Charts and Graphs

Parks and Recreation
Park User Survey

conducted by

City of Columbia, Missouri
Parks and Recreation Department
P. O. Box 6015
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September 2001
Q1. Leisure Activities in Which Respondents and Households Participate Regularly

By percentage of respondents

- Walking/jogging: 62%
- Biking: 57%
- Visit nature preserves: 52%
- Festivals: 50%
- Hiking: 46%
- Swimming: 32%
- Picnics: 32%
- Camping: 30%
- Art crafts: 20%
- Fitness/aerobic: 20%
- Fishing: 19%
- Weight training: 19%
- Softball: 19%
- Golf: 19%
- Hobbies: 19%
- Basketball: 19%
- Baseball: 19%
- Boating: 19%
- Dance: 19%
- Tennis: 19%
- In-line skating/hockey: 12%
- Bowling: 11%
- Skating/skateboarding: 11%
- Football: 9%
- Racquetball: 7%
- Gymnastics: 6%
- Equestrianism: 6%
- BMX racing: 1%
- Do not participate in any activities: 0.2%

Source: Columbia Parks & Recreation - User Survey (9/01)

Q2. Satisfaction with Various Functions Performed by the Columbia Department of Parks and Recreation

By percentage of respondents

- Operating parks and facilities that are safe: Excellent 33% Good 32% Fair 17% Poor 3% Don't Know 3%
- Operating parks and facilities that are clean/well-maintained: Excellent 29% Good 29% Fair 17% Poor 11% Don't Know 2%
- Providing places for enjoyment of active sports: Excellent 32% Good 32% Fair 14% Poor 7% Don't Know 7%
- Providing places for the quiet enjoyment of the outdoors: Excellent 25% Good 23% Fair 17% Poor 3% Don't Know 3%
- Maintaining the urban forest: Excellent 13% Good 13% Fair 31% Poor 9% Don't Know 6%
- Providing natural area for wildlife: Excellent 12% Good 12% Fair 31% Poor 9% Don't Know 12%
- Managing tax dollars efficiently: Excellent 11% Good 18% Fair 14% Poor 29% Don't Know 29%
- Managing natural resources wisely: Excellent 9% Good 9% Fair 29% Poor 3% Don't Know 30%
- Allocating resources fairly to different parts of the city: Excellent 9% Good 14% Fair 24% Poor 7% Don't Know 23%
- Providing places for indoor recreation and fitness activities: Excellent 7% Good 31% Fair 18% Poor 23% Don't Know 23%

Source: Columbia Parks & Recreation - User Survey (9/01)
Q3. Satisfaction with Availability of the Various Recreational Programs in the City of Columbia.

By percentage of respondents (excluding “don't know” response)

Source: Columbia Parks & Recreation - User Survey (9/01)

Q4. The Four Recreational Programs Most Important to Respondent Households.

By percentage of respondents choosing four

Source: Columbia Parks & Recreation - User Survey (9/01)
**Q5. The Reasons that Keep Members of Households from Using Columbia Parks & Recreation Facilities More Often.**

By percentage of respondents

- The location of City facilities is not close to my home: 22%
- Members of my household use facilities from other organizations: 17%
- Not enough trees/shade: 16%
- Parks do not contain facilities we need: 14%
- We are too busy or not interested: 11%
- Fees are too expensive: 11%
- I do not know where the City facilities are located: 10%
- Security is insufficient: 8%
- Hours of operation are not convenient: 8%
- Facilities do not have the right equipment: 8%
- Rules for use are too restrictive: 6%
- Facilities are not well-maintained: 4%
- Poor customer service by staff: 2%
- The City does not have quality programs: 2%
- None of the above: 36%

Source: Columbia Parks & Recreation - User Survey (9/01)

**Q6. Satisfaction with Availability of Various Recreational Facilities in the City of Columbia**

By percentage of respondents (excluding “don’t know” responses)

- Skate Parks
- Walking and Biking Trails
- Soccer Fields
- Playgrounds for Children
- Baseball/Softball Fields
- Municipal Golf Courses
- Picnic Facilities/Shelters
- Large Multi-Use Parks for Both Active & Passive Recreation
- Neighborhood Parks
- Natural Resource Parks
- Indoor Swimming Facilities
- Outdoor Swimming Facilities
- Senior Recreation Centers
- Tennis Courts
- Community Gardens
- Urban Fishing Lakes
- Handball/Racquetball Courts
- Community Recreation Centers
- Indoor Gyms and Fitness Space

Source: Columbia Parks & Recreation - User Survey (9/01)
Q7. The Four Facilities Most Important to Household Respondents

By percentage of respondents choosing four

- Walking and Biking Trails
- Natural Resource Parks
- Neighborhood Parks
- Outdoor Swimming Facilities
- Playgrounds for Children
- Baseball/Softball Fields
- Picnic Facilities/Shelters
- Large Multi-Use Facilities
- Indoor Swimming Facilities
- Indoor Gyms and Fitness Space
- Municipal Golf Courses
- Soccer Fields
- Community Gardens
- Urban Fishing Lakes
- Community Recreation Centers
- Tennis Courts
- Skate Parks
- Senior Recreation Centers
- Handball/Racquetball Courts

1st Choice  2nd Choice  3rd Choice  4th Choice

Source: Columbia Parks & Recreation - User Survey (9/01)

Q8. Respondents Choice for Allocation of Funds to Various Columbia Parks & Recreation Department’s Facilities

By percentage of respondents

- Improvements/maintenance of existing parks
- Acquisition of open space areas and areas for preservation
- Acquisition/development of walking and biking trails
- Construction of environmental facilities
- Development of special facilities
- Development of a new indoor nature/environmental center

1st Choice  2nd Choice  3rd Choice  4th Choice  5th Choice  6th Choice

Source: Columbia Parks & Recreation - User Survey (9/01)
Q11. The Kinds of Parks and Facilities that Respondents Would Most Support on the Russell Property

By percentage of respondents choosing three

MOST SUPPORT

- Wildlife Habitat Managed With Audubon Society: 84%
- Nature Trails: 63%
- No Development (Maintain Open and Natural): 47%
- Environmental Awareness/Education: 31%
- Picnic Shelters: 24%
- Hard Surface: Bike, Roller Blade Trail and Walkers: 13%
- Playgrounds: 10%
- Off-Lease Dog Park: 10%
- Unlighted/Non-Scheduled Practice Sports Fields: 9%
- Lighted Sports Fields for Soccer, Softball, Baseball, and Football: 8%
- Golf Course: 6%
- Disc Golf Course: 3%
- Sand Volleyball Courts: 2%

Source: Columbia Parks & Recreation - User Survey (9/01)

Q12. The Kinds of Parks and Facilities that Respondents Would Least Support on the Russell Property

By percentage of respondents choosing three

LEAST SUPPORT

- Lighted Sports Fields for Soccer, Softball, Baseball, and Football: 70%
- Golf Course: 64%
- Hard Surface: Bike, Roller Blade Trail and Walkers: 31%
- Disc Golf Course: 27%
- Off-Lease Dog Park: 26%
- Unlighted/Non-Scheduled Practice Sports Fields: 23%
- Environmental Awareness/Education: 12%
- Sand Volleyball Courts: 10%
- No Development (Maintain Open and Natural): 9%
- Wildlife Habitat Managed With Audubon Society: 7%
- Playgrounds: 6%
- Nature Trails: 3%
- Picnic Shelters: 3%

Source: Columbia Parks & Recreation - User Survey (9/01)