

Making the Most of Your **Recreational Event**

To ensure the most enjoyable and safe experience possible for your recreational event, the following commonly asked questions have been answered for you. Prior to making a decision to lead a recreational event on one of the Jefferson County Open Space parks, please consider what is offered at that park, what facilities are available to you, and whether the park you have chosen will accommodate the requirements of your event. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Q: How many people may I have at my event?

A: Group size is limited to the number of persons a specific Open Space area can accommodate. For trail-based activities such as organized mountain bike rides, horseback rides, trail runs, or hiking events, groups of 15 or less are preferred. Trail users and groups should remain dispersed so as not to disturb other park visitors.

Q: During what hours may I schedule my event?

A: Events must be held no earlier than one hour before sunrise and no later than one hour after sunset.

Q: May I put up a tent or canopy during my event?

A: No.

Q: May I place chairs or picnic tables outside of the picnic areas?

A: No.

Q: May I put up promotional signs or banners at my event?

A: Promotional signs and banners are discouraged; however, if any are used, they cannot be affixed to trees and must be removed before leaving the park.

Q: May event participants, event organizers or officials drive into the park area?

A: No. (This is an important factor to be aware of when considering the mobility of participants, officials, and other event requirements.)

Q: Do the picnic shelters have electricity or water?

A: No.

Q: May I collect participant fees or sell merchandise during my event?

A: Jefferson County Open Space does not allow any commercial activities within park boundaries, including fee collection, without the permission of Open Space and a valid Special Activity Permit.

Q: May parks be closed to non-event participants?

A: No. Since Open Space parks are funded by a one-half of one percent sales tax in Jefferson County, parks must remain open to all park visitors even during special events.

Q: What types of activities are appropriate on Jefferson County Open Space?

A: Jefferson County Open Space is maintained for passive recreational activities such as hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding and fishing. Group sporting activities such as football, softball, horseshoes, volley ball, and soccer are not permitted.

Other things to remember....

It is recommended that large groups car pool to the park as parking is limited and vehicles may only be parked in designated areas. In the case of large events, event organizers must arrange offsite parking.

Unless otherwise indicated, all picnic tables and shelters are on a first-come, first-served basis.

Occasionally, certain muddy trail conditions may prompt closure. If your event is trail based, please call the Open Space Trails Hotline (303-271-5975) prior to your activity to ensure the trails you plan to use will be open.

During the summer season, fire bans may be in effect on Open Space parks. Please call Open Space at 303-271-5925 before your event to ensure that no fire ban has been issued. Adhere to any signs that may be posted regarding fire restrictions. To ensure the most enjoyable experience possible for your wedding or celebration, the following commonly asked questions have been answered for you. Prior to making a decision to have an event on one of the Jefferson County Open Space parks, please consider what is offered, what is available, and whether the facility you have chosen will accommodate the requirements of your activity. Please visit the location you wish to use prior to making your application to check if it meets the needs of your planned activity. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.
