



October 2, 2024

Dear Colleague,

We have some exciting opportunities for you to get out on your public lands this month. Enjoy these first weeks of Fall with a volunteer project or a public hike!

UPCOMING EVENTS



RESTORATION PROJECT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Date: Saturday, October 5th
Time: 9am-3pm

Volunteer with local conservation nonprofit Wild Connections

Activity: Join Wild Connections and the USFS' South Park Ranger District to help close illegal motorized routes in the Puma Hills Roadless Area just north of Elevenmile Canyon Reservoir. We'll be seeding and raking two large sections of illegal routes. The FS will follow-up the project by rewiring the boundary fence and installing signs to keep out illegal motorized use in the future.

What to Bring: Lunch, water, weather-appropriate clothing, closed-toe shoes, and work gloves (if you have them). We will provide additional supplies, tools, snacks, drinks and a post-work treat!

For details or to sign up, contact John Sztukowski at 817-939-4239 or john@wildconnections.org



Volunteer Seeding Project at the FS Puma Hills Roadless Area THIS SATURDAY, October 5

We still have a few spots left!

In preparation for this project, our friends at the FS South Park Ranger District recently ripped up two different sections of illegal routes with their dozer. They also closed these routes, rewiring the broken fence lines, and installed signs.

Now it's time to rewild this Roadless Area to its natural conditions!

For details or to sign up, contact John Sztukowski at [817-939-4239](tel:817-939-4239) or john@wildconnections.org.

[More Info Here!](#)



BLM's Beaver Creek Wilderness Study Area, rated "best" for climate refugia in our [Central Colorado Climate Resilience Project](#).

Beaver Creek Climate Educational Hike Saturday, October 12, 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Join us for a hike into the wild Beaver Creek Wilderness Study Area, located between Colorado Springs and Cañon City, to retrieve data loggers that have been recording temperature and humidity data. Beaver Creek was identified as being on the of "Best" areas for Climate Refugia in [Wild Connections Climate Corridor and Refugia Analysis](#).

This will be a strenuous hike of about 7.5 miles and 1,600 feet total ascent, rated strenuous for the distance, elevation gain, cliff-edged trails and creek crossings.

For details or to sign up, contact John Sztukowski at [817-939-4239](tel:817-939-4239) or john@wildconnections.org.

[More Info Here!](#)



Aiken Canyon Preserve, by The Nature Conservancy

[More Info Here!](#)

Aiken Canyon Preserve Hike **Saturday, October 26, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM**

This will be a moderate 5-1/2 mile hike with about 500 feet of elevation gain.

Aiken Canyon Preserve is a 1,621 acre state natural area about 12 miles south of Colorado Springs, managed by the Nature Conservancy under a long-term lease. It is a mixture of foothills, shrubland and woodland habitats, and continues to be an area particularly rich in wildlife and birdlife. We will learn about the history of the area and how it serves as a valuable wildlife corridor.

For details or to sign up, contact Jim Lockhart at [719-385-0045](tel:719-385-0045) or jlock@datawest.net.



2024 Pikes Peak Give! Campaign Kick-off! **Friday, November 1, 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM** **Manitou Art Center, 513 Manitou Ave, Manitou Springs.**

Kick off the giving season with Wild Connections at the vibrant First Friday Manitou Art Walk and MAC Moonlight Market! This isn't just any First Friday - it's the launch of the [2024 Give! campaign](#), and we're thrilled to be part of it.

Here's what you can look forward to:



- Meet the Wild Connections team and learn about our exciting upcoming projects
- Discover how you can get involved and support our mission to protect Colorado's wild spaces
- Enjoy live music and support local artists
- Explore the MAC Moonlight Market for unique finds
- Connect with other Give! campaign participants and local nonprofits

Whether you're a long-time supporter or new to Wild Connections, this event is the perfect opportunity to engage with our community and celebrate the spirit of giving.

Mark your calendars and join us for an evening of art, music, conservation and help us kick off the Give! fundraising campaign!



Cheers to Wilderness & Trails: Pint Night at Seven's Gate

Tuesday, November 12, 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Seven's Gate Taproom, Old Colorado City

Wild Connections and Medicine Wheel Trail Advocates are teaming up for a special Pint Night to celebrate the [2024 Pikes Peak Give! Campaign](#) season (November 1 - December 31)!



Why join us? • Support two local nonprofits making a big impact in our region • Connect with fellow outdoor enthusiasts • Enjoy great beer at a local taproom

About our organizations: Wild Connections: Protecting and restoring the wild lands and waters of Central Colorado

Medicine Wheel: Mountain bikers building, sharing, and protecting inspiring trail experiences in the Pikes Peak region

Your attendance directly supports our missions and helps us keep the momentum going during our Give! campaign season. Plus, for every pint sold, Seven's Gate will donate \$1 to be split between our organizations!

Whether you're a hiker, cyclist, or just love our great outdoors, there's a place for you at this event. Come raise a glass to more wild and scenic adventures ahead!



Join Wild Connections for 2024 Pikes Peak Give!
November 1 - December 31

We're excited to once again participate in the annual Pikes Peak Give! Campaign, running November through December. Last year, our amazing supporters raised \$6,097.05. This year, we're aiming even higher and hope to double that – but we need your help!

Why It Matters: Amplifies our conservation message • Boosts our organizational capacity • Maximizes your impact through matching grants and we are excited to share that we currently have \$1000 in matching funds.

How to Help: Visit the Give! Campaign website givepikespeak.org/donate. Find Wild Connections and donate starting November 1 and enjoy perks from local businesses as a thank you!

Your support ensures Colorado's wild spaces thrive for generations. Every donation counts towards our ambitious goal.

Stay tuned for campaign events and more ways to get involved. Together, we can make a significant impact on the wilderness we love.

From all of us,
John, India, Jim, Alison, Claude and Kristin
Wild Connections Leadership Team

Our Contact Information

{{Organization Name}}
{{Organization Address}}
{{Organization Phone}}
{{Organization Website}}

{{Unsubscribe}}



Donate

We recognize our area as the ancestral lands of the Ute, Cheyenne, Jicarilla Apache, Arapaho and other indigenous peoples.