



CHAPTER 9 OUTLINE

1. **Overview**
2. **Plan Management**
3. **How to Use the Plan**
4. **Goals, Objectives and Actions**

implementation

OVERVIEW

The Parks, Recreation and Open Space Comprehensive Plan is meant to be a working document that results in the enhancement of recreational opportunities and facilities available to the residents of Grove City. The plan is a guide to provide direction and assist decision makers with short- and long-range choices for the continued improvement of the parks, recreation and open space system. Implementation of this plan will involve the cooperation of the Parks and Recreation Department and a variety of other city departments, boards and commissions including the Park Board and City Council.

PLAN MANAGEMENT

The Parks, Recreation and Open Space Comprehensive Plan should be monitored on a regular basis and, when necessary, it should be updated. This section outlines the guidance for monitoring the plan's effectiveness and maintaining its relevancy.

Monitoring the Plan

An annual review of the plan should be conducted, in which the goals, objectives and actions are monitored for implementation, effectiveness and relevancy. The formal review should be conducted by staff and the Park Board.

Updating the Plan

An update of the plan should be considered at least every five years. In the interim, key milestones may be reached that may necessitate an update sooner than a five-year cycle.

implementation

HOW TO USE THE PLAN

The Parks, Recreation and Open Space Comprehensive Plan is intended to be used on a daily basis as public and private decisions are made concerning development, redevelopment, capital improvement and other matters affecting the Parks and Recreation Department. The following is a summary of how decisions and processes should align with the goals and objectives of the plan.

Annual Work Programs and Budgets

The Parks and Recreation Department should be cognizant of the recommendations of the plan when preparing annual work programs and budgets.

Development Approvals

Administrative and legislative approval should be sought for a number of development proposals related to parks and open space, including the design of open space to be dedicated to the city and the development of public parkland, as outlined in the plan.

Capital Improvement Plan

Projects identified for the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) should be selected based on the recommended policies outlined in the plan.

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

The following tables outline the Goals, Objectives and recommended Actions of the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Comprehensive Plan, including the time frame in which the action should be implemented. Outlined below are the specific timeframes recommended in the summary table.

Immediate:	2011-2012
Short-Term:	2012-2016
Mid-Term:	2015-2020
Long-Term:	2020-2030
Ongoing:	Currently in progress and/or to be continued once initiated

implementation

CHAPTER 2 - PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

RECOMMENDED TIMEFRAME

COMPLETED

G1. A community knowledgeable of the city's parks and open space system.

O1. Promote public open space within the community and make the community aware of current parks, their sizes and components.

A1. Continue to publish seasonal newsletters about the parks system

Ongoing

A2. Keep the website updated with park information

Ongoing

A3. Provide the community with up-to-date maps and descriptions of parks

Ongoing

A4. Adopt Code revisions for park definitions, such as Greenway, Community Park, Neighborhood Park, and Pocket Park

Immediate (2011-12)

A5. Update the rules and regulations for public parks, outlined in Chapter 903 of the Grove City Code of Ordinances

Immediate (2011-12)

A6. Brand the parks by creating standards for signage, lighting and site furnishings

Ongoing

G2. A park system offering the community a variety of park and open space options.

O2. Make all parks welcoming and accessible for all levels of users.

A7. Provide clean restroom facilities in the parks when feasible

Ongoing

A8. Provide park features usable for citizens of all abilities in every park

Ongoing

implementation

CHAPTER 2 - PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

RECOMMENDED TIMEFRAME

COMPLETED

O3. Pursue and encourage joint uses with schools.

A9. Maintain a working relationship with schools for the use of select ball fields

Ongoing

A10. Draft a formal agreement for the utilization of the currently rented South-Western City School facilities/building use

Immediate (2011-12)

A11. Explore the possibility of using school facilities for a wider variety of recreation and educational offerings

Ongoing

O4. Facilities should be able to support multiple activities.

A12. Create a public recreation center in Grove City

Long-Term (2020-2030)

O5. Create areas in the parks system for peaceful, passive, non active recreation.

A13. Create areas in all new parks with no designated programming, for passive, non-active recreation

Ongoing

A14. Target areas for passive recreation in existing parks and city-owned property

Ongoing

O6. Create parks appropriate for the population they serve, while keeping in mind the greater parks system.

