

The Power of Parks:

Exploring the Many Ways Greenspaces and Outdoor Recreation Transform Communities

Summary:

Persistent concerns about declining human health, environmental sustainability, and social equity demand innovative solutions. For decades, research has revealed that outdoor recreation, parks and green spaces have the capacity to address these issues by improving health and quality of life, encouraging environmental stewardship, promoting social equity and inclusion, and enhancing community vitality. This research, however, is scattered across a wide array of disciplines and publication outlets. Building on contributions from members of the [NE 1962 Multistate Research Group](#), **this edited volume will synthesize the current state of knowledge regarding the broader benefits of parks and recreation and identify opportunities for generating equitable outcomes across diverse communities.** Focusing on the specific themes of Health & Well-being, Environmental Literacy & Stewardship, Equity & Inclusion, and Community Resilience & Vitality, nearly 50 chapters (written by diverse authors around the world) will illustrate how parks and recreation can transform the way people live and interact with social and ecological systems. **The book will serve as a resource to help practitioners, policy-makers, researchers, students, and other key stakeholders across multiple disciplines understand, communicate, promote, and realize the diverse benefits of parks and recreation, ultimately impacting policy and planning on a path toward a sustainable future.**

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Introduction

SECTION INTRO:

- Describe the purpose of the book, noting the many different transformative powers of parks (organized as key sections of this book)
- Transition into introductory chapter that sets the stage for what follows.

INTRODUCTION:

History of benefits-based management in parks

Perry Brown (University of Montana, USA);

Taylor Stein (University of Florida): tstein@ufl.edu

Summary: Chapter describes the evolution of park and recreation management, beginning with the provision of specific activities, shifting to the creation of larger experiences, and eventually expanding to benefits-based management. Chapter ends by highlighting growing emphasis on the broader social impacts of parks for individuals and communities.

SECTION ONE: Health & Well-Being

SECTION INTRO:

- Brief overview of general benefits of parks on human health and well-being (health and NRPA pillar)
- Discuss emerging health and well-being issues
- Discuss distribution of health-related benefits across different user groups (e.g., health equity issues), and how those benefits might differ across various type of green spaces
- Note growing emphasis on initiatives that use parks as an upstream health promotion strategy (Healthy Parks Healthy People, Park Rx, Nature Rx)
- First set of chapters will address **physical health** benefits of parks and green spaces.
 1. Physical activity, active living, health behaviors (Hipp & Besenyi)
 2. Park-based health programs (Bocarro et al.)
 3. Park-based health initiatives in rural communities (Liu et al.)
 4. Park-based nutrition literacy programming (Hollar)
- Second set of chapters highlights **psychological health** and well-being.
 5. Outdoor recreation for human well-being and quality of life (Taff et al.)
 6. Spiritual well-being (Heintzman)
 7. Sense of place as an aspect of human health (Jostad & Semb)
 8. Healing through nature-based photography (Mosher)
- Third set of chapters emphasizes **social aspects** of parks and green spaces.
 9. Social interaction for community health (Jennings & Burns)
 10. Individual health and community cohesion in rural areas (Fix et al.)
- Fourth set of chapters offers specific focus on parks and **positive youth development**
 11. Youth development and access to parks (Chawla)
 12. Nature-based camps (Garst)
 13. Parks as youth play spaces in India (Basu & Nagendra)
- The fifth set of chapters discuss the **therapeutic value** of recreation.
 14. Recreational therapy (Tysor et al.)
 15. Outdoor programs for veterans (Derrien et al.)
- The final chapter explore health partnerships to maximize the value of parks.
 16. Public Health 3.0 (D'Agostino et al.)
- Collectively, chapters cover a broad range of topics highlighting the health-related benefits of parks and green spaces for different populations at various spatial and management scales.

SUMMARY OF CHAPTERS (with authors listed):

1. Physical activity and parks

Aaron Hipp (North Carolina State University, USA); jahipp@ncsu.edu

Gina Besenyi (Kansas State University, USA)

Sonja Wilhelm Stanis (University of Missouri, USA)

Summary: Chapter provides readers with an overview of the physical health benefits parks provide to communities. Focuses on physical activity and active living, benefits of amenities/programs of parks, and its relationship to health behaviors.

