals in North America, representing the majestic mountains of the park. There are few people, who are not impressed by the sight of a large bighorn ram bearing its crown of massive horns. Spend a day with naturalist Jeff Connor learning about the ecology, population dynamics, behavior, food habitats, and mortality causes of bighorn sheep. Learn how to identify a ram from a ewe, a yearling from a lamb, and how to age rams by rings on their horns. Participants will discuss the importance of escape terrain and where ewes have their lambs. The class will also visit two mineral

licks, learning why they are so important to the survival of sheep and Jeff will discuss important park management issues related to bighorn sheep.◆◆◆ CSM credit available
Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute

**NEW! Antibiotic Resistant Bacteria: Resistance in Rocky
Laura Scott July 27 \$80 per adult ages 16 and older**

Antibiotic resistant infections are an imminent threat to human health. Could these bacteria be lurking in environments as pristine as Rocky Mountain National Park? What factors might cause them to be in pristine environments? This course seeks to offer insight into these questions and the implications of such research. Students will be introduced to basic microbiological field and laboratory techniques. The course will focus on collecting and analyzing soil and water samples for antibiotic resistant bacteria. In the field, soil and water collection techniques will be taught while gathering samples along a human impact gradient. In the lab, samples will be prepared and analyzed to detect antibiotic resistant bacteria. This class will involve handling of potential BSL-2 pathogens. Proper safety techniques will be demonstrated and maintained, but every student must abide by protocol in order to protect themselves and others.
◆◆◆ (CSM credit available) Meets at the Field Institute

Grand Lake Area Class

NEW! Wild Mushrooms & Fungi of RMNP

Jon Sommer August 10 \$80 per adult ages 16 and older

Often thought of as something to be avoided, fungi (including mushrooms) represent a vast and diverse group of organisms that play a critical role in virtually every terrestrial environment on the planet. Formerly thought of as plants, it is now known that fungi represent their own kingdom, along with plants and animals. Exemplified by prevalent and often colorful mushrooms, Rocky Mtn National Park has a bountiful and diverse fungal flora. Come learn the basics of mushroom identification, their important role in the ecosystem and a brief overview of the fungal kingdom. We will spend a good part of the day in the field, identifying mushrooms and other fungi, and gaining a first-hand appreciation of these interesting and important organisms. ◆◆ (CSM credit available) Meets at Trail River Ranch

NEW! Grand Lake Area Class

The History of Moose in RMNP

Jeff Connor August 17 \$80 per adult ages 16 and older

Even though not guaranteed we should see moose and even some that have radio collars. The story of present day moose in Rocky Mountain National Park did not get started until 1978. Before 1978 there is some debate on if moose were considered residents of the park. We will discuss why there is some debate and where the present population came from. The focus of the day will be on what they eat, their seasonal behavior, why some are wearing radio collars, and their impact on the delicate willow communities of Kawuneeche Valley. Other questions we will answer are their relationship to other wildlife in the park such as elk and birds, do they have any predators that still exist in the park and why are willows showing such a dramatic decline? The cause maybe a surprise when we discuss the relationship between avian sapsuckers, a fungus, beaver, wildfire, elk and what does all that have to do with moose? We will also discuss present and future park management of this charismatic species. ◆◆◆ CSM credit available Meets at Trail River Ranch

Mountain Lion: RMNP's Top Predator

Caroline Krumm & Dr. Don Hunter August 17-18 \$160 per adult ages 16 and older

Explore mountain lion ecology, ongoing research, human-mountain lion interaction, and community stewardship of wildlife resources during morning lectures followed by hands-on instruction in the field. Demonstrations of research methods, tools and data collection will be included with practical instruction on how to "read" the signs left by mountain lions. Mountain lion safety, current research techniques, key management issues, and how communities across the West are becoming involved also will be discussed. ◆◆◆ CSM credit available Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute **This class has over 16 hours of contact time for 1 credit.**

The Persevering Pika: Secrets of Alpine Survival

Chris Ray August 31 \$80 per adult ages 16 and older

Watch the American pika demonstrate its alpine survival strategy. Pikas and their hibernating neighbors—yellow-bellied marmots, chipmunks and squirrels—are easy to watch in the summer and fall as they forage among the alpine wildflowers. Learn to spot different animal behaviors that provide clues to surviving the long, cold winter. Pikas don't hibernate, so you're sure to learn a few survival tips from these resourceful little beasts. ♦♦ CSM credit available

Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute

Cultural Classes:

NEW! Estes Valley: History & Historic Sites

Curt Buchholtz May 18, 31 \$80 per adult ages 16 and older

This course will provide an overview of the region's past by mixing brief lecture-and-discussion format with visits to historical sites of significance. Site visits will range from an ancient Indian battlefield to early homesteads, from stately resorts to deserted cabins. The course will examine numerous historical sites in the Estes Valley to discover the outlines of settlement and change. This class is intended to be more than just an historical tour. Participants are urged to sample the bibliography listed below before attending the class. ♦♦ Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute

NEW! “Uppity” Women of the Rockies

Jan Robertson June 15 \$80 per adult ages 16 and older

The area in and around what is now Rocky Mountain National Park has had a long history of “uppity women” who had the spunk and initiative to connect with the mountains on their own as botanists, homesteaders, mountain climbers, etc. Join us to learn more about these unique individuals, and visit the sites and homes where they made their mark. ♦♦ Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute

Phantoms: The Primordial, Prehistoric, & Hidden History of RMNP

Mary Taylor Young June 22-23 \$160 per adult ages 16 and older

What stories hover like phantoms behind the contemporary face of Rocky Mountain National Park? Roam the park with award-winning writer Mary Taylor Young, author of the park's centennial history *Rocky Mountain National Park: The First 100 Years*. Discover traces of park history that lie hidden beneath the surface and off the beaten path, places and events that are generally not interpreted by the park, but are apparent when you know where to look. See billion-year-old rocks, and discover Apache Fort, site of an early Indian battle. Visit the location of the 1915 RMNP Dedication Ceremony. Discover the “phantom” Big Thompson entrance station, a main park entry that was obliterated in the 1960s and Phantom Valley Ranch, an early homestead turned guest ranch tucked along the Colorado River. Explore the site of the park's ski area. Check out a 1930s CCC camp. Witness the changes floods in two different centuries have left on the park. Wander inside an elk enclosure, and see 21st century wildlife management in action. ♦♦♦ CSM credit available Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute **This class has over 16 hours of contact time for 1 credit.**

Photography, Art, & Writing Classes:

Photographing Winter Landscapes

Eli Vega March 8-10 \$300 per adult ages 16 and older

Photography should be fun, not just scientific! In this interactive, inspirational and fun course, learn both the technical and the fun sides of photography – with an emphasis on fun. On the technical side, learn about depth of field techniques, focusing, exposure range challenges and filtration. On the fun side, learn

about composition, creative in-camera techniques, use of lenses, and discover the unique beauty found in winter scenes. In-the-field photography will include Sprague Lake, Bear Lake and Nymph Lake. This workshop is suitable for beginning, intermediate and advanced photographers who want to explore the nonlinear side of photography. ♦♦♦ Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute **This class has over 16 hours of contact time for 1 credit.**

Beginning Watercolor for the Nature Enthusiast

Karen Ramsay April 27 \$80 per adult ages 16 and older

Start your watercolor journey through learning the fundamentals of the watercolor medium and an exciting way of applying paint in a fresh and vibrant way. The day will be spent learning varied techniques, setting up a palette of colors, and the importance of shapes and values. This information will be the jump-start you need to become a watercolor artist, both indoors and out in nature! ♦

Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute

NEW! Beginning Digital Photography: Learning the Basics

Eli Vega May 30-31 \$160 per adult ages 16 and older

In this highly interactive and fun 2-day course, you will learn the basics and beyond. You will learn about those dials and buttons on your camera; those mysterious menu items; f/stops, shutter speeds, exposure and how they all work together; ISO and White Balance; different types of lenses; and composition. You will also learn about the #1 solution to the #1 problem in photography; and much more!! You will spend one day in class and the second day out in Rocky Mountain National Park as Eli coaches you and helps you to “connect the dots.” ♦♦♦ Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute

Sketchbook Journaling: Wilderness, Wildlife & Wonder in Watercolor

Karen Ramsay June 6-7 \$160 per adult ages 16 and older

Toss your sketchbook and some simple tools into your daypack, and explore Rocky Mountain National Park! Through guided exercises and free exploration, create a record of personal, authentic interaction. Learn (or sharpen) some basic sketching and observation skills; then go to various locations in the park to put these skills to work. Approaches will include simple sketching with pencil, ink, and colored pencil or watercolor. Guided activities for observing, sketching, and some (brief) writing will help participants discover the many ways they interact with their environments. (Beginners are welcome and encouraged.)♦♦ Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute **This class has over 16 hours of contact time for 1 credit.**