A15. Determine an appropriate location for a Memorial Park

Immediate (2011-12)

A16. Amend subdivision requirements to require reserves to be given to the city to be developed into public parkland

Immediate (2011-12)

implementation

CHAPTER 2 - PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS	RECOMMENDED TIMEFRAME	COMPLETED
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The Big Splash

A17. Install a sprayground/baby pool play area	<i>Short-Term (2012-2016)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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A18. Install a shelter area	<i>Short-Term (2012-2016)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Blowden Park

A19. Install a charcoal grill	<i>Immediate (2011-12)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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A20. Install fencing at the northwest corner of the park to delineate a park boundary	<i>Immediate (2011-12)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Concord Lakes Park

A21. Install entry sign	<i>Immediate (2011-12)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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A22. Install recycling containers at the shelter	<i>Immediate (2011-12)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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A23. Connect the park to the trail network	<i>Short-Term (2012-2016)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Creed Lawless Park

A24. Install recycling container near shelter	<i>Immediate (2011-12)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Demorest Road Park

A25. Develop Demorest Road Park as a community park with a variety of recreational features	<i>Short-Term (2012-2016)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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implementation

CHAPTER 2 - PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS	RECOMMENDED TIMEFRAME	COMPLETED
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Meadow Grove Park

A51. Install a large shelter with more picnic tables and a grill and recycling containers	<i>Short-Term (2012-2016)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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A52. Install a bridge across Grant Run, connecting the southern portion of the park to the northern portion	<i>Long-Term (2020-2030)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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A53. Install a trail to and along Grant Run	<i>Long-Term (2020-2030)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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A54. Preserve the southern portion of the park as a passive recreation area, with benches and a walking path	<i>Immediate (2011-12)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Open Space (Planning Area D)

A55. Amend subdivision requirements to require reserves to be given to the city to be developed into public parkland	<i>Immediate (2011-12)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Scioto Meadows Park

A56. Install trees along the western park boundary	<i>Immediate (2011-12)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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A57. Install lighting near the playground area	<i>Short-Term (2012-2016)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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A58. Install park signage	<i>Immediate (2011-12)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Sesquicentennial Park

A59. Maintain the existing passive character	<i>Ongoing</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Swearingen Park

A60. Reclaim the city's property fronting Queensway Drive connecting to the park	<i>Short-Term (2012-2016)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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A61. Install a bridge over Republican Run to access the park from the south	<i>Short-Term (2012-2016)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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A62. Install public art within the park	<i>Mid-Term (2015-2020)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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implementation

CHAPTER 3 - NATURAL RESOURCES AND MANAGEMENT

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

RECOMMENDED TIMEFRAME

COMPLETED

G1. The protection of the city's natural resources.

O1. Follow the principles outlined in the Central Ohio Green Pact through the sustainable development of parks.

A1. Use sustainable materials and practices in park development when feasible to do so

Ongoing

A2. Encourage recycling by placing recycling containers in convenient locations in all parks and along public trails

Immediate (2011-12)

O2. Preserve natural resources on land to be developed.

A3. Adopt Code revisions that require developers to design sites around the existing natural resources and replace any trees removed or damaged during the development process

Immediate based on area

A4. Adopt Code revisions that require stream protection corridors and conservation easements by dedicated to the city

Immediate based on area

A5. Review findings and make revisions on the Tree Preservation Policy

Immediate based on area

A6. Adopt Code revisions for natural resource definitions, such as wetlands and bioretention area

Immediate based on area

implementation

CHAPTER 3 - NATURAL RESOURCES AND MANAGEMENT

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

RECOMMENDED TIMEFRAME

COMPLETED

G2. A community aware of the natural resources found in and around the city.

O3. Provide the community with natural resource education opportunities.

A7. Provide educational links/facts on the city's website

Ongoing

A8. Provide naturalists in parks, where applicable

Mid-Term (2015-2020)

A9. Create handouts and signage to place in parks explaining educational opportunities

Ongoing

A10. Install and promote community gardens as educational opportunities

Short-Term (2012-2016)

implementation

CHAPTER 4 - TRAILS AND CONNECTIVITY

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

RECOMMENDED TIMEFRAME

COMPLETED

G1. A network of trails providing residents with connectivity to important elements throughout the community and surrounding region.

O1. Create a dynamic system that integrates easily into the surrounding regional systems.

A1. Connect to the Scioto River Trail

Mid-Term (2015-2020)



A2. Connect to the Darby Creek Trail System

Long-Term (2020-2030)



A3. Maintain dialogue between other local trail agencies such as MORPC, City of Columbus Recreation and Parks, Franklin County Metro Parks, ODNR, ODOT and the Central Ohio Greenways Committee

Ongoing



O2. Strengthen inter-neighborhood connectivity and connect parks through the city's trail network.

