



City of  
**Golden**  
PARKS AND RECREATION

*National Gold Medal Winner*



# 2019

## Parks, Recreation and Museums

# ANNUAL REPORT



2010 Gold Medal Award  
Recipient, Class V,  
Population 25,000 and below



Two-time CAPRA  
Accredited Agency  
since 2009

# Department Summary

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, 402 acres of open space, 25 miles of trails, 10,000 trees, Fossil Trace Golf Club, Splash Aquatic Park, Golden History Museum & Park, and the Golden Community Center. The Parks and Recreation Department includes the Municipal Facilities Division, Recreation Division, Parks, Forestry, and Cemetery Division, Golden Museums Division, Golf Maintenance Division and Golf Clubhouse Division.

## Advisory Board

### **Parks, Recreation and Museums Advisory Board**

In order to increase community involvement, a Parks, Recreation, and Museums Advisory Board was created in 1982. Board members are appointed by City Council and represent Golden residents. The Parks, Recreation and Museums Advisory Board, consisting of seven members and one alternate whom 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.

### **Advisory Board Meetings**

The Parks, Recreation and Museums Advisory Board meet on the first and third Tuesday evening of each month. The third Tuesday is the regular meeting date. These meetings take place at City Hall in Council Chambers, 911 10th Street, Golden at 7 p.m. For more information and to view meeting minutes or listen to audio of the minutes, visit [www.cityofgolden.net/PRMAB](http://www.cityofgolden.net/PRMAB).



City of  
**Golden**  
PARKS AND RECREATION

### **Parks, Recreation and Museums Advisory Board**

Craig Middleton (Chair)  
Amirah Shahid (Vice-Chair)  
Clare Cragen  
Pete Erslev  
Scott Peabody  
Cynthia Szymanski  
Jackie Winterbottom  
Pam Loebig - Alternate

### **Parks and Recreation Department Staff**

Rod Tarullo, Director of Parks, Recreation and Golf  
Stacy Turner, Parks and Recreation Executive Assistant/Department Liaison  
Becky Richmond, Recreation Manager  
Chad Meinert, Parks, Cemetery and Forestry Manager  
Keith Isenberger, Facilities Manager  
Noy Sparks, Golf Course Superintendent - Fossil Trace Golf Club  
Jim Hajek, PGA Head Golf Professional - Fossil Trace Golf Club  
Nathan Richie, Executive Director - Golden History Museums & Park

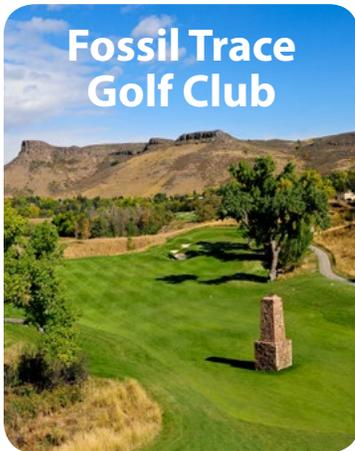
**Golden Community Center**  
1470 10th St. Golden, CO 80401  
303-384-8100 • 303-384-8104  
[www.cityofgolden.net/Parks&Rec](http://www.cityofgolden.net/Parks&Rec)

Golden is home to many unique recreational amenities for a town of its size...

9 sq. miles with a population of 20,000.

