

# *Survey Instrument*

---

## **Parks and Recreation Park User Survey**

conducted by

**City of Columbia, Missouri  
Parks and Recreation Department**

P. O. Box 6015  
Columbia, MO 65205  
(573) 874-7460

**September 2001**

## 2001 PARKS & RECREATION USER SURVEY

**1. In which of the following leisure activities do you or others in your household participate regularly? Check all that apply.**

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arts/crafts      | <input type="checkbox"/> Festivals              | <input type="checkbox"/> Picnics                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Baseball         | <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing                | <input type="checkbox"/> Racquetball                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basketball       | <input type="checkbox"/> Fitness/aerobics       | <input type="checkbox"/> Skating/Skateboarding                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biking           | <input type="checkbox"/> Football               | <input type="checkbox"/> Softball                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boating          | <input type="checkbox"/> Golf                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Swimming                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bowling          | <input type="checkbox"/> Gymnastics             | <input type="checkbox"/> Tennis                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BMX Racing       | <input type="checkbox"/> Hiking                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Walking/Jogging                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Camping          | <input type="checkbox"/> Hobbies                | <input type="checkbox"/> Weight training                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dance            | <input type="checkbox"/> In-line skating/hockey | <input type="checkbox"/> Do not participate in any activities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Equestrian/horse | <input type="checkbox"/> Visit nature preserves |   |

**2. For each of the following functions performed by the Columbia Department of Parks and Recreation, please indicate if you feel the Department is doing an excellent, good, fair, or poor job.**

**a. Providing places for the quiet enjoyment of the outdoors**

- Excellent     Good     Fair     Poor     Don't Know

**b. Providing places for the enjoyment of active sports**

- Excellent     Good     Fair     Poor     Don't Know

**c. Providing places for indoor recreation and fitness activities**

- Excellent     Good     Fair     Poor     Don't Know

**d. Operating parks and facilities that are safe**

- Excellent     Good     Fair     Poor     Don't Know

**e. Operating parks and facilities that are clean/well-maintained**

- Excellent     Good     Fair     Poor     Don't Know

**f. Managing tax dollars efficiently**

- Excellent     Good     Fair     Poor     Don't Know

**g. Allocating resources fairly to different parts of the city**

- Excellent     Good     Fair     Poor     Don't Know

**h. Providing natural area for wildlife (habitat)**

- Excellent     Good     Fair     Poor     Don't Know

**i. Maintaining the urban forest (street trees)**

- Excellent     Good     Fair     Poor     Don't Know

**j. Managing natural resources wisely (e.g. water conservation)**

- Excellent     Good     Fair     Poor     Don't Know

3. Using a five-point scale where "1" means "Very Satisfied" and "5" means "Very Dissatisfied", please indicate your overall satisfaction with the availability of the following types of recreational **PROGRAMS** in the City of Columbia by circling the corresponding number. Also, please indicate if you or other members of your household have participated in City programs during the past two years by circling "yes" or "no".

	Satisfaction Level					Have you participated in this type program within the last two years?		
	1	2	3	4	5	Don't Know	Yes	No
A. Preschool programs	1	2	3	4	5	Don't Know	Yes	No
B. After school programs	1	2	3	4	5	Don't Know	Yes	No
C. Summer recreation programs	1	2	3	4	5	Don't Know	Yes	No
D. Summer sports camps	1	2	3	4	5	Don't Know	Yes	No
E. Youth sports programs	1	2	3	4	5	Don't Know	Yes	No
F. Youth swim lessons	1	2	3	4	5	Don't Know	Yes	No
G. Teen programs	1	2	3	4	5	Don't Know	Yes	No
H. Youth at-risk programs	1	2	3	4	5	Don't Know	Yes	No
I. Recreation classes	1	2	3	4	5	Don't Know	Yes	No
J. Adult swim lessons	1	2	3	4	5	Don't Know	Yes	No
K. Adult aquatic fitness programs	1	2	3	4	5	Don't Know	Yes	No
L. Adult sports leagues	1	2	3	4	5	Don't Know	Yes	No
M. Adult exercise/fitness classes	1	2	3	4	5	Don't Know	Yes	No
N. Senior exercise programs	1	2	3	4	5	Don't Know	Yes	No
O. Senior sports leagues	1	2	3	4	5	Don't Know	Yes	No
P. Other senior programs (trips, arts/crafts, music classes)	1	2	3	4	5	Don't Know	Yes	No
Q. Citywide special events	1	2	3	4	5	Don't Know	Yes	No
R. Adaptive/Special Olympics	1	2	3	4	5	Don't Know	Yes	No
S. Golf programs	1	2	3	4	5	Don't Know	Yes	No

