



Comprehensive Recreation, Parks, and Open Space Plan

Centre Region, Centre County, Pennsylvania

Comprehensive Recreation, Parks, and Open Space Plan

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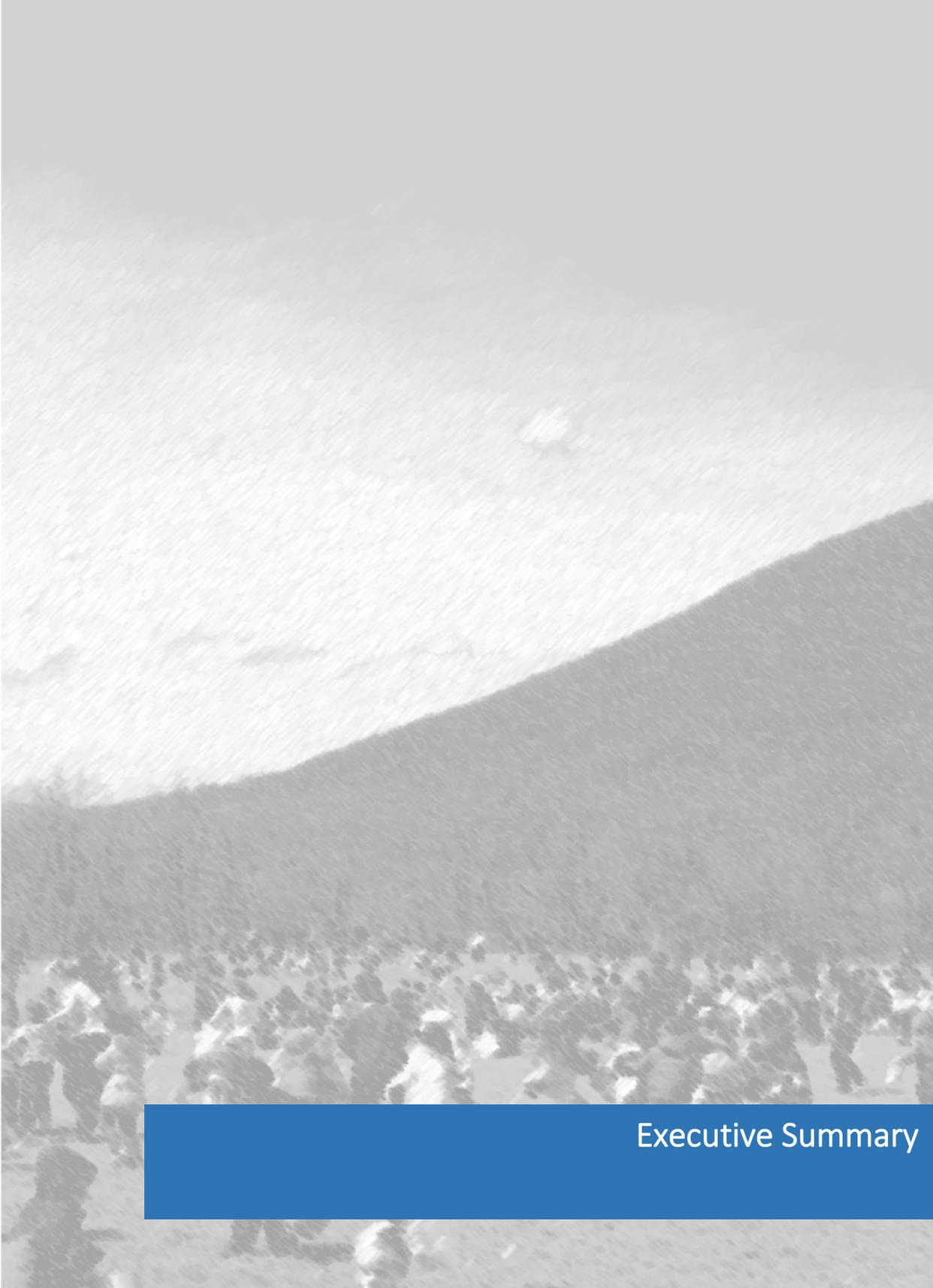
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Executive Summary

Executive Summary

The Centre Region Council of Governments (COG) brings these six local governments – State College Borough, and College, Ferguson, Halfmoon, Harris, and Patton Townships – together to collectively provide high-quality, cost-effective public services to their residents.

Centre Region Parks and Recreation (CRPR) is an agency of the Centre Region COG. Five of the six municipalities participate and contribute shared funding in support of regional year-round recreation programming and municipal park and recreation facility operations. Each municipality acquires and develops its park sites; park maintenance, recreation facility operation, and recreation programs are provided by CRPR. Some municipal parks are not maintained by CRPR, due to their small size or the historic practices of the municipalities. Halfmoon Township does not currently participate in CRPR financially.

The Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority (Authority) was created in 1974 and serves as an oversight group that is designated as a governmental non-profit under the IRS. The Authority secures loan funding and through its non-profit status provides donation opportunities. This body provides oversight of CRPR fee policies, programming, and operations, to include how the agency spends the municipal funding provided for its regional services.



The COG and the Authority decided to prepare a regional **Comprehensive Recreation, Parks, and Open Space Plan** to provide long-term direction for delivery of parks and recreation services and to sustainably meet community expectations. The Authority applied for a Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) grant in 2017 to secure funding for this study process, and a funding match was provided through the COG budget process. A Steering Committee was formed in the fall of 2017 to include representatives from the six municipalities, the Authority, and CRPR. This group worked for one year to develop the Request for Proposal that outlined the desired outcomes for the plan. In 2018, the Steering Committee, through formal approval of the municipalities, hired Recreation and Parks Solutions and YSM Landscape Architects to develop the plan over the next 14 months.

The Plan Purpose and Planning Process

The Comprehensive Recreation, Parks, and Open Space Plan provides an analysis of the current parks and recreation system within the Centre Region and makes recommendations for the future. The Plan is to be used as a guide for decision-makers and the basis for CRPR strategic plans. The Plan will help leaders and staff make sound decisions in order to maintain and enhance CRPR services, including planning, management, programming, and funding decisions for parks, trails, open space, and recreation services, to address the current and future recreation needs of residents.



The planning process had five major components:

- A comprehensive resident outreach and engagement process including Steering Committee meetings, public meetings, stakeholder interviews, online opinion survey, and mailed opinion survey
- Inventory and assessment of existing park areas, recreation facilities, recreation programs, governance, financing, personnel, and maintenance operations
- Analysis to identify strengths, challenges, and opportunities for improvement of the parks and recreation system
- Recommendations which reflect community values captured from the public engagement process, evaluation of current operations, analysis of existing facilities and programs, and consideration of trends
- Action plan with time frames over the short-, medium-, and long-term through 2030 to address the Plan's recommendations



What We Heard

The mailed and online surveys provided information on resident opinions about parks, recreation facilities, recreation programs, and the CRPR Agency.

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) conducted a nationwide survey in 2016 that asked about the benefits of public parks. This same question was included in the mailed and online surveys for benchmarking purposes. The results showed that Centre Region residents highly value parks and recreation services, with percentages significantly higher than the national average.

Household Benefits from Public Parks			
	A Great Deal	Somewhat	Not at All
NRPA	41%	40%	19%
CRPR	44%	48%	9%
Community Benefits from Public Parks			
	A Great Deal	Somewhat	Not at All
NRPA	63%	29%	8%
CRPR	77%	21%	2%



Key survey findings also included:

- When visiting CRPR parks, residents are looking for the opportunity to spend time outdoors, relax, experience nature, and enjoy time with family and friends.
- The priority recreation facilities to add or expand are trails for running, hiking, bicycling, and cross-country skiing; shade and tree areas, children’s play equipment areas, picnic pavilions, and informal picnic areas.
- Over the next 10 years, resident priorities for parks and recreation in the Centre Region are to maintain parks and recreation facilities, conserve open space and natural resources, develop walking and biking connections between schools, parks, trails, and neighborhoods; develop trails and greenways, and rehabilitate older parks.
- Residents are highly satisfied with the cleanliness of the park grounds and environment, overall maintenance of park areas and recreation facilities, condition of paved walkways, condition of roads and parking areas, and cleanliness of picnic facilities. The top areas of dissatisfaction are the availability of restrooms, availability of seating, availability of shaded areas, and the cleanliness and condition of restrooms.

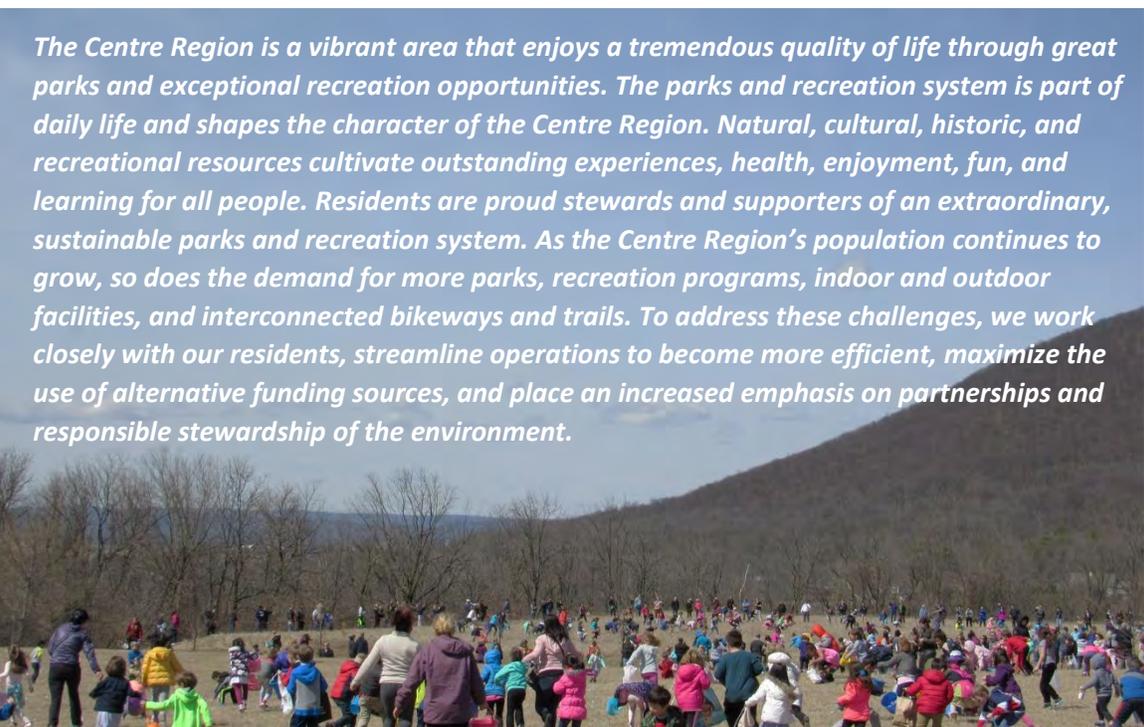


Mission, Vision, and Guiding Principles

This Comprehensive Recreation, Parks, and Open Space Plan updates CRPR's current mission statement to truly capture why CRPR exists.



The Plan also outlines the Centre Region's vision for the future of its parks, recreation facilities, recreation programming, trails, and open space network, to strengthen CRPR's role in defining and enhancing the region's identity and quality of life.



The success of this vision is tied to the commitment of CRPR, its member municipalities, its employees, and its partners, and to the value the community places on maintaining and improving the parks and recreation system.

This Plan is first and foremost a strategic document. As unexpected situations emerge, the strategic course should guide decision-making. Toward that end, this Plan suggests the guiding principles of “*sustain, educate, renew, access, collaborate, and support*” stay in front of CRPR staff, Parks and Recreation Authority members, municipal and school district leaders, and the public as over-arching direction for the work ahead.

Sustain – Forests, meadows, waters, and natural areas that endure

Educate – Recreation that inspires personal growth and healthy lifestyles

Renew – Well-designed parks and programs that meet diverse community needs

Access – Recreation opportunities that are available and accessible to all

Collaborate – Cooperative partnerships and resident involvement that enhance parks and recreation services

Support – Fiscal and environmental responsibility that strengthens community support

Top Issues to Address

After careful listening and evaluation, the issues of greatest concern have become the focus of this Plan. The following is a summary of the top issues (*not in order of importance*):

- Need for alternative funding sources
- Aging park structures and deferred maintenance
- Need for indoor recreation facilities and program space
- Need for additional outdoor recreation facilities
- Natural resource conservation, sustainability and management needs
- Trail connections and expansion
- Appropriate level of staffing
- Governance structure
- Efficient use of financial resources
- Need for benchmark data
- Division of maintenance responsibilities
- Large number of fragmented recreation providers
- Lack of awareness of many of the region’s park areas and CRPR recreation programs
- Need for accessible and affordable programs for all



Core Themes and Recommendations

Fifteen core themes emerged as the basis for the Plan’s recommendations. A description of the core themes and brief bulleted lists of recommendations are presented below. Much more detail is presented in the recommendations chapter of the Plan.

Take Care of What We Have— We value our community’s investment in parks, trails, recreation facilities, and open spaces. We will address the maintenance and improvement needs of our existing resources to make them shining examples of our commitment to active, healthy lifestyles. The life of our recreation facilities will be extended so that they may serve future generations.

- Strengthen park maintenance
- Identify parks that should be planned
- Identify park facilities, structures, amenities, and plantings in sub-par condition
- Clarify the responsibilities for park maintenance, repairs, purchases, and capital improvements
- Focus on ways to return appropriate park areas into natural environments
- Develop a cohesive park system



Diversify Funding Strategies— We realize that utilizing more diverse funding allows us to not only address current deficiencies, but to also transform our parks and recreation system. We will obtain additional funding through alternative sources for our parks, trails, open space, and recreation services.

- Establish a Parks Foundation
- Develop stable alternative funding sources
- Update the pricing and revenue policy to determine sustainable pricing methods

Strengthen and Enhance Recreation Program Opportunities— We provide a wide variety of high-quality recreation programs and activities with a focus on learning, conservation, and active, healthy living. We will make inclusion a top priority and work to make our programs accessible to all residents.

- Enhance the recreation programs and special events offered to allow everyone the opportunity and ability to participate
- Offer affordable local alternatives to travel-based youth sports
- Build on successful recreation programs and offer new programs



Promote Parks and Recreation Opportunities— We focus on increasing the public’s use of parks and recreation facilities and involvement in recreation programs. We will expand the public’s awareness of the region’s park areas and recreation services and the important role parks and recreation plays in quality of life.

- Develop and implement a comprehensive marketing plan
- Utilize a marketing classification for park areas and recreation facilities
- Consider referring to the agency as “Centre Region Parks and Rec” rather than as “CRPR”
- Promote regional outdoor recreation opportunities

Address Indoor Recreation Facility and Program Space Needs— We partner with the School District and others to utilize indoor venues for recreation programs when facilities are available. We will explore the feasibility of acquiring and/or developing an indoor recreation center that provides aquatic facilities and dedicated programming space for year-round activities and events.



- Adopt a memorandum of understanding with the State College Area School District
- Complete an indoor recreation center feasibility study

Address Outdoor Recreation Facility Needs— We provide outdoor recreation facilities in partnership with our municipalities to provide a variety of recreation options for all ages. We will expand outdoor recreation facilities to meet the needs and interests of residents through the implementation of future development phases of regional parks.

- Develop Regional Parks
- Develop a strategy to introduce missing special use park facilities
- Develop an Action Sports Park

Expand Environmental Sustainability Opportunities— We recognize our role in protecting and enhancing environmental resources for the health and well-being of our region. We will continue to invest in conserving open spaces, prioritizing greening of existing parkland, utilizing greenways for open space and trails, and finding a balance between recreational opportunities and natural resource protection.



- Hire a Natural Resource Supervisor
- Expand environmental outreach



Design Parks that Promote Resident Health, Happiness and Well-Being – We develop parks that are valued “places.” Visitors want to spend time in parks that are safe, clean, and ready to use; are designed with consideration of how people use the park; and provide recreation opportunities that target their interests and offer memorable experiences. We recognize and value the purpose of arts, history, and civic pride in our region and will include all three in the re-imagining of parks, trails, and open spaces.



- Create park amenities that celebrate unique characteristics and features
- Enhance convenience of visiting parks
- Introduce technology to parks
- Accommodate special events and community celebrations

Strengthen Resident Involvement – We believe public involvement is vital to implementation of this Plan. We will continually work to expand resident involvement in parks and recreation operations.



- Establish a Friends of Centre Region parks group
- Strengthen communication between CRPR and the municipal parks and recreation committees

Eliminate the Governance Structure Confusion – We value the Parks and Recreation Authority, which brings an informed resident perspective to parks and recreation issues. We will clearly define the roles and responsibilities of the Authority to improve its ability to advise CRPR on a broad range of issues, advocate for parks and recreation throughout the region, and communicate with member municipalities, as well as continue its role as a financing entity for capital development projects for regional parks and recreation facilities.

- Define and document the roles and responsibilities of the Parks and Recreation Authority
- Amend the articles of incorporation of the Parks and Recreation Authority
- Take care of tasks associated with streamlining the governance of CRPR

Enhance and Formulate Strong and Broad Partnerships

– We work closely with individuals, municipalities, groups, and businesses in the region to provide well-rounded parks and recreation services to residents. The partnership among the municipalities and school district serves as the cornerstone for the provision of premier parks and recreation services. We will formalize the partnership with the State College Area School District with an MOU to improve indoor space access. We will design and manage partnerships to maximize use of partner resources and talents and respond to evolving community needs.

- Develop and maintain effective public and private partnerships

Expand and Connect the Trail Network– We recognize that residents value trails for transportation and recreation. We will grow and improve our trail network, connecting to parks and linking together existing pathways to provide places for people to walk, jog, or bike as part of their everyday routine.

- Support implementation of the Centre Region Bike Plan
- Support trail initiatives in the region

Assess Level of Staffing– We manage parks and recreation facilities and services that continue to grow. We will assess our staffing levels and focus on adding prioritized staff positions to properly maintain the parks and recreation system and provide the quality of recreation services residents desire.

- Plan for the hiring of new staff positions phased over the next 10 years
- Apply for a DCNR Circuit Rider grant

Make Efficient and Effective Use of Financial Resources– We operate with a solid base of tax-supported funding provided by our municipalities. We will ensure that these important financial resources are used in an efficient and effective manner.

- Implement recommendations that relate to financial savings



Develop Benchmark Data – We believe data is essential to effective management of our parks and recreation system. We will obtain and utilize data, including staffing and park maintenance data, to evaluate our performance and make decisions that best serve our residents.

- Develop a system of data collection and analysis
- Benchmark with other parks and recreation agencies



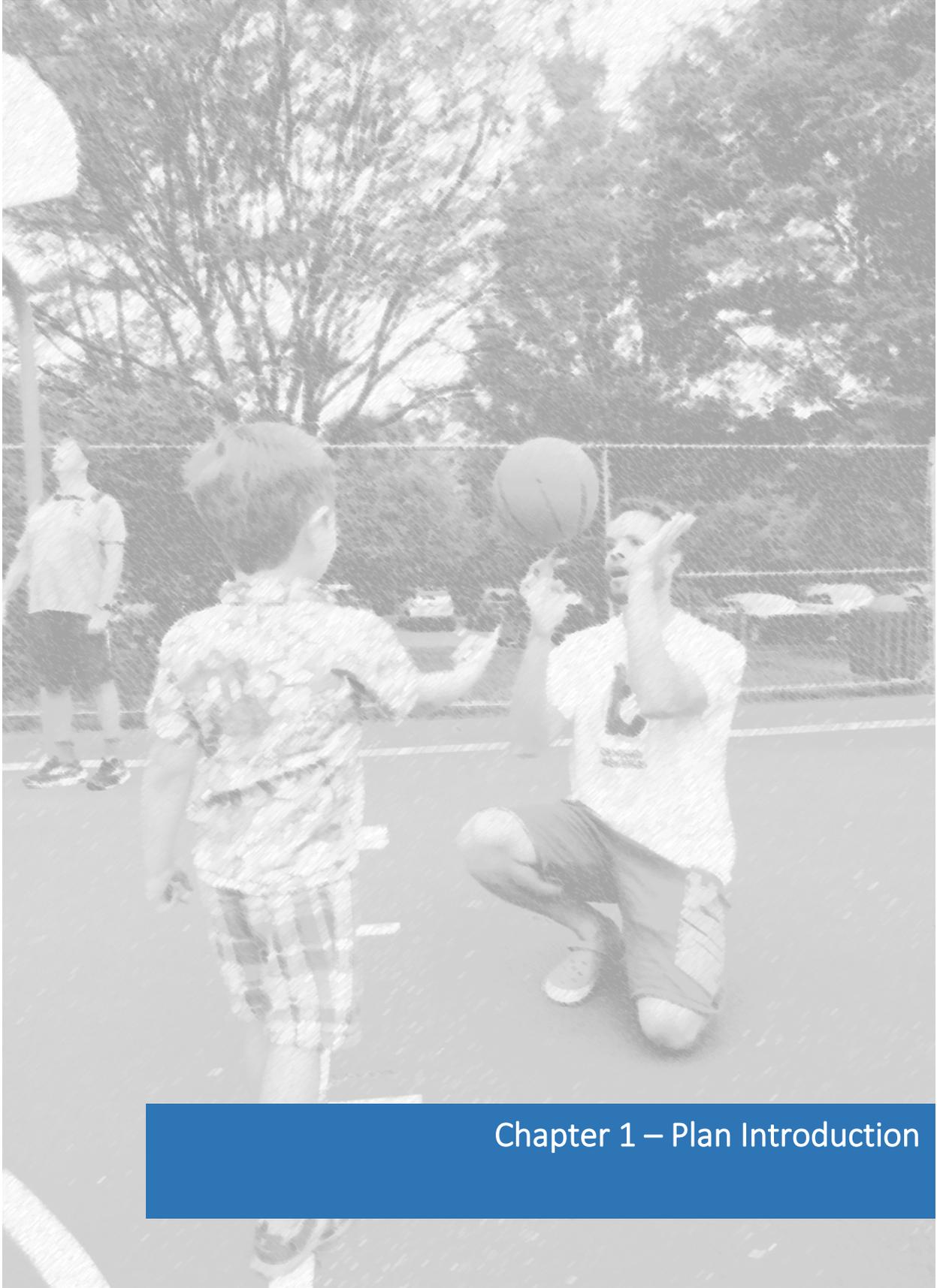
Making the Vision a Reality

This Plan guides the future work needed to maintain and build the Centre Region parks and recreation system. The Plan's recommendations are rooted in the interests and values of residents. Implementation will require the focused energy, commitment, and resources of the COG, CRPR, municipal elected officials, volunteers, and staff; State College Area School District, partners, local businesses, nonprofit organizations, user groups, and the general population.

As an adopted plan, the document serves as a guide to direct future actions. The recommendations are a road map that suggest strategies to achieve the Centre Region vision for the parks and recreation system. The Plan is a work in progress; to suit resident desires today and provide a legacy for future generations, it is important to seize opportunities, adjust for emerging needs, and respond to trends. The process of building and sustaining a vital and exceptional parks and recreation system is ongoing.

To begin implementing the recommendations of this Plan, it should be utilized as the basis of the strategic planning process for CRPR, with an updated strategic plan prepared every three years. With many actions identified as being important to initiate in the first three years of this Plan, prioritizing items and setting realistic goals will be very important.

Setting direction until 2030, CRPR's and the municipalities' commitment to implementing this Plan ensures the parks and recreation system will continue to be essential to quality of life in the Centre Region and play a vital part in supporting the health and well-being of residents and visitors.



Chapter 1 – Plan Introduction

Plan Introduction

Centre Region residents and leaders value parks and recreation as a means to support a strong and diverse economy, foster healthy and active lifestyles, advance environmental sustainability and enhance quality of life. Centre Region Parks and Recreation (CRPR) exists to provide spaces, places and recreation opportunities for all people to gather, celebrate, contemplate, and engage in activities that promote health, well-being, community, and the environment.

CRPR has and continues to serve as the guardian and advocate for parklands and natural areas throughout the Centre Region. It manages a wide range of services that contribute to residents’ quality of life including developed parks, open spaces and natural areas, sports fields, park trails, outdoor swimming pools, nature center, and recreation opportunities for youth, teens, adults and seniors. The parks and recreation system includes gathering spaces, well-maintained facilities, nature-based quiet places, land and water health and protection, and engaging programs and community events. Striving for equity underpins it all.

The Centre Region Council of Governments (COG) decided to prepare a Comprehensive Recreation, Parks, and Open Space Plan to provide long-term direction for delivery of parks and recreation services and to sustainably meet community expectations. This Plan has been developed over 12 months by Recreation and Parks Solutions and YSM Landscape Architects, working in concert with the Plan’s Steering Committee.

The Benefits of Parks and Recreation

For the most part, when people think of parks and recreation, they envision playgrounds, swimming pools, sports leagues, and summer camps, but parks and recreation is so much more. Parks are a home base, a refuge, a place to gather with friends and family. Parks and recreation agencies are caring for children, keeping parents and grandparents healthy and active, and doing remarkable things to help the environment. Today, parks and recreation offers more than it ever has.

Local parks and recreation services are at the core of what defines a healthy, prosperous and connected community, and nothing related to technological advances and demographic shifts has changed that. If anything, demographic, societal and technological changes have heightened the need for the many benefits of parks and recreation; namely,

RESIDENTS BENEFIT FROM THE PARKS, RECREATION FACILITIES, AND RECREATION PROGRAMS IN THE CENTRE REGION. THESE BENEFITS TAKE MANY DIFFERENT FORMS, INCLUDING:

- *Personal benefits — exercise, health, relaxation, fun, entertainment, enjoying being outdoors*
- *Environmental benefits — nature, aesthetics, fresh air, open space, wildlife*
- *Social benefits — sense of community, family-time togetherness, a safe place to take children, a place to meet people*
- *Economic benefits — availability for all, bringing business activity to the community, influence on property values*
- *Facility/activity-oriented benefits — recreation, sports, place to play, place to exercise pets*

being an important contributor to health and wellness, providing communal places where people of all ages and social strata can interact with each other, and providing places that protect and preserve high-priority conservation areas. Finally, unlike virtually every other form of recreation, access to local parks is not subject to high entrance fees or other qualifications.

The Priorities for Parks and Recreation: NRPA’s Three Pillars

Many challenges impact local parks and recreation services. These challenges span from sedentary lifestyles that lead to obesity and other health problems to environmental and economic sustainability. CRPR is a critical part of the solution because it provides the community with essential parks and recreation services and benefits.

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) summarizes the key priorities for local parks and recreation agencies through its three pillars of Conservation, Health and Wellness, and Social Equity:

- **Conservation** – Parks are critical in the role of preserving natural resources for communities. Local parks and recreation agencies play a vital role in the protection of the environment through green infrastructure, conservation of public lands, providing wildlife habitat, and more. In a world where people are increasingly disconnected to nature, local parks also are essential in creating environmental stewards who will advocate for and protect the most precious public resources – land, water, air, trees, open spaces, and wildlife.



- **Health and Wellness** – Where people live, work, and play has a major role in shaping their health. Rates of chronic diseases, including obesity, diabetes, heart disease, and asthma, are on the rise, due in large part to sedentary lifestyles and poor nutrition habits. Mental health problems, including depression and anxiety, are also on the rise. Local parks and recreation agencies lead the nation in improving the overall health and wellness of residents and communities. They are essential partners in preventing and combating some of the most complicated and expensive challenges our country faces — hunger, obesity, chronic disease, and physical inactivity.



- **Social Equity** – Universal access to public parks and recreation is fundamental for all, not just a privilege for a few. True to the very philosophy of public parks and recreation is the idea that all people – no matter the color of their skin, age, income level, or ability – have access to programs, facilities, places, and spaces that make their lives and communities great. Local parks and recreation agencies work hard to ensure that all members of their communities have equal access to parks, recreation facilities, and programming.



Plan Purpose

The purpose of this Comprehensive Recreation, Parks, and Open Space Plan is to provide an analysis of the current parks and recreation system of the Centre Region and make recommendations for its future. The Plan will help leaders and staff make sound decisions in order to maintain and enhance CRPR services, including planning, management, programming, and funding decisions for parks, trails, open space, and recreation services within the Centre Region.

This Plan serves as a tool for addressing the current and future recreation needs of Centre Region residents. This Plan lays the groundwork for the continued successful operation and development of parks and recreation within the Centre Region.



This Plan is visionary and inspires the community to continually improve the parks and recreation system, ensuring it suits resident desires today and provides a legacy for future generations. The means of achieving this vision will need to be flexible, allowing recommendations to be explored and adjusted based on changing circumstances.

This Plan should be utilized as the basis of the strategic planning process for CRPR, with an updated strategic plan prepared every three years.

Plan Approach

This Plan's foundation is multi-fold:

- Ongoing guidance throughout the process by the Steering Committee and CRPR leadership.
- Important input from the Parks and Recreation Authority, municipal parks and recreation committees, municipal managers, and CRPR staff.
- Resident public engagement and stakeholder input through key person interviews, on-line survey, random sample mailed survey, and well-attended public meetings.
- A strategic direction for the parks and recreation system including mission, vision, and guiding principles.
- Recommendations which reflect community values captured from the public engagement process, evaluation of current operations, analysis of existing facilities and programs, and consideration of trends.



In order to provide the Centre Region with a complete view of current conditions, a detailed inventory and assessment of existing park areas, recreation facilities, recreation programs, governance, financing, personnel and maintenance operations was conducted. Analysis of these items identified strengths, challenges, and opportunities for improvement of the parks and recreation system. Public input was a key component in the development of this Plan. Drawing upon the inventory, assessment, and public participation process, recommendations and implementation strategies are outlined for the future of recreation, parks, and open space in the Centre Region.

The Plan provides guidance and recommendations for addressing the challenges that CRPR faces today and must address for the future. The Plan provides direction for the next 10 years, containing some steps that can be completed within a matter of months, while others will require community and regional solutions that may take many years to accomplish. The Action Plan provides more detail

regarding how these steps may be incrementally achieved. To be successful, the Plan will require the focused energy, commitment and resources of the COG, CRPR, municipalities, State College Area School District, partners, local businesses, nonprofit organizations, user groups, and the general population.

Setting direction until 2030, this Plan and CRPR's commitment to implementing it ensure the parks and recreation system will continue to be essential to quality of life in the Centre Region, and play a vital part in supporting the health and well-being of residents and visitors. The Plan's vision describes the potential, not a promise for the future. The Plan inspires action and provides a focal point to drive decision-making and future policies for parks, open space, and recreation services that Centre Region leadership and residents can support.

Driven by Community Values

The Plan is informed by an understanding of overall resident values and priorities. The community involvement process of public meetings, the online survey, key stakeholder interviews, and the random sample mail survey were designed to gain input from a demographically representative group of the community. Input from residents that use CRPR services, parks and facilities often, as well as those who rarely or never use them was provided to gain an understanding of current perceptions, priorities and needs. The public also reviewed the Plan themes and recommendations and provided feedback to indicate their level of support. The level of involvement from community members is a testament to the value residents place on the parks and recreation system and their desire to contribute to its improvement.

Changing Parks and Recreation Needs

Current trends suggest that the health and well-being of future generations are threatened by minimal leisure time, concerns about safety, social isolation, and separation from nature. While technology and new discoveries open new opportunities for future generations to fulfill their dreams, they will not replace or diminish the need for personal wellness and connection to nature and one's community.

The Plan recognizes CRPR's need to evolve to meet the changing parks and recreation needs of Centre Region residents and to enhance people's connection to the land and to each other.



- **Demographic Shifts** – The Centre Region has become more diverse and home to an increasing number of older residents.
- **Recreation Trends** – Adults, especially Baby Boomers, are staying active longer. Young adults raised on youth athletics are seeking to maintain active lifestyles. In addition, interest in non-traditional and self-directed recreation is rising.
- **Health Trends** – Nationally, research shows obesity and related health concerns are rising along with health care costs. Parks and recreation services play an important role in supporting the active lifestyles that can reduce health concerns and bolster preventive care.

A Valuable Resource

This Comprehensive Recreation, Parks, and Open Space Plan will be a powerful tool in the Centre Region's efforts to continually build and support a quality parks and recreation system. This Plan will serve as a valuable resource in the following ways:

- **A Guideline for the Future** – The vision and recommendations presented in this document offer a clear direction for planning of future parks and recreation initiatives. The vision illustrates the Centre Region’s overall goal for a successful parks and recreation system. The recommendations offer detailed implementation strategies to achieve the vision. The wide scope and range of strategies assist in realistic planning for the Plan’s implementation and assist in setting financial goals and the appropriate allocation of municipal financial support. This Plan includes a way to look at parks that goes beyond park acres per 1,000 population by considering how a park is used, understood, and appreciated. As the Plan is implemented, residents and park visitors can look forward to an exciting future in which services are continually evaluated and improved to ensure community needs are met, facilities are renewed, connection with the natural environment is strengthened, sustainable practices are expanded, and parks are safe for everyone.
- **A Public Relations Tool** – Resident interest in the continuation and growth of a quality parks and recreation system is on-going. This Plan offers accessible and understandable information for the public and urges involvement of park users, neighbors, and other stakeholders in the parks and recreation system. Ongoing communication of CRPR’s benefits is a critical piece of success for this Plan. Public support of and advocacy for the parks and recreation system will allow for continued investment of financial resources.
- **A Living Document** – The Plan provides a solid foundation to base local planning and management decisions regarding parks and recreation. Key components can be used by CRPR and Centre Region municipalities to garner support for proposed projects or future funding assistance from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, federal grant programs, local businesses, and foundations.

Success Factors

This Plan is intended to be visionary and ambitious. Many of the recommendations will be challenging to implement and will require great effort and time to accomplish. However, several factors set the stage for this Plan to be successful:

1. High rate of resident support of parks and recreation
2. Broad range of CRPR recreation programs
3. High-quality natural areas
4. Large and diverse park system
5. Professional, dedicated staff
6. Resident involvement in Parks and Recreation Committees and Parks and Recreation Authority
7. Strong interest in community-based park stewardship
8. Large number of existing and potential partners
9. Solid base of tax-supported funding
10. Involvement and cooperation of the State College Area School District
11. Long history of successful collaboration among the municipalities through the COG

Top Issues for the Plan to Address

Throughout the public and stakeholder engagement process, a large variety of topics were discussed. After careful listening and evaluation of comments received, the issues of greatest concern have become the focus of this Plan. It is essential that CRPR, along with the municipalities, State College Area School District, and community partners, address these issues over the next 10 years in order to maintain and enhance the parks and recreation system. The following is a summary of the top issues (not in order of importance):

- Need for alternative funding sources
- Aging park structures and deferred maintenance
- Need for indoor recreation facilities and program space
- Need for additional outdoor recreation facilities
- Natural resource conservation, sustainability, and management needs
- Trail connections and expansion
- Appropriate level of staffing
- Governance structure
- Efficient use of financial resources
- Need for benchmark data
- Division of maintenance responsibilities
- Large number of fragmented recreation providers
- Lack of awareness of many of the region's park areas and CRPR recreation programs
- Need for accessible and affordable programs for all

Plan Core Themes

These core themes emerged as the basis for the Plan's recommendations:

- **Take Care of What We Have** – We value our community's investment in parks, trails, recreation facilities, and open spaces. We will address the maintenance and improvement needs of our existing resources to make them shining examples of our commitment to active, healthy lifestyles. The life of our recreation facilities will be extended so that they may serve future generations.



- **Diversify Funding Strategies** – We realize that utilizing more diverse funding allows us to not only address current deficiencies, but to also transform our parks and recreation system. We will obtain additional funding through alternative sources for our parks, trails, open space, and recreation services.

- **Strengthen and Enhance Recreation Program Opportunities** – We provide a wide variety of high-quality recreation programs and activities with a focus on learning, conservation, and active, healthy living. We will make inclusion a top priority and work to make our programs accessible to all residents.
- **Promote Parks and Recreation Opportunities** – We focus on increasing the public’s use of parks and recreation facilities and involvement in recreation programs. We will expand the public’s awareness of the region’s park areas and recreation services and the important role parks and recreation plays in quality of life.

- **Address Indoor Recreation Facility and Program Space Needs** – We partner with the School District and others to utilize indoor venues for recreation programs when facilities are available. We will explore the feasibility of acquiring and/or developing an indoor recreation center that provides aquatic facilities and dedicated programming space for year-round activities and events.



- **Address Outdoor Recreation Facility Needs** – We provide outdoor recreation facilities in partnership with our municipalities to provide a variety of recreation options for all ages. We will expand outdoor recreation facilities to meet the needs and interests of residents through the implementation of future development phases of regional parks.

- **Expand Environmental Sustainability Opportunities** – We recognize our role in protecting and enhancing environmental resources for the health and well-being of our region. We will continue to invest in conserving open spaces, prioritizing greening of existing parkland, utilizing greenways for open space and trails, and finding a balance between recreational opportunities and natural resource protection.



- **Design Parks that Promote Resident Health, Happiness and Well-Being** – We develop parks that are valued “places.” Visitors want to spend time in parks that are safe, clean, and ready to use; are designed with consideration of how people use the park; and provide recreation opportunities that target their interests and offer memorable experiences. We recognize and value the purpose of arts, history, and civic pride in our region and will include all three in the re-imagining of parks, trails, and open spaces.

- **Strengthen Resident Involvement** – We believe public involvement is vital to implementation of this Plan. We will continually work to expand resident involvement in parks and recreation operations.
- **Eliminate the Governance Structure Confusion** – We value the Parks and Recreation Authority, which brings an informed resident perspective to parks and recreation issues. We will clearly define the roles and responsibilities of the Authority to improve its ability to advise CRPR on a broad range of issues, advocate for parks and recreation throughout the region, and communicate with member municipalities, as well as continue its role as a financing entity for capital development projects for regional parks and recreation facilities.
- **Enhance and Formulate Strong and Broad Partnerships** – We work closely with individuals, municipalities, groups, and businesses in the region to provide well-rounded parks and recreation services to residents. The partnership among the municipalities and school district serves as the cornerstone for the provision of premier parks and recreation services. We will formalize the partnership with the State College Area School District with an MOU to improve indoor space access. We will design and manage partnerships to maximize use of partner resources and talents and respond to evolving community needs.
- **Expand and Connect the Trail Network** – We recognize that residents value trails for transportation and recreation. We will grow and improve our trail network, connecting to parks and linking together existing pathways to provide places for people to walk, jog, or bike as part of their everyday routine.
- **Assess Level of Staffing** – We manage parks and recreation facilities and services that continue to grow. We will assess our staffing levels and focus on adding prioritized staff positions to properly maintain the parks and recreation system and provide the quality of recreation services residents desire.
- **Make Efficient and Effective Use of Financial Resources** – We operate with a solid base of tax-supported funding provided by our municipalities. We will ensure that these important financial resources are used in an efficient and effective manner.
- **Develop Benchmark Data** – We believe data is essential to effective management of our parks and recreation system. We will obtain and utilize data, including staffing and park maintenance data, to evaluate our performance and make decisions that best serve our residents.



The Plan core themes have been formulated into recommendations for addressing the challenges the Centre Region faces, along with visionary elements that reflect aspirations of what the Centre Region parks and recreation system can become in the future. From the core themes above, a vision has been developed that includes the proposal of guiding principles for CRPR.

Mission, Vision, Guiding Principles, and Operating Objectives

Great communities don't just happen. They require a guiding vision for the future and a sustained set of strategies for bringing that vision to reality. This Comprehensive Recreation, Parks, and Open Space Plan outlines the Centre Region's vision for the future of its parks, recreation facilities, recreation programming, trails, and open space network, while sharing strategies for how this vision can come to fruition. The mission, vision, guiding principles, and operating objectives will guide development, operations, programming, and maintenance of the parks and recreation system into 2030.

A comprehensive vision for the parks and recreation system strengthens CRPR's role in defining and enhancing the Centre Region's identity and quality of life. The success of this vision is tied to the commitment of CRPR, its member municipalities, its employees, and its partners, and to the value the community places on maintaining and improving the parks and recreation system.

This Plan is first and foremost a strategic document. As unexpected situations emerge, the strategic course (vision, mission and guiding principles) will guide decision-making. Toward that end, this Plan suggests the guiding principles of "sustain, educate, renew, access, collaborate, and support" stay in front of CRPR staff, Parks and Recreation Authority members, municipal and school district leaders and the public as over-arching guides to the work ahead.

Mission

The mission statement articulates why CRPR exists:

We inspire the Centre Region to learn, play, protect, and connect by creating diverse programs and experiences for all ages, backgrounds, and abilities in sustainable natural spaces and places.

Vision

The vision statement describes what CRPR hopes to become:

The Centre Region is a vibrant area that enjoys a tremendous quality of life through great parks and exceptional recreation opportunities. The parks and recreation system is part of daily life and shapes the character of the Centre Region. Natural, cultural, historic, and recreational resources cultivate outstanding experiences, health, enjoyment, fun, and learning for all people. Residents are proud stewards and supporters of an extraordinary, sustainable parks and recreation system. As the Centre Region's population continues to grow, so does the demand for more parks, recreation programs, indoor and outdoor facilities, and interconnected bikeways and trails. To address these challenges, we work closely with our residents, streamline operations to become more efficient, maximize the use of alternative funding sources, and place an increased emphasis on partnerships and responsible stewardship of the environment.

The Role of Centre Region Parks and Recreation

Conservation – The quality of life for every person in the Centre Region is improved by clean, green, and accessible parks and open space. The parks and public lands of the Centre Region serve an essential role in preserving natural resources and wildlife habitat, protecting clean water and clean air, maintaining healthy ecosystems, reducing storm water runoff, and providing open space for current and future generations. Parks provide an essential connection for residents of all ages and abilities to the life-enhancing benefits of nature and the outdoors by offering the public access to safe, affordable, and healthy ways to experience and appreciate nature. CRPR is a leader in protecting open space, connecting children to nature and providing education and programs that engage the community in conservation.

Health and Wellness – From fitness programs, to sports fields and courts, to walking paths and trails, to nutrition programs for youth and older adults, CRPR is at the forefront of providing solutions to challenges such as high rates of physical inactivity and the rise of chronic diseases through health and wellness opportunities for all populations. CRPR offers an affordable and accessible solution through facilities and services that reduce stress and improve mental health, improve access to healthy foods, and increase opportunities for people of all ages to be physically active.

Social Equity – The public parks and recreation services of the Centre Region are equally accessible and available to all people regardless of income level, ethnicity, gender, ability, or age. CRPR, through the provision of equal access to parks and recreation, cultivates community ties through programs and services for all which produces public benefits by connecting people more deeply to the fabric of the community. This sense of connectedness makes the Centre Region a desirable place to live. Because parks and open space are plentiful and recreation services are strong, residents enjoy a close attachment and engagement within the community. CRPR services provide a space and a reason to enjoy quality time, relaxation, and fun among family members and friends, thus strengthening the social and familial bonds that provide balance and satisfaction in life. In addition, the Centre Region is a safer community as a result of the wholesome atmosphere created by well-managed parks and healthy activities for all people.

Guiding Principles

These guiding principles create the foundation upon which the vision and recommendations for the CRPR system are built:

- *Sustain – Forests, meadows, waters and natural areas that endure*
We serve as stewards of the environment by creating environmental awareness and encouraging ecosystem approaches to providing, protecting, preserving and enhancing park land for the enjoyment, education and inspiration of this and future generations. Land, trees, and water – the foundation of the park system – require long-term investment and care. Parks are protected to benefit the entire region; therefore, all residents have a stake in the future of these resources and bear responsibility for their stewardship. CRPR is committed to providing leadership in natural resource management, connecting people to their natural environment, and fostering a sense of stewardship. This Plan articulates goals and strategies that call for outstanding management of the parks and recreation system's natural resources, programming that connects people with the natural environment, and development of partnerships that will further the goals of protecting natural resources.

- *Educate – Recreation that inspires personal growth and healthy lifestyles*

We work to make the Centre Region a happy, healthy place to live, work and play through dynamic programs and attractive public spaces that provide engaging recreation, sport and nature education choices. The future calls for leadership that inspires all people to engage in recreation. In this Plan, recreation includes all activities that make leisure time more interesting, enjoyable, and personally satisfying. This Plan recognizes that the benefits of quality recreation are astonishing, ranging from the development of life-long skills to fostering community and crime prevention. CRPR is committed to enriching the lives of individuals, families, and the entire community through positive and fulfilling recreation experiences. We will offer physical, artistic, environmental, and social activities tailored to the diverse population of the Centre Region. The Plan sets forth strategies to support the health and wellness goals of residents and to connect people to each other through recreation.
- *Renew – Well-designed parks and programs that meet diverse community needs*

The Centre Region’s parks, public places, natural areas and recreational opportunities give life and beauty to our area. These essential assets connect people to place, self and others and provide opportunities for wellness, celebration, contemplation and creative expression. As the region’s demographics evolve, Centre Region municipalities with the support of CRPR must create parks and amenities that are flexible, sustainable, and aesthetically beautiful, and with which residents and visitors can identify. Achieving this vision requires that municipalities and CRPR listen carefully, anticipate future needs, explore new operating models, and obtain new funding sources. This Plan calls for the development of park master plans for some existing parks. This will allow the parks and recreation system to be proactive in offering new facilities and removing outdated or under-utilized facilities.
- *Access – Recreation opportunities that are available and accessible to all*

We provide all people the opportunity to play, learn and explore by removing barriers to participation, fostering an inclusive culture, and offering programs that celebrate the Centre Region’s diverse population. CRPR values diversity as a community asset and is committed to creating inclusive spaces that promote the dignity and respect of all users of CRPR services and facilities regardless of age, race, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, physical ability, economic background, country of origin or religious practices.
- *Collaborate: Cooperative partnerships and resident involvement that enhance parks and recreation services*

We provide the highest standard of excellence in public service through collaboration with partners and residents who treasure, care for and have a sense of ownership and pride in their parks, recreation facilities and programs. The Parks and Recreation Authority will continue to be a strong leader by retaining an independent focus on parks and recreation, stretching the imagination for shaping the parks and recreation system, and seeking partners to fulfill the mission of CRPR.
- *Support: Fiscal and environmental responsibility that strengthens community support*

We continually and openly share our parks and recreation story with the public and value transparency and inclusiveness in decision-making. We are a progressive leader, providing innovative parks and recreation services and natural resource stewardship in an efficient, cost-effective manner.

Operating Objectives

These operating objectives identify how CRPR performs its work:

- *Excellence* – We meet our resident’s expectations of quality and performance.
- *Teamwork* – We work as a team based on respect for our residents, our co-workers, our volunteers, and our environment.
- *Partnership* – We form effective partnerships to expand recreation opportunities for our diverse community.
- *Decision-Making* – We promote transparency in public decision-making, are responsive to the community, and are inclusive of all interests in a fair and open manner.
- *Creativity* – We cultivate new ideas into exciting programs and services.
- *Objectivity* – We maintain a positive approach to all challenges we face.
- *Growth* – We embrace change and use it to expand opportunities.
- *Stewardship* – We are committed stewards of the region's physical, natural and cultural resources.
- *Learning* – We foster professional development for staff, board members and volunteers.
- *Fiscal Responsibility* – We utilize financial resources efficiently and cost-effectively.



Chapter 2 – Public Participation

Public Participation

Assessing public opinion regarding parks and recreation in the Centre Region was fundamental to the planning process. Understanding residents' interests and preferences for park amenities, recreation programs, and recreation activities is paramount to creating a relevant plan of action for the next 10 years. The public participation process for the Centre Region Comprehensive Recreation, Parks, and Open Space Plan included five activities: working with a Steering Committee, conducting interviews with key stakeholders, conducting an online opinion survey, conducting a random sample mailed survey, and holding two public meetings.

Steering Committee

The Centre Region Council of Governments assembled a Steering Committee for the project with a representative from each of the six participating municipalities plus representatives from the State College Area School District, the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority, and the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Agency. The Steering Committee attended project meetings and worked with the consultant team, providing insights on project findings and planning considerations. The Steering Committee provided guidance and direction for the Plan development and reviewed planning conclusions and recommendations.

Key Person Interviews

Interviews were conducted with key stakeholders in the region. Interviews were held with the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Agency staff, members of the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority, municipal government managers, program providers, and others with insights into parks and recreation.

Public Meetings

Two public meetings were held to obtain input from residents regarding their recreation interests, park and recreation opportunities, and existing park use. The first public meeting was held early in the planning process. The public meeting was followed by an open house where residents could view maps of parks and trails and ask questions of the consultant team. The open house and first public meeting drew over 150 attendees.

A second public meeting was held to share the mission, vision, core themes, and recommendations of the Plan. Over 40 citizens and members of the Steering Committee and Parks and Recreation Authority attended the meeting. The Plan mission, vision, and recommendations were shared, and citizens provided comments.



Online Opinion Survey and Random Sample Mailed Survey

The Centre Region sought resident input through two survey instruments: an online opinion survey and a random sample mailed survey. Both surveys were conducted throughout the spring and summer of 2019. The surveys contained identical questions so that the responses could be compared. Centre Region Parks and Recreation hosted the online survey on their website. Penn State University HDNRE 590 students developed and coordinated the mailed survey. The survey questions were proposed by the consultant team and Penn State University students based on the goals of this project and reviewed and modified into final form by the Steering Committee.

Online Survey Data

- Online from February 6, 2019 through May 9, 2019.
- 763 responses.
- The survey required respondents to complete the entire survey.

Random Mailed Survey

- Survey was mailed on March 25, 2019 to 2,000 homeowners and 1,000 apartments.
- Returns were accepted through May 31, 2019.
- 636 surveys were returned for a 23-percent return rate (636 returned of 2,820 delivered).
- 180 surveys were returned as non-deliverable.

Public Participation Findings

Five methods of obtaining public input were undertaken to determine resident interests and opinions. The findings are summarized below by topic. Expanded summaries of the online and random mailed surveys are in Appendix C.

Parks – Survey respondents responded that the priority for parks and recreation in the Centre Region over the next 10 years should be *Maintain Park Areas and Recreation Facilities* (highest priority). Stakeholders promoted the development of existing parks, including future phases of regional parks. The surveys found that adding more parkland was not a priority while conserving open space and natural resources ranked relatively high. Residents indicated that it is important to rehabilitate older parks and take care of existing parks.

Recreation Facilities – Park features desired by residents include *Trails for Running/Hiking/Bicycling/XC Skiing, Shade/Tree Area, Children’s Play Equipment/Area, Outdoor Winter Facilities (Skating/Sledding), Informal Picnic Areas, and Picnic Pavilion*. Facilities which received the lowest ranking of importance in the survey included *Artificial Turf Field, Pickleball Court, Lacrosse Field, Bocce Court, and Football Field*.

Schools – The partnership and facilities at the schools of the State College Area School District are important to the overall delivery of parks and recreation services. The use of the schools for community recreation is sporadic and secondary to school use.

Community Sports – Numerous organizations, including Centre Region Parks and Recreation, provide youth sports programming for residents of the Centre Region. The programs use municipal and regional parks and schools. The need for additional sports facilities was thought to be accommodated within the development of the existing regional parks. Additional program opportunities for adult sports was voiced as a need in the region.

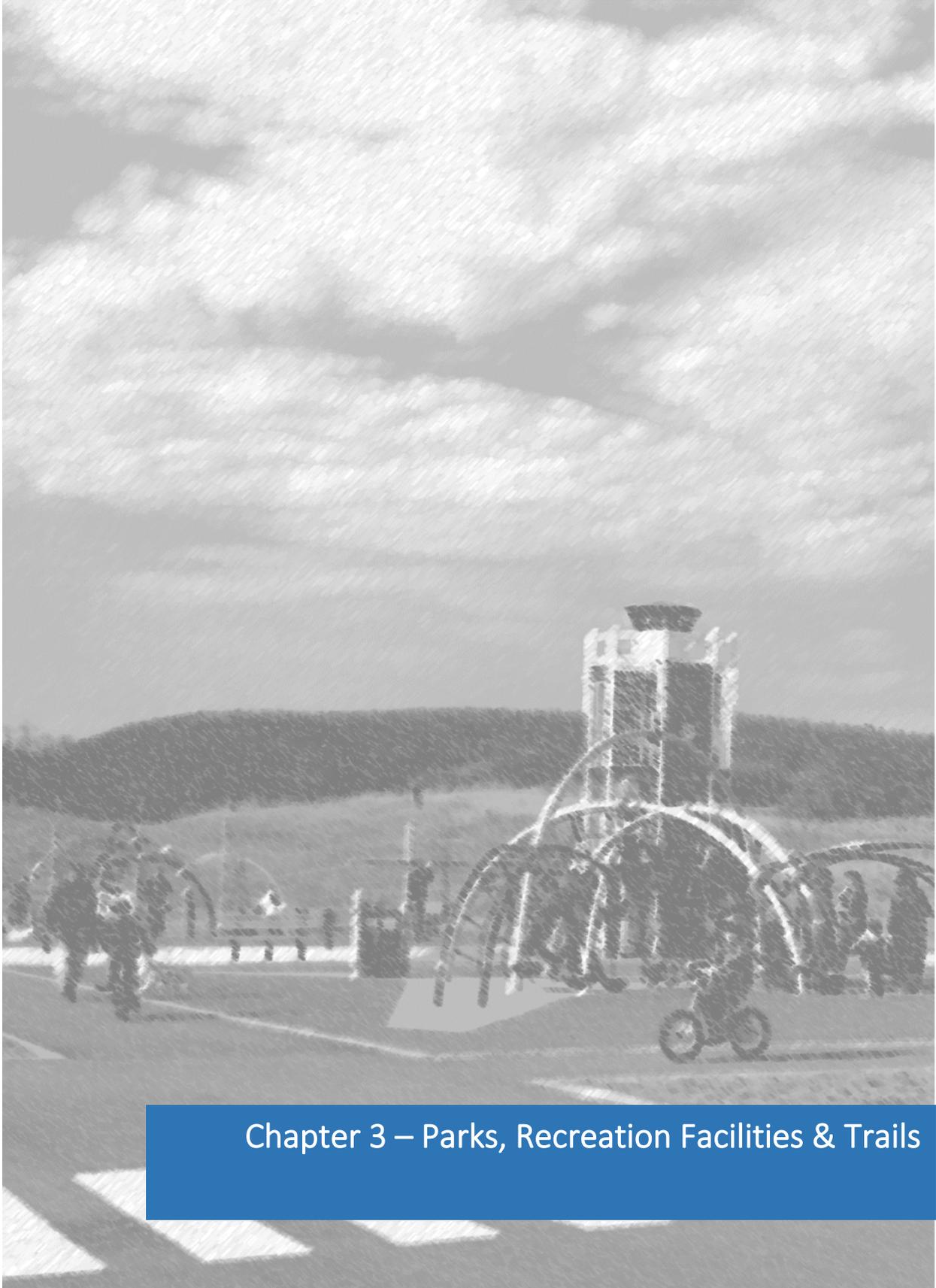
Trails – The survey results show a strong desire by respondents for developing walking and biking connections between schools, parks, trails, and neighborhoods, and developing trails and greenways. The surveys found that *Spending Time Outdoors, Experiencing Nature, and Fitness and Wellness* activities are the highest-ranking experiences respondents were looking for when visiting Centre Region park areas. The region is fortunate to have an extensive trail system and residents would like to see missing trail links developed between existing trails and parks. Trails should be provided in existing parks to provide close-to-home locations for fitness and wellness activities. The further development of the Bellefonte Central Rail Trail is desired by residents as a long-distance trail that offers gentle terrain.

Recreation Programs and Services – Centre Region Parks and Recreation provides important public recreation services which include youth and adult sports league coordination, summer camps, aquatic programs, adult programs, instructional classes, nature center programs, and special events that survey respondents indicate they are moderately satisfied with. Additional program opportunities are desired for people with disabilities, high school students, young adults, and middle school students. The two highest obstacles to participation in Centre Region Parks and Recreation programs are *Too Busy* and *Don't Know About Them*. The *Quality of Recreation Program Staff* and *Variety of Programs* were highly ranked by survey respondents. Areas for improvement based on the overall level of satisfaction with Centre Region Parks and Recreation programs include *Promotion and Advertising of Programs*.

Maintenance – The majority of parks in the region are maintained by Centre Region Parks and Recreation while a few, typically smaller parks are maintained by the municipalities. Residents noted that they were not aware of who is responsible for maintenance. Generally, residents expressed satisfaction with maintenance practices and the cleanliness of grounds.

Indoor Recreation – Opinions on the need for indoor recreation are split with slightly more respondents indicating that *Develop an Indoor Recreation Center* was very important as respondents indicating very unimportant and unimportant.

Natural Resources – There is a strong contingent of residents that are active proponents of the environment and protecting the region's natural resources. The rise of these proponents is due, in part, to reaction to the development of student housing in an environmentally sensitive area adjacent to the regional park on Whitehall Road. *Conserve Open Space and Natural Resources* ranked high as a priority action for the Centre Region over the next 10 years. There was substantial interest in sustainable park management practices and the greening of existing parks.



Chapter 3 – Parks, Recreation Facilities & Trails

Parks, Recreation Facilities & Trails

Introduction

The parks and recreation facilities were analyzed through field investigation of most park sites to view park characteristics, facilities, the setting, and surrounding land use. GIS was used to map park location, identify park size, and consider service area. Public engagement provided insights into how residents use the parks and issues and ideas for park improvements.

Parks

The Centre Region is fortunate to have an extensive inventory of parks and recreation facilities. There are 78 parks located in the six communities of the Centre Region, encompassing 1,230.2 acres. The Centre Region Parks and Recreation Agency (CRPR) maintains most of the parks in the region with 56 park sites and 923.4 acres under their charge. Generally, parks under four acres in size are maintained by the municipality. Table 3-1 lists the parks in the Centre Region.

Table 3-1 Centre Region Park and Recreation Facility Inventory			
Municipal Parks and Private Recreation Sites			
Park Name	Acreage	Park Type	Comments / Facilities
State College Borough			
Sidney Friedman Park *	0.5	Mini	Performance canopy, tot lot equipment
Nittany Village Park *	0.5	Mini	Playground
East Fairmount Park *	1.5	Mini	Playground
South Hills Park *	1.5	Mini	Playground, covered picnic tables, basketball courts
Smithfield Park *	1.7	Mini	Playground , picnic pavilion, half-court basketball
Tusseyview Park *	4.5	Neighborhood	Playground, basketball, 2 tennis courts, picnic pavilion
High Point Park *	6.2	Neighborhood	Playground, basketball, tennis court, youth baseball with seasonal soccer field
Thompson Woods Preserve (portion in State College Borough) *	6.8	Nature Preserve	Hiking trails, nature study, connects to Walnut Spring Park
Walnut Springs Park *	19.4	Nature Preserve	Hiking trails, nature study, connects to Thompson Woods Preserve
Holmes-Foster Park *	11	Neighborhood	2 picnic pavilions, 2 playgrounds, basketball court, horseshoes, 2 bocce courts
Orchard Park *	19.4	Community	Playgrounds, picnic pavilion, lawn volleyball, 2 tennis courts, adult softball field with seasonal soccer field, youth ballfield, basketball court, bike path, walking path, amphitheater
Sunset *	20	Community	Playground, 2 picnic pavilions, basketball courts, exercise trail, horseshoes, youth ballfield, hiking trail
Lederer Park *	21.8	Nature Preserve	Walking paths, arboretum, 2 picnic pavilions
TOTAL	114.8		
College Township			
Nittany Orchard Park *	5.2	Neighborhood	Playground, tennis court, basketball court, youth ballfield, gazebo
Slab Cabin Park *	19.9	Community	Picnic pavilion, playground, basketball court, seasonal sledding slope, covered bridge

Table 3-1, cont.
Centre Region Park and Recreation Facility Inventory

Municipal Parks and Private Recreation Sites			
Park Name	Acreage	Park Type	Comments / Facilities
College Township			
Dalevue Park *	14.8	Community	Playground, picnic pavilion, bike path, basketball court, tennis court, volleyball, youth ballfield, sledding slope, basketball court
Fogleman Field Complex *	15		3 dedicated soccer fields, perimeter walking path, 2 picnic pavilions
Fogleman Overlook Park *	2.7		Adjoins Fogleman Field Complex for additional parking
Spring Creek Park *	36.3	Community	Playground equipment, sand play area, 3 picnic pavilions, sand volleyball court, 4 tennis courts, 2 basketball courts, walking paths, adult softball field, adult baseball field, fitness unit, covered bridge, fishing,
Thompson Woods Preserve (portion in College Township) *	36	Nature Preserve	Trails with parking for 10 vehicles
Cairn Crossing	1.4	Nature Preserve	Walking path along Spring Creek
Fieldstone Park	1.8	Mini	Open, level field
Glenn Park	1.7	Mini	Neighborhood picnic area
Harris Acres Parklet	1.2	Mini	Picnic Area, backstop
Gordon D. Kissinger Meadow	11.9	Nature Preserve	Open space, wetlands, aquifer recharge area
Lemont Elementary School	1.0	School Park	School Park, playground
Limerock Terrace Parklet	0.4	Mini	Reserved for future development as a playlot
Mount Nittany Terrace Parklet	2.9	Mini	Playground, Picnic area
Mountainside Park	9.3	Nature Preserve	Nature trail, playground, picnic area
Oak Grove Park	2.3	Mini	Playground, picnic area, basketball court, paved walking trail
Panorama Village Open Space	0.6	Mini	Playground, basketball court
Penn Hills Park	4.8	Neighborhood	Picnic area, pavilion, playground youth ballfield, sledding
Shamrock Park	3	Mini	Playground, picnic area, grass trail
Slab Cabin Overlook *	0.7		
Spring Creek Estates Open Space	10.2		Subdivision with walking trail
Stoney Batter Natural Area	26.1	Nature Preserve	Wooded area with hiking trail to Mt. Nittany vistas
Thompson Woods Playlot	1.8	Nature Preserve	Gazebo, trail connection
TOTAL	211.0		
Harris Township			
Harpster Park *	4		Public park, open space
County Place Park *	4.1	Neighborhood	Playground, half-court basketball
Blue Spring Park *	8	Community	Basketball Court, 2 youth ballfields with seasonal soccer field, seasonal (on-ground) ice rink, playground, pavilion
Nittany View Park *	9	Neighborhood	Pavilion, playground, walking path, youth ballfield, seasonal soccer field
Kaywood Park *	10	Neighborhood	Playground, pavilion, basketball court, youth ballfield, sledding area
Stan Yoder Memorial Preserve *	15	Nature Preserve	Walking Paths, nature study
Eugene Fasick Park *	18.3	Community	Playground, bocce court, horseshoes, youth ballfield, pavilion, basketball court, nature trails
TOTAL	68.4		
Ferguson Township			
Overlook Heights	1	Mini	Open space
Meadow Park *	2	Mini	Playground, basketball court, picnic pavilion
Park Hills Park *	4	Mini	Playground, youth ballfield with seasonal soccer field
Greenbriar Saybrook Park *	8	Neighborhood	Playground, horseshoes, basketball court, 2 pavilions, walking path,
Autumnwood Park *	9.5	Neighborhood	Playground, pavilion, soccer field(in basin), walking path

Table 3-1, cont.
Centre Region Park and Recreation Facility Inventory

Municipal Parks and Private Recreation Sites			
Park Name	Acreage	Park Type	Comments / Facilities
Ferguson Township			
Suburban Park *	13.8	Neighborhood	Playground, youth ballfield, 2 tennis courts(also lined for pickleball courts), basketball court, pavilion, bike path
Homestead Park *	10	Neighborhood	Playground, pavilion, basketball court, walking path, youth ballfield with seasonal soccer field,
Haymarket Park *	12	Neighborhood	Playground, 2 pavilions, 2 basketball courts, sand volleyball court, youth ballfield with seasonal football/soccer field
Fairbrook Park *	29	Community	Playground, pavilion, walking path, youth ballfield with seasonal soccer fields
Tom Tudek Memorial Park *	87	Community	2 playgrounds, basketball court, 3 pavilions, 2 tennis courts, perimeter walking path, bike path, youth softball field, seasonal soccer/lacrosse field, butterfly garden
Cecil Irvin Park *	5.5	Neighborhood	Playground equipment, ½ mile perimeter walking trail
Former Ferguson Twp. Municipal Authority	80	Nature Preserve	Watershed preserve
Songbird Sanctuary	9	Nature Preserve	To open 2018/2019
TOTAL	270.8		
Patton Township			
Park Forest Tot Lot *	0.9	Mini	Pavilion, playground
Oakwood Park *	4.3	Neighborhood	Playground, pavilion, youth ballfield with seasonal soccer, walking path
Marjorie Mae Park *	4.7	Neighborhood	Play equipment, pavilion
Woodycrest Park *	6	Neighborhood	Playground, basketball court, youth ballfield with seasonal soccer field, pavilion
Ambleside Park *	7.1	Neighborhood	Tot playground, youth playground, pavilion, perimeter walking trail, natural play area
Graysdale Park *	14.1	Neighborhood	Playground, soccer field, youth ballfield, basketball court, pavilion, walking path
Green Hollow Park *	15.7	Neighborhood	Playground, pavilion, 4 pickleball courts, basketball court, youth ballfield with seasonal soccer field
Circleville Park *	37.7	Community	Playgrounds, dedicated soccer field, youth ballfield, 4 picnic pavilions, 9 hole disc golf course, 2 basketball courts, 1-mile paved perimeter path, 3 sand volleyball courts, adult softball field, 2 bocce courts
Bernel Road Park *	74.4	Community	Playground, picnic pavilion, 18-hole disc golf course, 4 tennis courts, 1 mile paved perimeter path
Gray's Woods Park *	42	Neighborhood	Nature play playground, environmental education interpretative signs, woodland trails
Carnegie Dr. Tot Lot	0.4	Mini	Playground
Cedar Cliff Park	2.5	Mini	Open space
Ghaner Drive Parklet	2.2	Mini	Playground, pavilion
Graycairn Park	1.5	Mini	Open space
Patton Woods Natural Recreation Area	62.7	Nature Preserve	Hiking trails, 24 hour use allowed, dogs allowed off-leash and under owner control, hunting allowed from September 16 – January 31
Ridgemont Parklet	0.5	Mini	Basketball court, swing set
TOTAL	276.7		

Table 3-1, cont.
Centre Region Park and Recreation Facility Inventory

Halfmoon Township			
Park Name	Acreage	Park Type / Location	Comments / Facilities
Autumn Meadow Park	12.6	Community	Pavilion, playground, ½ basketball court, informal picnic area, soccer/football/lacrosse field, comfort station, concession stand, bleachers, amphitheater seating, paved perimeter path, interpretative signs
Halfmoon Municipal Park	30	Neighborhood	Pavilion, play equipment, baseball/softball field (2), batting cages, concession stand, tennis court, pickleball court, seasonal ice skating rink, community center building
TOTAL	42.6		
Centre Region Parks & Recreation Authority			
Park Name	Acreage	Park Type / Location	Comments / Facilities
Centre Region Active Adult Center *		Special Use / College Twp.	In Nittany Mall
Houserville Elementary Ballfield *	1.5	Mini / College Twp.	Youth ballfield
Ferguson Elementary Ballfield *	3	Mini / Ferguson Twp.	2 youth ballfields with seasonal soccer field
Radio Park Elementary Ballfields *	4	Mini / Ferguson Twp.	2 youth ballfields with seasonal soccer field
Wm. L. Welch Community Pool *	3.3	Special Use / State College Boro.	Pool
Park Forest Community Pool *	4.4	Special Use / Patton Twp.	Pool
Millbrook March Nature Center *	62	Nature Preserve / College Twp.	Education building, barn, nature trails, 2 sun shelters, boardwalk with bird blind, pavilion
John Hess Softball Field Complex *	21	Sports Complex / Harris Twp.	Softball fields
Oak Hall Regional Park *	68	Sports Complex / College Twp.	4 softball fields, 1-mile perimeter trail, open field areas
Whitehall Road Regional Park *	100	Sports Complex / Ferguson Twp.	Regional park – to be developed
TOTAL	267.2		

*Parks managed and maintained by CRPR

Park Classification

It is important for Centre Region to have a mix of different scales of parks, from small neighborhood parks that serve the immediate vicinity, to large special use parks that draw visitors from throughout the region. Table 3-2 presents the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Park Classification System. It shows the range of parks by scale and lists their benefits, typical facilities, and the maintenance levels appropriate for the park type. This is a traditional method of assessing appropriate diversity in the parks system. Patton, Ferguson, and Harris Townships use this classification system in their municipal Recreation Plans.

Table 3-2
Centre Region Parks and Recreation
Park and Recreation Scale Classification System

Type/Size/ Service Radius	Definition	Benefits	Appropriate Amenities	Maintenance Level
Mini Park <i>0-1 acres</i> <i>¼-mile service radius</i>	Smallest park type, addresses limited recreation need	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provides close to home recreation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Playground ▪ Benches, seating area 	High level of maintenance associated with well-developed park and playground and high visitation.
Neighborhood Park 5-10 acres ½-mile service radius	Focus of neighborhood; in walking/biking distance of visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provides access to basic recreation opportunities ▪ Contributes to neighborhood identity ▪ Establishes sense of community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Play areas ▪ Ballfields ▪ Game Courts ▪ Picnic/Seating ▪ Pathways ▪ Community gardens 	High level of maintenance associated with well-developed park and reasonably high visitation.
Community Park <i>30-50 acres</i> <i>½ - 3-mile service radius</i>	Large park for active & passive recreation; serves residents municipality-wide. Accommodates large groups.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Variety of recreation opportunities for all ages and interests ▪ Space for organized, large scale, high participation events ▪ Family destination ▪ Fitness and wellness opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Play areas ▪ Organized sports facilities ▪ Pavilions ▪ Restrooms ▪ Lighting ▪ Amphitheaters ▪ Pools, Rinks ▪ Parking 	Moderate level of maintenance associated with moderate level of development, budget restrictions, inability to perform higher levels of maintenance. Potential for park “friends” or adopt-a-park partners.
School/ Community Park <i>Variable</i>	Parkland adjoining a school used for both recreation and education.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Combines two public entities for expanded year round recreation. ▪ Maximizes public resources ▪ Expands recreation opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Youth-oriented game courts and ballfields ▪ Play areas ▪ Seating ▪ Pathways ▪ Lighting ▪ Parking 	Moderate level of maintenance associated with moderate level of development, budget restrictions. Potential for cooperative agreement with school.
Sports Complex <i>40-80 acres</i>	Consolidates sports fields and related facilities in a centralized location.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Economy of scale ▪ Improved management ▪ Municipal showcase ▪ Attracts visitors who stimulate local economy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ball fields ▪ Lighting ▪ Spectator areas ▪ Restrooms, Concessions ▪ Landscaping ▪ Parking 	State of the art maintenance applied to high quality facilities. Associated with high visitation; revenue generating facilities, tourism.
Special Use Facility <i>Variable</i>	Facility for a single purpose use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provides special focus recreation opportunities ▪ Contributes to community identity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Depends on purpose 	High level of maintenance associated with well-developed park and reasonably high visitation.
Greenways and Trails <i>Variable</i>	Tie park areas and community together to form a contiguous park environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Connects community ▪ Reduces auto dependency ▪ Improves air quality ▪ Most desired recreation facility for people throughout their lifetime ▪ Attracts visitors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pathways – multipurpose ▪ Trailheads ▪ Support facilities ▪ Signage 	Lowest level of maintenance. Focus on trailheads and trail safety.
Natural Resource Area/ Preserve <i>Variable</i>	Natural areas for the protection and management of natural environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Protects resources ▪ Provides wildlife habitat ▪ Offers opportunities for environmental education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Trails ▪ Signage ▪ Support facilities 	Lower level of maintenance.

The Centre Region includes parks in each classification category defined by scale. There are small mini and neighborhood parks, traditional community parks, and several school/community parks. Whitehall Road Regional Park, Hess Softball Complex, and Oak Hall Regional Park are sports complexes and the two pools are special use facilities. There are numerous trails throughout the region and Millbrook Marsh Nature Center, Stan Yoder Memorial Preserve, and other natural areas are in the Natural Resource Area/Preserve category.

Patton Township has a unique approach to classification of natural areas within their park land inventory, classifying natural areas available for public use for passive recreation activities and opportunities, such as hiking, hunting, and bird watching, as “Natural Recreation Areas.”

In addition, Patton Township has Open Space lands which are protected natural areas that are designated as “Open Space Preserves.” These lands are not included in the Centre Region Park and Facility Inventory. Patton Township has four (4) sites totaling 683.87 acres classified as Open Space Preserves. These sites are managed separately from parks and are purchased using a separate dedicated municipal fund.

The diversity of park types in the region offers a park for nearly every interest and recreation activity. The special use category is an open-ended category. Based on public input, there are additional special use parks and facilities that are needed in the Centre Region. Recommendations for special use parks are listed on pages 12 and 13.

The Centre Region parks system has diversity of character, ranging from relatively wild natural areas to highly-manicured ballfields. The planning team identified 10 different “character” classifications that describe the primary experience that the park offers. These classifications describe both the parks the Centre Region has, and those residents would like to have. This classification helps show what park experiences may be lacking in the region, or in a specific location within the region. Many parks will have a primary and a secondary character. Table 3-3 describes the character classes.

Table 3-3 Centre Region Parks and Recreation Park Character Classification System	
Class Name	Character Description
Play 	Typically, residents will find manicured open space, a shelter and some limited programmed recreation space (e.g., a basketball court or a ball field). This park is dominated by mowed lawns, a shelter and a playground.
Compete 	This park is set up to foster competitive sports, with multiple ballfields and perhaps a concession stand and bleachers. Programmed spaces dominate.
Splash 	Water play is the dominant theme—specifically, constructed water play, rather than a creek or river. Splash pads and pools are the classic features of these parks.
Go Wild 	Nature preservation is the focus of these parks, and natural areas with native plants and animals shape the human experience. Natural play, woodland or creek exploration, or some level of immersion in nature dominates. These parks tend to support hiking, discovery and create-your-own adventure instead of a structured event. In this way, Go Wild parks, especially the larger ones, overlap with Reflect and Learn parks.
Connect 	These parks support social connections through programming or facilities. An events lawn, a performance space or a central shelter might be an indicator, or trails and sidewalks linking to the park. These would support informal connections and programs like potlucks, reunions or cultural exchanges.
Reflect 	Not every park needs to provide adventure or intense activity. Spaces for rest and reflection must also play a role in the Centre Region parks system. This might mean strategically placed benches for overlooks, integration of art, or a nature path. These parks provide opportunities to pull away from the hustle and bustle and to de-stress.

Table 3-3 Centre Region Parks and Recreation Park Character Classification System	
Class Name	Character Description
Learn 	Parks that promote outdoor learning spaces, science-based activities or integration of the arts fit in this class of parks. As with Connect parks, programming is as essential as physical spaces. Outdoor classrooms, creek access for experiments, sheds with science/learning based tools, “STEAM stations” or direct connections to schools would all be physical attributes of a Learn park.
Move 	This category includes trails and parks that are primarily meant to get people walking, jogging or hiking. This includes mini parks surrounding trailheads and greenways along trails.
Thrill 	When a park emphasizes adventure, it is typically associated with some requirement for increased skill or risk. Zip lining, rock climbing, skate parks or cycling challenge courses are among the elements residents might see in a Thrill park.
Reserve 	Reserves are natural areas not intended for regular or programmed use. This designation would be applied to sites/sub-areas within a park, not to the entirety of a public park.

Parkland

The Centre Region has 1,230.2 acres of parkland. This equates to 13.36 acres per 1,000 population based on the 2010 U.S. Census population for the region. The prevailing standard for parkland acreage, first promoted by the National Recreation and Park Association in 1969, is 10-acres per thousand population.



The Centre Region exceeds this 50 year old standard, which is to the region’s benefit considering changes in sports, recreation, and the way we spend our leisure time. Over the past five decades soccer and lacrosse have become increasingly popular youth sports, girls’ participation in sports has grown dramatically, and traditional seasons for sports have been abandoned for year-round play. These trends justify providing parkland acreage that exceeds the prevailing standard.

Continued growth is projected for the Centre Region with an increase of population from 92,093 in 2010 to 106,703 in 2030, a growth

rate of nearly 16 percent. If during this time no additional parkland is acquired, there would be 11.53 acres per 1,000 population. This scenario is not likely as the natural growth of the park system will expand acreage available for public recreation. For instance, Harris Township has recently acquired Tussey Pond Park and municipalities will continue to acquire parkland through the mandatory dedication process as residential development occurs.

This Plan does not prioritize acquisition of additional parkland. The random survey responses show that the highest priority for parks and recreation in the Centre Region over the next ten years should be “maintain park areas and recreation facilities” with 93.8-percent of respondents indicating this is an important action. The option of “purchase land in underserved areas for future parks” was rated important by 57.7-percent of respondents. However, the Centre Region should strategically acquire parkland as follows:

- Municipalities should accept parkland through mandatory dedication associated with residential development. It is generally recommended that municipalities accept parkland that has a minimum acreage of five acres that is contiguous in shape and suitable for development of recreation facilities.
- Municipalities and the COG should acquire parkland that is contiguous to existing park sites to expand recreation offerings and/or protect natural features.
- Municipalities and the COG should acquire parkland that provides for the development of a recreation facility identified as needed in the region. An example is land to develop an indoor recreation facility, action sports park, and a second dog park.

Parks and Recreation Facilities Assessment

Assessment of parks and recreation facilities considered observations from site visits, findings of the opinion surveys, and input from the study committee and public. The assessment includes observations and enhancement suggestions for the parks and recreation facilities of the Centre Region. The observations do not apply to each park but capture a generalized assessment of many of the parks in the region.

- Parks do not reflect the unique character of each park site or neighborhood.
 - Playground equipment in several parks is identical. Pavement games are not added to playground areas.
 - Numerous parks are developed on a formula basis with similar facilities which includes a pavilion, playground, single basketball court, and open lawn. Facilities do not reflect the needs of users and the neighborhood or area served.



- The parks lack vibrant color and existing facilities are typically muted, earth-tone colors. There are no planting areas to add a splash of color. Pavilions and site amenities are typically wood. Colored resilient safety surface material is not typically used at playgrounds.



- Areas are not configured in parks to accommodate special events and community celebrations.

- Recreation facilities generally target youth. Facilities for teens, adults, and older adults are lacking.



- Playground areas are not designed with gathering spaces to expand use and add comfort. Plazas with benches and picnic tables to age segregate the tot and youth playground areas and provide amenities for caregivers are not incorporated into playgrounds.

- Parks are not intentionally designed for convenience of use.

- Convenience facilities such as gathering areas at playgrounds with shade, park hubs near entrances/parking with information kiosk and benches, four-season restrooms, site amenities in convenient locations, etc. are not typically provided.



- Trails do not extend through park sites to provide for trail recreation activities. Trails that do exist typically have not been separated into loop options or accessorized with benches at views and shaded locations and fitness equipment.

- Technology such as Wi-Fi or USB and solar charging stations for portable devices has not been introduced into the parks.

- There is a need for an indoor recreation venue for indoor recreation facilities and space for programs throughout the winter months. Resident expressed the desire to remain active year-round.
- The random sample survey asked respondents what the priorities for parks and recreation the Centre Region should have over the next 10 years. Two of the top five responses could be summarized as taking care of what exists or investing in existing parks and recreation facilities. Areas of needed investment in existing parks and recreation facilities include:



- Park Planning – There are parks that may no longer meet the needs of the neighborhood or community, have outdated facilities or master plans, are non-compliant with the ADA, lack natural area enhancements, or have other issues which would benefit from a comprehensive park master planning process. The following parks are suggested for master planning:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Whitehall Road Regional Park - COG ▪ Oak Hall Regional Park - COG ▪ Sidney Friedman Park – State College Borough ▪ Nittany Village Park – State College Borough | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Slab Cabin Park – College Township ▪ Dalevue Park – College Township ▪ Blue Spring Park – Harris Township |
|--|---|

- Parks are generally in good condition and well maintained. There are elements of the parks that are in sub-par condition that should be improved to enhance park quality and the overall function and visitor’s experience and to comply with accessibility and safety standards.

- Wooden glue-laminated pavilions appear tired. The fascia is typically faded and, in some instances, warped.



- Benches and trash receptacles are typically older wooden models that are in lawn. Replacing older amenities and locating amenities within pavement or mulch areas promotes ease of mowing.
- The parks of the Centre Region do not project a united cohesive park system to the public. The parks lack similar signs, architecture, facilities, and amenities.



- Parks are public assets and must meet the requirements of the American with Disabilities Act (ADA). Each park facility and activity area must be connected to an accessible route that links to a sidewalk or accessible parking space. Accessible parking spaces are required at each park parking area. ADA compliance is an issue at many park sites.



- Provide playground areas and play equipment that meets the safety criteria of the Consumer Product Safety Commission Guidelines for Public Playground Safety. Playground equipment should be provided in age segregated areas with equipment for tots (2-5 years-old) and youth (6-12 years old) in two separate play areas. The areas should be separated by pathways and/or landscaping to create distinct areas for the different age groups. Most of the playgrounds in the Centre Region system are not age segregated.



- Parks have extensive areas of maintained lawn and lack natural environments.

- Sustainable strategies that benefit the environment and enhance the park setting, such as, reforestation, low-mow no-mow meadow areas, vegetative buffers at streams and wetlands, native species/pollinator/butterfly plantings, porous pavement, rain gardens/infiltration swales, etc. are desired by residents.
- Ecological demonstration projects can be developed in parks to illustrate to visitors’ “green” sustainable strategies that could be incorporated into the home landscape such as rain barrels for roof runoff, meadow plantings in lieu of lawn, and rain gardens adjacent to pavement areas to infiltrate runoff.
- Recreation facilities should be provided to meet the needs and interests of residents. Recreation needs of organized leagues, CRPR programs, individuals, groups, and families should be considered, as well as, trends in activities, participation, and population.

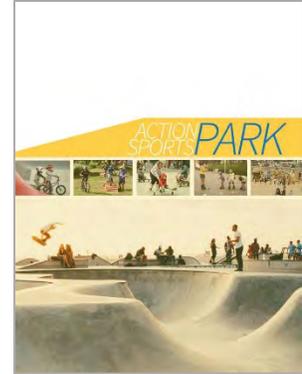


- Sports groups indicated that additional fields and courts are needed for practice and games. The first phase of development of Whitehall Road Regional Park includes four multipurpose fields and alternates for synthetic turf on two of the fields with field lights. More immediate field needs may be met, in full or in part, with the development of Whitehall Road Regional Park or other future phases of existing parks to include, Whitehall Road Regional Park, Oak Hall Regional Park, Fairbrook Park, Bernel Road Park, and other park sites.



- Update and renovate the two swimming pools as trends dictate to keep the facilities interesting and interactive to continue to engage the public.
- There are gaps in recreation facilities available in the Centre Region. Until recently, Penn State University recreation facilities were open for public use, but policy change now eliminates public access. Interviews and field work noted that the following recreation facilities are needed in the area. Possible facility locations are suggested.

- Action Sports Park – A feasibility study has been completed to define the activities and potential sites.
- In-line street hockey rink - A central location, at a regional park, or as part of the Action Sports Park.
- Bike park – BMX track, pump track – Part of the Action Sports Park or at a regional park. A pump track is schedule to be developed in Bernel Road Park.
- Climbing wall – Part of the Action Sports Park.
- Ice hockey rink – A central location or at a regional park.



- Natural playground – Several locations distributed throughout the region.
- Boundless playground (fully accessible) – A boundless playground is to be developed at Whitehall Road Regional Park.
- Destination playground – Several locations distributed throughout the region.



- Splashpad/spray park – Develop in parks in municipalities without swimming pools.
- Running track – A central location or at a regional park.

- Amphitheater – An amphitheater is planned for Whitehall Road Regional Park. If other locations are considered the site should be central to the region and have adequate parking and infrastructure.



- Special events area – A location with adequate parking and infrastructure, central to the region is preferred.
- Fishing pond – Second pond to complement Tussey Pond where natural characteristics are compatible with development.

- Golf training area – At a regional park or within or contiguous to an existing golf course.
- Disc golf course - Preferred in Ferguson or College Township to complement existing courses in Patton and Harris Townships.

Trails and Bikeways

The Centre Region is fortunate to have an extensive system of trails and bikeways. The network of pedestrian and bicycle facilities includes shared use trails, bike lanes, bike routes, and the statewide BicyclePA Route G. The 2015 Centre Region Bike Plan indicated that there was 64.5 miles of existing bicycle facilities in the community and plans for an additional 62.65 miles. Trail planning and development is supported in the Centre Region Council of Governments with a Senior Transportation Planner dedicated to bike and pedestrian facilities. The efforts of the COG are supported by municipal bike plans or official maps.



In addition to bicycle facilities there is a regional initiative to develop the Bellefonte Central Rail Trail. The Bellefonte Central Rail Trail is a long-distance recreation trail that will link State College and Bellefonte Boroughs. This 14-mile trail will provide a recreation amenity with gentle grades which are compatible with the full cross-section of trail users.

Trails are also important components of park sites providing accessible routes to facilities as well as a facility that promotes self-directed fitness and wellness activities. Many of the parks in the Centre Region have trails that extend throughout the park. Nittany View Park in Harris Township is a good example of a park developed with a trail that encircles the park site.

The random sample survey found extensive support for trails and interest in expanding the trail network

- The trails and sidewalks of the region add to the convenience of walking or biking to park sites with 39 percent of respondents indicating they walk to parks and 4 percent indicating they bike.
- Respondents indicate that the highest priority facility to expand and add in the Centre Region is trails for running, hiking, bicycling, cross country skiing with 80.7-percent ranking as important.
- Trails ranked third in importance for Centre Region park and recreation priority over the next ten years with 84.2 percent supporting development of walking/biking connections between schools, parks, trails, and neighborhoods.

Trails and Bikeways Assessment

Trails are popular recreation facilities and further development and extension of trails should be prioritized in the Centre Region. Linking residential areas to parks will provide safe off-road access and

promote non-motorized transportation. Trails in parks are important amenities for recreation and compliance with the ADA. The Bellefonte Central Rail Trail regional trail initiative will provide a long-distance gentle trail that is compatible with the full spectrum of trail users, complementing the existing system of trails along roadways.

Parks, Recreation Facilities & Trails Strengths and Challenges

Strengths:

- The parks are diverse in size.
- The Centre Region has park sites in each municipality, providing over 900 acres of parkland operated and maintained by the CRPR.
- There are two swimming pools, the Millbrook Marsh Nature Center, and regional parks with athletic facility emphasis to compliment the traditional parks.
- Acquisition of additional parkland can occur strategically and is not a priority.
- The parks are well maintained.
- There are future phases of park sites to develop needed facilities.
- The regional parks are not fully developed and when built out will address many of the recreation facilities needs of sports organizations.
- The Centre Region COG places an emphasis on bike and pedestrian facility planning and development, linking trails and sidewalks to parks.
- There is the linear resource of the Bellefonte Central Railroad right-of-way to support development of a long-distance trail.
- Many parks have un-programmed areas of open space that could be naturalized with meadows or reforestation to minimize maintenance and introduce natural areas.



Challenges:

- There are missing special use facilities.

