

VANCOUVER-CLARK PARKS & Recreation

Vancouver-Clark Parks & Recreation is updating its Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan, which will guide the Department's decisions for the next six years.

To help us create the best plan possible, we'd like to hear from you! Please take a moment to complete this questionnaire and let us know what is important to you.

1. How important are parks, recreation services and open space to Clark County's quality of life? (Please circle only **one** number.)

1 2 3 4 5
 Not Important \longrightarrow Very Important

2. Which of the following benefits of parks, open space and recreation services are most important to you? (Please check your top **two** choices.)

- Provide opportunities to enjoy nature/outdoors
- Promote youth development
- Improve health and wellness
- Protect the natural environment
- Provide opportunities for lifelong learning
- Provide cultural opportunities
- Help seniors and disabled people remain active
- Connect people together, building strong families and neighborhoods
- Other: _____
- They do not benefit the community

3. How can the community's parks and open spaces be improved? (Please check your top **two** choices.)

- Upgrade/complete existing parks
- Acquire parkland for future development
- Purchase more natural areas
- Improve habitat in existing natural areas
- Develop more large, multi-use community parks
- Develop more smaller, close-to-home neighborhood parks
- Other: _____
- No improvements needed

4. In general, how satisfied are you with the maintenance and upkeep of the following park and recreation areas in the community? Please use a grading scale of A, B, C, D and F.

- | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|
| Nearhood and community parks | A | B | C | D | F |
| Regional parks | A | B | C | D | F |
| Open space and natural areas | A | B | C | D | F |
| Trails and walking paths | A | B | C | D | F |
| Recreation and community centers | A | B | C | D | F |

5. Which of the following activities have you or other members of your household participated in within the past year?

- Wildlife Observation
- Horseback Riding
- Canoeing, kayaking or row boating
- Power boating or jet skiing
- Mountain Biking
- Disc or Frisbee Golf
- Skateboarding or BMX
- Camping

6. In the past year have you visited a park or natural area OR have you participated in a recreation program or special event sponsored by Parks & Recreation?

_____ Yes _____ No

7. Have you or your household used any of the following recreation services, programs or facilities in the past year?

- Adult programs, like fitness, sports, or general classes
- Youth programs, like sports and after school programs
- Trails and walking paths
- Neighborhood and community parks
- Regional parks
- Open space and natural areas
- Swimming pools and aquatic programs
- Sports and athletic fields
- Programs for senior citizens
- Programs accessible to citizens with disabilities

8. What groups need more or better recreation services in Clark County? (Please check your top **two** choices.)

- Preschoolers up to age 4
- Youth 5-13
- Teenagers 14-19
- Adults 20-55
- Seniors over age 55
- Disabled persons (any age)
- People from diverse cultures
- Other: _____
- No improvements needed

OVER \longrightarrow

9. Which of the following recreation elements are most needed in Clark County today? (Check all that apply and feel free to add your favorite if it is not listed.)

- Fenced, off leash dog parks
- River access for recreation, swimming & boating
- Multipurpose trails for biking, walking, etc.
- Sports complexes for soccer, baseball, and soccer
- Equestrian trails and facilities
- Skate parks for skateboarding
- Community vegetable and flower gardens
- Special event facilities for rental
- Other _____

10. If you were in charge of park planning for the community, how would you balance the amount of natural open space provided with parks developed for active recreation use? On a scale of 1-10, with 1 representing entirely natural areas and 10 representing completely developed active parks, what is the right proportion of parks for Clark County? (Please circle only **one** number.)

- | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| Entirely
Natural
Areas | | | | | | | | Completely
Developed
Active Parks | |

11. Using this same rating scale, how would you rate our current system of parks and natural areas? (Please circle only **one** number.)

- | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| Entirely
Natural
Areas | | | | | | | | Completely
Developed
Active Parks | |

12. Were you aware that the City has an Urban Forestry Program to promote the number of and improve the health of trees in the City?

Yes No

13. Which **ONE** of the following functions of the Urban Forestry Program should be given the highest priority?

- Overseeing policies and regulations regarding trees
- Planting new trees
- Caring for existing trees on public and private property, including identifying hazardous trees
- Preserving existing trees during new development
- Preventing conflicts between trees and utilities (like electric lines, water pipes, or sidewalks)
- Encouraging private property owners to plant trees through education and incentives

13. Did you know that:

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| Urban trees improve air quality. | Y | N |
| Urban trees improve water quality and reduce storm water runoff. | Y | N |
| Urban trees can help slow traffic. | Y | N |
| Urban trees help conserve energy by reducing heating and cooling needs. | Y | N |
| Urban trees provide economic benefits including increased real estate values. | Y | N |
| Urban trees help beautify neighborhoods. | Y | N |
| Urban trees provide wildlife habitat. | Y | N |

14. What do you consider the most important type of trail in Clark County and the City of Vancouver?

- Trails connecting parks to other parks
- Trails along rivers
- Trails in more forested, natural areas

15. What do you believe are the three most needed improvements in the parks and recreation system?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

16. Do you have any general comments or suggestions?

Tell us about yourself!

- My age is:
- 10-14
 - 15-17
 - 18-24
 - 25-34
 - 35-44
 - 45-54
 - 55-64
 - 65 +

- My gender is:
- Female
 - Male

My zip code is: _____

Not enough time to finish? Have more comments?

Send your questionnaire or comments to: Michelle Kunec, Vancouver-Clark Parks & Recreation, 610 Esther Street PO Box 1995, Vancouver, WA 98668. Phone: (360) 619-1144