

2011 Annual Report

Vision:

“Golden will be recognized as a national leader in the provision of high quality parks, trails and recreation facilities.”

Mission:

“To promote and provide safe and comprehensive community facilities, programs and services that will enrich the quality of life for all residents and visitors.”



Parks and recreation facilities and the programs, activities, and services that occur within them, contribute greatly to the overall quality of life in Golden. The award-winning Golden Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for maintaining open spaces, for providing a quality system of parks and recreational facilities and for providing positive leisure opportunities for the community. Golden is home to many unique recreational amenities for a town of its size including 253 acres of parkland, 401 acres of open space, 24 miles of trails, 7,984 trees, Fossil Trace Golf Club, Splash Aquatic Park, Golden History Museums and the Golden Community Center. The Parks and Recreation Department includes the Municipal Facilities Division, Recreation Division, Parks, Forestry, Cemetery Division, Golden Museums Division, Golf Maintenance Division and Golf Clubhouse Division.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

In order to increase community involvement, a Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was created in 1982. Board members are appointed by City Council and represent

Golden citizens. The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, consisting of seven members and one alternate which serve four-year terms, makes suggestions about policies and procedures, fees and charges, acceptance of park land, design of parks and other projects relating to the Parks and Recreation Department.

The Golden History Museums became a Division within the Parks and Recreation Department in July, 2010. At which time, the Cultural Services and Museums Advisory Board was formed with members from the existing non-profit arm to the museums, the Friends of the Golden History Museums. The Cultural Services and Museums Advisory Board guided the integration of the museums into the City of Golden operating structure. Board member terms were for one year. At the conclusion of 2011, the City Council disbanded the Board upon their recommendation, and

following a successful year for the Golden History Museums. Board members remain on the Friends of the Golden History Museums Board, continuing to advise the City and to assist with funding support for the museums.

Advisory Board Meetings

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meets on the first and third Tuesday evening of each month. The third Tuesday is the regular meeting date. These meetings take place in the Golden Community Center, 1470 10th St., Golden, CO, 80401, at 7 p.m. For more information and to view meeting minutes, visit www.cityofgolden.net/government/boards-commissions/parks-recreation-advisory-board/.

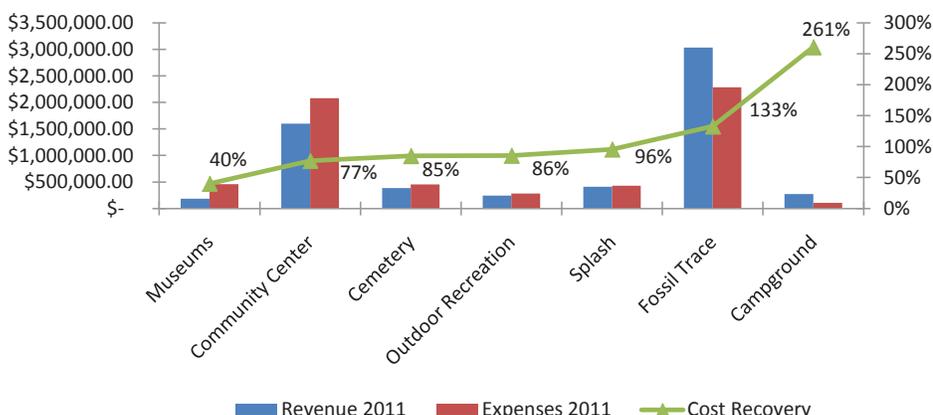
2011 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Members

Jerry Hodgden - Chair
 Peter Gotseff - Vice Chair
 Jerry Harcek
 Emmy Dimitroff
 Stephanie Sung
 Torsten Lyon
 Laura Weinberg
 Dylan Grange - Alternate



City of
Golden
 PARKS AND RECREATION

Parks and Recreation User Fee Areas 2011



Accomplishments

Clear Creek Corridor Master Plan Adopted

The City of Golden retained Wenk Associates in February, 2010, to develop and prepare a Master Plan for the Clear Creek Corridor with the goal to create a unified park experience along Clear Creek through downtown Golden. The Clear Creek Corridor project area incorporated Lions, History, Parfet and Vanover Parks, and the areas between these parks along the creek. The Clear Creek Corridor should seamlessly mesh with adjacent and complementary land uses in the area, providing residents with a truly unique multi-use area in which to recreate, shop and work; one that promotes synergy with the downtown environment and surrounding neighborhoods.