- The area is a popular destination for retirees and the parks and recreation system should expand offerings that target the needs of senior adults.
- There are limited self-directed activities that target the recreation interests of teens.
- The parks contain extensive areas of lawn, which requires ongoing maintenance and provides no ecological value.
- There are park facilities that are outdated and/or in disrepair.
- Parks must meet the ADA. Accessible routes are needed to link park facilities.
- Play equipment areas should be age segregated.
- The parks could be improved to enhance the visitor's experience and convenience of use.
- There are special use park facilities that are missing from the mix of facilities.
- Special events and community celebration areas are needed.
- The region lacks indoor recreation facilities for public programs.



Recreation Programming

Centre Region Parks and Recreation Agency

The Centre Region Parks and Recreation Agency (CRPR) is the primary provider of public recreation programs in the region, offering an extensive schedule of activities year-round. CRPR recreation programs are a major asset that supports the physical, mental and social health of the community. Municipal parks and recreation services ensure that all residents – regardless of age, physical or mental condition, or economic or social standing – have opportunities to enjoy life-enriching, satisfying recreation experiences.



Recreation programs build community by providing positive activities that encourage a sense of unity, pride and appreciation for community traditions and heritage. Through recreation programs, residents improve their physical and mental health, enhance their creativity, build relationships, reduce stress and become happier and more involved in community life. Particularly important are the benefits to children. Children develop self-confidence, improve self-esteem, enhance their ability to learn, and stay physically active through involvement in recreation programs.

Sports Leagues and Tournaments

Hess Softball Complex and Oak Hall Regional Park serve as the main locations for CRPR adult softball leagues and local and regional softball tournaments. Youth and adult flag football leagues are also hosted at Oak Hall Regional Park. Sixteen softball tournaments were held in 2018, with 6,575 participants. Table 4-1 lists the 14 leagues sponsored by CRPR in 2018. Locations included School District gymnasiums, Circleville Park, and Spring Creek Park.



Table 4-1
CRPR Sports Leagues - 2018

Season	Leagues Offered	# of Participants
Spring/Summer	Adult Tennis, Men’s Softball (3), Coed Softball, Women’s Softball, Women’s Volleyball, Men’s Volleyball, Youth Basketball, Pickleball	1,517
Fall	Women’s Volleyball, Men’s Volleyball, Adult Flag Football, Youth Flag Football	507
Totals	14 Leagues	2,024

Aquatics, Recreation Programs and Special Events

CRPR sponsors a variety of aquatics and recreation programs and special events throughout the year. Programs are held at School District facilities, municipal parks, community swimming pools and other locations. School-year swimming lessons and classes are held indoors at the State College Area High School Natatorium.



Aquatics and recreation programs offered include summer day camps, summer swim teams, swimming and diving lessons, instructional sports and dance programs, fitness classes, and bike classes. Non-resident fees are charged to anyone not residing in the five participating municipalities. Special events such as the Easter Egg Hunt, 4th of July Kid’s Parade on Wheels and Halloween Costume Parade are traditions in the Centre Region. Tables 4-2 and 4-3 list the programs and special events held in 2018.

Program	# of Participants
Summer Swim Teams	372
High School Swim Lessons	147
Summer Swim Lessons	307
Summer Water Fitness Classes	22
Summer Springboard Diving Lessons	6
High School Springboard Diving Lessons	15
Lifeguarding Course	11
SCUBA Course	8
Bike Classes	127
Fitness Classes	176
Adult Tennis Lessons	18
Youth Tennis Lessons	41
Youth Soccer	109
Start Smart Basketball	7
Rhythmic Gymnastics	15
Bitty Ballet	36
Muck-n-Mess	16
Disc Golf Clinics	23
KidVenture Summer Camps	590
Learn to Play Pickleball	26
Leaders in Training	13
Musical Theatre Camp	48
Total	2,133

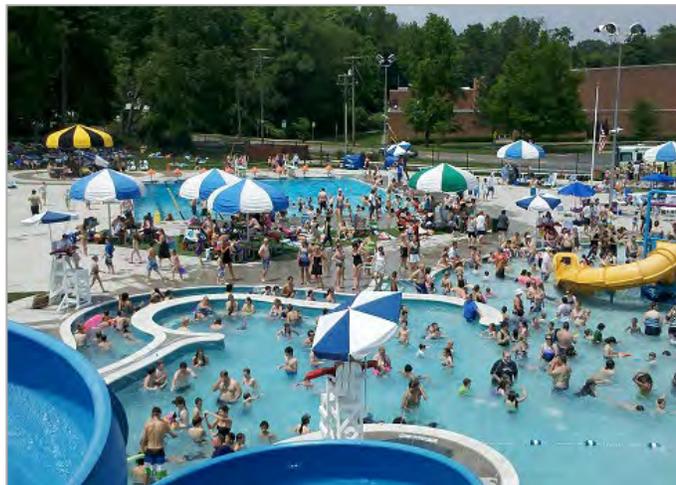
Table 4-3
CRPR Special Events- 2018

Special Event	Attendance
Paws-A-Pool-Ooza Dog Swim	114
Youth Triathlon	51
Cardboard Regatta	39
Cornhole Tournament	36
Municipal Band Concerts (4)	1,165
Local and Sectional Pitch Hit and Run Competitions	130
Flashlight Easter Egg Hunt	65
Easter Egg Hunt	500
Kidical Mass Bike Ride	10
Touch a Truck Expo	323
Kid's Parade on Wheels	65
Bike Decorating	12
Arts Fest Kid's Day	350
So Long Summer Shindig	500
Halloween Costume Parade	500
Winter Carnival	200
Fit Thon	22
Stargazers (6)	240
Gingerbread Houses	10
Total	4,332

Park Forest and William L. Welch Swimming Pools

CRPR operates two community swimming pools – Park Forest and William L. Welch – that contain features such as spray pads, separate lap pools, diving boards, slides, and a climbing wall. A Wibit floating obstacle course rotates between the two pools. Swimming and springboard diving lessons are offered for all ages. A SCUBA training course and aquatic fitness classes are also offered. Welch and Park Forest Pools are each home to a competitive youth swim team. Both teams are members of the Central PA Swim League (CPSL), which holds meets on weekday evenings.

The pools are open for general swimming from 1 to 8 p.m. on weekdays and 12 to 8 p.m. on weekends. The pools open one hour earlier on weekdays and two hours earlier on weekends for adult lap swims and toddler time swimming. Resident daily admission and



seasonal pass fees are affordably priced. Season passes are good for both pools. Daily admission is reduced to \$5 after 5 p.m. each day. Table 4-4 provides pool pass sales and gate receipts for the swimming pools for the summer of 2018.

Category	Value
Season Passes Sold	3,591
Revenue	\$525,883
Admission Attendance	27,392
Season Pass Use Times	64,045
# of Recreational Visits	91,437

Centre Region Active Adult Center

The 7,075-square-foot Centre Region Active Adult Center (AAC) is located at the Nittany Mall in space leased by the Authority. The current 15-year lease is \$14/square foot, which totals \$99,050/year.

The AAC receives funding from the municipalities that participate in the Authority and the Centre County Office of Aging. Van transportation and lunch-time meals are also provided by the Office of Aging. The AAC is open to adults ages 55 and over, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The AAC promotes healthy aging and life-long learning through recreational activities, health forums, classes and social interaction. Volunteers help to lead many of the center’s activities, including line dancing, bell choir, outdoor hiking, fitness classes, holiday parties, and bridge. Membership is free; some programs require a fee. A \$100,000 fundraising campaign to support the expansion of the AAC is complete.



Table 4-5 shows that 531 people participated in AAC programs in 2017. Residents totaled 385 or 72.5%; non-residents totaled 146 or 27.5%. Thirty different municipalities are represented in the non-resident participation numbers.

Municipality	# of Participants	% of Total
State College Borough	88	16.5%
College Township	117	22%
Ferguson Township	99	19%
Harris Township	40	7.5%
Patton Township	41	7.5%
Other Municipalities	146	27.5%
Total	531	100%

Millbrook Marsh Nature Center

The 62-acre Millbrook Marsh Nature Center property is owned by Penn State University and leased by the Authority for \$1/year for the regional nature center. The facility is open seven days a week from dawn to dusk for drop-in use. The barn and Spring Creek Education Building are open during scheduled public or private programs or posted hours. Admission to the Millbrook Marsh is free. Fees are charged for many programs and scheduled activities.



The wetlands, forests and meadows of Millbrook Marsh are home to many species of plants and animals; over 50 species of songbirds have been sighted. The property showcases several important types of wetlands, including natural springs and a calcareous fen.



In addition to oversight from the Authority, Millbrook Marsh has an Advisory Committee that helps to guide programming and on-site volunteer projects, assists with fundraising, and provides management input. A \$2.1 million fundraising campaign to expand the Spring Creek Education Building and construct a Welcome Pavilion is underway. Special events with wine and beer are permitted on the farmstead, which has assisted rental and fundraising efforts.

ClearWater Conservancy and Penn State (programming, facility and grounds maintenance and management) are key partners. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is a partner for grounds maintenance and the land management plan.

Millbrook Marsh Nature Center is a busy place. The number of programs and the number of participants grows each year. Staff conduct an extensive list of programs and special events in the marsh, on the boardwalk, in the bank barn, and in the Spring Creek Education Building. Table 4-6 shows that over 200 programs were held with visitor attendance reaching 5,598 people in 2018. When non-programs (meetings, rentals, etc.) are added, the number of visitors jumps to 11,768.

Table 4-6
Millbrook Marsh Nature Center Programs - 2018

Season	# of Programs	Attendance*
Winter/Spring	44	1,247
Summer	112	2,973
Fall	59	1,378
Totals	215	5,598

*Does not include visitors who walk the trails on their own.

A complete list of CRPR programs follows in Table 4-7.

Table 4-7

Centre Region Parks and Recreation Agency – 2018-19 Programs

Age Group	Program Name	Program Location
	Beginner Tennis Lessons Advanced Beginner Tennis Lessons Intermediate Tennis Lessons Flag Football League Growing the Game Summer Basketball+ Girls Rhythmic Gymnastics Start Smart Basketball Swim Lessons One-on-One Big Fish/Little Fish Swim Lessons Swim Lessons Levels 1-5 Summer Swim Teams Girl Scout Hiker Badge Day+ Magic of Miniature Fairy Gardening Marsh Exploration Insect Safari Guides Beginning Birdwatching Integrated Pest Management Scouting Programs+ Nature Series for Homeschoolers	Spring Creek Park Spring Creek Park Spring Creek Park Spring Creek Park/Oak Hall Regional Park Circleville Park Grays Woods ES Spring Creek Park SCASD Natatorium/Welch Pool Park Forest/Welch Pool SCASD Natatorium/Park Forest/Welch Pool Park Forest/Welch Pool Millbrook Marsh Nature Center Millbrook Marsh Nature Center
Tween/Teen Programs (34)	Musical Theatre Camp+ Teen Treks Camp Outdoor Explorer Hiking Expeditions Leader in Training Kayak Camp Canoe Camp Boating Adventure Camp Wonders of Nature Art Camp Treasure Hunting Camp Fly Fishing Camp+ Fly Tying Camp+ Outdoor Explorer Adventure Camp Teen Flashlight Egg Hunt Soulful Salutations Yoga Springboard Diving Lessons Discover SCUBA Drop-in*+ SCUBA+ Lifeguarding Certification Swim Lessons Levels 1-5 Summer Swim Teams Marsh Exploration Integrated Pest Management Scouting Programs+ Nature Series for Homeschoolers Jewelry Making Beginner Tennis Lessons Advanced Beginner Tennis Lessons Intermediate Tennis Lessons Flag Football League Learn to Play Pickleball Pitch, Hit and Run Competition* Youth Triathlon Intro to Mountain Biking*+ Spring/Summer Tennis League	Mt. Nittany ES Varies Millbrook Marsh Nature Center Park Forest MS Millbrook Marsh Nature Center Millbrook Marsh Nature Center Centre Region COG Building SCASD Natatorium/Welch Pool Welch Pool Welch Pool SCASD Natatorium SCASD Natatorium/Park Forest/Welch Pool Park Forest/Welch Pool Millbrook Marsh Nature Center Millbrook Marsh Nature Center Millbrook Marsh Nature Center Spring Creek Park Spring Creek Park Spring Creek Park Oak Hall Regional Park Bernel Road Park Oak Hall Regional Park Welch Pool Bernel Road Park/Circleville Park/Colyer Lake Tennis Courts within the Centre Region

Table 4-7

Centre Region Parks and Recreation Agency – 2018-19 Programs

Age Group	Program Name	Program Location
Adult Programs (55)	Barn Dance	Millbrook Marsh Nature Center
	Romantic Moonlight Walk*	Millbrook Marsh Nature Center
	Sip and Paint Fundraiser	Millbrook Marsh Nature Center
	Intro to Bike Packing and Touring+	Freeze Thaw Cycles
	Bicycle Tire Change Clinic+	The Bicycle Shop
	Biking in the Centre Region 101*+	Centre Region COG Building
	Bike Commuting 101	Centre Region COG Building
	Smart Cycling	200 Innovation Boulevard
	Cycling Sisterhood Social*+	The Bicycle Shop
	Mountain Biking for Women*+	The Bicycle Shop
	Square Dancing Class	Foxdale Village
	State College Municipal Band Concerts	Varies
	Cornhole Tournament	
	Shinrin Yoku Walk and Workshop	Millbrook Marsh Nature Center
	Plein Air Paint Earth, Water and Sky	Millbrook Marsh Nature Center
	Backyard Composting	Millbrook Marsh Nature Center
	Wild Edibles	Millbrook Marsh Nature Center
	Making Sauerkraut	Millbrook Marsh Nature Center
	Discover SCUBA Drop-in*+	Welch Pool
	SCUBA+	Welch Pool
	FitTHON	Spring Creek Park/Ferguson ES
	PiYo Live	Active Adult Center
	PiYo Live Outdoors	Spring Creek Park
	Flo Fit	Welch Pool
	FloYo Fit	Welch Pool
	Welch Water Walkers	Welch Pool
	Yoga in the Parks	Millbrook Marsh Nature Center
	Step Interval Cardio	SC Borough Community Room/Radio Park ES
	New Year's Day Zumba	Active Adult Center
	Cardio Dance	Lemont ES
	Power 45	Active Adult Center
	Core Conditioning	Active Adult Center
	Core de Force	Active Adult Center
	Move, Tone and Stretch	Active Adult Center
	Hatha Yoga	Millbrook Marsh Nature Center
	New to You Yoga	Centre Region COG Building
	Zumba	Houseville ES
	Turbo Flo	Mt. Nittany ES/Active Adult Center
	HIIT Mobile Fit	Orchard Park
	Adult Fitness Swims	Park Forest/Welch Pool
	Women's Slow Pitch Softball League	Hess Softball Complex
	45+ Men's Slow Pitch Softball League	Oak Hall Regional Park
	35+ Men's Slow Pitch Softball League	Oak Hall Regional Park
	Pickleball League	Bernel Road Park
	Beginner Tennis Lessons	SCASD Community Tennis Courts
	Advanced Tennis Lessons	SCASD Community Tennis Courts
	Spring/Summer Tennis League	Tennis Courts within the Centre Region
	Fast Feed Tennis Clinics	Spring Creek Park/SCASD Tennis Courts
	Adult Volleyball League	Fairmount Elementary School
	Coed Softball League	Oak Hall Regional Park/Hess Softball Complex
	Adult Indoor Soccer	Mt. Nittany ES
	Learn to Play Pickleball	Bernel Road Park
	Women's Volleyball League	Fairmount Elementary School
	Adult Flag Football League	Oak Hall Regional Park

Table 4-7
Centre Region Parks and Recreation Agency – 2018-19 Programs

Age Group	Program Name	Program Location
Older Adult Programs (40)	Beginning Bridge Lessons*	Active Adult Center
	Intermediate Bridge Lessons*	Active Adult Center
	Social Bridge	Active Adult Center
	Canasta*	Active Adult Center
	Hand and Foot Canasta*	Active Adult Center
	Learn Pinochle*	Active Adult Center
	Pinochle*	Active Adult Center
	Penny Poker*	Active Adult Center
	Learn Mah Jongg*	Active Adult Center
	Mah Jongg*	Active Adult Center
	Living Fully Now*+	Active Adult Center
	Computer Education	Active Adult Center
	Dining with Diabetes	Active Adult Center
	Genealogy Club	Active Adult Center
	Book Discussion Group*+	Active Adult Center
	Blood Pressure Screenings*+	Active Adult Center
	Crafts and Coffee	Active Adult Center
	Open Artist Studio	Active Adult Center
	Bus Trips	Varies
	The Second Winds*	Active Adult Center
	Active Adult Hiking Group*	Varies
	Silver Spurs Line Dancing*	Active Adult Center
	Zumba Gold	Active Adult Center
	Healthy Steps in Motion*	Active Adult Center
	Healthy Tai Chi	Active Adult Center
	Progressive Resistance Weight Training	Active Adult Center
	Stretches, Weights and Walking	Active Adult Center
	Mat Pilates	Active Adult Center
	Musical Qigong*	Active Adult Center
	Biking for Boomers*	Active Adult Center
	Live, Learn, Love and Leave a Legacy*+	Active Adult Center
	Crafty Day	Active Adult Center
	Baked Potato Day	Active Adult Center
Hot Dog Bar	Active Adult Center	
Ukelele Workshop and Jam Session*+	Active Adult Center	
It's Tea Time	Active Adult Center	
Senior Prom*	Active Adult Center	
Halloween Carn'Evil'*	Active Adult Center	
Holiday Luncheon	Penn Stater Conference Center	
Centre County Senior Picnic	Bald Eagle State Park	
() = Number of programs	Total number of programs = 202	Source: CRPR Active Guides
* = Free programs	+ = Partner programs	# of different program locations = 37

Program Evaluation

Participant evaluations of programs are done after each program session ends. The results of evaluations are used to improve programs. CRPR staff conduct yearly retreats where programs are evaluated in-depth.

Program Partners

CRPR utilizes partners for several its program offerings. Top program partners include The Bicycle Shop, State College Bird Club, CentreBike, Centre County Disc Golf Association, and ClearWater Conservancy.

Program Locations and Facility Use

A variety of indoor and outdoor locations and facilities are used for programs. Millbrook Marsh Nature Center and the Active Adult Center are the only indoor program locations that are under the control of CRPR. The State College Area School District allows use of its facilities for CRPR programs at no charge, if the school district does not incur any extra costs by permitting the use. CRPR must submit written permits to obtain the facilities. School functions have priority use. CRPR programs must be moved or cancelled if a conflict arises or for weather-related reasons. Sometimes these cancellations happen last minute. CRPR-maintained parks provide many outdoor facilities for recreation program use.



Program Revenue

CRPR provides a mix of free and fee-based programs. Direct program costs such as instructor fees, supplies, and facility fees are to be covered by the program's registration fee. Indirect costs such as full-time staff costs, utilities, and insurance are covered by municipal contributions. The business model for program fees has youth and active adult instructional programs breaking even, adult instructional programs and bus trips generating 10% revenue over break-even costs, adult sports leagues and tournaments generating 15% over break-even costs, and free special events covering 35% of their costs through sponsorships, in-kind services or donations. Non-resident fees are charged for anyone who lives outside of the five participating municipalities. Non-residents pay 150% of the resident rate for programs and facility use.

Inventory of Recreation Programs and Providers

In addition to CRPR, the Centre Region has many recreation, cultural arts, sports, and fitness providers offering a wide variety of programs and activities for all ages. These include private commercial facilities, non-profit youth sports groups, community arts organizations, health and fitness clubs, a regional public library, public and private schools, and Penn State facilities and programs. Below is an inventory of the varied recreation providers with a brief description of the programs offered.

Visual Arts

The Makery offers a variety of youth and adult classes in modern sewing, painting, drawing, glass fusion, pottery, cake decorating, floral design, makeup, creative writing, printmaking, knitting, jewelry design, photography and more. Community members are invited to create during Open Studio hours for an hourly, monthly or yearly fee. A full schedule of half-day summer camps is offered for youth.

The Art Alliance of Central Pennsylvania is a nonprofit organization with approximately 350 members dedicated to recognizing, developing and supporting visual arts. Adult classes include oil painting, pen and ink, watercolor, soapstone carving, acrylics, sculpture and printmaking, stained glass, pastels, dry point,

and basket making. Kids art classes are held during school district in-service days. The Art Alliance also holds youth summer camps.

Performing Arts

MindBodyArt School of Dance offers recreational dance, competitive dance and tumbling Instruction; athletic conditioning, and yoga programs. Other Centre Region dance studios include *Dance Academy of State College*, *Movement Arts Studio*, *Black Cat Belly Dance*, and *Centre Dance*.

At *Penn State Centre Stage*, students in the Penn State School of Theatre work with faculty and staff to produce Pulitzer Prize-winning plays and Broadway hits for the community at the Penn State Downtown Theatre Center and the Pavilion Theatre and Playhouse Theatre on the Penn State Campus.

The State Theatre is a 501(c)(3) community-owned theatre/performing arts center. The State Theatre offers diverse musical performances, independent, classic and foreign films; drama, musical theatre, comedy, opera, dance, and children's programming.

Center for the Performing Arts at Penn State is in Eisenhower Auditorium. A wide variety of events are held, including Broadway shows, contemporary circus, dance and music performances of all types, holiday shows, theatre, and a Distinguished Speaker Series.

No Refund Theatre presents a different play almost every weekend of the academic year produced and performed by students. Performances are free, with donations accepted. Performances usually occur on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. in 111 Forum or 9 p.m. in the HUB Flex Theater on the Penn State campus.

The Penn State Thespians is the oldest, continuously running student organization on campus. Every year, it presents several student-run productions for the public, including two main stage musicals, a children's show each semester, and an annual cabaret.

The Nittany Valley Children's Choir is a community arts organization that serves over 120 children in three levels of choirs, the White Choir, Blue Choir and Concordia Singers. The children range in age from 4-17. The choir performs at least two concerts each season. Rehearsals are held at the Trinity Lutheran Church.

The Pennsylvania Chamber Orchestra presents its season of concerts and performances at The State Theatre. Events are also held at Eisenhower Auditorium, Grace Lutheran Church, and Park Forest Middle School.

The State College Choral Society performs at Grace Lutheran Church and Eisenhower Auditorium. With approximately 140 members, it presents winter and spring concerts and December Messiah performances that benefit local charities.

The State College Community Theatre performs at Foxdale Village Auditorium, State Theatre and Penn State Downtown Theatre Center and brings together amateur talent for the development and advancement of literary, artistic, musical and dramatic productions.

The *Nittany Valley Symphony* provides an opportunity for local musicians to perform music for audiences to enjoy. The Symphony performs in Eisenhower Auditorium.

The Music Academy offers private and group music instruction to individuals and groups for all ages; instruction includes instruments as well as voice.

Matt Price Drumming offers music fundamentals classes which focus on improvised group music making and social connection. The program is designed to take students through the experience of playing contemporary rock/pop instruments such as drum set, electric guitar, bass guitar, and keyboard.

Robert M. Sides Family Music Center offers private and group musical instrument instruction for all ages. Instruments include banjo, baritone-euphonium, bass guitar, clarinet, flute, French horn, guitar, mandolin organ, percussion, piano, saxophone, trombone, trumpet, ukulele, and violin.

Penn State School of Music presents over 350 concerts, recitals, and masterclasses each year. It provides a wide variety of public events offered at no charge or for a small admission fee including the Penn's Woods Music Festival orchestra and chamber music performances.

The *Nittany Knights*, a 30-person a Capella men's chorus, presents Barbershop four-part harmony. Performances include the Summer Concert Series at the South Hills School of Business and Technology, in-person Singing Valentines in February and an annual Spring show.

Nittany Theatre at the Barn is the oldest arena barn theatre in Pennsylvania. Summer stock theatre is presented in the historic 19th century Barn theatre in Boalsburg. Nittany Theatre has renovated and enlarged the stage area, replaced and reupholstered the seats, and installed LED lighting and Broadway quality sound systems.

Aquatics

The Science Park Recreation Association (SPRA) is a member-owned and operated outdoor swimming pool. SPRA offers group and private swimming lessons to its members as well as parties and social events. It also sponsors the Dolphins swim team.

The YMCA of Centre County State College Branch has an indoor eight-lane 25-yard lap pool and 30-foot by 40-foot indoor therapy pool for the use of its members. Swimming lessons, water fitness programs, and an indoor youth swim team are offered.

The State College Area High School Natatorium is a 75-foot by 45-foot indoor pool with bleacher seating. The pool has no public hours and offers swimming programs to the community through CRPR and State College Area School District Community Education Program.

The Penn State University McCoy Natatorium aquatic facilities include a 6-lane 25-meter shallow warm water pool primarily used for instruction, recreation, therapy, and lap swimming; a 6-lane 25-yard competition pool designed for members of swim teams, serious lap swimmers, water polo, scuba, and synchronized swimming; a 14-foot deep diving well pool for springboard diving and scuba diving which features two 1-meter and two 3-meter springboards; and a 3- by 3-meter AquaClimb poolside climbing wall. Penn State also has a heated outdoor 50-meter swimming pool open to the public in the summer that features four diving boards, and 5-, 7-, and 10-meter diving platforms. A 5-lane 25-meter indoor pool for general use is in the White Building near the center of campus. Season passes are sold to the public.

Centre Hills Country Club is a private club with an 80-foot by 50-foot outdoor pool for member use only.

Toftrees Resort, Ramada Inn, Days Inn, Country Inn & Suites, Wyndham Garden, and Penn Stater Hotel have swimming pools.

Stonebridge Homeowner's Association has a pool for residents of the Homeowner's Association.

Indoor Sports Facilities

In addition to its swimming pools, the membership-based *YMCA of Centre County State College Branch* features three gyms, rock climbing wall, fitness center, teen center, child watch area and an outdoor in-line hockey rink. The YMCA offers the following programs: infant, toddler and preschool childcare; inline hockey, Martial arts, fitness, pickleball, youth basketball, Red Cross training, rock climbing, adult pick-up volleyball and basketball, summer day camp, and after-school teen center.

C3 Sports has programming seven days a week in its 12,000-square-foot hard-court facility. An expansion has added a 26,000-square-foot indoor arena for soccer, basketball, volleyball, lacrosse, field hockey, weekend tournaments, sports camps and private events.

Nittany Valley Sports Centre is projected to open in 2019 and will offer recreational and competitive sports activities. Phase 1 is a 67,000-square-foot indoor facility that includes an artificial turf field, Little League infield with batting cages and pitching tunnels, hard court area, gymnastics training center, speed and agility training center, café and conference and party rooms. An outdoor natural turf field will be utilized for soccer, lacrosse, field hockey, football, rugby, baseball, and softball. The Centre will offer youth tee-ball, softball and baseball leagues; youth and adult basketball and volleyball tournaments, leagues, and instruction; youth field hockey leagues and instruction in partnership with the Blue Lions Field Hockey Club; flag football leagues; youth and adult lacrosse tournaments, leagues, and instruction in partnership with the State College Warriors Lacrosse; Parisi Speed School programs; youth soccer and futsal leagues, camps, clinics, and tournaments in partnership with Penn United Soccer Academy; and a variety of weekly summer camps.

Public Library

Schlow Centre Region Library is an agency of the Centre Region Council of Governments. Schlow is a full-service public library open seven days a week. Schlow offers a variety of clubs such as Drop-in Knitting Club, Adult Afternoon and Evening Book Clubs, Senior Center Book Club, Boardgaming Meetup, Comics Club for Teens, Lego Club, Schlow Stitchers, Go Club, Chess Club, and the Nittany Valley Writer's Network. The library offers a variety of programs including storytimes for babies through elementary school age children, parent discussion groups, special events, elementary explorers, discovery days, developmental screenings for children, Research Unplugged lecture series, and creative writing workshops.

Outdoor Recreation

Centred Outdoors, hosted by ClearWater Conservancy, is an invitation for people of all ages and fitness levels to explore 10 outdoor destinations in Centre County throughout the summer months. Free public events are held every Sunday and Wednesday. The Centred Outdoors programs engage people in conservation and protection of natural resources by getting them outside and connecting them to nature. To participate in the program, people register online, select adventures from the list of sites, track progress via the website or printed Passport to Adventure, earn 'e-trophies' and climb the virtual leaderboard. When an individual completes 10 visits the Centred Outdoors Summer Challenge has been met.

The Arboretum at Penn State holds community activities and events and private rental functions at the H.O. Smith Botanic Gardens and the Childhood's Gate Children's Garden. The Arboretum provides public education through its signage, informational brochures, interpretive tours, avian education program, air quality learning and demonstration center and children's educational programs. Informal garden

interpretation activities and tours are offered. There is no admission charge to visit the Arboretum and free parking is available to visitors. The Arboretum, including the gardens, is open for visitation every day from dawn until dusk. Educational activities for children are provided on weekday mornings from mid-June through the end of October including planting, nurturing, and harvesting vegetables in the Harvest Gardens.

Shaver's Creek Environmental Center is a resource for the community and a field laboratory for Penn State students to get hands-on experience teaching about the natural world. The programs at the Environmental Center, Outdoor School, Raptor Center, and Team Development Center provide a mix of educational and recreational opportunities for families, schools, corporate groups and Penn State students. Shaver's Creek offers programs, camps, courses, and festivals for the public. Membership contributions help to keep admission free for visitors and help to support many free public programs throughout the year, care for raptors and other animals, and maintain the facility and trails.

Penn State Extension Master Gardeners of Centre County conduct the Master Gardener Home Gardening School. Sessions cover the best native plants for gardens, designing the home landscape for birds, pollinators and pleasure, beneficial insects, composting, and more. Master Gardeners help the home gardening public by answering questions, speaking to groups, writing gardening articles, working with youth, gardening in the demonstration gardens, and participating in the Penn State pollinator research program.

Sky's the Limit Ballooning specializes in rides and instruction. Balloon flights are available year-round, twice a day, at sunrise and two to three hours before sunset, wind- and weather-permitting.

Mt. Nittany offers nearly nine miles of volunteer-maintained hiking trails and scenic views that feature birds-eye views of the Penn State campus, Nittany Valley and Penns Valley from seven scenic overlooks. Up and down, the trails are rocky and steep. The trails on top are relatively flat. The Blue Trail distance is 4.6 miles round trip; the White Trail distance is 3.5 miles round trip.

The *State College Bird Club* is a diverse group dedicated to the appreciation of wild birds and the natural world in central Pennsylvania. The Bird Club holds monthly meetings and field trips from September through May, all open to the public.

CentreBike is a 501(c)(3) organization that promotes bicycling as a means of recreation and transportation through public events, bicycling advocacy, rider education, bicycling safety and awareness, and riding opportunities for all ages. CentreBike works to increase the miles of commuter biking, improve bicycling infrastructure, advocate for the construction of bike lanes or paved shoulders, and encourage the installation of bike-friendly facilities. The Centre Region was awarded the Bronze medal for being a Bicycle Friendly Community by the League of American Bicyclists.

State College Cycling offers group rides for road cyclists of various abilities, with Tuesday Road Rides and Thursday Slow and Easy Rides. *The Bicycle Shop* hosts Beginner Women's Mountain Bike Rides, Tuesday Shop Mountain Bike Rides, and Friday Pizza Rides with the Happy Valley Women's Cycling Team. *Freeze Thaw Cycles* hosts In-and-Around-Town Mountain Bike Rides on Wednesdays from November-April.

Nittany Mountain Biking Association helps to maintain the growing trail system in Rothrock State Forest and works in conjunction with DCNR to keep the trails sustainable, as well as expand the trail system. No-drop group rides occur Wednesdays during the spring, summer and fall for all levels of riders.

Bellefonte Central Rail Trail is 1.3-mile trail, with five additional miles proposed. *Deer Pen Trail* is located near Toftrees and offers riding for the mid-level experienced mountain biker.

The *Nittany Valley Running Club* hosts races, running groups, and training opportunities for area runners. The Tussey Mountainback 50 Mile Ultra Marathon and Relay is a U.S. Olympic trial qualifying event.

Summer Day Camps

Our Lady of Victory Catholic School offers a full-day 10-week summer camp for children entering Kindergarten through 6th grade. The camp includes a variety of activities including field trips to area attractions and swimming at Welch Pool.

State College Friends School Summer Camps provide children with enriching experiences, games, educational activities, and adventures. Creative Arts Camps are for children entering 4th-7th grade. Kids Camps are for children entering Kindergarten-7th grade. Wee Friends Camps are geared for children ages 3-5.

C3 Sports in partnership with Abba's House Daycare holds an 11-week summer sports camp program. Sports camps feature themed weeks dedicated to basketball, soccer, volleyball, baseball, football, flag football, etc.

Child Development and Family Council Summer Camp is located at Easterly Parkway Elementary. Activities include field trips, swimming and enrichment activities such as arts and crafts, science, cooking, and indoor/outdoor sports and games. The day camp is state licensed and offers scholarship and subsidy programs.

Science-U is an outreach program of the Eberly College of Science that offers day and resident camps for students entering grades 2 through 12. The Penn State Science-U camps are designed to develop critical thinking skills in every camper and encourage participants to pursue their personal interests in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).

State College YMCA offers three different day camps for school-aged children. Camps include Explorers (ages 5-8), Trailblazers (ages 9-12), and Tussey Mountain (ages 8-12).

Camp Woodward offers summer camp programs for skateboarding, BMX, in-line skating, gymnastics, cheerleading, snowboarding/skiing, and digital media. Camps are offered to ages 7-18 with no experience required.

Penn State Weather Camp is a hands-on experience of the entire weather-prediction process, including the forecast. Participants step into the meteorologists' shoes by presenting their own TV weathercast.

Shaver's Creek Summer Camps offer a wide range of camps each summer for kids ages 4–15. From Wee Wonderers to Rock'n River Adventures, camps are designed to engage children in the outdoors.

Penn State Sports Camps offer a variety of one-day clinics to week-long summer sports camps. Camps include baseball, basketball, cheerleading, dance, diving, fencing, field hockey, figure skating, football, golf, gymnastics, ice hockey, lacrosse, rugby, softball, soccer, swimming, tennis, track and cross country, volleyball and wrestling. Sports camps are offered for athletes in grades four through 12. Athletes are given feedback and instruction by Penn State coaching staff.

Youth Sports

Centre Elite Gymnastics is home to USA Gymnastics competitive girls' and boys' teams. In addition to competitive teams, Centre Elite Gymnastics offers preschool classes, recreational gymnastics, tumbling, rhythmic gymnastics, toddler time, preschool and school age open gyms, hip hop dance and ballet for children.

Centred Basketball is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) youth basketball organization that focuses on player development and offers camps, clinics, leagues, travel teams, and other programs providing opportunities for youth to learn and play at an appropriate level of competition. 5-on-5 leagues for girls and boys in grades 3rd-4th and 5th-6th with competition against area teams; 3-on-3 leagues for grades K-1st, 2nd, and 3rd/4th; and 7th-8th grade recreational leagues are offered. Indoor programs are held at C3 Sports. Outdoor programs are held at Centre Region parks.

The *Our Lady of Victory HOOPS Program* is an instructional basketball program for boys and girls in grades Kindergarten through 6th grade. The purpose of this league is to provide a safe, healthy and Christian environment for athletic competition. The HOOPS season begins in mid-December and runs through the first weekend in March.

State College Area School District Intramural Programs provide opportunities for competition and recreational physical activities at the elementary, middle school, and high school levels. Intramural activities and competitions are conducted within the school district and do not involve events with other school districts. A wide variety of activities are offered to meet the needs and interests of most students. All students in grades 4 through 12 are eligible to participate in intramural athletic activities. The following intramural activities may be offered during the school year:

- Elementary (Grades 4-5) – Flag Football, Volleyball, Bowling, Open Gym, Swimming, Basketball, Skiing/Snowboarding, Track and Field
- Mt. Nittany Middle School – Kayaking, Penn Skates, Tussey Mountain, Archery, Bowling, Co-Ed Volleyball, Flag Football, Field Hockey, Skiing/Snowboarding, Basketball
- Park Forest Middle School – Tussey Mountain, Penn Skates, Kayaking, Tennis, Skiing/Snowboarding, Bowling, Weightlifting, Girls Basketball, Lacrosse, Volleyball, Softball
- State College High School – Mixed Martial Arts, Bowling, Aquatics, Skiing/Snowboarding, Basketball

State College Area School District Middle School Interscholastic Sports include Boys' Basketball, Girls' Basketball, Field Hockey, Football, Boys' Soccer, Girls' Soccer, Softball, Coed Track and Field and Wrestling. *High School Interscholastic Sports* include Baseball, Boys' Basketball, Girls' Basketball, Cheerleading, Boy's Cross Country, Girls' Cross Country, Field Hockey, Football, Boys' Golf, Girls' Golf, Boys' Indoor Track, Girls' Indoor Track, Boys' Lacrosse, Girls' Lacrosse, Boys' Soccer, Girls' Soccer, Softball, Swimming and Diving, Boys' Tennis, Girls' Tennis, Boys' Track and Field, Girls' Track and Field, Boys' Volleyball, Girls' Volleyball and Wrestling. Student athletic competitions are open to the public and attract residents of all ages. Athletic and extracurricular booster clubs sponsor student clinics and camps for various sports and activities.

Saint Joseph's Catholic Academy, central Pennsylvania's only Catholic high school, is in Boalsburg, on the site of the former Boalsburg Elementary/Harris Township High School, a historic building with six acres of green space for outdoor learning and athletic practices. Renovations to the facility, built in 1936, were completed in the summer of 2011. The Rob and Alice Thomas Family Student Life Center, which provides a home gymnasium, locker rooms, a weight room, and concession stands, was completed in the spring of 2015. Saint Joe's Athletics offers camps and clinics throughout the year and during the summer, which are open to students from Catholic grade schools and local public and charter schools, and the community. High school varsity sports are offered for baseball, boys' and girls' basketball, boys' and girls' cross country, golf, indoor track, boys' and girls' soccer, track and field, volleyball and wrestling.

State College Little League offers baseball and softball for players between the ages of 5 to 12, with Tee Ball, Pee Wee, Minors, Majors and Challenger Divisions. The Little League Challenger Division is an adaptive baseball program for individuals with physical and/or intellectual disabilities which is divided into two groups for play: Little League (ages 4 to 18) and Senior League (18+).

State College American Legion sponsors Junior Legion and Legion baseball teams for ages 19 and under.

Celtic Soccer Club offers multiple training sessions per week for ages U8, U10 and U11 and up. Celtic Soccer Club teams are boys' teams. Girls are welcome to play on the boys' teams. Teams train on average three times per week. Outdoor practices are held at area parks. Indoor practices are held at elementary or middle school gymnasiums and C3 Sports year-round. Teams attend two to five tournaments each season and compete against top clubs throughout the Mid-Atlantic region.

Centre Soccer Association is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization providing developmental, instructional, recreational, and competitive soccer programs. Play is primarily at the Fogelman Fields complex. Centre Soccer is the host club for the annual Kicks4Kids 8v8 tournament on the campus of Penn State, with proceeds donated to local charities. The Fundamental Program is age U6. The Developmental Program is for ages U7 to U12. Travel Program teams are formed with players from the Developmental Program. The Centre Soccer Academy program focuses on technical training, speed and agility training, goalkeeper training, and coaching education clinics. Centre Soccer also sponsors day camps, adult recreational soccer, adult pick up soccer, and the State College Premier League.

Penn United Soccer Academy is a non-profit organization with 501(c)(3) status. The Premier Program is for ages 12-18, with play in top leagues and tournaments. The Travel Program is for ages 9-12, with league and tournament play. Junior Academy is for ages 7-12, Grass Roots and Snowball Programs are for ages 5-14, and Soccer Shots is for ages 3-6. Summer camps are also offered.

Soccer Shots Central and North Central PA offers three different programs to meet the developmental needs of children aged 2-8. Programs are offered in childcare centers, preschools and schools, as well as public parks.

Centre Bulldogs provides football and cheerleading programs for boys and girls ages 5 to 13. Centre Bulldogs participates in the Nittany Youth Football and Cheer League with communities outside of the Centre Region. Football players and cheerleaders are assigned to squads based on their age. The flag football level is for ages 5-6, Bantam level is for ages 7-8, Junior level is for ages 9-10, and Senior division is for ages 11-13. The season runs from the beginning of August through October. Football and cheerleading practices are held at Tudek Park and Autumn Meadow Park. Home games are held at Autumn Meadow Park. Cheer squads participate in an indoor cheerleading competition held in mid-to-late October for the members of the league.

State College Impact is a competitive girls' fastpitch softball program for ages 12U, 14U and 16U. Athletes receive indoor off-season training, spring and summer practice instruction, and the ability to play in competitive travel tournaments in the fall and summer. Practices are held at Mt. Nittany Middle School fields.

Blue Lions Field Hockey Club offers winter Indoor Field Hockey from December to the beginning of March with a Developmental Program for U10 and U12. A Competitive Program for U14, U16, and U19 trains twice weekly and competes in local 6v6 tournaments. Spring Outdoor Field Hockey runs from mid-March to the end of June with a Competitive Program for U12, U14, U16, and U19. Players compete at 7v7 tournaments throughout the spring at college campuses throughout the mid-Atlantic region. Spring Fundamental Field Hockey for grades K-8 runs from mid-May through June. Fall Fundamental Field

Hockey for grades 3-6 runs from September through October. Fall Middle School Training for grades 7-8 is offered to prepare for the upcoming Middle School Field Hockey season.

State College Warriors Lacrosse sponsors youth lacrosse programs in the spring, summer and fall for boys and girls in grades 3 through 8. Teams practice at Blue Spring, Nittany View, Spring Creek and Tudek Parks. Recreational and travel teams are sponsored. Penn State Men's and Women's Lacrosse Teams sponsor free clinics in the fall and spring at Panzer Stadium.

State College Lions offers flag football for ages 5-7 and tackle football in Pee Wee (ages 7-9) and Midget (ages 10-12) divisions. Cheerleading is offered in these same age groups. Cheerleading squads begin practices the last week of July with a Cheer Camp. Cheer practices for the season are held at Haymarket Field.

The *Nittany Valley Figure Skating Club* is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization committed to encouraging participation in the sport of figure skating. It is a member club of United States Figure Skating and skates at the Pegula Ice Arena. The club holds a spring ice show and holiday ice show for the public. Group and private lessons are offered.

State College Youth Ice Hockey Association is a member of the Pittsburgh Amateur Hockey League. Team practices start at the end of August and placement games occur during the months of September and October. Competition for the amateur hockey regular season runs from October through the beginning of March with playoffs in mid-March. Teams are formed for 8U, 10U, 12U, 14U and 18U age groups. All team practices are held at Pegula Ice Arena. Developmental hockey classes are also offered.

I Play Volleyball (IPV) Relentless serves players from 1st to 12th grades with coed developmental programs, coed youth leagues, summer camps and Relentless Club girls' traveling teams. IPV is in the process of developing a boys' volleyball program. The club plays and practices at Mt. Nittany Middle and Elementary Schools, Park Forest Elementary, Ferguson Elementary, and C3 Sports.

State College Youth Wrestling (SCYW) is a non-profit organization run by volunteers dedicated to introducing wrestling at the youth level in a fun and friendly environment. The club is for 1st-6th grade students from the State College Area School District and is part of the Keystone Junior Wrestling League. SCYW affiliates with the Nittany Lion Wrestling Club and the all-age club Team Black Dog. Practices are held at the Fairmount Building next to Memorial Field.

The *Nittany Lion Wrestling Club* is a 501(c)(3) non-profit with the purpose of promoting amateur wrestling. USA Wrestling has designated the Nittany Lion Wrestling Club as a U.S. Olympic Regional Training Center with practices held in the Penn State Wrestling Room in the Lorenzo Wrestling Complex. In addition to this support of Olympic caliber wrestlers, the club serves scholastic level and beginning wrestlers at the elementary, junior, and senior high level with a variety of instructional programs.

Martial Arts centers in the Centre Region include *Central PA Mixed Martial Arts*, *Monarch Martial Arts*, *Lombard Mixed Martial Arts*, *Martin Street Karate*, *Chaar Martial Arts Center*, and *Titan Fitness and Martial Arts*.

A youth indoor *Swim Team* is sponsored by the State College YMCA. The Science Park Recreation Association sponsors the Dolphins outdoor summer Swim Team, which participates in the Central Pennsylvania Swim League.

The *Nittany Lion Aquatic Club (NLAC)* is a year-round, competitive swim team offering high quality professional coaching and technique instruction for ages 5 and over through USA Swimming. NLAC is a 501 c3 non-profit organization governed by a Board of Directors and supported by member families.

The *Penn State Tennis Center* offers an extensive schedule of youth instructional tennis programs on weekdays, weeknights and Saturdays, beginning with players ages 5 and under.

The *Nittany Track & Field (NTF) Youth Running Club* is a 501(c)(3) non-profit club serving boys and girls ages 7-18. Promoting an active lifestyle and social involvement in sports among young people is the club's main priority. The club has two sessions each year: Summer Track & Field (May-July) and Fall Cross Country (August-November). Athletes go through a well-structured training schedule and have an opportunity to compete in their age divisions at local (all-comers) and regional USATF or AAU-sanctioned meets.

The *Healthy Kids Running Series* is a community-based non-profit agency that host running events for children ages 2 to 14 at Circleville Park each spring.

Penn State Golf Courses offer week-long introductory *Junior Golf Clinics* for ages 6-11. Students are assigned to groups according to skill and age level and are instructed on golf skills, rules, etiquette and course management.

The *Central Pennsylvania Fencing Association (CPFA)* is a USA Fencing certified club and State College's only fencing club. The scholastic program conducts after school programs in nine schools and private one-on-one lessons. Students range from early middle school to high school seniors. When ready, students may join the Advanced Club, which prepares them to compete in tournaments, fence collegiately, fence nationally and internationally or fence for fun. CPFA practices in Room 32 of the White Building on the Penn State campus.

Health and Fitness

The Centre Region is home to a very large number of fitness clubs. They include:

- *Anytime Fitness* (gym, personal training, spinning, Zumba, cardio classes, body conditioning, yoga)
- *CrossFit LionHeart* (gym, strength and conditioning, barbell club, kids/teens programs)
- *CrossFit Nittany* (gym, cross fit workouts, semi-private training, personal training, boot camp)
- *East Coast Health and Fitness* (gym, strength training, personal training, spinning, kickboxing, Zumba Pilates, yoga, cardio equipment)
- *Elite Edge Athletics* (personal training, strength training, core training, cardio)
- *Fitology* (cycling, fitness groups, strength groups, interval groups)
- *Ki'netik Fitness* (weightlifting, cardio workouts, low impact functional training, youth fitness)
- *Koko FitClub* (strength training, cardio, customized guidance)

- *LionHeart Fitness* (gym, martial arts, cross fit, personal training)
- *MBI Fitness* (personal training, corrective exercise, golf performance)
- *Momentum Fitness* (gym, small group training, kickboxing, Brazilian jiu jitsu, personal training)
- *Mount Nittany Health Fit for Play* (cardio equipment, weight training, free weights, personal training)
- *One on One Fitness Consultants* (personal training, group training, yoga, youth athletic training)
- *Planet Fitness* (gym and fitness training)
- *The North Club* (free weights, cardio, personal training, group fitness, fitness classes)
- *Titan Fitness* (martial arts, boxing, personal training, group fitness)
- *Transfitness Personal Training* (personal training and outdoor training)
- *Victory Sports and Fitness* (gym, personal training, group fitness, cardio classes, children's fitness)
- *Artemis Massage Studio* (motivate, renew, and breathe weekly classes; private sessions)
- *Iyengar Yoga Institute of Central PA* (group yoga classes)
- *Lila Yoga* (group yoga classes)
- *Movement Arts Studio* (Pilates, yoga, belly dance, and clogging classes; youth classes)
- *PYP Studio* (aerial yoga, barre, Pilates, cycling classes)
- *TriYoga of Central PA* (yoga classes)
- *Wellness in Motion* (chakra, vinyasa, and prana yoga; group classes)
- *Yoga Lab* (vinyasa flow-style yoga, group classes, meditation)

Centre Moves is a community action group sponsored by Mount Nittany Health that is comprised of individuals and organizations with the vision of all Centre County residents choosing healthy habits to live better lives through physical activity and healthy eating. Centre Moves promotes community events, local parks, and outdoor activities; holds a Fit Families Challenge, and supports community gardens through three active work groups – Physical Activity, Nutrition and Live Well. Community gardens provide access to garden space and education opportunities for adults and children. Community gardens include Harris Township, Haugh, Houserville, Keller Street, Penn State, Mazza, Tudek Park, and Whitecourse Apartments.

Adult Sports

Happy Valley Barbarians Rugby Football Club is comprised of rugby enthusiasts ages 18+. Practices are held at the West Pitch Fields at the corner of White Course Drive and North Atherton Street.

State College Ultimate is a non-profit organization that sponsor adult coed Ultimate Frisbee play and competition. League games and pick-up games are played at Tudek Park. Other locations used are Community Fields, Orchard Park, and West Campus Fields.

State College Pickleballers are a group of avid pickleball players. Outdoor pickleball locations include Bernel Road, Green Hollow, Tusseyview, Dalevue, Highpoint, and Suburban Parks; and the in-line hockey court at the State College YMCA. Indoor locations are at C3 Sports and the State College YMCA.

The *Penn State Tennis Center* offers several adult tennis clinics in singles, doubles and coed formats. It also sponsors beginner, intermediate and advanced adult pickleball clinics.

The Centre County Disc Golf Association was established in the summer of 2013. The association runs handicapped league sessions at Circleville and Bernel Road Parks. The main goal of the club is to grow the sport of disc golf in the Centre Region.

The *Lemont Ducks* adult baseball team play in the Centre County Baseball League, the oldest amateur baseball league in Pennsylvania.

State College Volleyball is a community-run recreational coed volleyball league. Games are played on Sunday evenings at C3 Sports. The 20-team league runs from early September to the end of April and is divided into three divisions based on skill.

The *Penn State Golf Courses* offers golf instructional programs for beginner, intermediate and advanced golfers. Private and group instruction is available. The Get Golf Ready Program is designed to teach everything needed to play golf in just a few lessons. Golf clubs, balls and other equipment is provided. The Nittany Lion/Lady Lion Golf School is offered for men and women golfers of all skill levels. Golf leagues include daytime senior men's, evening men's, evening women's, daytime women's, and couples.

Before and After School Care/Learning Programs

State College Area School District Community Education Extended Learning (CEEL) Program is a before- and after-school program open to all elementary students in grades K to 5. Programs operate at Corl Street, Easterly Parkway, Ferguson Township, Gray's Woods, Lemont, Mount Nittany, Park Forest, and Radio Park Elementary Schools. A wide variety of enrichment activities are offered in areas such as acting, arts and crafts, chess, computers, construction, engineering, languages, math, music, physical education, puppeteering, reading, robotics, science, scouting and sports. Fees are charged for full-time and part-time options, as well as in-service days. Kindergarten and multiple child discounts are offered. Scholarships funds are available for families in need. CEEL also offers two adult education programs, Computer Basics and Driver Education. Challenging Science Investigations is offered for middle school girls.

MindBodyArt after school enrichment programs serve grades K to 8. Each child receives dedicated time to work on homework. Children participate in a mix of program options and are bussed by the State College Area School District to the after-school program.

Bricks 4 Kidz provides programs for children ages 3 to 13 to learn, build and play with LEGO bricks. Classes are designed to teach the fundamentals of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) education. After-school enrichment one-hour classes are held in 4-week sessions focused on themes such as space, inventions and famous buildings. Week-long summer camps and preschool classes are also held.

The *Child Development and Family Council of Centre County (CDFC)* is a private non-profit organization offering quality childcare. Programs are licensed by the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services and are Keystone Stars designated. CDFC offers a before and after school program for Easterly Parkway Elementary School at Grace Fellowship Church. Time and space are provided for children to work on homework. Activities include arts and crafts, clubs, games, cooking and outdoor play. Planned field trips and special activities are offered on in-service and school vacation days.

Adaptive Programs

Special Olympics Centre County provides a variety of sports programs throughout the year. To be eligible to participate in Special Olympics athletes must have an intellectual disability, a cognitive delay, or a developmental disability, that is, functional limitations in both general learning and adaptive skills. Athletes age 8 and older may participate in Special Olympics training programs and competitions, regardless of ability level. There is no maximum age limit for participation. Sports offered include gymnastics at Centre Elite Gymnastics, Indoor track and field at the Penn State Multi-Sports Facility, volleyball, basketball and swimming at the Centre County YMCA; tennis at State College High School Community Tennis Courts, skiing at Tussey Mountain, bowling at Northland Bowl, and bocce at C3 Sports.

The ACRES Project, Inc. (Adults Creating Residential & Employment Solutions) is a nonprofit 501c3 organization with a mission to provide a unique residential and day community that fosters independence, self-advocacy, and work/life skills for adults with autism. The ACRES project leases a rural, two-acre property in Patton Township and plans to establish a community greenhouse to provide adults with vocational training in aquaponics, a sustainable method of agriculture which combines raising fish and plants in one operation.

Special Events

A vast number of special events are offered throughout the Centre Region. Below are a few of the largest events:

First Night State College takes place in downtown State College and on the Penn State Campus on December 31. While outdoor events are free, a First Night State College button provides general admission to all indoor performances and provides essential funding for outdoor programming. First Night State College offers family-friendly music, comedy, variety and dance entertainment in downtown churches, theatres, and public buildings, as well as ice skating at Pegula Arena, a 5K Resolution Run, and art, craft, music, and dance workshops for children and adults.

Central PA 4thFest is a day of celebrations, entertainment, activities and food around State College and on the Penn State campus. Activities include the Firecracker 4K and 4-Mile Races, Kids on Wheels Parade, Freedom Bell Ringing, Independence Day Parade, live music and performances, carnival midway, and activities and entertainment for children and teens. The day ends with a 45-minute fireworks display. There is no admission fee. 4thFest is an all-volunteer effort with about 500 people donating their time. The event draws more than 60,000 people.

The *Central Pennsylvania Festival of the Arts* in mid-July brings over 125,000 people to downtown State College and the Penn State campus to celebrate the arts with its nationally recognized Sidewalk Sale and Exhibition, gallery exhibition, sand sculpture and music, dance and theatrical performances in a variety of traditional and non-traditional venues.

Ag Progress Days in August is Pennsylvania's largest outdoor agricultural exposition. The event is sponsored by Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences and features the latest technology and research exhibits, educational programs, and guided tours.

Blue-White Weekend in April begins with a tour of the Penn State All-Sports Museum, Blue-White Carnival, Wing Fest Contest, stadium autograph sessions, the Blue-White football game, and a Special Olympic 5K Beaver Stadium Run.

The *Boalsburg Memorial Day Run, Memorial Day Parade and Carnival* are held every May.

Downtown State College Improvement District sponsors an on-line Community Calendar that lists special events and other programs open to the public. It also sponsors *Monthly First Friday, Downtown Fall Festival, Tree Lighting, and Polar Express events*. The *Nittany Mall* also sponsors special events throughout the year.

Adult Education

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Penn State is a volunteer-driven membership organization open to ages 50 years and up. Membership in OLLI costs \$50 and allows adults to enroll in OLLI courses in subjects such as cooking, gardening, history, politics, nutrition, fitness, art, music, dance, languages, writing, religion, science, technology, crafts, and philosophy. Members receive reduced rates and preferred placement for OLLI trips, save money on local theatre performances, join social and special interest groups for free, learn about community and no-cost Penn State activities open to the public, get special discounts at local businesses, and engage in a range of volunteer opportunities.

The Penn State Go Sixty Program accepts senior citizens free of charge for registration in its classes on a space available basis, and the University's Road Scholar programs are open to seniors at a reduced commuter rate.

South Hills School of Business and Technology offers evening/weekend workshops and professional development classes. The school's Continuing Education option allows adults to take daytime 10- or 12-week classes in a wide variety of subjects. Classes can be taken as non-credit or credit for a higher fee. Drone classes are also offered for adults and teens.

Recreation Attractions

Tussey Mountain All Seasons offers skiing on 50 acres with three ski and snowboard lifts and one snow tube lift. Tussey Mountain offers daily lessons, youth programs, development programs, junior racing programs, ski club, and night skiing. Snow season runs from December through middle to late March. Tussey Mountain slopes and lifts are open to skiers and snowboarders carrying either a season pass or daily ticket. Tussey Mountain is a year-round facility. Its amphitheater hosts a variety of special events including Wingfest, Celticfest, Oktoberfest, and Movies on the Mountain. Other recreation attractions include an arcade, go-karts, mini golf, par-3 golf, driving range, skatepark, pond fishing and batting cages.

Discovery Space of Central Pennsylvania is a hands-on science center with interactive exhibits and programs for children ages 14 and under and their families. Exhibits and programs are designed to provide education, especially in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM), in an informal learning environment.

Get Air Trampoline Park offers wall-to-wall trampolines, foam pits, slacklines, Ninja course, family events, and dodgeball programs.

Two movie theatre complexes serve the region, the *UEC Theatre 12* and *College 9 Movie Theatre*.

Special interest films are shown at the *State Theater* in downtown State College.

Three escape rooms serve the region, *IQ Escape*, *Escape Room Inc.*, and *Escape Artist Centre County*.

The region has two 18-hole mini-golf courses, *Happy Valley Mini-Golf* and *Tussey Mountain Mini-Golf*.

Northland Bowl offers public bowling, bowling leagues and tournaments for youth, adults and seniors.

Taste Buds Kitchen State College offers cooking classes for children, adults and families.

Pegula Ice Arena features two ice surfaces: a main rink, home to Penn State's varsity hockey programs, and a community rink. The facility is open 360 days per year for public use. Pegula Ice Arena holds public skating sessions, ice skating lessons through its Skating School, and Learn to Play Hockey programs.

Penn Skates Roller Rink and Family Fun Center offers public skating sessions, family events, private parties and after-school skating programs.

Climb Nittany, a 12,000-square-foot commercial indoor rock-climbing gym, is expected to open in late 2019 on Discovery Drive in Boalsburg. Climb Nittany will have a maximum wall height of 42 feet and will have ropes and bouldering. The facility hopes to build on the popularity of outdoor climbing locally and rock climbing being included as an event in the 2020 Summer Olympics.

The *Bryce Jordan Center* is home to Penn State's men's and women's basketball teams. The building houses many other activities such as concerts, commencements, sports championships and other special events with a seating capacity of 16,000.

Medlar Field at Lubrano Park is a 5,570-seat baseball stadium where the Short-Season Single-A State College Spikes and the Penn State Nittany Lions college baseball team play. Events other than baseball games are held at the ballpark.

Centre Region golf courses include the private 18-hole *Centre Hills Country Club* and three public 18-hole golf courses, the *Penn State Blue and White Golf Courses* and *Toftrees Golf Resort*. *Tussey Mountain Par-3 Golf Course* is also open to the public.

Centre Region residents have many sporting events they can attend, with 29 *Penn State Men's and Women's Varsity Sports programs*.

Museums

Centre Furnace Mansion served as the ironmaster's residence for Centre Furnace. This historic house museum also serves as headquarters, library, and archives for the Centre County Historical Society and its year-round programming and events.

Boalsburg Heritage Museum is open to the public with free admission from April through early December. Exhibits, lectures, elementary school field trips, and special events are held throughout the year.

The *Boal Mansion Museum* contains the original furnishings, papers, portraits, tools and weapons of nine generations of the Boal family. The *Columbus Chapel* include an admiral's desk said by the family to have belonged to the famous explorer himself, 15th century religious statues, 16th century Renaissance paintings and two pieces of the True Cross of Jesus. The Boal Estate grounds are also home to the *Nittany Theatre at the Barn*, the *Pennsylvania Military Museum*, and the headquarters of the Civil War reenacting unit, 3rd Pennsylvania Light Artillery Battery B.

The Penn State campus houses the *Earth and Mineral Sciences Museum*, *Frost Entomological Museum*, *International Institute for Sport History*, *Palmer Museum of Art*, *Matson Museum of Anthropology*, *Penn State Football Hall of Fame*, *Penn State All-Sports Museum*, and *HUB Robeson Art Galleries*.

Youth Development

Penn State Extension – Centre County has 22 active 4-H Clubs for children ages 5 to 18. Club projects and activities offered include: Rifle, Seeing Eye Puppy, Flowers, Crafts, Vegetable Gardening, Rabbits, Rockets, Cooking, Cross-Stitch, Outdoor Adventure, Robotics, Macrame, Sewing, Wildlife, Photography, Pet Care, Leather, Cake Decorating, Entomology, Plants, Jewelry Making, Woodworking, Tin Punch, Tie-Dye, and Archery. Animal Science Clubs include 4-H Sheep, Swine, Horse, Beef, Dairy, Goat, and Chicken Clubs.

The Centre Region is home to active Boy Scout and Girl Scout groups. *Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania Service State College Unit 416* comprises more than 40 Girl Scout Daisy, Brownie, Junior, Cadette, Senior and Ambassador troops serving about 400 girls ages 5-17, covering mostly the State College Area School District. The *Nittany Mountain District of the Juniata Valley Council of the Boy Scouts of America* serves about 1,025 youth in Centre County through 18 Cub Scout Packs (boys and girls kindergarten through fifth grade), 24 Scouts BSA Troops (boys and girls ages 11 through 18), and four co-ed Venture Crews (boys and girls ages 14-20). Boy and Girl Scout troops meet in schools, churches and community buildings.

Recreation Programming Strengths and Challenges

Strengths:

- A broad range of recreation programs is offered by CRPR for residents of all ages. The number, variety and affordability of programs provide a tremendous value for residents. CRPR has strong program niches in aquatics, adult sports and nature education.
- Agency leadership has a strong interest in recreation programming.



- CRPR is beginning to be more proactive in seeking out program partnerships, business sponsorships, and grants.
- A few long-standing CRPR special events are community traditions.
- A very large number of potential partners exist to conduct joint programming.
- A youth scholarship program is in place that allows access to programs for those with financial needs.
- Program participation is growing due to an increased emphasis on promotion, particularly the use of social media.
- The move of the Active Adult Center to the Nittany Mall has increased participation among older adults.
- With the extensive park system managed by CRPR the number of potential outdoor program locations is very large.



- CRPR evaluates its programs on a regular basis, using participant evaluations and staff retreats. The evaluation results are used to improve services.
- The Millbrook Marsh Nature Center continues to grow its program offerings and program participation numbers each year.
- Hess Softball Complex and Oak Hall Regional Park serve as destinations for regional tournaments as well as providing facilities for youth and adult sports leagues.
- Park Forest and William L. Welch community swimming pools are locations for a variety of aquatics programs, including youth swim teams.
- Use of State College Area School District facilities is permitted for CRPR programs. This includes the use of the Natatorium for community swimming programs.
- The Centre Region has many cultural arts, youth and adult sports, youth development, fitness and wellness, adult education, outdoor recreation,



nature education, summer day camp, and special event program providers offering hundreds of opportunities for residents each year.

Challenges:

- Youth scholarship funds are not fully expended each year.
- Duplication exists in youth sports groups. Soccer, for example, is sponsored by three different organizations.
- Each youth sport type is operated by a different group. There is no central online location where families can get information on what programs are being offered by all the groups.
- CRPR deals with many different youth and adult sports groups wanting to utilize its facilities.
- There is a lack of program opportunities for non-sports-oriented children and families.
- Outdoor facility use is limited due to the lack of facility lighting.
- CRPR programs are often preempted by private organizations without attempts to maintain CRPR programs.
- Some populations are not being served or not being served well with recreation programming.
- Indoor facility use is at a minimum for CRPR programs. There is a major need for secured, year-round programming space (gym space and large, open activity rooms) and storage for supplies and equipment.
- Few adaptive programs are offered.



- Special event costs are not fully covered through sponsorships.
- CRPR is holding many programs on its own, without the support of partners.
- Indoor programs held in school district facilities sometimes get bumped out without notice.
- There is a great deal of competition with many different groups and organizations running sports and recreation programs. Finding program niches is difficult.
- The CRPR fee policy is limiting the amount of program costs that could be captured.
- The lack of separated activity spaces at the Active Adult Center is a problem. Less active and more active seniors do not interact with each other.
- The costs of programs are too high for some individuals and families, especially those provided by other groups and organizations.
- CRPR is not able to adequately utilize School District indoor facilities for programs. When CRPR is permitted to use indoor facilities, the use is not consistent, with recreation programs often bumped out when conflicts with other uses arise.





Chapter 5 – Parks and Recreation Administration,
Financing & Maintenance

Parks and Recreation Administration, Financing & Maintenance

Governance

The Centre Region has a long-standing commitment to improving the quality of life of its residents through cooperative municipal efforts and combination of municipal resources.

Centre Region Council of Governments

The Centre Region Council of Governments (COG) brings these six local governments – State College Borough, and College, Ferguson, Halfmoon, Harris, and Patton Townships – together to collectively provide high quality, cost-effective public services to their residents. The COG was formed in 1969 to provide a means of communication, cooperation and joint action in the interest of the municipalities individually and collectively as the region faced increasing pressures due to economic and population growth. The COG celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2019.

The COG is governed by the General Forum, which is comprised of 32 elected officials from the six municipalities. In addition, there is a non-voting representative from Penn State University. The COG functions through a Committee system, which is designed to prepare recommendations on regional policy issues. Each municipality appoints one elected official to each of the COG Committees – Executive, Finance, Human Resources, Parks Capital, Public Safety, Public Services and Environmental, and Transportation and Land Use.

COG programs are established by each individual municipality adopting, by ordinance, Articles of Agreement that clearly define the terms for membership, governance, scope of services, funding, and withdrawal.

The Centre Region Parks and Recreation Agency is a COG program. Other COG programs are Administration, Code Administration, Emergency Management, Regional Planning, Regional Fire Protection, Refuse and Recycling, and Schlow Centre Region Library.

The participating municipalities, on their own, would not be able to provide the extensive parks and recreation opportunities that exist through the COG. In addition, by working together, the municipalities are better able to leverage their funds to obtain grants and public contributions.

The COG may own property with the unanimous approval of its member municipalities. As a result, the COG owns the Oak Hall Regional Park, Whitehall Road Regional Park, and Hess Softball Complex properties.

The COG funding formula factors in 1) population minus college students, 2) earned income tax base, and 3) assessed property values for each municipality. This formula generates each of the six participating municipalities' percentage for its share of municipal contributions for each budget year; the percentages change from year to year. The COG modified formula for parks and recreation uses the percentages for only five of the six municipalities because Halfmoon Township does not currently participate in parks and recreation financially.

Municipal Parks and Recreation Committees

Five of the municipalities have municipal parks and recreation advisory committees:

- College Township Parks and Recreation Committee is comprised of nine members appointed by Township Council. The Committee provides recommendations to Council regarding the maintenance and development of Township parkland and annually prepares a five-year development plan for existing parks.
- Ferguson Township Parks and Recreation Committee is comprised of five residents appointed by the Board of Supervisors. The Committee advises the Board on land acquisition for active or passive recreation including open space preservation, parkland development, and programming. Work includes assisting with development and review of park master plans, facilitating community engagement, working to connect parkland to existing and proposed bike paths and shared use paths, and reviewing programming needs for residents.
- Harris Township Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee is comprised of seven residents appointed by the Board of Supervisors. The Committee is responsible for overseeing the Township's seven parks.
- Patton Township Recreation Advisory Committee is comprised of five residents appointed by the Board of Supervisors. The Committee advises the Board on improvements needed to the Township's park system, oversees the completion of park projects, and prepares and presents for Board approval a Township Park Facilities Plan that identifies specific park improvements to be included in each year's budget.
- Halfmoon Township Parks and Recreation Board is comprised of five residents who function in an advisory capacity to the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors in determining the amounts and kinds of recreation most needed by Township residents. The Board also has the responsibility to equip, operate and maintain recreation facilities.

The Borough of State College does not have a Parks and Recreation Committee.

Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority

The Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority (Authority) is a publicly-funded municipal authority created by the Borough of State College and the Townships of College, Ferguson, Halfmoon, Harris, and Patton and incorporated in 1970. In 2008, the articles of incorporation were amended to increase the term of existence of the Authority until 2058. Originally named the Centre Regional Recreation Authority, it was renamed as the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority in 2013 when the duties of the former Centre Region Parks and Recreation Board were transferred to the Authority.

The 1970 articles of incorporation state that the Authority has seven members, one from each Township and two from the Borough of State College. In 1982, Halfmoon Township decided not to participate in the COG-sponsored Centre Region Parks and Recreation Agency and the Centre Regional Recreation Authority. The articles of incorporation of the Authority were not amended to reflect this.

Currently the Authority has six members. The Borough of State College and the Townships of College, Ferguson, Harris, and Patton each appoint one volunteer representative to serve a five-year term, plus one representative from the State College Area School District appointed by State College Borough Council. The School District does not support the Authority financially.

The Authority's mission is to serve Centre Region residents of all ages throughout the year with a variety of recreation opportunities to enrich their lives through participation in programs, use of facilities, provision of leadership resources and technical assistance.

The Authority acts as a policy-making board to Centre Region Parks and Recreation Agency (CRPR) and in an advisory capacity to the Centre Region COG in all parks and recreation matters. The Authority oversees CRPR programming, maintenance, and general operations while managing finances for park facilities owned by the Authority, the participating municipalities, and/or the COG. Authority services are offered both as a regional agency and as the Parks and Recreation Department for each municipality, working for each municipality and on behalf of all municipalities.

The duties and responsibilities of the Authority include providing management oversight of operations and capital projects related to the Centre Region Active Adult Center, Millbrook Marsh Nature Center, Park Forest and Welch Swimming Pools; providing policy oversight to CRPR agency staff, programs and facility operations within the framework of the COG; leasing from the COG the lands of the three regional parks for financing, capital development and operations; leasing the interim parks maintenance facility while a new centralized maintenance facility is developed; overseeing the operations of the three leased School District ball fields; and determining operating fees, user fees, policies and procedures. The Authority also provides oversight of the following services on behalf of the participating municipalities: park operations and maintenance at municipally-owned parks and regional recreation facilities; public recreation programs, leagues, day camps and special events; review and evaluation of new services, activities or programs within the existing park system; and administration of COG-authorized capital improvement projects at regional recreation facilities. Funding of capital improvements and repairs at municipally-owned parks is the responsibility of the individual municipality.

The Authority is qualified to secure funding through bank loans when the participating municipalities agree to secure the loan. As a government non-profit 501c3, it acts as the official grant and donation conduit for regional facilities and for designated municipal parks and programs such as youth scholarships, youth sports, and the Gifts-for-Parks program.

With respect to finances, the Authority is not operated as an independent body. It is an extension of the COG and operates on behalf of the participating municipalities, within the framework of the COG.

Appointments to replace an Authority board member are for the remainder of the unexpired term only. After the initial term has been completed, re-appointment for another five-year term is the option of the appointing municipality. There are no term limits on a volunteer's service.

The Authority meets monthly. During colder months, meetings are held in the Centre Region COG Building Forum Room; during warmer months, meetings are rotated to parks and facilities throughout the region. In January, the Authority completes its annual Work Plan which follows the goals set in its five-year Strategic Plan. The Authority meets jointly with the Centre Region COG Parks Capital Committee on a quarterly basis. Many Authority members also participate in their municipality's Parks and Recreation Committee.

COG Parks Capital Committee

An expansion of municipal cooperation for parks and recreation services was enacted by the COG in 2006 with an agreement among the five municipalities of the Authority to share funding of the planning, development and operational costs for parks that are designated as "Regional Parks" The primary uses of regional parks are to provide active recreation facilities for activities such as softball, baseball, soccer, basketball and tennis, and where possible, to enhance public access to and enjoyment of the environment with provisions for passive recreation.

The COG Parks Capital Committee was created to assist with funding and oversight of the development of regional facilities that involve joint capital funding such as regional parks, swimming pools and nature

centers. It is comprised of six members, one elected official from each municipality and one representative from Penn State University. Its meetings are conducted as joint meetings with the Authority.

The Parks Capital Committee responsibilities include:

- Recommending the designation of regional park facilities to the COG General Forum.
- Developing and recommending a funding strategy for the planning, development and operation of regional park facilities to the COG General Forum.
- Cooperating with the Authority in the preparation of master site plans for regional park facilities.
- Studying and preparing recommendations on regional park facilities as requested by the COG Executive Committee.

Millbrook Marsh Nature Center Advisory Committee

The Millbrook Marsh Nature Center Advisory Committee was formed in 2001 to provide advisory oversight of the Millbrook Marsh Nature Center, Thompson Woods Preserve, and Stan Yoder Preserve. Organizational partner representatives or individuals are appointed to the Nature Center Advisory Committee by the Authority board. Membership according to the Advisory Committee by-laws consists of up to 20 people representing the following organizations: Penn State, ClearWater Conservancy, Shaver's Creek Environmental Center, State College Area School District, State College Bird Club, Riparia, College Township Parks and Recreation Committee/CRPR Authority, Centre Regional Planning Agency, Centre County Historical Society, Bald Eagle Archeological Society, and the Borough of State College, plus eight at-large residents. The Committee meets on a quarterly basis.

The Nature Center Advisory Committee responsibilities include:

- Recommending to the Authority the adoption, amendment or repeal of nature center and park management practices, policies, rules, regulations, standards, criteria and procedures as it deems necessary for effective management.
- Assisting the Authority by recommending facility improvements and obtaining funding.
- Reporting nature center activities back to the organization they represent.
- Promoting and encouraging use of the nature center facilities to the community and partner organizations.
- Supporting the cooperative use of the nature center through volunteering and event support.

Parks and Recreation Management and Organizational Structure

Centre Region Parks and Recreation Agency

Centre Region Parks and Recreation (CRPR) is an agency of the Centre Region COG. The Borough of State College and the Townships of College, Ferguson, Harris, and Patton participate and contribute shared funding in support of regional year-round recreation programming and municipal park and recreation facility operations. Each municipality acquires and develops its park sites; park maintenance, recreation facility

operation, and recreation programs are provided by CRPR. Some municipal parks are not maintained by CRPR, due to their small size or the historic practices of the municipalities.

A Brief History

CRPR beginnings date back to 1928, when the State College Recreation Board was established by Borough Council. In 1946, the Borough and the State College Area School District began to jointly fund the community recreation program. In 1966, the School District stopped providing funding support and the Borough Recreation Board was reorganized as the State College Area Recreation Board. The new board consisted of seven members representing State College Borough, the Townships of College, Ferguson, Halfmoon, Harris, and Patton; and the State College Area School District. Tax-supported funding was provided solely by the municipalities. In 1970, the State College Area Recreation Board was placed under the newly-formed Centre Region Council of Governments (COG) and renamed the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Board. That same year, the Centre Regional Recreation Authority was established. In 1982, Halfmoon Township decided not to participate in the COG-sponsored CRPR or the Centre Regional Recreation Authority. In 2013, the functions of the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Board were assigned to the Centre Regional Recreation Authority which was renamed the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority.

Mission Statement: Centre Region Parks and Recreation provides Centre Region residents with a variety of opportunities which enrich lives and build community. This is accomplished by providing opportunities through recreation, education, health and wellness, sustainability, and conservation.

Vision Statement: Centre Region Parks and Recreation is dedicated to serving residents and visitors of all ages and on behalf of the participating municipalities, as a “Recreation Destination,” providing a variety of opportunities that enrich lives through programs, facilities, leadership resources, and technical assistance.

Guiding Principles:

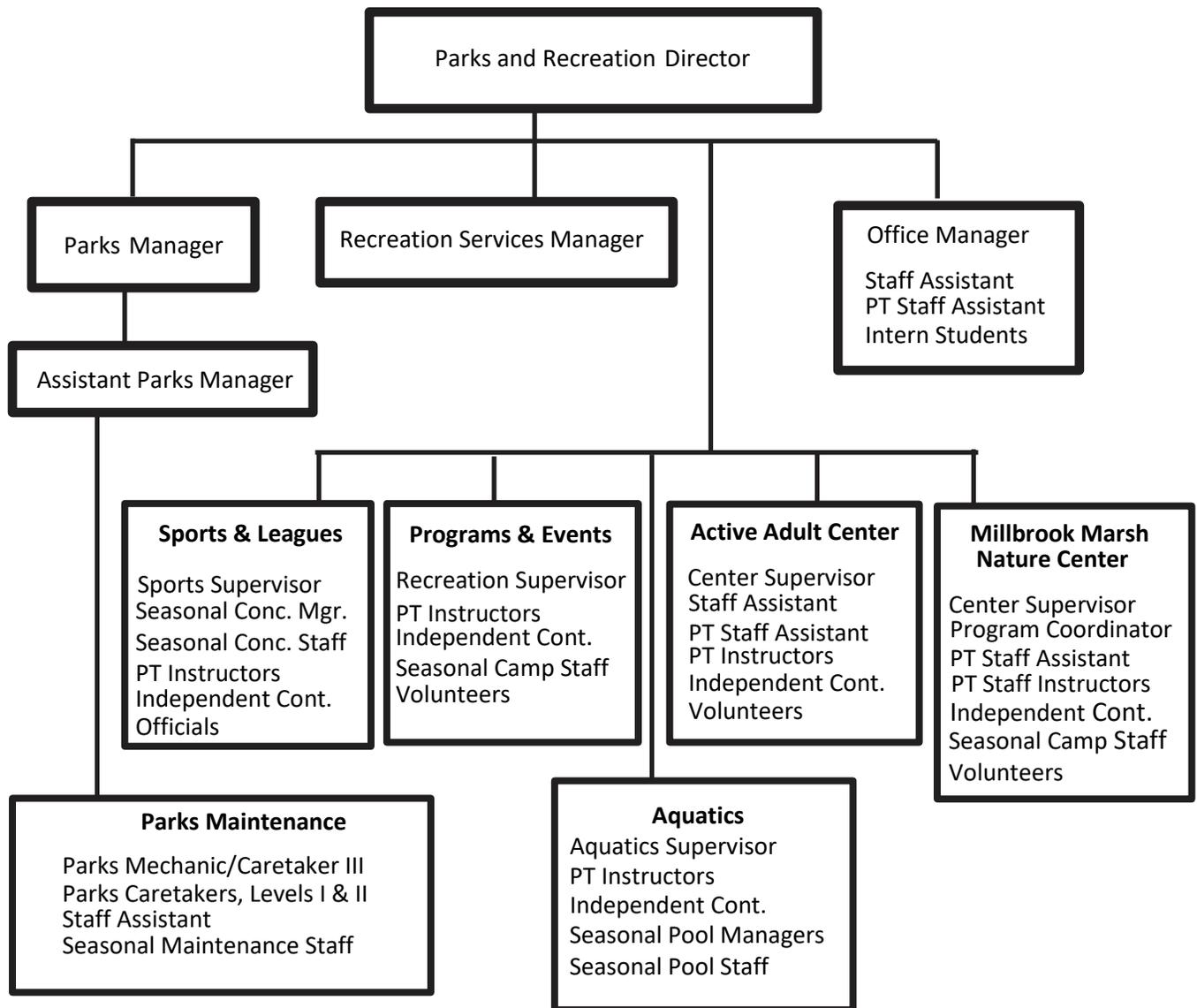
- *Provide residents and visitors with a year-round menu of age-appropriate, active and passive recreation opportunities.*
- *Offer recreation opportunities at an affordable cost that reflects the partnerships involving the participating municipalities and community groups.*
- *Provide services within the approved budget amounts to maximize the value of the prior municipal investments in parks and recreation services.*
- *Function within the governmental structure of the Centre Region COG and its participating municipalities, the CRPR Authority and state/federal laws.*
- *Provide staff with the appropriate skills, tools, training and certifications necessary to successfully initiate and complete assigned tasks.*
- *Provide, maintain, and improve park and program infrastructure that provides opportunities for individual, family and group benefits.*
- *Partner with community businesses, organizations, and government agencies to support and cultivate parks and recreation opportunities.*
- *Provide a consistent evaluation process for park visitors, program participants and staff that provides for continuous improvement.*

A five-year strategic plan is prepared to guide the operation and direction of CRPR services. The current strategic plan ends in 2020.

Staff and Volunteers

CRPR staff members are employees of the COG. CRPR has 23 full-time staff members, 11 of which are parks maintenance staff. The Parks and Recreation Director reports to the COG Executive Director. Eight full-time staff report to the parks and recreation director. CRPR staff is active professionally, attending Pennsylvania Recreation and Park Society and National Recreation and Park Association conferences, among others. Staff also hold appropriate certifications for their positions, including Certified Park and Recreation Professional, Aquatic Facility Operator, Certified Playground Safety Inspector, and Certified Youth Sports Administrator certifications. Figure 5.1 details the staff organizational chart.

Figure 5.1
Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority Staff Organizational Chart - 2018



CRPR utilizes approximately 10 to 12 independent contracted instructors for its programs. Program instructors are also placed on payroll. CRPR hires seasonal staff for pools, concession stands, summer camps, program leaders, and parks maintenance. Up to 150 part-time staff are employed throughout the course of a year, with summer seasonal positions being the largest number. Two part-time staff are employed year-round. Job descriptions exist for all full-time and part-time positions.

Volunteers are utilized in a variety of capacities at the Active Adult Center, Millbrook Marsh Nature Center, and recreation programs and special events. Approximately 25 volunteers help with projects and programs throughout the year. Volunteers also assist the Parks Maintenance Department on a quarterly basis with the Agency's Park Partners program.

Partnerships

The Centre Region Park Partners Program encourages groups to assist with improvements to municipal park areas. Park Partner groups may adopt an entire park or a designated section or feature within a park for a two-year period with a signed contract. At a minimum, groups are asked to plan, execute, and report on three organized group workdays per year at their adopted park.



During the two-year adoption period, Park Partners work with CRPR park maintenance staff to help keep their park clean, safe, and attractive. Depending on the park, the group's responsibilities may include:

- Picking up litter, debris, and downed branches
- Maintaining paths and trails (such as pruning a trail corridor or spreading woodchips)
- Maintaining planting beds, raking leaves, and pulling weeds
- Identifying and reporting any safety hazards at the park site
- Painting pavilion or restroom buildings

Signs are posted at each park to indicate the Park Partner group involved there. Park Partners are also listed on the CRPR website. In 2018, CRPR had 19 Park Partner groups: four Cub Scout Packs, two Boy Scout Troops, one Girl Scout Troop, four community service clubs, three non-profit agencies, one faith-based group, one youth sports group, one school, and two Penn State-affiliated groups.

In addition to the Park Partners, five municipality partners and State College Area School District, CRPR partners with a wide variety of over 75 non-profit agencies, businesses, community groups, government agencies, health care organizations, and churches in many different capacities. Many local businesses also sponsor league sports teams.

Parks and Recreation Marketing and Promotion

CRPR utilizes multiple methods to promote its services.

The Active Guide is published three times each year, with Winter/Spring, Summer, and Fall editions. The Active Guide is distributed as an insert in the weekly Centre County Gazette newspaper. An electronic version is available on the Agency's website and on Issuu.com.

A Facilities Map that includes the Centre Region parks (those maintained and not maintained by CRPR), bikeways and bike paths is available to be downloaded from the website. It is also the centerfold of each Active Guide and is printed as a stand-alone piece. The Agency also maintains an interactive "Find Your Park" map on its website; each park's amenities are listed along with a photo, address, and a mapping link.

CRPR actively uses Facebook, Twitter and Instagram for promotion. Paid advertisements are placed on these three social media accounts as well as in the newspaper to promote programs. E-blasts are sent through ActiveNet, CRPR's registration software, to alert participants to program changes and to share program information. CRPR sends out two monthly e-newsletters, one focused on Millbrook Marsh Nature Center and one focused on CRPR agency-wide activities, upcoming special events, and programs. The Active Adult Center publishes a monthly calendar of events.

CRPR utilizes printed brochures for promotion. Key brochures include one promoting rental opportunities at Millbrook Marsh Nature Center, Park Forest and Welch Pools, ball fields and picnic pavilions and one promoting Millbrook Marsh Nature Center.

An annual report is prepared each year. CRPR recently rebranded itself with a new logo and is working to establish its brand.



Parks and Recreation Financing

Budgeting Responsibilities

The annual operating and capital budgets for CRPR are separated by function: parks and recreation agency, nature center, senior center, regional parks, and aquatics operating budgets; parks, pools, nature center, and regional parks capital budgets.

The Authority is responsible for the administration of CRPR operations and capital projects approved by the COG General Forum. The Authority reviews, analyzes and recommends to the COG Parks Capital Committee any capital expense that requires additional municipal resources. As a 501c3 entity, the Authority is charged with expanding solicitations for non-municipal funds for operations and capital projects as well as establishing user fees.

The annual budgets for each function of CRPR consist of:

- Operating expenses related to maintenance and repair, safety inspections, program operations, publicity and promotion, insurance, staffing and administration.
- Capital expenses related to acquisition, planning, financing, development or renewal of equipment and facilities.
- Operating revenue from municipal contributions, fees and charges, donations, sponsorships and grants.
- Capital revenue from municipal contributions, donations, sponsorships and grants.

Following Authority review and endorsement, the proposed CRPR operating and capital budgets are included in the COG budget review and approval process. The Authority may also make recommendations to each municipality with respect to park capital projects or capital repairs.

CRPR has multiple funding sources for its budgets: it receives tax funds from the member municipalities, it generates revenues from programs, activities and facilities which are then reinvested into its operation; and it competes for grant funding and receives donations through its Gifts-For-Parks program. CRPR seeks special event business sponsorships to help offset the cost of activities. Vinyl promotional banners are also sold to display on outfield fences at the Hess Softball Complex and Oak Hall Regional Park. The Agency also manages fundraising campaigns for larger projects to include meeting with individual and corporate donors to secure local funding.

Operating Budget

The parks and recreation budget is organized by agency function. Revenues for each budget section include fund balances and municipal contributions. Table 5-1 lists the revenue earned, beginning fund balance and municipal contributions earmarked for each operational area.

Category	Earned Revenue	Fund Balance	Municipal Contributions	Total Revenue	Total Expense
Parks Operating	\$376,961	\$261,851	\$1,462,862	\$2,101,674	\$2,082,390
Active Adult Center	\$149,353	\$66,546	\$163,196	\$379,095	\$379,095
Nature Center	\$149,250	\$67,379	\$89,881	\$306,510	\$306,510
Aquatics	\$562,025	\$147,644	\$0	\$709,669	\$611,312
Total	\$1,237,589	\$543,420	\$1,715,939	\$3,496,948	\$3,379,307

To provide a picture of yearly earnings versus expenditures, Table 5-2 shows only budgeted revenue to be earned by each functional area of CRPR operations, compared to budgeted expenses. The remainder of the operating budget revenue comes from beginning fund balances and municipal contributions.

Aquatics accounts for 45% of all earned operating revenue. Revenue earned supports 35% of total CRPR operating budget expenditures. Municipal contributions support 50% of total CRPR operating expenditures.