2. Parks and health: the power of parks as a health promotion strategy

Jason Bocarro (North Carolina State University, USA); jnbocarr@ncsu.edu

John Henderson (Park Rx America)

Courtney Schultz (Health & Technology Partners)

Summary: Chapter focuses on chronic disease and how parks can help improve public health through formal initiatives such as Park Rx. Includes discussion of the benefits of park-based health programs and the associated challenges.

3. Prescribing outside: South Dakota parks and healthcare professionals team up

Hung-Ling (Stella) Liu (South Dakota State University, USA); stella.liu@sdstate.edu

Emilie Miller (South Dakota Department of Game, Fish, and Parks, USA)

Nikki Prosch (South Dakota State University, USA)

Summary: Chapter focuses on the roles that parks and public lands play in promoting a healthy society, highlighting the benefits of a park prescription model designed to impacts residents of rural areas.

4. Eating better, getting fit: Park-based youth nutrition literacy programming works!

Danielle Hollar (Healthy Networks Design and Research, USA); DanielleHollar@gmail.com

Summary: Chapter describes the contributions of NRPA's Commit to Health Campaign and its nutrition literacy program, which has inspired youth, adults, and park professionals to eat more healthily, move more, and engage in activities create healthier habits over the lifespan.

5. The influence of parks and outdoor recreation on well-being: state of the knowledge, research gaps, and methodological considerations through case studies

Derrick Taff (Penn State University, USA); bdt3@psu.edu

Jennifer Thomsen (University of Montana, USA)

William Rice (University of Montana, USA)

Zachary Miller (Utah State University, USA)

Summary: Chapter discusses the multifaceted health benefits of parks (focusing on psychological well-being) and provides a focused approach to simultaneously address the intertwined health of both humans and park environments.

6. The transformative power of park visitation and tourism for spiritual well-being

Paul Heintzman (University of Ottawa, Canada); pheintzm@uottawa.ca

Summary: Chapter provides a well-defined structured framework linking park experiences and spirituality, illustrating how different types of mental health outcomes might be achieved through contact with nature.

7. Turning your sense of place into a sense of home

Jeremy Jostad (Eastern Washington University, USA); jjostad@ewu.edu

Dustin Semb (Eastern Washington University, USA)

Summary: Chapter focuses on how local natural areas (including parks) help people orient to and integrate within a community, ultimately cultivation of a sense of place that can be a key aspect of health.

8. Expression of healing: how time spent in nature can heal

Marceleen Mosher (Augsburg University, USA); mosher@augsborg.edu

Summary: Chapter uses a case study of a residential mental health treatment program to highlight the healing power of an immersive park experience, focusing on artistic expression in the outdoors (photography and journaling).

9. Going social! Parks at the nexus of community transformation and public health

Viniece Jennings (Agnes Scott College); viniece.jennings@gmail.com

Amanda Burns (Agnes Scott College)

Summary: Chapter focuses on the communal possibilities of parks, specifically on the ability of parks to cultivate social interactions and neighborhood cohesion. This helps to build social capital and transform community health in creative ways.

10. Evidence of outdoor recreation's benefits to visitor and community health and well-being across BLM-managed areas in the western United States

Peter Fix (University of Alaska Fairbanks); pfix@alaska.edu

Kimberly Diamond (University of Alaska Fairbanks)

Rachel Garcia (University of Alaska Fairbanks)

Randy Virden (Arizona State University)

Dorothy Morgan Bureau of Land Management

Timothy Casey (Colorado Mesa University)

Summary: Chapter focuses on the benefits of outdoor recreation in rural recreation settings and their effects on personal and community-level health outcomes.

11. Access to parks and green spaces: a vital asset for positive youth development

Louis Chawla (University of Colorado Boulder); louise.chawla@colorado.edu

Summary: Chapter focuses on youth access to different types of greenspaces and outdoor park experiences parks as an important aspect of positive youth development, highlighting challenges and opportunities.

12. Nature-based camps as a positive youth development context

Barry Garst (Clemson University); bgarst@clemson.edu

Summary: Chapter provides a historical intersection of U.S. parks and nature-based camps. The chapter focuses on the potential of nature-based camps to foster positive youth development outcomes that subsequently affect the larger family and community.

