

Parks & Recreation



CITY OF GAHANNA
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION

Who We Are:

The Gahanna Department of Parks & Recreation offers outstanding recreation, environmental and park assets to our community through a variety of programs and services that enhance Gahanna's quality of life, economic value and environmental protection.

Parks & Facilities Gahanna owns and maintains 770+ acres of parkland. It includes a state nature preserve, over 200 acres of preservation and conservation property, the Ohio Herb Education Center, two aquatics facilities, a nine-hole USGA golf course with a pro shop and clubhouse, a senior center, a skate park, a dog park, three community parks with 30 athletic fields, five rentable shelters, basketball and tennis courts, 15 playgrounds, fishing ponds and the signature Creekside Park & Plaza.

Recreation Parks & Recreation offers exceptional recreation programming for all ages including aquatics programming, golf, youth camps, leagues, adult and youth classes and community events like Creekside, Music in the Park and 2nd Saturdays.

Your Investment Provides:



Maintenance The Department stewards all of Gahanna's parkland and facilities by cleaning, making repairs, managing natural resources and removing trash and recyclables.

Services The Department is responsible for planting and maintaining public trees, pots, baskets and gardens, maintaining park and public building walkways, trails and athletic fields. Staff provides outdoor education, riparian corridor maintenance, turf care and support at all of Gahanna's premier events.



Events & Programs The Department hosts over 55 events throughout the year serving over an estimated 30,000 attendees. Programs such as family fishing, canoeing, fitness classes, senior programming and Camp Friendship are provided throughout the year and serve over 8,000 adults, youth and seniors.

Support The Department of Parks & Recreation works in partnership with civic and community organizations by providing staff and program support, including the Gahanna CVB's Holiday Lights! Parade and Creekside Blues & Jazz Festival, Gahanna Jefferson Public Schools, Freedom Festival activities, Gahanna Lions Club's Independence Day Parade, Gahanna youth sports leagues and more.



770+

acres of parkland is maintained by the Department, the second highest acreage in suburban Franklin County.

\$4.17

The monthly net investment per resident for Parks & Recreation in Gahanna.

30,000

The estimated number of attendees at 2012 department special events.

By the Numbers:

In 2012, Parks & Recreation expended under \$2.9 million from the general fund and generated over \$1.2 million in revenue.

88%

overall revenue to expense recovery rate for the recreation division in 2012, including the Ohio Herb Education Center, two aquatic facilities, the Gahanna Municipal Golf Course, recreation programming, the Senior Center. The budgeted recovery rate was **71 percent**.

109%

recovery rate at the Ohio Herb Education Center.

135%

recovery rate at the **Gahanna Municipal Golf Course**.

101%

recovery rate for the **aquatics** facilities.

97%

of residents viewed recreation programming in a positive manner in a 2012 community-wide survey. ⁽¹⁾



98%

of residents are satisfied with the way parks have been maintained. ⁽¹⁾



86%

of residents support building a system of trails connecting various parts of Gahanna and leading to other parts of Franklin County. ⁽²⁾



(1) - City of Gahanna, A Community Survey Update, 2012, p. 40.
(2) - City of Gahanna, A Community Survey Update, 2010, p. 42.

Why Parks & Recreation Matters:

Enhances Economic Value

Investment in parks and open space can be a **catalyst for economic growth**. The Creekside development adjacent to Creekside Park has attracted 45 businesses since 2008.



Improves Quality of Life



Having more parks and more park area within a community is associated with **higher physical activity levels**, and within parks, people tend to be more physically active on trails, at playgrounds and sports facilities⁽³⁾.

Provides Environmental Benefits

Preservation of open space is needed for wildlife use and ecosystem protection. Open spaces **protect water and air resources and reduce pollution**.



(3) - *Parks Playgrounds and Active Living*, Active Living Research, Research Synthesis, February, 2010.

For more information, contact:

City of Gahanna, Department of Parks & Recreation
200 S. Hamilton Rd., Gahanna, OH 43230
614.342.4250 www.gahanna.gov