Category	Budgeted Earned Revenue	Budgeted Expense	Net
Administration	\$ 38,500	\$ 572,073	(\$ 533,573)
Programs	\$ 37,021	\$ 263,418	(\$ 226,397)
Concessions	\$ 24,400	\$ 17,629	\$ 6,771
Summer Camps	\$ 114,100	\$ 82,434	\$ 31,666
Parks Maintenance	\$ 162,940	\$ 1,146,836	(\$ 983,896)
Active Adult Center	\$ 149,353	\$ 379,095	(\$ 229,742)
Nature Center	\$ 149,250	\$ 306,510	(\$ 157,260)
Aquatics	\$ 562,025	\$ 611,312	(\$ 49,287)
Total	\$ 1,237,589	\$ 3,379,307	(\$2,141,718)

Capital Improvement Budget

Table 5-3 presents the five-year plan for capital improvement expenses for CRPR in four categories: parks, pools, nature center and regional parks. The Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) is annually updated in conjunction with the COG budget process. For an asset to be included in the CIP it must have a value of at least \$10,000. The 2019-2023 CIP includes expenses for parks maintenance vehicle and equipment replacement and purchase; replacing plaster, renovating wood exteriors, installing a concession stand, replacing plexiglass, and upgrading play structures at the pools; completing construction of Phase 2 of the nature center education building, welcome pavilion, parking and walkway lighting; and beginning construction of Phase 1 of Whitehall Road Regional Park.

Fund	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Parks Capital					
Beginning Fund Balance	\$321,283	\$251,733	\$126,741	\$39,589	\$73,764
Municipal Revenues	\$159,900	\$164,058	\$168,323	\$172,700	\$177,189
Total Expenditures	\$229,450	\$289,050	\$255,475	\$138,525	\$249,025
Ending Fund Balance	\$251,733	\$126,741	\$39,589	\$73,764	\$1,928
Pools Capital					
Beginning Fund Balance	\$90,000	\$53,000	\$38,000	\$53,000	\$83,000
Municipal Revenues	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000
Total Expenditures	\$67,000	\$45,000	\$15,000	\$0	\$0
Ending Fund Balance	\$53,000	\$38,000	\$53,000	\$83,000	\$113,000
Nature Center Capital					
Beginning Fund Balance	\$657,049	\$1,517,049	(\$14,316)	(\$2,262)	\$15,603
Grants and Donations	\$700,000	\$536,110	\$0	\$0	\$0
Municipal Revenues	\$200,500	\$201,265	\$27,054	\$27,865	\$28,701
Total Expenditures	\$40,500	\$2,268,740	\$15,000	\$10,000	\$15,000
Ending Fund Balance	\$1,517,049	(\$14,316)	(\$2,262)	\$15,603	\$29,304
Regional Parks Capital					
Beginning Fund Balance	\$1,150,000	(\$75,000)	(\$75,000)	(\$75,000)	(\$75,000)
Municipal Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Loan Draws	\$2,800,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Expenditures	\$4,025,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ending Fund Balance	(\$75,000)	(\$75,000)	(\$75,000)	(\$75,000)	(\$75,000)

Municipal Contributions

Municipal contributions to CRPR operating and capital budgets are combined in Table 5-4 to show the full amount contributed by each municipality for 2019.

Municipality	Population	Operating Budget	Capital Budget	Total	Per Capita Contribution
College Township	10,134	\$308,841	\$181,331	\$490,172	\$48.37
Ferguson Township	8,327*	\$471,890	\$293,303	\$765,193	\$58.86*
Harris Township	18,837	\$170,436	\$101,194	\$271,630	\$40.62
	15,958*				\$47.95*
	5,446				\$49.88
	5,089*				\$53.38*

Municipality	Population	Operating Budget	Capital Budget	Total	Per Capita Contribution
Patton Township	15,829 11,921*	\$359,540	\$229,348	\$588,888	\$37.20 \$49.39*
State College Borough	42,224 15,240*	\$405,232	\$246,847	\$652,079	\$15.44 \$42.79*
Totals	95,202 59,106*	\$1,715,939	\$1,052,023	\$2,767,962	\$29.07 \$46.83*

*Does not include Penn State students (age cohort 18-24 years)

Municipal Capital Improvement Plans

Table 5-5 presents the five-year parks and recreation capital improvement plans for the municipalities. The amounts listed do not include capital improvement contributions to CRPR. The amounts in Table 5-5 represent the planned fund to be spent on parks and recreation capital improvements to the parks owned by each municipality.

Municipality	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
College Township	\$122,100	\$95,200	\$108,050	\$60,300	\$104,801	\$490,450
Ferguson Township	\$397,500	\$338,000	\$345,000	\$35,000	\$365,000	\$1,480,500
Harris Township	\$110,700	\$132,000	\$12,000	\$0	\$0	\$134,700
Patton Township	\$355,500 \$1,041,212*	\$367,010 \$150,000*	\$517,525 \$1,000,000*	\$498,633 \$100,000*	\$100,000 \$500,000*	\$1,838,668 \$2,791,212*
State College Borough	\$126,200	\$116,200	\$150,200	\$87,800	\$165,800	\$646,200
Totals	\$1,112,000 \$2,153,212**	\$1,048,410 \$1,198,410**	\$1,132,775 \$2,132,775**	\$681,733 \$781,733**	\$735,600 \$1,235,600**	\$4,710,518 \$7,501,730**

*Bikeway development

**Totals with bikeway development added

In addition to these capital expenses, 2019 operating budget expenses for each municipality for parks and recreation (not including contributions to CRPR) are:

College Township – \$7,000 (seasonal park labor, other park labor is included in public works budget)

Ferguson Township – \$8,650 (contributions for 4th Fest, Discovery Space, First Night, and others)

Harris Township – \$7,000

Patton Township – \$28,194 (1/3 of Public Works Project Manager salary, community gardens, Spring Creek Watershed Contribution)

State College Borough – \$0

Fee and Reservation Policies

A comprehensive fee policy and schedule is approved each year by the Authority. In addition to program and admission fees, it includes reservation policies and procedures for tennis courts, sports fields, swimming pools, picnic pavilions, Millbrook Marsh Nature Center, Active Adult Center, Orchard Park amphitheater, show wagon, large groups, special events, fundraisers, and memorial trees and benches.

Gifts-For-Parks Program

CRPR operates a Gifts-For-Parks program funded by individual donations, fundraising, and grants. CRPR also participates in the Amazon Smile program, with 5% of designated purchases being donated to the Gifts-For-Parks program. Gifts-For-Parks funds support the Remembrance Tree and Bench Program, Youth Scholarship Program, and State College Area Municipal Band, and the purchase of youth sports equipment and other supplies.

Children with demonstrated financial needs are eligible for scholarships to help pay the cost of programs and activities. Two scholarships are available per child each calendar year. Scholarships are good for 50% off the cost of pool passes, classes and other programs and 40% off eight-week, 35% off four-week and 30% off one-week summer day camp sessions. Table 5-6 lists funds received for the Gifts-For-Parks program in 2017.

Category	Amount Received
General Donations	\$4,498
Scholarships	\$4,986
Sports	\$4,956
Aquatics	\$2,248
Remembrance Trees/Benches	\$9,864
State College Municipal Band	\$872
Total	\$27,424

Parks and Recreation Facility Maintenance

CRPR leases space in the Industrial Park near the Nittany Mall for its parks maintenance department. The leased space includes an indoor maintenance shop, outdoor work area, parking for trucks, trailers, and equipment; and storage for mulch, compost, infield mix, fertilizer, and other field supplies.

The parks maintenance staff maintain 56 municipally- and/or COG-owned park sites totaling 923.4 acres that range from small parks, to neighborhood and community parks, to regionally-owned or leased facilities.

Seven of the facilities maintained by CRPR total 167.2 acres and are capitalized and operated on a regional basis with prorated contributions from the five participating municipalities:

- Centre Region Active Adult Center (0 acres)
- Park Forest Community Swimming Pool (4.4 acres)
- Welch Community Swimming Pool (3.3 acres)
- Millbrook Marsh Nature Center (62 acres)
- Oak Hall Regional Park (68 acres)
- Hess Softball Complex (21 acres)
- Whitehall Road Regional Park (100 acres)

Municipal parks and the leased School District ball fields (Ferguson, Houserville, and Radio Park Elementary Schools) maintained by CRPR contain 656.2 acres, broken down by each municipality as follows:

- Borough of State College (115 acres/12 sites)
- College Township (129.9 acres/11 sites)
- Ferguson Township (178 acres/13 sites)
- Harris Township (68.4 acres/8 sites)
- Patton Township (164.9 acres/11 sites)

Not all municipal parks are maintained by CRPR. As a general rule, maintenance of parks under four acres in size is the responsibility of the municipality. Beginning in 1988, new parks were added for regional maintenance only if the site was four or more acres. Existing parks that were under four acres and regionally-maintained were grandfathered. Municipal parkland and open space not maintained by CRPR totals 281.9 acres as follows:

- College Township (81.1 acres/15 sites)
- Ferguson Township (89 acres/2 sites) *includes not yet open 9-acre Songbird Sanctuary*
- Patton Township (111.8 acres/5 sites) *includes not yet open 42-acre Grays Woods Park – CRPR will maintain 4 acres when Phase 1 improvements are completed*

Maintenance work varies by season, type of activities, and each facility's operating schedule. The spring season is the busiest for parks maintenance as staff prepare equipment and vehicles, open the parks, conduct inspections, turn on water, open restroom facilities, assist with pool openings, and prepare sports fields for use including mowing, lining, painting, installing bases, hanging nets and wind screens. Parks maintenance becomes more routine as the season progresses with mowing, sports field maintenance, playground inspections and maintenance, pool needs, and general maintenance of facilities, equipment and vehicles. The park maintenance staff track hours worked (not including travel time to and from sites) and locations for the months of April-November in these categories:



- **Athletic Field Maintenance** – Specialized lower cut mowing, turf enhancements (fertilizing, aerating, over seeding, pest control, etc.), softball and baseball field lining, grooming and ballfield maintenance
- **Equipment Maintenance** – Repairs, improvements, and scheduled maintenance to parks vehicles, motorized equipment, and hand tools
- **General Parks Maintenance** – Routine trash, recycling, custodial, pavilion maintenance, repairs, and playground maintenance
- **Playground Equipment** – Inspections, repairs, safety surface replacement, and care
- **Turf Maintenance** – General turf mowing, weed eating, leaf removal, and care

A year-end report is prepared which shows the number of hours worked in each municipality and each regional facility in the above categories. Turf maintenance holds the highest number of hours, followed by general parks maintenance.

Parks maintenance full-time staff includes a parks manager, assistant parks manager, and nine parks maintenance workers. At present there is little turnover of these staff positions. Tudek Park, Spring Creek Park, Fogleman Fields, Circleville Park, Oak Hall Regional Park and Hess Softball Complex are staffed by seasonal caretakers who perform turf, athletic field, recreation facility and general park maintenance. Welch and Park Forest Pools and Millbrook Marsh Nature Center are staffed by one seasonal employee who performs turf, building and structure, and general park maintenance.



Finding seasonal help is very difficult for the 16 to 18 six- to nine-month parks maintenance positions. Parks maintenance is understaffed and not always able to complete parks maintenance tasks on a timely basis. Mowing is very time consuming.

Vandalism is not a major issue. For example, restrooms are open 24 hours a day without many problems. Beyond video cameras at the pools and the maintenance building in College Township, no other security measures are in place. The Parks Manager and Director of Parks and Recreation are Certified Playground Safety Inspectors (CPSI). The frequency of playground

inspections is not as good as it could be, in large part due to lack of time. Ferguson Township also has a CPSI on staff to conduct annual audits and inspections on its playgrounds.

The municipalities are responsible for covering the cost of major repairs and replacements beyond routine maintenance items. However, it is not always clear when parks maintenance and repair is the responsibility of CRPR versus when it is the responsibility of the municipalities. The lack of a written operational document agreed upon by all parties causes unnecessary confusion. Parks maintenance staff has good working relationships with the municipal public works departments, which helps to get work accomplished.

These items are handled by the municipalities: major tree work, resurfacing or repaving game courts, correcting major drainage problems, earthmoving, sitework, snow removal, and repairing parking lots.

There is no consistency among the parks in signage, colors, and facility type, such as standard picnic tables and park benches. This makes maintenance more difficult. In addition, no signs exist that tell the public CRPR is maintaining the parks.

Parks and Recreation Administration, Financing & Maintenance Strengths and Challenges

Strengths:

- The Centre Region has a long history of intergovernmental support of and commitment to parks and recreation. The COG and Authority formation is a great asset that fosters day-to-day working

relationships among the municipalities and joint funding for CRPR agency operations and capital projects.

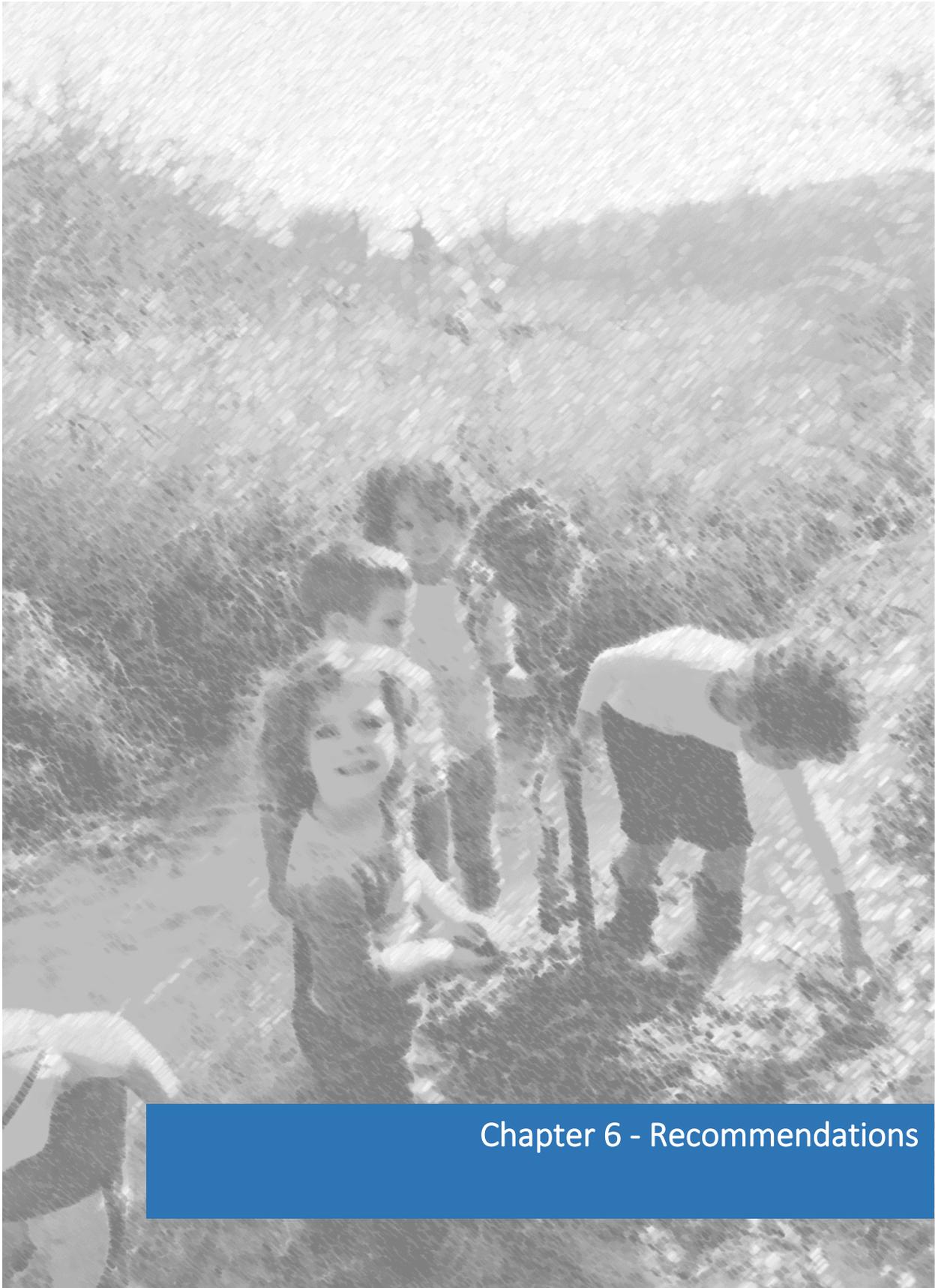
- A solid base of tax-supported funding is provided by the municipalities to operate a full-service parks and recreation department.
- Parks and outdoor recreation facilities are plentiful and geographically spaced to provide access to residents regardless of where they live. Park locations are within a five- to 10-minute drive or walking distance of most residents. The region has parks of all sizes from small parks to neighborhood parks to community parks, with a variety of recreation facilities that feature a good mix of active and passive spaces.
- The CRPR full-time staff work together as a team, care about and are connected to the community, and are creative, knowledgeable, dedicated, hard-working, and professional. Energy among the staff is high and the work environment is fast-paced and challenging.
- Awareness of CRPR services is improving, thanks to an updated website, expanded social media promotion and rebranding.
- The involvement of the State College Area School District in the Authority makes it possible to open important lines of communication for coordination of programs and facility use for parks and recreation. The School District is the largest potential provider of indoor and outdoor locations for community recreation programs.
- The 501c3 designation of the Authority provides a vehicle to seek foundation funding, donations and grant support.
- A five-year strategic plan is prepared to guide the operation and direction of CRPR services.
- An annual report is prepared each year to document CRPR services.
- Centralized park maintenance helps to keep the parks well maintained, regularly inspected, safe, and clean.



Challenges:

- The Authority board is not engaged or leveraged to support CRPR as well as it could be. Board members are not as knowledgeable as they could be about CRPR operations and may not be communicating and reporting to and from the municipality/school district they represent about parks and recreation matters.
- The way municipalities and the school district are represented on the Authority board is not structured for best communication between the municipal parks and recreation committees, school district administration, and CRPR.
- The CRPR governance structure is cumbersome and confusing. Some sites are owned by the Authority, while others are owned by the COG or individual municipalities. The COG is ultimately in charge of CRPR but CRPR reports to the Authority board. The COG Parks Capital Committee adds another layer of oversight.

- At times, CRPR is referred to as the ‘Authority;’ at other times, it is referred to as the ‘Agency.’
- Elected officials and community leaders think CRPR is a positive asset to the community but may not understand the full breadth of its services. CRPR has not spent enough time and effort on promoting its successes and the benefits of its services to residents and the community.
- The five-year strategic plan is not “strategic.” It functions more as a work plan.
- The written vision statement for parks and recreation is not a vision statement. It is more of a rephrasing of the mission statement.
- The annual report is filled with lists of statistical information, rather than focusing on the highlights of the previous year.
- CRPR is understaffed for the size of the park and recreation system. Staff are very busy and overwhelmed at times with the workload, while services and facilities continue to grow.
- Recognition of CRPR by the public is compartmentalized by facility – Millbrook Marsh, Active Adult Center, swimming pools, the park where a family’s youth and adult sports practices and games are held, or the park that residents live closest to.
- Promotion overall is features-based, not benefits-based. The purpose behind the parks and programs is not being shared.
- The current CRPR office is too small for the size of the staff and the amount of equipment and supplies that need to be stored.
- Sports groups may not adequately contribute to the cost of maintaining the facilities they utilize.
- A strong emphasis has not historically been placed on developing alternative sources of revenue to support CRPR operations; however, outside funding has been sought more actively in the last year.
- The cost to maintain the parks is high and will grow higher. CRPR does not have an adequate parks maintenance staff to keep up with the work, and more parks will be coming online. CRPR maintenance staff at times struggles to complete day-to-day park maintenance tasks and repairs.
- Filling three-, six- and nine-month park maintenance and summer seasonal program and aquatic positions is becoming increasingly difficult.
- The responsibility for parks maintenance tasks and repairs is not well defined between the municipalities and CRPR.
- The parks maintenance building is undersized and does not allow for indoor storage of maintenance equipment such as mowers and tractors.
- Outdoor recreation facilities are overused. Fields never get rested.
- The School District has outdoor fields and facilities that are not opened for CRPR use.
- The opportunity to collaborate on park design, equipment choices, trends, etc. only happens on occasion. CRPR maintains the parks, but when municipalities choose playground equipment, for example, they do not ask for CRPR input.
- The CRPR budget is separated by agency function and is many pages long. No summary page exists to quickly see total revenues and expenses for the entire agency.



Chapter 6 - Recommendations

Recommendations

Recommendations for addressing the challenges CRPR faces are based on the Plan core themes, along with visionary elements that reflect aspirations of what the Centre Region parks and recreation system can become in the future.

This Plan addresses providing parks and recreation services, protecting our natural resources, and ensuring that all Centre Region residents enjoy the benefits of nature and nurture available in our parks and recreation facilities. Implementing the following recommendations will help us to realize our dreams.

Core Theme 1 – Take Care of What We Have

We value our community’s investment in parks, trails, recreation facilities, and open spaces. We will address the maintenance and improvement needs of our existing resources to make them shining examples of our commitment to healthy, active lifestyles. The life of our recreation facilities will be extended so that they may serve future generations.

RECOMMENDATION 1.1 – STRENGTHEN PARK MAINTENANCE SERVICES

The parks of the Centre Region offer a wide range of gathering spaces, landscapes, facilities and user experiences. As an ever-changing demographic of park users enjoy the continued renewals and additions of park facilities, one common theme connects park advocates and their shared enthusiasm for the park system: safe and well-maintained facilities.

The ongoing maintenance and long-term care of parks is often overlooked and inadequately budgeted for when focusing on the next big park project or the addition of a new park property. The level of maintenance varies from park to park and among types of facilities. Based on the diversity of park assets, some parks or park types need greater attention or a specialized maintenance program. To sustain an

After careful listening and evaluation, the issues of greatest concern have become the focus of this Plan. It is essential that CRPR, along with the municipalities and community partners, address these issues over the next 10 years in order to maintain and enhance the parks and recreation system. The following is a summary of the top issues (not in order of importance):

- *Need for alternative funding sources*
- *Aging park structures and deferred maintenance*
- *Need for indoor recreation facilities and program space*
- *Need for additional outdoor recreation facilities*
- *Natural resource conservation, sustainability and management needs*
- *Trail connections and expansion*
- *Appropriate level of staffing*
- *Governance structure*
- *Efficient use of financial resources*
- *Need for benchmark data*
- *Division of maintenance responsibilities*
- *Large number of fragmented recreation providers*
- *Lack of awareness of many of the region’s park areas and CRPR recreation programs*
- *Need for accessible and affordable programs for all*

ever-growing park system with growing complexities in park operations and maintenance, a multi-prong approach is required to meet existing and future maintenance needs.

- Grow maintenance expertise through well-trained park personnel. As the Centre Region park system grows and individual parks continue to evolve with more unique facilities, park staff resources will need to evolve to meet future needs and demands.
- Increase staffing for park maintenance as identified through benchmarking, to keep up with work, work ahead on preventative maintenance rather than reactive maintenance, and maintain new facilities such as Whitehall Road Regional Park. Maintenance at park areas needs to be picked up a notch and additional staffing is needed to do that.
- Continue to grow community engagement by reaching out to community volunteers and park advocates. Encourage neighborhoods to take an interest in helping to maintain the public spaces near them.
- Continue existing and add new Park Partners by identifying and fostering positive relationships with corporate and community leaders.
- Place uniform signs at each CRPR maintained park that let the public know that CRPR is maintaining the park, with a phone number to report any issues. When municipalities get complaints, they should forward them immediately to CRPR.
- Develop an app for mobile phones to report maintenance issues to CRPR.
- Hold scheduled yearly walk-throughs of the parks with municipal public works staff, parks and recreation committees, and CRPR staff.
- Develop a system of data collection and analysis to provide an accurate basis for decisions on management of parks, natural areas and facilities.

RECOMMENDATION 1.2 – IDENTIFY PARKS THAT SHOULD BE PLANNED

Park planning should be undertaken as new facilities and improvements are integrated into existing parks, expanded parks, and new park sites. Two levels of park planning are proposed: Park Master Plans and Site Development Drawings.

Park Master Plans are proposed for parks that need extensive improvements and re-envisioning. Park master plans should be developed following the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (PA DCNR) Master Site Development Plan planning process. This includes working with a landscape architect or other design professional with experience planning public parks and obtaining public input via multiple engagement strategies.

The municipal park master planning process takes a new look at a park site and considers the needs and interests of visitors, appropriateness of facilities, need for new or modified facilities and amenities, opportunities to integrate naturalized areas and functional improvements, issues to address, and other considerations. The park master planning process should include CRPR and municipal parks and recreation committee involvement, public outreach and engagement, estimate of capital investment and

proposed implementation phases. Master Plans are suggested for some of the parks for the following reasons:

- To update a park site that has multiple issues. Issues would typically include outdated facilities and non-compliance with the ADA.
- To update a park that no longer meets the needs of the neighborhood or community.
- To take advantage of an opportunity or incorporate new facilities desired by residents.
- To incorporate natural area enhancements and green infrastructure solutions into a park site.
- To incorporate contiguous acreage into a park which expands the opportunity for park improvements.

Other parks will require planning for limited improvements such as accessible routes to existing facilities, minor facility additions, and natural area enhancements. The planning for these improvements could be made through a planning process that results in a Site Development Drawing. A Site Development Drawing is the park plan required by PA DCNR when submitting a grant application for park development funding. The planning process can be abbreviated, but at a minimum should include input from CRPR staff, local municipal recreation board, and relevant key stakeholders. A landscape architect or other design professional versed in public park design and planning should develop the plan.

RECOMMENDATION 1.3 – IDENTIFY PARK FACILITIES, STRUCTURES, AMENITIES, AND PLANTINGS THAT ARE IN SUB-PAR CONDITION

This effort will be a shared commitment by community partners, CRPR, and municipalities to upgrade park facilities, structures, amenities, and plantings that are in poor condition due to deferred maintenance.

- Investigate and assess parks to create a list of needed improvements. The CRPR Parks Maintenance Supervisor should lead this effort with each municipality. Categorize listed improvements into three categories:
 - Volunteer Projects - Identify projects that can be managed by CRPR and/or municipal staff but led and completed by volunteers from neighborhoods, businesses or organizations. These projects are typically the low-hanging fruit that require a bit of direction and support such as painting, carpentry, weeding, trimming and other meaningful duties. What is important for the volunteers is that work is clearly defined. A committed staff person that is organized with good communication skills would be an excellent lead.
 - CRPR/Municipal Staff Projects - Identify projects that can be led and completed by CRPR and/or municipal staff. This requires a realistic assessment of current staff skills and capacity. Consideration of project capacity can also lead to a determination of gaps or shortages in capacity and aid in identifying future hiring needs.
 - Contractor Projects - Identify projects that can be completed by contractors. Work with contractors and the business community to determine the best and most cost-effective

method to complete work in this category. This work should be beyond the capacity for volunteers and staff to accomplish.

- Once the tasks are assigned based on the three categories, costs to address deferred maintenance can be determined.
- Municipalities/CRPR should budget to address deferred park maintenance projects.
- Assess park sites on an annual basis.

RECOMMENDATION 1.4 – CLARIFY THE RESPONSIBILITIES FOR PARK MAINTENANCE, REPAIRS, PURCHASES, AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

The municipalities are responsible for covering the cost of major park repairs and replacements beyond routine maintenance items. However, it is not always clear when park maintenance, repairs, purchases, and capital improvements are the responsibility of CRPR or the responsibility of the municipalities. The lack of having this in writing and agreed upon by all parties causes unnecessary confusion. Communication with CRPR about maintenance issues and capital improvements planned for the parks is also not consistent among the municipalities.

Clarifying in writing the responsibilities and timing schedule for park maintenance tasks, repairs, and purchases between the municipalities and CRPR would help to eliminate this problem.

- Begin an open dialogue with municipalities for park maintenance by developing a draft written list that details what park maintenance and repair tasks and purchases are CRPR responsibility and what park maintenance and repair tasks and purchases are municipality responsibility. The goal should be to make CRPR park maintenance responsibilities consistent across municipalities.
- Hold a joint meeting with municipal public works directors or appointed municipal representative and CRPR staff to discuss, review and finalize the document.
- Obtain agreement and approval of the responsibility list from all municipalities and CRPR, in writing.
- Update the maintenance responsibility list as issues arise.
- Designate a “go-to” person at each municipality as the contact for the CRPR Park Maintenance Supervisor.
- Allow input by CRPR into all municipal decisions made on park equipment purchases, park renovations, installation of new play equipment, etc.

Table 6-1 provides a draft maintenance responsibility list, which should be used as a starting point for discussions.

Table 6-1
Draft Park Maintenance Responsibilities – CRPR vs. Municipality

Category	CRPR Responsibility	Municipal Responsibility
Grounds	Pick up litter Remove trash and recycling from cans	State College Borough removes trash from trash totes in 3 parks
Park Equipment	Repair drinking fountains and turn on/off seasonally Clean, repair and paint picnic tables, pavilions, benches, grills, trash cans, bike racks, fences, railings, bridges and kiosks Purchase replacement park equipment (trash cans, grills, bike racks, benches, picnic tables) Replenish and repair Doggie Pot dispensers	Purchase park equipment at the development stage of a park Purchase large park equipment additions (play equipment, buildings, pavilions, fountains, etc.) Replace pavilion roofs, pavilion surfacing Install and upgrade exterior lighting
Play Equipment and Adult Exercise Equipment	Purchase, replace and rake safety mulch Conduct routine and annual safety inspections Control weeds Paint Purchase smaller/lower-priced equipment repair and replacement parts (belt swings, hardware, rings, etc.) Repair equipment (with help from municipalities at times) Maintain signs and purchase replacement signs	Purchase and install entire play and adult exercise equipment units (install should be done by contractor) Purchase signs at initial equipment installation Purchase larger/higher-priced equipment replacement parts (slides, etc.) Ferguson Township does its own play equipment safety inspections
Turf	Mow weekly Trim and eradicate weeds Pest management Soil testing Pick up leaves in the fall Aeration, top dressing, over seeding and irrigation Maintain meadows, native landscapes/pollinator gardens Assist with correction of small-scale drainage problems	Remove leaves from park collection sites (after CRPR collects them from parks and deposits them in areas like a parking lot or paved path) Correct large-scale drainage problems Ferguson Township does some of its own open field mowing
Courts	Inspect, repair, clean and sweep basketball, tennis, pickleball, bocce, horseshoe and volleyball courts, disc golf, ice rink Purchase/replace/adjust nets Repaint lines as needed	Resurface courts and repaint lines after resurfacing Repair cracks Purchase/replace tennis posts, basketball backboards, and related equipment
Buildings	Open and close restrooms, concession stands, registration buildings and remote maintenance buildings seasonally Clean, paint, perform minor repairs (such as leaking pipes and fixtures), inspect structures Purchase/replace damaged toilets and sinks Stock restroom supplies Repair and purchase/replace door locks and doors	Purchase/replace toilets, sinks and stalls when a major restroom renovation is done Replace building roofs Repair major plumbing issues
Port-a-Potties	Rent and monitor cleanliness	None

Table 6-1
Draft Park Maintenance Responsibilities – CRPR vs. Municipality

Category	CRPR Responsibility	Municipal Responsibility
Sports Fields	<p>Mow twice weekly</p> <p>Prep softball and baseball fields (drag, line, weed control, base repair/replacement, move base per age groups, edge fields, fill ruts and low spots, chalk fields, repair fences, maintain bleachers, install safety netting and temporary outfield fences)</p> <p>Purchase and install diamondtex/infield mix</p> <p>Maintain and repair irrigation</p> <p>Pest management</p> <p>Soil testing</p> <p>Pick up leaves in the fall</p> <p>Aeration, top dressing, over seeding and irrigation</p>	<p>Purchase/replace bleachers, backstops, fences, player’s benches</p>
Trees, Shrubs, Flower Beds	<p>Purchase, plant, prune, some removals, mulch, pest management, weed, edge, and water shrubs and flowers</p> <p>Purchase/maintain Remembrance Trees and My Hero Trees</p> <p>Trim trees from ground</p> <p>Clean up storm tree damage</p> <p>Provide assistance with landscape bed design and rejuvenation of areas</p>	<p>Remove large trees</p> <p>Grind stumps</p> <p>Trim trees requiring bucket work</p> <p>State College does its own park tree work with its crew</p> <p>Assist with major storm tree damage cleanup</p>
Pathways and Trails	<p>Control grass and weeds</p> <p>Purchase crushed stone/gravel for repairs, fill ruts and repair washouts</p> <p>Clear debris and sweep</p>	<p>Pave, reseal and resurface paved surfaces</p> <p>Purchase crushed stone/gravel for new and for major rehabilitation of existing pathways and trails</p>
Signage	<p>Purchase, clean and repair metal park signs</p> <p>Make wood signs</p> <p>Replace ‘uniform’ metal park signs</p>	<p>Purchase monument structure park entrance signs</p>
Graffiti and Vandalism	<p>Remove graffiti and repair vandalism</p>	<p>Assist with graffiti removal and vandalism repair as needed</p>
Drives and Parking Lots	<p>Replace barrier posts and split rail fencing along drives and parking lots</p> <p>Re-pin parking stops</p>	<p>Pave and reseal</p> <p>Stripe lines</p> <p>Remove snow and ice</p> <p>Sweep drives and lots</p> <p>Clean drains</p> <p>Purchase/replace parking stops</p>
Other	<p>Provide maintenance support to Active Adult Ctr., Millbrook Marsh Nat. Ctr., Park Forest/Welch Pools, Tudek Par Community Gardens, and COG Admin. Office</p> <p>Provide support for program and event set-up/tear-down</p> <p>Coordinate park clean-ups with Park Partners</p> <p>Remove, cleanup and dispose of any dumping that takes place</p>	<p>All capital improvements (new features, new playgrounds and major repairs, new buildings and structures, new parks that are built or renovated)</p> <p>Repair and replace utilities</p> <p>Maintain stormwater management features and equipment, including drainage swales and retention basins</p>

RECOMMENDATION 1.5 – FOCUS ON WAYS TO RETURN APPROPRIATE PARK AREAS INTO NATURAL ENVIRONMENTS

Many of the parks in the Centre Region have open space areas that are not developed with facilities or programmed with activities. These areas should be evaluated to determine if naturalizing the areas would benefit the park setting, expand or enhance habitat areas, and/or provide a sustainable landscape that minimizes maintenance. Naturalizing through the introduction of meadows, pollinator gardens, wetland and riparian buffer plantings, reforestation areas, and other strategies provide multiple ecological benefits. Natural areas that are strategically incorporated can reduce maintenance costs, enhance the setting for visitors, and allow maintenance staff to re-focus the time spent on grass mowing on other park maintenance tasks. Natural areas and green infrastructure in public settings provide resiliency to address, in part, the effects of climate change. Creating consistency of these efforts across the park system is critical.

Agency staff does not have the necessary time to oversee this work and be the champion for the natural aspects of the park system.

- The Natural Resource Supervisor (see Recommendation 7.1 for a more detailed explanation of the role of this recommended position) should work directly with each municipality to discuss possible naturalizing initiatives in their parks and discuss the initiative timing, promotion, and resident education components. This position will serve in a strong technical assistance role to each municipality, including the parks and recreation committees.
- The Parks Maintenance Supervisor should communicate with CRPR maintenance staff and the CRPA Sustainability Planner to obtain their input on opportunities to naturalize non-programmed park areas. Naturalization opportunities should be listed.
- The Natural Resource Supervisor should field view each park for opportunities to naturalize non-programmed park areas. Naturalization opportunities should be listed.
- The municipalities, Parks Maintenance Supervisor, and Natural Resource Supervisor should work together to combine the naturalization lists into a comprehensive list which categorizes naturalization initiatives by park, naturalizing strategy, and prioritized implementation areas.
- The Natural Resource Supervisor should coordinate the implementation of initiatives and projects with the municipalities and CRPR Park Maintenance Supervisor.
- Train CRPR maintenance staff in the proper methods for maintenance of natural areas and green practices for maintenance management.
- Develop a natural resource maintenance management plan for the park system. The plan will address BMP's (Best Management Practices) maintenance (rain gardens, porous pavement, etc.) unique landscapes (pollinator gardens, invasive species infestations, etc.), and typical natural area maintenance practices and calendar. The natural resource maintenance management plan should be presented to the municipalities for endorsement.

RECOMMENDATION 1.6 – DEVELOP A COHESIVE PARK SYSTEM

As new or renovated facilities are needed, architectural and signage guidelines help identify a park as part of an overall system. There is little consistency among the park signs, buildings, and amenities in the Centre Region. Improving the consistency of the architecture within the parks over time for items such as restrooms, shelters, benches, and implementing a standard signage package will help to develop the parks of the Centre Region into a cohesive system. This consistency will make park maintenance tasks more efficient.

- Form a Park Design Working Group to develop a CRPR Park Design Guide. Include representatives from each municipality, CRPR Director of Parks and Recreation, Parks Maintenance Supervisor, and Natural Resource Supervisor.
- Develop a CRPR Park Design Guide which provides design guidelines and product selection options for certain park improvements. The CRPR Park Design Guide should have illustrations and specification cut sheets for products and details for improvements. Define priority considerations for design choices such as life-cycle, ease of maintenance, use of sustainable materials, costs, etc.
 - Develop a standard park entrance sign with a uniform sign panel and structure/base. The sign panel should include the name of the park, the CRPR logo, and the local municipality.
 - Develop a standard park rules and regulations sign format, allowing for the variations in rules for each municipality.
 - Develop standard signs for other interior park signs.
 - Develop standard language and signs for naturalizing initiatives in the parks.
 - Choose one or two manufacturers for pavilions. Pavilions may vary by size, shape, and color but by using one or two manufacturers, maintenance and upkeep will become more standardized.
 - Choose one or two options for typical park site amenities such as benches, trash receptacles, picnic tables, bike racks, drinking fountains, etc. Consider reaching out to a park site amenity manufacturer to explore the opportunity of designing a CRPR Bench and Trash Receptacle, perhaps one design for a passive setting and one for an urban/suburban setting. The color of the site amenity could vary by municipality or park.
 - Define standards for typical park improvements to include:
 - Playground edging.
 - Sidewalks and street trees required at road frontage.
 - Shade trees/islands in parking areas.
 - Plantings at park entrance signs.
- Share the CRPR Park Design Guide in draft form with the municipalities to gain their input, suggestions, and buy-in. Finalize when have consensus with CRPR and municipalities and share final copy with each municipality.

- Review the CRPR Park Design Guide every five years to update, consider modifications, and make additions/deletions. Maintenance history, manufacturer changes, recreation trends, and other factors should be considered when reviewing guidelines.
- Make it a requirement that CRPR staff is represented on all park master plan project study committees, so that the staff's knowledge and expertise in maintenance, programming and general park operations is utilized.
- Encourage municipalities to involve and coordinate with CRPR staff when capital improvements in parks are considered.

Core Theme 2 – Diversify Funding Strategies

We realize that utilizing more diverse funding allows us to not only address current deficiencies, but to also transform our parks and recreation system. We will obtain additional funding through alternative sources for our parks, trails, open space and recreation services.

RECOMMENDATION 2.1 – ESTABLISH A PARKS FOUNDATION

A solid base of tax-supported funding is provided by the municipalities to operate CRPR. The region's municipalities through the Centre Region COG have created a unique, cost-effective parks and recreation financing system. Continued support for this system is essential.

However, current public funding does not meet all the Centre Region's needs for park and facility improvements, parkland acquisition, and programs and services, nor always allow the degree of excellence that residents desire. A Parks Foundation, a public-private partnership like the local Library Foundation, will bring new resources, constituencies, and expertise to CRPR's long-term stewardship of the parks and recreation system. A Parks Foundation would be used for securing donations and grants rather than using the Authority for this function. A Parks Foundation would not be seen by the public as a governmental entity and can be formed as a 501c3 nonprofit agency.

- Establish a Parks Foundation to raise funds to help satisfy the following parks and recreation needs:
 - Provide funds for new projects, park improvements, long-term, vision-oriented system planning; regional park programming and events, marketing and promotion, and innovations in parks and recreation programming.
 - Help acquire land to meet future recreation needs and promote habitat restoration in parks.
 - Assist with scholarships to increase the participation of underrepresented individuals and groups.
 - Strengthen CRPR's relationships with the business community, special interest groups, and the public at large.

- Gather information on foundation formation, including meeting with the Schlow Library Director and Library Foundation representatives and State College Area School District Education Foundation representatives.
- Set up a task force to form the Parks Foundation. Recruit key community business leaders for the task force. This action items should be undertaken with the acknowledgement of the COG Finance Committee.

RECOMMENDATION 2.2 – DEVELOP STABLE ALTERNATIVE FUNDING SOURCES

The cost to maintain the parks and recreation system will continue to increase. Tax-supported funding alone may not be sufficient to provide the level of park maintenance and the recreation services residents deserve and desire. A comprehensive approach is needed to obtain financial support for parks and recreation other than municipal funding through expanded revenue generation and alternative sources of revenue. Finding a long-term solution to fund parks and recreation such as a dedicated park tax that municipalities can agree upon should be considered. The following funding source ideas are not in order of importance:

- Obtain funding assistance from sports groups for maintenance and development of the parks and recreation facilities they utilize.
- Develop a signature fund raiser for each of these CRPR programming areas – Active Adult Center, Millbrook Marsh Nature Center, aquatics, family special events, and sports.
- Utilize programming to generate increased net revenue. Summer day camps, for example, can be structured to generate significant operating revenue.
- Cover the costs of community special events entirely through business sponsorships.
- Undertake a campaign to raise expanded funds for the youth scholarship program and identify ways to fully expend these funds each year.
- Explore setting aside a dedicated portion of real estate taxes for parks and recreation.
- Explore the creation of a local option tax to support park maintenance and operations such as a restaurant/beverage tax, hotel bed tax, or entertainment/amusement tax.
- Set up an online store with branded items such as t-shirts, jackets and gym bags. Focusing the proceeds from sales on a movement (such as youth scholarships) will help to boost sales.
- Pursue naming rights for specific recreation facilities.
- Continue to create revenue by pursuing foundation grants.
- Adjust fees and charges to be competitive with market rates.

RECOMMENDATION 2.3 – UPDATE THE PRICING AND REVENUE POLICY TO DETERMINE SUSTAINABLE PRICING METHODS

The CRPR pricing and revenue policy provides a framework to 1) determine how much to subsidize services, 2) create a financially sustainable approach to recreation services and facilities, and 3) ensure affordable access to programs and services. All fees and charges for CRPR services should be consistent with the pricing and revenue policy.

The goal is to grow the CRPR cost recovery rate for programs and facility use to provide more financially sustainable recreation programs and recreation facilities. This is accomplished by creating pricing methods, providing scholarships for those in need, and utilizing collaborative partnerships to enhance programs and services. CRPR fees should be competitive with the average market rate when providing private services for the community.

- Consider updating the pricing and revenue policy by:
 - Identifying the level of benefit a customer receives to determine the financial subsidy level. One method identifies three different levels of community benefit: public, merit, and private services. Public services are highly subsidized because they provide the highest level of benefit to the community (examples include access to neighborhood parks or walking and biking trails). Merit services have a combination of community benefit and individual/private benefits (examples include learn-to-swim classes or senior recreation) and are partially subsidized. Private services have individual benefit with little to no community benefit (examples include dance or piano lessons). These services would not be subsidized and may be priced to earn net revenue. Another method utilizes a cost recovery pyramid that analyzes programs by five levels of benefit: community, community/individual, individual/community, mostly individual, and highly individual. The same concepts of fee subsidy apply.
 - Calculating the cost of services including direct and appropriate indirect costs.
 - Evaluating the average market rate for similar services.
 - Determining the cost recovery percentage goals by considering the level of benefit (described above), cost of service, and the availability of funding.
 - Ensuring affordable access to recreation programs and facilities by providing scholarships.
 - Using differential pricing methods such as prime and non-prime time (weekday and weekend) rates to optimize when a facility is used that best fits schedules and price points. Another example of differential pricing is early bird program registration options, at an increased or decreased price. This can be different depending on the demand for a program.

Core Theme 3 – Strengthen and Enhance Recreation Program Opportunities

We provide a wide variety of high-quality recreation programs and activities with a focus on learning, conservation and active, healthy living. We will make inclusion a top priority and work to make our programs accessible to all residents.

RECOMMENDATION 3.1 – ENHANCE THE RECREATION PROGRAMS AND SPECIAL EVENTS OFFERED TO ALLOW EVERYONE THE OPPORTUNITY AND ABILITY TO PARTICIPATE

CRPR is the primary provider of public recreation programs in the region, offering an extensive schedule of activities year-round. CRPR recreation programs are a major asset that supports the physical, mental and social health of the community.

However, the Centre Region has many other cultural arts, youth and adult sports, youth development, fitness and wellness, adult education, outdoor recreation, nature education, summer day camp, and special event program providers offering hundreds of opportunities for residents each year.

The distinction is that as the public recreation provider, CRPR services ensure that all residents – regardless of age, physical or cognitive ability, race, gender, sexual orientation or economic or social standing – have opportunities to enjoy life-enriching recreation experiences. No child should be turned away because of their family’s inability to pay, and barriers, both physical and theoretical, should be removed so that all people have an equal opportunity to enjoy the benefits of parks and recreation.

- Develop a formal inclusion policy that outlines CRPR goals, guidelines and procedures that help ensure all members of the community can access recreation programs, facilities and services, including an outline of the accommodations that improve accessibility to park areas, recreation facilities and programs, along with a description of the process that a resident would follow to request a specific accommodation.
- Offer recreation program and activity opportunities for the LGBTQ community, refugee and immigrant communities, multicultural/racial/ethnic communities, and individuals with a physical or cognitive disability, in partnership with other community agencies.
- Add recreation program opportunities for non-sports-oriented children and families.
- Grow and modify family recreation programming through partnerships to provide more opportunities for parents and children to learn and play together.
- Establish equity initiatives to improve CRPR support for populations challenged by socio-economic factors, including ensuring affordable access by continuing and expanding the youth scholarship program.

RECOMMENDATION 3.2 – OFFER AFFORDABLE LOCAL ALTERNATIVES TO TRAVEL-BASED YOUTH SPORTS

The Centre Region has fast-growing sports opportunities for youth who are from families that can afford to pay for team and league fees, travel, equipment and elite training. Kids from families of lesser means don’t have the opportunity to access elite training or play on travel teams, plus CRPR-sponsored leagues have diminished as travel leagues have expanded.

CRPR is vital to providing sports opportunities to all children, regardless of a family’s ability to pay-to-play. Kids who are shut out of sports lose an important opportunity for physical activity, social development and the development of healthy lifestyles.

- Offer introduction to sports programs for toddlers and preschoolers.
- Offer expanded non-travel-based recreational youth sports opportunities for elementary, middle school, and high school age children, like the existing CRPR flag football program.
- Encourage sport sampling for children under the age of 12, rather than concentration on one sport year-round.
- Work towards consolidation of the fragmented and duplicated community youth sports programs that are competing for participants.

RECOMMENDATION 3.3 – BUILD ON SUCCESSFUL RECREATION PROGRAMS AND OFFER NEW PROGRAMS

A broad range of recreation programs is offered by CRPR for residents of all ages. The number, variety and affordability of programs provide a tremendous value for residents. CRPR has strong program niches in aquatics, adult sports and nature education. Building on successful programs to improve the quality of participant experiences and offering new recreation programs in areas of resident interest should be priorities. Additional CRPR staff may be needed to provide additional recreation programs.

- Evaluate recreation programs on an annual basis and discontinue programs that are not successful based on participation numbers, revenue generated and/or staff time.
- Focus on improving recreation program quality through the results of participant evaluations and instructor evaluations completed for every program.
- Utilize successful CRPR recreation program niches for program expansion.
- Expand the use of State College Area School District facilities, particularly indoor facilities, to offer recreation programs. (See Recommendation 5.1).
- Find an indoor venue to lease to expand recreation program opportunities during the school year and cold winter months. Lease expenses should be factored into program fees.
- Expand partnerships whenever and wherever possible for new and existing recreation programs. With the large number of other recreation providers in the Centre Region, opportunities for partnerships are plentiful. Schlow Library should be a key partner.
- Expand use of neighborhood parks for environmental programs. Utilizing the expertise of the staff at Millbrook Marsh Nature Center to train part-time staff and/or volunteers to conduct the neighborhood park programs may be a way to accomplish this.
- Consider offering recreation programs such as those in Table 2.

Table 6-2 – New Recreation Program Possibilities

Table 6-2
New Recreation Program Possibilities

Type	Recreation Program Ideas	
Nature workshops and classes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Origami Basket weaving Shade gardening Nature-themed cupcakes Nature craft series Gardening with native plants Drying flowers from cuttings Spotted lantern flies Owl prowls Wildflower walks History hikes Geology hikes Cabin fever winter walks Sounds of spring night hikes Tree planting I Naturalist 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Making wreaths and centerpieces Craft classes using natural materials Nature photography Mask making Bluebird box building Bird feeder making Collecting and saving seeds Nature journaling Treats for the birds Winter tree ID Seasonal flower ID Organic gardening Outdoor survival skills Removing invasive plants Attracting birds/pollinators to your garden
Special events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amazing race eco/family edition Outdoor concerts Overnight family camping Campfire nights with storytelling Movie nights Fishing derby Dances (daddy/daughter, mom/son) Dog 5K Day of wellness Progressive dinners between parks Park passport to visit each park Candy cane hunt 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Puppetry programs with the library Scavenger hunt on bikes May the 4th Be with You (Star Wars theme) Earth Day breakfast Sale of native plants Trail or adventure run for conservation Fall hayride/bonfire Halloween costume swap Elementary run for fun and fitness Howl-o-ween dog party Preschool holiday parties
Fitness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-directed park workouts One-on-one personal training in parks Healthy cooking series Get ready to Spartan Group dog walks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yoga meditation and mingle Kids cooking class Park walks Meet up groups
Active Adult Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bring family to lunch Kayaking trip Shaver's Creek trip 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Healthy cooking classes Classic movie series
Youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-K and K-3rd grade music, dance, arts programs School in-service day programs Nature immersion programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climbing Hunter safety STEAM programs Learn to fish
Sports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whiffle ball tournament Adult and youth kickball leagues Ultimate Frisbee tournament Bowling School district wide sports events (like Hershey Track and Field) Teen sports leagues Lifetime sports clinics (golf, skiing, volleyball, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knockerball bubble soccer 3-on-3 basketball tournament Corporate Olympics Bocce indoor/outdoor Snowball softball tournament Street hockey Horseshoes tourney Home run derby fundraiser Cricket

Type	Recreation Program Ideas	
Summer day camps	Girls in building trades Rappelling/rock climbing Spelunking Preschool cooking, art, music camps	Drumming Aquatics Kindergarten boot camp Hiking
Aquatics	Pool jousting Kids water polo/splash ball Themed family night swims	Artistic swimming classes/club Evening dances on the pool deck

Core Theme 4 – Promote Parks and Recreation Opportunities

We focus on increasing the public’s use of parks and recreation facilities and involvement in recreation programs. We will expand the public’s awareness of the region’s park areas and recreation services and the important role parks and recreation plays in quality of life.

RECOMMENDATION 4.1 – DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A COMPREHENSIVE MARKETING PLAN

Because the Centre Region parks and recreation system is so large and diverse, many people know only a fraction of the services available. Developing a comprehensive marketing plan will help address the lack of awareness of the scope and diversity of the system as well as the challenges and opportunities within it. It will illustrate the essential role of parks and recreation and generate support for it.

Expanded marketing and promotion efforts will build public awareness of the value of CRPR services to residents and the community. These efforts should promote CRPR’s success in the quality of its parks, recreation facilities and recreation programs; the positive experiences people have, and how people and the community benefit from parks and programs.

Continued education of community leaders, elected officials, and residents about the benefits and impact of parks and recreation is necessary to build and maintain support for the parks and recreation system.

The marketing plan will address “brand” recognition through strategies such as signage standards, improved outreach efforts and information distribution, and improved public awareness and use of parks, recreation facilities and recreation programs. Marketing and communication experts in addition to CRPR staff will ensure that the plan is responsive, efficient, and communicates as intended.

- Establish a work team of marketing professionals, Parks and Recreation Authority members, and CRPR staff to develop the plan.
- Share the purpose behind recreation programming and parks with fact sheets filled with benefits and statistics about the positive results of recreation programs, the use of parks and recreation facilities, and the conditions and needs of the parks and recreation system to educate local opinion and public leaders who can advocate for and influence funding.

- Use a broad array of techniques and strategies to reach diverse audiences including social media influencers, staff outreach, bloggers, program banners, word of mouth networks, program participant and park user testimonials, and community liaisons.
- Increase the annual budget for marketing and promotion to include direct mailing the CRPR Active Guide.
- Promote CRPR park areas, recreation facilities and recreation programs through the State College Area School District using a seasonal digital newsletter emailed to families.
- Revise the CRPR annual report to be a marketing piece with photos of programs in action and testimonials from program participants, program partners and business sponsors about how the programs benefit them, highlights from the past year, and important statistics and financial information.
- Develop a written inclusion statement that promotes and values the involvement of all persons in recreation program offerings and at park areas and recreation facilities. Place this statement on the CRPR website, in the Active Guide and in program newsletters. A sample inclusion statement is:

CRPR values diversity as a community asset and is committed to creating inclusive spaces, places and programs that promote the dignity and respect of all users of CRPR services and facilities regardless of age, race, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, physical ability, economic background, country of origin or religious practices.

- Approach partner organizations such as the Schlow Library to include links to the CRPR website on their websites and to promote through their social media networks. CRPR should do the same for all partners.
- Add the year CRPR was formed to written materials to showcase its success and longevity in providing services to the region.
- Utilize the key messages of learning; active, healthy living; conservation of natural resources; and social equity in marketing and promotion of CRPR services.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of the marketing strategies and outreach activities annually to assess progress and improve performance.

RECOMMENDATION 4.2 – UTILIZE A MARKETING CLASSIFICATION FOR PARK AREAS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

The parks of the Centre Region have diversity of character, ranging from relatively wild natural areas to highly manicured ballfields. Classifying parks by character is a way to promote to the public how a park is primarily used, understood and appreciated. For example, a park may be focused on education (a “Learn” park) or adventure (a “Thrill” park).

There are 10 different “character” classifications that describe the primary experience that the park offers. Promoting the parks by their character will help to point residents to the parks that best fit their recreation needs. These classifications describe both the parks the Centre Region has, and those

residents would like to have, showing what park experiences may be lacking within the region. Many parks will have a primary and a secondary character. Table 6-3 describes the park character classes.

Table 6-3 Park Character Classes	
Class Name	Character Description
Play 	Typically, residents will find manicured open space, a shelter and some limited programmed recreation space (e.g., a basketball court or a ball field). This park is dominated by mowed lawns, a shelter and a playground.
Compete 	This park is set up to foster competitive sports, with multiple ballfields and perhaps a concession stand and bleachers. Programmed spaces dominate.
Splash 	Water play is the dominant theme—specifically, constructed water play, rather than a creek or river. Splash pads and pools are the classic features of these parks.
Go Wild 	Nature preservation is the focus of these parks, and natural areas with native plants and animals shape the human experience. Natural play, woodland or creek exploration, or some level of immersion in nature dominates. These parks tend to support hiking, discovery and create-your-own adventure instead of a structured event. In this way, Go Wild parks, especially the larger ones, overlap with Reflect and Learn parks.
Connect 	These parks support social connections through programming or facilities. An events lawn, a performance space or a central shelter might be an indicator, or trails and sidewalks linking to the park. These would support informal connections and programs like potlucks, reunions or cultural exchanges.
Reflect 	Not every park needs to provide adventure or intense activity. Spaces for rest and reflection must also play a role in the Centre Region parks system. This might mean strategically placed benches for overlooks, integration of art, or a nature path. These parks provide opportunities to pull away from the hustle and bustle and to de-stress.
Learn 	Parks that promote outdoor learning spaces, science-based activities or integration of the arts fit in this class of parks. As with Connect parks, programming is as essential as physical spaces. Outdoor classrooms, creek access for experiments, sheds with science/learning based tools, “STEAM stations” or direct connections to schools would all be physical attributes of a Learn park.
Move 	This category includes trails and parks that are primarily meant to get people walking, jogging or hiking. This includes mini parks surrounding trailheads and greenways along trails.
Thrill 	When a park emphasizes adventure, it is typically associated with some requirement for increased skill or risk. Zip lining, rock climbing, skate parks or cycling challenge courses are among the elements residents might see in a Thrill park.
Reserve 	Reserves are natural areas not intended for regular or programmed use. This designation would be applied to sites/sub-areas within a park, not to the entirety of a public park.

- Place the parks of the Centre Region into primary and secondary classifications based on the experiences each park offers.
- Utilize park character icons (examples are given in the table) in the listings and maps of park locations, and park signs, to identify them by character.

RECOMMENDATION 4.3 – CONSIDER REFERRING TO THE AGENCY AS ‘CENTRE REGION PARKS AND REC’ RATHER THAN AS ‘CRPR’

Using initials to refer to the agency does not lend to the public understanding what the agency is and does. When referring to or promoting the agency’s services, using Centre Region Parks and Rec better identifies and positions the agency from a branding standpoint.

RECOMMENDATION 4.4 – PROMOTE REGIONAL OUTDOOR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

The Centre Region includes extensive natural public lands that offer outstanding outdoor recreation opportunities including Mount Nittany, Rothrock State Forest, Whipple Dam State Park, Greenwood Furnace State Park, Bald Eagle State Park, Black Moshannon State Park, State Game Lands, Shaver’s Creek Environmental Center and Colyer Lake Recreation Area. Information should be provided to residents via the CRPR website about regional outdoor park locations and recreation opportunities.

Core Theme 5 – Address Indoor Recreation Facility and Program Space Needs

We partner with the School District and others to utilize indoor venues for recreation programs when facilities are available. We will explore the feasibility of acquiring and/or developing an indoor recreation center that provides aquatic facilities and dedicated programming space for year-round activities and events.

RECOMMENDATION 5.1 – ADOPT A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE STATE COLLEGE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

The buildings and grounds of the State College Area School District are important recreational resources for the Centre Region. Use of those facilities for community recreation programs and activities, particularly the indoor facilities, is essential for CRPR operations. A written memorandum of understanding between CRPR and the State College Area School District would ensure that school buildings and grounds remain available for public use for recreation activities and improve the access to facilities. Promotion of CRPR recreation opportunities through the School District is another area for cooperation.

RECOMMENDATION 5.2 – COMPLETE AN INDOOR RECREATION CENTER FEASIBILITY STUDY

An indoor recreation center would address the need for recreation opportunities in the cold weather months, provide dedicated space for CRPR programs, provide a venue for community meetings and

activities, and provide a new home for CRPR offices. A feasibility study should be conducted to explore the need for an indoor recreation center with aquatic facilities. The feasibility study should define the components of the indoor recreation center, gauge public support, estimate financial investment, contain an operations and management plan, and define a strategy for moving forward if deemed feasible. An option should also be explored for purchase and conversion of any unused school building or other large structure as a community recreation center.

Core Theme 6 – Address Outdoor Recreation Facility Needs

We provide outdoor recreation facilities in partnership with our municipalities to provide a variety of recreation options for all ages. We will expand outdoor recreation facilities to meet the needs and interests of residents through the implementation of future development phases of regional parks.

RECOMMENDATION 6.1 – DEVELOP REGIONAL PARKS

The regional parks (Hess Field, Oak Hall, and Whitehall Road Parks) should be developed over time as envisioned by the park master plans. Proposed facilities including sports fields, game courts, dog parks, etc. will address recreation needs in the region. Reviewing and updating the park master plans, particularly for the estimated costs of the phases of development, is needed.

RECOMMENDATION 6.2 – DEVELOP A STRATEGY TO INTRODUCE MISSING SPECIAL USE PARK FACILITIES

Some special use park facilities are missing from the mix of recreation facilities available in the Centre Region. The parks have the standard park facilities of playground equipment, picnic pavilions, etc. Variety in park facilities will bring new users to the parks. Explore opportunities to incorporate the following park features into an existing or planned park:

- Amphitheater
- Dog park (second location)
- Outdoor ice-skating rink
- Splash pads
- Teen play areas
- Nature play areas
- Outdoor track
- 18-hole disc golf course (third location)

RECOMMENDATION 6.3 – DEVELOP AN ACTION SPORTS PARK

Much time and effort went into the preparation of the 2018 Action Sports Park report. If constructed, this facility would be used by a younger demographic in need of alternative healthy activities in a safe environment. The recommendations of the Action Sports Park report should be implemented. State College borough has committed funds to partial development of the Action Sports Park in High Point Park. The possibility of developing mountain bike trails at the Harvest Fields Disc Golf Course is also under consideration.

Core Theme 7 – Expand Environmental Sustainability Opportunities

We recognize our role in protecting and enhancing environmental resources for the health and well-being of our region. We will continue to invest in conserving open spaces, prioritizing greening of existing parkland, utilizing greenways for open space and trails, and finding a balance between recreational opportunities and natural resource protection.

RECOMMENDATION 7.1 – HIRE A NATURAL RESOURCE SUPERVISOR

A new CRPR staff position – Natural Resource Supervisor – is needed to be the champion for the natural aspects of the park system. Currently no one on municipal or CRPR staff has the necessary expertise to oversee this work. Working with each municipality, he/she would lead the effort to expand naturalized areas in the parks and oversee the efforts to maximize the ecological benefits of the park sites. Work would include grant writing, volunteer coordination, public education, and initiative to expand and maintain natural spaces. This position will serve in a strong technical assistance role to include planning, sustainable maintenance practices, promotion of efforts, and outreach. This position will work very closely with the municipalities and their parks and recreation committees. The Natural Resource Supervisor will coordinate natural area/resource enhancements, initiatives and projects with the municipalities, CRPR Park Maintenance Supervisor, COG Sustainability Planner, and COG Facility Coordinator.

RECOMMENDATION 7.2 – EXPAND ENVIRONMENTAL OUTREACH

Well-managed parks balance the desire to enhance natural resource areas with the need to provide active and passive play opportunities. Incorporating environmental education and sustainability initiatives into park sites will expand resident understanding of environmental issues, opportunities, and benefits.

- Demonstrate environmental resource strategies in the parks that could be incorporated into the home landscape and provide learning landscapes that tie to education curriculum.
- Include interpretative signs, demonstration areas (BMP's, rain gardens, etc.), and natural resource enhancement areas (pollinator gardens, habitat enhancements, etc.) in the parks.
- Expand recycling operations to neighborhood parks.
- Pair environmental initiatives with information on the CRPR website.
- Consider the potential impacts of climate change on park sites, particularly parks with streams, drainage channels, and stormwater basins that contain playing fields. Limit development in floodplains and restore historic channel and floodplain topography. Plan for the potential impact of climate change in conjunction with the adopted Centre Region Climate Action and Adaptation Plan.
- Work with the municipalities to install solar panels to provide power to park facilities.

Core Theme 8 – Design Parks that Promote Resident Health, Happiness and Well-Being

We develop parks in partnership with our municipalities that are valued “places.” Visitors want to spend time in parks that are safe, clean, and ready to use; are designed with consideration of how people use the park; and provide recreation opportunities that target their interests and offer memorable experiences. We recognize and value the purpose of arts, history and civic pride in our region and will include all three in the re-imagining of parks, trails, and open spaces to enhance the parks for daily use as well as special events.

RECOMMENDATION 8.1 – CREATE PARK AMENITIES THAT CELEBRATE UNIQUE CHARACTERISTICS AND FEATURES

The unique characteristics and features of a park should be celebrated through design elements and amenities.

- Incorporate outdoor sculpture and artwork from local artists in parks. Consider developing an “art walk” with a trail that links artwork and interpretative signs describing the work.
- Commission local artists to develop unique park amenities such as a sculptural themed fence around a playground or a colorful mosaic wall.
- Celebrate the history, culture, or environmental significance of parks or features with interpretative signs.
- Incorporate features that are unique and memorable and add to the visitor’s experience. Examples included bench swings, hammocks, and movable site furniture; plaza pavement maps, illustrations, or building outlines that tell a story; and misters or water jets that are activated by visitor actions.

RECOMMENDATION 8.2 – ENHANCE CONVENIENCE OF VISITING PARKS

Features that enhance the convenience and enjoyment of visiting a park, improve the park experience. Examples include:

- Incorporate benches, trash and recycling receptacles, bike racks, restrooms and other features in convenient locations.
- Include benches and elements that provide shade in playground areas.
- Incorporate improvements that will enhance recreation programs held in the parks such as seating for storytelling and a pavilion with picnic tables for crafts near a playground to support a summer camp.
- Design plazas as gathering areas for socializing with groupings of benches.

- Connect park trails to the street sidewalk system.
- Support the development of regional and local pedestrian and bicycle connections from neighborhoods and schools to parks.
- Develop park hubs near park entrances and parking areas with vehicular drop-off, information kiosk (site maps, information on CRPR programs and policies, etc.) and benches.
- Incorporate improvements that extend use through winter months such as fireplaces in pavilions, four-season restrooms, trails groomed and marked for cross-country skiing, etc.

RECOMMENDATION 8.3 – INTRODUCE TECHNOLOGY TO PARKS

Introducing technology into the parks – particularly parks frequented by teens and young adults – is needed. Technology enhancements include:

- Provide free Wi-Fi.
- Complete the TV White Space installation project that was started in 2019 at Orchard Park; future locations include Tudek Park, the Welch Community Pool, and the PA Military Museum.
- Incorporate benches with USB ports for charging portable electronic devices.
- Incorporate solar charging stations for portable electronic devices.
- Include QR code plaques throughout the park system with messages and information of interest.
- Explore the efficiency of using solar compacting trash receptacles.

RECOMMENDATION 8.4 – ACCOMMODATE SPECIAL EVENTS AND COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS

Parks should be developed with accommodations to support special events and community celebrations.

- Develop a large outdoor amphitheater in a park to provide a venue for concerts, plays, and special events.
- Incorporate flexible space in parks that can be used for special events (craft/antique festivals, holiday tree lighting, food truck gatherings, etc.).

Core Theme 9 – Strengthen Resident Involvement

We believe public involvement is vital to implementation of this Plan. We will continually work to expand the involvement of residents in parks and recreation operations.

RECOMMENDATION 9.1 – ESTABLISH A FRIENDS OF CENTRE REGION PARKS GROUP

A nonprofit membership-based volunteer Friends Group would be comprised of residents and business leaders committed to enhancing the Centre Region’s park facilities, services and recreation programs for the enjoyment of everyone. A Friends of Centre Region Parks group could be formed beneath the umbrella of a Parks Foundation (see Recommendation 2.1).

- Establish the purpose of the Friends of Centre Region Parks, to include:
 - Promoting responsible use and care of parks.
 - Providing advice and support for park improvements.
 - Raising the public’s awareness of the parks and recreation system.
 - Volunteering at programs and activities.
 - Promoting environmental responsibility and outdoor education.
 - Sponsoring fundraising special events for the parks.
 - Engaging residents as stewards of the parks and recreation system.
- Continue to implement and grow the existing Park Partners program, which matches groups, organizations and businesses with specific parks for volunteer support.

RECOMMENDATION 9.2 – STRENGTHEN COMMUNICATION BETWEEN CRPR AND THE MUNICIPAL PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEES

Resident involvement in parks and recreation is a major strength for the Centre Region. Four of the five CRPR municipalities have advisory parks and recreation committees, and all five municipalities have resident representation on the Parks and Recreation Authority. Communication between CRPR, the parks and recreation committees, and the Parks and Recreation Authority is difficult at times.

- Match one CRPR staff member with each municipal parks and recreation committee to attend their monthly meetings as a liaison.
- Continue the practice of the resident representatives to the Parks and Recreation Authority also serving on their municipal parks and recreation committees, as is possible.

Core Theme 10 – Eliminate the Governance Structure Confusion

We value the Parks and Recreation Authority, which brings an informed resident perspective to parks and recreation issues. We will clearly define the roles and responsibilities of the Authority to improve its ability to advise CRPR on a broad range of issues, advocate for parks and recreation throughout the region, and communicate with member municipalities, as well as continue its role as a financing entity for capital development projects for regional parks and recreation facilities.

RECOMMENDATION 10.1 – DEFINE AND DOCUMENT THE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION AUTHORITY

The Parks and Recreation Authority is the chief advocate for parks and recreation to ensure that parks, natural areas, open space, and recreation facilities and services meet community needs. It provides a forum for public discussion and brings a region-wide and long-term perspective to recommendations for decision-making on parks and recreation issues. The Authority will be a leading force behind implementation of this Plan.

The COG General Forum is the governing body for CRPR operations. The Authority should serve as the advisory board for CRPR. The Authority would continue its role as a financing entity for the capital development of regional parks and recreation facilities, working within the framework and approval of the COG General Forum for financing and not as an independent body. Once the funds are secured from the COG for a major park development project, the Authority should be responsible for all decisions made on how the funds are spent. Otherwise, the Authority serves in an advisory capacity to CRPR, providing advice, acting as a sounding board, and making recommendations. It will no longer have any governing decision-making authority over CRPR.

- Update the 1974 Articles of Agreement for the Centre Region Park and Recreation Board as the basis to define in writing the roles and responsibilities of the Parks and Recreation Authority as an advisory board.
- Train Authority board members on their roles and responsibilities, which must include direct lines of communication with their appointing entity.
- Leverage the Authority members' expertise, influence and contacts to strengthen municipal and school district connections, establish new partnerships and provide access to potential resources for promotion, funding and volunteers.

RECOMMENDATION 10.2 – AMEND THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION AUTHORITY

The articles of incorporation of the Parks and Recreation Authority should accurately reflect the five municipalities that support CRPR (removing Halfmoon Township). Amending the articles of incorporation should also include adding the State College Area School District as an official member of the Authority with the ability to appoint its representatives. The roles and responsibilities of the Authority should be spelled out in the amended articles of incorporation.

The membership of the Authority should be expanded to include one elected official (or municipal staff member) from each municipality, plus one resident. This would eliminate the need for the COG Parks Capital Committee. The State College Area School District should be represented by one elected school board member and one school district administrator (potentially the Director of Buildings and Grounds or Athletic Director). This would expand the Authority from six to 12 members.

If the membership of the Authority is expanded by adding elected officials/municipal staff members, oversight of the capital development projects for regional parks and recreation facilities will be provided

appropriately by the municipalities which are providing the funding. Doing so will eliminate the need for the COG Parks Capital Committee.

RECOMMENDATION 10.3 – TAKE CARE OF TASKS ASSOCIATED WITH STREAMLINING THE GOVERNANCE OF CRPR

As the Parks and Recreation Authority will function mainly as an advisory board to CRPR, these tasks should be completed:

- All CRPR employees should become COG employees, with no more Authority employees.
- “Authority-designated” operating budgets should be eliminated.
- Authority leases should be turned over to the COG over time. New leases should be signed by the COG.
- Ownership of park areas and recreation facilities should be transferred from the Authority to the COG over time.
- Authority debt should be separated from COG capital budgets for parks and recreation.

Core Theme 11 – Enhance and Formulate Strong and Broad Partnerships

We work closely with individuals, municipalities, groups and businesses in the Centre Region to provide well-rounded parks and recreation services to residents. The partnership among the municipalities and school district serves as the cornerstone for the provision of premier parks and recreation services. We will design and manage partnerships to maximize use of their resources and talents and respond to evolving community needs.

RECOMMENDATION 11.1 – DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN EFFECTIVE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

Partnership initiatives strengthen and expand the parks and recreation system and services and result in CRPR being recognized as a valuable community asset. Partnerships with other agencies enhance CRPR services and help to keep programs affordable. Identifying the key strategic partners for CRPR is vital for the growth and viability of the parks and recreation system.

- Identify expertise that CRPR needs (marketing/promotion, sustainability, etc.) and actively pursue partners in those areas.
- Expand partnerships with the health care community for promotion of outdoor park experiences, self-directed recreation opportunities, and programmed recreation opportunities, keying on the important link between physical activity and better health.

- Explore a partnership with Penn State University for use of its recreational facilities that are currently unavailable to the public, with CRPR holding supervised open hours for the public.
- Seek volunteer service partnerships with a wide variety of entities – parent-teacher organizations, community-based organizations, volunteer groups, churches, service clubs, businesses, etc.
- Measure partnership effectiveness, benefits and results, through annual reviews and evaluation.

Core Theme 12 – Expand and Connect the Trail Network

We recognize that residents value trails for transportation and recreation. We will grow and improve our trail network, connecting to parks and linking together existing pathways to provide places for people to walk, jog, or bike as part of their everyday routine.

RECOMMENDATION 12.1 – SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CENTRE REGION BIKE PLAN

The Centre Region has an extensive network of shared use paths, bike routes, and bike lanes and many parks have shared use park trails. The regional trail system should be expanded to connect shared use paths to each park site. Shared use paths should provide safe, convenient linkages between residential neighborhoods, schools, community destinations, and parks.

- Coordinate with the COG Bike/Pedestrian Transportation Planner and municipalities regarding trail initiatives and trail/park links in the Centre Region.
- Identify priority trail links between existing trail infrastructure and parks. Share the priority trail links with the COG Bike/Pedestrian Transportation Planner.
- Develop shared use trails in parks for recreation and accessibility purposes. Extend the trails to the park boundaries to link to existing and planned sidewalks, bike lanes, and shared use paths.

RECOMMENDATION 12.2 – SUPPORT TRAIL INITIATIVES IN THE REGION

Trail initiatives of the Centre Region should be actively supported to grow the trail network for residents and visitors.

- Coordinate with the COG Bike/Pedestrian Transportation Planner and municipalities regarding trail initiatives.
- Coordinate with the COG Bike/Pedestrian Planner and municipalities regarding status of trails that are cleared in winter and coordinate connectivity between municipalities to establish continuous winter bike routes.
- Continue to promote bike safety and education through CRPR programs.

- Incorporate COG bike/pedestrian information and direction signs into parks as appropriate to inform visitors of trail connections.
- Support planning and development efforts to complete additional phases of the Bellefonte Central Rail Trail for public recreation use.
- Support bicycle and pedestrian facilities identified on municipal official maps.
- Support the Harvest Fields Community Trails initiative.

Core Theme 13 – Assess Level of Staffing

We manage parks and recreation facilities and services that continue to grow. We will assess our staffing levels and focus on adding prioritized staff positions to properly maintain the parks and recreation system and provide the quality of recreation services residents desire.

RECOMMENDATION 13.1 – PLAN FOR THE HIRING OF NEW STAFF POSITIONS PHASED OVER THE NEXT 10 YEARS

CRPR is understaffed for the size of the parks and recreation system while services and facilities continue to grow. Staff are spread too thin and the workload is very heavy. To continue the growth of the parks and recreation system additional staff will be needed.

- Prioritize the creation and hiring of these full-time staff positions over the next 10 years:
 - Therapeutic recreation coordinator to provide adaptive and inclusive recreation programs.
 - Park maintenance coordinator at Millbrook Marsh Nature Center.
 - Park maintenance workers (up to six).
 - Natural resource supervisor to lead efforts to expand naturalized areas in the parks and oversee the efforts to maximize the ecological benefits of the park sites.
 - Special events coordinator to offer special events throughout the park system.
 - Marketing and development coordinator to increase promotion, fundraising and grant writing and assist the Parks Foundation.
 - Sports programming assistant to expand programming and coordinate with existing groups.
 - Volunteer coordinator to oversee Park Partners, expand volunteering at Millbrook Marsh, and coordinate the Friends of Centre Region Parks (could be part of duties of the Natural Resource Supervisor).

RECOMMENDATION 13.2 – APPLY FOR A DCNR CIRCUIT RIDER GRANT

Intergovernmental agencies such as CRPR are eligible for a five-year state grant program that funds the salary of new staff positions that serve multiple municipalities. The program funds 100 percent of salary the first year, 75 percent the second year, 50 percent the third year, 25 percent the fourth year, and zero percent the fifth year. CRPR should approach DCNR to discuss submitting this grant application.

Core Theme 14 – Make Efficient and Effective Use of Financial Resources

We operate with a solid base of tax-supported funding provided by our municipalities. We will ensure that these important financial resources are used in an efficient and effective manner.

RECOMMENDATION 14.1 – IMPLEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS THAT RELATE TO FINANCIAL SAVINGS

As Centre Region municipalities manage the provision of services, funding is stretched to meet all needs. Making efficient and effective use of the municipal budget funds provided for parks and recreation is critical.

Implementation of Recommendations 1.1, 1.5, 1.6, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.3, 4.1, 7.1, 9.1, 11.1, and 13.1 will help to make best use of tax funding provided for parks and recreation services. These recommendations include:

- Placing an increased emphasis on revenue recovery through pricing
- Expanding partnerships to share resources
- Utilizing volunteers to offset wage costs
- Investing in staff training to improve employee skills
- Developing private financial support
- Adding revenue-generating programs and services
- Investing in new staff positions focused on revenue generation
- Expanding promotion to fill recreation programs and increase rentals of facilities

Core Theme 15 – Develop Benchmark Data

We believe data is essential to effective management of our parks and recreation system. We will obtain and utilize data, including staffing levels and park maintenance data, to evaluate our performance and make decisions that best serve our residents.

RECOMMENDATION 15.1 – DEVELOP A SYSTEM OF DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

Data is a valuable tool to evaluate the performance of CRPR. Having facts and figures will lend credibility to the financial decisions made for parks and recreation and demonstrate accountability in meeting budget goals. Developing a system of data collection and analysis will provide a more accurate basis for decisions on management of parks, recreation facilities and recreation programs.

Data collected could include:

- Operating expenditures per capita
- Operating expenditures per acre of parkland

- Sources of operating expenditures
- Distribution of operating expenditures
- Parks and recreation revenues per capita
- Sources of revenues
- Revenue as a percentage of operating expenditures (cost recovery)
- Number of residents per park
- Resident participation in recreation programs
- Percentage of weekend days rental facilities are not rented
- Targets for capital expenditures

The National Recreation and Park Association Park Metrics benchmarking tool should continue to be utilized each year.

RECOMMENDATION 15.2 – BENCHMARK WITH OTHER PARKS AND RECREATION AGENCIES

We will identify parks and recreation agencies within Pennsylvania and nationwide that have a similar composition, demographics of service region, or other characteristics and share benchmark data. The data should be analyzed within the context of the similarities and differences between the agencies and used to inform CRPR strategic planning.

Making the Vision a Reality

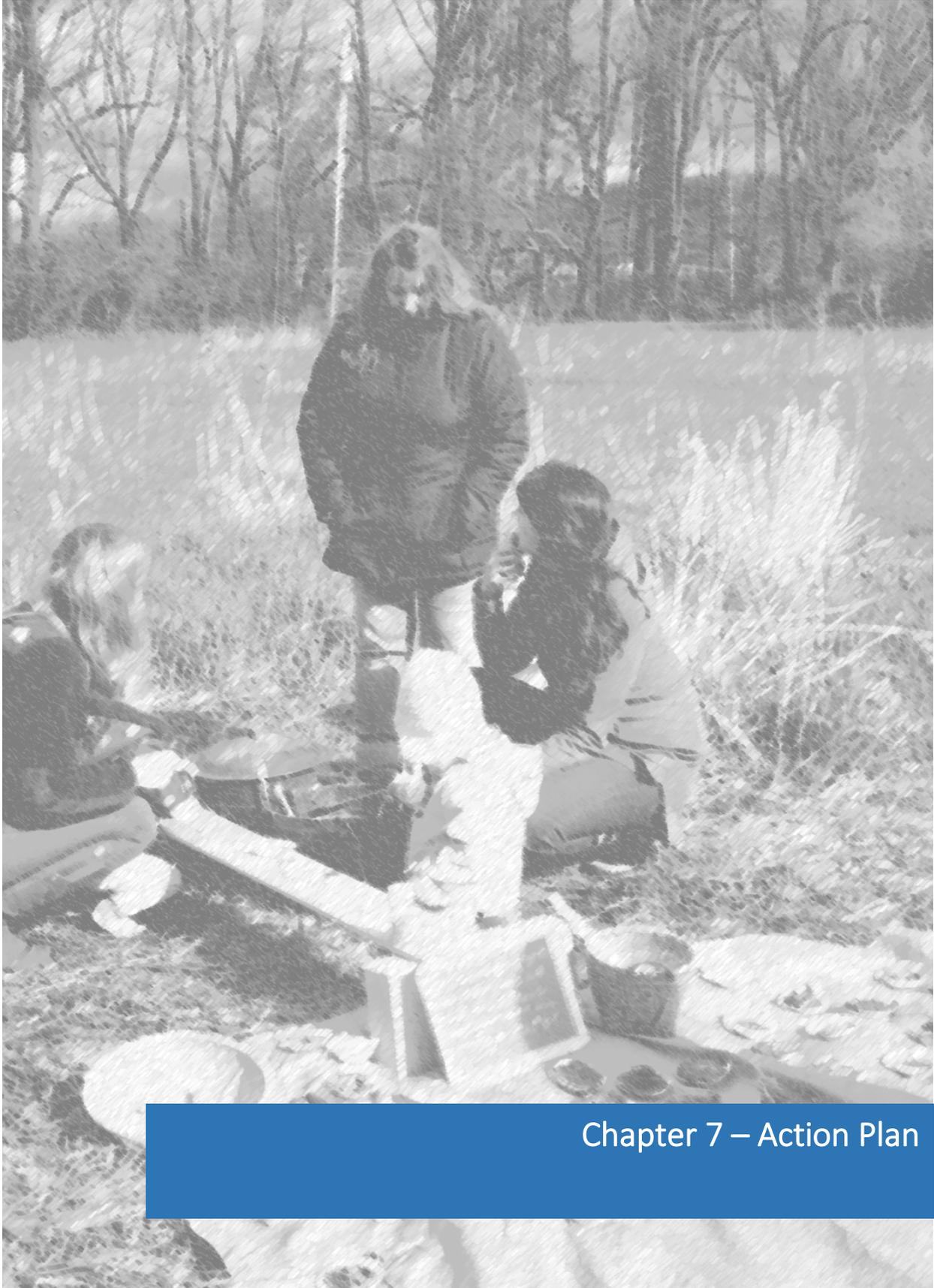
This Plan guides the future work needed to maintain and build our parks and recreation system. Hundreds of concerned residents made suggestions and recommendations — showing their desire to renew our parks and recreation system, enhance recreation programs, build new facilities, and protect our natural resources.

This Plan is built on, and incorporates, a broad range of resident interests, values, and input that will ensure sufficient parkland, recreation facilities, and recreation programs for all residents now and in the future.

The next decade will test our community as we work to preserve and protect our parks and recreation system and provide for the future. With the dedication, imagination, and resources of our residents, we will create a parks and recreation system that is essential to a livable, dynamic, and vibrant region.

The CRPR strategic plan should be prepared every three years using this Plan as a guideline.

This Plan is not a finished document to be set on the shelf; it is a work in progress — the next phase in our continuing effort to build a vital and exceptional parks and recreation system that enriches the lives of the people of the Centre Region and preserves our natural environment. We invite you to join us in this work.



Chapter 7 – Action Plan

Action Plan

The Action Plan sets forth the time frame for the actions that the Centre Region will undertake over the short, medium, and long term through 2030 to address the recommendations of this Plan. The Action Plan is organized around the Plan’s Core Themes.

It is the responsibility of the CRPR staff, with the guidance of the Parks and Recreation Authority, to develop a Strategic Plan to begin implementing the recommendations of this Plan. With many actions identified as being important to initiate in the first three years of this Plan, prioritizing items and setting realistic goals will be very important.

The starting point for the Strategic Plan should identify the three or four highest and hardest priorities that need to be accomplished to establish a successful long-term path forward. These could include items such as governance structure, staffing, maintenance responsibilities, and funding. In addition, completing shorter-term actions that can be easily accomplished will help to gain momentum and show results.