## VISION

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

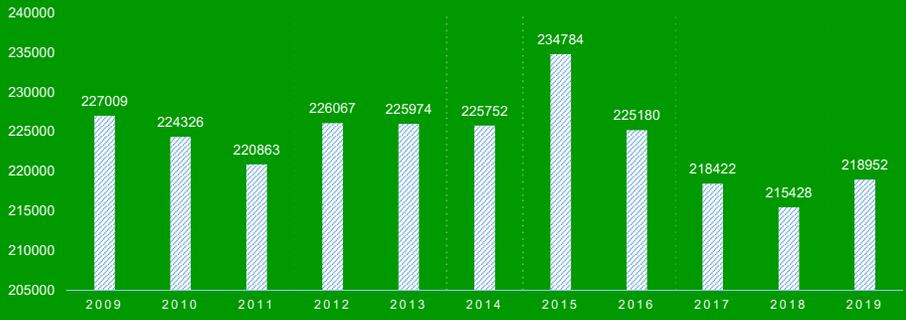


## MISSION

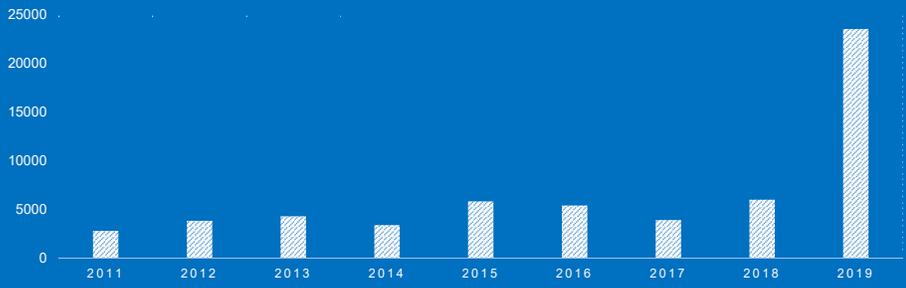
*"To promote and provide safe and comprehensive community facilities, programs and services that will enrich the quality of life for all residents and visitors."*

# Annual Numbers

## GOLDEN COMMUNITY CENTER ADMISSIONS



## GOLDEN HISTORY MUSEUM DROP-IN ADMISSION



## Golden History Museum & Park Donors July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019

### \$5,000 +

Linda and Dale Baker	Scientific and Cultural Facilities District
City of Golden	Pat Spieles
Community First Foundation	

### \$1,000 - \$4,999

Sarah and Joe Brenkert	John and Andi Pearson
Downtown Development Authority	Brian Quarnstrom
Mark and Nancy Foster	Danielle and Louis Samuels
Golden Civic Foundation	Jan Shea
Golden Kids Dental and Orthodontics	Dixie Termin and Ron Miller
Carolyn Grenier	Lynette and Jeffrey Vann
McKee Family Foundation	Woody's Wood-Fired Pizza & Watering Hole
On Tap Credit Union	

### \$100 - \$999

Polly and Randy Allard	Ingrid Gardner	Donna Mullins
Lydia Andrews-Jones and Jason Matischeck	Wendy and Rick Goad	Bob and Joyce Nelson
Arcadia Publishing, Inc.	Golden Mill	Kevin and Kathleen O'Connor
Dale and Linda Baker	Martha Gould	Karen and Leon Oxman
Richard and Cynthia Bauman	George Griffin	Mark and Cathy Patridge
Nancy Bell	Elinore and Ron Grow	Stony and Theresa Shelton
Shelly and Nick Bleckley	Margaret B. Henderson	Jack and Catherine Skokan
Betty Bloom	Lou and Joan Henefeld	James and Melanie Smith
Nona Brown	Elaine Ilgenfritz	Susan Speer
Gerald Brown	Joyce Jennings and William Cox	Sherry and Roger Stuart
Lone Bryan	Janet Johnson	Ginny and Dick Sugg
Lou and Bonnie Burno	Paul and Karen Jones	Cynthia Szymanski and Jason Robertson
Cannonball Creek Antiques & Appraisals	Diane and Marv Kay	Michael and Maria Tamburro
Sandra Curran	Sharon and Robert Kirts	Clare and Charlie Taylor
Jim and LouAnne Dale	Sarah and Todd Labosky	Beth Tempas
San Daugherty	Rebecca Loges	JJ and Cole Trout
Ingrid Depta	Esther and Don Macalady	Justin and Sarah Wade
Melissa Dolin and Matthew Miller	Mary Anna and Walter Madden	Vern and Vicki Wagner
Pat Donahue and Kevin Skeate	Pat and Judy Madison	Barb Warden and Frank Blaha
Ed and Jean Dorsey	Bob McLaughlin	Larry and Betty Weaver
Dressel-Martin MediaWorks, Inc.	Helen McVey	Laura and Michael Weinberg
Mike Durrall	Bob Metz	Kathleen Weller Horiky
Matt and Anne Dwyer	Meyer Hardware	Angela and Tom Wheaton
Sheryl and Steve Fassino	August Miller	Jeanne Whittaker
Richard Flint	George and Susan Mitchell	Mike and Mary Wood
William and Frances Fraser	Jan Monnier and Mike Fehn	John P. Young
		Frank Young and Terre Deegan-Young

## Parks and Recreation

In order to keep the programs running and the parks beautiful in 2019, the department had the help of:

**234**

Part-Time/Seasonal Employees

**47** Full-time Employees

**410** Volunteers

## Park Land Acreage

**14 acres**  
of park land

per **1,000**  
**population**

= exceeding Gold Medal  
Community standards of

**12 acres**

## Tree City USA

**30** consecutive **years**

**Fossil Trace Wins**  
**2019 Best Golf**  
**Course in Denver**

*Denver A-List*

# Recreation Division Programs on the Rise



## PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

Programs were strong in 2019 for the Recreation Division. Staff processed 10,797 registrations. Aquatics and fitness showed increases in registrations. Preschool continues to operate with waitlists and summer camp participation expanded with new opportunities. The licensed day camp program successfully doubled field trip participation due to the use of Jefferson County school buses.