13. The role of urban parks in children's lives (in India)

Sukanya Basu (Azim Premji University)

Harini Nagendra (Azim Premji University); harini.nagendra@apu.edu.in

Summary: Chapter describes the vital role that parks and park access play for those living in dense urban areas. From a non-western perspective, the chapter illuminates the environmental, social, physical, and psychological aspects of parks that help them serve as essential play spaces for children.

14. Unique considerations for recreational therapy in parks

Deborah Tysor (Clemson University); dtysor@clemson.edu

Brent Hawkins (Clemson University)

Jasmine Townsend (Clemson University)

Summary: Chapter describes reasons why access to and regular use of parks can be difficult for individuals with disabilities. Integrating a comparison between nature-based vs. more conventional (clinical) interventions, this chapter highlights park settings' ability to serve as a tool for Recreational Therapists to help promote quality of life and enhance positive health outcomes.

15. Outdoor programs for veterans on public lands: therapeutic activities, landscapes, and connections

Monika Derrien (U.S. Forest Service Pacific Northwest Research Station);

monika.derrien@usda.gov

Lee Cerveney (U.S. Forest Service Pacific Northwest Research Station)

David Havlick (University of Colorado Colorado Springs)

Summary: Chapter discusses the therapeutic value of public lands for veterans in multiple ways, including transition back into civilian life, service and job training, and outdoor recreation with an exploration of the different types of service programs. It places a consistent emphasis on connections to justice, equity, and access.

16. Public Health 3.0: Expanding the role of parks

Emily D'Agostino (Duke University); emily.m.dagostino@duke.edu

Cody Neshteruk (Duke University)

Asheley Skinner (Duke University)

Jason Jones (Durham Parks and Recreation)

Sarah Armstrong (Duke University)

Summary: Chapter explores the growing role of park and recreation departments as a center for public health promotion, emphasizing the value of inter-sector partnerships to achieve health equity.

SECTION TWO: Environmental Literacy & Stewardship

SECTION INTRO:

- What is environmental literacy and stewardship? (brief overview)
- Why are literacy and stewardship important, and how do parks contribute? (conservation as NRPA pillar)
 - Discuss early life experiences; importance for individuals of all ages
 - Importance of maintaining balance between stewardship and use
 - Biodiversity and conservation value of parks
- Discuss special considerations for parks
 - Park planning, design, and maintenance with stewardship goals in mind
 - Barriers parks face in providing educational and conservation services (note: health benefits will be addressed in the Health section of the book)

The first set of chapters will focus on **educational and experiential benefits parks provide to individuals, particularly children and youth**. They will emphasize connection to nature and opportunities to engage individuals across the life span in nature-related learning and experiential opportunities. The use of parks as teaching and learning tool for colleges and universities will also be included.

1. Parks as Points for Connecting to Nature (Monroe & Salazar)
2. Public Parks as Learning Spaces: The Broader Benefits of Park-based Citizen Science (Ford)
3. Parks and Children (Sobel)
4. Leveraging Park-Based EE to Reach Students Who Need It Most (Stevenson et al.)
5. Integrating Farms into Urban Parks to Foster Youths' Civic Participation (Russ et al.)
6. Barriers and Opportunities in Community Environmental Literacy: Identifying the Capacities in Public Parks (Hougham et al.)
7. Parks and Higher Education: Facilitating Research, Teaching, and Public Engagement (Lekies & Braig)

The second set of chapters will emphasize the **biodiversity benefits that parks provide and address issues related to human use, stewardship, and pro-environmental behaviors**. The chapter will also discuss key considerations for park design and program planning to help achieve some of these goals.

8. Parks for People and Biodiversity (Beery)
9. Biophilic Park Design (Meurk)
10. Parks Need People, and People Need Parks: Why Recreation in Parks is Essential for Fostering Environmental Stewardship (Halpenny)
11. Planning and Managing Outdoor Recreation for the Benefit of All (Anderson et al.)

SUMMARY OF CHAPTERS (with authors listed):

1. Parks as points for connecting to nature

Martha Monroe (University of Florida, USA); mcmonroe@ufl.edu

Gabby Salazar (University of Florida, USA)

Summary: Chapter focuses on connection to nature and summarizes what is known about relationships people form with nature through parks, green spaces, and outdoor experiences. Chapter will also feature a new guidebook that provides tools that practitioners can use to measure connection to nature and the impact of nature-based experiences.