Core Theme 1 – Take Care of What We Have					
Action Item	Cost/Source/Responsibilities	2020-2022	2023-2026	2027-2030+	
Symbol: ✓ Start Project → Continue Implementation					
1.1 Strengthen park maintenance services					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grow maintenance expertise through well-trained park personnel. 	Staff time/municipalities	✓	→	→	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase staffing for park maintenance as identified through benchmarking. 	COG/municipalities Staff time	✓	→	→	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to grow community engagement by reaching out to community volunteers, park advocates, and neighborhoods. 	Staff time	✓	→	→	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue existing and add new Park Partners by identifying and fostering positive relationships with corporate and community leaders. 	COG/municipalities	✓	→	→	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Place signs at each CRPR maintained park that let the public know that CRPR is maintaining the park, with a phone number to report any issues. 	Staff time	✓	→	→	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop an app for mobile phones to report issues to CRPR. 	Staff time	✓	→	→	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to investigate the cost of contracting some park maintenance tasks versus completion by CRPR staff. 	Staff time	✓	→	→	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold mandatory yearly walk-throughs of the parks with municipal public works staff, parks and recreation committees, and CRPR staff. 	Staff time/municipalities	✓	→	→	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a system of data collection and analysis to provide an accurate basis for decisions on management of parks, natural areas and facilities. 	Staff time	✓	→	→	
1.2 Identify Parks that should be planned					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Municipalities should identify parks that should be master planned. 	Staff time/municipalities	✓	→	→	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determine if a Park Master Plan or a Site Development Drawings is appropriate. 	Staff time/municipalities	✓	→	→	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply to PA DCNR for park planning funds to complete Park Master Plans. 	To be determined/grants, municipal funds /municipalities	✓	→	→	
1.3 Identify park facilities, structures, amenities, and plantings that are in sub-par condition and not in compliance with accessibility and safety requirements					

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access parks to list needed improvements and define Volunteer Projects, CRPR/Municipal Staff Projects, and Contracted Projects. 	Staff time/CRPR, municipalities	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Define costs for projects identified. 	Staff time/CRPR, municipalities	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prioritize improvement projects. 	Staff time/CRPR, municipalities	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess parks and update the list annually. 	Staff time/CRPR, municipalities	√	→	→
1.4 Clarify the responsibilities for park maintenance, repairs, purchases, and capital improvements				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begin an open dialogue with municipalities for park maintenance by developing a draft written list that details what park maintenance and repair tasks and purchases are CRPR responsibility and what park maintenance and repair tasks and purchases are municipality responsibility. The goal should be to make CRPR park maintenance responsibilities consistent across municipalities. 	Staff time	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold a joint meeting with municipal public works directors and CRPR staff to discuss, review and finalize the document. 	Staff time/municipalities	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obtain agreement and approval of the responsibility list from all municipalities and CRPR, in writing. 	Staff time/municipalities	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update the maintenance responsibility list as issues arise. 	Staff time/municipalities	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designate a 'go-to' person at each municipality as the contact for the CRPR Park Maintenance Supervisor. 	Municipalities	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow input by CRPR into all municipal decisions made on park equipment purchases, park renovations, installation of new play equipment, etc. 	Staff time/municipalities	√	→	→
1.5 Focus on ways to return appropriate park areas into natural environments				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicate with CRPR maintenance staff and CRPA Sustainability Planner regarding naturalization opportunities. 	Staff time/Natural Resource Supervisor (NRS)	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Field view parks and list opportunities to naturalize non-programmed park areas. 	Staff time/NRS	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> List and prioritize naturalization areas. 	Staff time/NRS, municipalities	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinate naturalization implementations. 	Staff time/NRS	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote CRPR staff training in natural area maintenance. 	Staff time/NRS	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a natural resource maintenance management plan for the park system. 	Staff time/NRS	√	→	→
1.6 Develop a cohesive park system				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Form a Park Design Working Group to develop a CRPR Park Design Guide. 	Staff time	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a CRPR Park Design Guide 	Staff time	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Share the draft CRPR Park Design Guide with municipalities and finalize. 	Staff time/municipalities	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and update the CRPR Park Design Guide every five years. 	Staff time/municipalities		√	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include CRPR staff on park master planning project study committees. 	Municipalities	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage CRPR involvement in park capital improvement decision. 	Municipalities	√	→	→

Core Theme 2 – Diversify Funding Strategies				
Action Item Symbol: ✓ Start Project → Continue Implementation	Cost/Source/Responsibilities	2020-2022	2023-2026	2027-2030+
2.1 Establish a Parks Foundation				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establish a Parks Foundation to raise funds to help satisfy parks and recreation needs. 	Staff time/COG	✓	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gather information on foundation formation, including meeting with the Schlow Library Director and Library Foundation representatives and State College Area School District Education Foundation representatives. 	Staff time	✓	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Set up a task force to form the Parks Foundation and recruit key community business leaders for the task force. 	Staff time	✓	→	→
2.2 Develop stable alternative funding sources				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Obtain funding assistance from sports groups for maintenance and development of the parks and recreation facilities they utilize. 	Staff time	✓	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop a signature fund raiser for each of these CRPR programming areas – Active Adult Center, Millbrook Marsh Nature Center, aquatics, family special events, and sports. 	Staff time	✓	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Utilize programming to generate increased net revenue. 	Staff time	✓	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cover the costs of community special events entirely through business sponsorships. 	Staff time	✓	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Undertake a campaign to raise expanded funds for the youth scholarship program and identify ways to fully expend these funds each year. 	Staff time	✓	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Explore setting aside a dedicated portion of real estate taxes for parks and recreation. 	COG/Municipalities		✓	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Explore the creation of a local option tax to support park maintenance and operations such as a restaurant/beverage tax, hotel bed tax, or entertainment/amusement tax. 	COG/Municipalities		✓	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Set up an online store with branded items such as t-shirts, jackets and gym bags and focus the proceeds from sales on a movement (such as youth scholarships) to boost sales. 	Staff time	✓	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pursue naming rights for specific recreation facilities. 	Staff time/COG	✓	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continue to create revenue by pursuing foundation grants. 	Staff time	✓	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adjust fees and charges to be competitive with market rates. 	Staff time/COG	✓	→	→
2.3 Update the pricing and revenue policy to determine sustainable pricing methods				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consider updating the pricing and revenue policy by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identifying the level of benefit a customer receives to determine the financial subsidy level. - Calculating the cost of services including direct and indirect costs. - Evaluating the average market rate for similar services. - Determining the cost recovery percentage goals by considering the level of benefit, cost of service, and the availability of funding. - Ensuring affordable access to recreation programs and facilities by providing scholarships. - Using differential pricing methods. 	Staff time	✓	→	→

Core Theme 3 – Strengthen and Enhance Recreation Program Opportunities

Action Item	Cost/Source/Responsibilities	2020-2022	2023-2026	2027-2030+
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3.1 Enhance the recreation programs and special events offered to allow everyone the opportunity and ability to participate

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a formal inclusion policy that outlines CRPR goals, guidelines and procedures that help ensure all members of the community can access recreation programs, facilities and services. 	Staff time	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offer recreation program and activity opportunities for the LGBTQ community, refugee and immigrant communities, multicultural/racial/ethnic communities, and individuals with physical or cognitive disability, in partnership with other community agencies. 	Staff time	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add recreation program opportunities for non-sports-oriented children and families. 	Staff time	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grow and modify family recreation programming through partnerships. 	Staff time	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish equity initiatives to improve CRPR supports for populations challenged by socio-economic factors, including ensuring affordable access by continuing and expanding the youth scholarship program. 	Staff time	√	→	→

3.2 Offer affordable local alternatives to travel-based youth sports

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offer introduction to sports programs for toddlers and preschoolers. 	Staff time	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offer expanded non-travel-based recreational youth sports opportunities for elementary, middle school, and high school age children. 	Staff time	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage sport sampling for children under the age of 12, rather than concentration on one sport year-round. 	Staff time	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work towards consolidation of the fragmented and duplicated community youth sports programs that are competing for participants. 	Staff time	√	→	→

3.3 Build on successful recreation programs and offer new programs

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate recreation programs on an annual basis and discontinue programs that are not successful based on participation numbers, revenue generated and/or staff time. 	Staff time	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus on improving recreation program quality through the results of participant evaluations and instructor evaluations completed for every program. 	Staff time	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilize successful CRPR recreation program niches for program expansion. 	Staff time	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand the use of State College Area School District facilities, particularly indoor facilities, to offer recreation programs. 	Staff time	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Find an indoor venue to lease to expand recreation program opportunities during the school year and cold winter months. Lease expenses should be factored into program fees. 	Staff time/COG	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand partnerships whenever and wherever possible for new and existing recreation programs. 	Staff time	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand use of neighborhood parks for environmental programs, utilizing the expertise of the staff at Millbrook Marsh Nature Center to train 	Staff time	√	→	→

part-time staff and/or volunteers to conduct the neighborhood park programs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offering new recreation programs each year. 	Staff time	√	→	→
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Core Theme 4 – Promote Parks and Recreation Opportunities

Action Item Symbol: √ Start Project → Continue Implementation	Cost/Source/Responsibilities	2020-2022	2023-2026	2027-2030+
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4.1 Develop and implement a comprehensive marketing plan

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a work team of marketing professionals, Parks and Recreation Authority members, and CRPR staff to develop the plan. 	Staff time	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Share the purpose behind recreation programming and parks with fact sheets filled with benefits and statistics about the positive results of recreation programs, the use of parks and recreation facilities, and the conditions and needs of the parks and recreation system to educate local opinion and public leaders who can advocate for and influence funding. 	Staff time	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use a broad array of techniques and strategies to reach diverse audiences including social media influencers, staff outreach, bloggers, program banners, word of mouth networks, program participant and park user testimonials, and community liaisons. 	Staff time	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the annual budget for marketing and promotion to include direct mailing the CRPR Active Guide. 	COG	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote CRPR park areas, recreation facilities and recreation programs through the State College Area School District using a seasonal digital newsletter emailed to families. 	Staff time	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revise the CRPR annual report to be a marketing piece with photos of programs in action and testimonials from program participants, program partners and business sponsors about how the programs benefit them, highlights from the past year, and important statistics and financial information. 	Staff time	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a written inclusion statement that promotes and values the involvement of all persons in recreation program offerings and at park areas and recreation facilities. Place this statement on the CRPR website, in the Active Guide and in program newsletters. 	Staff time	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approach partner organizations such as the Schlow Library to include links to the CRPR website on their websites and to promote through their social media networks. CRPR should do the same for all partners. 	Staff time	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add the year CRPR was formed to written materials to showcase its success and longevity in providing services to the region. 	Staff time	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilize the key messages of learning; active, healthy living; conservation of natural resources; and social equity in marketing and promotion of CRPR services. 	Staff time	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate the effectiveness of the marketing strategies and outreach activities annually to assess progress and improve performance. 	Staff time	√	→	→

4.2 Utilize a marketing classification for park areas and recreation facilities

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilize 10 different “character” classifications that describe the primary park experiences to point residents to the parks that best fit their interests. 	Staff time	√	→	→
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Place the parks of the Centre Region into primary and secondary classifications based on the experiences each park offers. 	Staff time	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilize park character icons in the listings and maps of park locations, and park signs. 	Staff time	√	→	→
4.3 Consider referring to the agency as ‘Centre Region Parks and Rec’ rather than CRPR				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use Centre Region Parks and Rec to refer to and promote the agency’s services to better identify and position the agency from a branding standpoint. 	Staff time	√	→	→
4.4 Promote regional outdoor recreation opportunities				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide information to residents via the CRPR website about regional outdoor park locations and recreation opportunities. 	Staff time	√	→	→

Core Theme 5 – Address Indoor Recreation Facility and Program Space Needs

Action Item	Cost/Source/Responsibilities	2020-2022	2023-2026	2027-2030+
Symbol: √ Start Project → Continue Implementation				
5.1 Adopt a memorandum of understanding with the State College Area School District				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopt a written memorandum of understanding between CRPR and the State College Area School District to improve access to and ensure that school buildings and grounds remain available for public use for recreation activities. 	COG/School District/Staff time	√	→	→
5.2 Complete an indoor recreation center feasibility study				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct a feasibility study to explore the need for an indoor recreation/aquatic center, including defining the center components, gauging public support, estimating financial investment and operations and management costs, and defining a strategy for moving forward if deemed feasible. 	COG/Staff time		√	→

Core Theme 6 – Address Outdoor Recreation Facility Needs

Action Item	Cost/Source/Responsibilities	2020-2022	2023-2026	2027-2030+
Symbol: √ Start Project → Continue Implementation				
6.1 Develop regional parks				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop all planned phases of the regional parks. 	TBD/grants, municipal-COG funds/COG		√	→
6.2 Develop a strategy to introduce missing special use park facilities				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore opportunities to incorporate special use park facilities into existing or new park sites. 	Staff time/municipalities, COG, staff	√	→	→
6.3 Develop an Action Sports Park				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the recommendations of the Action Sport Park report. 	TBD/grants, municipal-COG funds/COG	√		

Core Theme 7 – Expand Environmental Sustainability Opportunities

Action Item	Cost/Source/Responsibilities	2020-2022	2023-2026	2027-2030+
Symbol: √ Start Project → Continue Implementation				
7.1 Hire a Natural Resource Supervisor				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hire a Natural Resource Supervisor to champion natural aspects of the park system. 	TBD/COG/COG	√		
7.2 Expand environmental outreach				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand environmental outreach within parks through demonstration project, signs, recycling, etc. 	TBD/COG, grants/staff	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pair environmental park initiatives with information on the CRPR website. 	Staff time	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan for the potential impacts of climate change. 	Staff time	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with municipalities to install solar panels to provide power to park facilities. 	Staff time	√	→	→

Core Theme 8 – Design Parks that Promote Resident Health, Happiness and Well-Being

Action Item Symbol: √ Start Project → Continue Implementation	Cost/Source/Responsibilities	2020-2022	2023-2026	2027-2030+
8.1 Create park amenities that celebrate unique characteristics and features				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Incorporate art, sculpture, art walk, etc. in parks. 	TBD/staff	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Incorporate interpretative signs in parks to provide information on art, history, culture, and the environment. 	TBD/staff	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Incorporate unique park features that enhance the visitor’s experience. 	TBD/staff	√	→	→
8.2 Enhance convenience of visiting parks				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Incorporate features and facilities to enhance the convenience of visiting parks. 	TBD/COG, municipalities/staff, municipalities	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Incorporate improvements that extend use through the winter months. 	TBD/COG, municipalities/staff, municipalities	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support the development of regional and local pedestrian and bicycle connections from neighborhoods and schools to parks. 	Staff time	√	→	→
8.3 Introduce technology to parks				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Introduce technology into park site. 	TBD/COG, municipalities/staff, municipalities	√	→	→
8.4 Accommodate special events and community celebrations				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop a large outdoor amphitheater in a park. 	TBD/COG, municipalities/staff, municipalities	√		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Incorporate flexible space in parks that can be used for special events. 	Staff time	√	→	→

Core Theme 9 – Strengthen Resident Involvement

Action Item Symbol: √ Start Project → Continue Implementation	Cost/Source/Responsibilities	2020-2022	2023-2026	2027-2030+
9.1 Establish a Friends of Centre Region parks group				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establish the purpose of the Friends of Centre Region Parks. 	Staff time		√	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consider forming the Friends group beneath the umbrella of a Parks Foundation. 	Staff time		√	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continue to implement and grow the existing Park Partners program, which matches groups, organizations and businesses with specific parks for volunteer support. 	Staff time	√	→	→
9.2 Strengthen communications between CRPR and the municipal parks and recreation committees.				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Match one CRPR staff member with each municipal parks and recreation committee to attend their monthly meetings as a liaison. 	Staff time	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continue the practice of the resident representatives to the Parks and Recreation Authority also serving on their municipal parks and recreation committees. 	Municipalities	√	→	→

Core Theme 10 – Eliminate the Governance Structure Confusion

Action Item Symbol: √ Start Project → Continue Implementation	Cost/Source/Responsibilities	2020-2022	2023-2026	2027-2030+
10.1 Define and document the roles and responsibilities of the Parks and Recreation Authority				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Focus the Authority as the advisory board for CRPR, providing advice, acting as a sounding board, and making recommendations, with no governing decision-making authority over CRPR. 	Municipalities/COG/School District	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continue the Authority’s role as a financing and decision-making entity for the capital development of regional parks and recreation facilities, working 	Municipalities/COG/School District	√	→	→

<p>within the framework and approval of the COG General Forum for financing and not as an independent body.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update the 1974 Articles of Agreement for the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Board as the basis to define in writing the roles and responsibilities of the Parks and Recreation Authority as an advisory board. Train Authority board members on their roles and responsibilities, which must include direct lines of communication with their appointing entity. Leverage the Authority members' expertise, influence and contacts to strengthen municipal and school district connections, establish new partnerships and provide access to potential resources for promotion, funding and volunteers. 	<p>Municipalities/COG/School District</p> <p>Staff time</p> <p>Staff time</p>	<p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p>	<p>→</p> <p>→</p> <p>→</p>	<p>→</p> <p>→</p> <p>→</p>
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10.2 Amend the articles of incorporation of the Parks and Recreation Authority

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amend the articles of incorporation to accurately reflect the five municipalities that support CRPR (removing Halfmoon Township) and include the State College Area School District as an official member of the Authority with the ability to appoint its representatives. Spell out the roles and responsibilities of the Authority in the amended articles of incorporation. Expand the membership of the Authority from 6 to 12 members by including one elected official (or municipal staff member) and one resident from each municipality, and one elected school board member and one school district administrator (potentially the Director of Buildings and Grounds or Athletic Director) from the school district. Evaluate the need to continue the COG Parks Capital Committee. 	<p>Municipalities/COG/School District</p> <p>Municipalities/COG/School District</p> <p>Municipalities/COG</p>	<p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p>	<p>→</p> <p>→</p> <p>→</p>	<p>→</p> <p>→</p> <p>→</p>
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10.3 Take care of tasks associated with streamlining the governance of CRPR

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make all CRPR employees COG employees, with no more Authority employees. Eliminate 'Authority-designated' operating budgets. Turn Authority leases over to the COG over time, with new leases signed by the COG. Transfer ownership of park areas and recreation facilities from the Authority to the COG over time. Separate Authority debt from COG capital budgets for parks and recreation. 	<p>COG/Authority</p> <p>COG/Authority</p> <p>COG/Authority</p> <p>COG/Authority</p>	<p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p> <p>√</p>	<p>→</p> <p>→</p> <p>→</p> <p>→</p>	<p>→</p> <p>→</p> <p>→</p> <p>→</p>
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Core Theme 11 – Enhance and Formulate Strong and Broad Partnerships

Action Item	Cost/Source/Responsibilities	2020-2022	2023-2026	2027-2030+
Symbol: √ Start Project → Continue Implementation				

11.1 Develop and maintain effective public and private partnerships

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify expertise that CRPR needs (marketing/promotion, sustainability, etc.) and actively pursue partners in those areas. Expand partnerships with the health care community for promotion of outdoor park experiences, self-directed recreation opportunities, and programmed recreation opportunities, keying on the important link between physical activity and better health. 	<p>Staff time</p> <p>Staff time</p>	<p>√</p> <p>√</p>	<p>→</p> <p>→</p>	<p>→</p> <p>→</p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore a partnership with Penn State University for use of its recreational facilities that are currently unavailable to the public, with CRPR holding supervised open hours for the public. 	Staff time	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek volunteer service partnerships with a wide variety of entities – parent-teacher organizations, community-based organizations, volunteer groups, churches, service clubs, businesses, etc. 	Staff time	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measure partnership effectiveness, benefits and results, through annual reviews and evaluation. 	Staff time	√	→	→

Core Theme 12 – Expand and Connect the Trail System

Action Item Symbol: √ Start Project → Continue Implementation	Cost/Source/Responsibilities	2020-2022	2023-2026	2027-2030+
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12.1 Support implementation of the Centre Region Bike Plan

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinate with the COG Bike/Pedestrian Transportation Planner and municipalities regarding trail initiatives and trail/park links. 	Staff time, COG	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify priority trail links between existing trails and parks. 	Staff time, COG	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop shared use trails in parks for recreation and accessibility purposes. 	TBD/grants, municipalities, municipalities	√	→	→

12.2 Support trail initiatives in the region

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinate with the COG Bike/Pedestrian Transportation Planner and municipalities regarding trail initiatives. 	Staff time, COG	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinate with the COG Bike/Pedestrian Transportation Planner and municipalities regarding status of trails cleared in winter and coordinate connectivity between municipalities to establish continuous winter bike routes. 	Staff time	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to promote trail safety and education through CRPR programs. 	Staff time	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporate COG bike/pedestrian information and direction signs in parks. 	Staff time, COG	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the Bellefonte Central Rail Trail initiative. 	Staff time	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support bicycle and pedestrian facilities identified on municipal official maps. 	Staff time	√	→	→
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the Harvest Fields Community Trails initiative. 	Staff time	√	→	→

Core Theme 13 – Assess Level of Staffing

Action Item Symbol: √ Start Project → Continue Implementation	Cost/Source/Responsibilities	2020-2022	2023-2026	2027-2030+
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13.1 Plan for the hiring of new staff positions phased over the next 10 years

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prioritize the creation and hiring of these full-time staff positions over the next 10 years: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Therapeutic recreation coordinator. Park maintenance coordinator at Millbrook Marsh Nature Center. Park maintenance workers (up to six). Natural resource supervisor. Special events coordinator. Marketing and development coordinator. Sports programming assistant. Volunteer coordinator. 	COG/Staff time	√	→	→
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13.2 Apply for a DCNR Circuit Rider Grant

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approach DCNR about applying for the five-year state grant program that funds the salary of new staff positions that serve multiple municipalities. 	COG/Staff time	√	→	→
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Core Theme 14 – Make Efficient and Effective Use of Financial Resources

Action Item Symbol: √ Start Project → Continue Implementation	Cost/Source/Responsibilities	2020-2022	2023-2026	2027-2030+
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14.1 Implement recommendations that relate to financial savings

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement recommendations that help to make best use of local tax funding provided for parks and recreation services. 	Staff time	→	→	→
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Core Theme 15 – Develop Benchmark Data

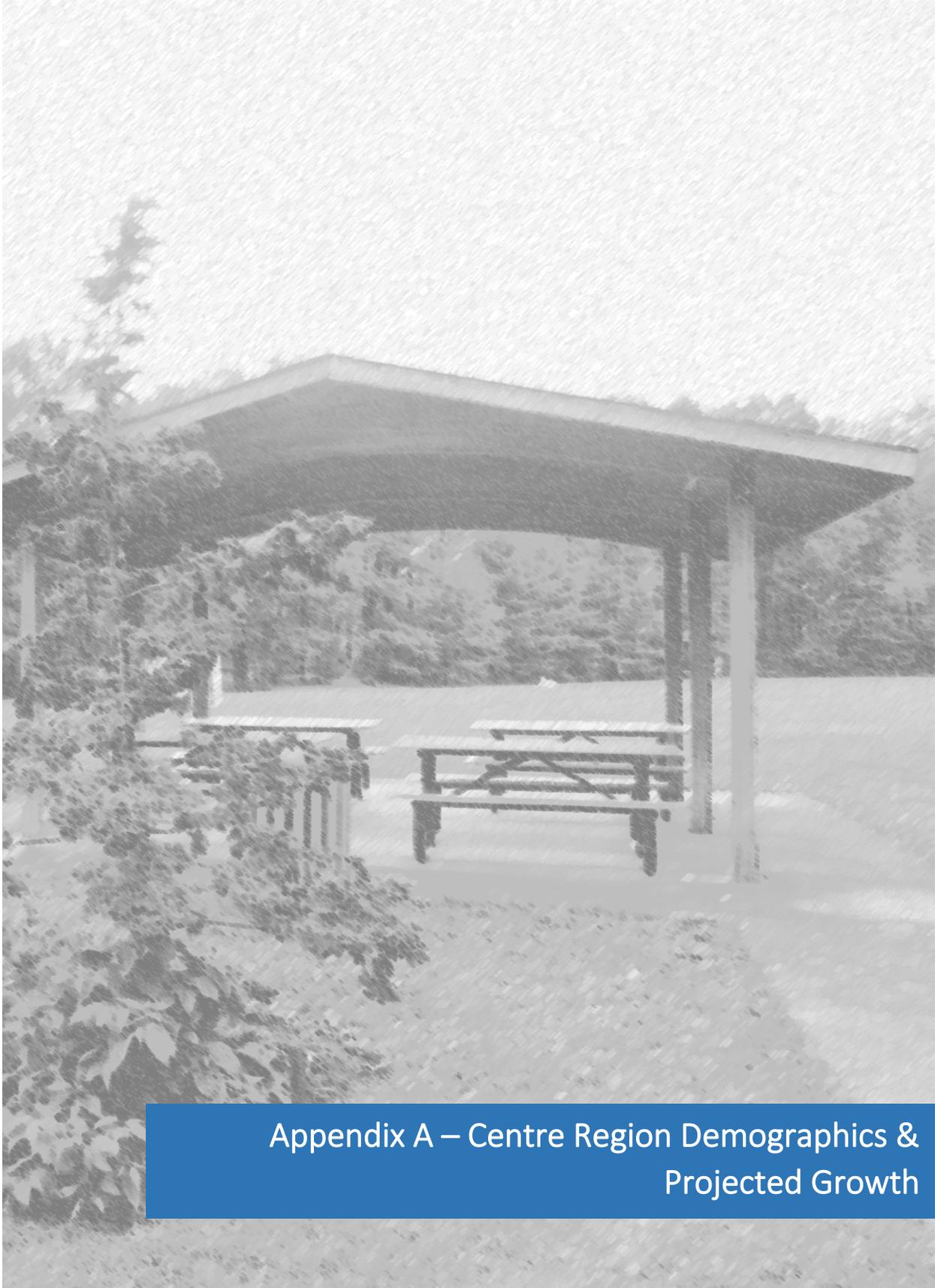
Action Item Symbol: √ Start Project → Continue Implementation	Cost/Source/Responsibilities	2020-2022	2023-2026	2027-2030+
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15.1 Develop a system of data collection and analysis

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a system of data collection to lend credibility to the financial decisions made for parks and recreation and demonstrate accountability in meeting budget goals. 	Staff time	→	→	→
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15.2 Benchmark with other parks and recreation agencies

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify parks and recreation agencies within Pennsylvania and nationwide that have a similar composition, demographics of service region, or other characteristics and share benchmark data to inform CRPR strategic planning. 	Staff time	→	→	→
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Appendix A – Centre Region Demographics & Projected Growth

Centre Region Demographics & Projected Growth

Understanding the region's population and projected growth is critical as the future of parks and recreation facilities is considered in the Centre Region. The Centre Region Council of Governments has prepared comprehensive demographic summaries for each of the six municipalities of the Centre Region and key statistics are noted below from the summaries and US Census. Refer to the Centre Region Planning Agency and US Census for more detail.

Centre Region in Centre County

Centre Region is one of seven planning regions designated in Centre County and the largest by population. In 2010 the Centre Region had a population of 92,093, greater than the combined total of the other six regions of Centre County at 61,894 population.

Centre Region is a Growing Area

The population of the six municipalities of the Centre Region is projected to grow from the 2010 population of 92,093 to 106,703 in 2030, a 15.86-percent growth over the 20-year period. Each of the six municipalities is projected to grow by over 20 percent, except State College Borough which is projected to grow at 3.51%. An increase of 14,610 people in the Centre Region by 2030 will add extra demands on the existing parkland in the region.

Student Population affects Median Age

The Centre Region is home to Penn State University, with a typical enrollment of 46,270 (2018) students. The student population affects the median ages of State College Borough, which was 21.5 in 2010, compared to the state median age of 40.1 in the same year. State College Borough had 50.5 percent of its population between 20-24 years old in 2010. Four of the municipalities in the Centre Region have a lower median age than the state while Harris Township (44.8) and Halfmoon (41.0) exceed the median age.

Centre Region has a Growing Senior Population

Residents over 65 years old grew between 2000 and 2010 as a percentage of the overall population in the Centre Region. This is not true at the state or county level where the percentage of residents over 65 years old decreased for the same time period.

Centre Region Population is Highly Educated

Centre Region residents are highly educated with an average of 64.3% of residents having a bachelor's degree or higher based on the 2013-2017 American Community Survey, compared to Centre County with 43.7% and the state with 30.1% of residents having a bachelor's degree or higher.

Parks and Recreation System Implications

This demographic information has important implications as the Centre Region strategically plans for the future of parks and recreation.

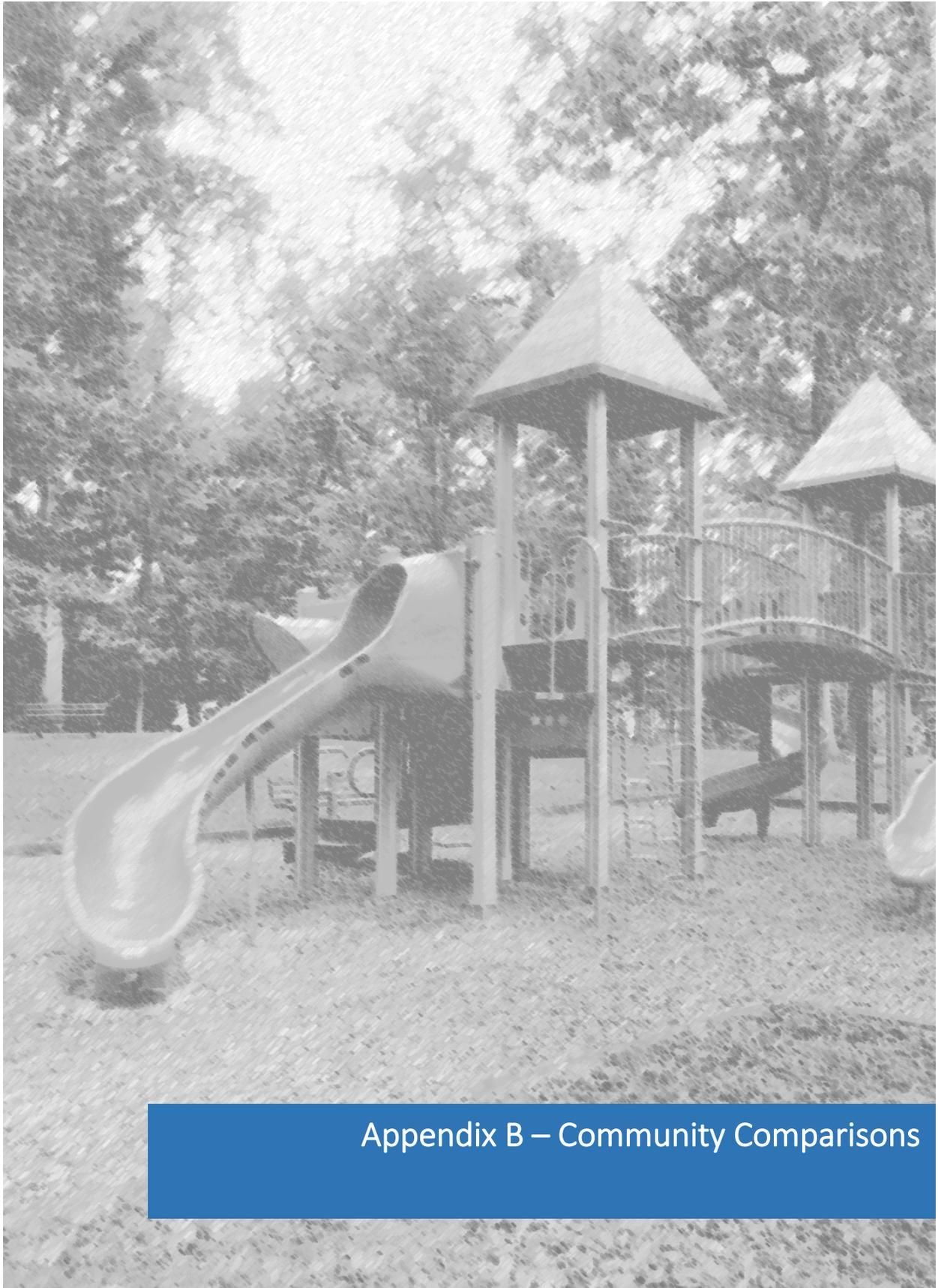
- A growing population increases demands on existing parks, recreation facilities, and trails.
- While most recreation programs currently focus on youth, the growing senior population program needs should be addressed. Park design and amenities should also consider the needs and preferences of seniors.
- The lower median ages are attributed to the Penn State University student population. Young adults are increasing reliant on technology. Ways to incorporate technology and technology amenities into parks, such as solar charging stations, should be considered.
- The highly educated population implies an interest in ongoing learning and diverse and interesting recreation programs.

Table A-1 Centre Region Race	
White	88.6%
Black or African American	2.9%
Asian	5.9%
Hispanic or Latino	2.6%
Two or More Races	1.8%

2010 US Census

Table A-2 Centre Region Income	
Median Household Income	\$76,446
Per Capita Income	\$35,851
Persons in Poverty (%)	3.2%

2013-2017 American Community Survey



Appendix B – Community Comparisons

Community Comparisons

Benchmarks Give Perspective

Benchmarking comparisons are not inherently good or bad, but instead offer perspective in considering how to move forward. Comparisons allow elected and appointed officials and staff to gauge the services of other parks and recreation systems, providing useful information for the Centre Region in working to achieve its goals.

Finding suitable comparisons for Centre Region Parks and Recreation is, however, very difficult. Although approximately 20 regional entities serving multiple municipalities exist in Pennsylvania, none come close to matching the size and scope of CRPR operations. They also are dissimilar demographically.

Pennsylvania has 67 counties and 2,560 municipalities including 58 cities, 959 boroughs, 1,546 townships and one town. About 78 percent (1,986) of Pennsylvania's municipalities have a population of less than 5,000. According to the Pennsylvania Recreation and Park Society, 347 of the state's 2,560 municipalities are members of the statewide professional organization. Of this number, approximately 200 of these municipalities have a parks and recreation department with at least one part-time staff member. The 150 or so remaining municipalities are served by volunteer parks and recreation boards. In addition, park maintenance responsibilities in many Pennsylvania municipalities are handled by public works departments, not by parks and recreation departments.

To attempt to find similar comparisons, parks and recreation departments were selected from large university towns, cities in Pennsylvania, and counties in Maryland. As there are no 'apples to apples' comparisons, the benchmark data presented in Tables B-1 and B-2 is for information purposes only, to identify some of the similarities and differences between parks and recreation services of these communities and the Centre Region.

Table B-1
Comparison of Parks and Recreation Departments – Large University Towns

Department	Population	University	Median Household Income	# of FTE Staff	# of Parks	Park Acreage	Special Facilities	Governance	Different Staff Positions	Operating Budget 2018
Centre Region Parks and Recreation	92,470 46,800*	Penn State	\$54,407	31	56	923	Nature center, 2 outdoor pools, softball complex	Council of Governments, Parks & Rec Authority	Nature Center Supervisor	\$3,379,307
City of Bloomington Parks and Recreation Department	84,067 49,695*	Indiana	\$25,377	57	34	2,275	Golf course, ice arena, 2 outdoor pools, fitness and rec center, 3 community centers, 3 natural resource areas	City Department, Board of Park Commissioners	Development Director, Inclusive Rec Coordinator, Comm Relations Coord, Natural Resource Mgr, Graphic Designer	\$7,741,033
Ann Arbor Parks and Recreation Services	113,934 46,002*	Michigan	\$57,697	47	159	2,110	2 golf courses, senior center, 2 community centers, fitness & rec center, nature center, farmers market, dirt bike course, 3 outdoor pools, indoor pool, 2 ice arenas, 3 dog parks, universal access playground, skatepark	City Department, Park Advisory Commission, Recreation Advisory Commission (joint school-municipal commission, 9 municipalities)	Market Manager, Natural Area Pres Mgr, Stewardship Specialist, Field Biologist, Volunteer/Outreach Coordinator, Community Ctr Manager	\$10,279,470
Charlottesville Parks and Recreation	45,593 24,360*	Virginia	\$44,535	52	24	752	4 spray parks, 9 rec & community centers, 2 indoor pools, outdoor pool, skatepark, farmer's market, golf course, 3 joint city/county parks	City Department, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board	Adaptive Rec Mgr, Landscape Mgr, Park and Trail Planner, Horticulture Supervisor	\$10,246,693
Iowa City Parks and Recreation	67,862 33,000*	Iowa	\$34,977	45	48	1,699	4 community gardens, 2 dog parks, farmer's market, 2 indoor rec centers, indoor pool, outdoor pool, skate park	City Department, Parks and Recreation Commission, Parks and Recreation Foundation	Special & Under-served Populations, Involvement Specialist, Communication & Special Events Supervisor	\$7,993,287

Table B-1

Comparison of Parks and Recreation Departments – Large University Towns

Department	Population	University	Median Household Income	# of FTE Staff	# of Parks	Park Acreage	Special Facilities	Governance	Different Staff Positions	Operating Budget 2018
Blacksburg Parks and Recreation	81,144 33,170*	Virginia Tech	\$40,851	43	20	510	Golf course, indoor aquatics center, nature center, dog park, 2 community centers, senior center, mountain biking skills park, 6-mile paved bike trail, community gardens, cultural center	City Department	Assistant Parks & Recreation Dir, Community Programs Supervisor, Outdoor Supervisor	\$2,344,292
Moscow Parks and Recreation	61,044 10,474*	Idaho	\$26,884	25	24	70	2 community rec centers, indoor pool, indoor ice rink, outdoor aquatic center, farmer's market, skate park, 4 community gardens	City Department, Parks and Recreation Commission	Facilities Supervisor, Assistant Parks & Recreation Director	\$3,406,905
Columbia Parks and Recreation	121,717 30,870*	Missouri	\$33,729	48	72	3,397	11 indoor facilities, 58 miles of trails	City Department, Advisory Parks and Recreation Commission	Social Services Supervisor, Park Natural Resources Supervisor, Park Planning and Development Specialist	\$5,836,383
Champaign Park District	84,004 44,000*	Illinois	\$41,403	81	61	700	Boathouse, lake, tennis center, splash pads, indoor aquatic center, downtown theatre, meeting center, community center, recreation center, cultural center	Champaign Park Board, Champaign Parks Foundation	Dir of Planning, Dir of Marketing & Communication, Special Events and Volunteer Coordinator	\$11,530,396

*University students

Table B-2
Comparison of Parks and Recreation Departments – Cities in Pennsylvania

City	Population	# of Parks	Median Household Income*	Park Acreage	Special Facilities	Governance	Operating Budget 2018
Allentown	118,032	26	\$37,256	2,000	Golf course, rose garden, 4 outdoor pools, 2 spray parks, 2 skate parks, dog park, trout nursery, roller hockey rink, 35 miles of trails, use of school district facilities	City Department, Board of Recreation, Friends of Allentown Parks	\$5,271,257
Erie	101,786	56	\$35,802		Community gardens (in addition to the parks), 3 golf courses, arboretum, amphitheater, baseball stadium, farmer's market, nature center, skate park	City Department of Public Works Property and Parks Bureau	\$2,131,310
Centre Region	92,470	56	\$54,407	924	Nature center, 2 outdoor pools, softball complex, use of school district facilities	Council of Governments, Parks & Rec Authority	\$3,379,307
Reading	88,082	28	\$27,247	138	3 recreation centers, outdoor pool, use of school district facilities	City Department of Public Works (parks) Reading Recreation Commission (recreation)	\$1,650,000 (rec) \$1,023,600 (parks)
Scranton	76,089	30	\$38,683		Indoor rec and fitness center, 7 outdoor pools, 2 waterslide complexes, indoor pool, dog park, tree house, boundless playground	City Department of Public Works Bureau of Parks and Recreation	\$721,313
Bethlehem	74,902	40	\$49,349	700	Icehouse and outdoor ice rink, skate plaza, dog park, indoor ice rink, 5 outdoor pools, rose garden, lighted outdoor tennis court complex with indoor clubhouse, 27-hole golf course, use of school district facilities	City Department of Recreation, Department of Public Works, Bethlehem Recreation Commission	\$544,579 (rec) \$3,561,888 (parks)
Lancaster	59,322	36	\$40,805	238	Indoor recreation center, 2 indoor community centers, outdoor pool, 6 wading/spray pools, petting zoo, amphitheater, community barn, street hockey rink, use of school district facilities	City Department of Public Works, Lancaster Recreation Commission	\$4,090,445 (rec) \$2,312,886 (parks)
Harrisburg	49,528	28	\$32,476	530	2 outdoor pools, baseball stadium	City Dept of Parks and Facilities Bureau of Parks, Rec & Facilities & Bureau of Park Maintenance	\$3,686,678

*Pennsylvania average median household income is \$56,951.

Another way to compare is to look at similarly-sized population areas in Pennsylvania. Table B-2 presents parks and recreation information from the cities closest in size to the Centre Region. While the population sizes may be comparable, the demographics of the cities are very different than those of the Centre Region.

Comparisons can also be made by looking at parks and recreation departments serving large regional areas. The state of Maryland was selected for comparison as many departments are county-wide, plus it is a neighboring state.

Calvert County, Maryland is 213 square miles, with 92,000 residents. It has a county-wide parks and recreation department, which includes a natural resources division. The system is divided into three districts and includes 11 regional parks, a public beach and campground, indoor aquatic center, 7 community recreation centers, golf course, skate park, equestrian facility, dog park, 9 natural resources areas, and the use of 22 school district buildings and grounds. The parks and recreation department operating budget for 2019 is \$5,766,604. The department employs 90 full-time staff.

Carroll County, Maryland is 453 square miles with 167,134 residents. The parks and recreation department features 30 parks, a nature center, an outdoor sports complex, an equestrian center, two community ponds, and a dog park. The 2019 operating budget is \$2,704,420. The department employs 43 full-time staff. Unlike Calvert County, Carroll County contains municipalities that have their own full-service parks and recreation departments. For example, the City of Westminster Department of Recreation and Parks operates 14 parks, an outdoor swimming pool, an indoor family fitness center, and year-round recreation programming.

2018 National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Agency Performance Review Key Findings

The 2018 NRPA Agency Performance Review presents the data and key insights from 1,069 parks and recreation agencies across the United States collected by the Agency Performance Survey.

Comparisons are shown below in Table B-3 for the national median and CRPR figures for 2018.

Table B-3 NRPA Comparisons		
Ratio	National Median for Parks and Recreation Departments	Centre Region Parks and Recreation
Operating expenditures per capita	\$83.33	\$37.96
Total tax expenditures per capita	\$58.71	\$24.39
Operating revenue per capita	\$22.49	\$12.58
Acres of parkland per 1,000 residents	9.8	10.0
Operating expenditures per acre	\$8,108	\$3,688
Revenue to operating expenditure	29.1%	34.0%
Number of residents per park	2,252	1,645
Number of acres per park	22.0	16.5
Number of participants per program	40	21
FTE employees per 10,000 residents	7.9	3.4
Operating expenditures per FTE	\$94,457	\$109,702

Parks and recreation departments nationwide serving a population of 50-99,999 have a median of 56.5 FTE employees. 72 percent of the departments offer specific programs for people with disabilities. Overall, communities have one indoor recreation center for every 27,375 residents.

The Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources recommends a minimum of five percent of a municipality's operating budget be spent on parks and recreation. The CRPR 2019 operating budget is 5.1 percent of the combined total operating budgets of the five municipalities.

With a population of 92,470, the Centre Region is spending \$36.54 on parks and recreation per capita based on the 2019 adopted budget of \$3,379,307. In Pennsylvania, the average municipal investment for parks and recreation is \$36 per capita. This figure is impacted, however, by 35 percent of Pennsylvania municipalities making no financial investment in parks and recreation. Nationwide, municipal spending on parks and recreation is \$83.33 per capita.



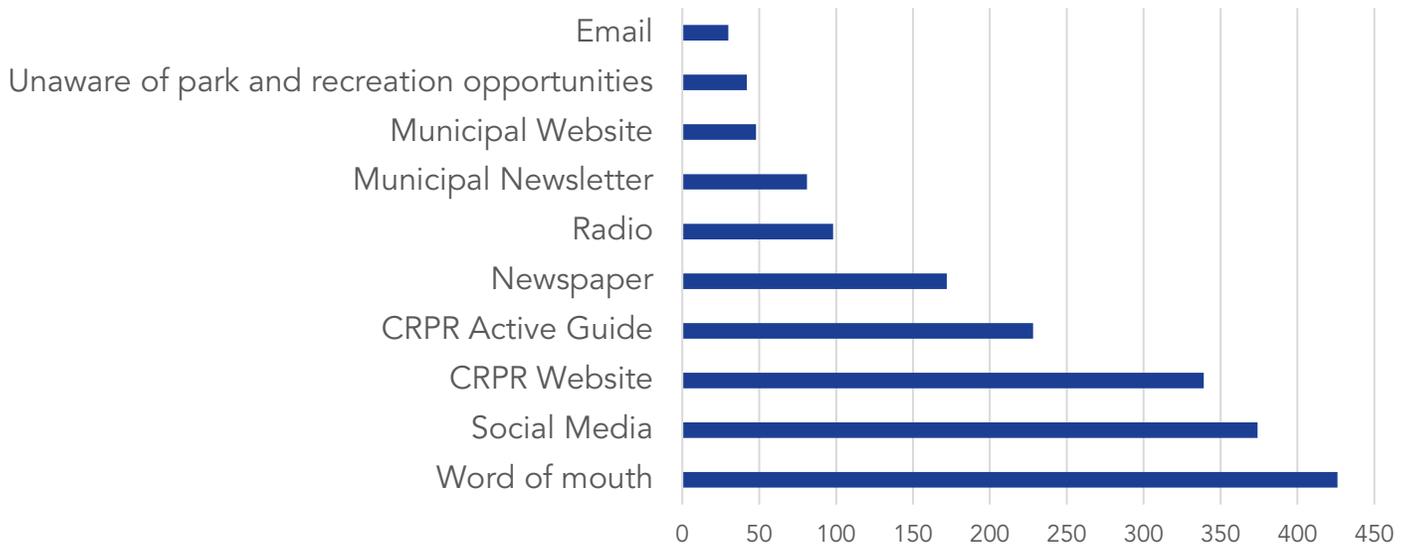
Appendix C – Online Opinion Survey and Random
Sample Mailed Survey Summary

Centre Region Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Study Online Survey Results

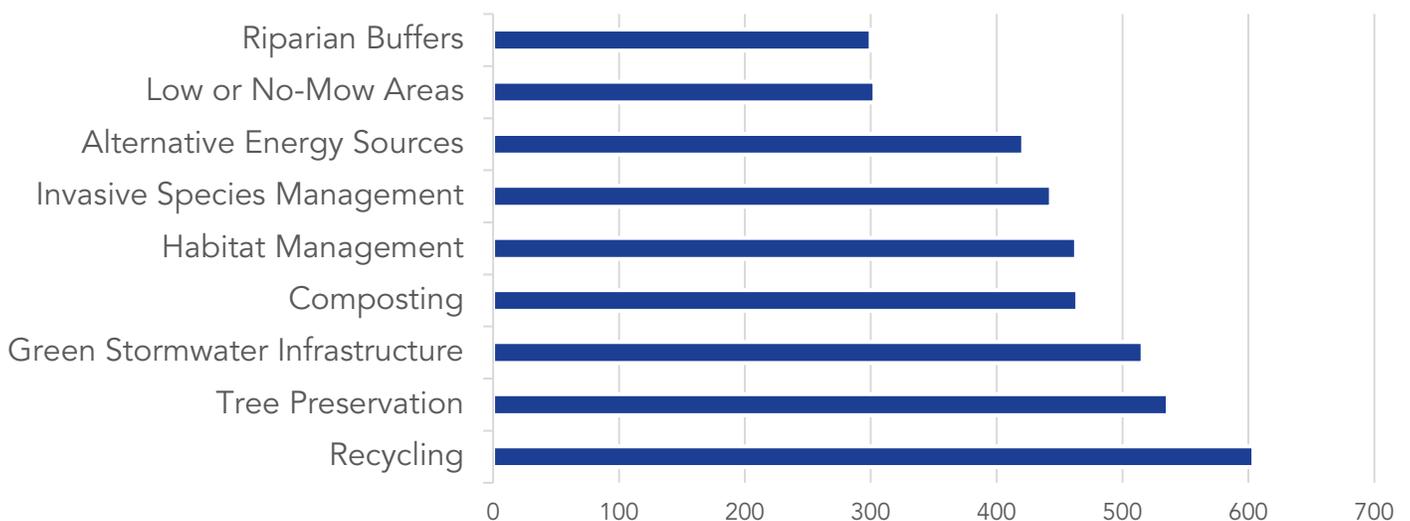
1. How do you most frequently access your local parks?



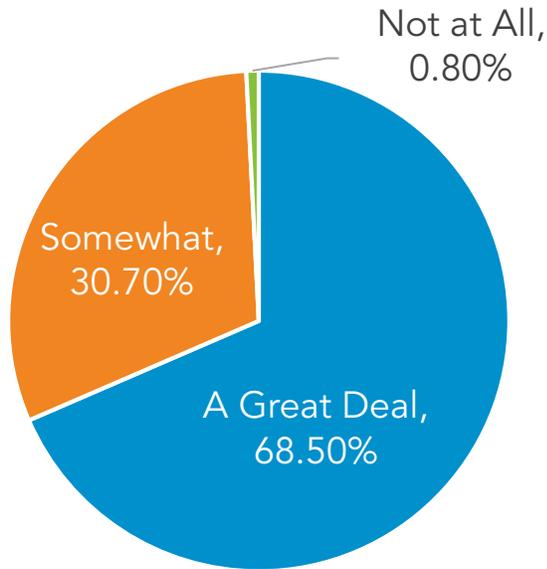
2. How do you hear about parks and recreation opportunities in the Centre Region? Select all that apply.



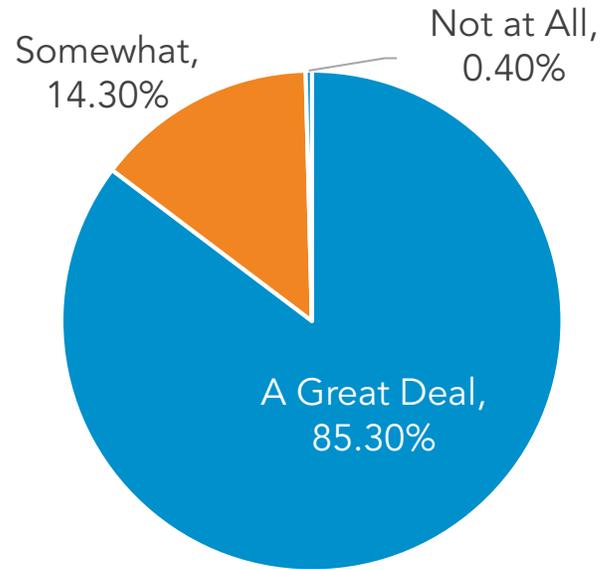
3. Which of the following environmental practices should the Centre Region promote? Select all that apply.



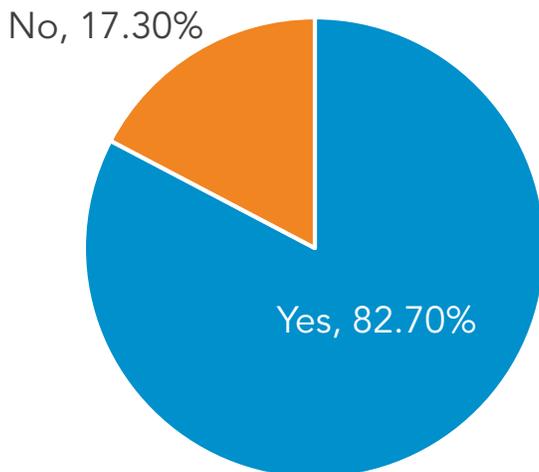
4A. To what extent do you and/or other members of your household benefit from local park and recreation opportunities?



4B. To what extent do you feel the Centre Region as a whole benefits from local park and recreation opportunities?



5. Prior to receiving this survey, were you aware of the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Agency, part of the Council of Governments (COG)?



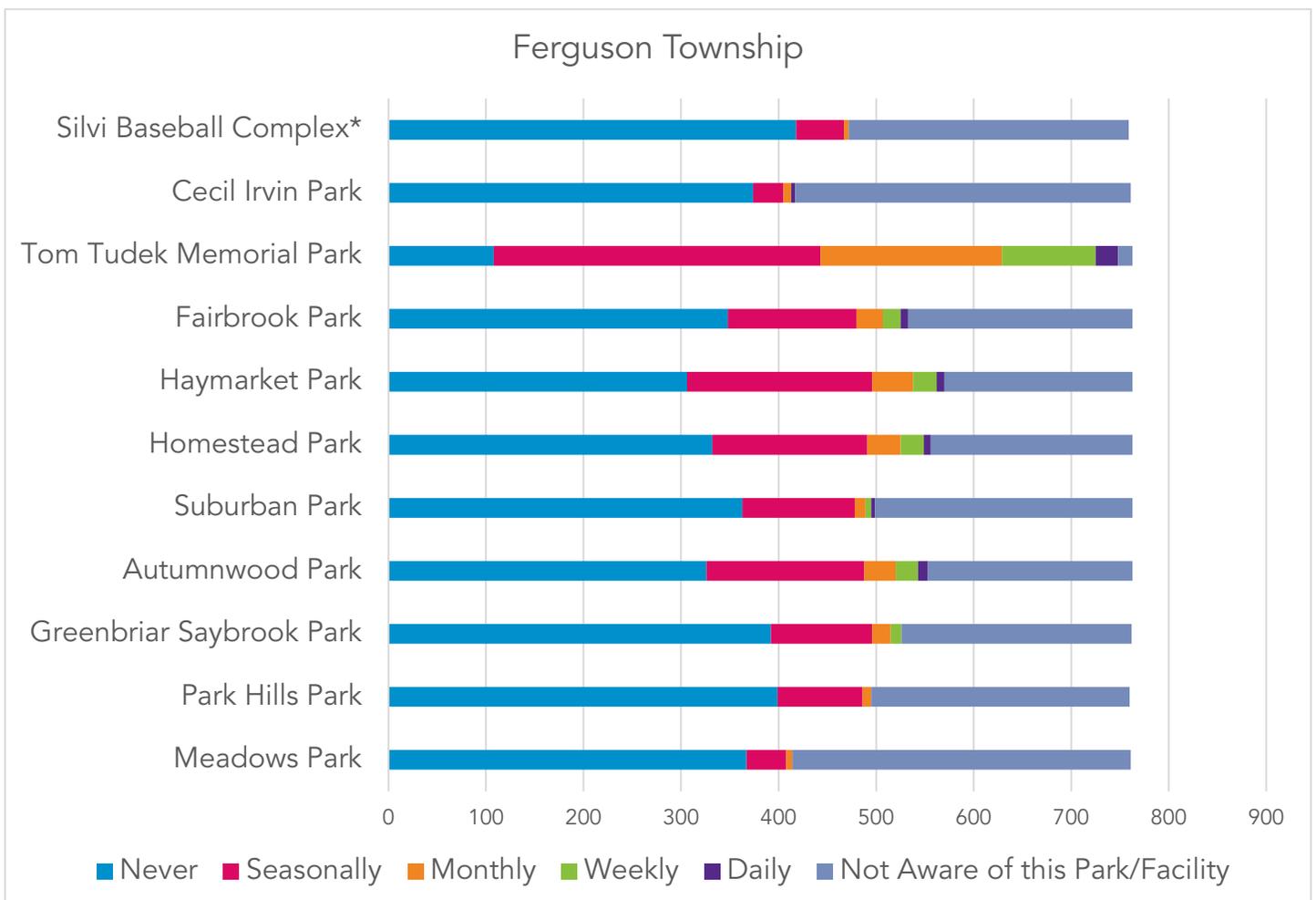
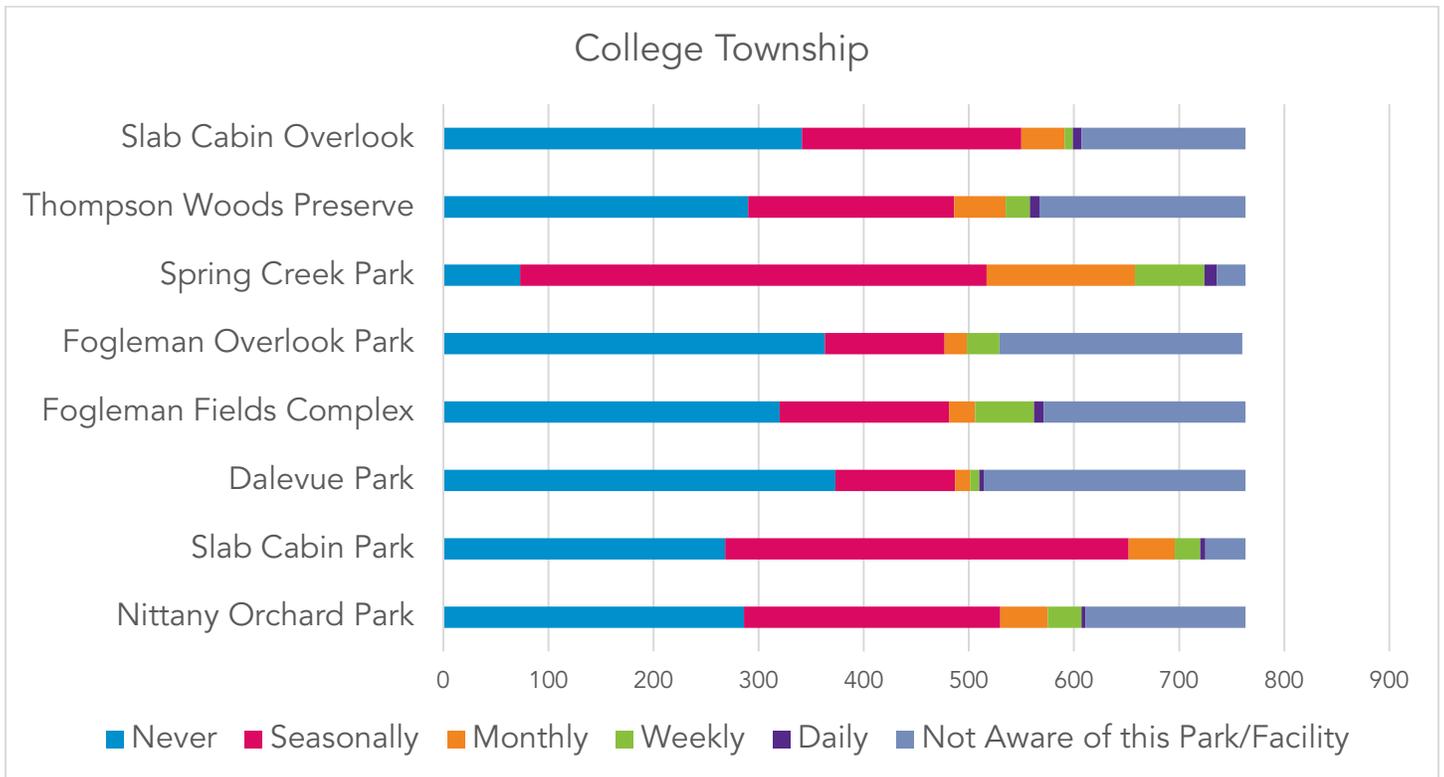
6A. How important should each CRPR planning priority be?



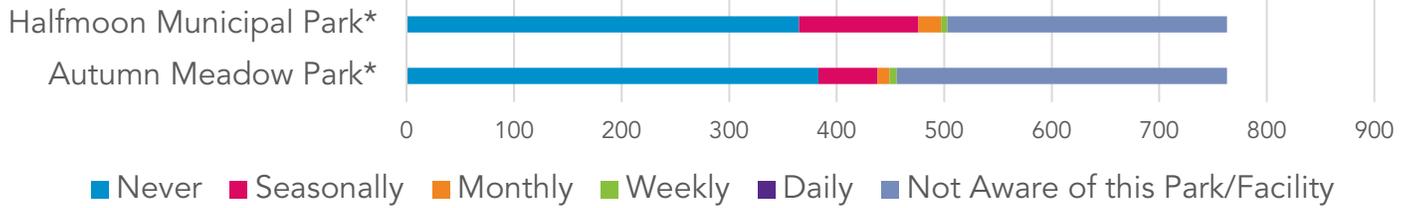
6B. How effective has CRPR been in working towards each priority?



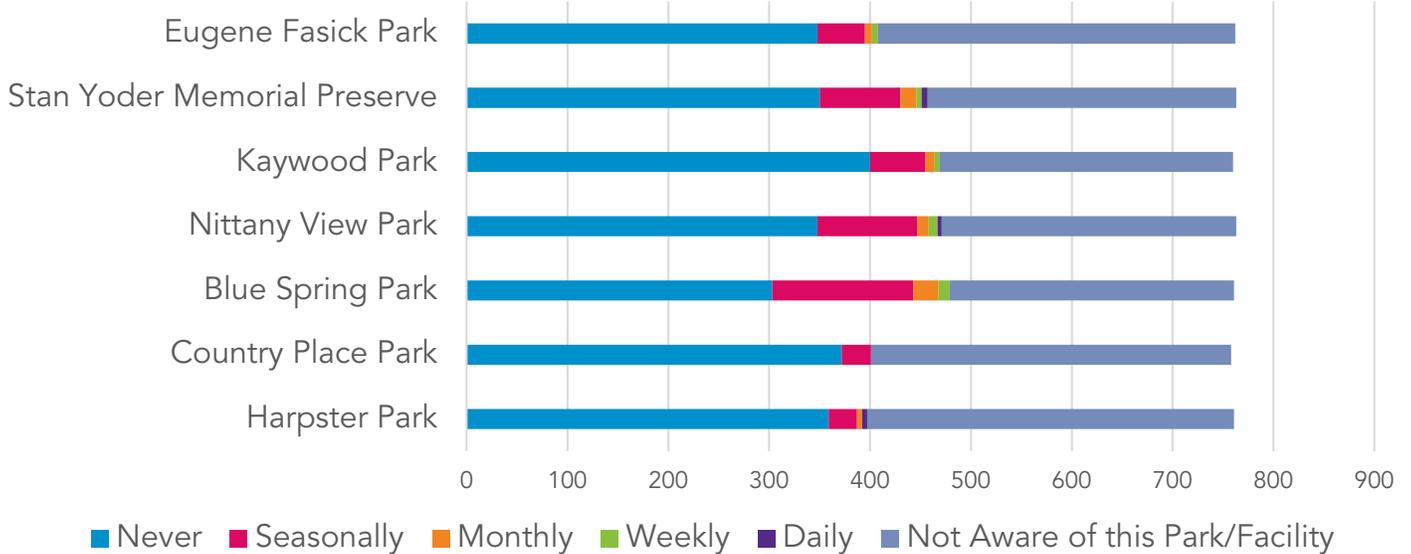
7. How often do you or members of your household visit the following CRPR park areas and recreation facilities? Choose one response for each.



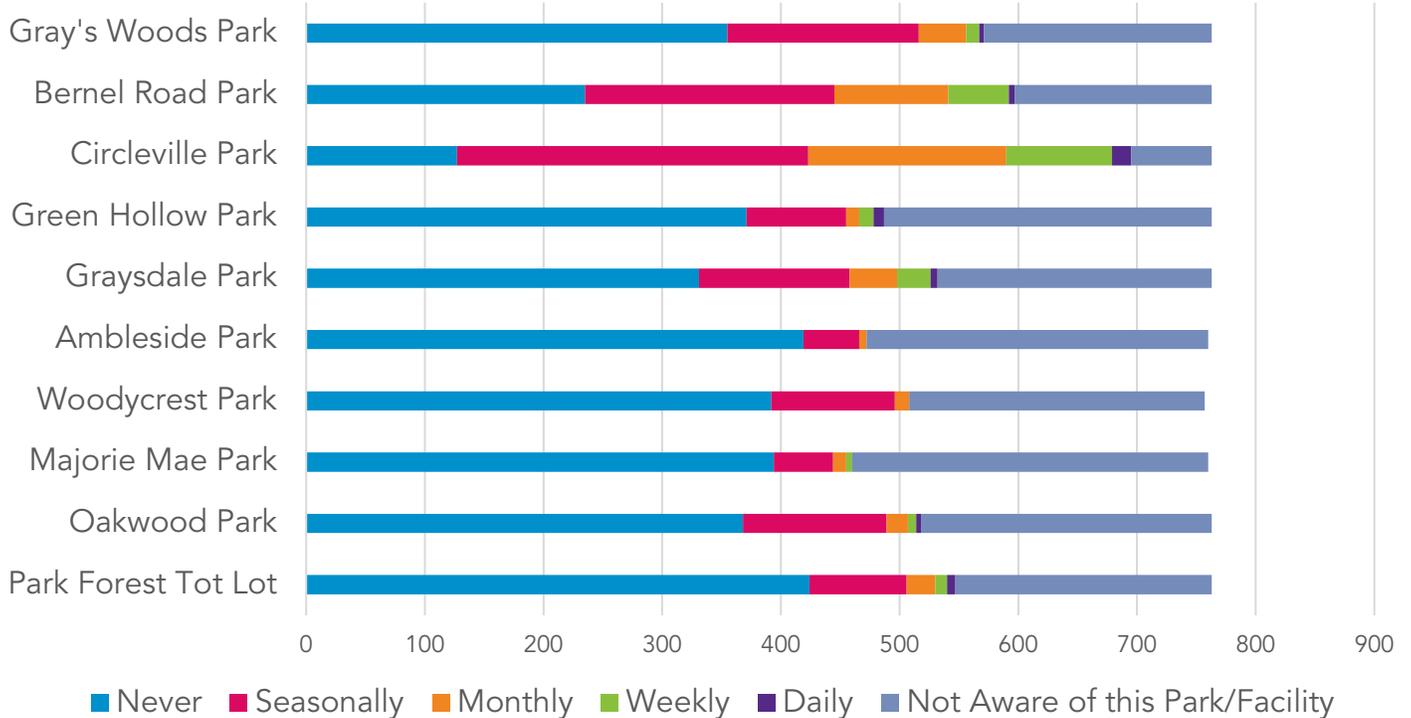
Halfmoon Township



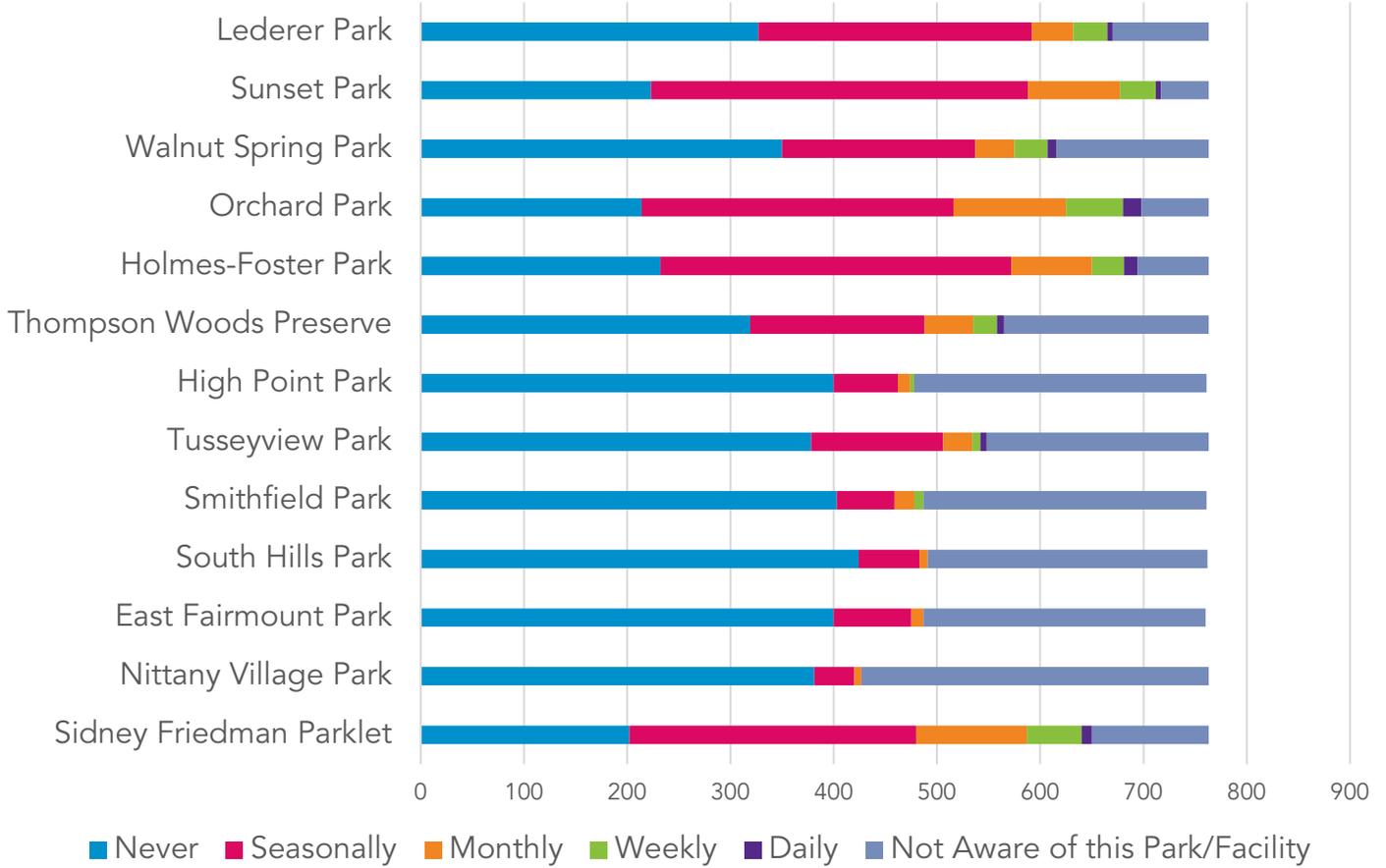
Harris Township



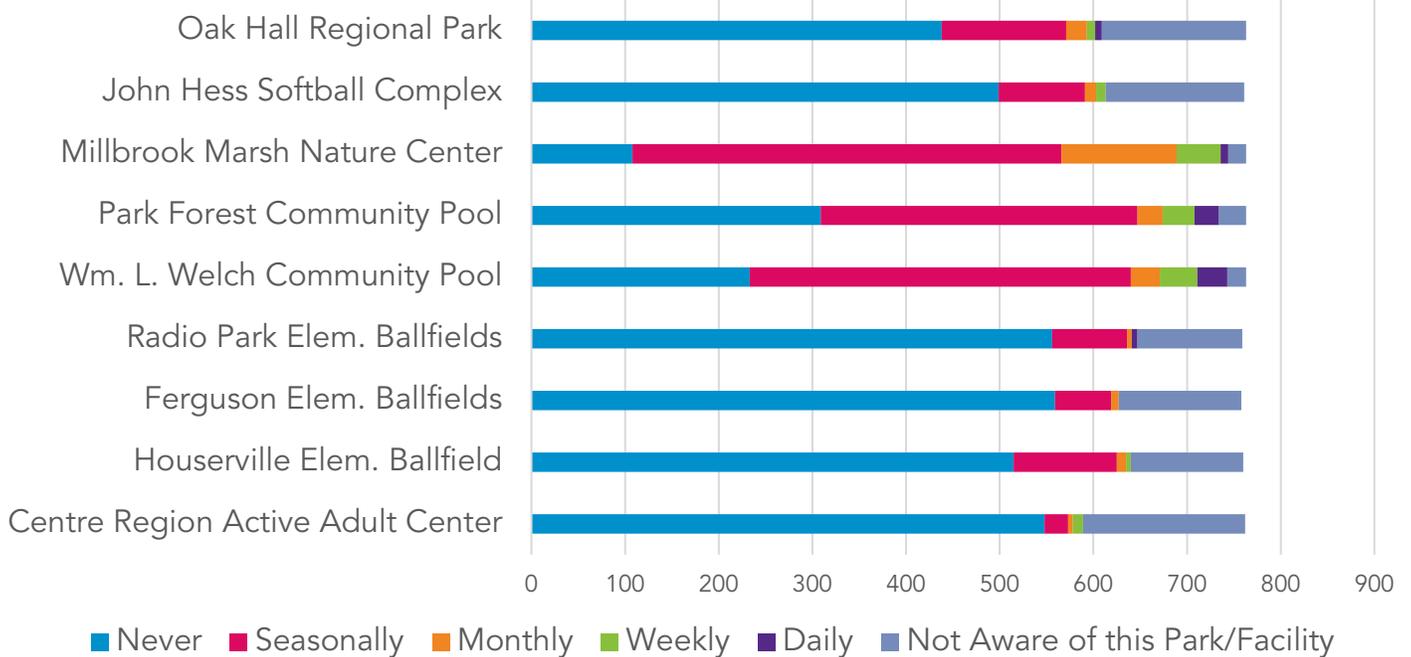
Patton Township



State College Borough

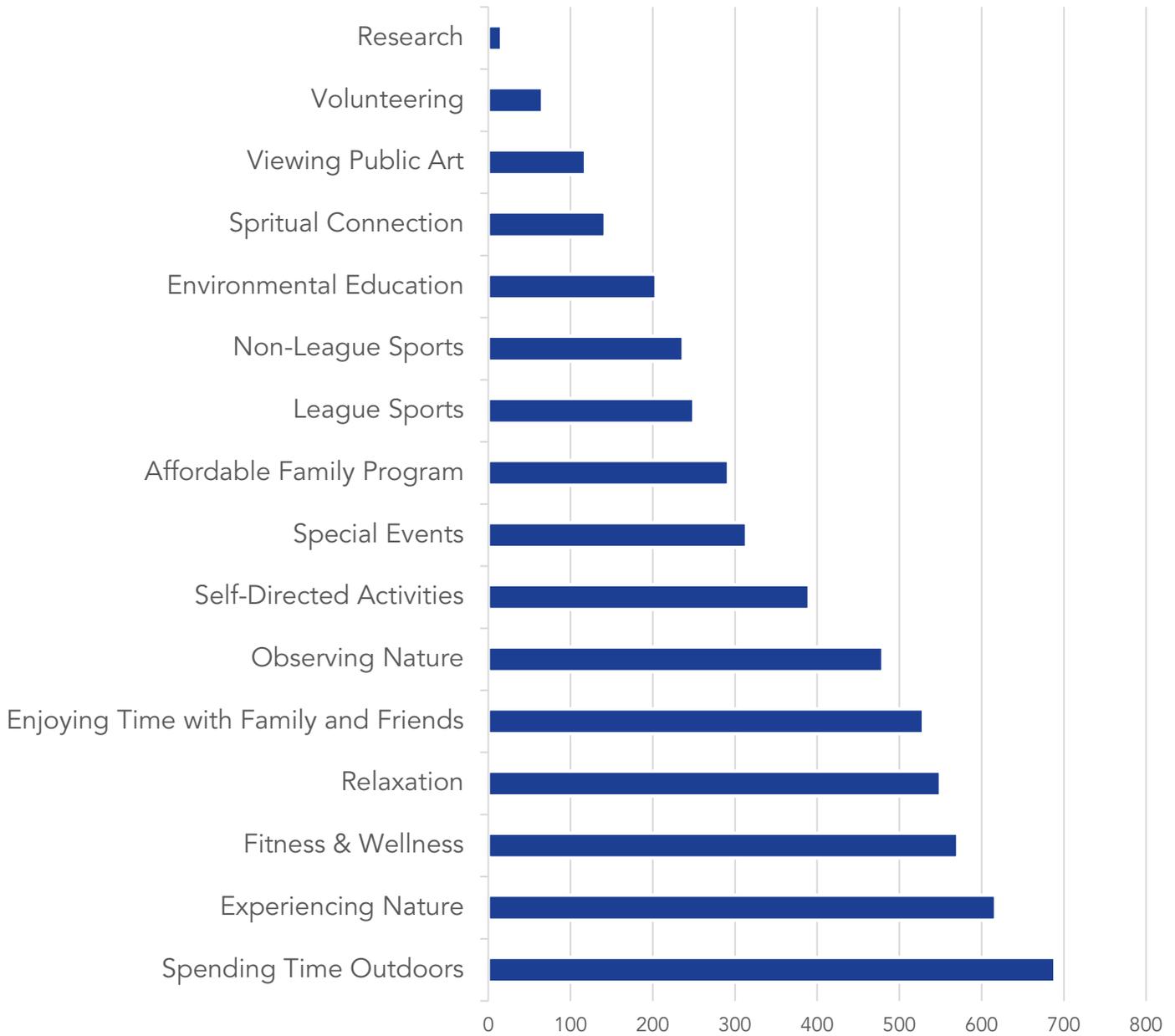


Regional Facilities

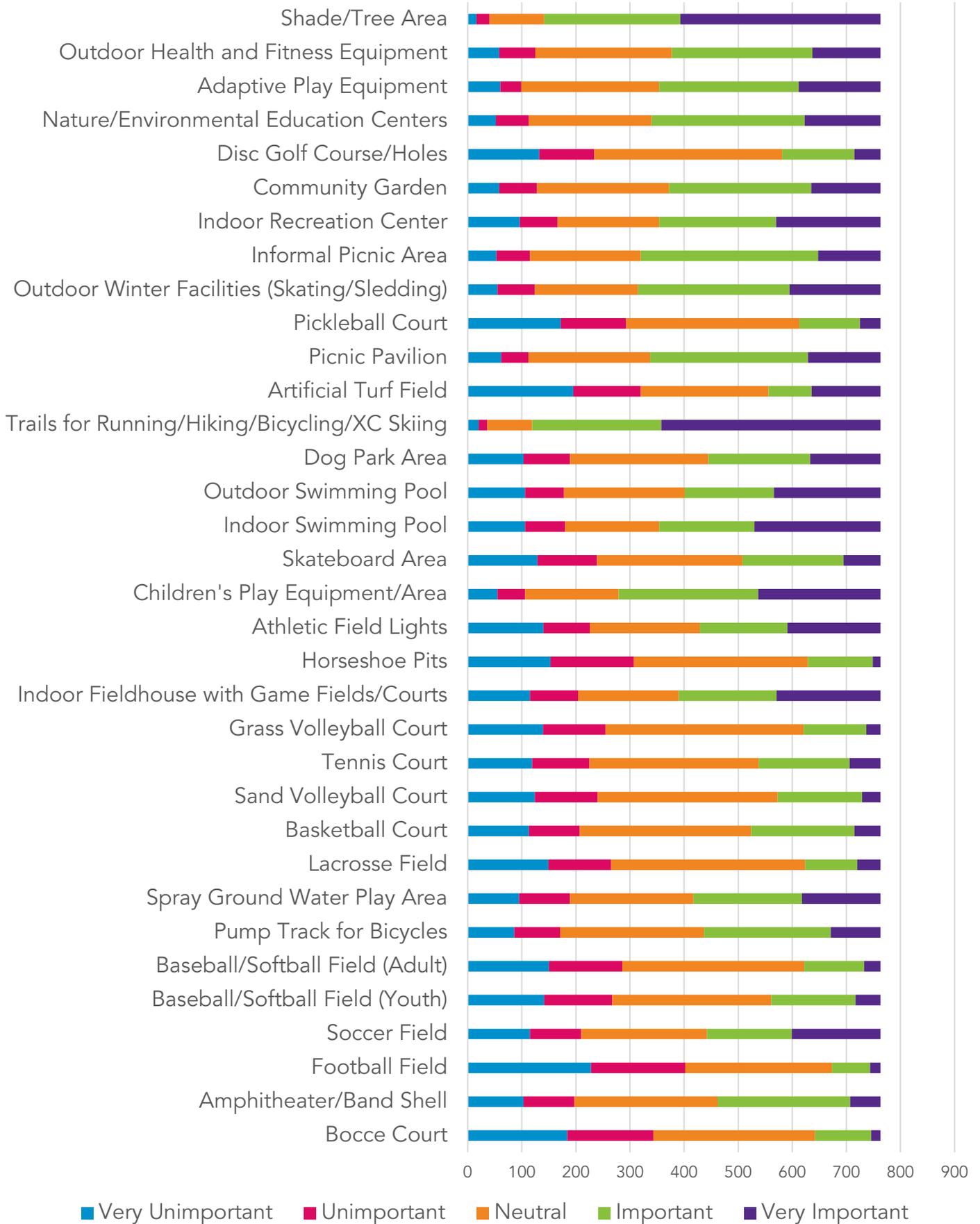


Facilities noted above with an * are not maintained by CRPR.

8. What experiences are you looking for when visiting CRPR park areas and recreation facilities? Select all that apply.



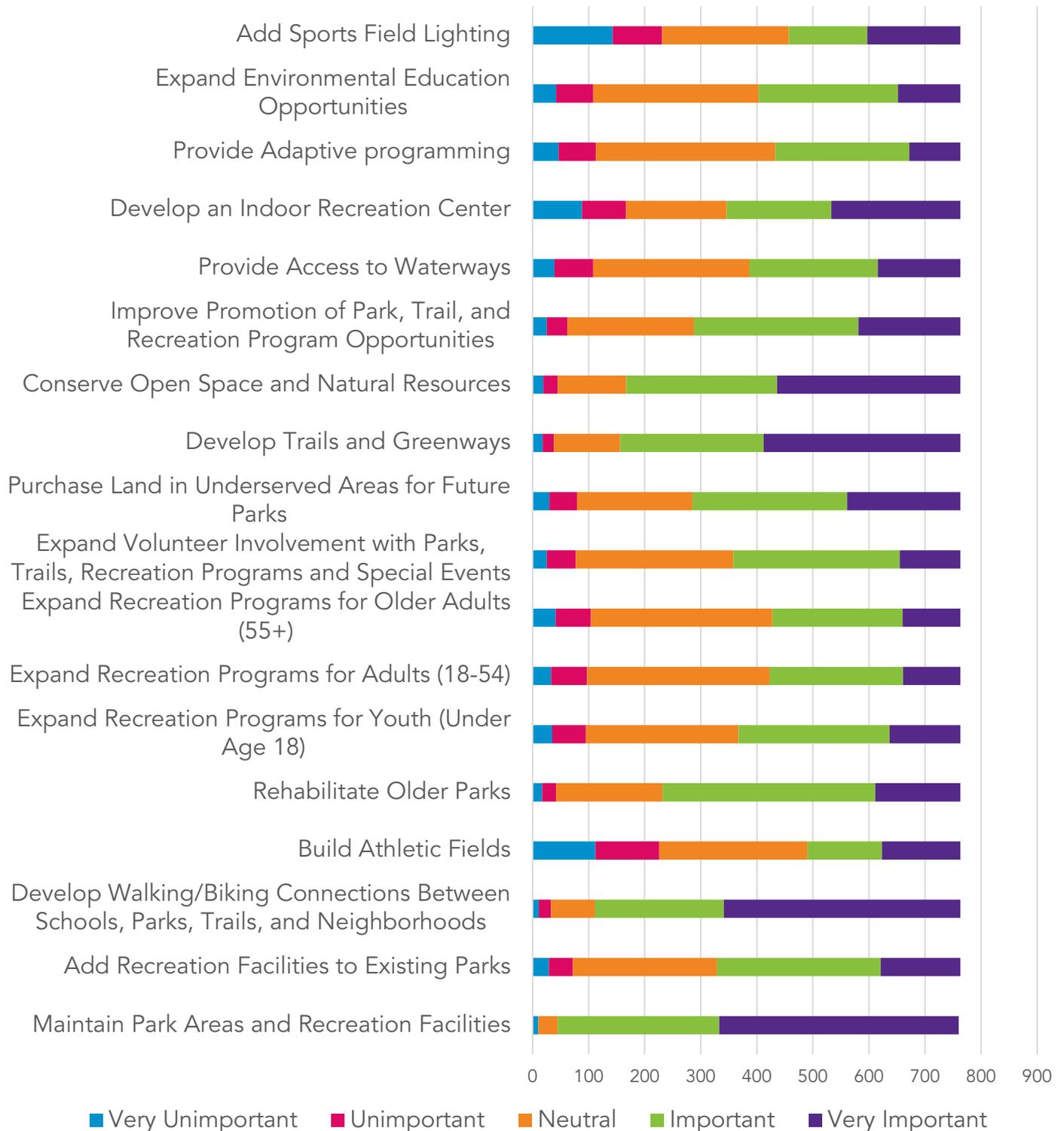
9. How important is it to expand or add the following recreation facilities in the Centre Region?



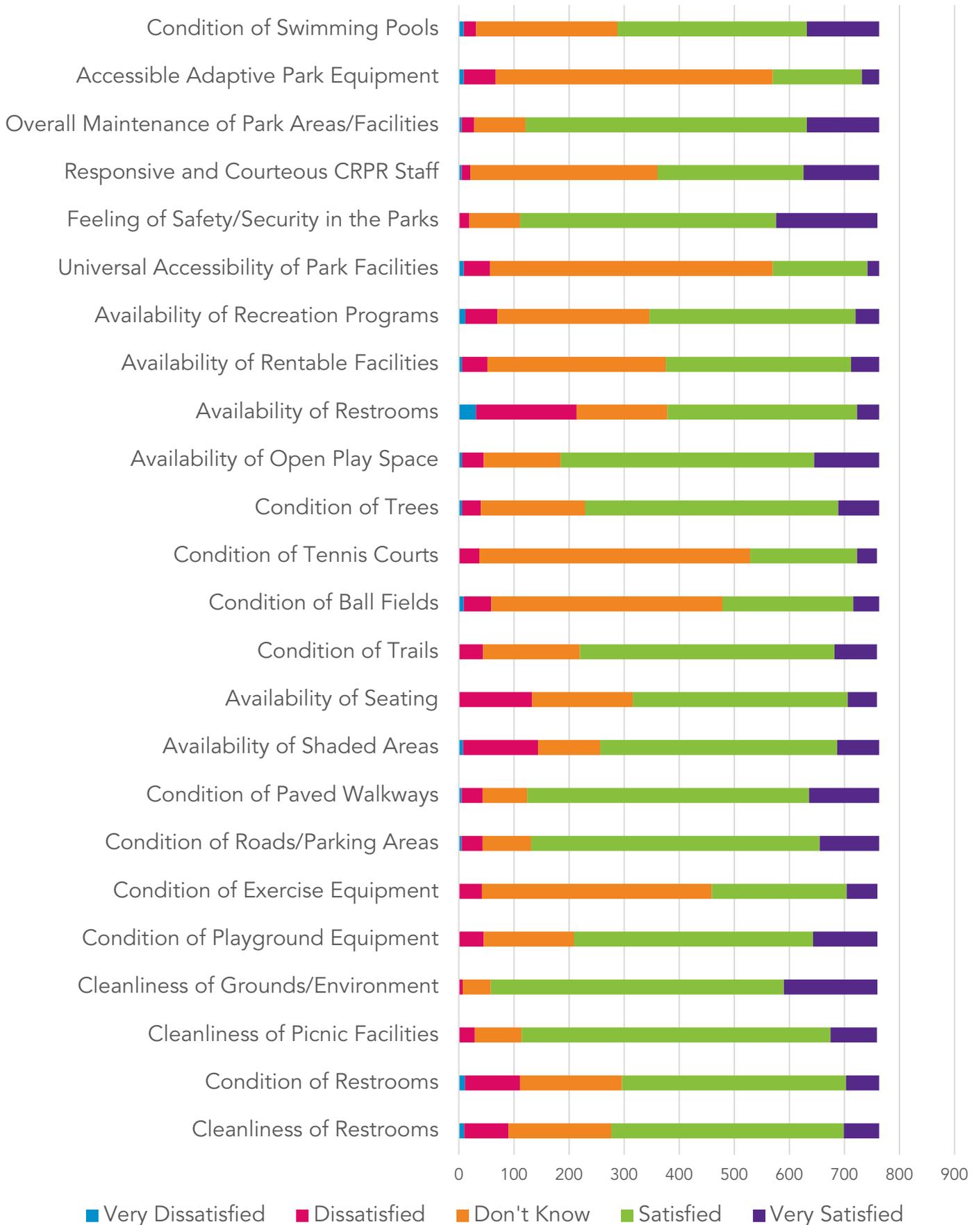
10. Please list suggestions for additional recreation facilities that should be provided by CRPR. (open ended, results not tabulated here)

11. What could be done to enhance your experience at existing CRPR facilities? (open ended, results not tabulated here)

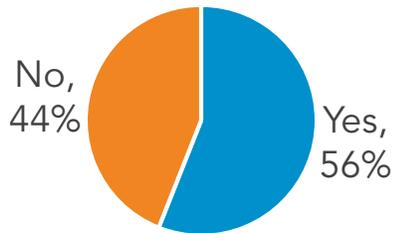
12. What do you think should be the priority for parks and recreation in the Centre Region over the next ten years?



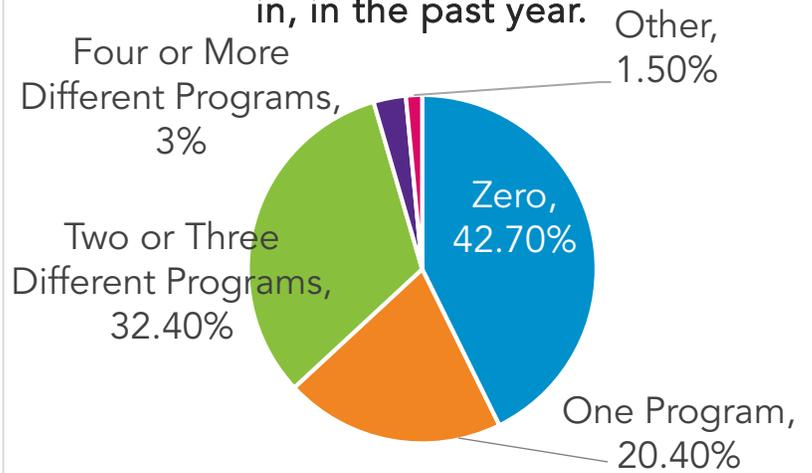
13. What is your overall level of satisfaction with each park feature?



14. Have you or has anyone else in your household participated in any recreation program that was sponsored by CRPR in the past year?