## PARTNERSHIPS

Staff continues to support local youth organizations by providing 3,888 hours of field and gym time to independent youth sport organizations for practices and games. A total of 2,808 of youth participating. Partners include the Golden Marlins, Golden High School swim team, Lakewood High School swim team, Golden Junior Baseball, Golden Applewood Midget Football, Golden Girls Softball and Colorado Ice. The Recreation Division rented over 11,000 hours of field and gym time to other users.



## FRONT PORCH

During 2019 the Front Porch began exploring new opportunities to work with engaged participants to revitalize program and drop-in activities. Staff will continue these endeavors through 2020.



# Parks Department

## Lions Park Tennis Courts and Playground Improvements

Parks staff worked throughout the spring, summer and fall to address much needed improvements in Lions Park. Residents noticed two new slides and a new playground safety surface. The tennis courts were resurfaced and now include lines for two pickleball courts on the south tennis courts. Lines for USTA youth tennis development were included on the north courts. Parks staff also installed new stamped concrete and a raised crosswalk across 10th Street at Lions Park. Horticulture and Forestry staff added several large planters, trees and irrigation for beautification.



## Collaborative Efforts with the Community Trail Improvements

### Lubahn Trail

The Parks Division lead 25 School of Mines Oregivers Volunteers to assist in repair and maintenance at Lubahn Trail. They worked on drainage issues, trail cutting, and general aesthetics. Specifically students helped to create drainage channels, install fencing and signage, and cut back overgrowth. This trail continues to be a focus of the Parks, Recreation and Museum's Advisory Board. Thanks to all who participated.



### Magpie Gulch Trail

The Forestry Division worked with Eagle Scouts Troop #130 and the Village at Mountain Ridge to plant 22 trees along the Trail. Labor provided by the Eagle Scouts, irrigation supplied from the HOA. The cooperative effort contributed to the City's tree canopy and shade for a highly used trail connection that leads to the pedestrian bridge over Highway 93.

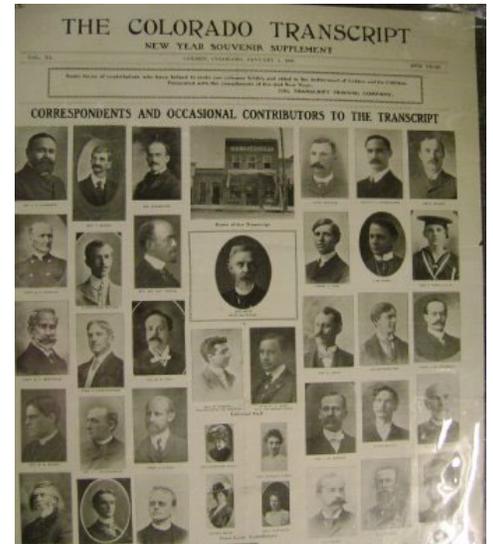
# Golden History Museum & Park

## Legacy Collection

In the Spring of 2019 Museum staff began inventory of the entire Golden History Museum Collection. Approximately 110 boxes, or 3,205 artifacts, representing less than 10% of the entire collection, have been documented. Curators rediscovered several noteworthy artifacts. Listed below are a few of the fascinating items, among several others.

- Bound newspaper collection (both *Colorado Transcript* and *Golden Globe*)
- Early 20th Century eyeglasses and eyeglass cases, along with a display cabinet, donated by local optometrist Dr. Eva Strube.
- A Civil War sword belonging to Goldenite John Larkin.
- A 1893 autograph book belonging to Claudia Osborn Simmons, grand-daughter of a pioneer Golden family.

Staff met with the Parks, Recreation and Museum's Advisory Board to begin two deaccession processes, for non-relevance.



## Free Attendance during 2019

The Golden History Museum offered free attendance during 2019 to attract more visitors, resulting in higher exposure. Overall the Museum hosted 23,508 visitors, nearly a 300% increase in attendance from 2018, which helped secure new donors and sponsors and a 30% increase in membership.





