



# COMMUNITIES IN GARFIELD COUNTY

Colorado is the 4th happiest state in the United States, accordingly to [wallethub.com](https://www.wallethub.com). This fact is usually of no surprise to people that live, work, and play within Garfield County, which offers a diversity of amenities, jobs and other lifestyle choices that attract and retain different people to each community. There are seven municipalities within Garfield County. In order of incorporation, the jurisdictions include Glenwood Springs, Carbondale, New Castle, Rifle, Parachute, Silt, and Carbonate. In addition, Battlement Mesa, a large unincorporated community, sits adjacent to the Town of Parachute, while Carbonate has no permanent residents.



# CARBONDALE COLORADO

Founded in 1888, the Town of Carbondale sits at the base of Mount Sopris, near the confluence of the Crystal and Roaring Fork rivers. Touted as one of the “Top 12 Towns” in the “50 Next Great Places to Live and Play” by National Geographic Adventure magazine, and as one of the 50 Best Places to Live/Most Active Towns by Men’s Journal magazine, Carbondale is a great base camp for recreation enthusiasts. Living at the foot of the magnificent 12,953-foot Mt. Sopris, there is plenty to do, including biking, hiking, “Gold Medal” fly-fishing, kayaking, and world-class skateboarding. In winter, excellent snow for cross-country skiing can be found at Spring Gulch, and beautiful snowmobiling and snowshoeing trails are accessible in all directions. World famous downhill skiing and snowboarding is 30 miles away in Aspen and Snowmass, or 15 miles away at Sunlight Mountain Resort near Glenwood Springs.



At an altitude of 6,181 feet, the Carbondale area is characterized by an average of 295 days of sunshine, low humidity, cold but mild winters, and comfortable summers. The Carbondale area often avoids storms that inundate surrounding mountains, creating its reputation as the “banana belt” of the Roaring Fork and Crystal River valleys.

Through all the economic cycles of booms and busts, Carbondale has developed, and continues to promote, a sense of community that is unmatched when compared to other communities experiencing heightened rates of change. This sense of community has manifested itself in the promotion of an artist’s enclave, public radio, community gatherings and events, and a tolerance for accepting a wide range of economic, social, and philosophical viewpoints into the community fabric. The Carbondale Council on Arts and Humanities, KDNK Community

Access Radio, Mountain Fair, Mount Sopris Nordic Council, Potato Day Celebration, and the Festival Las Americas are all examples of its vibrant community connection.



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# GLENWOOD SPRINGS COLORADO

The county seat, Glenwood Springs, is located 160 miles west of Denver, on a beautiful route over mountain passes and through Glenwood Canyon. Glenwood Springs is situated at the intersection of Interstate 70 and State Highway 82. Glenwood Springs is 90 miles east of Grand Junction and 50 miles west of Vail, along I-70. Glenwood Springs is located 40 miles north of Aspen on State Highway 82.

With a temperate climate, healthy lifestyle, vibrant arts scene, great schools, a local college, world class medical facilities, excellent shopping, and attractions as big as the great outdoors, Glenwood Springs is an ideal place to live, work, play, and raise a family.

Glenwood Springs has small town charm and big city amenities. It has been heralded by the likes of Sunset Magazine, the Travel Channel and USA Today as one of America’s best small towns; one of the best places to retire or to start a business; and as the “most fun town in America.” Originally inhabited by nomadic Ute Indian tribes, early settlers 125 years ago saw the potential for the natural bubbling hot springs to make Glenwood Springs a world class resort. The arrival of the railroads in 1887 brought the first trainloads of tourists. The addition of the Vapor Caves, Hotel Colorado, and Fairy Caves provided a total package for the well-heeled traveler. The local economy is not only fueled by tourism, but also by coal mining, farming and ranching, education, health care, commerce, and outdoor recreation. Because of its location, Glenwood Springs is the county seat, home of the administrative offices of Colorado Mountain College and the prestigious Valley View Hospital, and the retail trade center for the northern portion of the Western Slope of Colorado.

Glenwood Springs provides activity options for the entire family, such as hiking, biking, rafting, camping, sky diving, paragliding, hunting, and fishing. Glenwood Springs has an extensive trail system alongside its beautiful rivers. There are also trails in Glenwood Canyon, just east of Glenwood Springs, including the very popular and scenic trail to Hanging Lake, or along Grizzly or No Name creeks. The confluence of the Roaring Fork and Colorado rivers is adjacent to downtown Glenwood Springs. One of the most popular activities in Glenwood Springs is fly-fishing. Anglers can choose from designated Gold Medal waters on the Roaring Fork and Frying Pan rivers, or to



fish the productive waters of the Colorado and Crystal rivers, as well as many lakes and ponds in the region.

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ci.glenwood-springs.co.us  
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glenwoodchamber.com







town of new castle  
[newcastlecolorado.org](http://newcastlecolorado.org)  
 chamber of commerce  
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 economic development  
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New Castle, Colorado, named after the English coal mining town Newcastle upon Tyne, was incorporated in 1888. The mountains surrounding the town, rich with coal, were the impetus for New Castle's development into a bustling mining community. After disastrous methane explosions in 1896, 1913, and 1918, the population diminished to just a few hundred people. Coal-fed fires still burn inside the Grand Hogback range bordering the town today.

