

5 WAYS PARKS AND RECREATION IS A CLIMATE HERO



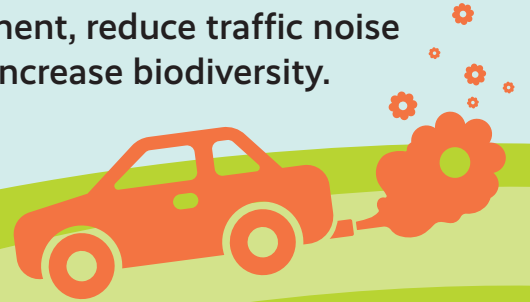
From preserving open space and trees to responding to climate change, the field of parks and recreation is essential to resilient communities.

SHELTER FROM THE STORM

Parks and recreation is essential to community emergency response — supporting nature-based solutions that mitigate climate-related weather threats. They also transform rec centers into emergency shelters, mobilize resources and support cleanup efforts.

LESS VROOMS, MORE BLOOMS

Parks can improve the environment, enhance stormwater management, reduce traffic noise and increase biodiversity.



11 MILLION ACRES

Open space 2x the size of New Jersey is collectively managed by local park and recreation agencies across the United States.



ACCESS TO PARKS = LONGER, HEALTHIER LIVES

Parks provide opportunities for physical activity and connecting with the outdoors. Plus, green space exposure in urban environments corresponds with lower mortality and better mental health.



- ↓ TEMPERATURES
- ↓ AIR POLLUTION
- ↑ ECOSYSTEMS

Parks lower ground temperatures with tree canopy, clean water, reduce flooding and contribute to healthier air.



This Earth Month, support your local parks and recreation. Sign up for a class. Visit a park. Volunteer.

Learn more about how parks and recreation is a climate hero and get involved at www.nrpa.org/Earth-Month.