

CITY OF FORT COLLINS

SOAPSTONE PRAIRIE

NATURAL AREA



**Meet the past,
enjoy the present,
preserve the future.**

Open dawn to dusk,
March 1– November 30



naturally yours

“Come to Soapstone Prairie – it’ll blow you away...”

- Erica Saunders



ATTENTION EQUESTRIANS!

Remember: Equestrians must use the South Parking Lot.

Be considerate of others and clean up after your horse in the parking lot.

Help us prevent weeds! Your use of certified weed-free hay helps limit the spread of invasive weeds. Feed your horses weed-free forage well before you ride here to help ensure this prairie remains in its natural condition. Ask your local feed store for more information. Thank you!

BE PREPARED

- This is rattlesnake country! Look where you put your hands and feet and stay on the established trails.
- Soapstone Prairie is a big place. Watch for distant storms bringing lightning. Avoid ridge tops during storms, which occur mostly in the afternoons.
- This is wide-open country. Bring plenty of water and be prepared for wind and cool temperatures, or heat and sun.

KNOW THE RULES

Please honor and respect all the special aspects of Soapstone Prairie. We all hold it in trust for future generations.

Look But Don't Touch! Enjoy what you see but leave everything in place. All collecting is illegal.

Stay on Marked Trails. Off-trail activity degrades the prairie, disturbs wildlife and diminishes the experience for others.

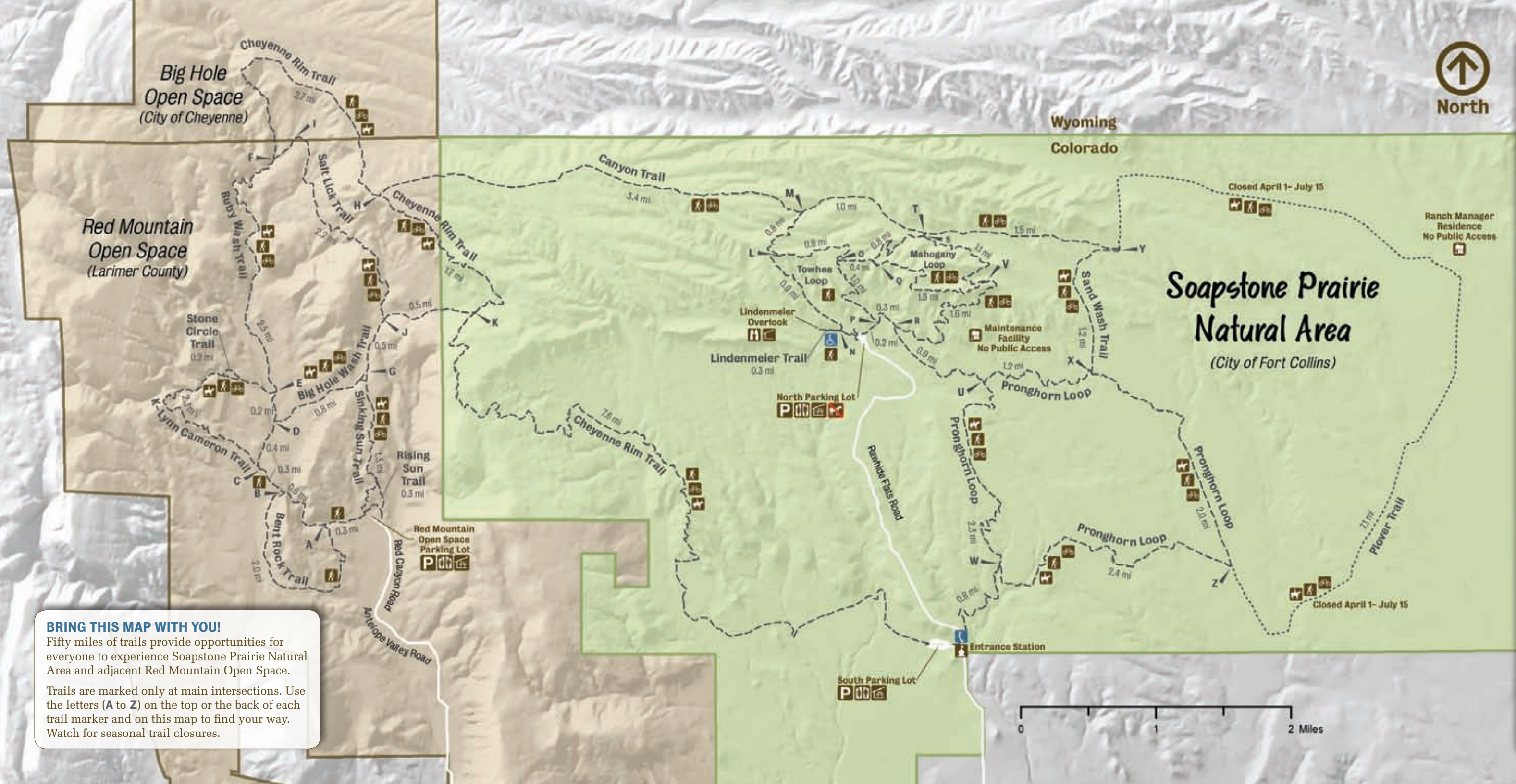
Attention Drivers! Stay on designated roads and park in designated spaces. Roadside parking is prohibited except in designated pull outs. Enjoy the views here but remain with your vehicle. Violators will be ticketed.