Shortly after celebrating its centennial, New Castle started growing rapidly, and was identified in the 2000 census as Colorado's seventh fastest growing community. Along with strong residential population growth, the town has experienced significant commercial development, including a grocery store, bank, health club, and excellent restaurants. In 2004, an 18-hole golf course designed by award-winning golf course architect James Engh, opened for public play.

Located on the Western Slope of the Rocky Mountains, 173 miles west of Denver, this town of now 4,500 residents sits at 5,550 feet elevation. The town is bordered on the north by 7,000 acres of Bureau of Land Management lands and 20,000 acres of White River National Forest lands. South of town are 11,000 acres of protected State Wildlife Area properties.

A large deer and elk population, as well as black bears and mountain lions, inhabit these

mountainous terrains.

The Colorado River flows through town, presenting wonderful opportunities for trout fishing, whitewater rafting and kayaking, and wildlife viewing. World-class alpine and cross-country skiing and snowboarding, big-game hunting, boating, snowmobiling, wilderness hiking and camping, mountain biking, all are in New Castle's backyard.

New Castle offers one of the best public school opportunities in the state. Constructed in 1997 for grades K through 4, the Kathryn Senor Elementary School has received high-performance marks from the Colorado Department of Education. Riverside Middle School provides an excellent learning environment for students in grades 5 through 8. Coal Ridge High School, located between New Castle and its neighboring community of Silt to the west, opened in 2005. In 2006, voters approved a bond issue for the Garfield Re-2 School District, funding the construction of a new middle school (grades 5 - 8), and the conversion of Riverside to Elk Creek Elementary School, which was named a National Blue Ribbon School in 2014.

Schools, parks, outdoor recreation, safe neighborhoods, and a busy library make New Castle a great place to raise a family.







The Town of Silt is a close-knit community located on Interstate 70, approximately 67 miles east of Grand Junction, Colorado, and 21 miles to the west of Glenwood Springs, Colorado. For the last 40 years, the town has been a bedroom community to the towns of Vail, Snowmass Village, and Aspen, Colorado, all within an easy hour drive from Silt. Historically, the town has been an agricultural and mining area, with hard-working families

## SILT COLORADO

that support their community in the fields of construction, recreation, ranching, tourism, and oil and gas development. The climate is mild and comfortable through all seasons, and the heavy snowfall that occurs in in nearby mountain communities traditionally does not fall in Silt. The surrounding area boasts hunting, fishing, hiking, snowshoeing, skiing, snowmobiling, rafting, biking, boating, and horseback riding throughout the year. For these recreational opportunities, Silt is frequented by some of the travelers who are also visiting neighboring communities.

It is with great pride that the town offers an opportunity for business establishments to locate in this diverse community. Not only does Silt have a robust potential workforce, but the citizens and community value the concept of living, shopping, and working locally.