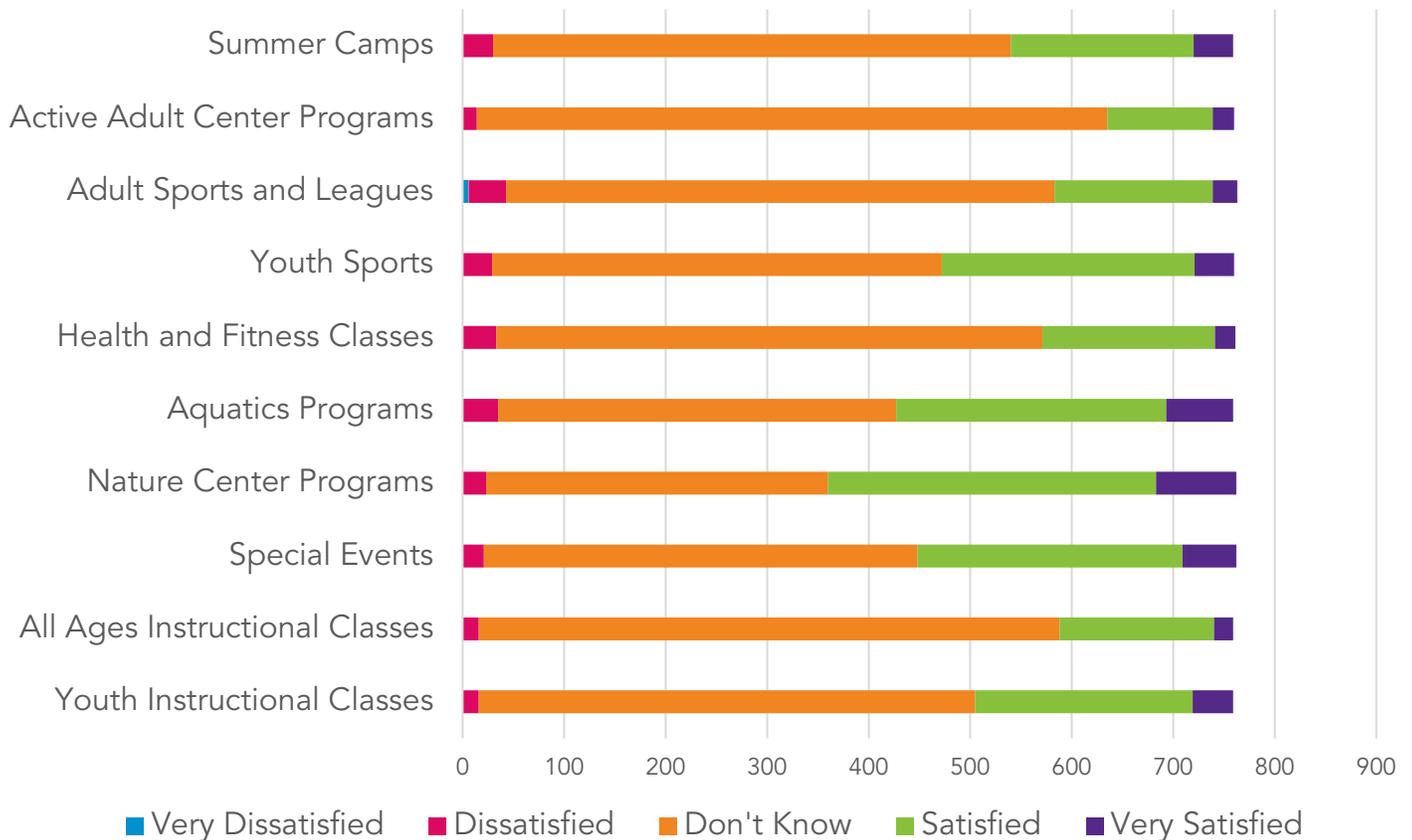


15. Indicate the number of CRPR recreation programs you or anyone in your household have participated in, in the past year.

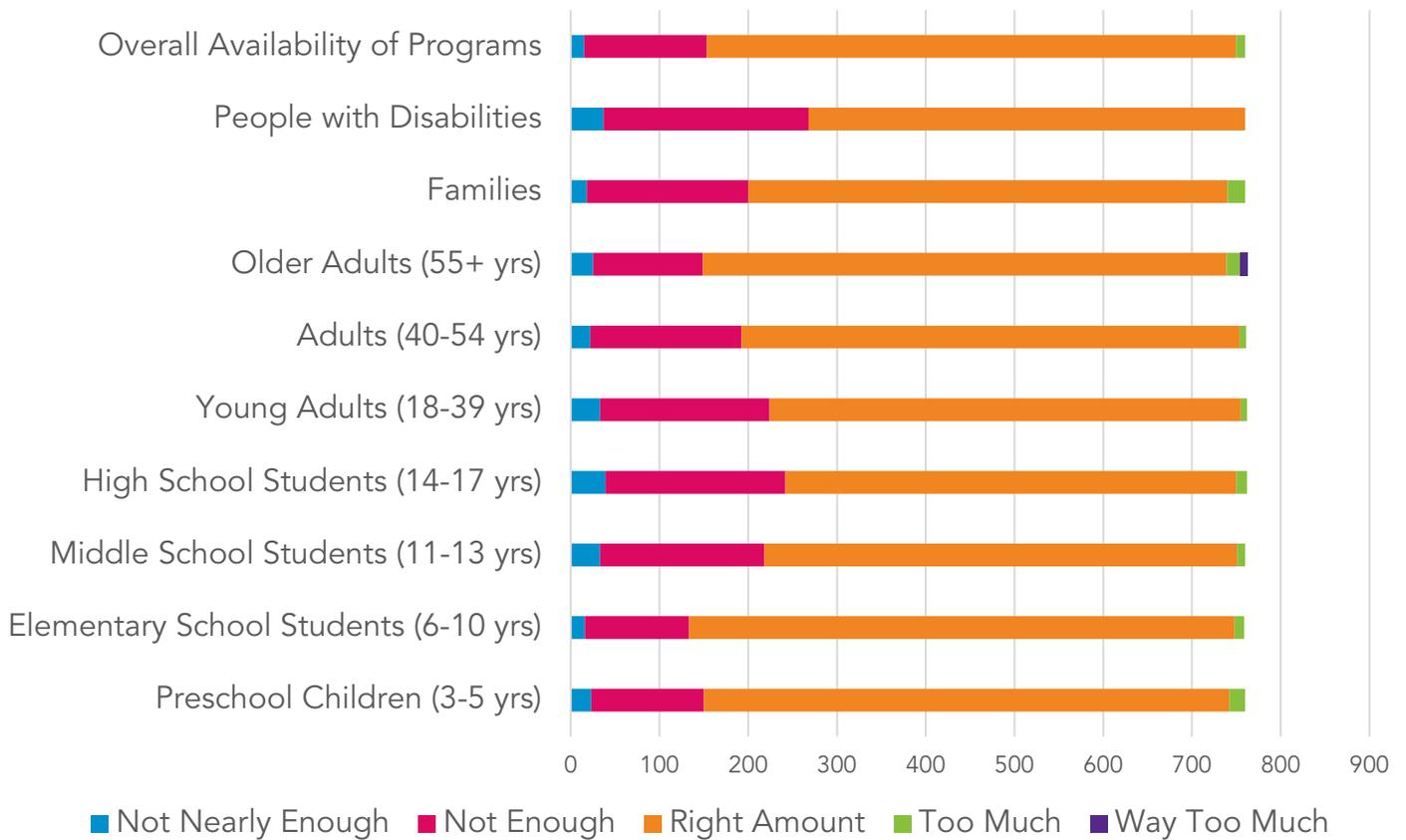


16. If only one thing could be done to improve parks and recreation in the Centre Region, what do you think it should be? (open ended, results not tabulated here)

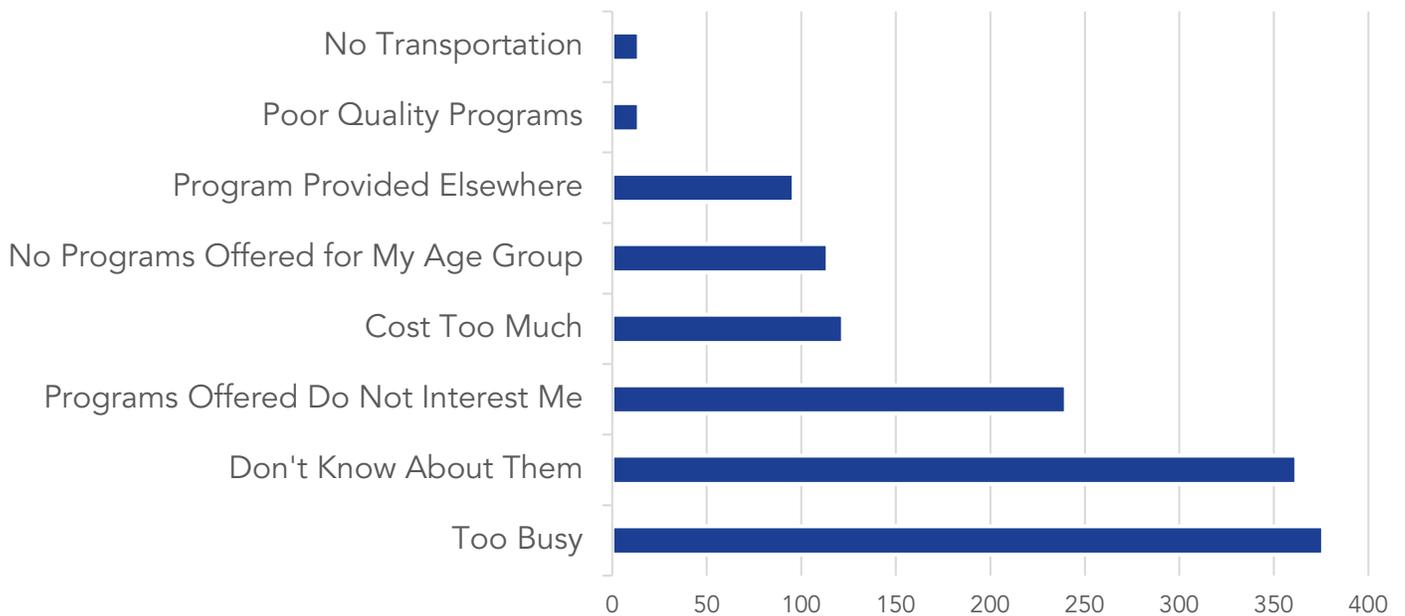
17. What is your overall level of satisfaction with the quality of CRPR recreation activities?



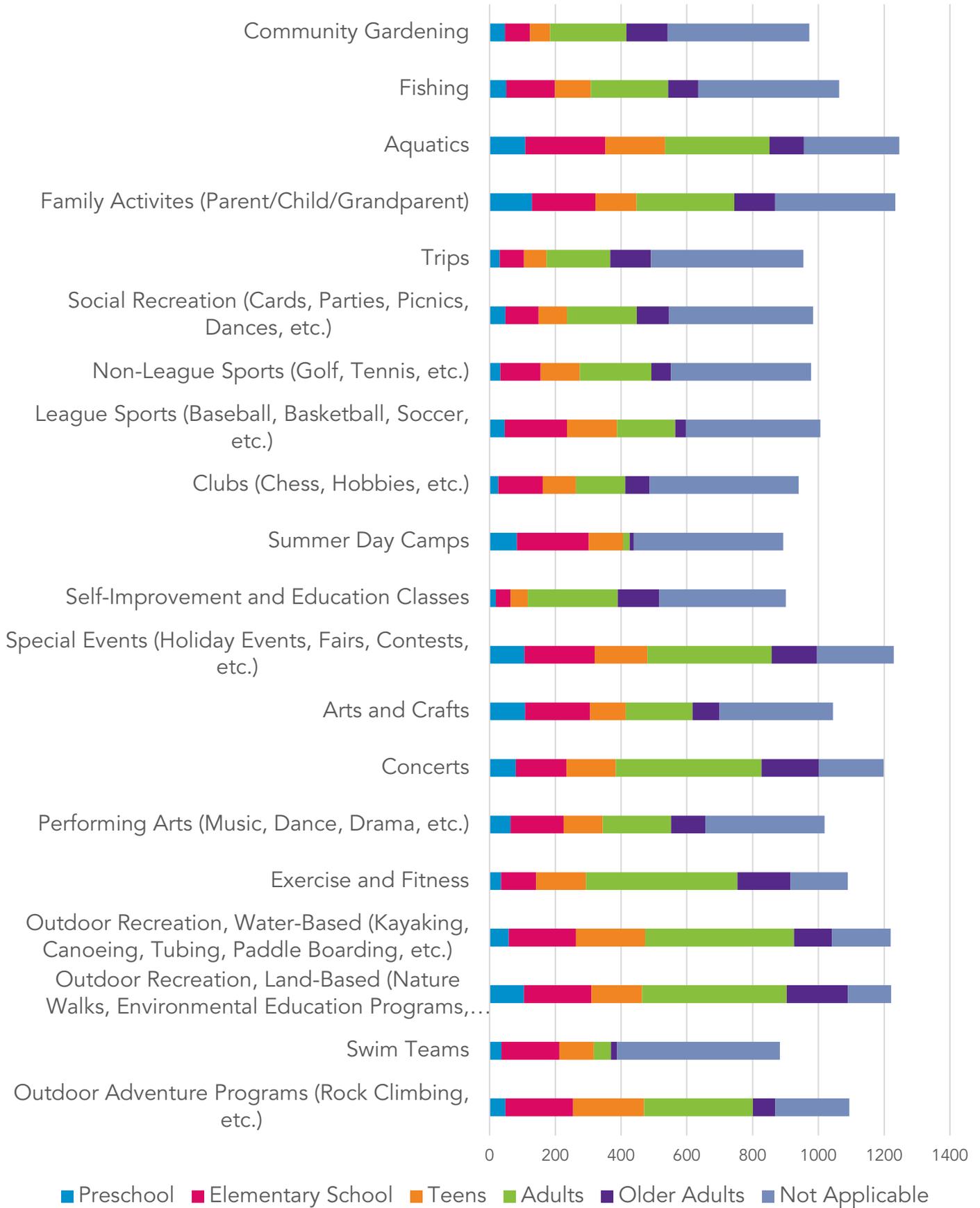
18. How would you rate the availability of CRPR programs for the listed groups?



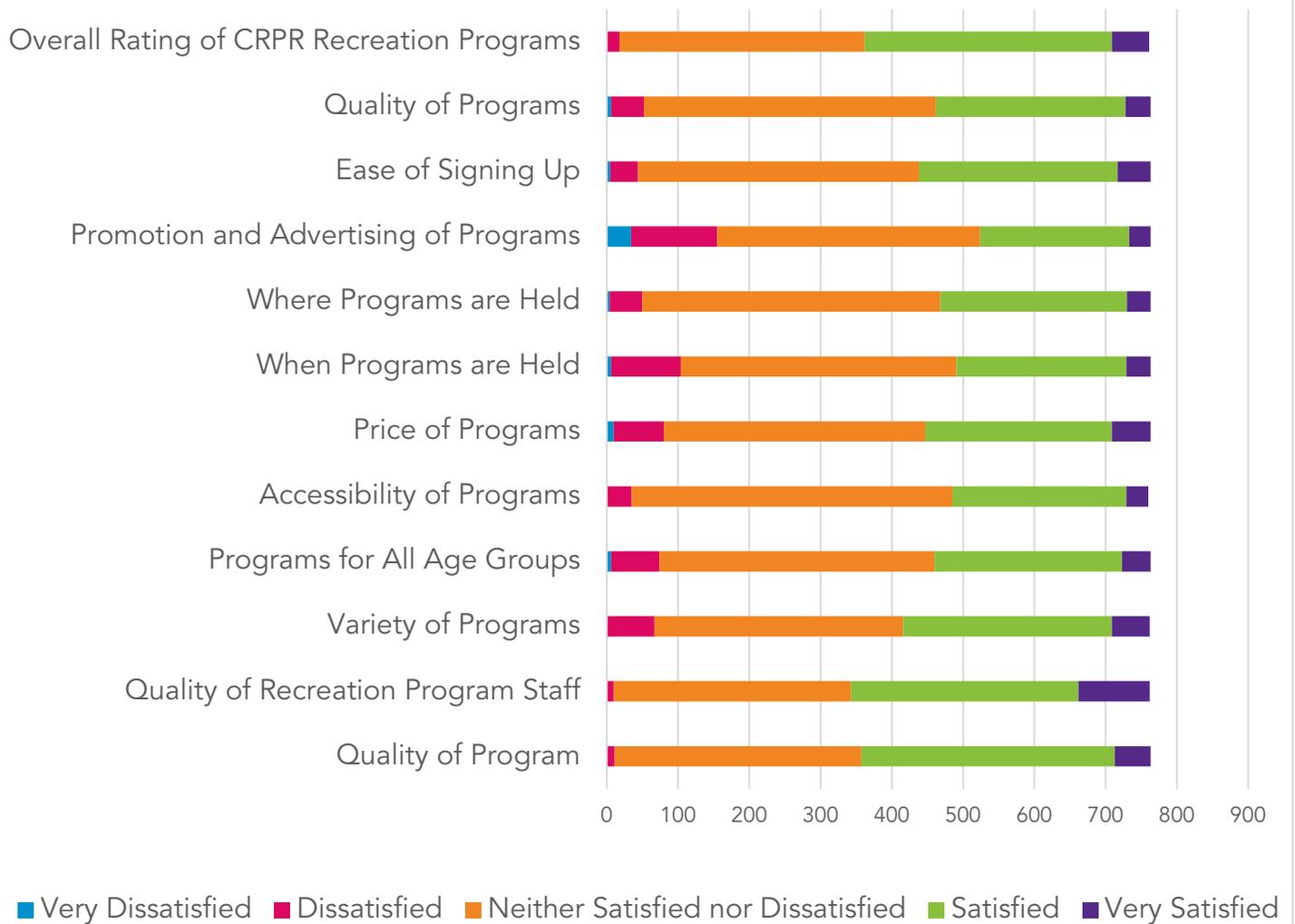
19. What prevents you from participating in CRPR programs? Choose all that apply.



20. The following is a list of recreation activity categories. Choose each category by age group if members of your household would like to participate in the listed activity.

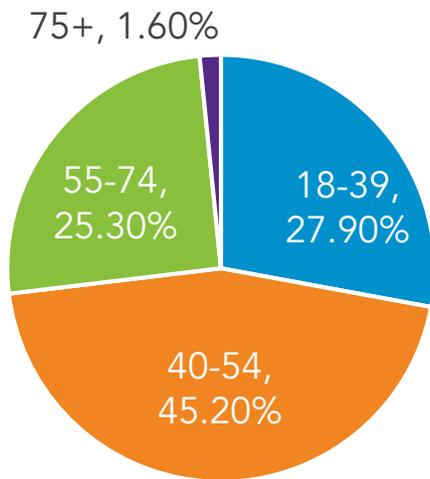


21. What is your overall level of satisfaction with CRPR programs?

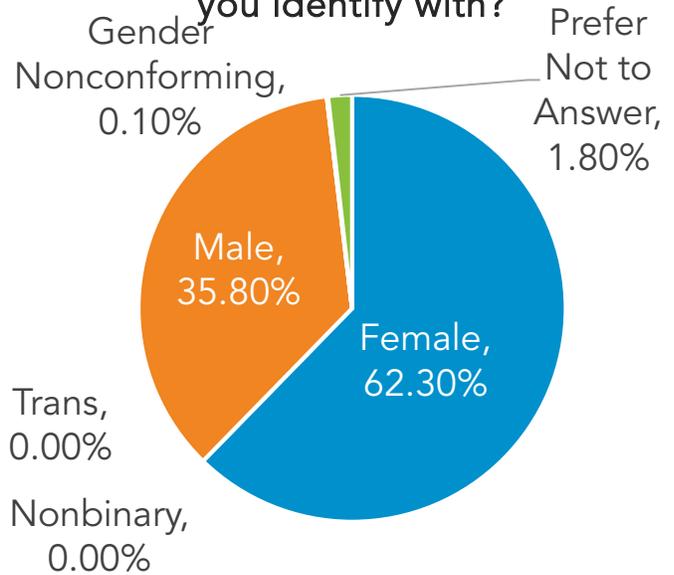


22. If you have any suggestions for improving or expanding the recreation activities, programs or events that are sponsored by CRPR, please write them in the space provided below. (open ended, results not tabulated here)

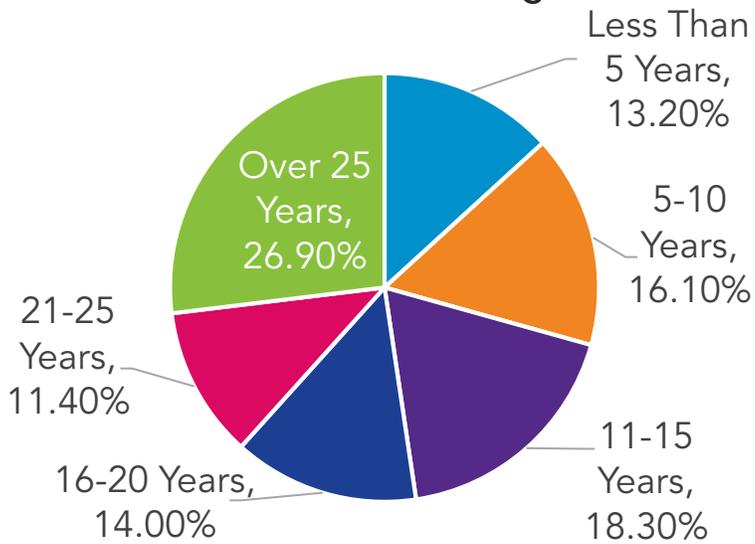
23. What is your age group?



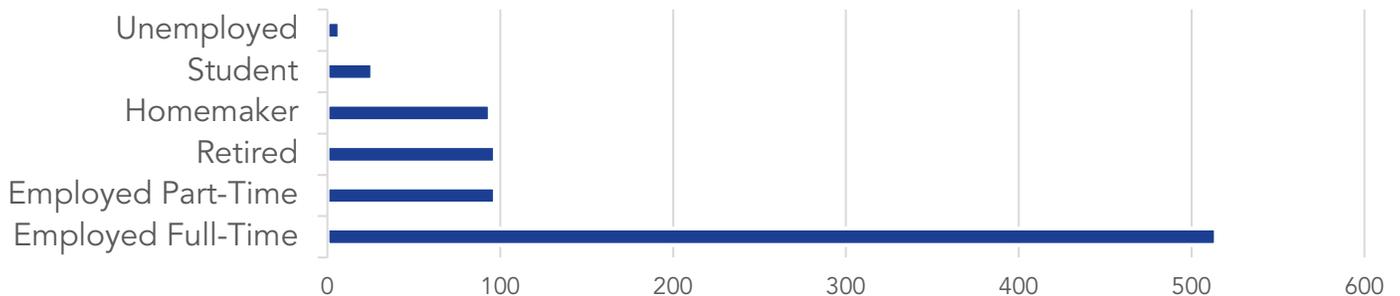
24. Which of the following do you identify with?



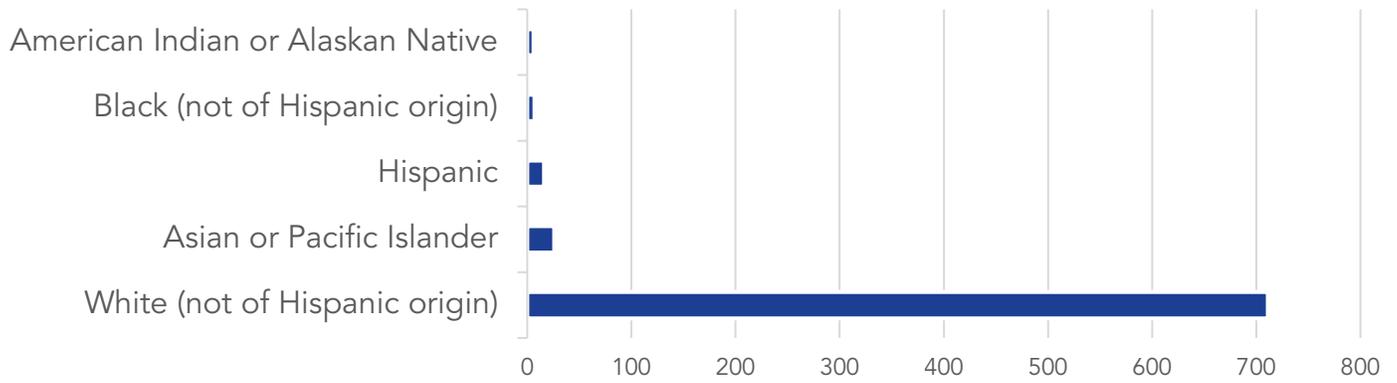
25. How long have you been a resident of Centre Region?



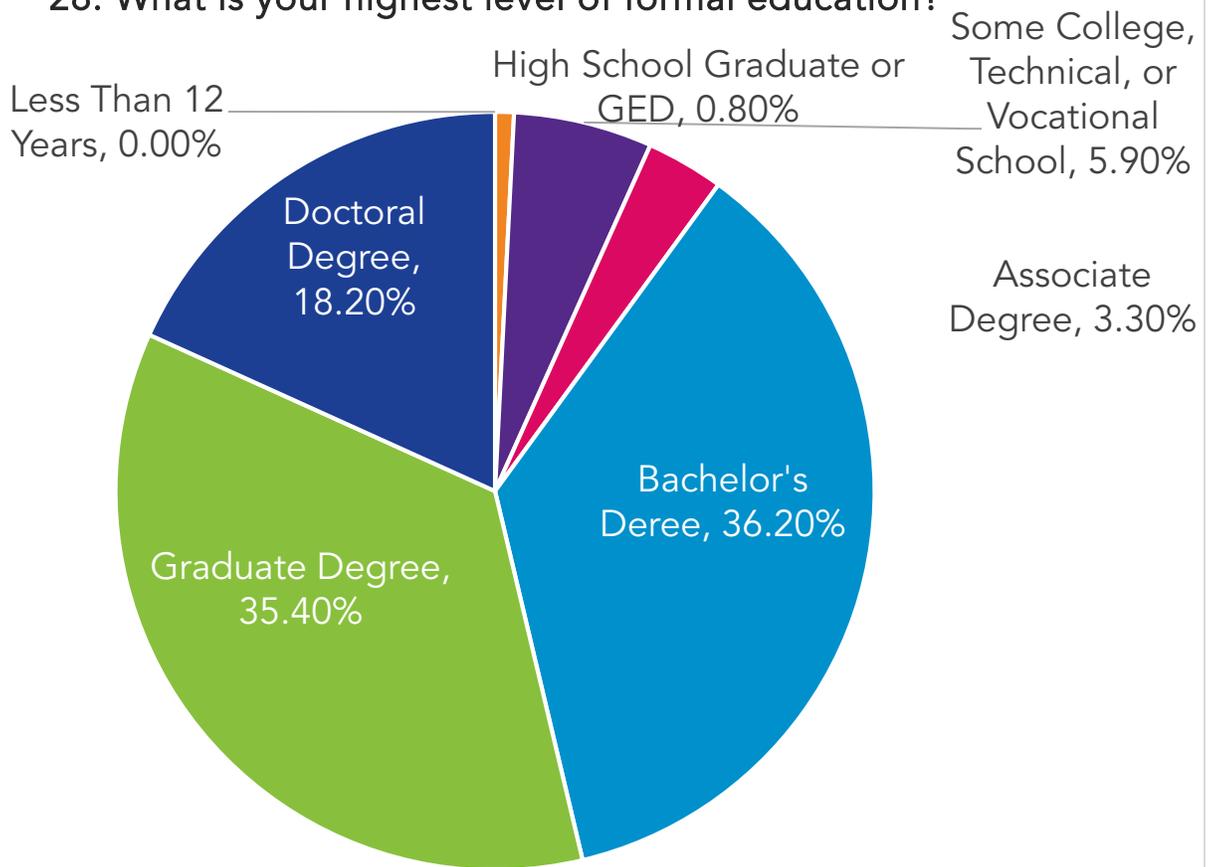
26. Which of the following categories apply to you? Check all that apply.



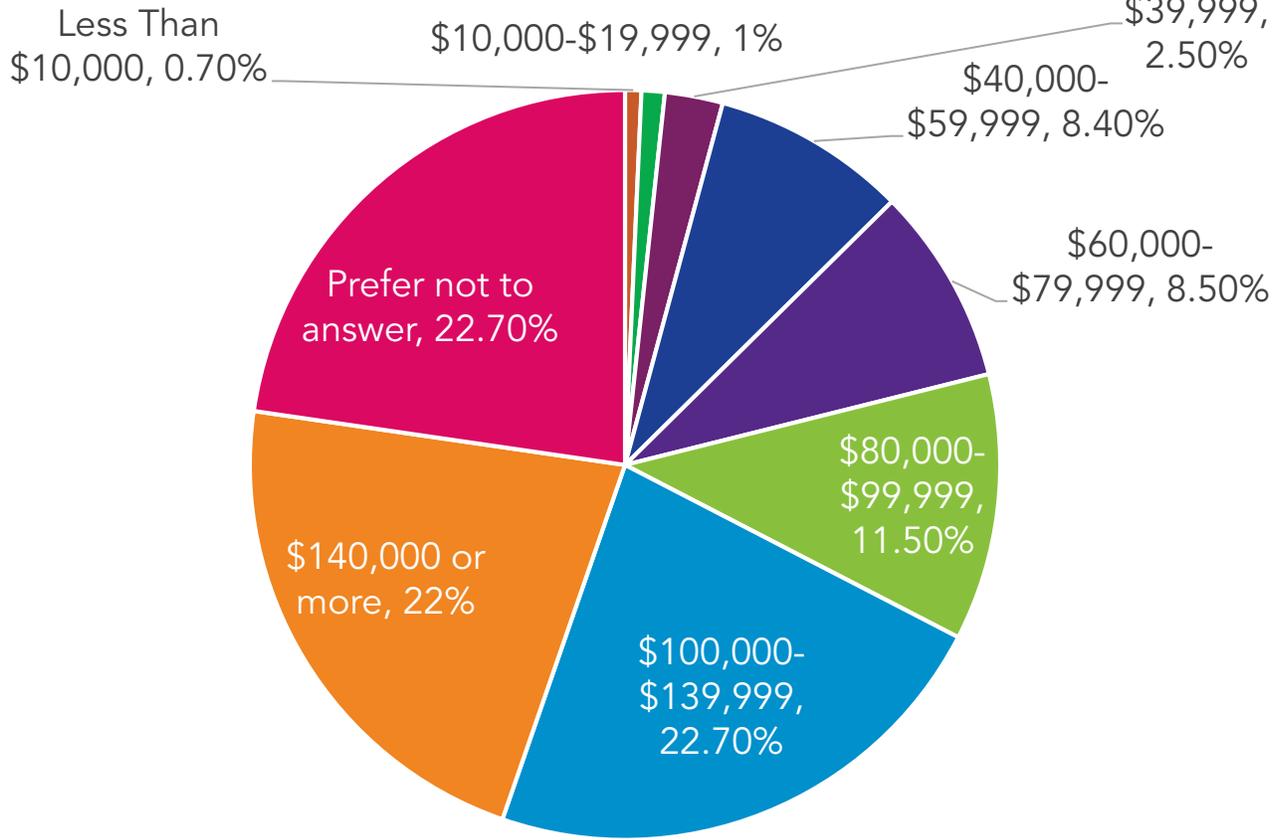
27. What is your race or ethnic status? Check all that apply.



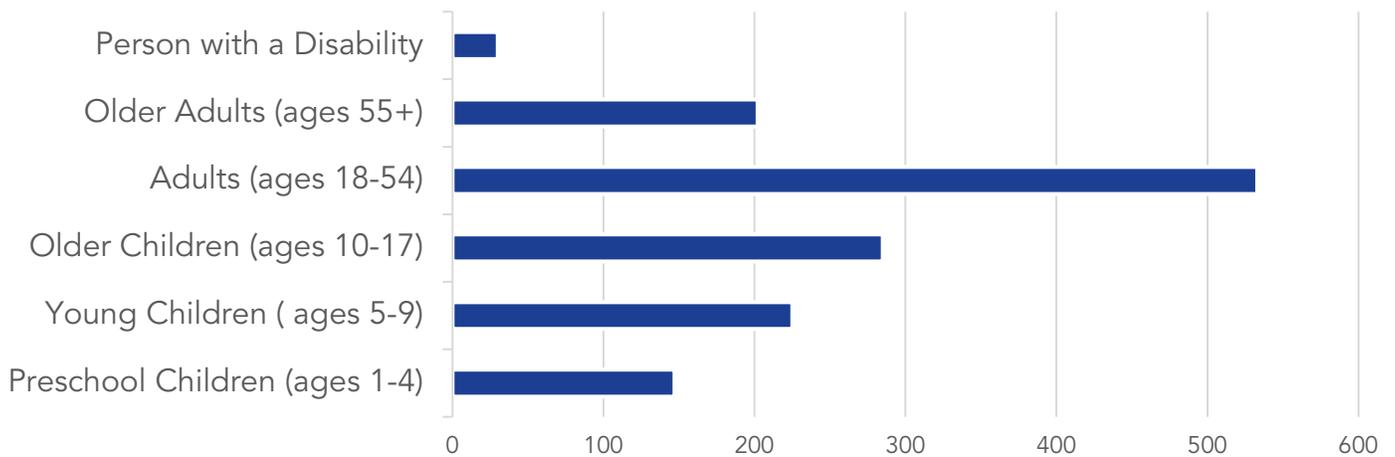
28. What is your highest level of formal education?



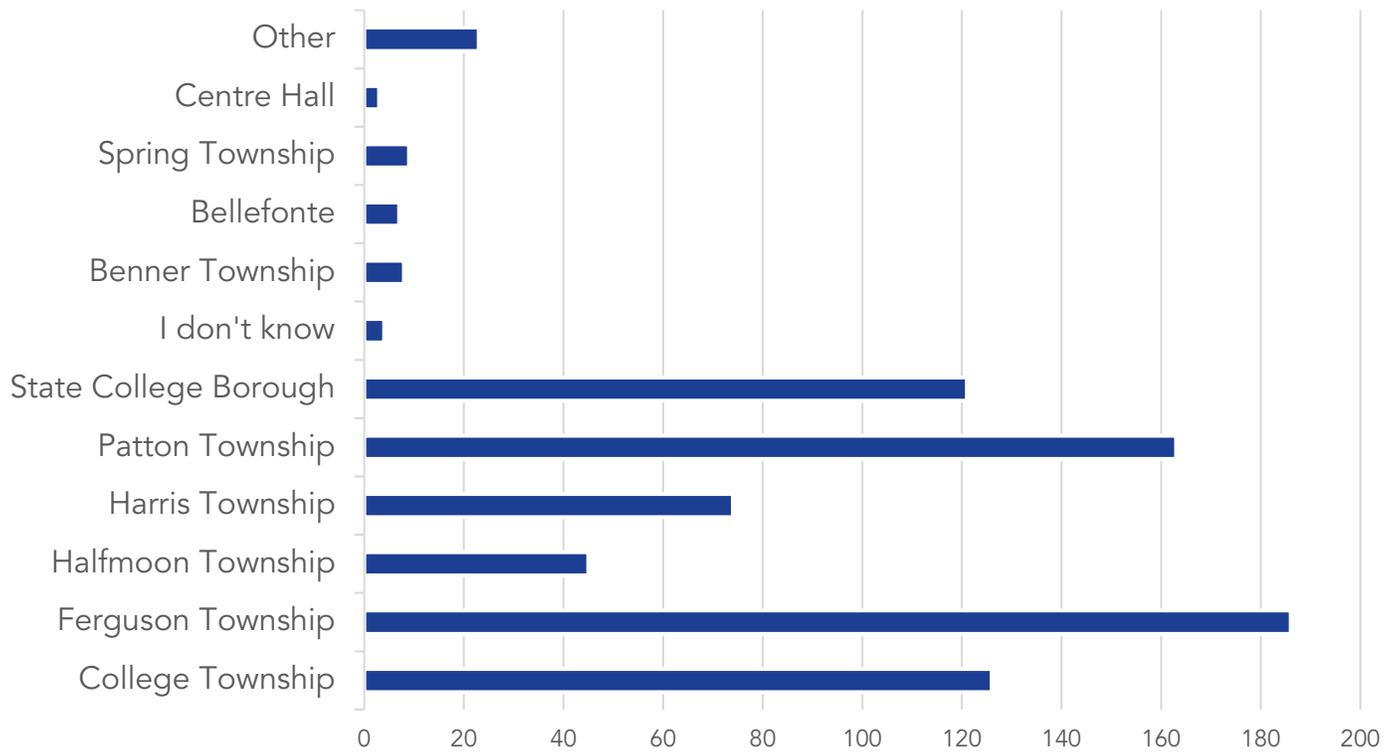
29. What was your total household income in 2018?



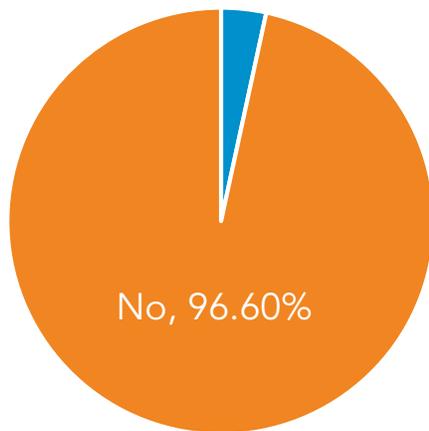
30. Other than you, are any of the following represented in your household? Select all that apply.



31. Using the regional map above, in which municipality do you live?



32. Are you a Penn State University student?



33. Please use this space for any additional comments you may have regarding parks and recreation in the Centre Region. (open ended, results not tabulated here)

10. Please list suggestions for additional recreation facilities that should be provided by CRPR.

1. Indoor recreation facility with fitness rooms, possible swimming pool if not built separately, large gym that can be divided, classrooms, art rooms, and dance studio space.
2. I'm very disappointed that this survey does not even list Track as an option above. You have listed practically every other type of recreation facility for every sport I can think of except Track. We have multiple high school, middle school and youth teams all trying to share one track in State College, now that PSU has cut out access to their tracks. I think it is extremely important to consider building an outdoor (or even better, indoor) track in one of our parks. If you are going to build lighted soccer fields, it would be easy to put a 400 meter track around one of them.
3. Splash pad for summer, an indoor option for winter recreation specifically for preschoolers
4. More undeveloped parkland would be preferred.
5. I would like to see every park in the region allow dogs. Also, Tudek Dog Park is fantastic and I believe there should be significantly more dog parks in the region.
6. Indoor futsal
7. Dark sky area for astronomical telescopes.
8. We would really like an indoor water park, as well as more interesting, themed playgrounds (see Berlin, Germany).
9. CRPR-owned and maintained track (and field) facility, including a measured cross country trail (2k, 3k, 4k, 5k), so that Centre County could practice and host statewide and national meets. Great for our community and would raise \$\$\$\$. Cannot depend on SCASD nor PSU to provide this any more. Please step up! would get tons of use.
10. Turf fields. I can't tell you how many times our spring sports are cancelled (mostly lax or soccer) because we can't get on the fields. We have so many fields in this town, however so many of them are unusable in season. We need turf fields! Beyond that it's very frustrating when practices or games get cancelled, especially since it's a short season to begin with. In trying to grow programs and have facilities so we can host home tournaments (to reduce travel) it is INCREDIBLY important that we have turf fields in this town. One of the reasons I supported the Whitehall Project was because of the promise for turf fields. I, as well as so many others, will be beyond disappointed if this does not come to fruition. I would also love to see another ice arena as well. It is so extremely difficult to get ice time at the PSU rink(s) and to get the additional instruction (not provided by the current facility) and thus requires players/families to travel outside of the area to supplement. We have been to many rinks that have a rink on one side and an indoor turf field on the other. These places are not fancy by any means so simple is fine we just need these facilities in our town!
11. Shaded footpaths in a lightly wooded or forested area
12. better bike trails along College Avenue between the mall and campus
13. meadows and pollinator gardens
14. More parks in heavily populated areas, in town, downtown, neighborhood parks.

15. additional locations with safe play areas for children, and locations with paved walking trails. it would also be great to have paved bike trails for kids
16. Continue with plans for White Hall Regional Park, including turf & lights and Phase 2.
17. Definite need for artificial turf fields (multi purpose, including soccer) with lights. So many games have been cancelled due to grass fields being unplayable. Lights would help expand the time availability of the turf fields.
18. A regulation track around one artificial turf field
19. Skate Park PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE
20. The dog parks are a very much appreciated aspect of the park network
21. More soccer fields
22. Full size turf sports fields that are playable in wet weather and lined for multiple sports.
23. NO CONCRETE OR DIRT MOUNDS! Do not destroy existing greenspace of which we have very little left. Enhance what is there already and maintain what we have.
24. Nature trails
25. Given the reduced access to PSU facilities, there is an urgent need for both a running track and an indoor pool - particularly for adult use, as the SCASD facilities are not available during school use.
26. Artificial climbing boulders at parks around town (3-4); another disc golf course, maybe at Spring Creek Park, would like to have more courses to play
27. Public Track (for running)
28. Dog agility courses and walking paths that allow dogs
29. ninja warrior equipment
30. More sporting fields for soccer, lacrosse, field hockey (turf and lights would be a bonus); A track would also be nice.
31. bike paths or other places where kids/cyclists can safely ride
32. Rock climbing or bouldering opportunities & splash pad (similar to option above)
33. Space for youth sports that allow for play on wet days. Lights for longer play.
34. This community would benefit from a public track. Penn State does not allow the public to use facilities and the high school has limited availability.
35. Multiple Competition athletic turf fields with lights for outdoor sports like lacrosse soccer football and field hockey.
36. N/A
37. An indoor rec center with pool for family swim time would be a dream come true. Winter is long and my family would love to be able to swim year round.
38. Multi-purpose parks for all ages with sports fields, basketball courts, trails, playground equipment, trails.
39. Rails-to-Trails
40. Splash pad
41. Mountain Bike Park with progressively more difficult trails that provides students and youth the sports and activities they want to participate in
42. Large indoor/outdoor aquatic center
43. splash pad!!!!
44. Would love a larger gathering space/park in the downtown area--somethint larger and more complex than the Parklet. More playground equipment, more flat grassy areas for picnicking, etc.

45. There are very few things for kids to do in State College in the winter that doesn't cost money. We BADLY need indoor recreation areas for kids of all ages, through teens.
46. Splash pads
47. Indoor pool for community
48. Water fountains for dogs are a great addition!
49. We NEED an indoor sports facility.
50. Indoor children's gym/playground
51. Rock climbing, a facility similar to the YMCA but bigger
52. Currently too much emphasis on team/large group sports and organized activities, and not enough on solitary/small group. We need fewer "facilities" (eg hard structures) and more "parklands"
53. more pickleball courts, clean up suburban park pickleball courts
54. lap pools, lap pools, lap pools
55. Over the past year, my children's activities have been limited by the lack of available space for sports practices and other recreational activity. We need to stop relying on Penn State for venues and create our own.
56. Art galleries
57. indoor swimming
58. We have all the parks we need for baseball, football, etc.
59. I think that an indoor facility large enough for football, soccer, softball, and other indoor sports would be important. During the summer, more of the fields should have lights in order to free up space, as field availability seems to be very limited.
60. An indoor, year-round pool with reasonable family swim times would be glorious
61. There is a real need for additional soccer fields, turf fields and lights for such fields.
62. I think the area could benefit from another indoor ice skating area not linked to PSU with more ice times for local groups and leagues. There are a lot of swimming pools in the local area, but few ice rinks. I also really think an indoor or outdoor skateboard park would be a great idea.
63. Need lighted turf fields for our children's sports. Would allow all-day use and not be closed when wet. Too many closures at places like Spring Creek Park due to wet fields.
64. Additional considerations for the eastern side of town. There seems to be a lot more robust facilities (2 pools, bigger parks with bigger playgrounds, etc.) on the north and west sides of town, but in the College/ Harris townships there are not nearly as many.
65. more year round bathroom facilities at parks, specifically greenbriar/saybrook
66. An indoor swimming pool (similar to Welch) would be such an awesome addition to our community. I have talked with many people about this. There is a lack of things to do in the cold winter here in state college.
67. Indoor track
68. Turf fields for baseball-rain has caused fields to be closed so much last few years
69. More playing fields usable for soccer, some with artificial turf, and some with lights.
70. Splash pad parks
71. more picnic areas, more restrooms
72. bigger dog parks
73. Less fields, more forests!

74. Indoor swimming pool that's just for recreation w/lazy river and slide. (Near Dartmouth (NH) Rec. Center there is one that is fantastic...w/separate lap pool/diving area!)
75. More play equipment that's fun: tall, metal slides; merry-go-rounds; see-saws. Also: Food trucks. And I think a community orchard would be wicked cool. Oh, and whatever you folks can do to improve bicycle and pedestrian transportation infrastructure, please do it.
76. More soccer and baseball field with lighting and or turf
77. Indoor tennis courts are badly needed. I could see having an indoor facility that could be used for multiple purposes. Connect some of the bike paths to each other. I know quite a few more people (including myself) who would bike to work if we didn't have to go on busy roads for part of the commute.
78. indoor lap pool, outdoor ice skating!!
79. Indoor facilities for racquetball and basketball. Turf fields in this region are essential for baseball and lacrosse. Lights would be nice but I think existing ordinances would be necessary.
80. Please consider increasing the areas with plants that provide food and habitat to birds or small animals, such as oak trees that support squirrels, bushes that provide berries and shelter in cold weather, etc. For the emotionally healthful experience of nature and as a reminder that we share the planet with other forms of life, to have wildlife to watch and hear, it is more important for our parks and open spaces to be hospitable to appropriate forms of animal life, than to fill them with more human-produced equipment, gadgets, buildings, etc.
81. Soccer ground (lighted)
82. Indoor tennis facility
83. Public campground
84. Beginner mountain bike trails and bike skills course
85. "Top priority - indoor recreation center with a recreational indoor aquatics center (pool, splash grounds, etc). Should include indoor gym and fields, as well as indoor track. Our families all need space for unscheduled recreational exercise indoors in the winter!! This should appeal to everyone from 6 months to age 90+!!"
86. 24 hour facilities, or at least facilities with lights for evening hours
87. more soccer fields
88. Need turf fields with night time lighting
89. I would love to see more winter maintenance, particularly snow removal on paved walking paths. I would also love more natural areas like Patton Woods.
90. Harris Township needs tennis courts/pickleball courts
91. Lighted, turf, all weather fields
92. Children's play groups for elementary age
93. lighted turf soccer fields
94. Skateboarding
95. Our town desperately needs splash pads and parks need much more shade near playground equipment
96. Spray park, soccer artificial turf, fields with fields, soccer fields, outdoor concert area would be great
97. Baseball and Softball teams

98. More youth, young adult soccer fields
99. An indoor park and recreation area should be considered by CRPR. Communities outside of SC often have indoor playgrounds, surrounded by local businesses and provide communal space for physical play and socialization during our (sometimes grueling) winter months.
100. Indoor tennis
101. Connecting parks to safe biking access
102. More hiking/walking trails, wooded and open, paved and unpaved
103. I would love to see a fitness center with recreation pool and water slides like the Choice Center in Grand Forks, ND. Huge community benefit, research at the U and hospital, jobs for locals, place for teens to hang out. Put it where Pfms is now when we move to a new facility. Needed on this side of town.
104. We would love to have a splash pad! Our children would love it!
105. bike paths that connect parks and neighborhoods to each other so biking and walking are easier to do for all ages (so young can bike to a park or friend's house)
106. Would love to see our community have an indoor pool to use year round.
107. Indoor lap swimming.
108. State College needs an outdoor track. PSU does not allow community members on the track and the State High Track is ALWAYS busy. Many people would use a track for walking and running.
109. Skate/ bmx park
110. Indoor pool
111. nature based play center, not steel and plastic, under natural shade and with climbing trees, bushes shrubs and hills. Also a "junk playground" where parents get out of the way and kids can be kids:
(<https://www.theatlantic.com/education/archive/2016/08/the-junk-playground-of-new-york-city/495371/>)
112. When we bought in our neighborhood, we thought there would be a small playground with equipment for children. There is nothing there except gravel. It's Fogelman Overlook and there is absolutely nothing there. It's sad.
113. Indoor playground
114. Indoor pool, indoor playground
115. Increased weekly educational opportunities for homeschooling families
116. Lighted turf athletic fields.
117. More and better quality volleyball courts... and please provide way to make the nets women's height nets.
118. None
119. dog waste stations in ALL parks! loop trails of various distances for those who can't walk as far.
120. More indoor turf fields
121. Indoor rec center and pool
122. An indoor pool complex including both competitive and recreational pools could really help with winter/bad weather physical activity. This facility could also include other indoor sports/recreation activities. An example from a previous town

where we lived is this: Maple Grove, MN Community Center:

<https://www.maplegrovern.mn.gov/community-center>

123. If soccer fields are built they should be placed together with turf and lights. That is a great way to host leagues and tournaments that don't depend on weather.
124. Bike park
125. Indoor sports complex with pool
126. Quality outdoor soccer fields, indoor soccer courts/fields and artificial turf fields.
127. More arts based & performance based spaces for free events
128. Free in the park splash pad. Indoor rec center
129. Indoor green houses at Millbrook Marsh.
130. 1) skate park 2) wooded bike trails
131. An indoor soccer field
132. Indoor and outdoor soccer facilities with lights. Long Walking, hiking paths.
Nature areas
133. Splash park for the summer
134. Four turf fields with lights on Whitehall road
135. An indoor pool would be fantastic
136. Please keep the water walking at the Welch pool. Don't forget to advertise it in the CRPR bulletin
137. All-weather soccer field with lights
138. publicize events more
139. Turf fields w lights
140. More bathrooms that are not port a potties.
141. A sauna or steam room! We don't have a sauna in this town and it would be a great community addition to at least one of the pools. They have these at all the pools in Iceland and it's a great way to promote health and community.
142. More parks outside of State College so the rest of the county has access.
143. Any lights need to be guarded to prevent light pollution!! Preserve our view of the night sky.
144. Walking/running paved path near Daleview Park, this is much needed due to lack of sidewalks! Tennis courts would also be a welcome addition!
145. Kid castle similar to Doylestown Township, PA park
146. Lighted artificial turf fields
147. Shakespeare garden and small amphitheatre
148. "More outdoor and indoor soccer fields with lights. Rock climbing opportunities"
149. Indoor Soccer area and more outdoor field space
150. Bird habitat
151. More managed natural areas like Walnut Springs
152. a no traffic bicycle loop similar to the one in Allegheny county at North Park
153. turf fields with lights
154. Possible adding several pickle ball courts
155. Thinking about the climate and how we just came off of an extremely wet year, having indoor facilities would be a nice option. Especially during the cold months as well as on rainy days.

156. Running trails and indoor pools
157. An indoor pool with childrens' area would be fantastic for winter.
158. Turf fields so my daughter can play soccer when the ground is soggy
159. Water fountains/water bottle filling stations would be great!
160. Indoor playgrounds for winter months
161. None
162. More soccer fields with artificial turf and lights
163. less athletic fields (baseball, football, soccer) and more natural environs. Public art should be a strong consideration for any park
164. preserved habitat paths that are off-limits to mountain biking, skiing - too much damage to the trails and the area attempting to preserve
165. Artificial turf fields and bike accessibility are important
166. there is plenty of natural sledding space-- I think a maintained outdoor ice-skating rink would be great for the community
167. Add an occasional organized Bike ride ending at a local treat
168. Playground area for children at Oak Hall Regional Park
169. More soccer fields and TURF fields
170. Activities and equipment that are accessible for all ages, young, teen, adult, and seniors.
171. More indoor facilities. We have a lot of nice parks for when it's beautiful outside. But I don't find that many things to do, especially with young kids/babies, when it's winter or not nice outside. And I mean spontaneous things, not something that you have to sign up for a several week commitment on.
 - Provide a bike trail along the east side of 322 bypass to connect Kaywood, Willowbrook, Rockey Ridge and Aspen Heights to the Oak Hall Regional Park and Warner Blvd bike trail.
172. Include bike and walking trails
173. This area would benefit from a multi-use sports field (for rectangular field sports) with lights.
174. An indoor aquatic center would be AMAZING. YMCA is too full, PSU not available
175. Outdoor/Indoor turf fields and Indoor Basketball facilities
176. need more soccer fields, and some with artificial turf and lights
177. Increase bike/trail connections
178. Indoor turf fields. Enough to attract tournaments and etc.
179. Please build turf soccer field with lights.
180. Turf fields, lights, indoor facilities
181. Motor sports area or go-kart track?
182. soccer fields, especially lighted ones
183. Bike paths and trails connecting parks and important places (shopping centers, schools, etc.) A safer way for people to access community resources without using a motor vehicle.
184. "Soccer fields for all ages. Artificial turf fields - we have to cancel a lot of soccer sessions in spring. Lights and Indoor fields to extend playing time/seasons. Too often no place to play."

185. Indoor facilities and those with artificial or "Field Turf" are definitely needed along with outdoor lighting. Sports leagues are having difficulty holding practices, games and revenue building tournaments now in the area. We do not need anymore baseball or softball fields.
186. Indoor pool would be amazing!
187. My highest interest would be an indoor recreational area for preschoolers and elementary aged children that would be open access during daytime winter hours.
188. More playing areas for kids, jungle gyms, etc. More indoor recreational spaces and activities for winter time with kids.
189. An outdoor pool in/closer to Halfmoon Twp
190. An indoor rec center would be a tremendous boon to this area -- I know you asked that question above, but I'd like to elaborate to share that since Penn State racquetball and squash courts have become all but inaccessible to local residents (at least, those who do not earn the "privilege" of paying \$500 annually to use them), I have felt a substantial void in the recreational activities I like to enjoy with friends and family. Therefore, if you do work towards an indoor rec center, please make sure it includes such amenities.
191. More sensory for special needs and possibly an indoor place for special needs
192. Year around access to trails
193. Further develop areas for 55+ age group
194. Stop developing - let open space just be accessible, equitable, clean space for people to enjoy the outdoors. Every activity doesn't need to be organized since people are capable of entertaining themselves.
195. With the university limiting access to facilities, there are a lot of things missing. Indoor basketball courts would be one thing I would use, if they were convenient to me. I used to play at the IM building, but it is not accessible to the public any more. The YMCA has some spaces but there are always a lot of things going on there. A lot of places have parks with splash pads in the summer, that would be cool. Winchester, VA has a small splash area in the downtown, which is a big hit in the warmer months. It's kind of like a fountain that you can walk into, it's not a big huge thing. Think of how popular the water buckets and mister are during Arts Fest. They have a small changing house nearby. I know a lot of soccer players and they talk about how there aren't enough places to play, again I think that is because the university has been cutting off access to places on campus to outside groups.
196. Bike Trails/paths that connect the parks together that avoid roads
197. Balance of organized recreational space (soccer fields) with natural experiences.
198. Rock Climbing
199. Running track
200. Indoor and outdoor soccer facilities with lights. Long Walking, hiking paths.
Nature areas
201. More soccer fields for all ages. More basketball courts.
202. More wooded trails!
203. I would LOVE LOVE LOVE a fresh water swimming spot that I didn't have to drive so far for!!
204. All-weather running track oval

205. General area for alternative fun (ie; Radio Control vehicles [planes, cars/trucks]).originally hoping a skatepark could be used for this etc.
206. Quiet space n a few area parks with walking meditation labrynth; more butterfly and Pollinator gardens
207. More fields usable for soccer, and some with artificial turf & lights, Snack bar and restroom facilities
208. Better mapping and connections of existing running and bike trails
209. preserve nature! encourage pollinators, trails for hiking
210. indoor and outdoor dog park with swimming pools for dogs
211. indoor gymnasiums/playing fields: to give kids options in the winter
212. Additional locations for teens and young adults
213. More soccer fields or multi sport fields, Lighted fields, Turf fields
214. Shuffle board
215. I am in the process of moving from Chester County to Boalsburg. In Chester County there has been substantial growth in dedicated trails for biking/hiking/walking. I just started bicycling regularly about 18 months ago and have been pleasantly surprised at how heavily these trails are used - from bicycles to elderly walkers to power walkers to strollers to dog walkers and other people with kids. These trails link many local parks and create a safety factor since everyone is largely separated by cars. These trails have become basically long, narrow park and tree corridors connecting neighborhoods, parks, and used by an extremely diverse set of citizens. I hope that the Center Region continues in this direction - there are still old railroad right of ways available.
216. Indoor facilities for kids in the winter
217. Service the young adults in and leaving high school not affiliated with PSU or the HS any longer, the HS age should have a Skate Park by now.
218. Tracks for running. Real tracks cause less impact, much nicer on my joints.
219. Bike paths
220. Trails and MAPS! with parking areas and how long the trails are
221. A Track! There is only one in the region. Natural trails longer than 1 mile in shade.
222. more parks
223. Indoor Recreation facilities would be extremely beneficial for additional programming, as well as a community centered space for multi-use programs, wellness and events.
224. Indoor tennis courts and swimming pools.
225. A track for track and field activities
226. more access to Rothrock state forest lands
227. More tennis courts
228. NA
229. Keep building bicycle trails throughout the region to connect trails and places; Purchase more adjacent open spaces suitable for wildlife preservation (see Q11).
230. A facility with indoor tennis and racquetball courts would be great, especially since PSU doesn't allow residents not affiliated with PSU to use its facilities anymore.
231. Outdoor track
232. bike racks, bike/walk paths between parks, potable water stations

233. More trails connecting one CRPR area to another around town.
234. Groves of trees and shaded running trails (gravel). regional trail system that connects to other areas in Centre County e.g. Bellefonte, Port Matilda
235. Bird & insect habitats (w/ viewing areas and trails), "Natural building" areas for kids to make forts, starwatching park (with after-dark access allowed by police)
236. Splash pad, outdoor but covered concert venues (i.e. amphitheater)
237. More effort should be made to make parks more accessible via walking/bike paths from/between neighborhoods.
238. More self driven fitness.
239. Indoor fitness equipment and indoor community space for socializing or meeting with people with a "green" view - trees, meadows, stream, bucolic.
240. Adventure playground- free play area for children without modern playground equipment (ie slides swings etc). <https://youtu.be/lztEnBFN5zU>
241. "Splash park Adventure playground"
242. I would love to see an adventure playground built.
243. Natural Play Areas
244. MORE SOCCER FIELDS
245. The fields at Whitehall Road Regional Park. Lights and artificial turf at appropriate locations.
246. More indoor swimming facilities are definitely needed in the area.
247. Certainly not new parks. The overgrowth of 'green' areas continues to do significant damage to the poor in the community. As we continue to make sure to drive up value for landowners via expansive green space it disproportionately disadvantages the poor. It may be an acceptable outcome if the displacement of the poor is a community goal--and that well may be a goal--but if it is not the goal then this demands some consideration of the externalities of limiting growth and development. It's a tough decision as this country was founded by rich white landowners for rich white landowners, so my suggestion may be very unAmerican indeed. I'm not asking for anyone to neglect the values that this country holds dear, just that they keep them in mind as they are making decisions.
248. indoor tennis courts. add lights to outdoor tennis courts at Circleville Park
249. fishing pond
250. More lit tennis courts
251. Bike Trails
252. I do support the idea of indoor recreation facilities. The weather in PA is so unpredictable. It would be great to have indoor venues especially for teens to be able to have non-league sports such as indoor basketball courts and volleyball courts. State College just does not have enough of those types of offerings.
253. outdoor or indoor running track
254. Given changes to access policies at PSU and the general growth of interest in track and field, there is a strong need for some sort of additional track facilities (outdoor or possibly indoor)
255. Indoor and outdoor track and field facilities

256. track facilities (outdoor or possibly indoor).
257. Track and field facilities
258. additional track facilities (outdoor or possibly indoor)
259. track and field facilities
260. Track/Running facilities
261. Track and field facilities
262. track and field facilities
263. Having a space for track and field events
264. Fun Adventure Park for children that includes ziplines, slacklines, treehouses, rope ladders, hammocks, etc.
265. I think CRPR really needs to add three specific facilities: outdoor track, nordic ski facility (tracked), indoor track.
266. track and field/ trail running
267. Outdoor and indoor track & field
268. Track facilities: there is a huge adult and youth running community
269. track and field facilities (outdoor or possibly indoor)
270. Doubt it's feasible, but dedicated cycling trails (not shared with strollers and dog walkers) sure would be nice.
271. Track and field
272. Track and Field. There are a lot of runners who would like to run on a track. A track is more than necessary for all age groups. Kids can start to run on tracks early. Those keeping in shape can walk around the track. And it could bring in other teams for track meets. Track meets bring in money.
273. Track facilities indoor and outdoor. More outdoor soccer fields
274. Track
275. track and field
276. Facilities for track and field + cross country running.
277. The Centre region needs more access to running tracks, both outdoors and indoors.
278. None
279. More dog parks.
280. Ice Hockey
281. Give Overlook Heights back its tot park! It was destroyed over a year ago and never replaced.
282. Better Baseball Fields for Adults
283. Natural outdoor bodies of water for swimming activities/recreation
284. Pavilions for farmers markets/areas for arts and crafts; stages for musical performances; meditation parks; more walking trails that are connecting, so individuals can walk up to 10 miles if they like; have them placed near wetland, other recreational areas. (for an example, see The Woodlands, Texas recreational trails and parks; (<https://www.thewoodlandstx.com/hikeandbiketrails/>)
285. outdoor track surface
286. no suggestions
287. a splash park or outdoor pool would be so nice

288. "1. There is a need in our community for recreational facilities specifically targeting older children/teenagers/ like a public youth community center. Most programming and facilities are geared towards younger children.
2. A community center with indoor swimming pool, sauna, or gym would be great for winter activities. Similar to YMCA but open to public for a small monthly/ daily fee. Have special times set aside for seniors to use. See <http://www.ssprd.org/0/Buck-Recreation-Center> for ideas."
289. Fishing access.
290. skateboard park, bike velodrome
291. running track (indoor and outdoor)
292. running trails and track and field space
293. More information about the types of trees and their uses, education about trees.
294. Natural habitat left alone without "management" that harms animals.
295. Library boxes
296. Work with other local agencies to develop and build an indoor 50-meter pool that is not owned or operated by Penn State so that the youth in this community have the opportunity to learn to swim, join swim teams, and compete in an environment that is conducive and not restrictive. (CRPR doesn't have to build one itself - just work with the groups in the community who are already working to address this need.)
297. None
298. More Fenced In Dog Areas
299. indoor tennis PLEASE
300. Indoor tennis courts would be wonderful!
301. Indoor tennis facilities
302. Indoor or outdoor track and field facilities
303. more fields, connecting bike/walking paths
304. amphitheatre for FREE concerts (including student band (school and not school related) concerts), a teen hangout with bright lights and music, video games, seating, and more activities for TEENS! There a ton of stuff for little kids, but my teens sit at home with nothing to do on the weekends! They need a lounge to hang out with friends and to meet new friends. Only local hs ID's along with state ID allowed to prove age and residency. We also need more on the northern part of town. There are tons of trails in other areas of State College, but there are developments near the mall/Walmart area, but no bike/jogging/walking trails unless we DRIVE to one. Make walking/biking in College Twp. more friendly and available.
305. Anything that's added, please make it accessible to wheelchairs etc
306. Fairly level walking trails for elder or wheelchair use; indoor field house is nice economic concept, but should not be in the heart of town; I'm not sure what is provided by CRPR or private leagues (Centre Soccer, Teener League, etc.)
307. rectangular fields ,artificial turf,lights [soccer,field hockey,lacrosse,etc]
308. interpretive natural areas and trails. more multi-use paths for walking, bicycles, rollerblades, scooters, etc.
309. while i like the skate park idea i've seen in the news.. i'd much rather see a multi-use park.. for things other than skateboards

310. Indoor competitive swimming facility. Our community has essentially lost access to 5 indoor pools in the last 10 years - two indoor pools at the PSU Natatorium; one indoor pool at the White Building; one outdoor pool at the PSU Natatorium; one indoor pool at what used to be the Athletic Club South. We now only have access to the YMCA (if you are a member) and the SCASD State High pool (if you are a student or staff member). Our community is now underserved with regards to indoor aquatic facilities that are open year around. Our competitive swimming programs are paying the price - it's harder to attract coaches and families with swimmers to our community. Penn State continues to drag its feet on building a replacement to the Natatorium, which is over 50 years old, and will likely continue to restrict/limit access to community members when it does build a new facility.
311. As a parent of two toddlers, there are no places to take them in the cold months for them to run around freely indoors except for the ailing Nittany Mall. We need the equivalent of Spring Creek Park set indoors.
312. running track, outdoor and possibly indoor
313. more facilities for running, track and field, etc. Possibly indoor (as there are no facilities at this time for that!!!)
314. It's hard to say- my older son and I used to use the outdoor spaces more. My younger son just prefers the playground equipment. Graysdale and Tudek is great. We are thankful for the parks
315. "I would be so excited to see a "sprayground". Also please consider a bike/run trail along 550 in Halfmoon township. So many people already use the road to run and bike and it's so dangerous!!"
316. Squash & Racquet Ball courts
317. Nothing really. You offer many things for our local community. I LOVE the open green space to let kids explore, use their imagination, and FREE PLAY!
318. More dog friendly walking trails
319. LIMIT parking overload by organized sports by non-twp residents
320. Indoor playground and indoor pool
321. More bathroom facilities, More water activities, Ninja-like course (indoor or outdoor)
322. NO LIGHTS!!! Parks and the sky should be dark at night, for the wildlife, stargazing and enjoyment. We really enjoy the Lemont Village Green concerts and would love to have ONE Calendar where all outdoor concerts in the region appeared...
323. Soccer fields to use at night with lights
324. A walking track for walkers/runners.
325. Walking paths if added should not be surrounded by trees and hidden from view like the one that leads from Windtryst subdivision to Bernel Park...there are bears in this area and kids walking along that path cannot be seen.
326. None
327. "A pool for the mall side of town. Old school fitness equipment for parks"
328. The region needs more soccer fields.
329. wildlife viewing areas
330. Interpretive Trails.

331. Another dog park. With accessible water inside the fences year-round. Make the old trailer park on N. Atherton Street a park. It's already filled with beautiful mature trees.
332. Natural areas for bird habitat
333. My family would enjoy a bocce court at Spring Creek Park. Keep up t
334. Indoor swimming pool or facility
335. Please consider an aquatic complex. We have hundreds of children in competitive swimming and struggle year to year finding facilities to practice and host meets. PSU is an unreliable resource in recent years. We need some support!
336. Halfmoon Municipal is the closest park but it is in terrible condition.
337. Work with the boro and municipalities for safer bike trails with lanes for pedestrians, bikes, and vehicles. Avoid disappearing bike lanes at intersections. Add playground area at Oak Hall which may be in a future phase.
338. More soccer fields
339. basketball courts
340. N/A
341. Permanent chess tables, more bike racks
342. New Disc Golf Course, or circleville expansion to 9 holes through a wooded area
343. Indoor children's playground/activities

11. What could be done to enhance your experience at existing CRPR facilities?

1. Some pavilions need to be replaced and/or renovated to add brightness, better tables, and drier conditions. Some basketball and tennis courts need better maintenance and improved rims/nets/posts, etc. All tennis courts should have a practice wall.
2. Stated before. More dog waste bags that are better quality and more garbage cans.
3. Dogs should be on leashes 100% of the time. I have been attacked several times by dogs in CRPR facilities.
4. Add more dog parks. Our local park has an array of playground equipment and sports courts. They are rarely used and all the playground equipment was replaced this past year. I believe a dog park would get regular, consistent use. It is also one of the few park activities that brings people in the community closer together. When you visit a dog park, you meet people in your neighborhood!
5. Keep them updated and clean - lots of shade!
6. Soccer has inadequate offerings. People must travel long distances to pursue soccer opportunities. We have enough space and talent to develop good players locally and to enhance revenue for these pursuits using soccer tournaments strategically. Need more fields, grass and artificial, more lights and indoor spaces. We have people come to penn state as students and have no adequate adult offerings. Soccer is an international sport and serves all levels of skill as a great way to be physical. Serious, elite players have nothing in this regional area.
7. Keep doing what CRPR does well. What should NOT be done is build a large sport complex for regional competitions, with 500 car and bus parking slots, indoor facilities, lighting and PA system at Whitehall Rd Park.
8. Better trail signage, expand Welch pool (often very crowded), connect bike paths (i'm not sure if CRPR is involved with bike paths).
9. overall do a good job now with existing facilities. Some playground equipment is old, maybe a capital campaign to upgrade? Also ways to make parks more year-round (or usable in rain). With climate change, feel like the number of perfect, sunny days to use parks and pools is getting less and less...
10. TURF fields!
11. more soccer fields, artificial turf, lights for soccer fields
12. parents keeping better track of their children and dogs
13. Environmental/ecology education. How our planet/nature works.
14. Recycle bins at all parks. More benches near children's play areas. No music allowed because it affects everyone's experience and drowns out sounds of nature.
15. I mostly go to Bernel, and its fantastic. some of the others I've been to seem like the children's play equipment is outdated and less safe, so I haven't returned to many other locations
16. I love the walking/running paths at some of the parks. Increasing & maintaining these is desirable.
17. Add bathrooms to Circleville Park. Limit organized use of Autumnwood Park by Celtics soccer - this neighborhood park is not big enough nor does it have enough parking to

support such a large gathering. There is little chance of neighborhood residents using the park while the Celtics are there. Would prefer to see large organized sports at a larger sport field complex (like Centre Soccer Assoc at Fogleman Fields).

18. Reforest any areas that are not strictly necessary to be open space
19. Lights for evening use as select parks
20. I'm pretty satisfied
21. More soccer fields
22. Better maintenance of existing equipment and grounds neighborhood parks
23. year round toilets
24. Include lights at existing grass fields and new turf fields. That will increase usage tremendously in the Spring and Fall, especially for local youth leagues.
25. Maintenance. Most parks seem to be in disrepair.
26. Designated football and soccer fields
27. Pollinator and native plants
28. The outdoor pools need to have all the lane lines installed during adult lap swim. This is both for safety and to help non-lap swimmers understand where they are supposed to be
29. see #10
30. Add a public track
31. More bike friendly areas not along roads to pull a kid or let kids ride on the trails safely
32. Adding a dog park, it is pathetic that I just looked at the list of parks and only 1 has a dog park. There are so many dog lovers here, cater to them instead of playground equipment that is not used.
33. ninja warrior equipment
34. Well-behaved dogs should be permitted. More dog parks should be added.
35. Bathrooms!
36. AFFORDABLE or free events that are kid-friendly. This is my first time living in a place that charges any fees, to say nothing of such high fees!, for events/activities. It seems like every program you offer, for adults or kids, charges extremely high fees.
37. As many family friendly restrooms as possible! (Especially at Fairbrook and Circleville Parks)
38. Indoor pool. Fields. Add water fountains!!!!!!
39. LOVE the indoor pool idea - otherwise, expand conservation and environmental efforts
40. More turf fields with lights.
41. More social activities
42. Keep up the good work. We love CRPR staff and facilities
43. Improved bathroom facilities
44. Na
45. Quit wasting money on novel games that no one plays and building equipment that is then deemed too risky and carries too much liability to keep it.
46. with young children, it's very difficult to go to parks without restrooms - porta-potties are just really hard to manage when I have 3 children in tow. I realize restrooms are a large capital investment but they really make a big difference!!
47. Existing facilities are good; I can't think of any need improvements.
48. More dog areas

49. Upgraded playground equipment
50. They are great. Trails out by Stormstown.
51. Trails are great. Appreciate it when trails do not get too close to picnic areas because my dog likes to crash parties.
52. An indoor facility
53. Better maintain path at Homestead Park
54. bathrooms at Graysdale Park instead of porta potty :)
55. More bicycle paths, swimming pools, and indoor recreation facilities (for winter)
56. Preserve our views, birds and wildlife. Not in one or two set-aside places as at Millbrook Marsh (which is excellent) but in areas of every one of our 50+ parks.
57. make sure courts are clean of debris
58. More dedicated lanes for lap swimming. Volunteer ground maint, including trees
59. More variety of venues to create allow residents a variety of experiences. Also, facilities considered to be "family friendly" must have bathrooms. It's impossible to take small children to spaces without bathrooms. It's also not desirable to take a potty training toddler into a portable bathroom.
60. Activities offered for different age ranges of children. Sometimes difficult to find things for a 2 year old.
61. less garbage cans through out the area/ more localized trash area
62. We need to create more habitat for more passive activities like, bird watching (the number one activity in our country), nature study, and community gardens
63. Lights and well maintained softball/baseball fields. Dirt infields for ease of maintenance.
64. I think that Park Forest Pool needs to be re-painted.
65. We have excellent parks here, but given the horrible weather in this community, we could use more indoor options
66. Increase easy access to the parks, particularly the Circleville Park. I don't know why there can't be a bikepath running along Valley Vista that would attach that park to the surrounding neighborhoods. It is currently very dangerous to get there by walking from the Park Forest neighborhood.
67. Expansion
68. Better awareness.
69. update more playgrounds with rubber surface like bernel road park
70. Have another set of lighted tennis courts
71. Better gyms for indoor volleyball leagues.
72. update/modernize equipment and restrooms
73. better utilize park space to included more items--example put track on outside of fields for runners--turf existing fields for baseball....
74. Water bottle filling stations more benches along walking paths
75. park benches, water fountains
76. use of computers with printers
77. add an indoor swimming pool facility and sprinkle park
78. Less fields, more forests and trails!
79. Bird blinds

80. "I love our CRPR parks! Each seems to have its own personality, and I like the diversity in both play structures, amount of wooded space (please preserve HFP), and 'vibe'. I would like to see more water bottle refill stations. The loop at Tudek Park is used a lot by walkers...similar to the Military Museum's paved path...would love to see more of these outlining parks so people have walking paths for exercise/walking dogs."
81. n/a
82. Turf soccee field with lights
83. Some need more bathroom facilities.
84. Emphasize the peaceful and natural characteristics of these outdoor areas. That's the unique experience that they provide, and it's important to preserve it for future generations as well as for ourselves. Don't over-program these outdoor spaces. Especially with the smaller ones, where total space isn't large and the vista already includes houses or other buildings, please resist the temptation to fill the parks up with facilities and objects and programming items that might be good in themselves, but would destroy the sense of a natural expanse.
85. Doing fine now
86. Indoor Tennis facility
87. real restrooms instead of port-a-potties
88. Increase walking/biking connectivity among open spaces. More trails are needed to connect these park through a greenway concept. Increase wooded areas; decrease area allocated to ball and soccer fields.
89. Improved toilet facilities. For example, Circleville Park is a high use park and only has porta potties, which my children and myself do not want to use. Essentially, if our family of 5 is at this park, we have to go home as soon as someone needs to pee! It's a little ridiculous, haha!
90. maintenance of trails including bike trails; especially winter maintenance
91. Youth athletic fields with lights
92. "Snow removal in parking lots and paved paths"
93. Knowledgeable staff or volunteers.
94. better bulletin boards with information on activities at all parks
95. Skateboarding
96. Bathrooms at Bernal park
97. Nothing
98. Nothing- facilities are always very clean and our family loves living in this area.
99. More outdoor lap swim opportunities
100. Snow clearing of paved walking trails instead of just biking trails; more trees for shade and wind protection along exposed walking trails
101. See above
102. Thank you for an the work you do to provide parks for us!
103. More available fields
104. We love our park facilities
105. More adapted equipment/trails
106. I think CRPR does an excellent job overall. I think some courts/fields need lights to allow for recreation into the evening. NO MORE SOFTBALL FIELDS! Multi purpose turf fields would decrease maintenance and increase playing seasons.

107. The bike /pedestrian paths are really great but future consideration should be given to over/under passes.
108. Better ability to support the demand for soccer fields for all ages (youth and adult)
109. natural shade. PUt the playground in the woods and encourage kids to fall down a bit.
110. Real bathrooms. Port-a-potties are just too hard for those who need to help their children.
111. Trimming of flora around certain areas. Like basketball court at Sunset Park, not by an means removing shade, just maki g sure that the ground cover is not too close to the court.
112. Take better care of the sand volleyball courts on Circleville. PLEASE PROVIDE A WAY TO MAKE THE SAND COURT NETS INTO WOMEN'S HEIGHT NETS! We women have no where to play and are forced to play on men's nets.
113. I would like to see safer biking and walking trails between neighborhoods in the outer regions of the townships.
114. dog waste stations at all parks (none in Woodycrest) water fountains; develop non-vehicular access to parks (walking/biking trails to get there); add bike pump stations to all parks
115. More indoor turf fields.
116. I wasnt aware of all the different parks to check out. Thank you for listing them.
117. Restrooms!
118. Extended pool hours and dates and youth programming in August
119. Improve family bathroom options. Provide more complex playgrounds for older children. Here's an example from Parkside Place Park:
<https://www.yelp.com/biz/parkside-place-park-north-wales>
120. Welch Pool is around the corner from our home, yet we rarely go there bc of serious safety concerns. The pool is not large enough for the community it is meant to serve. There is constant overcrowding, minimal (lacking) oversight (lifeguarding), and dangerous features. My young kids have been trampled by rowdy big kids, and as a result have twice been separated from me and sucked into the current of the lazy river. It's a scary and unsafe environment. It's a shame, bc like I said we are a 5 minute walk away from Welch. The past 2 summers, we have loaded up the car (almost every day) and driven across town to Park Forest Pool instead. Not convenient at all. We are most likely going to join SPRA this summer for the safer environment, and the permanent open lap lanes.
121. Better maintained restroom facilities.
122. More activities for senior citizens, specifically pickle ball courts, indoors and outdoors
123. Full cooperation & support by all Townships. Outdoor lighting at/on, for park safety at dusk and into the evening for events & programs!
124. Water fountains at all parks
125. restrooms
126. keep the trees, make trails and play areas around them
127. a well maintained website and soccer fields

128. More benches around playgrounds for the adults to engage in conversation and have picnics
129. "Add lights to some Fields. "
130. Trees surround park forest pool could be trimmed so that sun stays on pool deck a wee bit later.
131. Please sign some spaces for water walkers to park in -- we often have impairments that limit the distance we can walk to get to the pool. Also let the personelle know about the water walking class -- as they forget to turn on the water jets in the lazy river.
132. improved restrooms
133. "More athletic fields for local youth so we can all stay in Centre region for youth sports/ Good fields natural and turf w lifhts"
134. More marked trails/
135. More walking trails at dalevue
136. Stop building fields, stop putting in lights
137. More bathroom facilities and playground equipment
138. lighted artificial turf fields, bathroom facility at Tusseyview
139. Less building so current programs and facilities stop increasing in cost.
140. Lights at fields
141. More lighting for evening events.
142. Leave as much of the land natural as possible, or plant more trees
143. Maintain more as natural areas for walking, cross country skiing and bird watching
144. Adding additional soccer fields would be welcome due to the high use by the community. Adding artificial turf fields with lighting would be appreciated as it would actually allow us to play all year long.
145. Get better soccer infrastructure for community.
146. connecting the facilities with bicycle/pedestrian trails
147. Clear bike trails surrounding parks (in particular Folgelman Fields since there is an elementary school close by)
148. Water fountains at all parks, dog water fountains are very nice too.
149. we were very disappointed at the removal of the swings at Fasick Park.
150. we need more soccer fields, some with turf and lighting, to meet the demand of local youth
151. Recycling bins
152. need to update some of the outdoor play areas
153. professionally cleaned bathrooms at the pools; water fountains
154. Improve soccer field conditions when it is rainy in the spring (turf)
155. Better irrigation for soccer fields and field lights (especially during the Fall)
156. Better bathroom access
157. None
158. More information about what you can do and when at each facility.
159. leave them alone-- save open and natural spaces

160. A building at Oak Hall Regional Park like at Hess Field for umpires and tournament administrators. A speaker or notification system to alert all fields simultaneously of a stoppage of game play due to lightning or inclement weather.
161. Mosquito control
162. Add equipment to make ALL parks and facilities inclusive for ALL!
163. Better paved trails. For example, there are 2 loops of trails at Autumnwood park , but neither is completely paved. Which is difficult with a stroller and dirty with a dog. We use this park daily. Also, an area of Autumnwood has a drainage problem when it rains, a 5'x5' section is completely flooded and you can't pass.
 - a. Provide synthetic surfaces for baseball infields. Many LL baseball games are cancelled b/c infield conditions are terrible days after rain events.
164. I like the parks I visit, wish the trails were more connected for biking and walking
165. keep clean
166. Install lighting for athletic courts/fields
167. more soccer fields with artificial turf and lights
168. Restrooms
169. Updated toilets
170. Mow and mark fields
171. Updated toilets
172. Lights and turf could be added to existing fields.
173. Turf fields, indoor facilities, more fields for leagues, batting cages,
174. Improve some facilities so we can use them after dusk?
175. Restrooms that allow for changing diapers
176. More border areas. Natural places to explore.
177. The most important improvement would be to expand the walking/biking trails connection between parks and trails. Currently, most of the parks are relatively small and isolated relative to each other.
178. Would like an approved place to fly drones.
179. We are blessed to have what we do. I think anything else added would be a major plus.
180. Paved paths were maintained in the winter
181. Concern given keeping play areas at a decent distance from roadways and protective barriers for children. This last summer there were many weeks where we were unwilling to spend time at parks like normal because of the bug problems, especially mosquitos; if anything could be done to help that would be a relief.
182. Add more bathroom facilities with full plumbing and keep them open year round.
183. water play in parks
184. Splashpad for kids, more shade near playgrounds.
185. More bathrooms at more parks. Refresh some of the existing playgrounds.
186. The parks and outdoor recreation spaces in this area are fantastic. They are well-maintained and plentiful, at least for the purposes I use them for. Continued upkeep and maintenance of trails, grounds, equipment, and areas for trash (and recycling and compost) disposal will keep this family happy.
187. Provide more shade in parks that don't have it for kids with special needs

188. More connected hiking paths
189. Year around Rest Rooms
190. Programs are primarily targeted towards youth/families. There is a large college/graduate student & young professional population that is missing important programming to connect them to the local area. If there was more effort in developing a connected bike system (for example the rail to trail system connecting to Bellefonte), more people would be incentivized to ride their bike to work/around town.
191. There are a lot of parks in Harris Twp that don't have playgrounds, which is kind of odd to me. Playgrounds would be one thing that I would think every park would have, they are kind of synonymous to me.
192. Bike Trails/paths that connect the parks together that avoid roads
193. More parks! Every new development should include a mandatory park space of some kind.
194. Restrooms
195. Bathrooms available year-round.
196. Adding extra parking to popular parks.
197. Repair Millbrook Marsh boardwalk so it doesn't tilt so dangerously.
198. more fun fitness equip about, water bottle stations, educational nature info
199. Clean the slippery green moss off the paved path in Green Hollow Park.
200. CLEAN THE PATHS IN WINTER!!! Due to a lack of cleaning them, they become unusable till mother nature melts it.
201. more opportunities for cross generational interaction (outdoor theatre; multiuse options in existing parks)
202. identification of plants and trees along paths and walkways
203. "Groom xc-ski trails"
204. More indoor or turf sports fields- we travel frequently to Altoona for our daughter to play soccer. Wish there were more facilities like this in state college
205. Portable field lights could be rented to extend field availability without building as many additional fields - program adults later in the evening with one time per season for youth to play under lights (Friday night lights)
206. they are nice, well kept and bathrooms generally clean - no complaints
207. Access to drinking water at all parks, and possibly on running/biking trails (by the bike pumping stations), update of existing neighborhood parklets that are accessed regularly by neighborhood residents (ex: country place parklet)
208. Bike routes interconnecting facilities
209. Related to the above comment, my biggest fear in bicycling is getting into a bike/auto accident. So I really like being separated from cars, or the safety inherent in a bike lane when I need to be on a street. I appreciate that the Centre Region is a leader in PA and certainly ahead of Centre County in creating bike lanes as connectors and routes. Long answer to say 1) more hike/bike trails and 2)more bike lanes connecting them.
210. adequate bike racks
211. Pave the road leading to Holmes Foster Park from Sparks St.
212. I love the exercise equipment in nature at Circleville park! I wish we could have more like that

213. Upgrade bathrooms, are they clean and well lit? Some are old and scary to little children. In years past, Welch pool bathrooms were not cleaned regularly.
214. Indoor rec center
215. bathrooms that are not just open seasonally
216. more trees, natural areas. Less grass. More natural dirt trails.
217. "It would be nice if all parks had bathrooms with running water. The staff does a great job of maintaining clean bathrooms with soap."
218. bigger parks
219. Dog Park in eastern side. NO more night lights PLEASE
220. different types of equipment for various uses.
221. open reservation process.
222. add bike parks and skat parks for kids and adults to existing parks
223. NA
224. Attract and support wildlife: Better habitats with more native plants, pollinator gardens, less invasive species, protect water, more undergrowth for nesting; To increase appreciation and connection to wildlife construct more noninvasive places & paths to view wildlife; Something like:
<https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Shiawassee/about.html>
225. At Circleville Park, the road leading up to the tennis courts is not well-maintained and has many pot holes. Most of the parking lot by the tennis court is used up by a pile of river rocks, which never seem to be used for anything. The tennis courts could use new nets as well.
226. potable water stations
227. Mile markers on trails / marked 400 meter sections.
228. Improve website for finding facilities and activities, sign up for notification of particular types of activities
229. More shade, more family friendly programs (i.e. movie nights, fairs)
230. I like dog friendly walking and hiking areas so whatever can be done towards that.
231. Dog park,
232. Programs for people with physical and mental disabilities.
233. Not sure if this is a CRPR facility/property, but many people utilize the Bellefonte Rail Trail for recreation and transportation. It will be fantastic when it is done!
234. cleanliness, especially at the pools!
235. Shaded playgrounds, bike paths, food trucks near picnic area
236. Update tennis court surfaces
237. More natural landscape
238. Water fountain at Bernel rd park
239. Event series (it seems the events are random rather than a weekly "music in the park" or "movie in the park" sort of series. Those have been successful where I lived previously)
240. A newsletter or something sent out monthly about things to do in the parks: not just events, but ideas of what to do (i.e. go to this park for tennis this month). Just ideas to keep people aware of the variety of activities that could be done.

