

# Economic Contribution of Public Parks & Recreation in North Dakota



The total **annual economic contribution** for city park districts and state parks in North Dakota is estimated at more than **\$802 million**.

**Direct impacts of \$322 million** include participant, spectator, and visitor spending, along with operational expenditures for state and local agencies. Included in these impacts are:

- Park district-hosted events such as adult and youth leagues, adult and youth sports tournaments, and community programs;
- Park district facilities such as golf courses, campgrounds, waterparks/amusement parks, and zoos; and
- State parks and special events.

**Secondary impacts of \$480 million** are based on the North Dakota Input-Output Model, which calculates the total business activity resulting from the direct impacts in a basic sector.

Twelve local park districts and the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department provide **4,682 jobs** (1,029 full-time equivalent positions) and sustain an additional **1,417 jobs** through secondary business activity. In addition, public parks and recreation agencies benefit from 71,000 hours of volunteer service, resulting in **\$1.4 million in contributed services**.

**Total Impacts  
\$802 Million**

**Secondary  
Impacts  
\$480 Million**

**Direct  
Impacts  
\$322 Million**



The North Dakota Recreation & Park Association advances parks and recreation for an enhanced quality of life in North Dakota. NDRPA funded an economic contribution study by the North Dakota State University Department of Agribusiness and Applied Economics, which was completed in fall 2013.

Study participants included the state's 12 largest park districts (Bismarck, Devils Lake, Dickinson, Fargo, Grand Forks, Jamestown, Mandan, Minot, Valley City, Wahpeton, West Fargo and Williston) and the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department.

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