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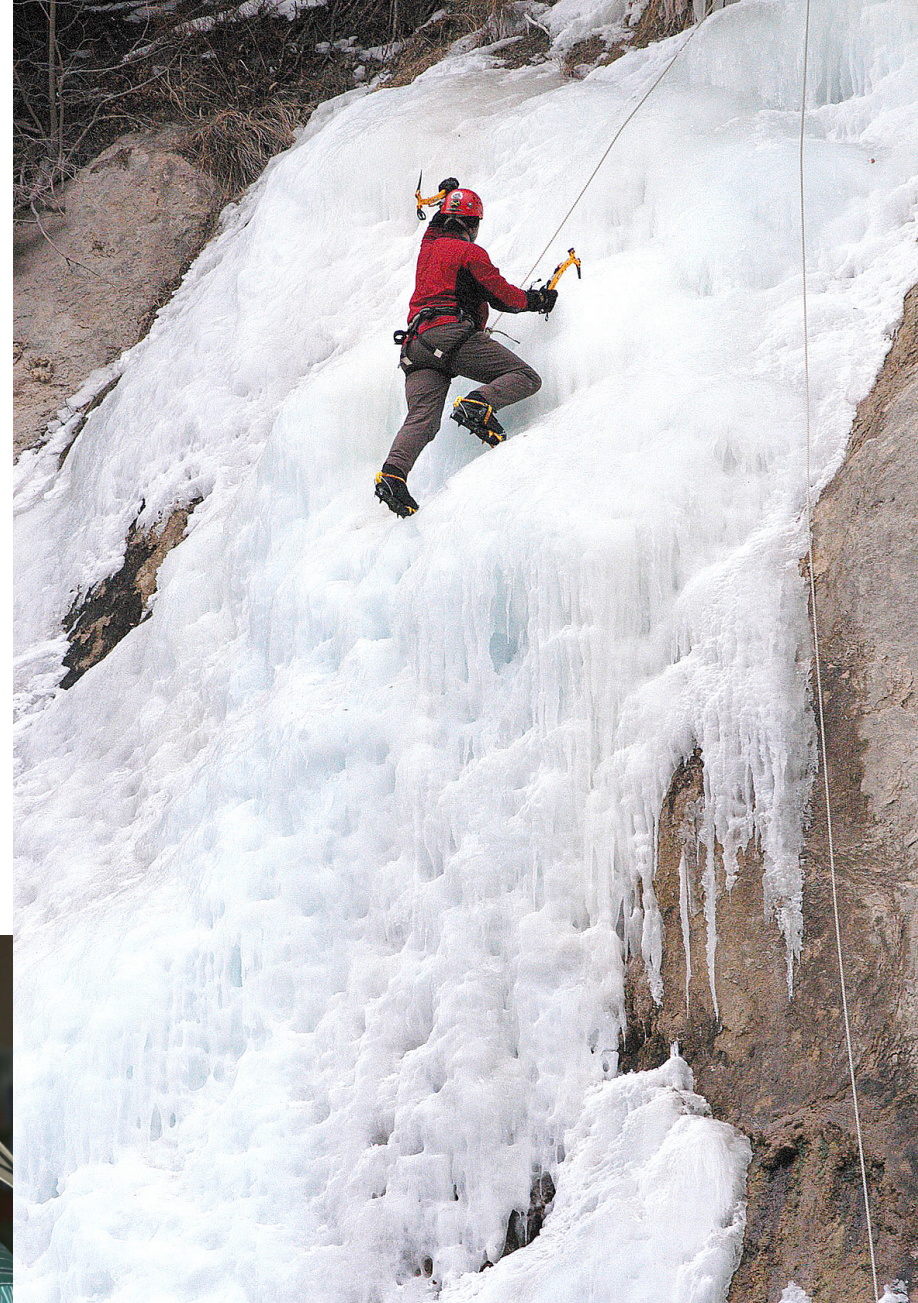
Rifle is where the Old West meets the New West. Rich with western heritage and history, many downtown businesses are located in historic buildings dating back to the 1900s. Situated on Interstate 70, Rifle is conveniently located an hour to Aspen, three hours to Denver, and just over two hours to Moab, Utah. Because of its distance from heavily populated areas, Rifle is unspoiled, offering a retreat from crowds, noise, and pollution.

Located at the edge of the Colorado River and at the foot of the majestic Roan Plateau, Rifle, Colorado is a sportsmen's paradise. Outdoor Life Magazine ranked Rifle as number 17 of 200 towns as the best place for an outdoor sportsman. With close proximity to the White River National Forest and mountains and mesas in every direction, world-class rock climbing, whitewater rafting, fishing, hunting, golfing, hiking, biking, snowmobiling, and other outdoor opportunities are endless. Rifle is an affordable outdoors lifestyle town with a vibrant community feel, and has access to everything that is great about Colorado.

At an elevation of 5,345 feet, the climate in Rifle is mild and moderate in both winter and summer, allowing for year-round recreation. Though Rifle has a small town feel, it has modern and urban-quality amenities, such as the Ute Theater and Events Center, Brenden Theatres, city parks, amphitheaters, restaurants, excellent hospital facilities, and a historic downtown.

## RIFLE COLORADO

city of rifle  
rifleco.org  
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# PARACHUTE/BATLEMENT MESA COLORADO

The Town of Parachute is a small community of approximately 1,100 people, located on Interstate 70 halfway between Grand Junction and Glenwood Springs, Colorado. The town is adjoined to the unincorporated community of Battlement Mesa just across the river. Although legally separated, both communities act as one and support each other in a variety of endeavors.

After enjoying the booms and surviving the busts, Parachute/Battlement Mesa has grown into a thriving community of quiet residential neighborhoods with supporting businesses and services. It has ample commercial property available to support new businesses and welcomes any inquiries. The communities consist of an abundance of professionally trained people.

Parachute/Battlement Mesa is located at the confluence of the Colorado River and Parachute Creek, both of which are popular waterways for fishing. Hunting and other outdoor recreational opportunities abound.

The area boasts three parks that are maintained by the Town of Parachute: Beasley Park, a pocket park in downtown with a gazebo; Parachute Rest Area Park, with playgrounds and a large lawn space to play; and Cottonwood Park, an eight-acre park, in which special events are held, and the community gathers to enjoy outdoor amenities. The Parachute Battlement Mesa Recreation District maintains a recreation center and is developing a large park in Battlement Mesa.

Parachute staff provides police protection, maintenance of roadways, its water treatment system, and administrative service support for citizens. Fire services are provided through Grand Valley Fire Protection District, parks and recreation services by the Battlement Mesa/Parachute Parks and Recreation District.

Battlement Mesa is governed by Battlement Mesa Service Association (BMSA), a Colorado non-profit corporation which is a self-governing homeowner's association.

All owners of property within the BMSA service pay an annual assessment to maintain the common areas for the benefit of community members. Though BMSA provides numerous services to its members, the BMSA does not have any employees as it contracts for its services. The BMSA is comprised of a 14-member board of directors, whom manage the affairs of the community.

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