2. Public parks as learning spaces: the broader benefits of park-based citizen science

Mary Ford (Jane Goodall Institute, USA); mford@janegoodall.org

Summary: Chapter focuses on parks as outdoor classrooms and ways that youth and other groups of volunteers develop environmental literacy through park-based citizen science. It will highlight a 10-year partnership between the National Geographic Society and the National Park Service, including a description of BioBlitz activities held in different parks each year and the outcomes they generate (e.g., changes in appreciation, interest in advocacy).

3. Parks and children

David Sobel (Antioch University, USA); dsobel@antioch.edu

Summary: Chapter focuses on parks as learning spaces for young children, including comparisons of traditional and nature-based early childhood programs. Chapter will also discuss the benefits of parks for early childhood development and fostering lifelong environmental stewardship values and behaviors.

4. Leveraging park-based EE to reach students who need it most

Kathryn Stevenson (North Carolina State University, USA); kathryn_stevenson@ncsu.edu

Richael Szczytko (Pisces Foundation, USA)

Brent Jackson (NC State University, USA)

Nils Peterson (NC State University, USA)

Sarah J. Carrier (NC State University, USA)

Ryan Olson (Muddy Sneakers, USA)

Summary: Chapter focuses on outdoor science education and provides a case study of an outdoor science education program, with implications for park programming and outdoor education organizations. Chapter will emphasize ways such programs promote cognitive gains related to environmental literacy and how they engage students who struggle with learning in the traditional classroom.

5. Integrating farms into urban parks to foster youths' civic participation

Alex Kudryavtsev (Cornell University, USA); ak383@cornell.edu

Anne Armstrong (Cornell University, USA)
Madeline Gaus (Cornell University, USA)
Marianne Krasny (Cornell University, USA)

Summary: Chapter discusses increasing trends toward the development of agriculture in urban parks. Three case studies from New York City will show how urban agriculture and related education activities have been incorporated into park programs, highlighting key recommendations. Emphasis will be placed on ways local residents gain a variety of skills and experiences, with the particular goal of increasing civic participation of youth.

6. *Barriers and opportunities in community environmental literacy: Identifying the capacities in public parks*

R. Justin Hougham (University of Wisconsin-Madison/Extension, USA);
justin.hougham@wisc.edu
Zoë Goodrow (University of Wisconsin-Madison/Extension, USA)
Isabelle Herde (University of Wisconsin-Madison/Extension, USA)

Summary: Chapter addresses issues of capacity that parks face in delivering equitable programming that fosters environmental literacy and stewardship. It will use a case study of Wisconsin parks to discuss ways parks can make informed, data-based decisions to address their EE programs and needs, highlighting opportunities for partnerships with schools, community organizations, non-profit organizations, and university programs.

7. *Parks and higher education: facilitating research, teaching, and public engagement*

Kristi Lekies (The Ohio State University, USA); lekies.1@osu.edu
Eugene Braig (The Ohio State University, USA)

Summary: Chapter examines the ways that colleges and universities engage with park programs for research, teaching, and university outreach. Possible sites can be university/college-based such as campus nature preserves, arboreta, and wetland parks, as well as local, state, or national parks. Examples will illustrate a range of park-based activities that focus on preparing the next generation, educating the public, and enhancing ecological concern and restoration.

8. *Parks for people and biodiversity*

Thomas Beery (Kristianstad University, Sweden); Thomas.beery@hkr.se

Summary: Chapter focuses on the biodiversity protection function that parks can serve, and will discuss ways people benefit from biodiversity in parks. The UNESCO biosphere reserve program will be discussed, along with a case study of a biosphere reserve program in Sweden, to show how biodiversity protection and sustainable use are supported. Practical implications for park managers will focus on interpretative messages and green infrastructure.

9. *Biophilic park design*

Colin Meurk (Landcare Research, New Zealand); [email??](#)

Summary: Chapter focuses on how biophilic design can impact urban quality of life by exploring the global concept of national park cities.