241. Maintenance and upkeep of the swimming pools. Pay lifeguards competitive wages since they are keeping children safe, teaching them to swim, and so pools don't have to close down due to lifeguard shortages.
242. more soccer fields
243. Just provide more opportunities for people to enjoy.
244. Make getting to parks accessible by sidewalks or paths. We need to get exercise by getting to parks, not by driving to them. Children and older adults who do not drive need to be able to get to parks independently. This is not only better for one's health but also for our planet.
245. They're fine. I've just never lived in a place previously in which there are three separate parks within throwing distance of each other as you might find over in the Orchard Park area. There's a limit as to the usefulness of such redundancy.
246. more nature, less mowed turf
247. Bike racks for locking bicycles, bike repair stations, and water bottle fill stations.
248. The parks that I have visited I enjoy the trails..Tudek Park is excellent!
249. more bathrooms with plumbing; improve use guideline to allow small running races
250. more affordable kid friendly activities that promote health and fitness especially in the summer when the children do not have school
251. Having indoor basketball and track and field facilities
252. Not sure
253. More shade trees
254. Track and field facilities
255. Have a space for track and field events. Everyone in my 4 person family runs. And we run at different times of the day. In the winter I am sometimes resorting to running at 5:30 a.m. on the high school track with friends with headlamps because we need to do timed/distance sprints.
256. Add a track and nordic ski trails.
257. more shade
258. Indoor and outdoor track and field and affordable sports
259. Having a track for runners. There are a lot of runners who would like to run on a track.
260. Having soccer fields open for play more often, or better drainage & field maintenance .
261. More bathroom facilities
262. Facilities that are easily accessible through bike or walking paths (not needing a car to get there).
263. See #10
264. Don't Know
265. Keeping dogs in check and no smoking.
266. Lights
267. a few new benches in yoder preserve would be awesome!
268. Very little - they're fantastic. Add more restrooms to parks where there's only a porta potty (e.g. Bernel Road Park, Suburban Park).
269. More Restrooms

270. Distributing parks/recreational areas to lower income areas
271. Advertise them. I am completely unaware of most facilities and programs offered by CRPR.
272. Enhancing some parks to encourage more age brackets (young families/grad student families), ability levels, More activities will get residents to have a feeling of ownership, and will watch out for park attendees and park facilities--encourage neighbors for volunteerism to upkeep parks and encourage activities like block parties;
273. Nothing
274. More dog waste stations on trails
275. Add additional outdoor fitness equipment at Circleville park.
276. places for my dog to run off-leash
277. More interconnection between parks
278. Winter maintenance on bike paths and sidewalks at parks.
279. diversity in all aspects to attract
280. Please do not commercialize all the parks. Thank you for natural areas where we can walk/run with our dogs.
281. More family friendly restroom facilities
282. mark the trails a bit better
283. Walking trails.
284. Shaded areas near the athletic courts
285. more bike and skateboard facilities. fishing and paddling access.
286. There needs to be an opportunity for children to practice lap swimming outside of formal lessons. My children take multiple sessions of swimming lessons every year and are told they need to improve on lap swimming, but that swimming laps during public swim times is only for adults. They would like to try the swim team but do not have the confidence in their abilities without the opportunity to practice.
287. allow recreational races (5Ks etc) to use park facilities, ensure that restroom/portapotty facilities are available year-round
288. more bathrooms
289. Improved access for walking dogs (not confined to a trail or park boundary). Many residents are responsible for their dog waste, but feel treated like we're second class restricted members of the community because we walk our family with our dogs.
290. We love Bernel Park - it needs more shade and swings too.
291. Green Hollow Park is in need of major renovation. Additionally, extending restroom availability and season at parks.
292. Protect animals, plants, and habitat.
293. Better maintenance of existing paved trails during the winter months. Do a better job of emptying trash cans and similar at those parks that are very heavily used. Pay better attention to wasps nests at picnic pavilions on a very regular basis.
294. Water bottle filling stations
295. yearround permanent restrooms instead of portable toilets
296. They are well maintained already- keep up the good work.
297. Additional tennis equipment and funds for frequent maintenance.
298. BATHROOMS! We desperately need restrooms at Circleville Park. This is where the middle school practices and where families and large groups gather on a regular

basis. WE desperately need restrooms so that families can really enjoy this wonderful park fully.

299. Make them easier to access by bike and foot
300. Playground directors
301. better trash management (containers)
302. More gathering spaces and activities for teens.
303. Better or increased paved pathways or ways onto the equipment, some parks are very inaccessible to me because of this
304. More nature play experience
305. bike trails to get there; more places = less crowds, more likely to be able to find the tranquility desired
306. flush toilets, good parking
307. maintain. adequate shade, picnic facilities and restrooms.
308. park maintenance.
309. Some of the parks need to be updated with better & nicer equipment and facilities
310. Services and spaces for young children... Toddlers and small Kids
311. Making safe bike/ walking paths to get to parks. The streets are too dangerous to use with a family.
312. Running water and bathrooms at all parks.
313. Outdoor lights and select turf fields.
314. Allow halfmoon township residents to pay members fee
315. Make programs less expensive
316. There should be more soccer fields, including fields with artificial turf and lights to support both children and adult soccer leagues in the Centre Region.
317. Vending options
318. LIMIT parking overload by organized sports by non-twp residents
319. Include Halfmoon township
320. More bathrooms, More water
321. Simple rain/snow shelters for picnics are great. No added features. Simple. Durable. Flexible.
322. Please add lights to a few soccer fields so there can be night games in spring/fall
323. More open fields for sports.
324. not sure.
325. More picnic pavilions and ball fields and removal of invasive plants. Bleacher seating (2 or 3 rows high) for observers at athletic fields
326. A few lit rectangle (soccer) fields would be a great asset for teams that practice in the fall evenings.
327. Green Stormwater Infrastructure demonstrations
328. Relax about muddy fields. Let kids play on grass for sports
329. That old really long slide in Boalsburg better taken care of. Really crpr does a good job with most things.
330. Lighting soccer fields would be a huge improvement.

331. less "ball" fields (They take up too much room and are "one-use" only facilities for only part of a year.. Designate more "natural" areas that can be used by more people, year-round i.e. bird watching, hiking, etc.
332. I think CRPR does a great job
333. I wish we could have a lake or some ponds!
334. MORE PUBLICITY ABOUT THE PARKS - perhaps a weekly article in the CDT and State College Magazine and Town & Gown highlighting each park in turn. This would obviously be most appropriate in the Spring, Summer, and Fall.
335. Keep up the great job!
336. Increased cleanliness
337. Generally satisfied with facilities we use. Keep up the good work.
338. The pools both need more shade. This is a safety issue to prevent melanoma.
339. Lower pool fees, more benches in parks, more trees in parks
340. Nothing
341. Stop people from loitering in the parking lots in their cars for hours on end.
Creeps me out.
342. More connections via bicycling
343. tee signs at Bernel for Disc Golf
344. Remove invasive plants
345. Bathroom maintenance - more bathroom structures that aren't port-a-potties

16. If only one thing could be done to improve parks and recreation in the Centre Region, what do you think it should be?

1. Improve the playgrounds to add newer standard and adaptive equipment.
2. Build a track that could be used for organized practices, but also open to the public.
3. Plow walkways, better maintenance of parking areas in winter
4. Dogs should be on leashes.
5. Add more dog parks and allow dogs at every park.
6. Turf fields with lights.
7. Focus on what we already have
8. Update playground equipment at older parks
9. Increase publicity for the wonderful resources that we have!
10. Indoor water park/rec area
11. Build a CRPR-owned track, field, and XC facility that can be open and used 3 seasons a year, so the community does not have to depend on SCASD and PSU. Close second would be a large, indoor multi-sports facility, so the community does not have to depend on churches and businesses (C3, spectrawood, the Y) to do anything in winter or when it rains...
12. I think it's fantastic that CRPR picked up and expanded the flag football program. I would love to see CRPR add turf fields for our existing community organizations (ie. lacrosse) and then in the future I would love to see there be an indoor complex with turf fields and even a community ice rink.
13. For CRPR to listen to the majority of the public's desires who want passive parks, not listen to the minority organizations who want rectangular fields for their private needs.
14. Additional educational enhancement opportunities
15. better promotions of events, possibly through email
16. More neighborhood parks, less consideration for tournaments, night lighting.
17. Recycling at all locations
18. Provide more athletic fields, specifically soccer fields.
19. improved play equipment for children
20. Lighted, artificial surface sports fields
21. Maintain the boardwalks in Millbrook Marsh, the picnic benches and tables in Spring Creek Park. Older adult events at Millbrook Marsh
22. Availability of lighted, turf fields for organized sports
23. Create a system that preserves open spaces and eco-conscious neighborhood recreation opportunities in the face of development and climate change
24. Adding several rectangular fields with lights and some with artificial turf
25. SKATE PARK
26. Paths linking parks, schools, neighborhoods
27. Increase number of fields to play sports such as soccer
28. Update the equipment and make safer playgrounds for toddlers using fencing and gates is important for parents with younger children and improve the ground under existing equipment

29. Splash area
30. better toilets
31. More fields and facilities for youth sports that are available during inclement weather
32. They're fine as they are. Just maintain.
33. Build designated soccer fields.
34. Habitat management
35. Build an indoor pool facility
36. artificial turf w/lites
37. interpretive signage informing visitors and users about the environment around them and local history, specifically pertaining to parks, recreation and open spaces
38. Preserve Natural Areas
39. Bike park!!
40. Adding dog parks to current parks, there is plenty of space
41. lighted soccer fields, more softball fields
42. Increase dog-friendliness.
43. spray ground
44. Lighting
45. More fields
46. The cost of the programs is too expensive. Please consider providing a free pass or discount to families who receive SNAP or free lunch or other measures of low income.
47. Add a splash pad
48. Trees are nice sometimes, but don't plant them just to eliminate existing unstructured open space. Often that space can be used by individuals when a program is occupying ball fields.
49. Water fountains
50. More adult fitness programs
51. Expand environmental conservation efforts
52. Splash pads for kids
53. I would love more trails for waking/running. And a track!
54. Add multiple competition turf fields with lights
55. n/a
56. Indoor rec center with indoor pool or an option to use one of the outdoor pools in the winter with a domed enclosure.
57. Increase nature trails
58. More rectangular playing fields.
59. Have them in places where kids can bike or walk to them
60. Get rid of dead trees that can impact nearby homes when falling. Thank you!
61. More opportunities/programs for older kids and teenagers to socialize in safe environment
62. Splash pad. More free and affordable kid options
63. Upgrade older parks that are still used frequently.
64. build an indoor play area for under 5 year olds that can be used on the weekends
65. Encourage younger adults and working professionals to join the Centre Region Parks & Recreation Board / Centre Region Recreation Authority
66. Indoor/outdoor aquatic complex

67. add a splash pad somewhere!
68. Walking and biking Paths linking parks together
69. Build an indoor facility for all ages that will give people something affordable to do with kids in the winter.
70. More rectangular fields
71. Encourage twps & boro to knock it off with high-rises and strip malls. The area has become incredibly ugly over the last 3 decades.
72. Cheaper fees for pool, children's programs
73. More trails connecting parks, schools, etc
74. Increase number of athletic fields.
75. Indoor facility
76. Make programs more affordable.
77. Take care of trails and dead trees. Monitor closely after storms and throughout the different seasons.
78. Indoor/winter activity area
79. Better access to park trails/paths in the winter
80. pool in Grays Woods :)
81. A community recreation building with indoor pool, climbing wall, fitness area, meeting rooms etc.
82. Indoor facility with a swimming pool
83. Incorporate actively managed and maintained natural bird, wildlife and water life habitats into every individual CRPR park.
84. Make sure there are enough benches
85. unhappy with step class, did not receive refund after withdrawing from class
86. preserve open land and not build more parks, fields, facilities, we have enough!
87. Not increase the price for pavilions
88. more bike connections to parks
89. Fix existing and add new sport fields. The drainage on every single field is inadequate and there aren't enough fields for all the events people would like to create. Additional facilities should be built at the fields - seating, bathrooms, playground. Essentially dynamic sports complexes are needed and would be a huge benefit for the community. Please research Manchester Meadows Park in Rock Hill, SC. cityofrockhill.com
90. More activities for families with small children
91. more natural area
92. More shaded areas at the pools
93. Create more habitat for wildlife/birds and pollinators
94. More youth sports offerings. I believe that the board situation for Little League is toxic/political and a recreation managed group for both baseball and softball from a young age would be much more effective.
95. Indoor pool and rec center!
96. Addition of turf fields and lighting for such fields.
97. Create more indoor options. Expand availability of summer camp programs. Some fill up literally in minutes.
98. Improve ability to safely get to the parks from the neighborhoods by bike or walking.
99. Lighted turf fields.

100. softball/baseball fields
101. Expand facilities on east/ southern areas of town
102. Add assistive equipment.
103. more bathroom availability year round
104. Lighted fields
105. Have different townships pay they same fees.
106. Indoor recreation area with swimming pool
107. Splash park for toddlers/younger kids
108. preserve green space and better promotion of hiking trails
109. turf baseball fields
110. Ask people to wear headphones while listening to music
111. Artificial Turf for soccer fields
112. Maintain the parks
113. Expand sports fields, add turf fields with lights to reduce stress on grass fields
114. Maintain the parks better
115. Open up to include surrounding areas (Bellefonte, Milesburg, Lemont, etc...)
116. Add more restrooms
117. add indoor pool
118. More bike trails
119. Maintenance of bocce courts!
120. Add an indoor swimming facility for recreational swim. (Not for lessons, lap swimming, classes, etc. --or have classes/laps, etc. while kids are in school.) Kids & families need places to PLAY and relax in the winter after school and on weekends.
121. Keep restrooms clean and open
122. I see the line between transportation and recreation as happily blurred by the presence of robust bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure. So the more weight you can put behind that, the better.
123. More playing fields for growing number of youth and adult sports teams
124. build indoor tennis courts
125. indoor pool
126. Turf fields in this climate are a necessity.
127. With reference to the parks embedded in neighborhoods, avoid making them too welcoming to auto or motorbike traffic. Do not encourage night activities that could be noisy or invite the parks to be used by drug dealers or other inappropriate purposes. For example, do not enlarge access roads that would cut through the parks, as that would simply invite more traffic; do not install night-time lighting, as that would invite night-time noise, etc.). Continue to require permits for group use, as that is a way of holding the users responsible.
128. More variety of sports
129. Indoor tennis, racquetball etc
130. Better community awareness of existing programs and opportunities
131. Incease the area of protected forest/open space
132. "Improve bathrooms. Also - that indoor Rec center with indoor pool! "
133. Create Greenways for non-motorized transportation/commuting
134. more soccer fields

135. Keep playground equipment updated and safe and introduce other activity options at the parks.
136. Turf fields with lights.
137. Youth athletic fields with lights, followed closely by more tennis courts
138. Acquire more properties.
139. add lights and turf to soccer fields - many matches canceled due to flooding
140. Facility maintenance
141. Increase number of playing fields for local youth soccer/lacrosse teams
142. Parks/playgrounds walkable for all neighborhoods.
143. Turf soccer field
144. Allow more outside programs to hold events in the parks
145. Skateboarding
146. Splash pad
147. Improve park forest pool, hours open, add athletic fields with lights and turf
148. I think adding bathrooms would be great asset to the parks.
149. Soccer field with lights and outdoor ice rink
150. Add more soccer fields
151. Indoor recreation center for all ages
152. Increased number of fields for field sports such as soccer and football
153. Indoor tennis
154. provide more hours for lap swim for adults
155. Buy land for future parks
156. Expand parks and walking trails
157. Add the splash pad :-)
158. Turf fields and lights
159. connecting with bike and walking paths
160. More fields especially lighted all weather turf fields
161. More indoor facilities including a pool
162. Soccer fields
163. Indoor pool for laps
164. Another large swimming pool
165. Lighted soccer fields, or at least dry ones
166. Artificial turfs to help with the unpredictability of weather
167. Improve opportunities for those with disabilities
168. Spend more on parks and less on softball fields. Of all the adults "sports" I can think of, softball is the least beneficial to the cardiovascular system.
169. Bicycle trails and facilities
170. Indoor pool
171. Lighted fields
172. Turf fields
173. natural play areas, not steel and plastic
174. Would love an indoor pool - accessible all year
175. Scrub pool decks, add pool furniture, add an indoor pool
176. Preserve the open space and natural beauty!
177. Availability beyond sunset

178. Build turf all purpose field with lights.
179. Create nicer volleyball courts with women's height nets.
180. longer pool hours
181. Build walking/biking trails between outer lying neighborhoods.
182. "more parks, even if they are small " "pocket" " parks!"
183. make swimming more affordable for lower income people
184. Indoor turf for adult soccer
185. add more over 55 adult fitness programs in the morning hours.
186. Restrooms
187. Splash Pad
188. more fields for lax and soccer
189. Make them more natural with less of a field feel. It is very hard to use flat areas with very little shade or flowers when it is so hot.
190. More summer camps for middle school age kids,
191. Build indoor pool
192. Indoor pool and recreation center -- this has become a real priority due to Penn State's change of policies and the limited availability of their facilities for any type of indoor swimming/sports events.
193. Turf fields
194. Expand Welch Pool or Build a New Pool to accommodate the excessive that winds up At Welch everyday. And indoor pool option is much needed. Also a bike/skate park.
195. More quality athletic fields
196. Indoor space-year round, heated, rentable
197. Full support by all Townships and all leadership in Centre Region.
198. lighted soccer fields, or more/turf fields
199. More indoor multi-sports complexes for people of all ages.
200. Bike trails in the woods!!
201. Soccer fields and lighting
202. Add walking, hiking, biking trails
203. Add splash park for the summer as a free and alternative option to going to the swimming pool
204. Add an indoor facility and more sports fields, preferably some turf fields
205. More indoor and outdoor opportunities in the winter and cooler months, ice skating, indoor climbing/swimming/play equipment.
206. Serve biking community. Skills parks? Access to trails? Fruita, CO
207. Ensure that Welch and Park Forest Pools have enough TRAINED, competent lifeguards for the season and have staff to clean the restrooms!
208. "Add 4 turf fields with lighting and regular well drained grass fields"
209. More lighting on sports fields and maintenance to bottom of PF pool
210. indoor turf soccer/LAX fields
211. Keep the water walking for the older adults in the Welch Pool lazy river in the 7 to 10am time slot as it was last summer.
212. All weather soccer field with lights
213. restore playground equipment at small parklet in Overlook Heights

214. Connections/trails
215. outdoor running track
216. Lighted sports fields - multi sport
217. More bathroom facilities at parks, especially the more popular ones.
218. Add a sauna!
219. Have a pool for indoor swimming that is affordable.
220. Paved trails!!!!
221. Don't say there is open space to use when it is overshadowed by fields and lights - walking around the edge of a set of fields (e.g., Oak Hall) does NOT count as open space for walking
222. Connectivity of parks and recreational areas through trails, greenways, etc.
223. Fix maintenance issues at the pools before they open each summer.
224. Lower pool entrance fees
225. more art and theatre
226. Add an indoor recreation center with a turf soccer field, basketball court, volleyball court, and rock climbing wall.
227. Conditions of soccer fields
228. Lighting.
229. We need more natural areas for passive park use, and hiking/walking trails
230. Manage or obtain more that can be managed natural areas for walking, birding, nature observation etc
231. More soccer fields
232. Build the soccer complex by WhiteHall Road
233. Add more areas
234. connect them safely
235. winter maintenance on bike paths by parks
236. community garden on south side of town, Tudek park is 3 1/2 miles away
237. more soccer fields
238. Promote recycling and reduce the amount of plastic that is used.
239. hire additional help to maintain the parks
240. year round ability to use pools
241. More options for soccer, turf fields so games do not have to be canceled
242. Indoor rec center especially for sport leagues.
243. Indoor playgrounds
244. Add artificial turf fields and outdoor lights
245. Promotion and awareness of sports leagues
246. preserve/enhance natural environment
247. protect habitat from development
248. Artificial Turf fields for baseball and soccer
249. improve pool safety and lifeguard coverage (too many closings and a terrible close call last year)
250. More dance, yoga, exercise classes for all ages inside year round.
251. Kill and remove the crown vetch at Oak Hall Regional Park.
252. Better sports fields

253. More adaptive equipment. Maintain parks so walkways are ALWAYS clear and safe for someone in a wheelchair to use. That's why we haven't done anything with CRPR. Can't get our daughter there and once we do, nothing for her to do.
254. More indoor options for inclement weather/winter. An indoor pool available to the public (I only know of the YMCA pool, and I'm not a member) with open swim times for different ages.
255. Provide synthetic surfaces for baseball infields. Many LL baseball games are cancelled b/c infield conditions are terrible days after rain events.
256. Build phase one of Whitehall Road Park
257. Connect bike and walking trails so you can get around the entire region
258. Build another multi-sport field.
259. Add an indoor aquatic center to provide more access for kids/adults to pools year-round. The YMCA pool is so busy and is closed much of the evening for SCAY. They've noticed air quality issues due to the number of people. An aquatic center with an attached gym area and possibly other fitness equipment would definitely be used. I think something near the Park Forest pool area would be useful since there are no other close pools on that side of town and the Grays Woods/Stormstown area is growing.
260. Outdoor turf fields
261. Access to more outdoor exercise equipment
262. Increase connections via bike/pedestrian trails
263. Indoor turf fields and lighting.
264. Plant more shade trees.
265. Turf soccer fields with lights.
266. Turf fields
267. More advertising
268. Improve restroom facilities
269. more adult softball fields
270. lighted soccer fields
271. More parking. Many times the popular parks have no parking available. (Spring Creek, Orchard Park and Homes Foster are really bad.)
272. Lighted, artificial turf fields to extend seasons and availability for soccer and other sports. We got the kids, but we're struggling to find places to play.
273. Indoor facilities and exterior lighting along.
274. Better signage for some of the 'hidden' parks.
275. Turf fields
276. indoor recreation center
277. Please make repairing the wonderful swimming pools a priority. Several of the water features at both pools are broken and the pool surfaces are showing wear and damage. Also with caring for the pools, please dedicate funds to increase the hourly wage for lifeguards.
278. Turf fields and lighting for more soccer fields
279. Build indoor recreation center for youth
280. I'd love to see more longer-distance hiking options (or be made more aware of any options); also more bike path options
281. Indoor recreation space

282. upgrade the equipment
283. Spray park (free)
284. improve hiking, biking, access on trails and between parks/neighborhoods to make it safer for kids, and permissible.
285. Increase the number and variety of fitness programs
286. Indoor rec center
287. Keeping up with landscape
288. Buy more land
289. Maintain trails that have washed away or that have grass grown over them.
290. Upgrade some of the older parks
291. Keep community gardens & promote sustainability
292. Turf Soccer Fields with Lights
293. Make sure accessible to all in the community
294. I think there are a lot of good things happening. I would like to see the current plans for the regional parks accelerated and then planning for a dedicated indoor recreation center that would be open to the whole community.
295. Add bike trails/paths that connect the parks together that avoid roads
296. Emphasize the preservation of natural areas. Don't turn them into sports facilities.
297. More park acreage
298. Not sure
299. Lights
300. Add walking, hiking, biking trails
301. maintain walking/running trails and the existing racket sport courts
302. connecting trails from park to park with bicycle/cross country ski/walking trails
303. Hard to say...
304. Expand walking paths
305. Making bike paths available to them. The sidewalks are bumpy and streets are not safe due to speed of cars.
306. Fix the boardwalk at Millbrook Marsh so that it doesn't tilt. It is dangerous to walk when wet or icy.
307. More facilities for our youth sports to use day AND NIGHT -- especially SOCCER and field hockey.
308. maybe organized bike tours of parks through the year
309. Access to indoor recreation/fitness center to replace loss of PSU facility access.
310. CLEAN your paths, and sidewalks in the winter. it is truly unsafe, and depressing (which goes against wellness)
311. continue to consistently solicit input from area residents (more surveying and evals after programs) and via multiple outlets (schools, churches, parks themselves), and create synergies with resources of PSU (Landscape Architecture; Architecture; Biobehavioral Health, Music, Theatre, Engineering)
312. connecting walking/bike paths
313. "Biking and hiking trails"
314. More soccer fields- grass, turf @ indoor
315. Better communication of parks locations and programs available

316. make trails more well known
317. dog park
318. staffing for programs-training on how to better serve those residents with accessibility issues and serving residents of all abilities (programs and facilities)
319. More bike facilities
320. More vigilant lifeguards at both Welsh and Park Forest outdoor pools.
321. spray/water park
322. Add more playing fields for local sports
323. Unknown
324. Interconnect the park system with paved hike/bike trails.
325. Personnel to spot supervise and make sure that the parks are safe and welcoming for families. Too many city parks have become trashed, hang outs for drug deals, and despoiled by the homeless. Make rules for behavior and littering and enforce them before our parks go way of so many cities and communities with few resources. I am a liberal, but believe that we all have a responsibility to respect one another. Let's help those in need in a responsible way, and not let anyone misuse public facilities.
326. Preserve natural landscapes
327. Keep the nature beautiful and open space
328. Save the Trees
329. High cost: and indoor pool. Low cost: plant shade trees. Mid range: improve or add trails and paths that encourage walking, biking, and connecting to neighborhoods
330. Skate park
331. trails connecting places, indoor pool, activities for older adults (20+) after school there are no opportunities to be active in groups and meet people. Maybe a sports league? Some of the bars downtown use to do this when I worked there.
332. Better promotion of activities to increase engagement
333. Summer camp schedules make it hard for working parents to pick up and drop off their children for the various programs.
334. More natural areas with trails to promote non-ball activities
335. Indoor swimming pool!!!!!!
336. more park land
337. Add a splash pad
338. Link bike paths
339. Need to be more visible, as well as an indoor community center/recreation center to be able to access and offer more recreation programs throughout the year.
340. Indoor facilities.
341. Turf field with lights
342. more bike paths and trails
343. improve maintenance and upkeep
344. More teen programs
345. NA
346. Preserve wildlife habitats
347. Purchase more land for parks to preserve the green space and keep out developers.

348. Outdoor track
349. connect parks with bike/walkways
350. Connect areas around town with bike/walk trails
351. Regional bike / walk / run / hike trail system
352. More parks close to neighborhoods
353. Add two splash pad parks on either end of town
354. Better walking/biking connections to parks from surrounding neighborhoods.
355. Better spaces for indoor sports like volleyball
356. More sports fields., lighted sports fields
357. More soccer fields
358. Lower prices for Halfmoon residents- I can't afford to non-resident fees
359. "An indoor facility."
360. Purchase and preserve more land to offset growth of developments - is there a way to work with developers to help encourage them to retain more mature trees and green space than they do? Like a public/private partnership of sorts?
361. Much better communication about availability of programming, and walking trails.
362. Have more program offerings in the a.m. hours for those who work later in the day.
363. Connecting trails and better trail markers
364. More open-ended, imaginative play areas for toddlers that promote exploration. More areas like the Children's garden at PSU arboretum. Most parka just have toddler climbers and swings. I would also LOVE to see an adventure playground
365. Protect open space from development
366. Connectedness of parks. Better promotion of events
367. plant more trees
368. Turf and Lights on more soccer fields
369. Build Whitehall Road Regional Park
370. Indoor pool.
371. Work with the existing properties. I don't believe there is need to continue to expand the number of the properties that already exist.
372. more dog friendly events and activities
373. more nature
374. Adding some soccer field
375. More interconnected bike/walking paths between parks and around town
376. More off-street bike paths and trails (rails-to-trails type)
377. more green space with trees & trails
378. Land preservation
379. Indoor recreation facilities
380. indoor training/recreation facility with indoor track
381. add a track and field facility
382. Website
383. running track & trails
384. Indoor swimming on par with outdoor facilities
385. Offer indoor facilities

386. add lights
387. add a track and nordic ski trails
388. Better maintenance
389. track and field
390. Track field needed; lighting.
391. Soccer fields available in rainy weather!!
392. Indoor sports complex
393. Add more athletic fields
394. Improve opportunities for running & biking trails.
395. Night lighting
396. Knowledge
397. More dog friendly options.
398. keep the picnic tables clean from cigarettes and bird poop
399. Lights
400. Making sure play equipment is safe and maintained
401. not sure
402. Increase restroom offerings.
403. More adult baseball fields
404. More bike trails
405. Better access to quality parks
406. Updating equipment/preservation
407. Get the word out.
408. Keep them clean and grass mowed
409. Better and more walking trails
410. more paved or gravel walking trails (trails that don't get muddy for dog walking)
411. Indoor community pool
412. need more than one area to take my dogs
413. Better advertisement of available programs
414. communication
415. Splash pad
416. Keep improving public spaces
417. connector trails
418. Expand parkland acreage (quantity over quality - land is only going to get more expensive)
419. Year round bathrooms
420. Protect natural space and trails.
421. Preserve natural resources
422. Make the pool season longer
423. advertise or let new people to the area figure out where to find info about parks and recreational activities
424. Build an indoor rec center
425. Add facilities for youth sports, particularly soccer and basketball.
426. Natural walking trails.
427. more open space

428. available restrooms even in the winter months
429. connecting parks through greenways and bike paths.
430. More fields, and some fields with artificial turf and lights
431. Adding more bathrooms (not porta-potties) to highly used parks (Circleville, Bernel Road, etc)
432. more connections via trails and bike paths (and winter maintenance of bike paths)
433. indoor swimming facility
434. Improved accessibility for all-inclusive participation and enjoyment.
435. Greenway trails making more parks more safely and conveniently accessible without need for vehicles.
436. Expand to reach all of the State College/Bellefonte/Boalsburg areas.
437. Improve the bike and pedestrian connectivity into the parks through neighborhoods and multi-use trails. More bicycle racks.
438. Better protection of all animals--wild, domestic, or feral--plants, and habitats.
439. Adaptive play areas for kids with disabilities
440. Improve what we have already, don't spend taxpayers money on activities and/or facilities that are "fad" ("hot" now but in five years won't be). Stick with making what we have better with a focus on the natural environment.
441. Less presence of homeless men who try to help at my picnics.
442. Promotion Via Email
443. INDOOR tennis facilities
444. Reviving old parks
445. Provide indoor tennis courts.
446. Add lighted soccer fields
447. More indoor facilities
448. Bathrooms need to be built at all our major parks (Bernel, Circleville)
449. Improve and clarify trail networks that connect them to populations
450. Summer rec programs at each of the parks and playgrounds
451. More greenways and ways to access parks on bicycle trails.
452. preserve more green space since the community is growing so fast
453. More tennis walls for single playing
454. access to park programs and facilities for those with disabilities
455. More bike/walking trails near the mall/Walmart area, like connecting Shiloh Rd to the Arboretum/Spring Creek Canyon Trail. My teens and I love walking/biking, and we love the arboretum, so it would be nice to leave our development behind Walmart and be able to ride our bikes to the arboretum.
456. update some of them and make them more accessible
457. Improve maintenance of the beautiful parks we already have in the area.
458. More open space, especially with the downtown area becoming more urban
459. more active sports fields
460. encourage, provide and practice environmentally, sustainable practices
461. winter maintenance
462. Build an indoor aquatic facility.

463. Update some of the playground equipment & connect parks to more neighborhood trails
464. Indoor recreational space for young children during cold months
465. Make staff aware that the facilities are not theirs. The facilities are owned by the municipalities and the residents of those municipalities.
466. I think you are doing a great job for families. Maybe more for the young adult/non-college student. My older son is past college but does not have a lot a options for stuff to do to meet people.
467. Sprayground or indoor facility
468. Water fountains at all parks
469. update child play equipment in Patton Township parks
470. Outdoor lighting
471. Offer programs where dual working parents are able to take their kids. Many things are offered at 9am, 10am, 3pm, etc. Kids who have parents that both work cannot participate
472. Splash pad
473. Keep up the trees
474. Restrooms at all parks and ball fields
475. Lower cost of participation
476. Preserve more green space (unmowed natural areas left, but preserved)
477. The number of soccer fields, including fields with artificial turf and lights, should be increased to meet the growing demand of the sport in both youth and adult Centre Region soccer leagues.
478. More paved trails
479. Actual restrooms instead of portajohns
480. Include Halfmoon township
481. more bathrooms (flushable- not portable)
482. 1 - Create a Bike Path-Greenway Connection Map and phased plan to make entire region a bike-path is first-choice community. 2 - Get rid of all outdoor lighting. Dark Skies make happy wildlife and instill wonder and happiness.
483. Rehab current parks
484. Add lighting to soccer fields
485. I am handicap and can not walk very far and it seems all picnic, seating, and most other areas are all far from parking areas. It would be nice to have a few table, seating etc near parking areas.
486. Lights
487. More athletic field, lights, or artificial turf field.
488. Availability of facilities for groups and organizations especially indoor facilities.
489. More ball fields
490. Bike trails, pump track
491. Open fields more often to youth sports when it's muddy. Relax ... grass grows back
492. A pool on the mall side of town
493. add lights to some sports fields
494. More trails

495. More open space for birding, hiking and less "ball field" development.
496. Adding more wildlife walking trails.
497. I feel we have enough sports fields. Please consider more emphasis on nature and peacefulness.
498. Preserve green space
499. See my answer regarding publicity
500. Purchase land for open space and nature preservation.
501. Youth Sport Fields that are better suited for use in Spring and Fall (aka Wet season & early darkness)
502. Maintaining bocce courts
503. Construction of a dedicated P&R facility to host sports leagues and other events.
504. Indoor aquatic center
505. Add an indoor aquatics center!
506. Continue to maintain safe playground areas. Top priority with grandkids visiting.
507. Improve promotion within the community.
508. Lower swimming pool fees
509. more playing fields
510. Additional dog parks.
511. Add restrooms to larger parks like Bernel Road and Circleville Road
512. Quit subsidizing third party sports organizations with construction of new fields and low fees.
513. Safety
514. Improve options for people who aren't involved in organized sports teams
515. More Disc Golf Courses
516. Walking paths to connect neighborhoods/parks/businesses
517. Finish the regional park system
518. Accessibilities to bathrooms/drinking fountains - facilities for families

22. If you have any suggestions for improving or expanding the recreation activities, programs or events that are sponsored by CRPR, please write them in the space provided below.

1. It would be great if CRPR had some standard locations that you could count on for programming. We have to move from space to space depending on where CRPR gets space. Sometimes were at the Borough Building and then we move to an elementary school. There is no consistency.
2. More art events please
3. Allowing a few very vocal members to use prejudices and exaggerations to defeat skate park facilities and lighting of fields that other communities support and love and utilize to full advantage. I then have to watch out for students finding spaces to ride their skateboards on the roads and in parking lots. I have gone and gotten take out and sat at picnic benches in other communities to watch young people skateboarding and biking in skate parks FOR FREE. Lack of facilities in a community that has such a large student populations a reflection of hostility towards our young people. In addition, athletic fields, turf fields, equipped with lights to enhance the availability of adult leagues and pick up games for soccer, and enhancing revenues for our parks with soccer tournaments - as well as for our local businesses - hotels, restaurants, etc. Other areas with much less resources do much better job supporting these sports and events. I've seen spaces around highways be utilized for recreation in creative dynamic ways in many communities and I cannot understand the rancor that youth face from our community with their repressive NIMBY attitudes.
4. Tubing on Spring Creek would be fun!
5. TURF fields - this will allow you to also expand offerings, limit cancellations, etc.
6. more opportunities for winter activities, e.g., indoor facilities for soccer, tennis, pickle ball, indoor pool
7. More morning activities for toddlers since many nap from ~1-3pm.
8. My concern is more for the maintenance and addition of park facilities rather than programming.
9. this survey has been difficult to fill out because in many cases, it asks about facilities in general, and I've had such varying experience, it's hard to answer overall. Bernel Park is fantastic. other locations... not as much. And many survey questions don't give me the option to say n/a if I'm unaware of the programs or something similar, so I'm not sure my answers are correct. And there's no option for toddler programs (under 3), so there are no options that apply to me there. though I would love to have more options to get together with parents with small children. that never seems to be an option in the programming.
10. General lectures and discussions on nature at Millbrook Marsh Indoor Center
11. SKate Park and lights in the parks
12. more soccer fields and lighting for all places
13. "Work to connect all Of the parks before adding unnecessary and expensive activities. "
14. More adult weekend events
15. N/A

16. I don't know where to find out about them
17. I have lived here 4 years and didn't know there were programs to participate in. Get out in the community and promote these events, maybe even have a kickoff at the beginning to spring, summer and fall to promote the programs you offer-you could do it right at the park and invite neighborhoods to attend, which would also likely increase the volunteers you have.
18. Please add dog parts and consider making more parks accessible for well-behaved dogs.
19. outdoor adventure programs on a weekly basis for older elementary and teens
20. Programs, events, and activities are far too expensive for working class families. Please consider sliding scale pricing, particularly on events and kids programs.
21. More fitness and yoga classes
22. n/a
23. An indoor pool would be great for open swim/family swim times. Sorry if I sound like a broken record.
24. I did not know there are programs available through the parks. I feel there would be much more interest/participation if people knew about them, especially those with children!
25. Bus trips would be a great addition (NYC during the holidays, etc.)
26. Splash pad
27. I was disappointed with our swim lesson experience through CRPR. The teachers were poorly trained high school students who, though very nice and likely good swimmers themselves, had absolutely no idea how to actually TEACH young children. My kids enjoyed the lessons but they gained almost no skill/ability from the class, and they were a waste of time and money.
28. Pool prices are crazy these days! We love going to the pool, but it can also be hard to go with young kids (but older than 3) when camp programs seem to overrun particularly Welch pool during the day. This is a big turn off for a family like ours with two preschool-aged children.
29. More affordable activities, more indoor activities in the winter.
30. More dog-friendly activities including: training classes, play yards, hikes, runs
31. More sections of kayak & boating summer camp for tweens
32. Better marketing, not everyone uses social media
33. See previous note
34. CRPR puts most emphasis, and by far the most initial and yearly money, into "Recreation"--eg, structured group activities and their support facilities. And for the staff it takes to plan, direct and maintain them. Most people I know would far prefer greater priority on "Parks" (that word does come first). Peace and quiet; solitary and small family/friend groups; self-directed enjoyment of the natural beauty of Nittany Valley. This would be far cheaper, more enjoyable for more people of all ages, and more environmentally responsible.
35. community lap pools
36. Some of the beginners exercise programs for adults are held during working time, so it is hard for some of us to "start" exercising, because we cannot start with advance

exercises at night. Having more "beginners" programs right after work 5:30 or 6) would be great

37. Question 18 may not give good results. I don't pay attention to what is offered for every age group. There should be a "I don't know" option
38. The priority should be defining what opportunities we want to create, then ensuring we have the facilities to support these goals. Programming will follow.
39. I think that there needs to be better advertising within the schools for programs. Letters or emails could be sent home to parents who have children who are of age. Programs should be offered at a younger age to be competitive.
40. CRPR offers a lot of great opportunities
41. TOO long of a survey!!!! Just clicked boxes near end to get it over with!
42. My family would enjoy more parks with water access for splashing, kayaking, fishing and other water activities. An indoor recreation area would also be great for my teens. Winter can be difficult as there isn't a good variety of indoor activities to keep my teens occupied and to encourage physical activity. I would also like to do more hiking but I don't know where there are good trails. Perhaps an online trail guide would be a good idea.
43. We don't need many more programs. If facilities are great, non-governmental organizations will develop programs that use the facilities.
44. The swimming lessons are very poorly taught, you need to find a better instructor and supervisor for the instructors, they just aren't trained well enough.
45. Make the information more accessible and make sign ups easier.
46. I would be disappointed to see more soccer fields added, and especially disappointing to see our open spaces polluted by night light. While a few vocal groups are promoting this idea, the community as a whole does not benefit, and our children would be better served by having safe locations for unstructured play/free time. Key areas for expansion would be preserving forest and open space that can be connected by trails/greenways. In addition, fostering on sports that need community support and development (e.g biking) rather than those that are already garnering massive resources (soccer) would help diversify community opportunities.
47. "I would suggest doing whatever can be done to try to open the pool to general swim earlier in the day. The "adult lap swim" and the "toddler time" are very under-used. I have complained numerous times when my kids were a little younger about toddler time, because it is only accessible to toddlers who don't have older siblings! That's just not realistic for most families.
Summer swim team season should be longer. Expanding that into the first two weeks of August would be ideal.
Also, we need more camp/nature type programs for middle school and high school students. The hiking and kayaking camps offered are great, but fill quickly, and are only offered a few weeks out of the summer.
In general, the month of August needs more great activities for kids!! "
48. Youth athletic fields with lights, and more tennis courts.
49. a chess club for middle school age would be great
50. Increase more soccer fields
51. Please consider an indoor recreational facility

52. Programs for older adults offered too late in evenings
53. Replace broken park forest pool chaises and invest in industrial bathroom floor-level drying fan units for Park forest and Welch pool- bathrooms have terrible standing water/ germs /athletes foot hazard/ discourages peeing in toilets
54. Outdoor Track, Skate Park for teens, trails + bike paths around parks for running and biking. Create a rail trail system from State College to Centre Hall
55. nature based play area. "junk" playground.
56. Would like to see half day camps for elementary ages offered.
57. None
58. provide variety of pricing options for low income people and/or families
59. Indoor turf field so adults could play soccer year round
60. "Website didn't clarify what time of day sign-up opened for Summer camps at Millbrook Marsh and the number of slots for a given camp is much too small. Please don't add lots of outdoor athletic lighting unless the energy use and light pollution will be limited. Winter indoor facilities for sport leagues, ice skating, recreation would be used by many, particularly since there is more rain now in the winter, fall and spring and climate change projections indicate that will continue."
61. More programming for teens with outdoor adventure opportunities and programming in August for k thru 12
62. Winter is the most difficult time for our family, because we feel that we are missing a place to go and play indoors where all of our kids can be active at the same time (pre-school, elementary, middle-school, and high school). An indoor pool/recreation center could really help -- and we've seen it work in other communities where we have lived. We also would enjoy having more middle-school focused playgrounds.
63. I think you may benefit by tapping into the homeschool community and offering affordable programs/clubs during the day
64. Skate/bike park programs, climbing facility and programs, year round swim programs, cyclocross programs
65. No.
66. I have a hard time signing up online. I can't easily find the activities all in one place.
67. Full support of all Centre Region Townships and it's leadership.
68. Teen Challenges- Obstacle courses- Contests-
69. Indoor, year round activities for elementary kids. Indoor pool with activities, lessons
70. Ensure that pools are maintained, adequately staffed, and have clean bathrooms, please.
71. Please build at a minimum 2 lighted turf fields and 4 very nice grass soccer fields next to these.
72. Pleas keep the walking in the lazy river at Welch pool and be sure to advertise it in the CRPR bulletin.
73. Better communication
74. outdoor running track
75. There are an inordinate amount of built facilities (fields, courts, etc.) and there only seem to be more in our future. There are very many residents who are not on a team or in a club, but want to get out into a natural environment to be with themselves, their friends, or their dog - and who have no need of being organized. Opportunities for

these residents are sorely lacking. A walking path around the edge of, or among, a mess of fields (like Oak Hall) is NOT open space. It is a gap between fields. More active planning and execution of lightly managed, cohesive natural areas should be a priority.

76. Better soccer facilities and outdoor fields
77. Provide more activities like bird walks, tree id, wildflower id
78. You should work to encourage the soccer programs in the area to consolidate.
79. We moved to Halfmoon Township and are disappointed that we are considered "non-residents" when our lives center more around parks in adjoining townships and the borough. Not sure the history here or why HM has its own recreation board, but we'd like to see more cooperation.
80. More soccer tournaments
81. fewer programs, better quality (esp. for children)
82. Better sports fields like baseball and soccer
83. More options as well for children younger than preschool. Even in this survey, sometimes they weren't represented... only preschool and above was.
84. More swim classes in the summer would be good. They seem to fill up quickly and sometimes you don't know which level the kid will need to be (may or may not need to move up but the classes are full)
85. By adding turf and lights for soccer fields, it makes it possible for traveling soccer to avoid traveling to Altoona for practices as frequently as now.
86. If you offered foreign language in the summer, I'd be thrilled. We can't seem to find that here.
87. Again - Shooting sports programs are missing at CRPR
88. Keep the municipal band concerts
89. Programs seem to be overwhelmingly geared towards children and families. There are significant opportunities for improvement in providing activities and programs for college/grad/young professionals. This would be especially useful for strengthening connections between people associated with PSU and the community.
90. Don't always hear about the programs
91. More options closer to Halfmoon Twp!!
92. more programs for kids with learning opportunities
93. Sensory Friendly activities for special needs (could even be just water in a kiddie pool with swim rings and buckets, bubbles, stickers, coloring, I remember when I was young they used to have people come back to our park (behind Honeysuckle Drive) in the summers and it would always be so much fun, they would bring board games, etc., but not having a special needs child myself we need a cool calm environment usually inside because if it's too hot she doesn't do well.
94. Would like more bike trails/paths that connect the parks and avoid roads
95. Rock Climbing
96. Indoor, year round activities for elementary kids. Indoor pool with activities, lessons
97. Until this survey, I had no idea there were programs, despite living in town for 33 years.
98. Helping to expand bike-ridership & subsequently safety. FRESH water swimming!
99. None
100. Develop a wider volunteer network using retirees and use the great resources of PSU mentioned above; Yoga, meditation, quiet physical opportunities are needed too.

101. Would love to see the new sports complex on Whitehall road become a reality with more sports fields including turf and lights!
102. #21 quality of programs listed twice; sometimes I cannot respond but the survey thinks I can but I actually have no idea such as in #21 - I have not attend THAT many things so I just said neutral all the way. Survey needs some help. Forcing me to answer questions #18 now - I have absolutely no idea. My responses are going to be worthless for you. Please do not read my responses to #18 I just have to check something to get out of here. For all the work going into this survey, you should have vetted it better. It is not going to provide a good of results as you might think as it forces people when they have no idea to say something.
103. it would be great if you added non-team sport programs such as skiing, running, biking, hiking etc.
104. splash/water park
105. I just don't know about them, but would appreciate family programming suitable for young kids.
106. Different instructors and times for exercise classes. Less sports.
107. Add a track. The older I get, the more I appreciate walking/jogging on that type of surface. Pay attention to restrooms. If the restrooms are dirty or "creepy," it changes family accessibility.
108. "I find the extensive CRPR parks/facilities system to be very uniform and lacks variety. All the parks seem very similar with ball fields, playgrounds and open grass areas and their corresponding outdoor programs. But it is extremely limited in the variety of outdoor recreation options. Non-ball opportunities are extremely lacking or non-existent in many. Natural areas are very limited providing very limited opportunity for natural play and trail sports. To find a running trail longer than a mile long in the shade is most challenging.
I'd also like to add, surveys might not the best tool for identifying the need for new facilities. For instance, people who play ball only know ball. Thus those that haven't tried other activities will not know what is out there and whether they'd find a new activity. Thus they'll only request more ball fields based on their own experience. it would be so exceptional if other facilities such as a pump track and mtb trails could be added to the park system. Also with the expanding track and field program a community track is added."
109. more parks please
110. Increased partnerships with many of the businesses in the area to help offset costs and increase variety.
111. programs for people with intellectual disabilities (ex: kick ball league)
112. Our family really appreciates the effort that CRPR puts forth to meet the needs of an extremely diverse community. Green space, walking and bicycling trails are all crucial to our physical and mental health as well as it connects us as people promoting social cohesiveness and reduces isolation. Please keep building on what you have to make our area even more livable and desirable! Thank you!
113. If an indoor facility would be build please include a rock climbing wall.

114. I really feel promotion is a big issue for the programs I have seen. I also do think that there is an opportunity to target the 18-40 year old age group, but I unfortunately do not have great recommendations on how.
115. Be aware of early bedtimes/naptimes for younger kids. Possibly offer better wages for lifeguards to attract better swim instructors and not have to close the pool due to lack of lifeguards.
116. Keep the information flowing on Social Media--that's one of the main ways I hear about anything happening. Outside of that, I probably don't know and wouldn't be a participant simply because I don't know about it as an option. I also check the StateCollege.com calendar often, so publishing there is effective (at least for me).
117. Please adding some soccer field in the new city park on Whitehall.
118. I am a supporter of indoor facilities for those rainy days and to offer additional activities through the spring and winter months; and outdoor lighting and field options
119. help the programs out there that continue to grow by providing facilities (track and field)
120. add a track and nordic ski facility
121. Consider expanding swim team/daytime programs for kids with working parents
122. More summer camps for kids- this is a challenging area, esp. for elementary school age kids.
123. More Knowledge
124. More activities for littles (preschool and younger).
125. More dog parks, more indoor/outdoor swim facilities that are affordable
126. Again, just get the word out. It's very hard to participate in what is being offered if I don't know about it.
127. Please see my notes above , thanks!
128. Shorter surveys
129. Splash pad would be great!
130. none
131. The availability of more indoor activities/facilities for winter would be amazing.
132. Again, if we were aware of the programs and parks we would take more advantage of them
133. I feel unsure of all events available due to not knowing where to access advertising for the events offered.
134. Get rid of the two tier pricing system for "non-residents"
135. I make use of Google Calendars for planning my family's events and activities. I would love to have a way to import or view the CRPR events on my calendar, so I can move them to my personal and family calendar.
136. Minigolf Park
137. more tennis please
138. none
139. The pools are disgusting. They desperately need to be repainted and the weeds taken care of. We regularly see lifeguards not paying attention or loitering at their guard table when they should be cleaning up trash, engaging patrons, and weeding. The community has spent a lot of money on our pools and the slides are already faded and look terrible and the paint on the bottom of the pool looks dingy

- and dirty. The wood siding at Welch is faded and looks worn beyond it's years. If we are going to invest in these facilities, then we need to do a better job maintaining them.
140. More advertising, especially towards new residents. I just moved to State College in October, but have lived in Centre Co for almost 5 years, and had no idea there were so many parks. However, having that many parks and no reason to go to them is just irresponsible. The only park I know about is Tom Tudek because I was meeting someone there for an online yard sale trade, but it didn't look like it had much to offer. Give teens a reason to get off their phones and away from their video games!
 141. Many of the small children things are offered during the week when some kids are in daycare an parents working. It'd be good to see more on weekends.
 142. Love the idea of kayaking in small groups...where, when, tips, etc.; perhaps paddleboarding too; my main interest is safe places to hike in the woods alone or with a small group
 143. Aquatic program in a new indoor facility.
 144. Indoor recreational space for toddlers for rainy and cold months
 145. Please offer more programs for kids and families on the north/west side of town (Grays Woods, Stormstown, Circleville)
 146. Would love to see more kids/youth tennis programs. Currently nothing is offered except at PSU but times are terrible for dual working families.
 147. The number of soccer fields, including fields with artificial turf and lights, should be increased to meet the growing demand of the sport in both youth and adult Centre Region soccer leagues.
 148. Question 18 above: Requires a Don't Know or N/A option, consider my responses to be one of those instead of "Right Amount"
 149. indoor 50 meter pool would be nice.
 150. Include Halfmoon township
 151. more on non-school night evenings & weekends
 152. Concerts.
 153. Please add lighting to the soccer fields
 154. It would be nice for CRPR to take input from the young adults community on improving and expanding programs.
 155. I don't think that limited funds available for recreation should be spent on nature education. We are fortunate to have the Shaver's Creek Environmental Center that offers educational programming so I think that CRPR funds should be spent on active recreation/picnic/family activities
 156. More soccer fields and lights for those fields.
 157. I've rarely heard of programs. The only one I can think of is a butterfly session at Tudek Park.
 158. PUBLICITY, PUBLICITY, PUBLICITY - like a weekly article covering each facility in turn in the CDT, State College Magazine, and Town & Gown, Daily Collegian, and local online media.
 159. Swim team sponsorship, including an aquatics center!

160. Since we don't participate, it is hard to evaluate. The programs seem well run.
161. More outreach regarding opportunities would be helpful
162. I believe that purchase of open space is a municipal responsibility, not a CRPR responsibility.
163. More programs for adults (not just 55+) - younger adults like to craft, too!

33. Please use this space for any additional comments you may have regarding parks and recreation in the Centre Region.

1. Dogs off leash are a huge problem in CRPR parks. Many dog owners ignore the rules.
2. "If your organization has any interest in making the park system more dog friendly and adding dog parks, I would be more than willing to volunteer my time to assist in the planning, fundraising, etc...
Thanks for seeking feedback!
Ryan Macaluso (maca54@yahoo.com, 315-439-8381)"
3. Soccer is an international sport and brings people together. Having to leave my community to provide soccer development indicates a huge flaw in both soccer leadership in our area and in our facilities. People are taking advantage of the ignorance of what other communities provide to pat themselves on the back. We are isolated for many many miles - that should be an advantage that BRINGS people to us for soccer rather than sending residents AWAY for these opportunities.
4. "This initiative to plan for the future - with a very well advertised public meeting, and online and mailed sample surveys is highly commendable. If CRPR responds to the desires of the community as expressed through these means, that would be a wonderful result."
5. Thanks for doing this! I hope the output can be something that everyone can use. I know there are needs, and they will cost \$\$\$, so hopefully we can come to solutions that work for everyone!
6. I have seen the offerings grow in the past few years and I love that. The time is now for adding turf fields to expand current offerings, allow more community organizations/teams to utilize the space, limit cancellations and also begin to offer tournaments, etc to limit travel out of the area. It's so important and I hope everything will be done to make it happen. We are sorely missing this in our area and it's needed!
7. Most people in the area are interested in passive parks, please make sure they're not ignored by the more clamorous rectangular field people,
8. <3
9. Thanks for working on this new plan
10. respect watershed concerns when you build things
11. "Please make your survey shorter and less repetitive! Would appreciate seeing results of this survey. Will results be sent to participants?
Also, it is the opinion of our household that parks should first and foremost be a place to commune with nature, to relate to our interconnectedness with the natural world. And that organized sports have a secondary role. It is our preference not to use a preponderance of tax dollars for sports complexes, tournament areas. The private sector can support active sports parks. Night time lighting should be disallowed. We need to encourage conservation and begin transitioning to a lifestyle more adaptive to the natural world and our place within it. Climate change is here , our overly consumptive lifestyle must end. Neighborhood parks, vest pocket parks, community gardens can be places of refuge as well as social interaction. Let's preserve what we can and work together in harmony with Earth."

12. I've really only used the parks since having a child, and now we all love going to the park. Thank you for all that you do!
13. First, I think you do a wonderful job. Looking forward, I think more facilities and opportunities for recreation is a good thing to pursue. Specifically, I am part of Centre Soccer and would like to see more availability of soccer fields.
14. I didn't like that every survey question was required. there are many that didn't apply to me or that I didn't feel there was an appropriate response to, but I had to choose something. I think your survey results will be less accurate and useful to you because of that.
15. You should allow some questions to have non response as an option, especially since you require email address to participate.
16. You can glean from my earlier answers that I feel very strongly that our parks need to provide fields supporting youth sports. We have growing numbers of kids playing soccer, lacrosse, football and field hockey and no place for them to practice or to host home games. Families spend a tremendous amount of time and money on travelling elsewhere. Nice fields would allow local organizations to host tournaments and bring money into the community. No longer having access to PSU facilities has left most clubs scrambling to find sufficient playing surfaces and without lights, that scheduling is even more limited. Census data used for the elementary school facilities planning indicated rising numbers of school aged children which would suggest higher youth sport involvement in the coming years. As you could also tell from my responses, after 12 years living here (with young children), I was unaware of most of the parks listed in the region. If there are parks that are rarely used, can money and resources be reallocated so that CRPR maintains fewer, but better parks?
17. Thank you!
18. I shouldn't have to give my household income. When we lived in California I volunteered with a local park to reactivate it. The reason I was so invested in the park was because it had a great dog park, which allowed me to be part of a community. I recruited other volunteers at the dog park and we soon had a voice on a coalition that didn't care about dogs. My point is you are missing a large part of the Centre County region by not offering more than 1 dog park. Money is being spent on items that are never used. New playground equipment was installed in Dalvue and it is used maybe 20 times a year. Meanwhile a dog park will be used almost daily. I have only seen the tennis court and basketball park used maybe 4 times in the time we have lived here and have seen the volleyball court used once. There is so much space at this park in particular that a dog park could easily be constructed. If you need help in any way, gathering interest, fundraising or anything else please email me.
19. Keep up the great work!
20. I enjoy the parks, I like the fact that each park has it's own personality, and I like the informality and easy-goingness of the neighborhood parks. I think the large amount of green space really does wonders for the feel of the town and is executed much better than other places I've lived. I don't wish to see the parks get overly structured or formal or restrictive in their use.
21. N/A
22. Thanks for all you do to make the Centre Region beautiful and fun!

23. We frequent the parks and Millbrook marsh almost daily in the summer and meet lots of people, we love that they are available to us, and always well maintained! The staff we have run into maintaining the parks have always been very kind and courteous. My boys had a blast watching the men mulch spring creek park last summer. We also try to get out on the warmer winter days, my only complaint then is that the restroom facilities are closed and with toddlers it is difficult. Also the only programs we have really seen were through Millbrook Marsh's Facebook page. I would love to know more about preschool/early elementary age programs throughout the parks!
24. Thank you for conducting this survey. Our family feels fortunate to live in this area with so many wonderful parks and recreational opportunities.
25. Would love to see a splash pad come to the area!
26. I feel as if CRPR does not listen to or represent the working adults and families of young professionals in the Centre Region. The cost of living is already so high, yet CRPR is willing to make capital expenditures for parks that duplicate their services and will require even greater amounts of maintenance. I love the vibrancy and diversity of State College, but the decision makers of CRPR do not reflect this diversity. This is not the 1950's and there is more that we can be doing to engage our neighbors in recreation activities.
27. Thank you for doing this survey!
28. Overall great parks & programs. There's need for more soccer fields.
29. Thank you for making the parks dog-friendly.
30. love the memorial tree planting program!
31. Thank you ~ keep up the GREAT work and programs!!
32. The residents of Centre Region greatly appreciate your solicitation of public input. I have done my best to provide survey answers that will maintain and improve CRPR's service to all our residents, and to the environment that supports the quality of life we enjoy here.
33. Thank you to the staff!
34. When new neighborhoods are being developed, please do not wait until the neighborhood is complete before building the playground. I have lived in my neighborhood for 5 years and the playground is still at least 2-3 years out. That is 7 to 8 years, or basically their entire childhood, that my kids will not have the opportunity to walk down the street to play at their neighborhood playground. We have to drive them everywhere which greatly reduces their opportunity to play on a playground and create that fun, outdoor, community experience for them. This is unacceptable.
35. "Field availability and condition for softball/baseball is my biggest concern. I run a travel softball team and we want to pay for a place to play. I got the run around for the entire year and it seemed like we were the lowest priority and not valued as a customer. It was frustrating to not be guaranteed a place to play if we were willing to pay the necessary fees. Being told that we would be kicked off of fields if there was a tournament was unacceptable to me and I will not pay for something if there is the chance of being kicked off. I like that you are looking at lights because that would free up space, but also fields like Spring Creek need to be maintained and they would be just fine. I even offered to drag the field myself, but once the weeds started growing, it

became dangerous for my players to play there. It seems that men's softball/baseball leagues are consistently given priority and that is frustrating.

On a second note, please do whatever you can to slow development around existing parks and areas. We have such an amazing community in its proximity to nature and it would be a shame to see urban sprawl and over development destroy the wonderful things that are so close to home. I'm not sure what control that you have over this, but please do any and all possible."

36. Indoor pool and rec facility
37. I'm aware that there are many parks & feel they are important to the vitality of the community. Although I value them, I don't use them (as I should).
38. We were much more involved in activities, programs, and events, when our sons were younger. We really used and appreciated CRPR through all those years. Now that our sons are older, we don't personally use the facilities, or events ourselves as much, though we enjoy the facilities, parks, nature center, etc. and walk in the parks with our dog on a daily basis. I would like to see CRPR preserve what it has done for the past 20 years for the youth that are around now, but don't feel that a lot of programming is necessary for our age group (mid 50s).
39. We need more lighted turf fields for our children.
40. I think CRPR is doing a great job!! I love that that Haymarket Park is within walking distance of my house and Circleville is a very short drive with plenty of parking. My child is 1 1/2 years old now, and I'm looking forward to being able to take her to the parks to run around and play on the playground equipment and will eventually get her involved in some of the CRPR programs as she continues to grow. I'm hoping to get back involved in the coed adult sports leagues (I've participated for 5 years prior to having her and had a great time). Keep up the excellent work!!
41. Thank you for the opportunity to provide input.
42. We need more rectangular playing fields in our area, some with artificial turf, some with lights, and after those, a publicly accessible indoor field house.
43. The absence of "don't know" or "no opinion" for most questions forces us to enter inaccurate answers to many questions.
44. None. Thanks!
45. Our parks are amazing, I look forward to seeing how they continue to develop! I feel as gray and rainy as our community is, we need more indoor rec spaces, particularly as PSU has retracted its invitation for community members to use their facilities. Growing up here we used PSU's indoor track, and racketball courts. An indoor mini-golf course would be fun for many age groups in the winter and a money maker for you...but an INDOOR POOL where kids can play like they do at Welch & Park Forest pools during the summer is what I hear most of my friends who have kids of ALL ages CRAVE most of all!
46. indoor pool
47. Answers to the demographic questions should be optional, not required (they should all have a "Prefer not to answer" option).
48. Too many and duplicating questions which drive responders to give up in the middle of answering survey

49. I would like to see townships require developers to install parks in new housing developments. For example, I have seen a plan for an expansion of the Gray's Woods area near Gray's Woods Elementary School that will have many families moving to the area but does not have any new parks. That developer should be putting in at least 1, and preferably 2 parks based on the number of housing units going in there!
50. Please no more soccer fields, no more ball fields and no athletic field lights.
51. "Thank you for doing this research!
In general, I am very happy to invest in more public parks and recreation facilities and programs. It really matters to quality of life for families in the area.
Please think more about how the loss of access for families to PSU recreation facilities has impacted the area. We used to be able to take kids to Rec Hall for basketball, squash, etc., and to run the track. Since PSU is not going to change their minds, our community really needs to invest in indoor recreation facilities. "
52. Thank you. Also, please maintain the bike paths year-round!
53. We need more tennis courts and youth sports fields with lights
54. I have been very impressed with the Centred Outdoors program the last two summers.
55. This survey is too long. After a while, many questions seem too similar.
56. Kids playgrounds have seemed to have little use considering the high quality equipment. Ball fields, basketball court rarely used the less a scheduled program.
57. I support the soccer field complex idea for the toll brothers development
58. Thanks! We think our parks are great! This is a reminder for me to make more of an effort to learn all they have to offer :)
59. We are excited to hear about the possibility of more accessible options for our son who is a wheelchair user.
60. I love it here!
61. "You guys do some great stuff: Slab cabin sledding is really a great way to get kids playing together outside in winter. And i just noticed there's a fire ring up top? sweet! The creek play area at Spring Creek Park. perfect! encouraging kids to get in the creek and and not being afraid to let them get a little scratched is great. Also the flag football program is very well run and has been a blast.
Continue to encourage kids to get outside and play in nature. Fewer steel and plastic jungle gyms. We live in the woods, make it a 'woods gym' that's actually in the woods."
62. Question 18 needed a "I don't know" response I think, so I answered neutrally.
63. Thanks for what you do. It is a vital function of the community.
64. Thank you for including the community in your decision making.
65. you do not provide a category for "with disability in #26.
66. You said this survey is anonymous but you ask for a lot of identifying information (email, demographics) that requires an answer. This, in consideration with parks most visited and programs participated in, it's easy to aggregate the data to narrow down where respondents likely live. I don't mind providing most of this information, for the purpose of this survey only, but don't say that the survey is anonymous, because it's not. Also, demographic information should never be required.
67. Indoor pool is top priority

68. Thank you for the hard work of your team. Your office staff is always pleasant to work with!
69. "I am disappointed that the bike/skate park in my neighborhood (Greentree) was rejected. Our family was really looking forward to that opportunity - a safe place, within walking distance, for kids of all ages to be active and hang out together. Our community is lacking that. Big time. Older kids have no outlet and nowhere to go! So they get into trouble instead.
We need less outdoor fields and parks - and more indoor rec options. For 8 (cold) months of the year, there is very little to do here in PA. No indoor climbing. No indoor skating/biking. No indoor swimming. No indoor extreme sports (parkour or "Ninja warrior" style programs). No indoor fields. We are missing and discounting a large portion of our population, for the majority of the year! "
70. Our family loves Spring Creek Park and Millbrook Marsh and we go to those places often. We are not into sports and we are involved in other types of volunteer work. When the kids were little, we did go to several different parks and have always appreciated being able to do that. At this point good options for picnics to host special events are of interest to us.
71. In past years, we had a strong group of recreational volleyball players, with older adults playing. League play then took over the gym space, so that our time slot was moved to 8 pm or later during the week. Slowly our enrollment decreased and parks and rec stopped offering recreational volleyball, which is greatly missed.
72. Nothing follows! Thank you!
73. This survey takes much longer than advertised.
74. CRPR does a wonderful job at making this a great place to live!!
75. Soccer Leagues are limited by field availability and lighting conditions. I have the impression that there is a big demand for such kind of fields
76. We used CRPR parks and participated in more events when our children were younger. As they got older, there don't seem to be enough fields in this area so many families (ours included) drive considerable distances to participate in club sports. Creating turf and more athletic fields in Centre County would bring the people here.
77. Thanks for caring about our input
78. Incredible lighted soccer turf fields CAN exist in parks where there's plenty of resources to support the birds and insects.
79. So happy with CRPR!
80. Please keep the Welch Pool walking in the lazy river in the morning line-up. Thanks !!!
81. The conditions and availability of bathrooms is greatly appreciated!
82. I had NO idea there were so many parks in our region
83. We spend a majority of our time/money in the 'Centre region' but can't afford to live there. Wish there was a way for non-residents to find out more
84. "I have 3 children who have not had the resources to access to play their sport - soccer - due to limited poorly planned allocation of resources
Traveling to other PA communities w parks having multi use outdoor fields w lights and surrounding facilities and sports activities this is a HUGE BLACK EYE to Centre Region
Poor facilities for youth in region"

85. We visited one or two parks daily when the children were younger and it was great. Now that they are a little older we don't go visit the parks as much because they are busier with school activities.
86. Question 24 is stupid
87. Survey is too long to think you are doing to get valid and reliable data from enough sources
88. Connections between parks, and to forests, woods, etc. are critical. Make the connections appropriate - between wild areas, they can be more rugged, etc.
89. A pedestrian access to Rothrock State Forest from Boalsburg would be great
90. This questionnaire is way too long. Each area should have a button to select "No opinion" for all items for which I have no opinion.
91. Indoor soccer fields and better outdoor soccer fields
92. We need more passive parks with trees and bird habitat
93. Need to protect and preserve open space as natural areas
94. Your survey is too long!
95. As mentioned before, paths alongside parks - especially Fogelman - desperately need to be paved (90% of it is paved but the remaining gravel is messy, not helping erosion, and at times dangerous). Also, winter maintenance SHOULD be considered since it borders a school and neighborhoods alongside are becoming more populated thus necessitating the need for clear paths for kids who walk/ bike to school.
96. We appreciate all the parks this region has to offer. We appreciate all the CRPR offerings. Not all areas are as blessed to have such a great parks and rec department- many people here don't realize how great we have it- and I'm glad you're taking steps to ensure this is maintained and enhanced for the future. Thank you!
97. It would be nice to have a clearer understanding of why residents in Halfmoon Township are charged a higher rate for class fees/memberships.
98. many of your questions did not include a "not applicable" option - in which case I responded with "neutral" or similar. Example #30 - there is only me so no way to answer that question accurately. I chose adult since that is what I am.
99. an indoor facility outside of downtown for bad weather would be great-- but not outdoor artificial turf or lights in the Centre Region, please-- the loss to peace and natural beauty is too high. Thank you.
100. I have a degree in recreation, be happy to help make all parks inclusive for all
101. I am a big fan of the new indoor sports complex. I think that will be great. An additional indoor pool facility in the area is my top recommendation, especially now that Penn State facilities are not usable to much of the community including all children. And my family loves the Park Forest pool in the summer! Thanks!
102. Beth Lee and Jeff Hall do an awesome job!
103. Thanks for your hard work!
104. Expanded swim hours for adults
105. We desperately need turf field with lights in this area. A close second is indoor multi sport rec space for winter months.
106. In my job, one of my roles is to work with high school students to coordinate events. I have had a difficult/disappointing experience in trying to coordinate a few events (as an outsider of CRPR facilities) that would bring community members

together. This has led me to look to other venues that are easier/more cost effective/more inviting to outsiders of the organization. While I am very pleased with what CRPR offers me as an individual and long-time resident, I would no longer use CRPR facilities for any community-centered events I organize.

107. Thanks for having a survey and I hope special need activities will come out more and more.

108. Not enough programs to engage the college student/graduate student population!

109. I'm glad to get an opportunity to give input.

110. "We need more bike trails/paths in this area. More people would like to ride bikes, but there are not enough safe bike trails/paths.

Also, I really appreciate the dog waste bags. This is probably one of the best things that is done. I'm sure it is very annoying having to monitor them and replace the bags, but this is sincerely appreciated. "

111. The survey was a little too long. Should be able to opt out of questions that don't apply.

112. PSU closing facilities is a challenge for CRPR

113. "I think the parks and recreational opportunities offered by CRPR are generally outstanding. I've lived in the Centre Region for over 10 years, and I've had the great privilege of utilizing CRPR's facilities for a wide array of activities, including outdoor recreation (hiking, biking, cross country skiing, nature), sports (soccer, basketball, tennis), picnics and parties, and community gardening, among many others. Given the high quality parks in CRPR's existing portfolio, I strongly support the notion of using public resources to maintain and improve these valuable assets. Moreover, I also believe that CRPR should use its growing resource base to add new parklands to underserved communities in the Centre Region, especially in cases where no such facilities are accessible within reasonable walking/biking distance of local residents.

If I had to express a concern, it would be the recent push by CRPR to tap into the growing sports tourism market by proposing to build expansive sports parks with turf fields, lights, and indoor facilities. I see great risk in going down this path, as other communities across the US have experienced unplanned and excessive maintenance costs with these sorts of facilities (e.g., frequent turf replacement, high energy costs for lighting, etc.) that can greatly outweigh any tourism dollars from tournaments. In light of this risk, I'd hate for CRPR to devote a greater portion of its precious resources to high-maintenance ventures like these, especially when several private entities are already stepping in to provide the types of indoor/outdoor sports facilities (Nittany Valley Sports Centre, C3 Sports, and others) that can support tournaments. As CRPR weighs its options for future parkland development in the Centre Region, I hope that its investments will continue to reflect the interests and needs of the local community, which overwhelmingly support the types of parks CRPR has come to be known for."

114. Unless one digs, the parks in State College are effectively invisible.

115. We need more athletic fields with lights and turf. Our kids need LOCAL fields to play the many sports in the Spring and Fall when afternoons get dark fast (need field lights) and the rains destroy the grass fields (need more turf)!

116. have got to do something about the paths and sidewalks in the winter. Cant emphasize this enough. not only does it decrease activity, it is beyond dangerous. I now carry a first aid kit after seeing an elderly fall on the ice. not fun
117. This survey is a great idea, keep doing it to refine the mission and objectives and direction for the CRPR . Doing a great job, we can get better too.
118. CRPR does a good job with the amount of money and resources available.
Kudos to all of the staff that make things happen.
119. More sports field for soccer!
120. I like CRPR
121. This survey was a bit long and question number 18 didn't have an option for someone who hasn't experiences many programs.
122. Thank you for asking all these questions.
123. Parks and rec. provide a rich complement to any community. Keep up the good work. If possible, see if Interfaith Power and Light, and all religious groups, native American included, could work towards a spiritual appreciation of nature provided by the creator they worship.
124. Question #26 -- The term "homemaker" is outdated and inappropriate and many would say sexist despite the lack of overt gender identification
125. CRPR does a great job overall. The number and variety of parks really enhance the quality of life for the community. I really appreciate the access to the outdoors.
Thank you for all that you do!
126. Hiking enthusiasts and I
127. Would love an adult soccer league or other team sports, volunteer opportunities (community garden or similar program to Day of Caring at PSU, volunteer to clean up Centre Region), more areas for dogs to be off leash, more trails connecting areas, longer trails. Maybe trails that are not paved... example Raystown lake has a rubber recycled tire trail.
128. Thank you for asking what we think and want to see, and for your hard work preserving the beauty and health of our area.
129. There seems to be a lack of indoor space for kids to get exercise in the winter.
An indoor pool would be fabulous.
130. more parks, bigger parks please
131. We need more bike paths
132. I believe this information will really help this agency and the community to be forward thinkers about what we ALL need and want and what will be best for the Centre Region. Thanks for offering this survey
133. please give us turf fields with lights.
134. "Love the variety of parks here!"
135. Outdoor track
136. not a driver, so safe bike routes would be good.
137. Another pool needed for summertime, extend pool season, need indoor rec facilities badly for wintertime - YMCA not meeting needs for non-lap-swimmers and non-basketball players
138. Some of the poll options need "Don't Know / Have No Opinion" columns

139. My husband and I moved here specifically to reduce our carbon footprint by walking, bicycling and using the buses. It was the connectivity via paths and public transit to so many places that we go that drew us to this area. Most of the best cities for active transportation are out west and far from family. I believe that the Centre Region has a fantastic opportunity as long as growth is balanced with preserving green space. Thank you!
140. Planning is important in a community, so this long-term planning effort is great. My survey answers about football fields and baseball fields being not important are because it seems to me there are a lot of sports fields already in this community and that those type of fields are also available through schools and some other private facilities. I feel CRPR should concentrate on the other needs of this community that would not be met in these other ways. Also, I am concerned because scientists (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) have determined that we have about 12 years to cut global emissions on carbon by half in order to avoid triggering feedback loops that could cause terrible consequences for us. Since this plan is for 10 years, I think it would be very prudent to use CRPR funds to plant more trees and preserve more wooded areas to help with this effort of cutting carbon. Also, more bike and walking paths to connect neighborhoods to parks would be great in efforts to reduce dependence on fossil fuels. Buffering and shading of streams and waterways are also important to pollinating insect populations that are declining and to protect water resources. Thank you for considering being part of this important effort.
141. More soccer fields
142. I'll look into some of these parks and activities I've never heard of before. Thank you.
143. Need more track and cross-country facilities for the youth teams.
144. less focus on artificial turf and artificial lights; more focus on maintaining natural environment.
145. Non PSU affiliated families desire more activities
146. Please add a track and nordic ski facility! I am sure these would be used much more than the facilities at the parks I visit frequently. Both types of facilities are desperately needed!
147. Thanks for your good works.
148. Please improve availability of youth soccer fields and additional track and field facilities !!
149. Thank you for offering this survey!
150. Creating a "safe" bike path from Stormstown to State College
151. Thank you for all that you do to serve the community.
152. As an outsider to this area I thought Centre Parks and Recs was for Centre County and wasn't until I moved outside of State College that I was not considered a resident to participate for my family or self. I understand limitations, but again as an outsider was confused. There are many people who would participate from surrounding areas still within the county and would love to feel that belonging. Especially since many work or commute to State College daily.

153. It's clear that State College and Centre County are in the midst of rapid growth and development, and I think it's critical that parks and natural spaces get more attention during this period of expansion. Thank you for seeking community input!
154. This survey was to long.
155. Thank you for the community gardens, bike paths, and wonderful environment!! I bike through Tudek or Homestead every day. I'm so grateful!!
156. Your survey forced me to answer several questions with incorrect answers because it required answers where none were appropriate.
157. Please protect the environment and respect all animals, wild, domestic, or stray, as well as plants and habitats.
158. Please add indoor tennis facilities if possible.
159. The active adult center is especially well run and provides wonderful programs.
160. Note: question 30 is flawed - there is no possible option for an adult living alone
161. The way this survey is structured is likely to result in both skewed answers and very low completion rates. Requiring answers will force people into "click blindness" in the hopes of getting to the finish line, and wording questions so similarly without clearly highlighting the differences can result in bad data. The PSU statistical consulting center has some excellent, free resources on how to improve surveys.
162. We are blessed in this area to have so many beautiful parks, trails, and open space.
163. Looking forward to more trails near Walmart/mall and more activities for teens!
164. It would have been easier to complete this in another season when we are actually using the parks. It was hard to remember and complete in the winter when we haven't used the parks in several months.
165. Overall, I think Parks and Rec does an outstanding job. We used a lot of facilities and programs when the children were younger. Thank you for making our town a great place to live!
166. park maintenance in winter would be nice. you service the parking area, and i noticed you take care of the trash.. i'd rather see the parks shoveled than the trash being collected. The neglect causes the packed snow to turn to ice, and then takes longer to melt.
167. Thank you for the time and effort in conducting this survey. I would be happy to participate further.
168. We wish there was more direct accountability to the taxpayers. There appears to be No constraints or reasonableness checks to ask if tax dollars should actually be spent. Theoretically COG should do this. But we have only seen them rubber stamp CRPR requests.
169. cost to join by halfmoon twp needs lowered. We are NOT master degree holders and rich like other townships
170. Halfmoon twp should be included in residential programs, not non-resident. There is no other option for Halfmoon and it is awful we are forced to pay non-resident program fees
171. Include Halfmoon township

172. Extremely enjoyable regional hiking and excellent canoeing. We live at the base of Mt. Nittany. We get out and hike it so often we likely do not get to some things we should go and explore.
173. Keep the good job. Next time please make the survey shorter.
174. "I think CRPR should really take into consideration how restrictive it has become in the past 10 years for the general public that's not affiliated with Penn State University to access their recreational facilities. As a result, the general public has lost access to particular programs and facilities in which they could have or had been able to access at Penn State at an earlier point in time.
In addition, I believe CRPR should evaluate the availability of recreational facilities for various organizations. I've heard a lot of feedback from people in the area saying there isn't enough facilities for their groups to conduct whichever sports/activities that they participate in. I've also heard individuals saying that some organizations have to conduct their activities late at night as a result of availability of facilities, which isn't ideal for kids who's parents prefer they are in bed between the hours of 8PM and 10PM (at the latest)."
175. Question 18 had no available answer that applied to my household (e.g., "I don't know", "not applicable")
176. "I'm delighted you are doing this survey. Parks and Rec does a GREAT job in our community, and this survey is an important one, which is why I'm telling you my concerns with it. I have professional experience with survey development, so this stuff always bugs me when I see it.
The print on the mailed survey was WAY too small to easily read so this survey will under-represent people with less than perfect eyesight - namely a lot of us senior citizens. Luckily I have the computer and skills to go online and do it, but the size of the print is a major shortcoming. In addition, there is no clear and accessible information that I could find as to when the survey needed to be returned...except the statement that the results should be ready in April. Really? Additionally, at least one of the questions - question 18 for example - needs a " "don't know" " option. All of my answers to that question are invalid because of that shortcoming. This is an important survey that will have a lower response rate and more invalid data than it should. Luckily the results will be moderately valid, but I know you can do better. "
177. Thanks for all you do to enhance the Centre Region!
178. Can't stress enough that a dedicated indoor sports facility needs to be on the roadmap. Scheduling time at the local school gyms for league play seems to be tougher each year. Add to that the closure of the university resources (IM/Rec Hall) recently to residents and opportunities for certain types of recreation seem to be slim, especially during winter months.
179. Thank you!
180. Let's do a study into cost: benefits of an aquatics center for this region!
181. Keep up the good work!
182. QUESTION 30 NEEDS AN ADDITIONAL OPTION!!!! SOMETIMES, PEOPLE LIVE ALONE! EITHER THIS QUESTION SHOULD BE OPTIONAL OR THERE SHOULD BE A "DOES NOT APPLY" OPTION.

183. My scores related to parking lot conditions refers to the lack of snow plowing occurring at the parks in winter. I think people would enjoy getting out for park walks in winter, but the lots are frequently treacherous. It would also be nice if the walking paths could be cleared. Getting some fresh air in winter can be so uplifting!
184. Whitehall Park is a mistake.
185. Thanks for everything you do!
186. I'm not opposed to our township joining CRPR, however, I'm opposed to the cost/benefit ratio that joining CRPR introduces. Right now, we have the option to swim at the pools (at full price, of course) if we so choose. Taxing our property 21% more means my family would spend far more in taxes than we have ever spent at CRPR parks/pools. Allowing this to happen also wrests away our choice in the matter by forcing us to pay for something many of us might never use, anyway. If the fees for joining CRPR were more reasonable (thus lowering the stated tax rate to something more reasonable), I would reconsider - even if my family doesn't frequent the parks and pools at all!

The Pennsylvania State University
College of Health and Human Development
Department of Recreation, Park and Tourism Management

Centre Region Recreation and Parks Resident Survey

Report Submitted to:

Centre Region Council of Governments
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by

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Executive Summary

The results of the survey represent the findings from 636 surveys, representing a 23 percent response rate from 2,000 homeowners and 1,000 renters (apartments). The distribution of respondents across municipal jurisdictions reflects the varying population sizes of the various municipalities. The segmentation of respondents was as follows: Ferguson Township (34%), College Township (17%), State College Borough (15%), Patton Township (15%), Harris Township (12%), and Halfmoon Township (6%). The largest segments of the respondents are between the ages of 55-74 and were more likely to be female than male. Almost none of the respondents were Penn State students and thus these results do not reflect their opinion. A large majority of respondents reported their race/ethnic status as White and almost half of respondents reported living with some children under 18 years of age and being a resident of more than 25 years. Half the of respondents are employed full time while over one-third of the respondents are retired. The education level of respondents was high with over one-third (35%) reporting a Bachelors degree and 43% reporting a post graduate degree. Corresponding with education, most respondents reported a total household income of \$40,000 or more, while almost half (46%) of the respondents earned \$100,000 or more.

Over three-fourths (77%) of respondents believe local parks and recreation opportunities provide a great deal of benefits to Centre Region. Respondents felt strongly about both CRPR priorities and viewed effectiveness in working towards these priorities as somewhat effective. Conserving the natural environment is the most important priority to respondents and shows the biggest difference between importance and effectiveness. Consequently, respondents stated the second highest priority for CRPR in the next ten years should be to conserve natural resources while the most important priority is to maintain park and recreation facilities. Protecting open space and making Centre Region a desirable place to live are the second most important items to respondents, which respondents also believe CRPR has been most the effective. CRPR has been least effective in offering services to improve mental health and stimulating economic development, yet stimulating economic development is the least important priority for

respondents. CRPR should continue investing in existing park and recreation facilities while any expansion should occur in the realm of conserving the natural environment and open spaces.

Respondents generally reported relatively high rates of satisfaction with various aspects of CRPR areas and facilities. Respondents are seeking experiences in line with what they believe should be CRPR priorities. When asked what type of experience they were seeking in CRPR parks, the most common responses were spending time outdoors, relaxation, experiencing nature, observing nature, and enjoying time with family and friends at CRPR parks. As such, respondents believe CRPR should expand shade/tree areas and trails for running, hiking, bicycling, and cross-country skiing. Respondents were most satisfied with the cleanliness of grounds/environment, condition of paved walkways, feeling of safety and security while spending time in parks, and overall maintenance of park areas and recreation facilities. Respondents were least satisfied with accessible adaptive park equipment, accessibility of park facilities for persons with disabilities, availability of recreation programs, and availability of open play space.

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Introduction

Community parks and recreation can be defined as any combination of leisure experiences and amenities that contribute to an individual or a community's quality of life, health, wellness, and sustainable environmental well-being. The entities within Centre Region pride themselves in ensuring that all parks and related areas are maintained within each township and municipality for the use and benefits of their community. The soul of the community is reflected in the vitality of its public parks and recreation services. Community parks and recreation services drastically impact the quality of life, livability and health, and well being of the members of any community. Community life and the activities engaged in by individuals and groups of people provide a sense of belonging, meaningfulness, and relevance in the way people live their lives. Community parks and recreation programs, services, and facilities play a key role in creating opportunities for people to experience and enjoy life.

Centre Region Parks & Recreation has a central role to play in the crafting of community life. They are often responsible in assisting individuals in finding great value in their day-to-day living activities. The many benefits that come from community parks and recreation programs and services are endless, including assisting individuals and communities in finding joy, happiness, and fulfilment. Benefits often focus on assisting individuals and communities in the development of their social, cultural, physical, cognitive, economic, and spiritual attributes.

In fall, 2018 the Centre Region Council of Governments authorized development of a Parks and Recreation Regional Comprehensive Plan to identify the community recreation and park related interests and needs for the next 10 years. YSM Landscape Architects, of York, PA was selected to prepare the plan, with the guidance of CRPR and a COG Steering Committee. The scope of work for the comprehensive plan included a statistically valid survey of the Centre

Region population of residents. This survey was carried out in the winter/spring of 2019 and is the subject of this report. The CRPR also conducted an online survey of recreation interests concurrently with this effort, and selected results of the online survey and mail survey were compared in a section of this report.

Methods

Content of the survey instrument was guided by research priorities for the future of parks and recreation as described by members of COG. The survey instrument is the result of multiple iterations of questionnaire drafts through communication between Penn State researchers and COG and YSM Landscape Architects consulting firm between November 2018 to February 2019. The final questionnaire (see appendix) is designed to identify the parks and recreation needs of Centre Region residents.

Residents of Centre Region were the target sample population. Resident addresses were randomly selected by municipality based on the proportion of the population residing in each township or borough to the overall population of Centre County. One survey was sent per household. The primary purpose of this method was to be inclusive and for the results of each township or borough to have equal representation in the overall survey results. Each survey was given a unique ID to maintain confidentiality and each participant had the right to choose which questions to answer with the option of stopping any time. Incentives were used in the form of a random drawing to win free admission to various regional attractions, gift packages, and gift certificates.

All randomly selected addresses were sent a questionnaire with a prepaid envelope for participants to use to mail back survey results. Residents who did not send back the survey were sent a follow-up survey post card reminder about two weeks after the initial mailing and a second copy of the survey after another two weeks. The sample size was 3,000, which included 2,000 homeowners and 1,000 renters (apartments). In total, 636 surveys were collected from households in the Centre Region and 180 questionnaires were returned as undeliverable, resulting in a response rate of 23%. The returned surveys were input into excel and then uploaded into SPSS for statistical analysis. The following tables and descriptions are the result of said analysis.

Survey Results

Table 1. How do you most frequently access your local parks? (Question 1)

Source of Transportation	Number	Valid Percent
Personal Vehicle	264	54%
Walk	187	39%
Bike	19	4%
Other	14	3%
Bus	1	1%
Total	485	100%

- Over half (54%) of respondents typically access their local park via personal vehicle.
- About two-fifths of residents (39%) report walking to their local park.
- Combined, access via bike, other, and bus only accounts for 8% of park use.

Table 2. How do you hear about parks and recreation opportunities in the Centre Region? (Question 2)

Source of Information	Number	Valid Percent
Word of Mouth	288	47%
Newspaper	192	31%
CRPR Active Guide	153	25%
Social Media	144	23%
Municipal Newsletter	118	19%
CRPR Website	114	18%
Radio	95	15%
Municipal Website	28	5%
Unaware of parks and recreation opportunities	76	12%

- Nearly half (47%) of the respondents reported hearing about parks and recreation opportunities via word of mouth.
- Nearly one-third (31%) of respondents hear about parks and recreation opportunities via the newspaper.
- About one-fourth report learning of local parks and recreation opportunities via the CRPR Active Guide (25%) and through social media (23%).
- Smaller segments of residents hear about local parks and recreation opportunities through the municipal newsletter (19%), the CRPR website (18%), and the radio (15%).
- Only 5% of respondents hear about parks and recreation opportunities via the municipal website.

- 12% of respondents reported they are unaware of park and recreation opportunities.

Table 3. Which of the following environmental practices should the Centre Region promote? (Question 3)

Environmental Practice	Number	Valid Percent
Recycling	476	77%
Tree Preservation	421	68%
Composting	361	58%
Invasive Species Management	330	53%
Green Stormwater Infrastructure	310	50%
Habitat Management	308	50%
Alternative Energy Sources	278	45%
Low or No-Mow Areas	175	28%
Riparian Buffers	161	26%

- The environmental practices receiving the strongest endorsement from residents were Recycling (77%) and Tree Preservation (68%).
- Composting, Invasive Species Management, Green Stormwater Infrastructure, and Habitat Management were also supported by a majority of Centre Region residents.
- Nearly half of the respondents (45%) felt Alternative Energy Sources should be a priority environmental practice.
- Smaller segments of respondents think Centre Region should prioritize Low or No-Mow Areas (28%) or Riparian Buffers (26%).

Table 4. Think about the benefits that local parks and recreation opportunities provide. By benefits, we mean anything good that happens because these opportunities are available. (Question 4)

Household Benefits					
Not at all		Somewhat		A Great Deal	
Number	Valid Percent	Number	Valid Percent	Number	Valid Percent
52	9%	294	48%	267	44%

Centre Region					
Not at all		Somewhat		A Great Deal	
Number	Valid Percent	Number	Valid Percent	Number	Valid Percent
9	2%	129	21%	473	77%

- Nearly all of the respondents believe their household benefits a great deal (44%) or somewhat (48%) from local parks and recreation opportunities.
- Only 9% of respondents believe local parks and recreation opportunities provide no household benefits.

