

How to Be a Good Steward of Parks and Open Spaces

- ◆ Bag all your trash, including dog waste. If you pack it in, pack it out.
- ◆ Be careful with fire (no fireworks, limit smoking, etc.).
- ◆ Respect other visitors: Practice trail courtesy and yield to others.
- ◆ Respect and do not disturb wildlife.
- ◆ Leave it as you find it. Take only pictures; leave only footprints.
- ◆ **Volunteer!** Give back to your parks and open spaces. Contact the Volunteer Program Coordinator at (970) 619-4552.



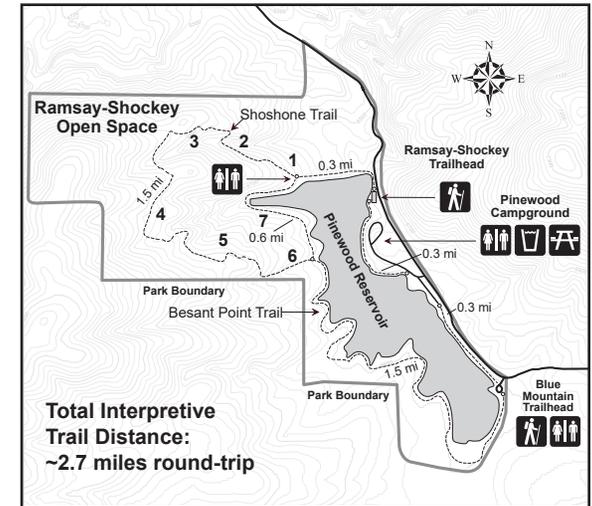
Larimer County's Open Lands Program

Larimer County's Open Lands Program is funded by a ¼-cent Help Preserve Open Spaces sales tax. This tax started in 1996 following a citizens' initiative to acquire and manage open spaces. The Open Lands Program works with willing landowners to preserve and protect properties through fee simple and conservation easement transactions. The future of OUR open spaces is up to you! Being a good steward of the land and shopping locally are a few ways you can help.

We hope you enjoyed your day at Ramsay-Shockey Open Space.

Department of Natural Resources
1800 S. County Road 31
Loveland, CO 80537
(970) 619-4570

Ramsay-Shockey Open Space Shoshone Trail Interpretive Guide



Please

- ◆ Recycle your brochure in the box
- ◆ Remain on designated trails
- ◆ Keep dogs on leash and remove their waste
- ◆ Do not climb on the rock formations



Department of Natural Resources

Check It Out!

Guided Hikes & Programs:
offeror.larimer.org

1. WATER, WATER, EVERYWHERE?

This was not the case in the early 1930s, and today water is still in high demand. A need for water on the Eastern Slope of Colorado started what would become a 20-year endeavor, the Colorado-Big Thompson Project. Pinewood



Photo: Scott Bacon,
Natural Order Photography

Reservoir is one of 11 vessels used to move water from the Western Slope as part of the Colorado-Big Thompson Project. The project is the largest trans-mountain water diversion project in Colorado, providing water to 30 cities and towns.

2. CAN'T SEE THE FOREST FOR THE TREES?

The trees here were once so thick that little vegetation grew on the forest floor. A stewardship plan has been implemented to help maintain a healthy ecosystem, reduce fire hazard and improve wildlife habitat. Thinning, prescribed fire and other forestry techniques help restore the forest's health. Watch with us as plants slowly return to the understory.

3. WATCH FOR WILDLIFE! Elk, mule deer, coyote, black bear, red fox, raccoon, striped skunk, porcupine,

Abert's squirrel and lizards are just some of the wildlife found here. This area is critical winter range for elk. Keep a close lookout for signs of wildlife including tracks, markings on trees, shed antlers and droppings.



4. STOP AND USE YOUR SENSES.

Don't forget to appreciate the many natural elements along the way that bring pleasure to your senses. Spring and summer flowers such as gayfeather, bluebells, prairie coneflower, larkspur and yucca bloom in brilliant color. In the fall, the mountain mahogany begins to lose its feathery seeds. In winter, smell the bark of ponderosa pine, Douglas fir and juniper trees.

5. THIS LAND IS YOUR LAND. THIS LAND IS OUR LAND.

The land you enjoy for your recreation takes lots of wear and tear over time. You can be a good land steward by: packing out anything you pack in, leaving vegetation and rocks in place, and staying on the designated trail. Protecting Larimer County's open spaces is everyone's responsibility.

6. SO WHAT'S IN A NAME? Shoshone and Besant Point trails were named for ancient peoples of the area. The Shoshone Indians, also known as the Snake Nation, lived in tepees and hunted bison in northern Colorado.

The Besant Point Trail is named for a style of point produced in the Late Archaic Period (1000 B.C. to 500 A.D.). Late Archaic peoples were primarily nomadic and hunted deer and elk in the foothills and bison on the plains. Archaeologists are unsure how these Late Archaic people relate to surviving native groups in the West.



Photo: Scott Frasier

7. IT'S FOR THE BIRDS! Pinewood Reservoir and Ramsay-Shockey Open Space provide habitat for resident birds and a resting place, or "flyway," for migratory birds. Look for wild turkey, mallard duck, red-tailed hawk, western grebe, northern flicker, Steller's jay, mountain bluebird, common merganser, osprey, great blue heron and bald eagle.