10. *Parks need people, and people need parks: Why recreation in parks is essential for fostering environmental stewardship*

Elizabeth Halpenny (University of Alberta, Canada); Elizabeth.halpenny@ualberta.ca

Summary: Chapter discusses the ways parks are important in people's lives, particularly for promoting connection to nature, environmental stewardship, and pro-environmental behaviors.

11. *Planning and managing outdoor recreation for the benefit of all*

Laura Anderson (University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, USA); landerso@uwsp.edu

Kelly Goonan (Southern Utah University, USA)

Peter Petengill (St. Lawrence University, USA)

Summary: Chapter focuses on the planning and management of recreational resources and the balance between stewardship and recreation. It will provide an overview of key frameworks and laws in the United States that impact outdoor recreation, and it will discuss (using case studies) ways planning and public involvement processes have contributed to individual, social, environmental, and economic benefits.

SECTION THREE: Equity & Inclusion

SECTION INTRO:

- Why focus on diversity, equity and inclusion? (social equity as NRPA pillar)
- Discuss brief history of marginalization and discrimination in public parks (covered in more detail in chapters)
- Discuss how parks provide unique opportunity for addressing historic disparities and providing benefits to people from all backgrounds (covered in more detail in chapters)
- First set of chapters in section discuss **specific marginalized groups** that can benefit from parks and outdoor recreation and in what ways, including discussion of why those benefits have been historically difficult to realize:
 1. Individuals with disabilities (Perry & Neimeyer)
 2. Seniors (active adults) (Park)
 3. Ethnic minorities and immigrants (Stodolska & Gentin)
- Next set of chapters highlights **opportunities for making parks more equitable and inclusive**, including specific recommendations for research and practice
 4. Strategies for engaging youth of color (Rakow et al.)
 5. Environmental justice and unintended consequences of gentrification (Mullenbach)
 6. Transforming diverse communities through urban parks (case studies) (Fernandez & Harris)
 7. Centering environmental justice through positive interracial interactions in parks (Powers et al.)
 8. Creating democratic landscapes through inclusive design practices (Gray et al.)
- Collectively, chapters provide a road map for understanding historic inequities and realizing future benefits of parks across diverse populations

SUMMARY OF CHAPTERS (with authors listed):

1. Disability and parks

Meredith Perry (University of Otago, New Zealand); Meredith.perry@otago.ac.nz

Tyler Neimeyer (NC State University, USA)

Summary: Chapter focuses on people of all ages with different types of disabilities and the benefits that parks can provide for these individuals. Includes discussion of barriers/challenges and how managers might address them.

2. Serving active adults and universal design

Sohyun Park (University of Connecticut, USA); sohyun.park@uconn.edu

Summary: Chapter focuses on seniors (aka “active adults”). Reviews demographic trends and park use among seniors. Discussed integration of universal design concepts to help parks serve seniors.

3. *The benefits of park visitation and nature-based recreation among ethnic minorities, immigrants, and refugees in North America and Europe*

Monika Stodolska (University of Illinois, USA); stodolsk@illinois.edu

Sandra Gentin (University of Copenhagen, Denmark)

Summary: Chapter provides overview of park benefits across diverse ethnic minority groups. Discussion of particular benefits parks provide to immigrant populations, plus acknowledgement of issues related to disparities in access and park quality. Specific recommendations provided to improve park access and opportunities for ethnic minorities and immigrants

4. *How to engage young people of color in parks and nature sites: a community perspective*

Don Rakow (Cornell University, USA); dr14@cornell.edu

Dorothy Ibes (College of William & Mary, USA)

Chris Kim (affiliation?)

Summary: Chapter focuses on history of marginalization and discrimination for youth of color in parks, including analysis of contemporary barriers to visitation. Provides concrete examples of sites that have overcome these challenges to effectively engage youth of color.

5. *Transformative parks for whom? Urban parks, environmental justice, and gentrification*

Lauren Mullenbach (NC State University, USA); lmullen@ncsu.edu

Summary: Chapter highlights the negative transformations that might come with park development, placing concerns such as green gentrification in an environmental justice context. Discusses policy implications and future research opportunities to help inform future park management and development efforts.