A4. Adopt a complete streets policy and standards

Immediate (2011-12)



A5. Adopt Code revisions for bikeway definitions

Immediate (2011-12)



A6. Connect all parks with the trail network

Mid-Term (2015-2020)



A7. Create a Grant Run Recreational Trail connecting Meadow Grove Park to the future Scioto River Metro Park (former Talbott Park)

Long-Term (2020-2030)



A8. Create a Brown Run Recreational Trail utilizing the city's existing public greenways

Long-Term (2020-2030)



implementation

CHAPTER 4 - TRAILS AND CONNECTIVITY

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS	RECOMMENDED TIMEFRAME	COMPLETED
G2. A community knowledgeable of the city's trail network.		
O3. Keep the public informed and involved in the trail planning process.		
A9. Keep the trails portion of the city website and other electronic and social media updated with news and public input options	<i>Ongoing</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A10. Have the Grove City trails map available for distribution at City Hall and in select parks	<i>Ongoing</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A11. Involve the Park Board and Planning Commission in the review of trails	<i>Ongoing</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A12. Initiate an "Adopt a Trail" program allowing citizens or organizations to get involved in the trail network	<i>Immediate (2011-12)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
O4. Provide bicycle and trail safety education opportunities.		
A13. Offer classes for bicycle safety	<i>Immediate (2011-12)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A14. Install signage along trails with safety tips	<i>Immediate (2011-12)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>

implementation

CHAPTER 5 - RECREATION

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

RECOMMENDED TIMEFRAME

COMPLETED

G1. A Parks and Recreation department engaged in partnerships with agencies throughout the community to ensure a variety of recreational and leisure opportunities are available for residents.

O1. Encourage local businesses to donate services and/or provide sponsorships.

A1. Prepare brochures or explanatory handouts for distribution to local businesses explaining the opportunities to donate services or provide sponsorships

Short-Term (2012-2016)



O2. Remain aware of other recreational offerings provided by other agencies and continue to partner with other associations to provide a greater variety of recreational opportunities to residents.

A2. Partner with associations including the YMCA, Southwest Franklin County Historical Society, and South-Western City School District to provide programming for residents.

Ongoing



A3. Keep in contact with agencies providing additional recreational opportunities, including Grove City Kids Association, Upward, Franklin County Metro Parks, and other recreation-based businesses to ensure that programs do not overlap and that the community's recreational desires are met

Ongoing



implementation

CHAPTER 5 - RECREATION

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

RECOMMENDED TIMEFRAME

COMPLETED

G2. A community with a wide variety of recreational opportunities available.

O3. Continue to provide recreation and educational opportunities for an aging population.

A4. Continue to offer a variety of courses for seniors

Ongoing

O4. Provide a greater variety of classes for adults.

A5. Provide nature based programs, such as outdoor photography, gardening, and bird watching

Short-Term (2012-2016)

A6. Create more adult recreational programs, such as general fitness programs and adult sports

Short-Term (2012-2016)

A7. Expand outdoor recreation offerings in all seasons, particularly winter sports

Short-Term (2012-2016)

A8. Develop a variety of professional development courses for adults (writing, public speaking, etc)

*Short-Term (2012-2016)
Partner with other groups*

O5. Provide more recreational opportunities for teens.

A9. Continue to actively participate in the Grove City Teen Initiative to create a Parks and Recreation system attractive to teen residents

Ongoing

implementation

CHAPTER 5 - RECREATION

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

RECOMMENDED TIMEFRAME

COMPLETED

O6. Provide more opportunities for families to participate in programs together.

A10. Provide a variety of opportunities for families to participate in programs together such as "Family Fun Nights" and book or movie swaps.

Short-Term (2012-2016)

A11. Provide educational courses for families to attend together such as safety classes (children at home alone, etc) and classes on assisting aging parents

Short-Term (2012-2016)

G3. Facilities available for a variety of formal and informal recreational opportunities.

O7. Provide facilities and classroom spaces that are able to accommodate a variety of programs to meet the needs and desires of the community.

A12. Analyze existing facilities and their utilization to determine the possibility of additional course offerings in existing facilities

Immediate (2011-12)

A13. Design new park facilities to be fully ADA compliant

Ongoing

A14. Create a public recreation center in Grove City

Long-Term (2020-2030)

implementation

CHAPTER 6 - IMPACT OF PARKS AND OPEN SPACE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

RECOMMENDED TIMEFRAME

COMPLETED

G1. Grove City benefits economically from parks, recreation, and open space amenities.

O1. Demonstrate the economic impact of major park investment.

A1. Prepare a report (annually or every three years) that assesses the short-term and long-term fiscal returns on park investment through local changes in rents and property values

Short-Term (2012-2016)

A2. Use community opinion surveys to assess the value Grove City residents attribute to various park and recreation amenities. Could involve surveys of real estate professionals and property owners to determine their perceptions about the impact specific parks or types of amenities have on property values

Immediate (2011-2012)

O2. Review existing recreation development fees to determine if rates are appropriate and make necessary changes as needed to ensure that the park system will properly serve the growing population.