## Fossil Trace - An Extraordinary Golf Experience



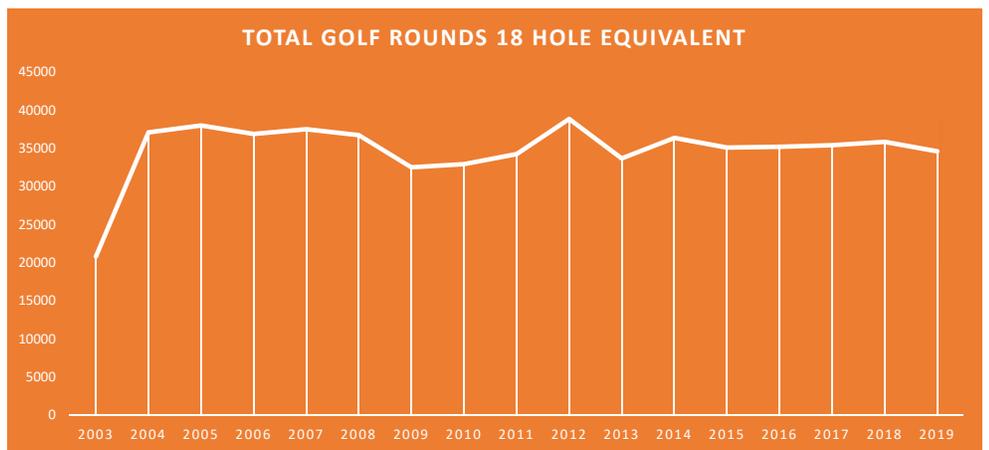
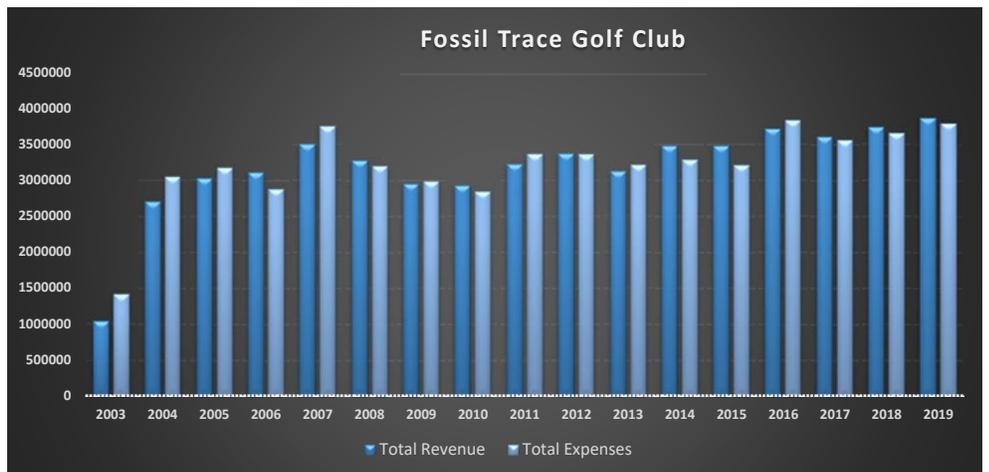
Fossil Trace Golf Club continues to be recognized by guests and golfers from around the world as the premier destination in Colorado golf. The Golf Club and Schnepf's Restaurant at Fossil Trace set record numbers in 2018 and again in 2019.

The golf course was in tremendous condition during 2019, impressing local guests and those traveling from miles away. Staff continuously heard about the great conditions from golfers which helps fuel their golf experience and word-of-mouth support.

Schnepf's Restaurant enjoyed a strong year. They established a regular following of community members, helping to keep Golden residents close to home. Special events and weddings in 2020 are booked. They will top those scheduled from 2015-2018, combined.

### Numbers worth highlighting:

- 1) **Green fee revenue topped \$2,000,000 (\$2,091,741).**  
The highest green fee revenue of any 18-hole municipal golf course in Colorado.



- 2) Merchandise revenue continued to hit record breaking numbers, topping 2018. In 2019, **the Pro Shop sold \$663,987** in support of the bottom line.
- 3) **18-Hole equivalent rounds totaled 34,614** and there were **39,014 starts for the year.**

The Fossil Trace Golf School experienced growth in numbers and a positive and welcoming player development culture for new and recreational golfers.