The Clear Creek Corridor Master Plan was approved by City Council Resolution #2117 in April, 2011, following extensive public process including an advisory committee of community stakeholders, user and web surveys, public workshops and meetings. The plan provides direction to City staff, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, and Golden City Council for future development, re-development, and enhancement of the health and vibrancy of the Clear Creek Corridor and City of Golden for the next 20 to 30 years. Learn more at www.cityofgolden.net/government/department-divisions/parks-and-recreation/master-plans/.



in the heart of the historic Golden Cemetery, was built in 1936 using the aid of the Civil Works Administration. In 2007 staff identified a need for improvements to the historic office which today houses office and meeting space for visitors to the Golden Cemetery. The structure was not compliant with the American's with Disabilities Act, though many visitors were disabled or elderly. In addition, a Colorado Intergovernmental Risk Sharing Association (CIRSA) Audit found a mold problem in the lower portion of the

building. Remediation was necessary for the safety of staff and guests. Lastly, the building did not have efficient use of space or energy.

Working with local architect, Peter Ewers, the renovation maintained the building's historic character while providing better access and energy efficiencies. The Golden Cemetery Office reopened its doors during a celebration hosting citizens and community leaders in May, 2011. The Golden Cemetery has approximately 26,600 burial plots, 9,000 current burials, 14,100 plots sold and approximately 12,500 available grave spaces.

Sustainability - A Priority

Sustainability is always a priority in the Parks and Recreation Department. In 2011, several sustainability improvements were completed including an irrigation system upgrade for the parks system which allowed for better water management, the addition of Cartegraph Software to track park amenities and trees, replacement of wood benches and tables with recycled material benches and tables and the addition of a recycling program at Rooney Road and Splash Aquatic Park.

The City of Golden Tree Sale is offered to Golden residents annually in March providing trees at wholesale prices to encourage planting. In 2011, residents purchased over 100 trees to enhance Golden's tree canopy. The City of Golden was also awarded Tree City USA for the 21st consecutive year.

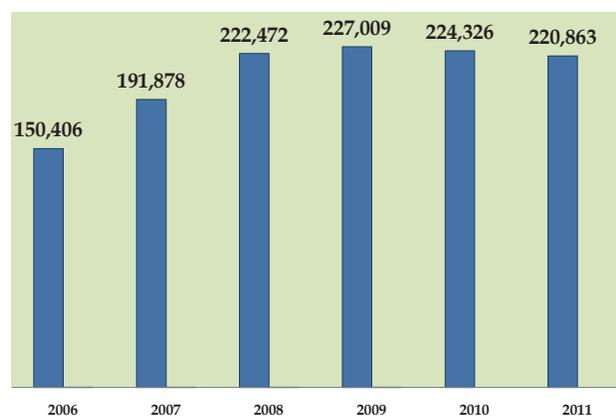
Cemetery Office Remodel

The Golden Cemetery has been owned and operated by the City of Golden since 1873. The Golden Cemetery Shelter House, situated

Parks and Recreation Facts

- 7,984 trees maintained
- 24 miles of trails
- 253 acres of parkland
- 401 acres of open space
- 14 acres of parkland per 1,000 population, meeting Gold Medal Community standards of 12 acres.
- Number of Part-time/Seasonal = 315
- Number of Full-time Employees = 45
- Number of Volunteers = 49

Golden Community Center Admissions



*Includes Daily Admission, Punch Cards, Annual Passes, and Promotional Passes

Golden Pride Days kicks off the first weekend in May each year. This popular event provides residents an opportunity to get rid of unwanted items and debris. Many of these items would normally have to be hauled off to a landfill at residents' expense. In 2011, Golden residents shredded 8,400 lbs of paper, recycled 373 tires, properly disposed of 158 lbs of prescription drugs and recycled 41,441 lbs of electronics!