6. *Transforming communities through urban parks*

Mariela Fernandez (Clemson University, USA); marielf@clemson.edu

Brandon Harris (University of Arizona, USA)

Summary: Chapter discusses how parks can help incorporate marginalized communities (BIPOC) into democratic process, fostering just governance of parks. Includes focus on sense of community and belonging, using case studies to highlight key points and offer specific recommendations for policy and practice.

7. *Centering environmental justice through positive interracial interactions in parks*

Sammie Powers (George Mason University, USA); spower5@gmu.edu

Andy Mowen (George Mason University, USA)

Nicole Webster (Penn State University, USA)

Summary: Chapter investigates interracial interactions in park spaces and explores the possibility of parks to bring people together in positive ways. Describes how park organizations can work to become more relevant and inclusive.

8. *Democratic landscape*

Kona Gray (American Society of Landscape Architects, USA); kgray@edsaplan.com

Summary: Chapter discusses legacy of discrimination and exclusion in parks. Describes specific strategies for reconnecting people of color to parks, highlighting opportunities to bring communities together amidst contemporary challenges (COVID, Black Lives Matter, etc.).

SECTION FOUR: Community Resilience & Vitality

SECTION INTRO:

- Why focus on community resilience and vitality?
 - Community resilience is a complex and abstract topic that involves a variety of community constructs, which range from increasing local capacity, social support, and resources to decreasing risks, miscommunication, and trauma. This chapter will treat community resilience and vitality as a large-scale goal of community development and will provide case studies of communities that use planning and management of parks and green spaces to address overall community resilience and vitality to specific benefits that directly address reliance and vitality.
- Discuss the history and role of recreation, tourism, and green space as it relates to community resiliency
 - Refer to community benefits as an important but under-researched component of BBM
- Discuss how parks provide unique opportunities for bringing social groups together for a range of benefits or to address specific benefits (covered in more detail in chapters)
- The first section will address **how and why diverse sets of communities develop and plan parks and greenspaces help to transform communities.**
 1. Understanding community and economic impacts of parks, trails, greenspaces: a community resilience perspective (Brown)
 2. Urban Ecosystem Services of Parks and Green Spaces: Key Drivers of Community Resilience (Larson and Park)
 3. Conceptualizing Social-Ecological Resilience Through a National Environmental Education Program Designed for the Local Community (Rainer and Monroe)
 4. Returning the Saint Lawrence River to the Population: Recent Active Transportation Projects for Québec City's Waterfront (Murphy)
- The second section will focus on **how the planning and management of parks can help communities achieve specific community benefits** important to community resilience and vitality.
 5. Park and resiliency during times of crisis (Tidball)
 6. Can parks fight crime in cities? (Ogletree and Larson)
 7. Greenways as Catalyst for Community Revitalization (Flink)
 8. Community, Parks and nature: a strategy for climate and health resilience (Schotland and Muqueeth)
- The final set of chapters highlights **how organizations and programs can stimulate the development of parks and greenspaces to help build community resilience and vitality.**
 9. Creating a Community in Rural West Virginia: The Power of Public Place Production (Butler)
 10. Creating a Community Forest with the Kalispel Tribe in Pend Oreille County, Washington (Stroud)

11. Developing participatory indicator assessments to promote community resiliency (Morse and Stein)
12. Transformation in action: North Carolina's 12 local governments build parks (Smith)

Collectively, chapters present innovative strategies, contemporary concepts, and diverse examples to understand how innovative planning and management of parks and greenspaces can be important catalysis in community resilience and vitality.

SUMMARY OF CHAPTERS (with authors listed)

1. Understanding community and economic impacts of parks, trails, greenspaces: a community resilience perspective

Laura Brown (University of Connecticut, USA); laura.brown@uconn.edu

Summary: Chapter will explore the current literature, research gaps, and practitioner implications of parks, trails, green spaces as local assets for community and economic development.

2. Urban ecosystem services of interconnected parks and green spaces: key drivers of community resilience

Lincoln Larson (North Carolina State University, USA); llarson@ncsu.edu
Sohyun Park (University of Connecticut, USA)

Summary: Chapter will provide a literature review on urban ecosystem services with a focus on parks and green spaces in urban environments and examine contemporary planning, design, and policy practices in relation to urban ecosystem services.