# DID YOU KNOW?

## RECREATION

- In addition to the **218,952 paid daily admissions at the Golden Community Center**, an **additional 41,000 people visited** the facility for a rental, group event, swim team practice or free Front Porch events and activities.
- The Splash Aquatic Park welcomed **49,099 paid daily admissions** and **another 23,000** from summer camp groups, private rentals, swim team practices and meets.
- Parks and Recreation staff participated in a PCI compliance self-assessment, in partnership in partnership with the City's IT Department, to provide increased security for point of sales systems.
- Rooney Road Sports Complex turf assessments got underway. Final decisions are targeted for 2020 to include Jefferson County.
- **Recreation facility improvements** included: new LED light fixtures in the weight room, new office furniture for Aquatics staff, repaired significant sewer drain issue at Splash, refinished hardwood floors at the GCC and TG Gym, annual equipment replacements, and a very successful GCC annual maintenance week including deep cleaning of the locker rooms by a new contractor.
- **1,758 individuals enrolled in swim lessons.**
- Parks & Rec staff serviced **136 pavilion rental reservations.**



## GOLDEN HISTORY MUSEUM

- Leveraged a **\$10K donation to pilot free admission** in an effort to increase attendance, resulting in a **300% increase** as well as new donors and sponsors.
- Celebrated highest membership to date - **30% increase** over 2018.
- Approximately **2,000 students and chaperones** attended the Golden City Trading Post field trip event with 24 cultural partners.
- The *Golden Transcript* is now digitized through 1972, and is available online.
- Museum staff completed a Conservation Assessment Project plan to analyze collection care needs and priorities.
- "Food for Thought: Golden's Culinary History" became a new theme at the Museum. It includes new Coors Malted Milk, Jolly Rancher, Craft Pizza & Beer, and Holland House exhibits.
- The Museum's **SCFD grant was the highest amount ever, \$82,000.**
- The Golden History Museum, in partnership with the Public Arts Commission, celebrated Artsweek 2019 with a new mural on six 4' x 8' panels, attached to the side of Museum, and can be moved to other locations as desired.
- Fossil Trace Golf Club staff were featured in the local PGA Summit Merchandising publication for their club-fitting success.
- Received **national recognition for the Discovery Awaits renovation.** It was highlighted in the industry trade magazine, Museum, published by the American Alliance of Museums.

# DID YOU KNOW?

## PARKS

- Parks and horticulture crews revamped the spring downtown tulip planting program; **10,000 tulips** were planted in the fall.
- The Forestry Division created new uses of Google Maps to plan the 2019 Spring and Fall plantings. In total, **307 trees were added** to the Golden tree canopy.
- Community engagement began in the fall of 2019 for the **DeLong Park Design**. Staff and the Parks, Recreation and Museum's Advisory Board conducted two public meetings and utilized the City's community engagement website, GuidingGolden.com, to work with the community to prioritize park amenities. Final park design plans are slated for spring 2020.
- **Heritage Road landscaping project was completed** with extensive community outreach. Parks staff worked with Public Works and neighbors to finalize and beautify the area.
- **Parfet Park underwent a major spring clean-up.** Staff removed the Junipers along the east side of the park, graded and seeded the area, and developed a planting plan to enhance the aesthetics.
- **Spring flowers were a huge hit in 2019.** Parks staff stored and cared for the inventory while they patiently waited for temperatures to rise. After planting, the Division received many positive comments on the floral displays.
- **Pride Days hosted 1,940 car/truckloads** of unwanted items dropped off by Golden residents.
- Golden Heights Basketball Courts were resurfaced.



## Fossil Trace Golf Club

- Fossil Trace Golf **Maintenance completed five major repairs and renovations** – keeping the high-level integrity of the course and generating interest from around the world.
- Fossil Trace clubhouse created “Ready” Leagues. “Ready for 6” and “Ready for 9” quickly became very popular, selling out most nights with 60 players.
- Introduced a **new golf point of sale system**, allowing a seamless integration from marketing, tee sheets, loyalty programs and sales. New functions such as texting to the tee will help improve the guest experience.

## FACILITIES

- The Clear Creek RV Park began renovations to improve facilities and add additional camp spaces.
- The City implemented a **new Drone Application and Permitting process**.
- Municipal Facilities staff **completed \$900,000 in 2017 insurance claims** which included 23 building/structure roof replacements with warranties up to 20 years, in addition to \$160,000 in HVAC and Thermal solar.