With limited capital improvement funds available, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and staff collaborated to create a Parks and Recreation Infrastructure Inventory Report cataloging the City of Golden's Parks and Recreation maintenance needs in the existing parks system Golden residents and visitors have grown to love. The report integrated yearly maintenance costs for parks, trails and recreation facilities. It also provided an estimate of costs to complete Master Plan recommendations for new capital. Golden already knows the value of parks and leisure opportunities on lifestyle. What wasn't known was the financial value of the many unique parks and recreation amenities Golden offers. The report will allow for better prioritization of capital funds.

To maintain the current system of parks and recreation facilities will cost approximately \$30,400,000 through 2030. Add to this proposed new capital projects, and the total is approximately \$73,800,000. Golden City Council and staff are currently analyzing new funding sources to ensure Golden Parks and Recreation can continue to thrive in the future.

First Annual Dash at the Splash Kids Triathlon

On Saturday, Aug. 20, 2011 the City of Golden hosted the First Dash at the Splash Kids Triathlon at the Splash Aquatic Park in Golden. The Dash at the Splash was created with one thing in mind, to help encourage kids to create and maintain a healthy, active lifestyle. The successful event showcased 82 racing youths ages 6 to 12 years. Swimming, biking and running distances were based on age group.

In an effort to keep registration costs low, and to allow for children of any socio-economic status to participate, staff sought assistance from other city departments, donations and sponsorships from local



Dash at the Splash Kids Triathlon

businesses. Pride and ownership in the community cemented the event as a community event! Everyone who participated was a winner, the race was not timed, each participant received a medal and bragging rights of becoming a triathlete!

Due to overwhelming response the first year, the event will accommodate nearly twice as many participants in 2012. Look for registration information this summer at The Splash, Golden Community Center or online at <https://rec.cityofgolden.net>.

Golden History Museums Opens Two Shows

The Golden Parks and Recreation Department's newest Division, the Golden History Museums, had a successful first full year operated by the City of Golden including the opening of two new exhibits drawing 3,470 people to visit the Golden History Center. "Golden in Focus: Historic Photo Show and Sale" began in December, 2010 and ran through 2011. "Turn it Up" is an ongoing exhibit, so there is still an opportunity to enjoy the music in 2012!

Golden in Focus: Historic Photo Show and Sale

Iconic Golden subject matter was on display, including such diverse topics as the 1934 Golden High School Prom and the Colorado and Southern train yard in Golden, to a group shot of Coors Brewery workers and a view of the city taken from high atop the Lariat Loop. Professional photographer and filmmaker Scott Dressel-Martin was enlisted to help select 36 images which documented Golden's colorful past. The collection was from Golden's oldest museum, which will celebrate its 75th anniversary in 2013, and contains over 600 prints as well as hundreds of negatives.



Turn It Up: Golden's Musical Memories

Ongoing Exhibit

This musical extravaganza features a number of instruments including a J. M. Pelton square grand piano (once owned by Colorado Territorial Governor John Evans) and a one-of-a-kind velvet-covered Regal upright piano. Visitors can hear music from the people behind the music in the Music-Maker Lounge. Square dancing in Golden Gate Canyon or jam sessions at the Golden City Brewery are sure to please!