Watercolor Brushstrokes: Painting the Landscapes of RMNP

Karen Ramsay June 27-28 \$160 per adult ages 16 and older

Learn the techniques to capture the park’s landscapes in watercolor. Open your eyes to the surrounding beauty, and learn ways to paint skies, mountains, water, trees and much more. Basic drawing skills and familiarity with watercolor skills are required. This class will consist of part classroom and part field location. ♦♦ Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute **This class has over 16 hours of contact time for 1 credit.**

NEW! Grand Lake Area Class

Colors of the Kawuneeche: Painting for All Levels

Donna Lyons June 29 \$80 per adult ages 16 and older

It has been said that color is the “Heart and Soul” of a painting. This one-day workshop focuses on the color of place as much more than we can see. We will discuss our reaction to colors and the roles that color dominance, color change, painting warm-to-cool, intensity of color and the use of a limited palette affect the power of a painting. Color becomes a powerful vehicle for taking the viewer on a journey through your painting. Color can convey a connection to a forgotten memory or an emotional reaction to a treasured place that goes beyond the colors and shapes in the landscape before you. Illusions of space can be achieved through an understanding of value, hue, and intensity. When used with good design, color should become the most personal of all art elements. Examples and demonstrations with plenty of

time to practice will aid your finishing several small (6'x8') studies to take home to your studio at the end of the day. Let's explore together the ways the use of glorious color choices, combined with our individual perception, and good design composed of values and shapes, can bring power to our paintings. ♦♦ Meets at Trail River Ranch

Grand Lake Area Class

Painting the Kawuneeche: Intermediate Watercolor Class

Donna Lyons July 20-21 \$160 per adult ages 16 and older

This class will move beyond the basics to a deeper understanding of aerial and linear perspectives, simplifying shapes, linking values and more exciting compositional choices to challenge and take paintings to the next level. The Never Summer Mountains will be the backdrop to developing the art of seeing abstractly for more dynamic and stronger compositions. Expect to work with analogous, complimentary and discordant colors as a way of thinking about value and intensity and as a step towards more expressive use of color. ♦♦ Meets at Trail River Ranch **This class has over 16 hours of contact time for 1 credit.**

Landscape Photography: Creating an Artistic Eye

Eli Vega August 1-3 \$300 per adult ages 16 and older

Take a unique spin on photography by bringing out your inner artist to see with your imagination, not your eyes. Participants will learn several in-camera techniques such as composition, scanning and extracting, how to handle difficult light metering, the advantage of "un-labeling" in photography, photographing the grand vistas, and much more. ♦♦ Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute **This class has over 16 hours of contact time for 1 credit.**

NEW! Write Your Rocky Mountain National Park Story

Mary Taylor Young August 10 \$80 per adult ages 16 and older

Do you have special memories of Rocky Mountain National Park you'd love to write about? Have you ever imagined a fictional mystery, history, romance or sci fi adventure set in the Park? Does Rocky inspire you to write poetry? Come spend the day outdoors at a beautiful setting in the Park and have fun writing whatever you want! A story, a memoir, a poem, a kid's book, even "My Day at Rocky." We'll have writing prompts, sample writings, help with ideas and writing craft tips. You can even bring photos you've taken in the Park to use as the basis of your writing. ♦♦ Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute

NEW! Sketching with Colored Pencil

Suzie Garner August 10-11 \$160 per adult ages 16 and older

Field sketching with colored pencil in a sketchbook. Learn the different types of colored pencils and how to use them to their fullest potential. Discussions will include techniques for the application of color by layering and mixing color; laying down washes of color; mark-making/strokes; using toned paper and using white. Sketching and drawing tips for sketching outdoors will be included. You will leave with a better understanding of colored pencils and approaches to use them to their fullest potential. ♦♦ Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute **This class has over 16 hours of contact time for 1 credit.**