- Over three-fourths (77%) of respondents believe local parks and recreation opportunities provide a great deal of benefits to Centre Region.
- Less than one-quarter (21%) of respondents believe local parks and recreation opportunities provide some benefits to Centre Region, and only 2% believe they provide no benefits.

Table 5. CRPR Planning Priorities (Question 5)

	How important is this priority to you? (Mean)*	How effective has CRPR been in working towards this priority? (Mean)**
Conserving the natural environment	4.5	3.7
Protecting open space	4.4	3.7
Making Centre Region a desirable place to live	4.4	4.0
Ensuring that facilities are equally accessible to all members of the community	4.3	3.7
Enhancing the region's beauty	4.3	3.9
Preserving trees	4.3	3.7
Promoting positive youth development	4.3	3.8
Providing family-friendly facilities	4.3	3.9
Promoting parks, trails, and recreation facilities	4.3	3.7
Ensuring that programs re equally accessible to all members of the community	4.2	3.6
Providing family-friendly activities	4.1	3.8
Providing well-rounded recreational/educational programs for all ages	4.1	3.6
Offering affordable programs	4.1	3.5
Offering services to improve physical health	4.1	3.7
Promoting recreation programs for participation	3.9	3.5
Offering services to improve mental health	3.8	3.1
Addressing the needs of populations requiring adaptive programs	3.8	3.3
Enhancing community cohesiveness	3.7	3.3
Enhancing real estate property values	3.5	3.5
Providing opportunities for social interaction/meeting new people	3.4	3.2
Stimulating economic development	3.3	3.1

* Response scale = Very Unimportant (1) to Very Important (5)

** Response scale = Very Ineffective (1) to Very Effective (5)

- Conserving the natural environment is the most important priority to respondents and is the biggest difference between importance and effectiveness.
- Protecting open space and making Centre Region a desirable place to live are the second most important items to respondents.
- Stimulating economic development is the least important priority for respondents.
- Providing opportunities for social interaction/meeting new people is the second least important factor for respondents.
- CRPR has been most effective in making Centre Region a desirable place to live.
- CRPR has been least effective in offering services to improve mental health and stimulating economic development.
- The lowest difference between importance and effectiveness is stimulating economic development.

Table 6. Prior to receiving this survey, were you aware of Centre Region Parks and Recreation (Question 6)

Aware of CRPR	Number	Valid Percent
Yes	492	83%
No	101	17%
Total	593	100%

- The vast majority of respondents (83%) were aware of CRPR prior to this survey.
- Less than one-fifth (17%) of respondents were not aware of CRPR prior to this survey.

Table 7. Reported Visitation of CRPR Park Areas and Recreation Facilities (Question 7)

Park/Facility	Percent who Report they are not Aware of this Park/Facility	Percent who Report Using this Park/Facility
College Township		
Spring Creek Park	13%	66%
Slab Cabin Park	18	46
Slab Cabin Overlook	25	30
Nittany Orchard Park	31	26
Thompson Woods Preserve	39	21
Dalevue Park	39	14
Fogleman Fields Complex	43	10
Fogleman Overlook Park	45	7
Ferguson Township		
Tom Tudek Memorial Park	11%	68%
Haymarket Park	35	22

Autumnwood Park	36	19
Fairbrook Park	38	15
Homestead Park	37	14
Greenbriar Saybrook Park	40	11
Suburban Park	41	11
Meadows Park	48	8
Park Hills Park	43	5
Silvi Baseball Complex*	43	5
Cecil Irvin Park	49	4
Halfmoon Township		
Halfmoon Municipal Park*	46%	10%
Autumn Meadow Park*	49	8
Harris Township		
Blue Spring Park	43%	18%
Stan Yoder Memorial Preserve	47	10
Nittany View Park	49	9
Kaywood Park	48	7
Eugene Fasick Park	54	5
Harpster Park	53	5
Country Place Park	52	4
Patton Township		
Circleville Park	19%	53%
Bernel Road Park	35	30
Graysdale Park	40	14
Gray's Woods Park	33	14
Woodycrest Park	38	9
Green Hollow Park	46	8
Park Forest Tot Lot	40	7
Oakwood Park	45	6
Marjorie Mae Park	47	4
Ambleside Park	49	4
State College Borough		
Holmes-Foster Park	17%	50%
Orchard Park	21	45
Sunset Park	20	43
Sidney Friedman Parklet	29	38
Lederer Park	24	33
Walnut Spring Park	35	19
Thompson Woods Preserve	40	19
East Fairmount Park	36	13
Tusseyview Park	38	12

High Point Park	41	9
South Hills Park	42	6
Smithfield Park	44	6
Nittany Village Park	46	3
Regional Facilities		
Millbrook Marsh Nature Center	16%	58%
Wm. L. Welch Community Pool	15	42
Park Forest Community Pool	17	29
Oak Hall Regional Park	35	11
John Hess Softball Field Complex	30	9
Houserville Elem. Ballfield	30	8
Radio Park Elem. Ballfields	28	7
Ferguson Elem. Ballfields	31	6
Centre Region Active Adult Center	36	5

For each township or borough, there was generally one or a few popular parks and a larger number of parks that were unused or not known about by respondents. More detailed patterns of the park awareness and use patterns are summarized below by jurisdiction. These statistics reflect the responses of all Centre Region respondents.

College Township

- Two-thirds (66%) of respondents within the CRPR region reported using Spring Creek Park.
- Nearly half (46%) of respondents reported using Slab Cabin Park.
- Smaller segments of residents reported using Slab Cabin Overlook (30%), Nittany Orchard Park (26%), Thompson Woods Preserve (21%), or Dalevue Park (14%).
- Relatively few respondents reported using Fogleman Overlook Park (7%) or Fogleman Field complex (10%). Nearly half (43-45%) were not aware of these facilities.

Ferguson Township

- Tom Tudek Memorial Park was the most popular park in the region, with over two-thirds (68%) of respondents reporting using the park.
- About one-fifth of respondents report using Haymarket Park (22%) and Autumnwood Park (19%).
- Fewer respondents (4-15%) reported using the other parks in Ferguson Township.
- Nearly half (40-49%) were not aware of many of the Ferguson Township parks

Halfmoon Township

- Halfmoon township parks received little use by Centre Region residents.
- Only 10% of respondents reported using Halfmoon Municipal Park and 8% reported using Autumn Meadow Park.
- Nearly half of respondents reported not being aware of Halfmoon Municipal Park (46%) or Autumn Meadow Park (49%).

Harris Township

- Harris township parks also received little use by Centre Region residents.

- 18% of respondents reported using Blue Spring Park and 10% used the Stan Yoder Memorial Preserve.
- About half of the respondents (43-45%) reported not being aware of the Harris township parks.

Patton Township

- About half of the respondents (53%) reported using Circleville Park and nearly one-third (30%) used Bernel Road Park.
- About 14% of respondents reported using Graysdale Park and Gray’s Woods Park.
- All of the remaining Patton Township parks were used by less than 10% of the respondents.
- Nearly half of the residents (40-49%) were not aware of these parks.

State College Borough

- State College Borough has several parks used by sizable segments of regional residents (Holmes-Foster Park – 50%, Orchard Park – 45%, Sunset Park - 43%, Sidney Friedman Park – 38%, Lederer Park -30%).
- Walnut Spring Park and Thompson Woods Preserve were used by about one-fifth (19%) of respondents.
- The least used parks in the State College Borough were South Hills (6%), Smithfield (6%), and Nittany Village (3%).

Regional Facilities

- A majority of respondents (58%) reported using the Millbrook Marsh Nature Center.
- The two CRPR community pools were used by many area residents, with 42% reporting using Wm. L. Welch Community Pool and 29% of respondents reporting using Park Forest Community Pool.
- Oak Hall Regional Park was used by about one-tenth (11%) of the respondents.
- About one-third (28-31%) of respondents were unaware of the other regional ballfield facilities, and less than 10% reported using any of these areas.
- The Centre Region Active Adult Center was used by only 5% of respondents, and over one-third (36%) were not aware of this facility.

Table 8. What experiences are you looking for when visiting CRPR park areas and recreation facilities? (Question 8)

Type of Experience	Number	Valid Percent
Spending Time Outdoors	487	81%
Relaxation	464	77%
Experiencing Nature	419	69%
Enjoying Time with Family and Friends	411	68%
Observing Nature	384	64%
Fitness & Wellness	353	58%
Self-Directed Activities	229	38%
Special Events	168	28%
Affordable Family Programs	131	22%
Environmental Education	122	20%
Non-League Sports	108	18%
League Sports	92	15%

Viewing Public Art	72	12%
Spiritual Connection	70	12%
Volunteering	43	7%
Research	12	2%

- When asked what type of experience they were seeking in CRPR parks, the most common responses were spending time outdoors (81%), relaxation (77%), experiencing nature (69%) and observing nature (64%).
- Two-thirds of respondents (68%) reported enjoying time with family and friends at CRPR parks.
- The majority of respondents (58%) reported seeking fitness and wellness from visiting CRPR park areas and recreation facilities.
- Some other less frequently mentioned experiences sought in CRPR park areas and recreation facilities include self-directed activities (38%), special events (28%), affordable family programs (22%), and environmental education (20%).

Table 9. How important is it to expand or add the following recreation facilities in the Centre Region? (Question 9)

Recreation Facilities	Mean Value*
Shade/tree areas	4.1
Trails for running, hiking, bicycling, cross-country skiing	4.1
Children’s play equipment/areas	3.7
Picnic pavilion	3.6
Outdoor winter facilities (ice skating, sledding)	3.5
Informal picnic areas	3.5
Community garden	3.4
Nature/environmental education centers	3.4
Adaptive play equipment	3.4
Outdoor health and fitness equipment	3.3
Outdoor swimming pool	3.3
Dog park area	3.2
Indoor swimming pool	3.2
Tennis court	3.1
Pump track for bicycles	3.1
Indoor recreation center	3.1
Amphitheater/band shell	3.1
Soccer field	3.0
Baseball/softball field (youth)	3.0
Basketball court	3.0
Indoor fieldhouse with game fields and courts	3.0
Athletic field lights	3.0
Spray ground water play area	3.0
Sand volleyball court	2.9
Baseball/softball field (adult)	2.9

Grass volleyball court	2.8
Skateboard area	2.8
Disc golf course/holes	2.8
Horseshoe pits	2.7
Football field	2.6
Bocce court	2.6
Lacrosse field	2.6
Pickleball court	2.6
Artificial turf field	2.4

* Response scale = Very Unimportant (1) to Very Important (5)

- Shade/tree areas and trails for running, hiking, bicycling, and cross-country skiing were viewed as the most important recreation facilities to expand or add (mean = 4.1 on the 5-point scale).
- Artificial turf was the least important recreation facility to add or expand (mean = 2.4).
- Respondents were neutral about adding or expanding soccer fields, baseball/softball field(youth), athletic field lights, spray ground water play areas.

Table 10. What do you think should be the priority for parks and recreation in the Centre Region over the next ten years? (Question 12)

Recreation Facilities	Mean Value*
Maintain park areas and recreation facilities	4.5
Conserve open space and natural resources	4.3
Develop walking/biking connections between schools, parks, trails and neighborhoods	4.2
Develop trails and greenways	4.1
Rehabilitate older parks	3.9
Improve promotion of park, trail and recreation program opportunities	3.7
Purchase land in underserved areas for future parks	3.6
Expand volunteer involvement with parks, trails, recreation programs and special events	3.5
Expand recreation programs for youth (under age 18)	3.5
Provide access to waterways	3.5
Add recreation facilities to existing parks	3.5
Expand recreation programs for older adults (age 55+)	3.4
Expand recreation programs for adults	3.3
Expand environmental education opportunities	3.3
Adaptive programming	3.2
Develop an indoor recreation center	3.1
Build athletic fields	2.9
Add sports field lighting	2.9

* Response scale = Very Unimportant (1) to Very Important (5)

- The highest priority for CRPR in the next ten years should be to maintain park areas and recreation facilities (mean = 4.5).
- The second highest priority for CRPR in the next ten years should be to conserve open space and natural resources (mean = 4.3).
- Respondents also placed relatively high priority on developing walking/biking connections between schools, parks, trails and neighborhoods (mean = 4.2) and developing trails and greenways (mean = 4.1)
- The lowest priority for CRPR in the next ten years among respondents is adding sports field lighting and building athletic fields (mean = 2.9).

Table 11. The table below lists several park features. Please take a moment to consider CRPR areas and recreation facilities overall, and then rate your level of satisfaction with each feature on a scale from 1 (very dissatisfied) to 5 (very satisfied). (Question 13)

Recreation Facilities	Mean Value*
Cleanliness of grounds/environment	4.0
Condition of paved walkways	3.9
Feeling of safety and security while spending time in parks	3.9
Overall maintenance of park areas and recreation facilities	3.9
Cleanliness of picnic facilities	3.8
Condition of roads/parking areas	3.8
Condition of trees	3.8
Condition of trails	3.7
Condition of playground equipment	3.7
Availability of shaded areas	3.6
Condition of swimming pools	3.5
Cleanliness of restrooms	3.4
Condition of restrooms	3.4
Availability of seating	3.4
Availability of restrooms	3.4
Availability of facilities that can be reserved for private events	3.4
Responsiveness and courteousness of CRPR staff	3.4
Condition of exercise equipment	3.3
Condition of ball fields	3.3
Condition of tennis courts	3.3
Availability of open play space	3.2
Availability of recreation programs	3,2
Accessibility of park facilities for persons with disabilities	3.2
Accessible adaptive park equipment	3.2

* Response scale = Very Dissatisfied (1) to Very Satisfied (5)

- Respondents generally reported relatively high rates of satisfaction with various aspects of CRPR areas and facilities.
- Respondents were most satisfied with the cleanliness of grounds/environment (mean = 4.0).
- The next most satisfied park features were condition of paved walkways, feeling of safety and security while spending time in parks, and overall maintenance of park areas and recreation facilities (mean = 3.9).
- Respondents were least satisfied with accessible adaptive park equipment, accessibility of park facilities for persons with disabilities, availability of recreation programs, and availability of open play space (mean = 3.2).

Table 12. Have you or has anyone else in your household participated in any recreation program that was sponsored by CRPR in the past year? (Question 14)

	Number	Valid Percent
Yes	181	29%
No	434	71%
Total	615	100%

- Nearly one-third (29%) of respondents or people in respondents' households participated in a recreation program that was sponsored by CRPR last year.
- Conversely, most region residents (71%) reported that they or anyone their households did not participate in a recreation program that was sponsored by CRPR last year.

Table 13. Indicate the number of CRPR recreation programs you or anyone in your household have participated in, in the past year. (Question 15)

	Number	Valid Percent
One program	84	49%
Two or three different programs	75	44%
Four or more different programs	12	7%
Total	171	100%

- About half (49%) of the respondents reporting household participation in CRPR recreation programs during the last year participated in one CRPR recreation program.
- Another 44% participated in two or three CRPR recreation programs last year.
- Less than one-tenth (7%) of respondents or people in respondents' households participated in four or more CRPR recreation programs last year.

Table 14. Please rate your satisfaction with the quality of CRPR recreation activities (Question 17)

Category	Mean Value*
Nature center programs	3.5
Special events	3.3

Aquatics programs	3.3
Youth sports	3.3
Youth instructional classes	3.2
Health and fitness classes	3.2
Adult sports and leagues	3.2
Summer camps	3.2
All ages instructional classes	3.1
Active adult center programs	3.1

* Response scale = Very Dissatisfied (1) to Very Satisfied (5)

- Respondents generally reported relatively high rates of satisfaction with various CRPR activities.
- Respondents were most satisfied with nature center programs (mean = 3.5).
- The next most satisfying activities were special events, aquatic programs, and youth sports (mean = 3.3).
- Respondents were least satisfied with summer camps, all ages instructional classes, and active adult center programs (mean = 3.1).

Table 15. How would you rate the availability of CRPR programs for the listed groups? (Question 18)

Category	Mean Value*
Overall availability of programs	2.8
Elementary school students (6-10 yrs)	2.8
Middle school students (11-13 yrs)	2.8
Preschool children (3-5 yrs)	2.7
High school students (14-17 yrs)	2.7
Young adults (18-39 yrs)	2.7
Adults (40-54 yrs)	2.7
Older adults (55+ yrs)	2.7
Families	2.7
People with disabilities	2.6

* Response scale = Not Nearly Enough (1) to Way Too Much (5)

- Generally, respondents indicated that there is a need for more CRPR programs (mean = 2.6 - 2.8 on the 5-point scale).
- Overall, respondents indicated the greatest need more programs for people with disabilities (mean = 2.6).

Table 16. What prevents you from participating in CRPR programs? (Question 19)

Type of Experience	Number	Valid Percent
Don't know about them	309	51%
Too busy	283	47%
Programs offered do not interest me	132	22%
No programs offered for my age group	56	9%
Program provided elsewhere	54	9%
Cost too much	74	12%
No transportation	14	2%
Poor quality programs	11	2%

- More than half of the respondents (51%) reported that not knowing about the CRPR programs prevents them from participating.
- Nearly half (47%) of respondents reported being “too busy” to participate in CRPR programs.
- Nearly one-quarter (22%) of respondents reported that the CRPR programs offered aren't of interest to them.
- Very few respondents (2%) stated lack of transportation poor quality programs as factors preventing their participation in CRPR programs.

Table 17. The following is a list of recreation activity categories. Circle each category by age group if members of your household would like to participate in the listed activity (Question 20)

Recreation Activity Categories	Percent Indicating Desired Participation for each Category				
	Preschool	Elementary School	Teens	Adults	Older Adults
Outdoor adventure programs (rock climbing, etc.)	5	12	11	26	6
Swim teams	3	11	5	5	2
Outdoor recreation, land-based (nature walks, environmental education programs, etc.)	8	13	8	38	23
Outdoor recreation, water-based (kayaking, canoeing, tubing, paddle boarding, etc.)	2	8	10	34	12
Exercise and fitness	2	4	6	37	21

Performing arts (music, dance, drama, etc.)	3	8	6	18	12
Concerts	6	7	8	37	25
Arts and crafts	8	13	7	17	8
Special events (holiday events, fairs, contests, etc.)	3	11	5	5	2
Self-improvement and education classes	1	3	3	21	13
Summer day camps	7	14	5	2	1
Clubs (chess, hobbies, etc.)	2	7	5	11	6
League sports (baseball, basketball, soccer, etc.)	3	11	7	12	3
Non-league sports (golf, tennis, etc.)	2	6	5	15	6
Social recreation (cards, parties, picnics, dances, etc.)	2	6	4	16	8
Trips	2	4	4	17	11
Family activities (parent/child/grandparent)	11	13	8	23	11
Aquatics	8	13	9	19	7
Fishing	4	9	7	23	9
Community gardening	3	5	4	25	12

- Among adults, the most popular programs of interest include outdoor land and water-based activities (34 - 38%), exercise and fitness (37%), concerts (37%), and outdoor adventure programs (26%).
- Among older adults, the most popular programs of interest include outdoor land-based activities (23%), exercise and fitness (21%), and concerts (25%), and outdoor adventure programs (26%).
- Among teens, no activities were of interest to more than one-tenth of respondents, with outdoor adventure programs (11%) and outdoor recreation water-based activities (10%) showing the highest interest level.
- The most popular activity interests for elementary age students include summer day camps (14%), outdoor recreation land-based activities (13%), arts and crafts (13%), family activities (13%), aquatics (13%), outdoor adventure programs (12%), swim teams (11%), special events (11%), and league sports (11%).
- For pre-school students, family activities (11%) was the highest rated program area.

Table 18. Please take a moment to consider CRPR recreation programs overall, and then rate your level of satisfaction with each aspect on a scale from 1 (very dissatisfied) to 5 (very satisfied) (Question 21)

Category	Mean Value*
Quality of programs	3.5
Overall rating of CRPR recreation programs	3.5
Quality of recreation program staff	3.5
Variety of programs	3.3
Programs for all age groups	3.3
Accessibility of programs	3.3
When programs are held	3.3
Where programs are held	3.3
Ease of signing up	3.3
Quantity of programs	3.3
Price of programs	3.2
Promotion and advertising of programs	3.0

* Response scale = Very Dissatisfied (1) to Very Satisfied (5)

- Respondents generally reported relatively high rates of satisfaction with most aspects of CRPR programs.
- Respondents were most satisfied with the overall quality of CRPR recreation programs and staff (mean = 3.5).
- The lowest rated aspect of CRPR programming was promotion and advertising of programs (mean = 3.0).

Table 19. What is your age group? (Question 23)

Age Group	Number	Valid Percent
18-39	136	22%
40-54	141	23%
55-74	248	41%
75 years and older	83	14%
Total	608	100%

- About one-quarter (22%) of the respondents are between the ages of 18-39, and another quarter (23%) were between the ages of 40-54.
- The largest segment (41%) of the respondents are between the ages of 55-74.
- 14% of the respondents are 75 years and older.

Table 20. Which of the following do you identify with? (Question 24)

	Number	Valid Percent
Female	338	57%
Male	237	40%
Trans	1	<1%
Gender nonconforming	1	<1%
Nonbinary	2	<1%
Prefer not to answer	16	3%
Total	595	100%

- The respondents were more likely to be female (57%) than male (40%).
- Less than 1% of the respondents were either trans, gender nonconforming, and/or nonbinary.
- 3% of the respondents preferred not to answer.

Table 21. How long have you been a resident of Centre Region? (Question 25)

	Number	Valid Percent
Less than 5 years	93	15.2%
5-10 years	79	12.9%
6-15 years	80	13.1%
16-20 years	52	8.5%
21-25 years	39	6.4%
More than 25 years	268	43.9%
Total	611	100%

- The largest segment of respondents (44%) have been residents of Centre Region for more than 25 years.
- About 15% have been residents for 16-25 years and one-fourth (26%) have been residents between 5 and 15 years.
- A minority (15%) have been residents for less than 5 years.

Table 22. Which of the following categories apply to you? (Question 26)

	Number	Valid Percent
Employed full-time	303	50%
Employed part-time	53	9%
Unemployed	4	1%
A homemaker	42	7%
Retired	220	36%
A student	24	4%
Total	646	100%

- Half (50%) the of respondents are employed full time.
- About one-tenth (9%) are employed part time and 7% are homemakers.
- Over one-third (36%) of the respondents are retired.
- A small segment of respondents are students (4%) or unemployed (1%).

Table 23. What is your race or ethnic status? (Question 27)

	Number	Valid Percent
American Indian or Alaskan Native	1	<1%
Asian or Pacific Islander	20	3%
Black (not of Hispanic origin)	4	1%
Hispanic	7	1%
White (not of Hispanic origin)	557	92%
Other	3	<1%
Total	592	100%

- The vast majority (92%) of respondents reported their race/ethnic status as White (not of Hispanic origin).
- The largest non-white minority are Asian (3%).
- The remaining 5% are comprised of being either American Indian or Alaskan Native, Black (not of Hispanic origin, Hispanic, or Other).

Table 24. What is your highest level of formal education? (Question 28)

	Number	Valid Percent
Less than 12 years	4	1%
High school graduate or GED	28	5%
Some college, technical or vocational school	70	12%
Associate degree	31	5%
Bachelor's degree	207	35%
Graduate degree	164	27%
Doctoral degree	96	16%
Total	600	100%

- Almost all of the respondents have some form of higher education beyond high school.
- Over one-third (35%) reported a Bachelors degree and 43% reported a post graduate degree.

Table 25. What was your total household income in 2018? (Question 29)

	Number	Valid Percent
Less than \$10,000	14	3%
\$10,000 – \$19,999	13	3%
\$20,000 – \$39,999	36	7%
\$40,000 – \$59,999	69	13%
\$60,000 – \$79,999	93	18%
\$80,000 – \$99,999	60	12%
\$100,000 – \$139,999	113	22%
\$140,000 or more	122	24%
Total	520	100%

- Most respondents (87%) reported a total household income of \$40,000 or more for the year 2018.
- Almost half (46%) of the respondents earned \$100,000 or more in total household income.

Table 26. Other than you, are any of the following represented in your household? (Question 30)

	Number	Valid Percent
Preschool children (ages 1-4)	74	12%
Young children (ages 5-9)	95	16%
Older children (ages 10-17)	93	15%
Adults (ages 18-54)	256	42%
Older adults (55+ years)	216	36%
Person with a disability	25	4%
Total	759	100%

- Most respondents reported living with adults between 18 and 54 (42%) or older than 54 (36%) in their household.
- Almost half (43%) of respondents reported living with some children under 18 years of age.
- Only 4% of respondents reported having a person(s) with a disability in their household.

Table 27. Are you a Penn State University student? (Question 31)

	Number	Valid Percent
Yes	24	4%
No	579	96%
Total	603	100%

- Nearly all of the respondents (96%) are not a Penn State student.
- Only 4% of respondents reported being a current Penn State student.

Table 28. In which municipality do you reside? (Question 32)

	Number	Valid Percent
College Township	103	17%
Ferguson Township	211	34%
Halfmoon Township	35	6%
Harris Township	72	12%
Patton Township	94	15%
State College Borough	93	15%
I don't know	7	1%
Total	615	100%

- The distribution of respondents across municipal jurisdictions reflects the varying population sizes of the various municipalities.
- The largest segment of the respondents (34%) reside in Ferguson Township.
- 17% of the respondents reside in College Township.
- 15% of the respondents reside in State College Borough and another 15% reside in Patton Township.
- 12% of the respondents reside in Harris Township.
- 6% of the respondents reside in Halfmoon Township

Comparison of Total Household Income (Question 29) and Satisfaction with the Quality of CRPR Recreation Activity (Question 17).

The following section shows Centre Region respondents' ratings of satisfaction with various CRPR activities and services broken down by income level. Because people tended to rate only those services that they used or were familiar with, many respondents, across all total household income categories, responded that they did not know their level of satisfaction with the quality of the various items. Very few respondents, across all total household income categories, responded that they were dissatisfied with the quality of any of the listed activities.

Table 29. Youth Instructional Classes

Total Household Income	Satisfaction with quality of CRPR recreation activities (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
Less than \$10,000	0	0%	0	0%	9	82%	1	9%	1	9%	11	100%
\$10,000-\$19,999	0	0%	0	0%	11	85%	1	8%	1	8%	13	100%
\$20,000-\$39,999	0	0%	0	0%	31	91%	2	6%	1	3%	34	100%
\$40,000-\$59,999	0	0%	2	3%	51	82%	9	15%	0	0%	62	100%
\$60,000-\$79,999	0	0%	1	1%	67	76%	17	19%	3	3%	88	100%
\$80,000-\$99,999	0	0%	4	7%	39	71%	10	18%	2	4%	55	100%
\$100,000-\$139,999	0	0%	2	2%	75	73%	22	21.4%	4	4%	103	100%
\$140,000 or more	0	0%	2	2%	74	69%	27	25.0%	5	5%	108	100%

Table 30. All Ages Instructional Classes

Total Household Income	Satisfaction with quality of CRPR recreation activities (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
Less than \$10,000	0	0%	0	0%	9	82%	1	9%	1	9%	11	100%
\$10,000-\$19,999	0	0%	0	0%	11	85%	1	8%	1	8%	13	100%
\$20,000-\$39,999	0	0%	0	0%	28	85%	4	12%	1	3%	33	100%
\$40,000-\$59,999	0	0%	2	3%	52	84%	7	11%	1	2%	62	100%
\$60,000-\$79,999	0	0%	1	1%	75	86%	11	13%	0	0%	87	100%
\$80,000-\$99,999	0	0%	1	2%	45	82%	9	16%	0	0%	55	100%
\$100,000-\$139,999	0	0%	2	2%	84	82%	13	12%	4	4%	103	100%
\$140,000 or more	0	0%	4	4%	84	79%	15	14%	3	3%	106	100%

Table 31. Special Events

Total Household Income	Satisfaction with quality of CRPR recreation activities (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
Less than \$10,000	0	0%	0	0%	8	73%	2	18%	1	9%	11	100%
\$10,000-\$19,999	0	0%	1	8%	8	62%	1	8%	3	23%	13	100%
\$20,000-\$39,999	0	0%	0	0%	26	79%	6	18%	1	3%	33	100%
\$40,000-\$59,999	0	0%	0	0%	43	69%	16	26%	3	5%	32	100%
\$60,000-\$79,999	0	0%	0	0%	59	67%	24	27%	5	6%	88	100%
\$80,000-\$99,999	0	0%	1	2%	39	72%	13	24%	1	2%	54	100%
\$100,000-\$139,999	0	0%	4	4%	65	62%	26	25%	10	10%	105	100%
\$140,000 or more	0	0%	2	2%	76	70%	25	23%	5	5%	108	100%

Table 32. Nature Center Programs

Total Household Income	Satisfaction with quality of CRPR recreation activities (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
Less than \$10,000	0	0%	0	0%	7	64%	3	27%	1	9%	11	100%
\$10,000-\$19,999	0	0%	0	0%	10	77%	2	15%	1	8%	13	100%
\$20,000-\$39,999	0	0%	0	0%	23	70%	7	21%	3	9%	33	100%
\$40,000-\$59,999	0	0%	2	3%	38	61%	19	31%	3	5%	62	100%
\$60,000-\$79,999	0	0%	0	0%	52	60%	29	33%	6	7%	87	100%
\$80,000-\$99,999	0	0%	0	0%	24	44%	25	46%	6	11%	55	100%
\$100,000-\$139,999	0	0%	2	2%	60	58%	32	31%	10	10%	104	100%
\$140,000 or more	0	0%	1	1%	69	64%	30	28%	8	7%	108	100%

Table 33. Aquatics Programs

Total Household Income	Satisfaction with quality of CRPR recreation activities (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
Less than \$10,000	0	0%	0	0%	9	82%	1	9%	1	9%	11	100%
\$10,000-\$19,999	0	0%	1	8%	10	77%	0	0%	2	15%	13	100%
\$20,000-\$39,999	0	0%	0	0%	30	88%	3	9%	1	3%	34	100%
\$40,000-\$59,999	0	0%	1	2%	47	76%	11	18%	3	5%	62	100%
\$60,000-\$79,999	1	1%	1	1%	55	63%	23	26%	8	9%	88	100%
\$80,000-\$99,999	0	0%	1	2%	34	63%	13	24%	6	11%	54	100%
\$100,000-\$139,999	1	1%	2	2%	65	63%	27	26%	9	9%	104	100%
\$140,000 or more	0	0%	6	6%	65	60%	28	26%	9	8%	108	100%

Table 34. Health and Fitness Classes

Total Household Income	Satisfaction with quality of CRPR recreation activities (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
Less than \$10,000	0	0%	0	0%	8	73%	2	18%	1	9%	11	100%
\$10,000-\$19,999	1	8%	0	0%	8	62%	3	23%	1	8%	13	100%
\$20,000-\$39,999	0	0%	0	0%	31	94%	1	3%	1	3%	33	100%
\$40,000-\$59,999	0	0%	1	2%	51	82%	9	15%	1	2%	62	100%
\$60,000-\$79,999	1	1%	2	2%	64	73%	19	22%	2	2%	88	100%
\$80,000-\$99,999	0	0%	2	4%	45	82%	8	15%	0	0%	55	100%
\$100,000-\$139,999	0	0%	3	3%	90	87%	8	8%	2	2%	103	100%
\$140,000 or more	0	0%	6	6%	84	78%	14	13%	4	4%	108	100%

Table 35. Youth Sports

Total Household Income	Satisfaction with quality of CRPR recreation activities (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
Less than \$10,000	0	0%	0	0%	8	73%	2	18%	1	9%	11	100%
\$10,000-\$19,999	0	0%	0	0%	11	85%	0	0%	2	15%	13	100%
\$20,000-\$39,999	0	0%	0	0%	27	79%	4	12%	3	9%	34	100%
\$40,000-\$59,999	0	0%	2	3%	50	81%	9	15%	1	2%	62	100%
\$60,000-\$79,999	1	1%	1	1%	65	73%	19	21%	3	3%	89	100%
\$80,000-\$99,999	0	0%	0	0%	36	66%	15	27%	4	7%	55	100%
\$100,000-\$139,999	0	0%	2	2%	77	75%	17	17%	7	7%	103	100%
\$140,000 or more	0	0%	2	2%	70	65%	32	30%	4	4%	108	100%

Table 36. Adult Sports and Leagues

Total Household Income	Satisfaction with quality of CRPR recreation activities (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
Less than \$10,000	0	0%	0	0%	9	82%	1	9%	1	9%	11	100%
\$10,000-\$19,999	0	0%	0	0%	11	85%	1	8%	1	8%	13	100%
\$20,000-\$39,999	0	0%	1	3%	29	85%	2	6%	2	6%	34	100%
\$40,000-\$59,999	0	0%	2	3%	50	81%	9	15%	1	2%	62	100%
\$60,000-\$79,999	0	0%	2	2%	68	77%	18	21%	0	0%	88	100%
\$80,000-\$99,999	0	0%	0	0%	45	82%	8	15%	2	4%	55	100%
\$100,000-\$139,999	0	0%	3	3%	86	84%	12	12%	2	2%	103	100%
\$140,000 or more	0	0%	4	4%	84	78%	16	15%	4	4%	108	100%

Table 37. Active Adult Center Programs

Total Household Income	Satisfaction with quality of CRPR recreation activities (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
Less than \$10,000	0	0%	0	0%	10	91%	0	0%	1	9%	11	100%
\$10,000-\$19,999	0	0%	0	0%	9	69%	2	15%	2	15%	13	100%
\$20,000-\$39,999	0	0%	0	0%	29	85%	3	9%	2	6%	34	100%
\$40,000-\$59,999	0	0%	0	0%	53	86%	8	13%	1	2%	62	100%
\$60,000-\$79,999	1	1%	2	2%	71	81%	12	14%	2	2%	88	100%
\$80,000-\$99,999	0	0%	0	0%	47	86%	7	13%	1	2%	55	100%
\$100,000-\$139,999	0	0%	2	2%	93	89%	6	6%	3	3%	104	100%
\$140,000 or more	0	0%	3	3%	95	89%	9	8%	0	0%	107	100%

Table 38. Summer Camps

Total Household Income	Satisfaction with quality of CRPR recreation activities (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
Less than \$10,000	0	0%	0	0%	10	91%	0	0%	1	9%	11	100%
\$10,000-\$19,999	0	0%	0	0%	11	85%	0	0%	2	15%	13	100%
\$20,000-\$39,999	0	0%	1	3%	27	82%	2	6%	3	9%	33	100%
\$40,000-\$59,999	0	0%	2	3%	48	79%	11	18%	0	0%	61	100%
\$60,000-\$79,999	0	0%	4	5%	65	75%	15	17%	3	3%	87	100%
\$80,000-\$99,999	0	0%	2	4%	42	76%	9	16%	2	4%	55	100%
\$100,000-\$139,999	0	0%	3	3%	76	74%	19	18%	5	5%	103	100%
\$140,000 or more	0	0%	2	2%	82	75%	22	20%	3	3%	109	100%

Comparison of Municipality (Question 32) and Satisfaction with the Quality of CRPR Recreation activity (Question 17).

The following section shows a similar comparison of Centre Region respondents' ratings of satisfaction with various CRPR activities and services broken down by the respondents' municipality or where they lived. Because people tended to rate only those services that they used or were familiar with, many respondents in all municipalities responded that they did not know their level of satisfaction with the quality of the various items. As in the previous comparison of income levels, very few respondents, across all municipalities, responded that they were dissatisfied with the quality of any of the listed activities.

Table 39. Youth Instructional Classes

Municipality	Satisfaction with quality of CRPR recreation activities (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
I don't know	0	0%	1	17%	5	83%	0	0%	0	0%	6	100%
College	0	0%	1	1%	73	82%	14	16%	1	1%	89	100%
Ferguson	0	0%	4	2%	134	73%	41	22%	5	3%	184	100%
Halfmoon	0	0%	0	0%	26	81%	4	13%	2	6%	32	100%
Harris	0	0%	2	3%	49	80%	8	13%	2	3%	61	100%
Patton	0	0%	3	3%	64	73%	18	21%	3	3%	88	100%
State College	0	0%	2	2%	68	79%	11	13%	5	6%	86	100%

Table 40. All Ages Instructional Classes

Municipality	Satisfaction with quality of CRPR recreation activities (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
I don't know	0	0%	0	0%	6	100%	0	0%	0	0%	6	100%
College	0	0%	1	1%	76	86%	10	11%	1	1%	88	100%
Ferguson	1	1%	4	2%	150	82%	22	12%	5	3%	182	100%
Halfmoon	0	0%	0	0%	26	84%	4	13%	1	3%	31	100%
Harris	0	0%	2	3%	50	82%	9	15%	0	0%	61	100%
Patton	0	0%	3	4%	71	83%	10	12%	2	2%	86	100%
State College	0	0%	0	0%	75	87%	9	11%	2	2%	86	100%

Table 41. Special Events

Municipality	Satisfaction with quality of CRPR recreation activities (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
I don't know	0	0%	0	0%	6	100%	0	0%	0	0%	6	100%
College	0	0%	2	2%	60	68%	22	25%	4	5%	88	100%
Ferguson	1	1%	3	2%	133	72%	39	21%	10	5%	186	100%
Halfmoon	0	0%	0	0%	23	72%	5	16%	4	13%	32	100%
Harris	0	0%	1	2%	44	72%	15	25%	1	2%	61	100%
Patton	0	0%	3	3%	62	71%	18	21%	4	5%	87	100%
State College	0	0%	0	0%	52	61%	28	33%	6	7%	86	100%

Table 42. Nature Center Programs

Municipality	Satisfaction with quality of CRPR recreation activities (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
I don't know	0	0%	0	0%	5	83%	1	17%	0	0%	6	100%
College	0	0%	0	0%	53	60%	29	33%	7	8%	89	100%
Ferguson	1	1%	1	1%	120	65%	51	28%	12	7%	185	100%
Halfmoon	0	0%	0	0%	18	56%	9	28%	5	16%	32	100%
Harris	0	0%	2	3%	39	64%	16	26%	4	7%	61	100%
Patton	0	0%	0	0%	50	58%	29	34%	7	8%	86	100%
State College	0	0%	2	2%	48	56%	31	36%	5	6%	86	100%

Table 43. Aquatics Programs

Municipality	Satisfaction with quality of CRPR recreation activities (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
I don't know	0	0%	0	0%	6	100%	0	0%	0	0%	6	100%
College	0	0%	1	1%	65	73%	15	17%	8	9%	89	100%
Ferguson	2	1%	5	3%	127	69%	34	18%	17	9%	185	100%
Halfmoon	0	0%	1	3%	21	66%	7	22%	3	9%	32	100%
Harris	0	0%	1	2%	39	64%	18	30%	3	5%	61	100%
Patton	0	0%	2	2%	58	67%	20	23%	6	7%	86	100%
State College	1	1%	2	2%	52	61%	25	29%	6	7%	86	100%

Table 44. Health and Fitness Classes

Municipality	Satisfaction with quality of CRPR recreation activities (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
I don't know	0	0%	0	0%	6	100%	0	0%	0	0%	6	100%
College	2	2%	2	2%	68	76%	15	17%	2	2%	89	100%
Ferguson	1	1%	6	3%	145	79%	26	14%	6	3%	184	100%
Halfmoon	0	0%	0	0%	28	86%	3	9%	1	3%	32	100%
Harris	0	0%	1	2%	47	77%	12	20%	1	2%	61	100%
Patton	0	0%	4	5%	73	85%	7	8%	2	2%	86	100%
State College	0	0%	0	0%	72	84%	12	14%	2	2%	86	100%

Table 45. Youth Sports

Municipality	Satisfaction with quality of CRPR recreation activities (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
I don't know	1	17%	0	0%	5	83%	0	0%	0	0%	6	100%
College	1	1%	2	2%	65	73%	14	16%	7	8%	89	100%
Ferguson	1	1%	3	2%	131	71%	43	23%	7	4%	185	100%
Halfmoon	0	0%	0	0%	25	78%	6	19%	1	3%	32	100%
Harris	0	0%	1	2%	47	77%	9	15%	4	7%	61	100%
Patton	0	0%	1	1%	69	79%	14	16%	3	3%	87	100%
State College	0	0%	1	1%	56	65%	24	28%	5	6%	86	100%

Table 46. Adult Sports and Leagues

Municipality	Satisfaction with quality of CRPR recreation activities (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
I don't know	0	0%	0	0%	6	100%	0	0%	0	0%	6	100%
College	0	0%	3	3%	70	79%	13	15%	3	3%	89	100%
Ferguson	1	1%	5	3%	150	81%	24	13%	5	3%	185	100%
Halfmoon	0	0%	0	0%	27	84%	4	13%	1	3%	32	100%
Harris	0	0%	0	0%	51	84%	7	12%	3	5%	61	100%
Patton	0	0%	4	5%	77	90%	4	5%	1	1%	86	100%
State College	0	0%	1	1%	62	72%	21	24%	2	2%	86	100%

Table 47. Active Adult Center Programs

Municipality	Satisfaction with quality of CRPR recreation activities (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
I don't know	0	0%	0	0%	5	83%	0	0%	1	17%	6	100%
College	1	1%	1	1%	69	78%	14	16%	4	5%	89	100%
Ferguson	1	1%	4	2%	161	87%	15	8%	4	2%	185	100%
Halfmoon	0	0%	0	0%	27	84%	4	13%	1	3%	32	100%
Harris	0	0%	1	2%	53	87%	3	5%	4	7%	61	100%
Patton	0	0%	1	1%	80	92%	6	7%	0	0%	87	100%
State College	0	0%	0	0%	72	85%	11	13%	2	2%	85	100%

Table 48. Summer Camps

Municipality	Satisfaction with quality of CRPR recreation activities (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
I don't know	0	0%	0	0%	6	100%	0	0%	0	0%	6	100%
College	0	0%	1	1%	71	80%	13	15%	4	5%	89	100%
Ferguson	0	0%	6	3%	145	78%	25	14%	9	5%	185	100%
Halfmoon	0	0%	0	0%	24	75%	5	16%	3	9%	32	100%
Harris	0	0%	1	2%	48	80%	11	18%	0	0%	60	100%
Patton	0	0%	4	5%	65	75%	16	18%	2	2%	87	100%
State College	0	0%	2	2%	63	75%	15	18%	4	5%	84	100%

Comparison of Age Group (Question 23) and Satisfaction with CRPR Park and Recreation Facility Features (Question 13)

The following section compares Centre Region respondents' ratings of satisfaction with various CRPR park and recreation facility features broken down by the age of the respondent. Again, because people tended to rate only those features that they used or were familiar with, many respondents of all ages responded that they did not know their level of satisfaction with the quality of the various items. Most respondents, across all ages, responded that they generally were satisfied with most of the features listed.

Table 49. Cleanliness of Restrooms

Age Group	Overall satisfaction with Park and Recreation Facility Features (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't Know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
18-39	3	2%	30	22%	38	28%	57	42%	6	4%	134	100%
40-54	1	0%	16	11%	40	29%	71	51%	9	6%	137	100%
55-74	1	0%	17	7%	114	48%	84	35%	19	8%	235	100%
75+	0	0%	0	0%	35	55%	24	38%	4	6%	63	100%

Table 50. Condition of Restrooms

Age Group	Overall satisfaction with Park and Recreation Facility Features (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't Know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
18-39	3	2 %	28	20%	42	31%	57	42%	4	3%	134	100%
40-54	1	0%	16	11%	44	32%	69	50%	7	5%	137	100%
55-74	1	0%	13	8%	114	48%	87	36%	16	6%	237	100%
75+	0	0%	0	0%	37	57%	23	25%	4	6%	64	100%

Table 51. Cleanliness of Picnic Facilities

Age Group	Overall satisfaction with Park and Recreation Facility Features (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't Know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
18-39	1	0%	4	3%	24	17%	94	70%	11	8%	134	100%
40-54	1	0%	5	3%	24	17%	94	68%	14	10%	138	100%
55-74	0	0%	11	4%	47	20%	149	63%	28	11%	235	100%
75+	0	0%	2	3%	22	33%	35	53%	7	10%	66	100%

Table 52. Cleanliness of Grounds/Environment

Age Group	Overall satisfaction with Park and Recreation Facility Features (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't Know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
18-39	0	0%	3	2%	13	9%	95	70%	23	17%	134	100%
40-54	0	0%	3	2%	12	8%	91	65%	32	23%	138	100%
55-74	1	0%	6	2%	38	16%	146	61%	47	19%	238	100%
75+	0	0%	0	0%	16	24%	41	62%	9	13%	66	100%

Table 53. Condition of Playground Equipment

Age Group	Overall satisfaction with Park and Recreation Facility Features (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't Know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
18-39	0	0 %	12	9%	35	26%	67	50%	19	14%	133	100%
40-54	1	0%	4	2%	30	21%	79	57%	23	16%	137	100%
55-74	0	0%	5	2%	94	39%	108	45%	30	12%	237	100%
75+	0	0%	2	3%	26	40%	31	47%	6	9%	65	100%

Table 54. Condition of Exercise Equipment

Age Group	Overall satisfaction with Park and Recreation Facility Features (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't Know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
18-39	0	0%	8	6%	85	63%	31	23%	9	6%	133	100%
40-54	1	0%	4	2%	83	60%	42	30%	8	5%	138	100%
55-74	1	0%	6	2%	157	67%	57	24%	12	5%	233	100%
75+	0	0%	1	1%	41	67%	15	24%	4	6%	61	100%

Table 55. Condition of Roads/Parking Areas

Age Group	Overall satisfaction with Park and Recreation Facility Features (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't Know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
18-39	0	0%	13	9%	13	9%	88	65%	20	14%	134	100%
40-54	0	0%	4	2%	20	14%	97	70%	17	12%	138	100%
55-74	2	0%	1	4%	47	20%	149	63%	27	11%	235	100%
75+	0	0%	2	3%	20	30%	34	52%	9	13%	65	100%

Table 56. Condition of Paved Walkways

Age Group	Overall satisfaction with Park and Recreation Facility Features (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't Know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
18-39	0	0%	7	5%	12	9%	88	65%	27	20%	134	100%
40-54	0	0%	5	3%	15	10%	96	69%	22	15%	138	100%
55-74	1	0%	11	4%	45	19%	144	61%	25	14%	236	100%
75+	2	3%	0	0%	21	32%	32	50%	0	14%	64	100%

Table 57. Availability of Shaded Areas

Age Group	Overall satisfaction with Park and Recreation Facility Features (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't Know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
18-39	0	0%	27	20%	23	17%	69	51%	14	10%	133	100%
40-54	2	1%	13	9%	17	12%	91	65%	15	10%	138	100%
55-74	2	0%	31	13%	50	21%	128	54%	25	10%	236	100%
75+	1	1%	10	15%	21	32%	25	39%	7	10%	64	100%

Table 58. Availability of Seating

Age Group	Overall satisfaction with Park and Recreation Facility Features (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't Know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
18-39	1	0%	26	19%	28	20%	69	51%	10	7%	134	100%
40-54	0	0%	26	19%	30	21%	70	51%	11	8%	137	100%
55-74	0	0%	40	17%	73	31%	103	43%	19	8%	235	100%
75+	0	0%	12	19%	26	42%	19	31%	4	6%	61	100%

Table 59. Condition of Trails

Age Group	Overall satisfaction with Park and Recreation Facility Features (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't Know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
18-39	1	0%	8	6%	31	23%	78	58%	16	11%	134	100%
40-54	0	0%	6	4%	35	25%	88	63%	9	6%	138	100%
55-74	0	0%	12	5%	85	36%	118	50%	21	8%	236	100%
75+	0	0%	3	4%	31	48%	22	34%	8	12%	64	100%

Table 60. Condition of Ball Fields

Age Group	Overall satisfaction with Park and Recreation Facility Features (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't Know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
18-39	0	0%	9	6%	79	59%	39	29%	7	5%	134	100%
40-54	0	0%	6	4%	82	59%	43	31%	7	5%	138	100%
55-74	1	0%	6	2%	155	66%	62	26%	9	3%	233	100%
75+	0	0%	1	1%	47	72%	14	21%	3	4%	65	100%

Table 61. Condition of Tennis Courts

Age Group	Overall satisfaction with Park and Recreation Facility Features (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't Know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
18-39	1	0%	3	2%	85	63%	40	29%	5	3%	134	100%
40-54	2	1%	6	4%	85	62%	40	29%	4	2%	137	100%
55-74	1	0%	15	6%	154	65%	57	24%	8	3%	235	100%
75+	0	0%	3	4%	41	66%	14	22%	4	6%	62	100%

Table 62. Condition of Trees

Age Group	Overall satisfaction with Park and Recreation Facility Features (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't Know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
18-39	0	0%	4	3%	24	17%	86	64%	20	14%	134	100%
40-54	0	0%	6	4%	36	26%	78	56%	18	13%	138	100%
55-74	3	1%	8	3%	75	31%	130	55%	20	8%	236	100%
75+	0	0%	3	4%	23	35%	34	53%	4	6%	64	100%

Table 63. Availability of Open Play Space

Age Group	Overall satisfaction with Park and Recreation Facility Features (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't Know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
18-39	0	0%	4	3%	21	15%	77	57%	32	23%	134	100%
40-54	1	0%	3	2%	34	26%	74	53%	26	18%	138	100%
55-74	0	0%	4	1%	77	33%	122	52%	28	12%	231	100%
75+	0	0%	1	1%	35	55%	20	31%	7	11%	63	100%

Table 64. Availability of Restrooms

Age Group	Overall satisfaction with Park and Recreation Facility Features (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't Know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
18-39	6	4%	43	32%	36	26%	41	30%	8	6%	134	100%
40-54	2	1%	40	29%	37	27%	50	36%	7	5%	136	100%
55-74	3	1%	50	21%	84	35%	82	34%	16	6%	235	100%
75+	2	3%	13	19%	25	37%	24	35%	3	4%	67	100%

Table 65. Availability of Facilities that Can Be Reserved for Private Events

Age Group	Overall satisfaction with Park and Recreation Facility Features (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't Know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
18-39	0	0%	10	7%	68	51%	47	35%	0	6%	133	100%
40-54	0	0%	5	3%	69	50%	54	39%	10	7%	136	100%
55-74	0	0%	13	13%	125	52%	88	37%	11	4%	237	100%
75+	0	0%	2	3%	38	59%	22	34%	2	3%	64	100%

Table 66. Availability of Recreation Programs

Age Group	Overall satisfaction with Park and Recreation Facility Features (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't Know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
18-39	0	0%	11	8%	76	57%	41	31%	4	3%	132	100%
40-54	0	0%	12	8%	70	50%	50	36%	6	4%	138	100%
55-74	1	0%	11	4%	121	51%	9	38%	12	5%	235	100%
75+	0	0%	2	3%	39	62%	17	27%	4	6%	62	100%

Table 67. Accessibility of Park Facilities for Persons with Disabilities

Age Group	Overall satisfaction with Park and Recreation Facility Features (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't Know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
18-39	1	0%	11	8%	103	77%	14	10%	4	3%	133	100%
40-54	1	0%	8	5%	99	72%	26	19%	2	1%	136	100%
55-74	1	0%	14	4%	167	70%	43	18%	12	5%	237	100%
75+	0	0%	3	4%	45	71%	12	19%	3	4%	63	100%

Table 68. Feeling of Safety and Security While Spending Time in Parks

Age Group	Overall satisfaction with Park and Recreation Facility Features (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't Know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
18-39	0	0%	6	4%	18	13%	68	50%	42	31%	134	100%
40-54	1	0%	6	4%	21	15%	79	57%	31	22%	138	100%
55-74	1	0%	8	3%	54	23%	138	58%	34	14%	235	100%
75+	0	0%	2	3%	18	27%	34	51%	12	18%	66	100%

Table 69. Responsiveness and Courteousness of CRPR Staff.

Age Group	Overall satisfaction with Park and Recreation Facility Features (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't Know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
18-39	1	0%	7	5%	85	65%	24	18%	13	10%	130	100%
40-54	0	0%	2	1%	80	58%	44	31%	12	8%	138	100%
55-74	1	0%	3	1%	146	62%	59	25%	26	11%	235	100%
75+	1	0%	0	0%	38	59%	20	31%	5	7%	64	100%

Table 70. Overall Maintenance of Park Areas and Recreation Facilities

Age Group	Overall satisfaction with Park and Recreation Facility Features (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't Know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
18-39	0	0%	5	3%	16	12%	88	66%	24	18%	133	100%
40-54	1	0%	3	2%	20	14%	91	65%	23	16%	138	100%
55-74	0	0%	6	2%	48	20%	156	65%	29	12%	239	100%
75+	0	0%	0	0%	17	24%	41	59%	11	15%	69	100%

Table 71. Accessible Adaptive Park Equipment

Age Group	Overall satisfaction with Park and Recreation Facility Features (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't Know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
18-39	2	1%	15	11%	97	72%	16	11%	4	3%	133	100%
40-54	0	0%	7	5%	101	73%	28	20%	2	1%	138	100%
55-74	2	0%	13	5%	175	74%	30	16%	7	3%	235	100%
75+	0	0%	0	0%	47	77%	11	18%	3	4%	61	100%

Table. 72. Condition of Swimming Pools

Age Group	Overall satisfaction with Park and Recreation Facility Features (%)											
	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Don't Know		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Total	
18-39	2	1 %	6	4%	73	55%	37	28%	14	10%	132	100%
40-54	1	0%	5	3%	54	39%	51	37%	27	19%	138	100%
55-74	1	0%	1	0%	140	59%	63	25%	31	13%	236	100%
75+	0	0%	2	3%	36	55%	16	24%	11	16%	65	100%

Comparison between desired park features/activities and age group

Table 73. Bocce

Age Group	Importance of Expanding Recreation Facilities in Centre Region (%)											
	Very Unimportant		Unimportant		Neutral		Important		Very Important		Total	
18-39	31	23%	32	23%	53	39%	12	9%	6	4%	134	100%
40-54	14	25%	17	12%	65	48%	16	11%	2	1%	134	100%
55-74	40	17%	43	18%	105	46%	33	14%	7	3%	228	100%
75+	11	16%	8	13%	27	45%	13	22%	9	0%	59	100%

- Most respondents, across all ages, responded with neutral ratings for the importance of expanding Bocce recreation facilities in the Center Region.
- Across all ages, the second most highly selected responses for the importance of Bocce facilities was either “Unimportant” or “Very Unimportant.” People in the 40-54 or 75+ age categories found Bocce facilities “Very unimportant,” while people in the 18-39 or 55-74 categories found Bocce facilities “Unimportant.”

Table 74. Amphitheater/band shell

Age Group	Importance of Expanding Recreation Facilities in Centre Region (%)											
	Very Unimportant		Unimportant		Neutral		Important		Very Important		Total	
18-39	17	12%	19	14%	45	33%	45	33%	8	6%	134	100%
40-54	16	11%	14	10%	48	34%	52	37%	8	5%	138	100%
55-74	29	12%	27	11%	72	31%	84	36%	17	7%	229	100%
75+	9	15%	6	10%	27	45%	17	28%	0	0%	59	100%

- Most people in the 18-39 category found amphitheater/band shell facilities to be either “Neutral” or “Important.”
- Most people in the 40-54 category found amphitheater/band shell facilities to be “Important.”
- Most people in the 55-74 category found amphitheater/band shell facilities to be “Important.”
- Most people in the 75+ category found amphitheater/band shell facilities to be “Neutral.”

Table 75. Football field

Age Group	Importance of Expanding Recreation Facilities in Centre Region (%)											
	Very Unimportant		Unimportant		Neutral		Important		Very Important		Total	
18-39	21	15%	39	28%	50	37%	19	14%	6	4%	135	100%
40-54	33	24%	27	19%	57	41%	17	12%	3	2%	137	100%
55-74	49	21%	54	23%	79	34%	37	16%	8	3%	227	100%
75+	12	20%	10	16%	24	40%	11	18%	3	5%	60	100%

- Most people, across all age categories, reported “Neutral” feelings on the importance of football field facilities in Centre Region.

Table 76. Soccer field

Age Group	Importance of Expanding Recreation Facilities in Centre Region (%)											
	Very Unimportant		Unimportant		Neutral		Important		Very Important		Total	
18-39	17	12%	27	20%	45	33%	33	24%	12	9%	134	100%
40-54	21	15%	12	8%	54	39%	37	26%	14	10%	138	100%
55-74	29	12%	34	15%	94	41%	55	24%	14	5%	226	100%
75+	9	16%	4	7%	22	39%	17	30%	4	7%	56	100%

- Most people, across all age categories, reported “Neutral” feelings on the importance of soccer field facilities in Centre Region.

Table 77. Baseball/softball field (youth)

Age Group	Importance of Expanding Recreation Facilities in Centre Region (%)											
	Very Unimportant		Unimportant		Neutral		Important		Very Important		Total	
18-39	14	10%	27	20%	55	41%	30	22%	8	6%	134	100%
40-54	19	13%	9	6%	68	48%	35	25%	9	6%	140	100%
55-74	28	12%	33	14%	96	41%	58	25%	15	6%	230	100%
75+	8	13%	3	5%	22	37%	22	37%	36	6%	59	100%

- Most people, across all age categories, reported “Neutral” feelings on the importance of youth baseball/softball field facilities in Centre Region.

Table 78. Baseball/softball field (adult)

Age Group	Importance of Expanding Recreation Facilities in Centre Region (%)											
	Very Unimportant		Unimportant		Neutral		Important		Very Important		Total	
18-39	17	13%	27	20%	55	42%	26	19%	6	4%	131	100%
40-54	19	13%	11	8%	69	50%	32	23%	7	5%	138	100%
55-74	29	12%	36	16%	106	47%	45	20%	9	4%	225	100%
75+	9	15%	5	8%	25	43%	16	27%	3	5%	58	100%

- Most people, across all age categories, reported “Neutral” feelings on the importance of adult baseball/softball facilities in Centre Region.

Table 79. Pump track for bicycles

Age Group	Importance of Expanding Recreation Facilities in Centre Region (%)											
	Very Unimportant		Unimportant		Neutral		Important		Very Important		Total	
18-39	7	5%	17	12%	43	32%	53	39%	14	10%	134	100%
40-54	15	10%	12	8%	51	36%	43	30%	18	12%	139	100%
55-74	36	16%	37	16%	91	40%	47	21%	12	5%	223	100%
75+	12	21%	10	17%	22	39%	12	21%	0	0%	56	100%

- Most people in the 18-39 category found pump track for bicycle facilities to be “Important”
- Most people in the 40-54 category found pump track for bicycle facilities to be “Neutral.”
- Most people in the 55-74 category found pump track for bicycle facilities to be “Neutral.”
- Most people in the 75+ category found pump track for bicycle facilities to be “Neutral.”

Table 80. Spray ground water play area

Age Group	Importance of Expanding Recreation Facilities in Centre Region (%)											
	Very Unimportant		Unimportant		Neutral		Important		Very Important		Total	
18-39	9	6%	21	15%	40	29%	37	27%	37	20%	134	100%
40-54	14	10%	14	10%	50	38%	43	31%	15	11%	136	100%
55-74	33	14%	37	16%	101	45%	40	17%	13	5%	224	100%
75+	10	17%	8	14%	28	50%	10	17%	0	0%	56	100%

- Most people, across all age categories, found the importance of spray ground water play area facilities to be “Neutral.”
- Younger respondents were more likely to consider spray ground water play areas “Important” or “Very important.”

Table 81. Lacrosse field

Age Group	Importance of Expanding Recreation Facilities in Centre Region (%)											
	Very Unimportant		Unimportant		Neutral		Important		Very Important		Total	
18-39	26	19%	34	25%	63	47%	8	6%	3	2%	134	100%
40-54	27	20%	23	17%	65	48%	19	14%	1	0%	135	100%
55-74	42	18%	45	19%	103	45%	35	15%	3	1%	228	100%
75+	13	22%	6	10%	27	45%	12	20%	8	1%	59	100%

- Most people, across all age categories, found the importance of lacrosse facilities to be “Neutral.”

Table 82. Basketball court

Age Group	Importance of Expanding Recreation Facilities in Centre Region (%)											
	Very Unimportant		Unimportant		Neutral		Important		Very Important		Total	

18-39	16	12%	24	18%	54	40%	30	22%	9	6%	133	100%
40-54	18	13%	12	8%	54	39%	44	31%	10	7%	138	100%
55-74	27	11%	28	12%	98	42%	64	27%	13	5%	230	100%
75+	8	13%	6	10%	22	37%	20	33%	3	5%	59	100%

- Most people, across all age categories, found the importance of basketball court facilities to be “Neutral.”

Table 83. Sand volleyball court

Age Group	Importance of Expanding Recreation Facilities in Centre Region (%)											
	Very Unimportant		Unimportant		Neutral		Important		Very Important		Total	
18-39	16	11%	22	16%	66	49%	21	15%	9	6%	134	100%
40-54	18	13%	19	13%	52	38%	45	32%	3	2%	137	100%
55-74	32	14%	34	15%	107	47%	45	19%	9	4%	227	100%
75+	8	14%	8	14%	27	47%	13	22%	1	1%	57	100%

- Most people, across all age categories, found the importance of sand volleyball court facilities to be “Neutral.”

Table 84. Tennis court

Age Group	Importance of Expanding Recreation Facilities in Centre Region (%)											
	Very Unimportant		Unimportant		Neutral		Important		Very Important		Total	
18-39	18	13%	22	16%	52	38%	30	22%	12	9%	134	100%
40-54	17	12%	13	9%	55	40%	40	29%	12	8%	137	100%
55-74	26	11%	28	12%	96	42%	62	27%	16	7%	226	100%
75+	6	10%	6	10%	21	35%	30	33%	6	10%	59	100%

- Most people, across all age categories, found the importance of tennis court facilities to be “Neutral.”

Table 85. Grass volleyball court

Age Group	Importance of Expanding Recreation Facilities in Centre Region (%)											
	Very Unimportant		Unimportant		Neutral		Important		Very Important		Total	
18-39	20	14%	28	20%	62	46%	18	13%	6	4%	134	100%
40-54	18	13%	17	12%	62	44%	38	27%	3	2%	138	100%
55-74	37	16%	27	12%	120	63%	36	16%	5	2%	225	100%
75+	9	15%	10	16%	29	49%	9	15%	2	3%	59	100%

- Most people, across all age categories, found the importance of grass volleyball court facilities to be “Neutral.”

Table 86. Indoor field house with game fields and courts

Age Group	Importance of Expanding Recreation Facilities in Centre Region (%)											
	Very Unimportant		Unimportant		Neutral		Important		Very Important		Total	
18-39	16	11%	18	13%	34	25%	46	34%	20	14%	134	100%
40-54	19	14%	13	9%	55	40%	31	22%	18	13%	136	100%
55-74	45	19%	33	14%	86	37%	50	22%	13	5%	227	100%
75+	12	20%	6	10%	24	40%	13	21%	5	8%	60	100%

- Most people in the 18-39 category found indoor field house with game fields and courts facilities to be “Important”
- Most people in the 40-54 category, the 55-74 category, and the 75+ category found indoor field house with game fields and courts facilities to be “Neutral.”

Table 87. Horseshoe pits

Age Group	Importance of Expanding Recreation Facilities in Centre Region (%)											
	Very Unimportant		Unimportant		Neutral		Important		Very Important		Total	
18-39	26	19%	28	21%	54	40%	19	14%	6	4%	133	100%
40-54	16	11%	27	19%	69	50%	21	15%	3	2%	136	100%
55-74	37	16%	28	12%	117	51%	40	17%	5	2%	227	100%
75+	10	17%	4	7%	24	42%	18	32%	0	0%	56	100%

- Most people, across all age categories, found the importance of horseshoe pit facilities to be “Neutral.”

Table 88. Athletic field lights

Age Group	Importance of Expanding Recreation Facilities in Centre Region (%)											
	Very Unimportant		Unimportant		Neutral		Important		Very Important		Total	
18-39	14	10%	19	14%	48	36%	31	23%	20	15%	132	100%
40-54	17	12%	16	11%	50	36%	37	27%	17	12%	137	100%
55-74	45	19%	42	18%	78	34%	48	21%	14	6%	227	100%
75+	14	24%	5	8%	21	36%	15	25%	3	5%	58	100%

- Most people, across all age categories, found the importance of athletic field lights facilities to be “Neutral.”

Table 89. Children’s play equipment area

Age Group	Importance of Expanding Recreation Facilities in Centre Region (%)											
	Very Unimportant		Unimportant		Neutral		Important		Very Important		Total	
18-39	7	5%	7	5%	37	27%	34	25%	49	36%	134	100%
40-54	10	7%	6	4%	39	28%	52	37%	32	23%	139	100%
55-74	20	8%	10	4%	50	21%	100	46%	43	18%	229	100%
75+	7	11%	2	3%	13	21%	25	41%	13	21%	60	100%

- Most people in the 18-39 category found children’s play equipment area facilities to be “Neutral”
- Most people in the 40-54 category, the 55-74 category, and the 75+ category found children’s play equipment area facilities to be “Important.”

Table 90. Skateboard area

Age Group	Importance of Expanding Recreation Facilities in Centre Region (%)											
	Very Unimportant		Unimportant		Neutral		Important		Very Important		Total	
18-39	26	19%	32	23%	48	35%	23	17%	6	4%	135	100%
40-54	26	18%	15	10%	50	36%	35	25%	12	8%	138	100%
55-74	45	19%	39	17%	88	38%	50	21%	7	3%	229	100%
75+	12	20%	8	13%	24	40%	15	25%	0	0%	59	100%

- Most people, across all age categories, found the importance of skateboard area facilities to be “Neutral.”

Table 91. Indoor swimming pool

Age Group	Importance of Expanding Recreation Facilities in Centre Region (%)											
	Very Unimportant		Unimportant		Neutral		Important		Very Important		Total	
18-39	12	8%	11	8%	39	28%	38	28%	35	25%	135	100%
40-54	19	13%	10	7%	34	24%	44	32%	30	21%	137	100%
55-74	36	15%	32	13%	69	29%	61	26%	33	14%	231	100%
75+	15	25%	7	11%	17	28%	14	23%	7	11%	60	100%

- Most people in the 18-39 category found indoor swimming pool facilities to be either “Neutral” or “Important.”
- Most people in the 40-54 category found indoor swimming pool facilities to be “Important.”
- Most people in the 55-74 category found indoor swimming pool facilities to be “Neutral.”
- Most people in the 75+ category found indoor swimming pool facilities to be “Neutral.”

Table 92. Outdoor swimming pool

Age Group	Importance of Expanding Recreation Facilities in Centre Region (%)											
	Very Unimportant		Unimportant		Neutral		Important		Very Important		Total	
18-39	6	4%	17	12%	49	36%	32	24%	29	21%	133	100%
40-54	17	12%	17	12%	34	24%	42	30%	28	20%	138	100%
55-74	33	14%	25	10%	78	34%	58	25%	35	15%	229	100%
75+	10	16%	5	8%	16	25%	19	30%	12	19%	62	100%

- Most people in the 18-39 category found outdoor swimming pool facilities to be “Neutral.”
- Most people in the 40-54 category found outdoor swimming pool facilities to be “Important.”
- Most people in the 55-74 category found outdoor swimming pool facilities to be “Neutral.”
- Most people in the 75+ category found outdoor swimming pool facilities to be “Important.”

Table 93. Dog park area

Age Group	Importance of Expanding Recreation Facilities in Centre Region (%)											
	Very Unimportant		Unimportant		Neutral		Important		Very Important		Total	
18-39	12	9%	15	11%	41	30%	40	29%	26	19%	134	100%
40-54	21	15%	14	10%	46	33%	33	24%	22	16%	136	100%
55-74	40	17%	25	11%	71	31%	71	31%	21	9%	228	100%
75+	6	9%	4	6%	17	26%	28	43%	10	15%	65	100%

- Most people in the 18-39 category found dog park area facilities to be “Neutral.”
- Most people in the 40-54 category found dog park area facilities to be “Neutral.”
- Most people in the 55-74 category found dog park area facilities to be either “Important” or “Neutral.”
- Most people in the 75+ category found dog park area facilities to be “Important.”

Table 94. Trails for running, hiking, bicycling, cross country skiing

Age Group	Importance of Expanding Recreation Facilities in Centre Region (%)											
	Very Unimportant		Unimportant		Neutral		Important		Very Important		Total	
18-39	2	1%	2	1%	16	11%	43	31%	72	53%	135	100%
40-54	5	3%	0	0%	17	12%	55	39%	61	44%	138	100%
55-74	8	3%	5	2%	38	15%	100	41%	89	37%	240	100%
75+	1	1%	2	3%	11	17%	33	51%	17	26%	64	100%

- Most people in the 18-39 category found trails for running, hiking, bicycling, and cross country skiing to be “Very Important.”
- Most people in the 40-54 category found trails for running, hiking, bicycling, and cross country skiing to be “Very Important.”
- Most people in the 55-74 category found trails for running, hiking, bicycling, and cross country skiing to be “Important.”
- Most people in the 75+ category found trails for running, hiking, bicycling, and cross country skiing to be “Important.”

Table 95. Artificial turf field

Age Group	Importance of Expanding Recreation Facilities in Centre Region (%)											
	Very Unimportant		Unimportant		Neutral		Important		Very Important		Total	
18-39	43	32%	23	17%	50	37%	12	9%	5	3%	133	100%
40-54	41	30%	22	16%	55	40%	11	8%	6	4%	135	100%
55-74	72	32%	39	17%	93	41%	15	6%	5	2%	224	100%
75+	15	25%	6	10%	30	50%	8	13%	0	0%	59	100%

- Most people, across all age categories, found the importance of artificial turf field facilities to be “Neutral.”

Table 96. Picnic pavilion

Age Group	Importance of Expanding Recreation Facilities in Centre Region (%)											
	Very Unimportant		Unimportant		Neutral		Important		Very Important		Total	
18-39	8	4%	14	10%	47	35%	50	37%	17	12%	134	100%
40-54	10	7%	8	5%	37	26%	64	46%	19	13%	138	100%
55-74	14	6%	7	3%	64	27%	111	48%	35	15%	231	100%
75+	2	3%	1	1%	18	30%	31	52%	7	11%	59	100%

- Most people, across all age categories, found the importance of picnic pavilion facilities to be “Important.”

Table 97. Pickleball court

Age Group	Importance of Expanding Recreation Facilities in Centre Region (%)											
	Very Unimportant		Unimportant		Neutral		Important		Very Important		Total	
18-39	31	23%	34	25%	60	45%	7	5%	1	0%	133	100%
40-54	32	23%	21	15%	64	47%	15	11%	4	3%	136	100%
55-74	45	19%	30	13%	101	44%	32	14%	2	8%	228	100%
75+	9	15%	6	10%	33	39%	18	31%	2	3%	58	100%

- Most people, across all age categories, found the importance of pickleball facilities to be “Neutral.”

Table 98. Outdoor winter facilities (ice skating, sledding)

Age Group	Importance of Expanding Recreation Facilities in Centre Region (%)											
	Very Unimportant		Unimportant		Neutral		Important		Very Important		Total	
18-39	8	5%	9	6%	35	25%	58	43%	25	18%	135	100%
40-54	4	2%	7	5%	43	31%	56	40%	28	20%	138	100%
55-74	24	10%	17	7%	87	37%	78	33%	26	11%	232	100%
75+	5	8%	6	10%	18	30%	25	42%	5	8%	59	100%

- Most people in the 18-39 category found outdoor winter facilities (ice skating, sledding) to be “Important.”
- Most people in the 40-54 category found outdoor winter facilities (ice skating, sledding) to be “Important.”
- Most people in the 55-74 category found outdoor winter facilities (ice skating, sledding) to be “Neutral.”
- Most people in the 75+ category found outdoor winter facilities (ice skating, sledding) to be “Important.”

Table 99. Informal picnic areas

Age Group	Importance of Expanding Recreation Facilities in Centre Region (%)											
	Very Unimportant		Unimportant		Neutral		Important		Very Important		Total	
18-39	6	4%	14	10%	49	36%	47	38%	19	14%	135	100%
40-54	9	6%	6	4%	38	27%	77	55%	9	6%	139	100%
55-74	15	6%	9	3%	68	29%	114	49%	24	10%	230	100%
75+	4	6%	3	5%	19	31%	27	45%	7	11%	60	100%

- Most people, across all age categories, found the importance of informal picnic area facilities to be “Important.”

Table 100. Indoor recreation center

Age Group	Importance of Expanding Recreation Facilities in Centre Region (%)											
	Very Unimportant		Unimportant		Neutral		Important		Very Important		Total	
18-39	15	11%	16	11%	38	28%	45	33%	20	14%	134	100%
40-54	15	10%	9	6%	53	38%	47	34%	14	10%	138	100%
55-74	40	17%	30	13%	85	37%	57	24%	18	7%	230	100%
75+	11	19%	6	10%	22	37%	15	25%	4	6%	58	100%

- Most people in the 18-39 category found indoor recreation center facilities to be “Important.”
- Most people in the 40-54 category found indoor recreation center facilities to be “Neutral.”
- Most people in the 55-74 category found indoor recreation center facilities to be “Neutral.”
- Most people in the 75+ category found indoor recreation center facilities to be “Neutral.”

Table 101. Community garden

Age Group	Importance of Expanding Recreation Facilities in Centre Region (%)											
	Very Unimportant		Unimportant		Neutral		Important		Very Important		Total	
18-39	6	4%	8	5%	48	35%	45	33%	28	20%	135	100%
40-54	5	3%	8	5%	52	38%	58	42%	14	10%	137	100%
55-74	27	11%	18	7%	83	35%	77	33%	28	12%	233	100%
75+	6	10%	4	6%	19	32%	24	41%	5	8%	58	100%

- Most people in the 18-39 category found outdoor swimming pool facilities to be “Neutral.”
- Most people in the 40-54 category found outdoor swimming pool facilities to be “Important.”
- Most people in the 55-74 category found outdoor swimming pool facilities to be “Neutral.”
- Most people in the 75+ category found outdoor swimming pool facilities to be “Important.”

Table 102. Disc golf course/holes

Age Group	Importance of Expanding Recreation Facilities in Centre Region (%)											
	Very Unimportant		Unimportant		Neutral		Important		Very Important		Total	
18-39	19	14%	19	14%	59	44%	31	23%	6	4%	134	100%
40-54	18	13%	24	17%	70	51%	15	10%	10	7%	137	100%
55-74	46	20%	38	16%	100	44%	36	15%	7	3%	227	100%
75+	9	15%	11	19%	23	40%	13	22%	1	1%	57	100%

- Most people, across all age categories, found the importance of disc golf course/holes facilities to be “Neutral.”

Table 103. Nature/environmental education centers

Age Group	Importance of Expanding Recreation Facilities in Centre Region (%)											
	Very Unimportant		Unimportant		Neutral		Important		Very Important		Total	
18-39	7	5%	13	9%	46	34%	41	30%	28	20%	135	100%
40-54	11	8%	6	4%	48	34%	57	41%	16	11%	138	100%
55-74	23	9%	26	11%	67	28%	83	35%	34	14%	233	100%
75+	6	10%	5	8%	17	29%	21	36%	8	14%	57	100%

- Most people in the 18-39 category found nature/environmental education center facilities to be “Neutral.”
- Most people in the 40-54 category found nature/environmental education center facilities to be “Important.”
- Most people in the 55-74 category found nature/environmental education center facilities to be “Important.”
- Most people in the 75+ category found nature/environmental education center facilities to be “Important.”

Table 104. Adaptive play equipment

Age Group	Importance of Expanding Recreation Facilities in Centre Region (%)											
	Very Unimportant		Unimportant		Neutral		Important		Very Important		Total	
18-39	7	5%	8	5%	60	44%	37	27%	24	17%	136	100%
40-54	10	7%	8	5%	50	36%	49	35%	21	15%	138	100%
55-74	24	10%	19	8%	89	38%	68	29%	31	13%	231	100%
75+	6	11%	4	7%	18	33%	17	31%	9	16%	54	100%

- Most people, across all age categories, found the importance of adaptive play equipment facilities to be “Neutral.”

Table 105. Outdoor health and fitness equipment

Age Group	Importance of Expanding Recreation Facilities in Centre Region (%)											
	Very Unimportant		Unimportant		Neutral		Important		Very Important		Total	
18-39	4	3%	10	7%	58	43%	38	28%	25	18%	135	100%
40-54	6	4%	12	8%	52	37%	51	37%	17	12%	138	100%
55-74	27	11%	22	9%	82	35%	76	32%	26	11%	233	100%
75+	9	15%	6	10%	15	25%	22	37%	7	11%	59	100%

- Most people in the 18-39 category found outdoor health and fitness equipment facilities to be “Neutral.”
- Most people in the 40-54 category found outdoor health and fitness equipment facilities to be “Important” or “Neutral.”
- Most people in the 55-74 category found outdoor health and fitness equipment facilities to be “Neutral.”
- Most people in the 75+ category found outdoor health and fitness equipment facilities to be “Important.”

Table 106. Shade tree/areas

Age Group	Importance of Expanding Recreation Facilities in Centre Region (%)											
	Very Unimportant		Unimportant		Neutral		Important		Very Important		Total	
18-39	0	0%	7	5%	17	12%	62	45%	50	36%	136	100%
40-54	2	1%	4	2%	17	12%	56	40%	60	43%	139	100%
55-74	8	3%	4	1%	37	15%	107	44%	83	34%	239	100%
75+	2	3%	1	1%	12	18%	28	43%	22	33%	65	100%

- Most people in the 18-39 category found outdoor health and fitness equipment facilities to be “Important.”
- Most people in the 40-54 category found outdoor health and fitness equipment facilities to be “Very Important.”
- Most people in the 55-74 category found outdoor health and fitness equipment facilities to be “Important.”
- Most people in the 75+ category found outdoor health and fitness equipment facilities to be “Important.”

Comparison between Municipality (Question 32) and how Often you or your Household visit the following CRPR area (Question 7).

COLLEGE TOWNSHIP

- For participants who resided in College Township, many people indicated that they never visited or were unaware of a number of the parks located in this municipality.
- Residents of College Township indicated that they seasonally visited Nittany Orchard Park, Slab Cabin Overlook, Slab Cabin Park, and Spring Creek Park.
- For the aforementioned parks, residents of most of the other municipalities followed a similar trend, indicating seasonal visitation to these College Township parks.

Table 107. Dalevue Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	2	28%	4	57%	1	14%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	21	22%	41	43%	20	21%	6	6%	5	5%	2	2%	95	100%
Ferguson	84	42%	90	45%	21	10%	2	1%	0	0%	0	0%	197	100%
Halfmoon	16	51%	14	45%	0	10%	0	0%	1	3%	0	0%	31	100%
Harris	20	30%	38	58%	7	6%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	65	100%
Patton	41	46%	41	46%	6	11%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	88	100%
State College	36	46%	31	41%	9	11%	9	2%	0	0%	0	0%	78	100%

- Almost half of the participants from College Township never visited Dalevue Park.
- Almost one quarter of the participants from College Township were not aware of Dalevue Park, compared to larger proportions of residents from most other townships.

Table 108. Fogleman Fields Complex

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	2	28%	5	71%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	30	31%	43	45%	11	11%	4	4%	4	4%	3	3%	95	100%
Ferguson	92	46%	93	47%	11	5%	0	0%	1	0%	0	0%	197	100%
Halfmoon	17	53%	12	37%	3	9%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	32	100%
Harris	22	33%	37	56%	2	3%	2	3%	2	3%	0	0%	65	100%
Patton	42	47%	42	47%	4	4%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	88	100%
State College	38	48%	31	39%	8	10%	6	1%	1	1%	0	0%	78	100%

- Almost half of the participants from College Township never visited Fogleman Fields Complex.
- Over one quarter of the participants from College Township were not aware of Fogleman Fields Complex.

Table 109. Fogleman Overlook Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	2	28%	5	71%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	33	36%	44	46%	7	7%	5	5%	2	2%	3	3%	94	100%
Ferguson	95	48%	97	49%	3	1%	0	0%	1	0%	0	0%	196	100%
Halfmoon	16	50%	13	40%	3	9%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	32	100%
Harris	23	35%	38	59%	1	1%	0	0%	2	3%	0	0%	64	100%
Patton	43	48%	41	46%	5	5%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	89	100%
State College	42	53%	31	39%	4	5%	0	0%	1	1%	0	0%	78	100%

- Almost half of the participants from College Township never visited Fogleman Overlook Park.
- Almost one third of the participants from College Township were not aware of Fogleman Overlook Park.

Table 110. Nittany Orchard Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	1	14%	3	42%	2	28%	1	14%	0	0%	7	100%	7	100%
College	23	24%	45	47%	22	23%	3	3%	2	2%	95	100%	95	100%
Ferguson	71	35%	78	39%	40	20%	7	3%	3	1%	199	100%	199	100%
Halfmoon	8	25%	15	48%	8	25%	0	0%	0	0%	31	100%	31	100%
Harris	13	20%	36	55%	16	24%	0	0%	0	0%	65	100%	65	100%
Patton	32	36%	42	47%	15	16%	0	0%	0	0%	89	100%	89	100%
State College	31	39%	20	25%	19	24%	4	5%	5	6%	79	100%	79	100%

- Almost half of the participants from College Township never visited Nittany Orchard Park.
- Almost one quarter of the participants from College Township were not aware of Nittany Orchard Park.
- Almost one quarter of the participants from College Township seasonally visited Nittany Orchard Park.

Table 111. Slab Cabin Overlook

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	1	14%	5	71%	0	0%	1	14%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	20	20%	33	34%	25	25%	9	9%	6	6%	3	3%	96	100%
Ferguson	65	27%	92	46%	47	23%	2	1%	1	0%	0	0%	197	100%
Halfmoon	9	29%	18	58%	4	12%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	31	100%
Harris	14	21%	36	55%	14	21%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	65	100%
Patton	25	27%	39	43%	24	26%	1	1%	1	1%	0	0%	90	100%
State College	21	25%	33	40%	23	28%	5	6%	0	0%	0	0%	82	100%

- About one third of the participants from College Township never visited Slab Cabin Overlook.
- Almost one quarter of the participants from College Township were not aware of Slab Cabin Overlook.
- One quarter of the participants from College Township seasonally visited Slab Cabin Overlook.

Table 112. Slab Cabin Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	1	14%	3	42%	2	28%	1	14%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	14	14%	23	23%	39	40%	9	9%	8	8%	4	4%	97	100%
Ferguson	38	18%	78	38%	79	39%	5	2%	1	0%	0	0%	201	100%
Halfmoon	7	21%	17	53%	7	21%	0	0%	1	1%	0	0%	32	100%
Harris	9	13%	32	47%	25	36%	1	1%	1	1%	0	0%	68	100%
Patton	18	20%	30	33%	38	42%	3	3%	1	1%	0	0%	90	100%
State College	14	16%	27	32%	35	42%	6	7%	1	1%	0	0%	83	100%

- Almost one quarter of the participants from College Township never visited Slab Cabin Park.
- Only 14% of the participants from College Township were not aware of Slab Cabin Park.
- 40% of the participants from College Township seasonally visited Slab Cabin Park.

Table 113. Spring Creek Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	1	14%	3	42%	2	28%	0	0%	1	14%	0	0%	7	100%
College	8	8%	10	10%	36	36%	25	25%	13	13%	6	6%	98	100%
Ferguson	25	12%	51	25%	105	52%	18	8%	3	1%	0	0%	202	100%
Halfmoon	6	18%	9	27%	18	54%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	33	100%
Harris	8	11%	16	23%	31	44%	11	15%	2	2%	1	1%	69	100%
Patton	15	16%	16	18%	47	52%	9	10%	2	2%	0	0%	89	100%
State College	12	14%	16	20%	45	52%	9	10%	2	2%	0	0%	86	100%

- About one tenth of the participants from College Township never visited Spring Creek Park.
- Only 8% of the participants from College Township were not aware of Spring Creek Park.
- 36% of the participants from College Township seasonally visited Spring Creek Park.

Table 114. Thompson Woods Preserve

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	2	28%	5	71%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	30	31%	38	40%	16	17%	6	4%	4	4%	0	0%	94	100%
Ferguson	92	46%	78	39%	21	10%	6	3%	1	0%	0	0%	198	100%
Halfmoon	15	46%	15	46%	2	6%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	32	100%
Harris	23	35%	29	44%	11	16%	2	3%	0	0%	0	0%	65	100%
Patton	33	37%	40	45%	12	13%	2	2%	1	1%	0	0%	88	100%
State College	28	35%	20	25%	18	22%	6	7%	6	7%	1	1%	79	100%

- 40% of the participants from College Township never visited Thompson Woods Preserve.
- Almost one third of the participants from College Township were not aware of Thompson Woods Preserve.

FERGUSON TOWNSHIP

- For participants who resided in Ferguson Township, many people indicated that they never visited or were unaware of a number of the parks located in this municipality.
- Many residents of Ferguson Township indicated that they seasonally visited Haymarket Park and Tom Tudek Memorial Park.
- For Tom Tudek Memorial Park, residents of most of the other municipalities followed a similar trend, indicating seasonal visitation to this park.
- For Haymarket Park, similar trends were not present across other municipalities; few residents from other municipalities indicated seasonal visits to this park.

Table 115. Autumnwood Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	3	42%	4	57%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	37	38%	46	48%	11	11%	0	0%	0	0%	1	1%	95	100%
Ferguson	56	28%	78	39%	27	13%	17	8%	17	8%	4	2%	199	100%
Halfmoon	11	35%	13	41%	6	19%	1	3%	0	0%	0	0%	31	100%

Harris	26	40%	36	55%	3	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	65	100%
Patton	35	41%	42	49%	6	7%	1	1%	0	0%	1	1%	85	100%
State College	37	46%	33	41%	6	7%	3	3%	0	0%	0	0%	79	100%

- 39% of the participants from Ferguson Township never visited Autumnwood Park.
- Over one quarter of the participants from Ferguson Township were not aware of Autumnwood Park.

Table 116. Cecil Irvin Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	3	42%	4	57%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	45	47%	47	50%	2	2%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	94	100%
Ferguson	99	49%	84	42%	10	5%	2	1%	4	2%	1	0%	200	100%
Halfmoon	15	51%	14	48%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	29	100%
Harris	27	41%	36	55%	2	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	65	100%
Patton	45	51%	40	46%	2	2%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	87	100%
State College	44	57%	32	41%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	77	100%

- Almost one half of the participants from Ferguson Township never visited Cecil Irvin Park.
- Almost one half of the participants from Ferguson Township were not aware of Cecil Irvin Park.

Table 117. Fairbrook Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	1	14%	4	57%	1	14%	0	0%	1	14%	0	0%	7	100%
College	42	44%	50	52%	3	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	95	100%
Ferguson	67	32%	81	39%	35	17%	10	4%	5	2%	0	0%	304	100%
Halfmoon	13	41%	11	35%	7	22%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	31	100%
Harris	24	36%	38	58%	2	3%	0	0%	1	1%	0	0%	65	100%

Patton	37	43%	42	48%	4	4%	2	2%	1	1%	0	0%	86	100%
State College	34	43%	34	43%	8	10%	2	2%	0	0%	0	0%	78	100%

- 39% of the participants from Ferguson Township never visited Fairbrook Park.
- Almost of third of the participants from Ferguson Township were not aware of Fairbrook Park.