A3. Create a separate Parkland Acquisition fund, for the sole purpose of acquiring land for parks

Immediate (2011-12)

A4. Create a new Trail Development fund, delineating funds exclusively for trails

Immediate (2011-12)

O3. Identify and secure land for park creation, before adjacent land is developed in order to maximize the value of park investment.

A5. Purchase park land in advance of development and use development fees collected in the future to pay for that park land

Short-Term (2012-2016)

implementation

CHAPTER 6 - IMPACT OF PARKS AND OPEN SPACE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

RECOMMENDED TIMEFRAME

COMPLETED

O4. Demonstrate a positive economic impact from parks and recreation-related tourism.

A6. Conduct an economic impact study on a major event, such as a state-level sport tournament, which attracts significant numbers visitors to the community

Short-Term (2012-2016)



implementation

CHAPTER 7 - LAND ACQUISITION AND PARKLAND DEVELOPMENT

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS	RECOMMENDED TIMEFRAME	COMPLETED
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G1. Parkland is acquired and developed to meet the needs and desires of the growing community.

O1. Establish land acquisition policies to promote the growth of the park system at a comparable rate to serve the growing population.

A1. Identify key pieces of land for future park and trail development	<i>Immediate (2011-2012)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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A2. Draft and adopt land acquisition policy for trail and parkland development	<i>Short-Term (2012-2016)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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O2. Provide more opportunities for review and collaboration regarding land acquisition and development.

A3. Develop a review process between Development and Parks and Recreation staff to evaluate developer-granted land	<i>Immediate (2011-2012)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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A4. Involve Park Board and Planning Commission in review of dedicated land	<i>Immediate (2011-12)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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A5. Adopt Code revisions to require/create stricter standards and implement review criteria for land dedication	<i>Short-Term (2012-2016)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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O3. Review existing recreation development fees to determine if rates are appropriate and make necessary changes as needed to ensure that the park system will properly serve the growing population.

A6. Create a separate Parkland Acquisition fund, for the sole purpose of acquiring land for parks	<i>Immediate (2011-12)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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A7. Create a new Trail Development fund, delineating funds exclusively for trails	<i>Immediate (2011-12)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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implementation

CHAPTER 7 - LAND ACQUISITION AND PARKLAND DEVELOPMENT

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS	RECOMMENDED TIMEFRAME	COMPLETED
A8. Stream protection policy review findings/revisions	<i>Immediate (2011-2012)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A9. Adopt Code revisions requiring the dedication of significant natural resource areas with maintenance performed by the homeowners association	<i>Immediate (2011-2012)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A10. Review findings and make revisions on the Tree Preservation Policy	<i>Immediate (2011-2012)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
O5. Encourage residents to donate property for open space uses throughout the community.		
A11. Prepare brochures or explanatory handouts for distribution to property owners explaining the benefits of donating property for parks	<i>Short-Term (2012-2016)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
O6. Provide adequate amenities in parks to serve the community.		
A12. "Brand the parks" by creating standards for signage, lighting and site furnishings	<i>Immediate (2011-2012)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A13. Draft and adopt policy for utility extension to parks (when deemed necessary/appropriate)	<i>Immediate (2011-2012)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
O7. Follow the principles outlined in the Central Ohio Green Pact through the sustainable development of parks.		
A14. Use sustainable materials and practices in park development when feasible to do so	<i>Ongoing</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A15. Encourage recycling by placing recycling containers in convenient locations in all parks and along public trails	<i>Ongoing</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>

implementation

CHAPTER 8 - ORGANIZATIONAL ANALYSIS

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

RECOMMENDED TIMEFRAME

COMPLETED

G1. A Parks and Recreation Department that grows with the community.

O1. Adequate staffing levels should be maintained for all departmental functions including administrative staff, program instructors, and parkland maintenance staff.

A1. Pursue additional volunteering opportunities for youth and elderly programs

Immediate (2011-2012)

A2. Develop a plan for future staffing needs

Short-Term (2012-2016)

G2. A Parks and Recreation Department that strives to provide the best possible service to the public.

O2. Necessary training should be provided for department staff.

A3. Provide all levels of staff with necessary training to complete their jobs to the best of their ability

Ongoing

O3. A schedule of park maintenance should be outlined, prioritizing parks and trails for maintenance.

A4. Adopt policy on trail and park maintenance (plowing, clearing of debris, painting, equipment replacement, etc)

Immediate (2011-2012)

G2. The creation of a Grove City Parks Foundation.

O4. Encourage and provide support to community members interested in establishing a Grove City Parks Foundation.

A5. Create a park foundation portion of the website, explaining the benefits of a parks foundation

Short-Term (2012-2016)