3. Conceptualizing social-ecological resilience through a national environmental education program designed for the local community

Kenneth Rainer (University of Florida, USA); Kenneth.rainer@ufl.edu
Martha Monroe (University of Florida, USA)

Summary: Chapter will explore characteristics and indicators of community resilience and vitality. It will highlight ways environmental education programs can address them with examples from the National Estuarine Research Reserve system.

4. Returning the Saint Lawrence River to the population: recent active transportation projects for Québec City's waterfront

Peter W. Murphy (City of Québec, Canada); peter.murphy@ville.quebec.qc.ca

Summary: Chapter will focus on the transformation of a 15-kilometer linear park along the Saint Lawrence River in Québec, shifting from brownfields and car-oriented infrastructure to an active

transportation corridor destination designed to allow local residents to benefit from the innovative sustainably designed recreation and leisure infrastructure.

5. Park and resiliency during times of crisis

Keith Tidball (Cornell University, USA); kgtidball@cornell.edu

Summary: Chapter will describe how access to and stewardship of parks and other green spaces confers resilience and recovery in systems - from individual human systems to regional and landscape scale systems - which have been disrupted by violent conflict, crisis, or disaster.

6. Can parks help cities fight crime?

S. Scott Ogletree (North Carolina State University, USA); ssogletr@ncsu.edu

Lincoln Larson (North Carolina State University, USA)

Summary: Chapter will review the research on crime and parks, highlighting current evidence supporting the role parks have in reducing crime. It will discuss the multiple methods to understand the relationship between parks and crime and provide implications of how parks can help to address crime in communities.

7. Greenways as catalyst for community revitalization

Charles A. "Chuck" Flink (Greenways Incorporated, USA); chuck.flink@greenways.com

Summary: Chapter will address describe how greenways are catalyst for change and revitalization through the discussion of several case studies from around the United States, that cover small rural towns to major cities.

8. Community, parks and nature: a strategy for climate and health resilience

Taj Schottland (The Trust for Public Land, USA); taj.schottland@tpl.org

Sadiya Muqueeth (The Trust for Public Land, USA)

Summary: Chapter will articulate and define the transformative role parks and greenspace play in enhancing individual, community and societal resilience to climate and health threats.

9. Creating a community in rural West Virginia: the power of public place production

Peter Butler (West Virginia University, USA); peter.butler@mail.wvu.edu

Summary: Chapter will demonstrate the use of ecological design in the development of a new public plaza in Marlinton, West Virginia to better link culture and nature in redeveloping a brownfield at the center of the community.

10. Creating a community forest with the Kalispel Tribe in Pend Oreille County, Washington

Stephanie Stroud (National Park Service, USA); Stephanie_stroud@nps.gov

Summary: Chapter describes a partnership the National Park Service has with the Kalispel Tribe of Oregon to create outdoor recreation and conservation projects that incorporate the Tribe's culture and value while protecting wildlife and habitat.

11. Developing participatory indicator assessments to promote community resiliency

Wayde Morse (Auburn University, USA); wcm0005@auburn.edu

Taylor V. Stein (University of Florida, USA)

Summary: Chapter will address how ecotourism will address a variety of indicators associated with community resilience and vitality, and how these indicators can be incorporated into management and policy to ensure ecotourism results in positive benefits to communities.

12. Transformation in action: North Carolina's local governments build parks

Charlynn T. Smith (North Carolina State University, USA); ctsmith@ncsu.edu

Summary: Chapter will address how a federal and state funding program designed to promote the development and management of parks for recreation and leisure in North Carolina, and how those parks have helped transformed communities of all sizes and demographics.

Conclusion

SECTION INTRO:

- Reiterate key themes in the book, highlighting key implications for research and practice
- Transition to concluding chapter that highlights the diverse dividends parks provide, illuminating why they are a wise investment for any community

CONCLUSION:

Wise investment: Parks bring remarkable dividends

John DeGraaf (Film Producer and Author, USA)

Summary: Chapter will integrate all of the larger themes discussed in book, highlighting the remarkable dividends parks provide for individuals and communities. Integrated under the “economics of beauty” concept, the chapter will emphasize the diverse ways parks enhance quality of life and clearly illustrate why investing in parks is investing in happier, healthier, and more sustainable future.