Table 118. Greenbriar Saybrook Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	2	28%	4	57%	1	14%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	43	45%	48	51%	2	2%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	94	100%
Ferguson	75	37%	84	41%	32	15%	5	2%	4	2%	1	0%	201	100%
Halfmoon	14	45%	15	48%	2	6%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	31	100%
Harris	23	43%	41	62%	2	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	66	100%
Patton	37	43%	42	48%	4	4%	2	2%	1	1%	0	0%	86	100%
State College	34	44%	38	49%	5	6%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	77	100%

- Almost one half of the participants from Ferguson Township never visited Greenbriar Saybrook Park.
- Almost one half of the participants from Ferguson Township were not aware of Greenbriar Saybrook Park.

Table 119. Haymarket Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	2	28%	5	71%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	39	41%	47	49%	7	7%	2	2%	0	0%	0	0%	95	100%
Ferguson	58	29%	66	33%	51	25%	13	6%	7	3%	4	2%	199	100%
Halfmoon	13	41%	18	58%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	31	100%
Harris	22	33%	38	57%	0	0%	1	1%	1	1%	0	0%	66	100%
Patton	40	46%	37	43%	7	8%	1	1%	1	1%	0	0%	86	100%
State College	25	30%	32	39%	16	19%	6	7%	2	2%	0	0%	81	100%

- One third of the participants from Ferguson Township never visited Haymarket Park.
- Almost one third of the participants from Ferguson Township were not aware of Haymarket Park.
- One quarter of the participants from Ferguson Township seasonally visited Haymarket Park.

Table 120. Homestead Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	1	14%	5	71%	1	14%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	37	38%	52	55%	4	4%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	94	100%
Ferguson	67	34%	83	42%	32	16%	9	4%	0	0%	6	3%	197	100%
Halfmoon	10	32%	16	51%	5	16%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	31	100%
Harris	24	36%	37	55%	4	6%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	65	100%
Patton	39	45%	37	43%	6	7%	1	1%	3	3%	0	0%	86	100%
State College	33	41%	42	48%	4	5%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	80	100%

- Almost one half of the participants from Ferguson Township never visited Homestead Park.
- A little over one third of the participants from Ferguson Township were not aware of Homestead Park.

Table 121. Meadows Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	3	42%	4	57%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	48	51%	46	48%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	94	100%
Ferguson	100	50%	82	41%	8	4%	5	2%	0	0%	2	1%	197	100%
Halfmoon	13	43%	16	53%	1	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	30	100%
Harris	26	40%	38	58%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	65	100%
Patton	41	47%	44	50%	1	1%	1	0%	0	0%	0	0%	87	100%
State College	39	51%	34	44%	2	2%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	76	100%

- 41% of the participants from Ferguson Township never visited Meadows Park.
- One half of the participants from Ferguson Township were not aware of Meadows Park.

Table 122. Park Hills Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	3	42%	4	57%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	40	42%	52	55%	2	2%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	94	100%
Ferguson	75	37%	97	48%	21	10%	4	2%	2	1%	0	0%	199	100%
Halfmoon	13	43%	17	56%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	30	100%
Harris	25	38%	39	60%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	65	100%
Patton	37	43%	44	51%	1	1%	4	4%	0	0%	0	0%	86	100%
State College	40	51%	34	43%	4	5%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	78	100%

- Almost one half of the participants from Ferguson Township never visited Park Hills Park.
- Over one third of the participants from Ferguson Township were not aware of Park Hills Park.

Table 123. Silvi Baseball Complex

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	3	42%	4	57%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	44	47%	47	50%	2	2%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	93	100%
Ferguson	80	40%	100	50%	16	7%	2	1%	2	1%	0	0%	199	100%
Halfmoon	13	44%	16	55%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	29	100%
Harris	24	36%	37	56%	3	4%	0	0%	2	3%	0	0%	66	100%
Patton	36	41%	48	55%	2	2%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	86	100%
State College	40	50%	36	45%	2	2%	0	0%	0	0%	1	0%	79	100%

- One half of the participants from Ferguson Township never visited Silvi Baseball Complex.
- 40% of the participants from Ferguson Township were not aware of Silvi Baseball Complex.

Table 124. Suburban Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	3	42%	4	57%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	42	45%	45	48%	5	5%	0	0%	1	1%	0	0%	93	100%
Ferguson	69	35%	94	48%	19	9%	7	3%	5	2%	2	1%	196	100%
Halfmoon	13	44%	12	41%	4	13%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	29	100%
Harris	25	38%	36	55%	3	4%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	65	100%
Patton	35	41%	42	50%	5	6%	1	1%	1	1%	0	0%	84	100%
State College	43	57%	28	37%	3	4%	0	0%	1	1%	0	0%	75	100%

- Almost one half of the participants from Ferguson Township never visited Suburban Park.
- Over one third of the participants from Ferguson Township were not aware of Suburban Park.

Table 125. Tom Tudek Memorial Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	1	14%	2	28%	3	42%	0	0%	1	14%	0	0%	7	100%
College	16	16%	23	23%	43	44%	14	14%	1	1%	0	0%	97	100%
Ferguson	14	6%	39	19%	78	38%	43	21%	24	11%	6	2%	204	100%
Halfmoon	5	14%	8	23%	21	31%	5	14%	3	8%	0	0%	34	100%
Harris	11	16%	23	34%	21	31%	6	9%	5	7%	1	1%	67	100%
Patton	10	11%	10	11%	33	37%	19	21%	14	15%	2	2%	88	100%
State College	7	8%	18	20%	41	47%	12	14%	8	9%	0	0%	86	100%

- 20% of the participants from Ferguson Township never visited Tom Tudek Memorial Park.
- Very few participants from Ferguson Township were not aware of Tom Tudek Memorial Park.
- Almost 40% of participants from Ferguson Township visited Tom Tudek Memorial Park seasonally.

HALFMOON TOWNSHIP

- The parks listed in this township are not maintained by CRPR at this time.
- Many residents of Halfmoon Township indicated that they seasonally visited Autumn Meadow Park and Halfmoon Municipal Park.
- For both parks, similar trends were not present across other municipalities; few residents from other municipalities indicated seasonal visits to these park or awareness of these parks.

Table 126. Autumn Meadow Park*

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)												Total	
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily			
I don't know	3	42%	3	42%	1	14%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	49	52%	44	47%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	93	100%
Ferguson	100	51%	87	44%	5	2%	2	1%	1	0%	0	0%	195	100%
Halfmoon	3	9%	8	24%	16	48%	3	9%	3	9%	0	0%	33	100%
Harris	27	41%	35	53%	2	3%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	65	100%
Patton	42	50%	38	45%	4	4%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	84	100%
State College	47	61%	28	36%	2	2%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	77	100%

* This park is not maintained by CRPR at this time

Table 127. Halfmoon Municipal Park*

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	3	50%	3	50%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	6	100%
College	47	50%	43	46%	2	2%	0	0%	1	1%	0	0%	93	100%
Ferguson	95	49%	86	44%	8	4%	0	0%	4	2%	1	0%	194	100%
Halfmoon	5	14%	8	23%	13	38%	7	20%	1	2%	0	0%	34	100%
Harris	28	43%	34	52%	2	3%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	65	100%
Patton	35	41%	42	50%	4	5%	0	0%	2	2%	0	0%	84	100%
State College	45	59%	27	35%	4	5%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	76	100%

* This park is not maintained by CRPR at this time

HARRIS TOWNSHIP

- For participants who resided in Harris Township, many people indicated that they never visited or were unaware of a number of the parks located in this municipality.
- Many residents of Harris Township indicated that they seasonally visited Blue Spring Park and Stan Yoder Memorial Park.
- For Blue Spring Park, some residents from other municipalities followed a similar trend, indicating seasonal visitation to this park.
- For Stan Yoder Memorial Park, similar trends were not present across other municipalities; few residents from other municipalities indicated seasonal visits to this park.

Table 128. Blue Spring Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	2	28%	4	57%	1	14%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	41	44%	41	44%	10	10%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	93	100%
Ferguson	89	45%	78	40%	23	11%	5	2%	0	0%	0	0%	195	100%
Halfmoon	17	56%	12	40%	1	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	30	100%
Harris	9	13%	11	16%	26	38%	15	22%	4	6%	2	3%	67	100%
Patton	40	47%	40	47%	5	5%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	85	100%
State College	43	55%	31	40%	2	2%	0	0%	1	1%	0	0%	77	100%

- 38% of participants from Harris Township visit Blue Spring Park seasonally.
- Nearly one quarter of participants from Harris Township visit Blue Spring Park monthly.

Table 129. Country Place Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	3	42%	4	57%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	48	51%	44	47%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	93	100%
Ferguson	116	58%	78	40%	2	1%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	196	100%
Halfmoon	18	60%	12	40%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	30	100%
Harris	18	27%	32	49%	10	15%	2	3%	2	3%	1	1%	65	100%
Patton	46	54%	38	44%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	85	100%
State College	44	57%	32	41%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	77	100%

- Over one fourth of participants from Harris Township were not aware of Country Place Park.
- Almost half of the participants from Harris Township have never visited Country Place Park.

Table 130. Eugene Fasick Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	3	42%	4	57%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	47	50%	42	45%	3	3%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	93	100%
Ferguson	116	58%	76	38%	3	1%	1	0%	0	0%	0	0%	196	100%
Halfmoon	18	60%	12	40%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	30	100%
Harris	25	37%	26	39%	6	9%	4	6%	3	4%	2	3%	66	100%
Patton	46	54%	38	44%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	85	100%
State College	44	57%	31	40%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	76	100%

- 37% of participants from Harris Township were not aware of Eugene Fasick Park.
- 39% of participants from Harris Township have never visited Eugene Fasick Park.

Table 131. Harpster Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	3	42%	4	57%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	51	54%	42	44%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	94	100%
Ferguson	118	59%	75	38%	3	1%	1	0%	0	0%	0	0%	197	100%
Halfmoon	18	60%	11	36%	0	0%	1	3%	0	0%	0	0%	30	100%
Harris	17	25%	28	42%	1	1%	4	6%	3	4%	3	4%	66	100%
Patton	46	54%	38	44%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	85	100%
State College	44	58%	31	41%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	75	100%

- One fourth of participants from Harris Township were not aware of Harpster Park.
- 42% of participants from Harris Township never visited Harpster Park.

Table 132. Kaywood Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	3	42%	4	57%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	43	46%	43	46%	6	6%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	93	100%
Ferguson	98	49%	91	46%	8	4%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	197	100%
Halfmoon	17	56%	13	43%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	30	100%
Harris	19	28%	29	43%	11	16%	2	3%	1	1%	4	0%	66	100%
Patton	45	53%	39	46%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	84	100%
State College	41	52%	33	42%	4	5%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	78	100%

- Over one fourth of participants from Harris Township were not aware of Kaywood Park.
- Almost half of participants from Harris Township never visited Kaywood Park.

Table 133. Nittany View Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	3	42%	4	57%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	45	48%	42	45%	5	5%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	93	100%
Ferguson	106	53%	80	40%	1	5%	0	0%	1	0%	0	0%	187	100%
Halfmoon	16	53%	13	43%	1	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	30	100%
Harris	19	28%	29	43%	8	11%	8	11%	1	1%	2	0%	67	100%
Patton	43	50%	39	45%	2	2%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	85	100%
State College	43	55%	27	35%	7	9%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	77	100%

- Over one fourth of participants from Harris Township were not aware of Nittany View Park.
- Nearly half of participants from Harris Township never visited Nittany View Park.

Table 134. Stan Yoder Memorial Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	3	42%	4	57%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	44	47%	42	45%	5	5%	2	2%	0	0%	0	0%	93	100%
Ferguson	106	54%	78	39%	9	4%	2	1%	1	0%	0	0%	196	100%
Halfmoon	18	60%	12	40%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	30	100%
Harris	13	19%	29	42%	18	26%	4	5%	3	4%	1	1%	68	100%
Patton	42	49%	40	47%	3	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	85	100%
State College	41	52%	3	38%	6	7%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	78	100%

- 19% of participants from Harris Township were not aware of Stan Yoder Memorial Park.
- Almost half of participants from Harris Township never visited Stan Yoder Memorial Park.
- Over one fourth of participants from Harris Township visited Stan Yoder Memorial Park seasonally.

PATTON TOWNSHIP

- For participants who resided in Patton Township, many people indicated that they never visited or were unaware of a number of the parks located in this municipality.
- Many residents of Patton Township indicated that they seasonally visited Ambleside Park, and seasonally, monthly, or weekly visited Circleville Park.

Table 135. Ambleside Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)												Total	
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily			
I don't know	3	42%	4	57%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	47	50%	44	47%	1	1%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	93	100%
Ferguson	103	52%	88	44%	4	2%	1	0%	0	0%	0	0%	196	100%
Halfmoon	13	43%	16	50%	1	3%	1	3%	0	0%	0	0%	30	100%
Harris	30	46%	33	50%	2	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	65	100%
Patton	35	40%	43	49%	3	3%	1	1%	5	5%	0	0%	87	100%
State College	45	59%	30	39%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	76	100%

- 40% of participants from Patton Township were not aware of Ambleside Park.
- Nearly half of participants from Patton Township never visited Ambleside Park.

Table 136. Bernel Road Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	3	42%	4	57%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	35	36%	34	35%	14	14%	8	8%	4	4%	0	0%	95	100%
Ferguson	82	41%	65	33%	31	15%	12	6%	6	3%	0	0%	196	100%
Halfmoon	10	33%	11	36%	7	23%	2	6%	0	0%	0	0%	30	100%
Harris	24	36%	27	41%	9	13%	4	6%	1	1%	0	0%	65	100%
Patton	14	15%	32	36%	27	30%	9	10%	6	6%	0	0%	88	100%
State College	33	41%	35	31%	17	21%	3	3%	1	1%	0	0%	79	100%

- Only 15% of participants from Patton Township were not aware of Bernel Road Park.
- About one third of participants from Patton Township never visited Ambleside Park.
- About one third of participants from Patton Township seasonally visited Ambleside Park.

Table 137. Circleville Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	1	14%	4	57%	2	28%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	26	27%	35	37%	23	24%	6	6%	4	4%	0	0%	94	100%
Ferguson	32	15%	46	22%	83	41%	23	11%	17	8%	0	0%	201	100%
Halfmoon	4	12%	6	18%	13	39%	8	24%	1	3%	1	3%	33	100%
Harris	21	32%	30	46%	11	15%	2	3%	1	1%	0	0%	65	100%
Patton	12	13%	16	17%	27	29%	18	19%	16	17%	2	2%	91	100%
State College	17	20%	22	26%	35	36%	7	8%	2	2%	0	0%	83	100%

- About one third of participants from Patton Township seasonally visited Circleville Park.
- 19% of participants from Patton Township visited Circleville Park monthly.
- 17% of participants from Patton Township visited Circleville Park weekly.

Table 138. Graysdale Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	2	28%	5	71%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	44	46%	42	44%	6	6%	1	1%	1	1%	0	0%	94	100%
Ferguson	75	38%	88	44%	26	31%	6	3%	1	0%	0	0%	196	100%
Halfmoon	7	22%	10	32%	12	38%	2	6%	0	0%	0	0%	31	100%
Harris	27	41%	38	55%	1	1%	0	0%	1	1%	0	0%	65	100%
Patton	29	33%	41	47%	9	10%	3	3%	2	2%	2	2%	86	100%
State College	39	50%	35	44%	3	3%	1	1%	0	0%	2	0%	78	100%

- About one third of participants from Patton Township were not aware of Graysdale Park.
- Almost half of participants from Patton Township never visited Graysdale Park.

Table 139. Gray's Woods Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	2	28%	5	71%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	40	42%	44	46%	7	7%	3	3%	0	0%	0	0%	94	100%
Ferguson	62	31%	104	52%	25	12%	6	3%	1	0%	0	0%	198	100%
Halfmoon	9	29%	15	48%	7	22%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	31	100%
Harris	21	32%	39	60%	5	7%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	65	100%
Patton	23	26%	47	53%	12	13%	4	4%	1	1%	1	1%	86	100%
State College	32	40%	43	53%	5	6%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	80	100%

- About one quarter of participants from Patton Township were not aware of Gray's Woods Park.
- Over half of participants from Patton Township never visited Gray's Woods Park.

Table 140. Green Hollow Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	3	42%	4	57%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	48	52%	41	44%	3	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	92	100%
Ferguson	96	48%	86	43%	12	6%	3	1%	0	0%	0	0%	197	100%
Halfmoon	14	48%	16	53%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	30	100%
Harris	25	38%	38	58%	2	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	65	100%
Patton	30	34%	39	44%	11	12%	4	4%	2	2%	1	1%	87	100%
State College	40	51%	32	41%	1	1%	2	2%	0	0%	2	2%	77	100%

- About one third of participants from Patton Township were not aware of Green Hollow Park.
- 44% of participants from Patton Township never visited Green Hollow Park.

Table 141. Marjorie Mae Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	2	28%	5	71%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	49	52%	43	46%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	93	100%
Ferguson	104	53%	84	42%	6	3%	2	1%	0	0%	0	0%	196	100%
Halfmoon	14	46%	16	53%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	30	100%
Harris	27	41%	37	56%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	65	100%
Patton	27	31%	51	58%	3	3%	2	2%	3	3%	1	1%	87	100%
State College	42	55%	31	40%	2	2%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	76	100%

- About one third of participants from Patton Township were not aware of Marjorie Mae Park.
- Almost 60% of participants from Patton Township never visited Marjorie Mae Park.

Table 142. Oakwood Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	3	42%	4	57%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	47	50%	44	45%	3	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	94	100%
Ferguson	91	46%	95	48%	11	5%	1	0%	0	0%	0	0%	198	100%
Halfmoon	12	40%	15	50%	3	10%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	30	100%
Harris	26	40%	38	58%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	65	100%
Patton	29	33%	44	51%	5	5%	2	2%	6	7%	0	0%	86	100%
State College	43	55%	32	41%	2	2%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	77	100%

- About one third of participants from Patton Township were not aware of Oakwood Park.
- Over half of participants from Patton Township never visited Oakwood Park.

Table 143. Park Forest Tot Lot

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	2	28%	5	71%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	47	50%	44	46%	3	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	94	100%
Ferguson	84	42%	103	52%	6	3%	4	2%	0	0%	0	0%	197	100%
Halfmoon	13	43%	16	53%	1	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	30	100%
Harris	26	40%	36	55%	2	4%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	65	100%
Patton	20	22%	50	56%	10	11%	2	2%	4	4%	3	3%	89	100%
State College	37	47%	38	48%	3	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	78	100%

- Almost one quarter of participants from Patton Township were not aware of Park Forest Tot Lot.
- 56% of participants from Patton Township never visited Park Forest Tot Lot.

Table 144. Woodycrest Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	1	14%	6	85%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	42	45%	45	48%	6	6%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	93	100%
Ferguson	77	39%	98	50%	18	9%	2	1%	0	0%	1	0%	196	100%
Halfmoon	13	43%	15	50%	2	6%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	30	100%
Harris	25	38%	38	58%	2	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	65	100%
Patton	23	26%	51	58%	5	5%	4	4%	3	3%	1	1%	87	100%
State College	34	43%	39	50%	4	5%	0	0%	0	0%	1	1%	78	100%

- About one quarter of participants from Patton Township were not aware of Woodycrest Park.
- 58% of participants from Patton Township never visited Woodycrest Park.

STATE COLLEGE BOROUGH

- For participants who resided in State College Borough, many people indicated that they never visited or were unaware of a number of the parks located in this municipality.
- Many residents of State College Borough indicated that they seasonally visited East Fairmont Park, Holmes Foster Park, Lederer Park, Orchard Park, Sunset Park,
- Homles Foster Park visitors from State College visited weekly.

Table 145. East Fairmount Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	2	28%	5	71%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	37	38%	47	49%	9	9%	2	2%	0	0%	0	0%	95	100%
Ferguson	78	39%	100	50%	19	5%	1	0%	0	0%	0	0%	198	100%
Halfmoon	9	29%	18	58%	4	12%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	31	100%
Harris	24	36%	34	52%	7	10%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	65	100%
Patton	30	34%	51	59%	4	4%	0	0%	1	1%	0	0%	86	100%
State College	23	27%	38	44%	16	18%	1	1%	6	7%	1	1%	85	100%

- Over one quarter of participants from State College Borough were not aware of East Fairmount Park.
- 44% of participants from State College Borough never visited Park Forest Tot Lot.
- Almost 20% of participants from State College Borough seasonally visited East Fairmount Park.

Table 146. High Point Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	2	28%	4	57%	1	14%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	44	46%	42	44%	6	6%	0	0%	1	1%	1	1%	94	100%
Ferguson	80	40%	97	49%	18	9%	2	1%	0	0%	0	0%	197	100%
Halfmoon	13	43%	14	46%	3	10%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	30	100%
Harris	25	38%	38	58%	2	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	65	100%
Patton	37	43%	45	52%	3	3%	0	0%	1	1%	0	0%	86	100%
State College	34	41%	37	45%	8	9%	0	0%	3	3%	0	0%	82	100%

- 41% of participants from State College Borough were not aware of High Point Park.
- 45% of participants from State College Borough never visited High Point Park.

Table 147. Holmes-Foster Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	1	14%	4	57%	2	28%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	22	22%	35	36%	35	36%	5	5%	0	0%	0	0%	97	100%
Ferguson	32	16%	64	32%	77	38%	19	9%	6	3%	2	1%	200	100%
Halfmoon	4	12%	17	53%	10	31%	1	3%	0	0%	0	0%	22	100%
Harris	12	18%	22	33%	35	37%	6	9%	1	1%	0	0%	66	100%
Patton	17	19%	36	41%	31	35%	0	0%	3	3%	0	0%	87	100%
State College	10	11%	12	13%	38	42%	12	13%	13	14%	3	3%	88	100%

- 42% of participants from State College Borough visited Holmes-Foster Park seasonally.
- 14% of participants from State College Borough visited Holmes-Foster Park weekly.

Table 148. Lederer Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	1	14%	6	85%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	26	27%	38	40%	25	25%	4	4%	1	1%	0	0%	94	100%
Ferguson	49	24%	84	42%	57	28%	6	3%	2	1%	0	0%	198	100%
Halfmoon	12	37%	17	53%	3	9%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	32	100%
Harris	13	19%	33	49%	17	25%	2	3%	2	3%	0	0%	67	100%
Patton	21	24%	45	51%	18	20%	2	2%	1	1%	0	0%	87	100%
State College	15	17%	23	27%	26	30%	11	12%	9	10%	1	1%	85	100%

- Almost one third of participants from State College Borough visited Lederer Park seasonally.
- 27% of participants from State College Borough never visited Lederer Park.

Table 149. Nittany Village Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	3	42%	4	57%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	44	47%	47	51%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	92	100%
Ferguson	95	48%	95	48%	6	3%	0	0%	1	0%	0	0%	197	100%
Halfmoon	14	46%	16	53%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	30	100%
Harris	25	38%	39	60%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	65	100%
Patton	36	38%	47	55%	2	2%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	86	100%
State College	40	50%	33	41%	5	6%	2	2%	0	0%	0	0%	80	100%

- Half of participants from State College Borough were not aware of Nittany Village Park.
- 41% of participants from State College Borough never visited Nittany Village Park.

Table 150. Orchard Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	1	14%	2	28%	4	57%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	27	28%	35	36%	22	23%	7	7%	4	4%	0	0%	95	100%
Ferguson	36	18%	65	32%	60	30%	23	11%	12	6%	3	1%	199	100%
Halfmoon	6	18%	13	40%	10	31%	3	9%	0	0%	0	0%	32	100%
Harris	16	25%	30	46%	12	18%	6	9%	0	0%	0	0%	64	100%
Patton	23	26%	35	39%	23	26%	6	6%	1	1%	0	0%	88	100%
State College	12	14%	15	17%	31	36%	7	8%	14	16%	6	7%	85	100%

- Over one third of participants from State College Borough visited Orchard Park seasonally.
- 17% of participants from State College Borough never visited Orchard Park.

Table 151. Sidney Friedman Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	2	28%	5	71%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	31	33%	30	31%	28	29%	5	5%	0	0%	0	0%	94	100%
Ferguson	63	31%	60	30%	50	25%	16	8%	8	4%	2	1%	199	100%
Halfmoon	8	25%	17	53%	6	18%	0	0%	1	3%	0	0%	32	100%
Harris	18	27%	22	33%	27	25%	7	10%	2	3%	0	0%	66	100%
Patton	24	27%	35	40%	20	23%	6	7%	1	1%	0	0%	86	100%
State College	22	25%	17	19%	19	21%	18	20%	8	9%	3	3%	87	100%

- One quarter of participants from State College Borough were not aware of Sidney Friedman Park.
- 41% of participants from State College Borough never visited Sidney Friedman Park.

Table 152. Smithfield Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	3	42%	4	57%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	41	44%	45	48%	5	5%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	92	100%
Ferguson	98	48%	92	46%	6	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	197	100%
Halfmoon	12	40%	17	56%	1	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	30	100%
Harris	22	33%	42	64%	0	0%	0	0%	1	1%	0	0%	65	100%
Patton	39	45%	47	54%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	86	100%
State College	35	43%	29	36%	8	10%	4	5%	2	2%	2	2%	80	100%

- 43% of participants from State College Borough were not aware of Smithfield Park.
- Over one third of participants from State College Borough never visited Smithfield Park.

Table 153. South Hills Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	3	42%	4	57%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	43	46%	46	50%	3	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	92	100%
Ferguson	88	44%	94	47%	14	7%	2	1%	0	0%	0	0%	198	100%
Halfmoon	12	38%	17	54%	1	3%	1	3%	0	0%	0	0%	31	100%
Harris	25	38%	39	60%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	65	100%
Patton	32	37%	51	59%	2	2%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	86	100%
State College	35	42%	39	47%	2	2%	4	4%	1	1%	1	1%	82	100%

- 42% of participants from State College Borough were not aware of South Hills Park.
- Almost half of participants from State College Borough never visited South Hills Park.

Table 154. Sunset Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	1	14%	5	71%	0	0%	0	0%	1	14%	0	0%	7	100%
College	24	25%	32	33%	34	35%	4	4%	1	1%	0	0%	95	100%
Ferguson	41	20%	77	38%	69	34%	4	2%	7	3%	0	0%	198	100%
Halfmoon	7	21%	15	46%	10	31%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	32	100%
Harris	18	27%	27	40%	17	25%	4	6%	0	0%	0	0%	66	100%
Patton	12	14%	32	37%	32	37%	6	7%	4	4%	0	0%	86	100%
State College	14	16%	21	24%	37	43%	9	10%	4	4%	0	0%	85	100%

- 43% of participants from State College Borough visited Sunset Park seasonally.
- One quarter of participants from State College Borough never visited Sunset Park.

Table 155. Thompson Woods Preserve

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	3	42%	4	57%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	32	34%	38	40%	15	16%	7	7%	1	1%	0	0%	93	100%
Ferguson	89	45%	78	40%	24	12%	4	2%	0	0%	0	0%	195	100%
Halfmoon	14	46%	13	43%	2	6%	1	3%	0	0%	0	0%	30	100%
Harris	24	37%	33	51%	7	10%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	64	100%
Patton	30	35%	39	45%	10	11%	4	4%	2	2%	0	0%	85	100%
State College	35	43%	19	23%	15	18%	5	6%	6	7%	1	1%	81	100%

- 43% of participants from State College Borough were not aware of Thompson Woods Preserve.
- One quarter of participants from State College Borough never visited Smithfield Park.

Table 156. Tusseyview Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	2	28%	5	71%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	37	40%	46	50%	7	7%	1	1%	1	1%	0	0%	92	100%
Ferguson	84	42%	84	42%	28	14%	2	1%	0	0%	0	0%	198	100%
Halfmoon	11	36%	18	60%	1	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	30	100%
Harris	20	30%	39	60%	4	6%	2	3%	0	0%	0	0%	65	100%
Patton	28	32%	52	61%	5	5%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	85	100%
State College	29	35%	34	42%	13	16%	2	2%	3	3%	0	0%	81	100%

- 35% of participants from State College Borough were not aware of Tusseyview Park.
- 42% of participants from State College Borough never visited Tusseyview Park.

Table 157. Walnut Spring Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	3	42%	4	57%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	33	35%	41	43%	10	10%	7	7%	2	2%	1	1%	94	100%
Ferguson	78	39%	88	44%	26	13%	3	1%	2	1%	0	0%	197	100%
Halfmoon	13	43%	14	46%	3	10%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	30	100%
Harris	19	29%	39	60%	7	10%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	65	100%
Patton	30	34%	46	53%	5	5%	4	4%	1	1%	0	0%	86	100%
State College	25	29%	21	25%	20	23%	7	8%	10	11%	1	1%	84	100%

- About one third of participants from State College Borough were not aware of Walnut Spring Park.
- One quarter of participants from State College Borough never visited Walnut Spring Park.

REGIONAL FACILITIES

- Across all municipalities, many people indicated that they never visited or were unaware of a number of the regional parks located in Centre County.

Table 158. Centre Region Active Adult Center

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	3	42%	4	57%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	32	33%	55	57%	4	4%	3	3%	1	1%	1	1%	96	100%
Ferguson	71	36%	118	59%	4	2%	0	0%	4	2%	0	0%	197	100%
Halfmoon	11	37%	18	62%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	29	100%
Harris	21	33%	35	55%	3	4%	1	1%	3	2%	1	1%	63	100%
Patton	32	37%	50	58%	3	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	85	100%
State College	30	36%	49	59%	4	4%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	83	100%

- Across all municipalities, most participants were not aware of Centre Region Active Adult Center.

Table 159. Ferguson Elem. Ballfields

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	1	14%	5	71%	1	14%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	36	37%	56	58%	3	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	95	100%
Ferguson	63	31%	115	58%	16	8%	2	1%	2	1%	0	0%	198	100%
Halfmoon	9	29%	21	67%	1	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	31	100%
Harris	21	32%	41	63%	3	4%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	65	100%
Patton	23	26%	61	70%	2	2%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	86	100%
State College	24	29%	55	67%	3	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	82	100%

- Across all municipalities, most participants never visited Ferguson Elem. Ballfields.

Table 160. Houserville Elem. Ballfields

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	2	28%	5	71%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	28	29%	49	51%	14	14%	1	1%	3	3%	1	1%	96	100%
Ferguson	68	33%	117	59%	12	6%	0	0%	1	0%	1	0%	196	100%
Halfmoon	9	30%	20	66%	1	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	30	100%
Harris	19	29%	42	64%	4	6%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	65	100%
Patton	22	25%	62	72%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	85	100%
State College	24	28%	53	63%	6	7%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	83	100%

- Across all municipalities, most participants never visited Houserville Elem. Ballfields.

Table 161 John Hess Softball Field Complex

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	1	14%	4	57%	2	28%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	33	34%	54	56%	8	8%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	96	100%
Ferguson	62	31%	112	56%	22	11%	1	0%	0	0%	0	0%	197	100%
Halfmoon	9	30%	18	60%	2	6%	1	3%	0	0%	0	0%	30	100%
Harris	15	23%	42	64%	6	3%	2	3%	0	0%	0	0%	65	100%
Patton	24	28%	58	68%	3	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	85	100%
State College	25	30%	54	65%	2	2%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	82	100%

- Across all municipalities, most participants never visited John Hess Field Complex.

Table 162. Millbrook Marsh Nature Center

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	1	14%	3	42%	3	42%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	17	17%	19	19%	31	31%	14	14%	14	14%	3	3%	98	100%
Ferguson	32	16%	57	28%	90	45%	15	7%	4	2%	1	0%	199	100%
Halfmoon	4	12%	12	37%	13	40%	3	9%	0	0%	0	0%	32	100%
Harris	9	13%	21	30%	29	42%	8	11%	0	0%	1	1%	68	100%
Patton	15	17%	18	20%	41	47%	11	12%	1	1%	0	0%	86	100%
State College	16	18%	19	22%	42	48%	8	9%	1	1%	0	0%	86	100%

- Across all municipalities, most participants seasonally visited Millbrook Marsh Nature Center.

Table 163. Oak Hall Regional Park

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	1	14%	5	71%	1	14%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	33	34%	50	52%	9	9%	1	1%	2	2%	0	0%	95	100%
Ferguson	70	35%	105	53%	19	9%	0	0%	1	0%	0	0%	195	100%
Halfmoon	13	41%	18	58%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	31	100%
Harris	20	31%	29	45%	10	15%	3	4%	2	3%	0	0%	64	100%
Patton	34	40%	46	54%	5	5%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	85	100%
State College	28	34%	43	54%	5	5%	1	1%	0	0%	1	1%	81	100%

- Across all municipalities, most participants never visited Oak Hall Regional Park.

Table 164. Park Forest Community Pool

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	1	14%	6	85%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	22	22%	57	58%	15	15%	3	3%	0	0%	0	0%	97	100%
Ferguson	28	14%	110	55%	51	25%	3	1%	3	1%	3	1%	198	100%
Halfmoon	6	19%	14	45%	10	15%	0	0%	2	6%	1	3%	31	100%
Harris	11	16%	42	64%	10	15%	1	1%	0	0%	1	1%	65	100%
Patton	16	18%	32	36%	25	28%	1	1%	7	8%	6	6%	87	100%
State College	13	15%	49	57%	19	22%	2	2%	2	2%	1	1%	86	100%

- Across all municipalities, most participants never visited Park Forest Community Pool.

Table 165. Radio Park Elem. Ballfields

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	2	28%	5	71%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	34	35%	56	58%	5	5%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	95	100%
Ferguson	47	23%	129	65%	18	9%	3	1%	0	0%	0	0%	197	100%
Halfmoon	9	29%	21	67%	1	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	31	100%
Harris	19	29%	43	66%	3	4%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	65	100%
Patton	25	28%	60	69%	2	2%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	87	100%
State College	24	28%	52	62%	6	7%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	83	100%

- Across all municipalities, most participants never visited Radio Park Elem. Ballfields.

Table 166. Wm. L. Welch Community Pool

Municipality	How often do you visit the CRPR recreation facility (%)													
	Not aware		Never		Seasonally		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
I don't know	1	14%	6	85%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%
College	20	20%	38	39%	32	33%	1	1%	3	3%	3	3%	97	100%
Ferguson	25	12%	90	45%	72	36%	7	3%	3	1%	2	1%	199	100%
Halfmoon	6	18%	13	40%	10	31%	0	0%	2	6%	2	3%	32	100%
Harris	7	10%	34	51%	19	28%	2	3%	3	4%	1	1%	66	100%
Patton	16	17%	39	44%	22	25%	4	4%	6	6%	2	2%	88	100%
State College	11	12%	30	34%	33	34%	1	1%	7	8%	4	4%	86	100%

- Across all municipalities, most participants never visited Wm. L. Welch Community Pool.

Comparison of Mail and Online Survey Results

Table 167. Comparison of mail and online survey results on the extent of benefit gained by the participant’s household from local park and recreation opportunities

To what extent do you and/or other members of your household benefit from local park and recreation opportunities	Mail Survey Percent (%)	Online Survey Percent (%)
A great deal	44%	68%
Somewhat	48%	31%
Not at all	8%	1%

- Two-thirds (68%) of online respondents reported their household benefits a great deal from local park and recreation opportunities, compared to just 44% of mail survey respondents.
- Conversely, mail survey respondents were more likely (48%) than online respondents (31%) to believe their household benefits somewhat from local park and recreation opportunities.
- Only 1% of online respondents and 8% of mail survey respondents feel their household does not benefit at all from local park and recreation opportunities.

Table 168. Comparison of mail and online survey results on the extent of benefit gained by the Centre Region on local park and recreation opportunities

To what extent do you feel the Centre Region as a whole benefits from local park and recreation opportunities	Mail Survey Percent (%)	Online Survey Percent (%)
A great deal	77%	85
Somewhat	21%	14%
Not at all	2%	1%

- Over three-fourths of online respondents (85%) and mail survey respondents (77%) feel the Centre Region as a whole benefits a great deal from local park and recreation opportunities.
- Mail survey respondents (21%) were more likely than online survey respondents (14%) to state that the Centre Region as a whole benefits somewhat from local park and recreation opportunities.
- Very few online (1%) or mail survey (2%) respondents feel the Centre Region as a whole does not benefit at all from local park and recreation opportunities.

Table 169. Comparison of mail and online survey results on awareness of Centre Region Parks and Recreation

Prior to receiving this survey, were you aware of Centre Region Parks and Recreation Agency, part of the Council of Governments (COG)	Mail Survey Percent (%)	Online Survey Percent (%)
Yes	83%	83%
No	17%	17%

- There was no difference in the proportion of respondents to the mail and online survey versions to the question on awareness of the CRPR Agency within the Council of Governments (COG)
- The vast majority of respondents to both surveys (83%) were aware of the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Agency prior to the survey.

Table 170. Comparison of mail and online survey results on participation in CRPR sponsored recreation programs

Have you or has anyone else in your household participated in any recreation program that was sponsored by CRPR in the past year?	Mail Survey Percent (%)	Online Survey Percent (%)
Yes	29%	56%
No	71%	44%

- The majority of online respondents (56%) reported that someone in their household participated in a recreation program sponsored by CRPR in the past year, compared to just 29% of mail survey respondents.
- Conversely, 44% of online respondents reported no household participation in CRPR recreation programs over the past year, versus the majority (71%) of mail survey respondents.

Table 171. Comparison of mail and online survey results on the number of CRPR recreation programs participated in by the participant’s household within the last year

Indicate the number of CRPR recreation programs you or anyone in your household have participated in, in the past year	Mail Survey Percent (%)	Online Survey Percent (%)
One program	49%	37%
Two or three different programs	44%	58%
Four or more different programs	7%	5%

- Among those participating in CRPR programs, online survey respondents reported a greater number of programs participated in over the past year than mail survey respondents.
- About half of the mail survey respondents (51%) reported participating in more than one program, compared to 63% of online survey respondents.

Conclusions

Although respondents were most satisfied with maintenance of park areas and recreation facilities, respondents are largely unaware these features exist. With the exception of State College borough, every township had at least 40% of respondents unaware of the local parks at their disposal. For each township or borough, there was generally one or a few popular parks and a larger number of parks that were unused or not known about by respondents. CRPR should focus on awareness of resources and opportunities using the two most utilized communication techniques: word of mouth and the newspaper. It does not seem as though lack of transportation is a constraint as almost no respondents stated this was an issue in accessing recreation programs and almost every respondent typically accesses their local park in either a personal vehicle or walking.

A key reason respondents may be least satisfied with availability of recreation programs is that unawareness continues to be the major constraint in CRPR program participation. Most region residents reported that they or anyone their households did not participate in a recreation program that was sponsored by CRPR last year, yet more than half of the respondents reported that not knowing about the CRPR programs prevents them from participating and respondents state there is a need for more CRPR programs. Consequently, when satisfaction is compared to both income and municipality, a majority of respondents stated that did not know when asked about CRPR recreation activity satisfaction. However, of the respondents that did participate in CRPR activities, relatively high rates of satisfaction were reported. Overwhelmingly, these responses came from respondents in the age range of 55-74. Respondents were most satisfied with the overall quality of CRPR recreation programs and staff and unsurprisingly, the lowest rated aspect of CRPR programming was promotion and advertising of programs.

The results of the survey uniformly represent two themes in the data. Residents of Centre County believe CRPR should continue with the maintenance of the park and recreation facilities while further investments should be in the conservation, preservation, and integration of activities and programs

with the natural environment. When asked what type of experience they were seeking in CRPR parks, the most common responses corresponded with outdoor nature-based activities. As such, respondents believe CRPR should expand shade/tree areas and trails for running, hiking, bicycling, and cross-country skiing. These items were the only two to be uniformly important or higher across age groups. Secondly, while residents that visit their local park and CRPR programs are satisfied with their experience, respondents are largely unaware of the resources provided to them by CRPR. Efforts should be made to better utilize current forms of communication to residents and significantly invest in marketing of not only programs but all CRPR resources.



Centre Region Council of Governments OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION

2643 Gateway Drive, Suite 3 • State College, PA 16801-3885
Phone: (814) 231-3077 • Fax: (814) 231-3083 • Website: www.crcog.net

Dear Centre Region Resident,

The six municipalities of the Centre Region Council of Governments (COG)—College, Ferguson, Halfmoon, Harris, and Patton Townships and State College Borough—the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority, and the State College Area School District are planning together for the future of parks and recreation. The governing bodies of these eight entities have cooperatively worked together, through the COG, to form a Steering Committee to undertake this planning effort.

You have been randomly selected to participate in a community survey for the Centre Region Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan, a thorough evaluation of the services of the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Agency, and the region's park areas, trails and recreation facilities.

The survey is designed to identify the parks and recreation needs, desires, and interests of Centre Region residents. Your input will help create recommendations for improving public parks and recreation facilities, enhancing community recreation programs, exploring trail and parkland opportunities, and defining open space protection strategies for the next 10 years.

Your participation in this survey is voluntary but very important. The survey will take about 15 minutes to complete. You do not have to answer any question that you do not want to answer. Rest assured, your answers will remain confidential. Responses will only be reported as part of larger groups.

Your participation in this survey is key in drafting a plan that will provide guidance for how parks and recreation should evolve in the future. We value your feedback and appreciate your time and prompt response.

On behalf of the Steering Committee, thank you for helping prepare this vision of the future.

Sincerely,

Bruce Lord, Steering Committee Chair
Centre Region Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan

P.S. We want to share the results of the survey with you! Sometime in April 2019, you can view the results by clicking on the Parks and Recreation Survey link on the CRPR website: www.crpr.org

As a thank you for returning your completed survey, you will be entered in a random drawing to win one of the following prizes:

- Set of Two 2019 Season Pool Passes to Welch/Park Forest Community Pools (4 sets available)
- Set of Two 2019 Single Day Pool Passes (8 sets available)
- Two 2019 tickets to DelGrosso's Amusement Park
- Two 2019 tickets to HersheyPark
- CRPR Gift Pack (2 available)
- \$5 CRPR Gift Certificates (4 available)

The Centre Region Parks and Recreation (CRPR) Survey

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. To obtain a representative sample, we ask that it be completed by the member of your household with the most recent birthday who is at least 18 years of age.

Section #1: Local Park and Recreation Access and Benefits

In this section, we would like you to think about the local park and recreation opportunities available to you in the Centre Region.

- How do you most frequently access your local parks?
 - Walk
 - Personal vehicle
 - CRPR website
 - Bike
 - Bus
 - Municipal website
 - Other (please specify) _____
- How do you hear about parks and recreation opportunities in the Centre Region? *Select all that apply.*
 - Newspaper
 - Radio
 - CRPR website
 - CRPR Active Guide
 - Municipal newsletter
 - Municipal website
 - Social media (Facebook, Instagram, etc.)
 - Word of mouth
 - Other (please specify) _____
 - Unaware of parks and recreation opportunities
- Which of the following environmental practices should the Centre Region promote? *Select all that apply.*
 - Green storm water infrastructure (pervious pavement, rain gardens, etc.)
 - Invasive species management
 - Recycling
 - Composting
 - Riparian buffers
 - Managed low or no-mow areas
 - Habitat management
 - Tree preservation
 - Alternative energy sources (solar, wind, etc.)
 - Other (please specify) _____
- Think about the benefits that local park and recreation opportunities provide. By benefits, we mean anything good that happens because these opportunities are available.
 - To what extent do you and/or other members of your household benefit from local park and recreation opportunities?
 - Not at all
 - Somewhat
 - A great deal
 - To what extent do you feel the Centre Region as a whole benefits from local park and recreation opportunities?
 - Not at all
 - Somewhat
 - A great deal
- CRPR is interested in improving the lives of local residents through parks and recreation opportunities. Please take a moment to consider each CRPR planning priority listed below. Then, please indicate (1) how important each priority **should be** in CRPR planning and management and (2) how effective CRPR **has been** in working towards each priority.

How important is this priority to you?					CRPR Planning Priorities	How effective has CRPR been in working towards this priority?				
Very Unimportant	Unimportant	Neutral	Important	Very Important		Very Ineffective	Ineffective	Neutral	Effective	Very Effective
1	2	3	4	5	Offering services to improve physical health	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Offering services to improve mental health	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Conserving the natural environment	1	2	3	4	5

Appendix: Survey Instrument

Very Unimportant	Unimportant	Neutral	Important	Very Important	CRPR Planning Priorities <i>Circle one number on the left side and one number on the right side for each planning priority.</i>	Very Ineffective	Ineffective	Neutral	Effective	Very Effective
1	2	3	4	5	Addressing the needs of populations requiring adaptive programs	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Promoting positive youth development	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Protecting open space	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Stimulating economic development	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Enhancing real estate property values	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Enhancing the region's beauty	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Ensuring that facilities are equally accessible to all members of the community	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Ensuring that programs are equally accessible to all members of the community	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Preserving trees	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Enhancing community cohesiveness	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Providing well-rounded recreational/educational programs for all ages	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Providing family-friendly facilities	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Providing family-friendly activities	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Providing opportunities for social interaction/meeting new people	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Offering affordable programs	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Promoting parks, trails, and recreation facilities	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Promoting recreation programs for participation	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	Making Centre Region a desirable place to live	1	2	3	4	5

Section #2: Experience and Satisfaction with Park Areas and Recreation Facilities

Next, we would like to know about your specific experiences with CRPR park areas and recreation facilities.

6. Prior to receiving this survey, were you aware of CRPR?

Yes No

7. How often do you or your household visit the following CRPR park areas and recreation facilities? Those facilities marked with an * are not maintained by CRPR at this time. *Circle one response for each.*

Park Areas and Recreation Facilities	Never	Seasonally	Monthly	Weekly	Daily	Not Aware of this Park/ Facility
College Township						
Dalevue Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Fogleman Fields Complex	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Fogleman Overlook Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Nittany Orchard Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Slab Cabin Overlook	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Slab Cabin Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Spring Creek Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Thompson Woods Preserve	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Ferguson Township						
Autumnwood Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Cecil Irvin Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Fairbrook Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Greenbriar Saybrook Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Haymarket Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Homestead Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Meadows Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Park Hills Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Silvi Baseball Complex*	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Suburban Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Tom Tudek Memorial Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Halfmoon Township						
Autumn Meadow Park*	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Halfmoon Municipal Park*	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Harris Township						
Blue Spring Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Country Place Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Eugene Fasick Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Harpster Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Kaywood Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Nittany View Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Stan Yoder Memorial Preserve	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Patton Township						
Ambleside Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A

Appendix: Survey Instrument

Bernel Road Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Park Areas and Recreation Facilities	Never	Seasonally	Monthly	Weekly	Daily	Not Aware of this Park/ Facility
Circleville Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Graysdale Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Gray's Woods Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Green Hollow Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Marjorie Mae Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Oakwood Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Park Forest Tot Lot	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Woodycrest Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
State College Borough						
East Fairmount Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
High Point Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Holmes-Foster Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Lederer Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Nittany Village Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Orchard Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Sidney Friedman Parklet	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Smithfield Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
South Hills Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Sunset Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Thompson Woods Preserve	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Tusseyview Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Walnut Spring Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Regional Facilities						
Centre Region Active Adult Center	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Ferguson Elem. Ballfields	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Houserville Elem. Ballfield	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
John Hess Softball Field Complex	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Millbrook Marsh Nature Center	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Oak Hall Regional Park	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Park Forest Community Pool	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Radio Park Elem. Ballfields	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Wm. L. Welch Community Pool	1	2	3	4	5	N/A

8. What experiences are you looking for when visiting CRPR park areas and recreation facilities? *Select all that apply.*

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Non-league sports | <input type="checkbox"/> Fitness and wellness | <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Experiencing nature | <input type="checkbox"/> Self-directed activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Viewing public art |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Special events | <input type="checkbox"/> Affordable family programs | <input type="checkbox"/> Observing nature |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spending time outdoors | <input type="checkbox"/> League sports | <input type="checkbox"/> Relaxation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spiritual connection | <input type="checkbox"/> Research | <input type="checkbox"/> Enjoying time with family and friends |

Appendix: Survey Instrument

Volunteering

Other (please list) _____

9. How important is it to **expand or add** the following recreation facilities in the Centre Region? *Circle one response for each recreation facility listed.*

Recreation Facilities	Very Unimportant	Unimportant	Neutral	Important	Very Important
Bocce court	1	2	3	4	5
Amphitheater/band shell	1	2	3	4	5
Football field	1	2	3	4	5
Soccer field	1	2	3	4	5
Baseball/softball field (youth)	1	2	3	4	5
Baseball/softball field (adult)	1	2	3	4	5
Pump track for bicycles	1	2	3	4	5
Spray ground water play area	1	2	3	4	5
Lacrosse field	1	2	3	4	5
Basketball court	1	2	3	4	5
Sand volleyball court	1	2	3	4	5
Tennis court	1	2	3	4	5
Grass volleyball court	1	2	3	4	5
Indoor fieldhouse with game fields and courts	1	2	3	4	5
Horseshoe pits	1	2	3	4	5
Athletic field lights	1	2	3	4	5
Children's play equipment/area	1	2	3	4	5
Skateboard area	1	2	3	4	5
Indoor swimming pool	1	2	3	4	5
Outdoor swimming pool	1	2	3	4	5
Dog park area	1	2	3	4	5
Trails for running, hiking, bicycling, cross country skiing	1	2	3	4	5
Artificial turf field	1	2	3	4	5
Picnic pavilion	1	2	3	4	5
Pickleball court	1	2	3	4	5
Outdoor winter facilities (ice skating, sledding)	1	2	3	4	5
Informal picnic areas	1	2	3	4	5
Indoor recreation center	1	2	3	4	5
Community garden	1	2	3	4	5
Disc golf course/holes	1	2	3	4	5
Nature/environmental education centers	1	2	3	4	5
Adaptive play equipment	1	2	3	4	5
Outdoor health and fitness equipment	1	2	3	4	5

Appendix: Survey Instrument

Shade/tree areas	1	2	3	4	5
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10. Please list suggestions for additional recreation facilities that should be provided by CRPR.

11. What could be done to enhance your experiences at existing CRPR facilities?

12. What do you think should be the priorities for parks and recreation in the Centre Region over the next ten years?

Circle one response for each priority.

Priorities	Very Unimportant	Unimportant	Neutral	Important	Very Important
Maintain park areas and recreation facilities	1	2	3	4	5
Add recreation facilities to existing parks	1	2	3	4	5
Develop walking/biking connections between schools, parks, trails and neighborhoods	1	2	3	4	5
Build athletic fields	1	2	3	4	5
Rehabilitate older parks	1	2	3	4	5
Expand recreation programs for youth (under 18)	1	2	3	4	5
Expand recreation programs for adults (18-54)	1	2	3	4	5
Expand recreation programs for seniors (55+)	1	2	3	4	5
Expand volunteer involvement with parks, trails, recreation programs and special events	1	2	3	4	5
Purchase land in underserved areas for future parks	1	2	3	4	5
Develop trails and greenways	1	2	3	4	5
Conserve open space and natural resources	1	2	3	4	5
Improve promotion of park, trail and recreation program opportunities	1	2	3	4	5
Provide access to waterways	1	2	3	4	5
Develop an indoor recreation center	1	2	3	4	5
Provide adaptive programming	1	2	3	4	5
Expand environmental education opportunities	1	2	3	4	5
Add sports field lighting	1	2	3	4	5

Appendix: Survey Instrument

13. The table below lists several park features. Please take a moment to consider CRPR areas and recreation facilities overall, and then rate your level of satisfaction with each feature on a scale from 1 (very dissatisfied) to 5 (very satisfied). *Circle one response for each park feature listed.*

Park Features	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Don't Know	Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Cleanliness of restrooms	1	2	3	4	5
Condition of restrooms	1	2	3	4	5
Cleanliness of picnic facilities	1	2	3	4	5
Cleanliness of grounds/environment	1	2	3	4	5
Condition of playground equipment	1	2	3	4	5
Condition of exercise equipment	1	2	3	4	5
Condition of roads/parking areas	1	2	3	4	5
Condition of paved walkways	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of shaded areas	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of seating	1	2	3	4	5
Condition of trails	1	2	3	4	5
Condition of ball fields	1	2	3	4	5
Condition of tennis courts	1	2	3	4	5
Condition of trees	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of open play space	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of restrooms	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of facilities that can be reserved for private events	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of recreation programs	1	2	3	4	5
Accessibility of park facilities for persons with disabilities	1	2	3	4	5
Feeling of safety and security while spending time in parks	1	2	3	4	5
Responsiveness and courteousness of CRPR staff	1	2	3	4	5
Overall maintenance of park areas and recreation facilities	1	2	3	4	5
Accessible adaptive park equipment	1	2	3	4	5
Condition of swimming pools	1	2	3	4	5

Section 3: Experience and Satisfaction with Recreation Programs and Services

Next, we would like to know about your specific experiences with CRPR programs.

14. Have you or has anyone else in your household participated in any recreation program that was sponsored by CRPR in the past year?

- Yes No

15. Indicate the number of CRPR recreation programs you or anyone in your household have participated in, in the past year.

- One program Two or three different programs Four or more different programs
 Zero How many _____

16. If only one thing could be done to improve parks and recreation in the Centre Region, what do you think it should be?

17. Please rate your satisfaction with the quality of CRPR recreation activities. *Circle one response for each category.*

Category	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Don't Know	Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Youth instructional classes	1	2	3	4	5
All ages instructional classes	1	2	3	4	5
Special events	1	2	3	4	5
Nature center programs	1	2	3	4	5
Aquatics programs	1	2	3	4	5
Health and fitness classes	1	2	3	4	5
Youth sports	1	2	3	4	5
Adult sports and leagues	1	2	3	4	5
Active adult center programs	1	2	3	4	5
Summer camps	1	2	3	4	5

18. How would you rate the availability of CRPR programs for the listed groups? *Circle one response for each category.*

Category	Not Nearly Enough	Not Enough	Right Amount	Too Much	Way Too Much
Preschool children (3-5 yrs)	1	2	3	4	5
Elementary school students (6-10 yrs)	1	2	3	4	5
Middle school students (11-13 yrs)	1	2	3	4	5
High school students (14-17 yrs)	1	2	3	4	5
Young adults (18-39 yrs)	1	2	3	4	5
Adults (40-54 yrs)	1	2	3	4	5
Older adults (55+ yrs)	1	2	3	4	5
Families	1	2	3	4	5
People with disabilities	1	2	3	4	5
Overall availability of programs	1	2	3	4	5

19. What prevents you from participating in CRPR programs? *Choose all that apply.*

- Too busy Cost too much
 Don't know about them No transportation
 Programs offered do not interest me Poor quality programs
 No programs offered for my age group Other (please specify) _____
 Program provided elsewhere

Appendix: Survey Instrument

20. The following is a list of recreation activity categories. *Circle each category by age group if members of your household would like to participate in the listed activity.*

Recreation Activity Categories	Preschool	Elementary School	Teens	Adults	Older Adults
Outdoor adventure programs (rock climbing, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5
Swim teams	1	2	3	4	5
Outdoor recreation, land-based (nature walks, environmental education programs, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5
Outdoor recreation, water-based (kayaking, canoeing, tubing, paddle boarding, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5
Exercise and fitness	1	2	3	4	5
Performing arts (music, dance, drama, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5
Concerts	1	2	3	4	5
Arts and crafts	1	2	3	4	5
Special events (holiday events, fairs, contests, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5
Self-improvement and education classes	1	2	3	4	5
Summer day camps	1	2	3	4	5
Clubs (chess, hobbies, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5
League sports (baseball, basketball, soccer, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5
Non-league sports (golf, tennis, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5
Social recreation (cards, parties, picnics, dances, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5
Trips	1	2	3	4	5
Family activities (parent/child/grandparent)	1	2	3	4	5
Aquatics	1	2	3	4	5
Fishing	1	2	3	4	5
Community gardening	1	2	3	4	5

21. Please take a moment to consider CRPR recreation programs overall, and then rate your level of satisfaction with each aspect on a scale from 1 (very dissatisfied) to 5 (very satisfied). *Circle one response for each aspect.*

Aspects	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied	Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Quality of programs	1	2	3	4	5
Quality of recreation program staff	1	2	3	4	5
Variety of programs	1	2	3	4	5
Programs for all age groups	1	2	3	4	5
Accessibility of programs	1	2	3	4	5
Price of programs	1	2	3	4	5
When programs are held	1	2	3	4	5
Where programs are held	1	2	3	4	5
Promotion and advertising of programs	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of signing up	1	2	3	4	5
Quantity of programs	1	2	3	4	5
Overall rating of CRPR recreation programs	1	2	3	4	5

Appendix: Survey Instrument

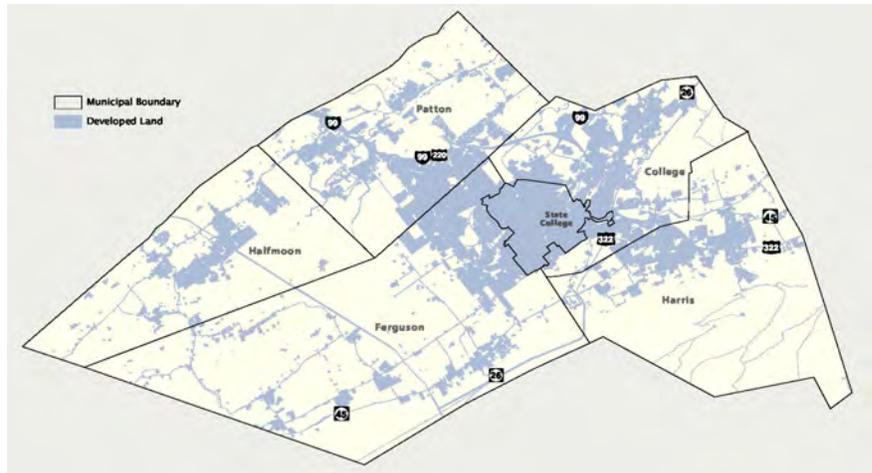
- Older adults (55+ years)
- Person with a disability

31. Are you a Penn State University student?

- Yes No

32. In which municipality do you reside?

- College Township
- Ferguson Township
- Halfmoon Township
- Harris Township
- Patton Township
- State College Borough
- I don't know

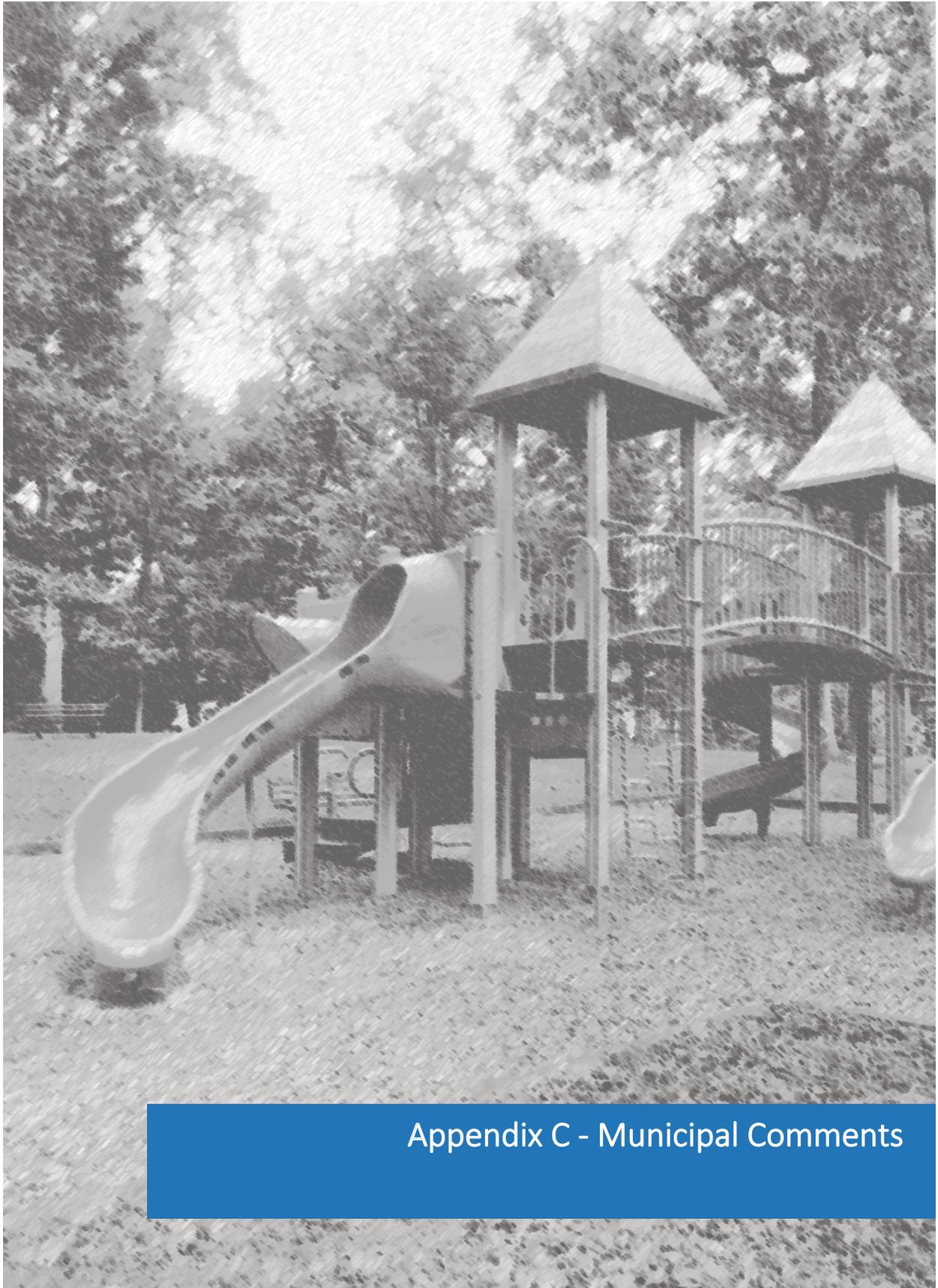


33. Please use this space for any additional comments you may have regarding parks and recreation in the Centre Region.

We appreciate your time and effort in completing this survey. Please return this completed survey in the postage-paid envelope provided. The Steering Committee for this project would like to thank the Penn State University students from HDNRE 590 and Dr. Alan Graefe for their work on the survey's questions and design as well as the work they will do to collect responses, gather data, and complete the analysis. If you have any questions or concerns about the survey, please contact Dr. Alan Graefe at 814-863-8986 or gyu@psu.edu.

As a thank you for returning your completed survey, you will be entered into a random drawing to win one of the following prizes:

- Set of Two 2019 Season Pool Passes to Welch/Park Forest Community Pools (4 sets available)
- Set of Two 2019 Single Day Pool Passes (8 sets available)
- Two 2019 tickets to DelGrosso's Amusement Park
- Two 2019 tickets to HersheyPark
- CRPR Gift Pack (2 available)
- \$5 CRPR Gift Certificates (4 available)



Appendix C - Municipal Comments



COLLEGE TOWNSHIP

MUNICIPAL OFFICES

1481 E COLLEGE AVE, STATE COLLEGE, PA 16801 ■ TELEPHONE: (814) 231-3021 ■
WWW.COLLEGETOWNSHIP.ORG

March 11, 2020

Mr. Jim Steff, Executive Director
Centre Region Council of Governments
Suite 3, 2643 Gateway Drive
State College, PA 16801

RE: Comments on Parks Comprehensive Plan

Dear Mr. Steff,

As referred by the General Forum, College Township Council discussed the Centre Region Comprehensive Recreation, Parks and Open Space Plan at its regular meeting of March 5, 2020 and has the following comments:

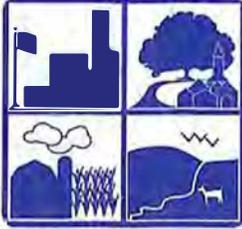
- **College Township Council supports the expansion of the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority (Authority) and, further, believes that this action is the highest priority of the Plan.** Expansion of the Authority is important to create the necessary organizational structure that can properly clarify the nature of the document – is this a Plan or a proposal? - and evaluate and prioritize the recommendations of the Plan.
- **Core Theme 1 of the Plan –“Take Care of What We Have” - must be a key objective when evaluating and prioritizing Plan recommendations.** Maintaining existing Parks infrastructure – facilities, equipment, sports fields, open spaces – cannot be lost in the pursuit of additions to or expansions of the existing Parks program and is critical to a balanced Parks program.
- **Council supports the concept of a vigorous marketing program for Parks and believes it is of critical importance to the future success of the Parks program.**
- **The “Action Plan” component of the Plan is unrealistic.**
134 of the total 139 recommendations contained within the Plan are scheduled to be undertaken within the next 2 ½ years.

Sincerely,

Adam Brumbaugh
Township Manager

c: College Township Council

College Township Parks & Recreation Committee



TOWNSHIP OF FERGUSON

3147 Research Drive • State College, Pennsylvania 16801
Telephone: 814-238-4651 • Fax: 814-238-3454
www.twp.ferguson.pa.us

March 4, 2020

Jim Steff, Executive Director
Centre Region Council of Governments
2643 Gateway Drive
State College, PA 16801

Re: Centre Region Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan Municipal Comments

Dear Jim:

On behalf of the Ferguson Township Board of Supervisors, I want to extend our appreciation to all involved with the preparation of the Centre Region Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan. The Board discussed the draft plan on February 18th and March 2nd, and offers the following comments for inclusion in the appendix of the document:

- Core Theme 1 – Take Care of What We Have
 - It is important for municipalities to understand any new roles or responsibilities assigned to them in the document.
 - Specifically, it is important to know whether a municipality is agreeing to abide by the regional design guide for parks when adopted.
 - Governance and structural components of the plan should be prioritized.
 - There should be some more discussion about what the problems of the current governance model are and what some improved models might look like. This may include the proposed model of allowing elected officials on the Authority, as well as other alternatives including the option of dissolving the Authority. Also, whether the authority to sign leases should reside with the Authority Board or with the COG General Forum.
 - Make sure that all relevant parties are engaged in that discussion including regional and local perspectives.
 - With respect to the design guide, the Board understands that it could increase efficiency, but there are concerns about the costs.
- Core Theme 2 – Diversify Funding Strategies
 - It is worth noting that the COG does not have taxing authority, so setting aside local millage to support parks must be considered individually by member municipalities. This action step should be adjusted to clarify this point.
 - The Board does not support this action step as a priority at all. Funding of the parks program should be left to individual municipalities.
- Core Theme 3 – Strengthen and Enhance Recreation Program Opportunities
 - Offering affordable local alternatives to travel-based youth sports is a high priority of the Township.
- Core Theme 5 – Address Indoor Recreation Facility and Program Space Needs
 - Recommendation 5.2 - Complete an indoor recreation center feasibility study.

- The Board would like the Authority to explore options other than public funding. Also, that the Authority should only commit to the feasibility study (or construction) of an indoor facility once an overall assessment of costs of existing acknowledged needs such as the centralized maintenance facility have been identified and agreed to by member municipalities.
- Core Theme 8 – Design Parks that Promote Resident Health, Happiness and Well-Being
 - The Board wanted to note that, along with Recommendation 8.2, Enhance the Convenience of Visiting Parks, providing permanent restroom facilities at municipal and regional facilities should be considered.
- Core Theme 13 – Assess Level of Staffing
 - The Board noted that the increase in staffing projected over the next ten years in the plan is significant.
 - Benchmarking with other similar communities and using NRPA benchmarking data should be utilized when assessing the level of staff and it should be assigned a high priority.
- General Comment – Reports should be provided to municipal officials that describe the participation by municipality in the Parks Program in more detail than what can be described by appointees to the Authority Board.
- General Comment – The inventory of available recreational facilities should be made publicly available for residents to easily access.
- General Comment – The Board would like to prioritize working toward establishing a more formalized partnership with the State College Area School District, particularly as it pertains to the integration and coordination of activities.
- General Comment – The Board would like to encourage the regional funding and maintenance of the trail connection between Whitehall Road Regional Park and Rothrock State Forest.
- General Comment – The Board would like to emphasize “Taking Care of What We Have” as a high priority.
- General Comment – The Board would like to emphasize a review of the governance structure of the Parks Program as a high priority.

Once again, thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Plan and for the hard work and dedication of the many individuals who have prepared the document. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,
Township of Ferguson



David Pribulka
Township Manager

c: Correspondence File
Ferguson Township Board of Supervisors
Pam Salokangas, Centre Region Parks and Recreation Director

Salokangas, Pamela

From: danelledelcorso@halfmoontwp.us
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 4:50 PM
To: manager@halfmoontwp.us; Steff, James
Cc: Kim Hyeseon; Salokangas, Pamela
Subject: RE: FW: Memo & Reminder

Sorry for any confusion and my late response. At the last BOS meeting (Denise was not here yet) we reviewed the plan and the board had NO comments in regard to the completeness of the report in order to sign off on it from the consultant perspective and be adopted as a resolution at the March 23 General Forum meeting.

Danelle

----- Original Message -----

Subject: RE: FW: Memo & Reminder
From: <manager@halfmoontwp.us>
Date: Tue, March 10, 2020 1:32 pm
To: "Steff, James" <jsteff@crcog.net>
Cc: "Kim Hyeseon" <junysmom@gmail.com>, "danelledelcorso@halfmoontwp.us" <danelledelcorso@halfmoontwp.us>, "Salokangas, Pamela" <psalokangas@crcog.net>

I'd be more than happy to ask for comments. I'm assuming the plan was distributed to the Board prior to my arrival, but just to be sure, would you please send me the Plan so I may share it with the Board?

Thank you.

Denise Gembusia

Township Manager
1848 Halfmoon Valley Road
Port Matilda, PA 16870
Phone: 814-692-9800
Fax: 814-692-7585
Website: www.halfmoontwp.us

----- Original Message -----

Subject: RE: FW: Memo & Reminder
From: "Steff, James" <jsteff@crcog.net>
Date: Tue, March 10, 2020 3:41 pm
To: "manager@halfmoontwp.us" <manager@halfmoontwp.us>
Cc: Kim Hyeseon <junysmom@gmail.com>, "danelledelcorso@halfmoontwp.us" <danelledelcorso@halfmoontwp.us>, "Salokangas, Pamela" <psalokangas@crcog.net>

Hi Denise,

Good point, I need to check with Pam to see if DCNR requires Halfmoon's approval given it is not a member of the Authority. That being said, Halfmoon did financially contribute its share to the cost of the plan and was a full partner in its development.

In any case, does the Board have any comments it wants to share with the General Forum?

Jim

Jim Steff
Centre Region COG
814) 231-3077

From: manager@halfmoontwp.us <manager@halfmoontwp.us>
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 3:28 PM
To: Steff, James <jsteff@crcog.net>
Cc: Kim Hyeseon <junysmom@gmail.com>; danelledelcorso@halfmoontwp.us;
Salokangas, Pamela <psalokangas@crcog.net>
Subject: RE: FW: Memo & Reminder

Jim,

Please correct me if I'm wrong, but Halfmoon Township no longer participates in the COG Parks & Recreation Programs. I do not believe action would be required from our Board in order to meet your grant requirements since we will not, technically, be supporting your actions.

Please let me know if you need something to close the grant that shows we previously were a part of this committee and agreed to the initial actions.

Thank you.

Denise Gembusia

Township Manager
1848 Halfmoon Valley Road
Port Matilda, PA 16870
Phone: 814-692-9800
Fax: 814-692-7585
Website: www.halfmoontwp.us

----- Original Message -----

Subject: FW: Memo & Reminder
From: "Steff, James" <jsteff@crcog.net>
Date: Tue, March 10, 2020 10:37 am
To: "manager@halfmoontwp.us" <manager@halfmoontwp.us>
Cc: 'Kim Hyeseon' <junysmom@gmail.com>, "danelledelcorso@halfmoontwp.us"

<danelledelcorso@halfmoontwp.us>, "Salokangas, Pamela"
<psalokangas@crcog.net>

Hi Denise,

I wanted to reach out to you to ask whether the Board of Supervisors had the opportunity to review and provide comments on the Parks and Recreation Regional Comprehensive Plan. Comments are due to me by March 17 for distribution to the COG Executive Committee.

This is a project that has been underway for almost two years. You may want to talk to Danelle or Kim Hyeseon (the Township's representative to the project Steering Committee) about any past discussions that Board may have had.

During its March 27, 2017 meeting the General Forum established the Parks and Recreation Regional Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee. The overall responsibilities of the Steering Committee were to:

- Prepare a scope of work for the study. During its work, the Steering Committee will identify what topics and questions the plan should address. Because 50% of the project cost is being paid by DCNR, the scope of work will need to include the topics that are a condition of receiving the grant.
- Prepare a Request for Proposal (RFP). An RFP is a document that will be used to solicit proposals for consulting services to prepare the Plan as defined by the scope of work.
- Interview consultants who have submitted an RFP.
- Review and score all the RFPs received.
- Prepare a recommendation to the General Forum for an award of a proposal for consulting services.
- Assist the consultant in preparing the Comprehensive Plan.
- As individual Committee members, keep your board/council current on discussions occurring at the meetings of the Steering Committee.

Meetings of the Steering Committee were opened to the public and meeting notices were publicly advertised in accordance with state law. Committee members are:

College Township	Eric Bernier, Vice-Chair
SCASD	Gretchen Brandt
State College Borough	Tom Daubert
Ferguson Township	Laura Dininni
Halfmoon Township	Kim Hyeseon
CRPR Authority	Chris Hurley

Harris Township
CRPR Agency
Patton Township

Bruce Lord, Chair
Pam Salokangas
Susan Wheeler

The approved budget for this project was \$75,000 not including the staff expenses associated with supporting the Committee. Of this amount, \$37,500 was paid by Centre Region COG and \$37,500 by a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR). During the course of the study process, an additional \$15,000 was authorized by the General Forum for the purpose of conducting a randomized, statistically valid survey of Centre Region residents regarding their attitudes about parks and recreation.

Using the guidelines provided by DCNR the Steering Committee prepared a Request for Proposals (RFP) for consulting services to prepare the plan. During its June 19, 2018 meeting the Executive Committee *"authorized the issuance of the RFP for consulting services to prepare the Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan dated June 13, 2018."* During its October 28, 2018 meeting the General Forum authorized the execution of a contract for preparing the Regional Comprehensive Plan to be awarded to YSM/Recreation and Park Solutions.

The Steering Committee met 24 times on this project. The first kick-off meeting between the Steering Committee and the consultants occurred on November 6, 2018, and there have been eight meetings between the two groups since that time. During this period two public forums were held; the first was to receive comments from the general public on study areas, and the second was to share results-to-date and receive any additional comments. Both occurred at the SCASD high school.

Because DCNR funds were used to finance a portion of the study costs, there are procedures that must be followed to bring the project to closure. DCNR requires that the Plan be adopted by the municipal governing boards/councils. In lieu of individual board/council actions, DCNR will accept a resolution of the General Forum that identifies that it is acting on behalf of the municipalities. The Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority must take a similar but separate action.

Thank you. Jim

Jim Steff
Centre Region COG
814) 231-3077

From: Steff, James
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 9:05 AM
To: manager@halfmoontwp.us
Cc: Walt Schneider (wgms@crcog.net) <wgms@crcog.net>;
Strouse, Tammy <TES@crcog.net>; John Franek <jjf@crcog.net>
Subject: RE: Memo & Reminder

Hi Denise,

Thank you and Amy for making the time to meet with me yesterday to discuss the COG, the library and the code services that are provided to the Township. It was a good discussion and at a personal level I enjoyed getting to know you better.

Attached is a copy of the revised report that Walt and I wrote. Please distribute it as you think appropriate. Walt and I are both planning to attend the meeting on Thursday and we appreciate being placed earlier on the agenda.

Regarding the COG's presentation, we agree that it should be loosely structured as follows:

- History of the program
- Services provided to the Township
- Costs to the Township

If I missed anything please let me know.

See you soon. Jim

Jim Steff
Centre Region COG
814) 231-3077

From: manager@halfmoontwp.us <manager@halfmoontwp.us>
Sent: Monday, March 09, 2020 5:20 PM
To: Steff, James <jsteff@crcog.net>
Subject: Memo & Reminder

Hi Jim -

Thanks again for meeting today and going over the CRCA presentation. I'll still need your updated version so we can add it to the linked agenda item. Below is the address of the link for the memo I created for the Board. You may need to copy and paste it in your web browser (I'm having issues with IT today). Please let me know if anything is misrepresented or should be clarified.

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/mq6qx13s4rxu2t8/BOS%20MEMO%2003.12.2020%20CRCA%20Presentation%20and%20Participation%20Discussion.pdf?dl=0>

Best,

Denise Gembusia

Township Manager

1848 Halfmoon Valley Road

Port Matilda, PA 16870

Phone: 814-692-9800

Fax: 814-692-7585

Website: www.halfmoontwp.us

HARRIS TOWNSHIP

Post Office Box 20, 224 East Main Street, Boalsburg, PA 16827
Website: www.harristownship.org

(814) 466-6228
(814) 466-3396 Fax

March 11, 2020

Jim Steff, Executive Director
Centre Region Council of Governments
2643 Gateway Drive, Suite 3
State College, PA 16801

Re: Comprehensive Recreation, Parks and Open Space Plan

Dear Jim:

The Harris Township Board of Supervisors and the Harris Township Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee reviewed the Comprehensive Recreation, Parks and Open Space Plan at their meeting on March 9th. They felt the plan was very well written. They appreciated the challenges identified with park usage and felt it offered opportunities for the Township to improve its marketing efforts.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions on this matter.

Sincerely,

Amy Farkas

Amy Farkas
Township Manager

cc: Board of Supervisors

Salokangas, Pamela

From: Erickson, Douglas <derickson@twp.patton.pa.us>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2020 3:12 PM
To: Steff, James; Salokangas, Pamela
Cc: swheeler@twp.patton.pa.us; Whitman, Betsy; Trevino, Dan; elliotabrams@gmail.com; Buckland, Jessica; Robb, Pamela
Subject: Patton Comments on Parks comp plan
Attachments: Item 3b RAC_CompRecPlan_Comments_.pdf

The Patton Board members make the following comments:

1. They endorse the attached comments provided by the Patton Twp Recreation Advisory Committee with the addition that Recommendation 1.5 be added to the priorities: "Focus on ways to return appropriate park areas into natural environments."
2. The term "Open Space" is problematic for Patton Township. We operate a robust, but separate from parks, open space program. We recommend the term be removed from the title or reclassified as "open areas" (i.e. undeveloped areas within park lands)

Should the time frame be extended, it is likely the board members would have additional comments.

Doug Erickson

To: Doug Erickson

From: Susan Wheeler

RE: Comprehensive Recreation, Parks, and Open Space Plan (Plan)
Recreation Advisory Committee (RAC) Comments to the Board of Supervisors

Date: February 19, 2020

At the February 17, 2020 RAC meeting Ms. Wheeler provided the Committee with an overview summary of the process that has taken place to date and commented that the Plan's purpose is to provide an analysis of the current parks in the region, the Centre Region Parks and Rec Agency and to make recommendations for the future. The Plan, once adopted, is meant to be used as a guide for future recreation planning throughout the Region. The Plan is not meant to be prescriptive but is meant to provide data and tools to encourage positive and constructive changes to the operations of and between the Authority, the CRPR Agency and the municipalities.

The Committee discussed the Plan at length and its many recommendations, commenting that it may be difficult to implement.

Potential barriers to implementing the complete Plan include:

- The potential for additional costs to the Township and its residents.
- The potential inability for all municipalities to agree on any given recommendation.
- Any recommendations that would allow the Centre Region Parks and Rec Agency to dictate how each municipality chooses to develop its recreational amenities is undesirable and unlikely.
- Patton Township's unique position in the Centre Region of having a dedicated tax millage for park development. This affords the Township the ability to move forward with planning and implementation of township recreation projects based on the recommendations of the formally adopted *Patton Township Parks Plan 2015-2024* and the *Patton Township Bicycle and Pedestrian Path Plan 2019-2024*.

The Committee felt that the most constructive input they could provide to the Board would be to rank the top issues in order of importance from the list of fourteen (14) issues of greatest concern identified in the Plan. Ranking the issues of concern may help the General Forum to decide where to put its initial efforts in implementing the Plan.

The ranking is as follows:

1. Division of maintenance responsibilities.
2. Appropriate level of staffing and governance structure.
3. Need for alternative funding sources. This should include an analysis of the costs of both program offerings and the maintenance of facilities so that a better business structure can be developed.
4. Trail connections and expansion.

The Committee also recommended an issue of importance that was not specifically identified in the list of fourteen (14) issues to address. The current program offerings should be evaluated for participation and cost effectiveness to help determine which programs are successful.



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info@scasd.org — 814.231.1042

March 4, 2020

Mr. James Steff
Executive Director
Centre Region Council of Governments
2643 Gateway Drive
State College PA 16801

Ms. Pamela Salokangas
Centre Region Parks & Recreation Authority
2040 Sandy Drive, Suite A
State College, PA 16803

Dear Jim and Pam:

In follow-up to the recommendations made in the Centre Region Parks and Rec Comprehensive Plan, the State College Area School District is pleased to provide the following comments for the official record. These comments have been generated and reviewed by the Facilities and Grounds Committee and approved by the Board of School Directors at its meeting on March 2, 2020.

a. RECOMMENDATION 5.1 – ADOPT A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE STATE COLLEGE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

The buildings and grounds of the State College Area School District are important recreational resources for the Centre Region. Use of those facilities for community recreation programs and activities, particularly the indoor facilities, is essential for CRPR operations. A written memorandum of understanding between CRPR and the State College Area School District would ensure that school buildings and grounds remain available for public use for recreation activities and improve the access to facilities. Promotion of CRPR recreation opportunities through the School District is another area for cooperation.

- The District's current policy, adopted in 2003 and last updated in 2006, and practice prioritizes Departments of the Centre Regional Municipal and Centre County Governments, including Centre Region Parks and Recreation. The District will consider a review of the policy and current operations followed by a conversation with CRPR staff to discuss operational concerns and opportunities for improvement. The administration would like to discuss how the current policy and practice result in actual or perceived deficiencies and difficulties for the CRPR as well as the goals and expectations of a proposed MOU.

b. RECOMMENDATION 10.2 – AMEND THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION AUTHORITY

The articles of incorporation of the Parks and Recreation Authority should accurately reflect the five municipalities that support CRPR (removing Halfmoon Township). Amending the articles of **incorporation should also include adding the State College Area School District as an official member of the Authority with the ability to appoint its representatives.** The roles and responsibilities of the Authority should be spelled out in the amended articles of incorporation. The membership of the Authority should be expanded to include one elected official (or municipal staff member) from each municipality, plus one resident. This would eliminate the need for the COG Parks Capital Committee. The State College Area School District should be represented by one elected school board member and one school district administrator (potentially the Director of Buildings and Grounds or Athletic Director). This would expand the Authority from six to 12 members. If the membership of the Authority is expanded by adding elected officials/municipal staff members, oversight of the capital development projects for regional parks and recreation facilities will be provided Centre Region Comprehensive Recreation, Parks, and Open Space Plan Chapter 6 - 25 appropriately by the municipalities which are providing the funding. Doing so will eliminate the need for the COG Parks Capital Committee.

- The District supports the recommendation to include representation from the District on the Parks and Recreation Authority. The District welcomes the opportunity to appoint a member of the Board and administration.

c. Core Themes and Recommendations

Enhance and Formulate Strong and Broad Partnerships – We work closely with individuals, municipalities, groups, and businesses in the region to provide well- rounded parks and recreation services to residents. The partnership among the municipalities and school district serves as the cornerstone for the provision of premier parks and recreation services. We will formalize the partnership with the State College Area School District with an MOU to improve indoor space access. We will design and manage partnerships to maximize use of partner resources and talents and respond to evolving community needs, as well as develop and maintain effective public and private partnerships.

- The District maintains a long-standing relationship of providing CRPR facility use with no rental fee. CRPR is only charged when the District incurs direct cost related to the use of facilities.
- The District also provides access to land and facilities through long-term lease agreements:
 - Welch Pool and dedicated parking at the high school in exchange for \$1 per year.
 - During the high school campus construction project parking accommodations for Welch Pool patrons were provided.
 - As provided in the lease agreement between the District and College Township Council, CRPR is granted the opportunity to direct the recreation facility use at Fogleman Fields following the District's priority in scheduling.
 - Placement of the new Spring Creek Elementary School building and playground was restricted due to the proximity of the Fogleman Fields and parking lot.

- The District provides use of the natatorium to CRPR located on the high school campus in the North Building when district K-12 programs are not using the facility.
- The District also provides sponsorship and facility use for CRPR events such as the annual Halloween Parade throughout the year.
- The completion of the various construction projects throughout the District should reduce facility constraints which both the internal and external users have been experiencing. That being said, the internal programs offered by the District are constrained for facility use at times by other internal programs before external users have an opportunity to be considered. In addition, external users, including local youth programs, experience the exclusion to District facilities which CRPR has reported to experience.
- CRPR provides by informal agreement the use of the parking lot at the Park Forest pool during the off-season to the District staff and visitors of the Park Forest Middle School.
- The District wishes to understand the desire for improved indoor space access. As discussed with comments for Recommendation 5.1, the District would like to engage in a conversation to increase its understanding of concerns related to the use of district facilities. Specifically, the District is interested in understanding the hindrances which exist or are believed to exist.

The District wishes to continue the longstanding relationship with CRPR to benefit the area residents, while acknowledging the difficulties in balancing facility needs of the District, CRPR and other community groups. The District also believes that engagement with CRPR staff is essential in order to address the concerns and comments raised in the comprehensive plan.

I look forward to hearing from you regarding the next steps in the process.

Sincerely,



Robert J. O'Donnell
Superintendent of Schools

cc: Amber Concepcion
Gretchen Brandt

STATE COLLEGE BOROUGH
interoffice

MEMORANDUM

ADMINISTRATION

to: James Steff, COG Executive Director
from: Thomas J. Fountaine, II, Borough Manager
subject: CRPR's Comprehensive Plan Comments
date: 3/17/2020

At last night's Borough Council meeting, Council voted to forward the following comments on the CRPR's Comprehensive Plan.

- Review facilities in the Borough major parks, and tour if necessary or desired. The Holmes-Foster Master Plan of 2014 should probably be reviewed as to progress in the report's recommendations. Also documents on Orchard and Sunset could be looked at. What improvements should be made to better serve Borough residents at reasonable cost?
- Consider the smaller parks as to facilities available such as seating, tables, play equipment, and self-directed activities like a basketball hoop.
- Review Walnut Springs and Lederer Park amenities and plan to promote usage and increase value to State College community.
- Decide whether the Council would approve the use of Highpoint Park land to build a small Action Sports Park (ASP) so long as other municipalities will contribute. – Borough Council has already approved funding in its CIP for an ASP in High Point Park and staff is working with a community group to raise funding for the project.
- Decide at what level Council will support regional facility development in addition to currently approved aid in developing the Whitehall Road Regional Park.
- Return to the process of using volunteers for minor and cosmetic maintenance of Borough park areas.
- Promote CRPR to return to sponsoring activities where all school-age residents can participate at low cost.
- Decide whether the Borough wishes indoor facilities to be constructed by COG and whether the Borough would support such efforts as private organizations are now offering such facilities.
- Should a Parks Foundation be established for funding purposes?
- Core Theme 10 in the Action Plan, Section 7, discusses governance. The suggestions in the plan are to evaluate the need to continue the COG Parks Capital Committee. This was supported by most of the township members of the Master Plan Committee. The proposal was to increase the membership of the CRPR Board from 6 to 12 members with one elected and one staff person from each of the five municipalities and the SCASD.