4. Which **FOUR** of the programs listed above are most important to the members of your household? (Please write in the letters below for your 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> choices using the letters from the list in question #3 above.)

            
1<sup>st</sup>
            
2<sup>nd</sup>
            
3<sup>rd</sup>
            
4<sup>th</sup>

5. Please **CHECK ALL** the reasons that keep you or other members of your household from using Columbia Parks and Recreation facilities more often.

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> (1) Parks do not contain the facilities we need.                 | <input type="checkbox"/> (6) Fees are too expensive.  | <input type="checkbox"/> (11) The City does not have quality programs. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (2) Facilities do not have the right equipment.                  | <input type="checkbox"/> (7) Facilities are not well-maintained.                              | <input type="checkbox"/> (12) We are too busy or not interested.       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (3) Security is insufficient.                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> (8) Members of my household use facilities from other organizations. | <input type="checkbox"/> (13) Rules are too restrictive.               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (4) Hours of operation are not convenient.                       | <input type="checkbox"/> (9) Poor customer service by staff.                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> (14) Not enough trees/shade.                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (5) The location of the City facilities is not close to my home. | <input type="checkbox"/> (10) I do not know where the City facilities are located.            | <input type="checkbox"/> (15) None of the above.                       |

6. Using a five-point scale where "1" means "Very Satisfied" and "5" means "Very Dissatisfied", please indicate your overall satisfaction with the availability of the following types of recreational FACILITIES in the City of Columbia by circling the corresponding number. Also, please indicate if you or other members of your household have participated in City programs during the past two years by circling "yes" or "no".

	Satisfaction Level					Have you participated in this type of program within the last 2 years?		
	1	2	3	4	5	Don't Know	Yes	No
A. Baseball/softball fields							Yes	No
B. Soccer fields							Yes	No
C. Skate parks							Yes	No
D. Tennis courts							Yes	No
E. Municipal golf courses							Yes	No
F. Outdoor swimming facilities							Yes	No
G. Indoor swimming facilities							Yes	No
H. Indoor gyms and fitness space							Yes	No
I. Handball/racquetball courts							Yes	No
J. Playgrounds for children							Yes	No
K. Picnic facilities/shelters							Yes	No
L. Walking and biking trails							Yes	No
M. Neighborhood parks							Yes	No
N. Natural resource parks							Yes	No
O. Large multi-use parks for both active and passive recreation							Yes	No
P. Urban fishing lakes							Yes	No
Q. Community gardens							Yes	No
R. Community recreation centers							Yes	No
S. Senior recreation centers							Yes	No

7. Which FOUR of the facilities listed above are most important to the members of your household? (Please write in the letters below for your 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> choices using the letters from the list in question #6 above.)

\_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_\_\_  
 1<sup>st</sup>                                      2<sup>nd</sup>                                      3<sup>rd</sup>                                      4<sup>th</sup>

8. If an additional funds were available for the Columbia Parks and Recreation Department's facilities, how would you allocate the funds among the categories of funding listed below? Please rank the following categories 1-6, 1 = 1<sup>st</sup> choice, 2 = 2<sup>nd</sup> choice, 3 = 3<sup>rd</sup> choice, 4 = 4<sup>th</sup> choice, 5 = 5<sup>th</sup> choice, 6 = 6<sup>th</sup> choice.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Improvements/maintenance of existing parks.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Construction of environmental facilities (wildlife areas, nature trails).
- \_\_\_\_\_ Acquisition/development of walking and biking trails.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Development of special facilities (dog parks, water playgrounds, campgrounds, skate parks, etc.).
- \_\_\_\_\_ Acquisition of open space areas and areas for preservation.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Development of a new indoor nature/environment center.