Night Sky Landscape Photography

Stan Honda August 23-25 \$300 per adult ages 16 and older

Don't put your camera away after the sun sets! There's a whole different park to photograph when the stars come out, and you don't need a telescope. Learn various techniques and camera settings useful to photograph the Milky Way, the moon, the stars and other objects in the night sky using digital cameras and standard lenses. We'll discuss how to plan shots using star charts, software, and apps to determine what will be seen in the night sky. (This course is best for intermediate level and above.) ♦

Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute **This class has over 16 hours of contact time for 1 credit.**

Photographing Wildlife: When, Where & How

Lee Kline September 13-15 \$300 per adult ages 16 and older

Great wildlife images don't just happen. Creating a wildlife photograph requires a unique combination of skills, including knowledge of wildlife behavior and habits, understanding photographic equipment and techniques, and a large portion of patience, practice and perseverance. Discover acceptable methods for approaching wild subjects and the photographic equipment and techniques necessary for creating great wildlife images. ♦♦ Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute **This class has over 16 hours of contact time for 1 credit.**

NEW! Fall Color Photography: Harvesting Colorado Gold

Bob Dean September 20-21 \$250 per adult ages 15 and older

Colorado's fall color is a sight to behold. The gold and occasional red aspen trees surrounded by the green pine and spruce and framed by majestic peaks is a photographer's dream come true. Join local freelance nature and travel photographer Bob Dean for a combined class and field work learning how to capture those magnificent scenes with your camera. Fall color images are not just limited to the majestic panoramas but extend to more intimate landscapes and close-up shots. We'll explore the art and craft of photography and then go into the field to get those strong images of the beautiful color.

The class will consist of a Friday evening session at the Field Institute where we'll develop a baseline with your camera's creative controls and explore the art of composition and use of light. On Saturday, we'll meet early and start making images of the color in the Park. From just after sunrise until midmorning we'll make images of landscapes and panoramas. As the sun gets higher and the light harsher, we'll shift to intimate landscapes and close ups. After lunch we'll do a critique of the morning's shoot and then head back to the field to polish skills with additional image making. We'll conclude when the sun goes behind the peaks and we lose our light. ♦♦ Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute

Grand Lake Area Class

Photographing the Wildlife of Kawuneeche

Lee Kline September 19-21 \$600 per adult ages 16 and older (includes meals and shared overnight accommodations)

Seeing wildlife in Rocky Mountain National Park is not at all unusual. However, making great photographs of what you see can be challenging and many times results in disappointing images. This field adventure welcomes photographers of all experience levels to learn successful and acceptable methods of wildlife photography, including approaching wildlife subjects, and the best photographic methods, equipment and techniques to further an understanding, development, and enjoyment of making great wildlife images. (Fee includes meals and shared accommodations at Shadowcliff.) ♦♦ **This class has over 16 hours of contact time for 1 credit.**

Meets at Shadowcliff Mountain Lodge

Photojournaling: The Story Behind the Photos

Dawn Wilson October 4-6 \$300 per adult ages 16 and older

Photos are worth a thousand words, so the saying goes. But how much more impact does a photo have when it is accompanied with a written story? This course will introduce photographers of all levels to the world of journaling to accompany their photos. We will go over the basics of photographing wildlife, landscapes and wildflowers in Rocky Mountain National Park as part of a story. We will go out into the field to capture a story or two along Trail Ridge Road and in the Kawaneechee Valley. Then we will download, edit and print out the photos and start enhancing the story with words. Participants will walk away with a bound copy of their story/stories. ♦♦ Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute **This class has over 16 hours of contact time for 1 credit.**

Hiking & Skill-building Classes:

NEW! Tracking Wildlife in Rocky: Signs of Creatures Big & Small

Jeff Connor May 10 \$80 per adult ages 16 and older

A story exists all around us as we walk through the woods. Animals use the same area we do, but often go unnoticed since much of their activity occurs off trails, at night, or early or late in the day. Do you know how to read the signs they leave behind? If not, this class is for you. Walking through the woods, along streams and in meadows we will look for animals and their signs, visit den sites used by bobcats, fox, coyote, and other animals and nests used by birds. From a distance if the road is open to Rainbow Curve we will look at the habitat black bears use to select their dens. Participants will be surprised by the abundance of sign left behind by our furred and feathered friends. The class will also provide a better understanding of community ecology and dynamics relative to hierarchical structure and trophic cascades.

◆◆◆ CSM credit available Meets at the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute