



# JEFFERSON COUNTY OPEN SPACE

## Fact Sheet

January 1, 2010

### Open Space Mission:

*“The Mission of Jefferson County Open Space is to preserve open space lands and natural and cultural resources, and to provide for quality park and recreational experiences.”*

### Organizational Structure:

Open Space is a division within the Community Resources Department of Jefferson County, Colorado. The Community Resources Department consists of these divisions: Open Space, Fairgrounds, Boettcher Mansion and Colorado State University (CSU) Extension.

\* The County Weed and Pest Program shares County General and Open Space funding.

### Policy Oversight:

An appointed ten-member, two-alternate member volunteer Open Space Advisory Committee (OSAC) makes recommendations based on staff research and investigation to the Board of County Commissioners for action. Appointment by the Board of County Commissioners is for a three-year term with three members representing the Cities, three members representing the County, three members At-large and one representing Recreation Districts. Open Space Policy and Procedures are detailed within Part 6: Management and Use of County Property, Chapter 4: Open Space and Part 2: Board Administration, Chapter 2: Establishment of Appointed Boards, Section 3: Open Space Advisory Committee of Jefferson County Policies and Procedures.

### 2009-2010 OSAC Members:

John Litz, City	Ken Morfit, City	Frank Barone, City
John Wolforth, County	Kevin Burke, County	Vacant, County
Wayne Forman, At-large	Rebecca Watson, At-large	Jan Wilkins, At-large
Bob West, Recreation Districts	Felicity Hannay, Alternate	James Lancy, Alternate

### Open Space Division:

The Director of Open Space oversees the sections that make up the Open Space program. The sections include Acquisitions, Administration & Education Services, Citizen Outreach, Park Services, and Planning & Development. Sub-sections within Park Services include Building Maintenance and Construction; Natural Resources; Park Maintenance; and Trail Maintenance and Construction. Administration & Education subsections include Lookout Mountain Nature Center, Hiwan Homestead Museum and Visitor & Resource Protection.

### Funding:

The residents of Jefferson County voted to tax themselves one-half of one percent on sales to fund the Open Space program in 1972. Sales tax proceeds are distributed to cities within the county based on motor vehicle registrations with the remaining funds allocated to unincorporated Jefferson County. In 1980 Open Space Funds were extended to allow for construction, maintenance and management of park and recreation facilities. In 1998 voters approved the bonding of \$160 million toward an aggressive acquisitions plan for the program.

### Acreage As of 12/31/2009:

Total Acres acquired by Open Space:			
(fee, conservation easement, lease)			<b>51,981.5</b> acres
Acres deeded to cities:			<b>8,031.4</b>
<i>Arvada</i>	<i>1,859.5</i>	<i>Morrison</i>	<i>104.8</i>
<i>Edgewater</i>	<i>16.7</i>	<i>Mountain View</i>	<i>0.3</i>
<i>Golden</i>	<i>178.7</i>	<i>Westminster</i>	<i>3,047.5</i>
<i>Lakewood</i>	<i>2,469.8</i>	<i>Wheat Ridge</i>	<i>346.2</i>
<i>**Broomfield</i>	<i>7.9</i>		
Acres leased to recreation districts/other:			1,441.3
Acres managed by Other (Fairgrounds, Beaver Ranch)			568.9
Acres managed by Open Space (trails, SB35, parks)			<b>38,761.2</b>
Conservation Easements held by JCOS			<b>3,015.6</b>
Leased by JCOS			<b>426.7</b>

\*\* acquired prior to becoming City & County of Broomfield

**Staff:** Permanent (Full time equivalent) 94.9  
 Volunteers 750 - 1000

**Annual Visitors:** 1.9 million

**Trails:**  
 Total miles of trails: approx. 204 miles

**Open Space Parks/Properties:**

- Alderfer/Three Sisters Park
- Apex Park
- Centennial Cone Park
- Crown Hill Park
- Deer Creek Canyon Park
- Flying J Ranch Park
- Elk Meadow Park (*includes Noble Meadow*)
- Hildebrand Ranch Park (*currently under development*)
- Hiwan Homestead Museum
- Lair o' the Bear Park
- Lookout Mountain Nature Center & Preserve (*land area and trails*)
- Matthews/Winters Park (*includes Hogback*)
- Meyer Ranch Park
- Mount Falcon Park
- Mount Galbraith Park
- North Table Mountain (*currently under development*)
- Pine Valley Ranch Park
- Reynolds Park
- South Table Mountain Park
- South Valley Park
- Van Bibber Park
- Welchester Tree Grant Park
- White Ranch Park
- Windy Saddle Park (*including Mt. Zion*)

**Properties not developed:** *Properties listed below are undergoing park planning and are not officially open to public use as an Open Space Park. \*"Ranson Edwards Homestead" is named by deed and shall be designated as part of the Coal Creek Canyon Open Space.*

- Cathedral Spires Park*
- Clear Creek Canyon Park (includes Grant Terry Park)*
- Coal Creek Canyon Park (includes Ranson Edwards Homestead, Asel, & Lacy)*
- Halm Park*
- Mount Glennon*
- Mount Lindo*
- Mount Tom-Van Bibber Headwaters*
- Ralston Creek Corridor*

**Five -Year Financial Strategy 2010-2014: (in millions)**

	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>
Total Budget	25.18	28.59	34.22	30.70	30.94
Annual Designated Reserve	1.48	1.55	1.59	1.63	1.67
Total Budget Obligation	26.66	30.14	35.81	32.33	32.61
Est. Fund Balance/Carry forward	26.46	26.96	24.58	17.13	13.76
Estimated Annual Revenue	25.68	26.21	26.77	27.33	27.90
Estimated Total Revenue	51.24	53.17	51.35	44.46	41.66
Est. Available Fund Balance	25.48	23.03	15.54	12.13	9.05

TOTAL ANNUAL REVENUES INCLUDE ALL REVENUE SOURCES.  
 Five Year Fund Balance 2010 - 2014 projected from 2009 Estimated Levels.



**JEFFERSON COUNTY OPEN SPACE** <http://openspace.jeffco.us>