

ILLINOIS RECREATION FACILITY AND PUBLIC LANDS INVENTORY STUDY

Conducted for the Division of Grant Administration,
Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR)

Study conducted by Office of Recreation and Park Resources
(ORPR), Department of Recreation, Sport and Tourism (RST)
of the University of Illinois

PURPOSES and USES

The purpose of the study is to develop a current inventory of community recreation facilities and public park lands offered by public park and recreation agencies and departments at the local community and county level. This information is used by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to assist with the analysis of community requests for grant assistance. The information gathered from this study will also allow IDNR to better identify and track trends in recreation facility development.

ORPR will develop two survey instruments in cooperation with IDNR staff. One survey instrument will be used for park districts and municipal departments. The second survey instrument will be used for county public park and recreation operations. ORPR will meet with representatives from city park and recreation departments, park districts and county park and recreation agencies prior to submitting the draft of the survey instruments to IDNR for its approval. After IDNR has approved the survey instruments, ORPR will pre-test the survey with 10-12 communities of different sizes and service delivery types. ORPR will also pre-test the county instrument. After the pre-test, ORPR will proceed with the data collection phase of the study.

PROCESS

Data Collection

There are approximately 450 incorporated areas and census designated places in the State of Illinois with a population of at least 2500 residents. The Office of Recreation and Park Resources will identify these areas and collect data from them by a variety of methods. Mail and on-line surveys will be used primarily but ORPR may also use phone surveys, community websites, other websites and community visits.

There are approximately twenty county park and recreation systems with a variety of management structures. ORPR will identify these counties and use data collection methods similar to those used for the cities.

ORPR will conduct this study for the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. It will be done in cooperation with the Illinois Association of Park Districts, the Illinois Municipal League, the Illinois Park and Recreation Association, Illinois Extension and the Department of Recreation, Sport and Tourism at the University of Illinois.

Data Coding, Entry and Analysis

ORPR staff will code and enter all data into SPSS (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences). Upon completion of the study, an access file of the data will be provided to IDNR on a CD.

Reporting

ORPR will develop a powerpoint highlight report for presentation to IDNR staff and the IDNR Advisory Committee, if so desired. A final report will then be produced in partnership with the IDNR staff. The final deliverables will include eight (8) copies of the final report, an electronic copy of the power point presentation, and the raw data in access format.

Timeline

1. ORPR will finalize the survey instrument in cooperation with the appropriate IDNR staff by December 7, 2009.
2. The pre-test will be completed by December 28, 2009.
3. Data collection will begin as soon as IDNR staff review the pre-test information and approve the final instrument.
4. ORPR will initiate data collection that first week of January 2010. Data collection will be concluded by February 28, 2010.
5. The final report will be produced no later than May 1, 2010.

STAFF

Robin Hall, Director of the Office of Recreation and Park Resources, will be the lead for this study. He will direct and supervise all aspects of it. Jonathan Hicks, Yung Kuei Huang and Jarrod Schuenemann will also be involved in the data collection and analysis.

PROJECT COST

The total cost of the project is \$4,895.00 of which \$2, 447.50 is payable upon acceptance of the project proposal. The remaining balance is due upon receipt of the final report. Please make a check payable to the University of Illinois and send it to the Department of Recreation, Sport and Tourism.

BUDGET

<u>Personnel</u>	
Project Director	\$1,500.00
Project Staff	\$1,500.00
Support Staff	<u>\$ 500.00</u>
Subtotal	\$3,500.00

<u>Survey Expenses</u>	
Printing	\$ 250.00
Postage	\$ 300.00
Travel	\$ 240.00
Final Report Printing & Binding	<u>\$ 160.00</u>
Subtotal	\$ 950.00
Total Expenses	\$4,450.00
Indirect Costs (10%)	\$ 445.00
TOTAL PROJECT EXPENSES	\$4,895.00

If you are in agreement with the budget & scope of work outlined above, please sign & date below:

Robin Hall, Director, Office of Recreation & Park Resources

Date

Cary McDonald, Head, Department of Recreation, Sport & Tourism

Date

Tanya Gallagher, Dean, College of Applied Health Sciences

Date

Tom DiLello, Manager
Division of Grant Administration
Illinois Department of Natural Resources

Date

Stephen Gonzalez, Senior Grant Administrator
Division of Grant Administration
Illinois Department of Natural Resources

Date