Leave Fido At Home. To help protect wildlife, no dogs are allowed – not even in cars.



THE TREKKING ORDER:

Please mind your trail manners. Bikers yield to horses and hikers. Hikers yield to horses.



**Not sure where to go?
Give these trails a try.**

BEST TRAILS FOR HIKERS:

Towhee Loop
3 miles, 1.5 hours, easy to moderate. Hikers only, closed to cyclists and equestrians. Great views. Look for mule deer and a variety of birds.

Mahogany Loop
6.4 miles, 3-4 hours, easy to moderate. Also good for cyclists; closed to equestrians. Travel through mountain mahogany shrublands. Great for geology buffs!

BEST TRAILS FOR CYCLISTS:

Pronghorn Loop
9.4 miles, 2 hours, easy to moderate. Also good for hikers and equestrians. Mix of rolling hills, arroyos, and grasslands. Watch for pronghorn—as well as sheep and cows. This area is grazed—please close the gates!

**Mahogany/Canyon/
Cheyenne Rim/Pronghorn**
22 miles, 4.5 hours, moderate to difficult. Ride on single- and two-track trails through rolling terrain. Start at the North Parking Lot. Some of this area is grazed by cows and sheep. Please close the gates!

BEST TRAILS FOR EQUESTRIANS:

Pronghorn/Plover/Sand Wash
14.6 miles, 4 hours, moderate. Enjoy rolling terrain and excellent views. Start at the South Parking Lot. Plover Trail is closed April 1-July 15 to protect ground nesting birds.

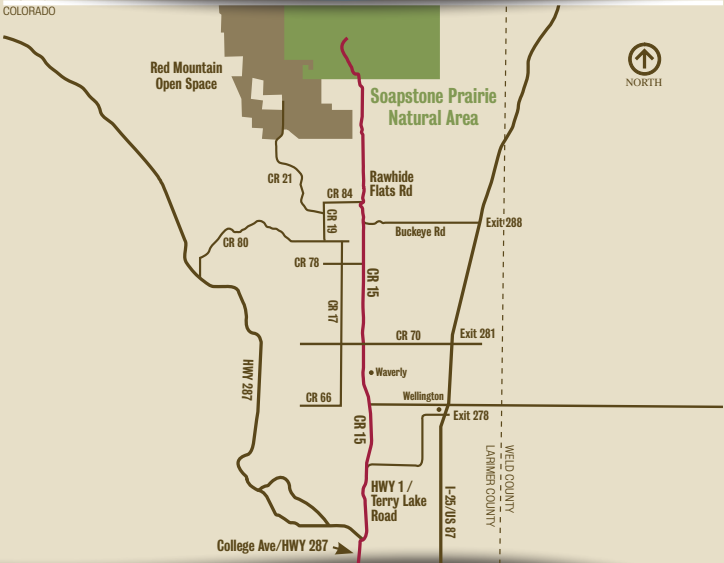
BRING THIS MAP WITH YOU!
Fifty miles of trails provide opportunities for everyone to experience Soapstone Prairie Natural Area and adjacent Red Mountain Open Space.
Trails are marked only at main intersections. Use the letters (A to Z) on the top or the back of each trail marker and on this map to find your way. Watch for seasonal trail closures.



THANK YOU!

Thank you, Fort Collins and Larimer County voters. Your citizen-initiated sales tax dollars helped to conserve these lands and provide visitor amenities. There is no fee at Soapstone Prairie Natural Area.

WYOMING
COLORADO



DIRECTIONS:

From Fort Collins, travel north on State HWY 1/Terry Lake Road. Turn left (toward Waverly) on County Road 15. Travel north and turn right onto Rawhide Flats Road and go 6 miles to the entrance station.



fcgov.com/naturalareas

naturalareas@fcgov.com

Natural Areas Program Office **970-416-2815**

Rangers **970-416-2147**

Life-threatening emergency **911**

For a guided nature walk **970-416-2480**

naturally yours