2011 Parks and Recreation Department Awards

- Golden Parks and Recreation Department - 2011 Golden Civic Award
- Tree City USA for the 21st consecutive year
- Splash Aquatic Park, Top Five Best Places for Families - *Kids Pages Magazine*
- Clear Creek RV Park, "Green" Campground - *Trailer Life Magazine*
- Fossil Trace - 4½ Star "Places to Play" 2011, *Golf Digest*
- Fossil Trace - #18 Best Course for Women 2011, *Golf Digest*
- Fossil Trace - Hole #12 one of the "18 Most Fun Holes in America" 2011, *Golf Digest*
- Fossil Trace - Best Municipal Courses 2011, *Golfweek*
- Fossil Trace - 2011 Top Golf Courses in Colorado, *Colorado Avid Golfer*
- Golden Parks & Recreation Department Music Program - Colorado Parent Family Favorites Top 5 "Best of the Best" for 2011
- Golden History Museums - The Jefferson County Good News Coalition Good Works Award for "A Woman's Life in Golden"
- Golden History Museums - Greenwood Fund Award for the 1899 Willits Farm Map

Looking Ahead



Splash Aquatic Park

The Golden Parks and Recreation Department was awarded a 2012 Joint Venture Grant from Jefferson County Open Space for improvements to the Splash Aquatic Park. The Splash Aquatic Park is the largest water park in Jefferson County drawing over 50,000 visitors a season. Built in 2002, the park has had an increasing need each



year to make maintenance improvements. In 2010, Council and staff committed to not only maintaining the water park, but also creating a plan to bring Splash back to its former glory, that which park users had become accustomed to. Prior to the 2011 season, the largest tube slide and several other park amenities were refinished. In addition, with the assistance of a Joint

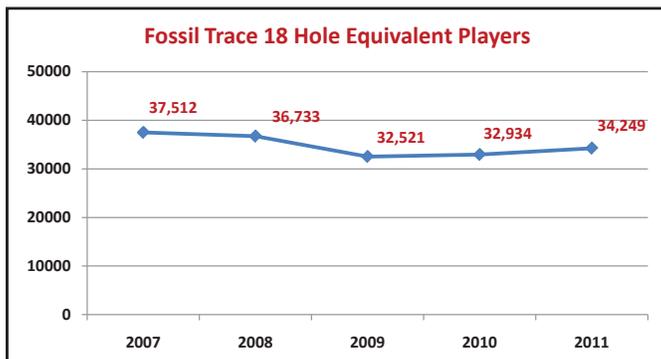
Venture Grant from Jefferson County Open Space, the splash pad received an upgrade to reduce maintenance costs and provide a safer surface for kids to play.

The Splash is in need of several additional upgrades including: painting and resurfacing another large slide and the kiddie slide, new chairs, branding and signage throughout the park, a remodel of the sand area, and new funbrellas. Visitors can anticipate a new look to their favorite water park this 2012 season.

The City of Golden became the first Commission for Accreditation of Parks and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) Accredited Municipality in Colorado in 2009. Accreditation is a self assessment of parks and recreation operations to ensure agencies are meeting best practice standards. Reaccreditation occurs every five years with a CAPRA site visit to confirm backup documentation and accreditation compliance. 2012 is the mid-way point for Golden, prompting staff to hold monthly reviews to conform to revised standards and prepare documentation for the 2014 site visit.

New Parks and Recreation Amenities in the Last 10 Years:

- Hockey Stop In-Line Hockey Rink (2001)
- US 6 Bike Trail from C-470 to 19th Street (2002)
- Clear Creek Whitewater Course Expansion (2002)
- Splash Aquatic Park (2002)
- Trails at Washington St Bridge (2003)
- Fossil Trace Golf Club (2003)
- Trail from Johnson Road to Splash (2004)
- Discovery Park (2006)
- Tony Grampsas Gym Remodel (2006)
- Rooney Road Sports Complex (2007)
- Golden Community Center Expansion and Remodel (2007)
- Illinois Street Trail from Fossil Trace to 6th Avenue (2008)
- Playground resurfacing at Lions Park, Parfet Park and Tony Grampsas Park (2009)
- 6th Avenue Trail from 19th Street to Clear Creek (2010)
- Pedestrian Bridge over Clear Creek (2010)
- Golden History Museums become a Division of the Department (2010)
- Golden Cemetery Office Remodel (2011)



National Gold Medal Winner



CAPRA Accredited



City of Golden
PARKS AND RECREATION

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