**9. The City of Columbia has recently acquired the Stephens Lake from Stephens College. This 100-acre site is located on East Broadway adjacent to Hinkson Creek. The property is mostly hilly with scattered mature trees and an 11-acre lake.**

**Knowing this, please check the THREE facilities listed below that you would MOST SUPPORT being developed at Stephens Lake.**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> (01) Outdoor amphitheater                           | <input type="checkbox"/> (10) Non-motorized boating facility on lake                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (02) Environmental/education center                 | <input type="checkbox"/> (11) Off-leash dog park   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (03) Nature trails                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> (12) Picnic sites   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (04) Outdoor swimming facility                      | <input type="checkbox"/> (13) Sand volleyball courts   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (05) 9-hole golf course                             | <input type="checkbox"/> (14) Outdoor basketball courts  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (06) Arboretum/botanical garden                     | <input type="checkbox"/> (15) Playgrounds  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (07) Open and natural wildlife habitat              | <input type="checkbox"/> (16) Hard surface for bikes, walkers, rollerblading                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (08) Disc golf course                               | <input type="checkbox"/> (17) Lighted sports fields for soccer, softball, baseball, and football |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (09) Unlighted/non-scheduled practice sports fields |  |

**10. Which THREE of the facilities listed below would you LEAST SUPPORT being developed at Stephens Lake?**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> (01) Outdoor amphitheater                           | <input type="checkbox"/> (10) Non-motorized boating facility on lake                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (02) Environmental/education center                 | <input type="checkbox"/> (11) Off-leash dog park   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (03) Nature trails                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> (12) Picnic sites   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (04) Outdoor swimming facility                      | <input type="checkbox"/> (13) Sand volleyball courts   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (05) 9-hole golf course                             | <input type="checkbox"/> (14) Outdoor basketball courts  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (06) Arboretum/botanical garden                     | <input type="checkbox"/> (15) Playgrounds  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (07) Open and natural wildlife habitat              | <input type="checkbox"/> (16) Hard surface for bikes, walkers, rollerblading                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (08) Disc golf course                               | <input type="checkbox"/> (17) Lighted sports fields for soccer, softball, baseball, and football |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (09) Unlighted/non-scheduled practice sports fields |  |

**11. The City of Columbia has also recently acquired 89 acres from the Russell family. This land is in the western part of Columbia on land adjacent to the 27-acre Fairview Park and a 26-acre piece of property owned by the Audubon Society. For approximately 150 years, the property was formerly used as a family farm and consists of mostly wooded acreage and open pasture.**

**Knowing this, please check the THREE facilities listed below that you would MOST SUPPORT being developed on the old farm.**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> (01) Nature trails                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> (08) Wildlife habit managed with Audubon Society                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (02) Environmental education center                 | <input type="checkbox"/> (09) Sand volleyball courts   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (03) No development (maintain open & natural)       | <input type="checkbox"/> (10) Hard surface for bikes, walkers, rollerblading                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (04) Disc golf course                               | <input type="checkbox"/> (11) Lighted sports fields for soccer, softball, baseball, and football |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (05) Off-leash dog park                             | <input type="checkbox"/> (12) Playgrounds  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (06) Picnic shelters                                | <input type="checkbox"/> (13) Golf course  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (07) Unlighted/non-scheduled practice sports fields |  |

**12. Which THREE of the facilities would you LEAST SUPPORT being developed on the old farm.**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> (01) Nature trails                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> (08) Wildlife habit managed with Audubon Society                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (02) Environmental education center                 | <input type="checkbox"/> (09) Sand volleyball courts   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (03) No development (maintain open & natural)       | <input type="checkbox"/> (10) Hard surface for bikes, walkers, rollerblading                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (04) Disc golf course                               | <input type="checkbox"/> (11) Lighted sports fields for soccer, softball, baseball, and football |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (05) Off-leash dog park                             | <input type="checkbox"/> (12) Playgrounds  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (06) Picnic shelters                                | <input type="checkbox"/> (13) Golf course  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (07) Unlighted/non-scheduled practice sports fields |  |