



COMMUNITY BENEFITS

PARK AND OPEN SPACE BENEFITS

Providing parks and open spaces contribute in a variety of ways to the strength of a community:



Community Benefits

- . Families that recreate together report greater stability and satisfaction, the foundation of a stronger society
- . Recreation provides people of differing cultures with a sense of community and an opportunity for those differing ethnic backgrounds to interact
- . Communities with ample natural areas and open space are considered good places for children and offer high quality of life to all residents
- . Community recreation reduces alienation, loneliness, and anti-social behaviors
- . Recreation provides opportunities for community involvement, and shared management and ownership of resources
- . Integrated and accessible recreation services are critical to the quality of life of people with a disability and disadvantaged individuals
- . Recreation opportunities, facilities and the quality of the local environment are the foundations of community pride



Parks are the most democratic places in our neighborhoods. They are where everyone can come free of charge and where every individual can say 'This Park Belongs to Me.'

*Charles Jordan
Director of Parks and Recreation, Portland, Oregon*



Studies that identify the components of quality of life always focus on recreational opportunities, proximity to open space and quality of recreational activities.

National Assoc. of State Park Directors