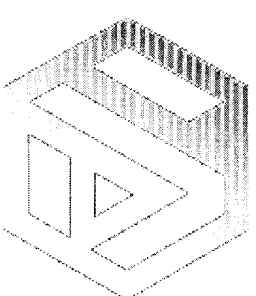


A HISTORY



OF ARVADA'S PARKS, TRAILS AND OPEN SPACES

COMPILED BY THE

ARVADA PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE

AUGUST 2007

INTRODUCTION

The Arvada Park Advisory Committee (APAC) is a volunteer group of Arvada citizens appointed by the Arvada City Council to advise and make recommendations on park related projects, land acquisitions, trail development, funding, and other issues. APAC members work with the city's Parks, Golf and Hospitality Department and within the framework of the Park Master Plan to prioritize projects and also function as a forum where citizens can voice concerns or request action on recreational activities. The group works cooperatively with other entities including North Jeffco Parks and Recreation District and Jefferson County Open Space. APAC conducts their business through monthly meetings, retreats, subcommittees and field trips.

As part of APAC's annual goal setting retreat, it was suggested that the history of each Arvada Park, Trail and Open Space be preserved. APAC committee members Jean Scharfenberg, Dave Giddings, Steve Lichon and Bill Orchard volunteered to form a subcommittee to undertake this task. They secured a list of parks, trails and open spaces from the city website and divided them up alphabetically. They ended up with 98 different locations to research. Over the next eight months the subcommittee explored several resources and references to define the histories. This document is the result of those efforts.

Arvada Blunn Reservoir	18001 W. 64th Parkway	The City of Arvada purchased this property January 12, 1971 for the future Blunn Reservoir from the Blunn family but the history of this site dates to c. 1859 when settler Asahel Haines pre-empted 159 acres at this location. A pioneer cabin erected by Haines was moved to the Arvada Center in 1978.
Arvada Equestrian Center	76 th Ave. and Indiana St.	An Arvada equestrian center was originally established by the North Jeffco Recreation and Park District and the Denver Polo Club at a sports complex near 58 th Ave. and Miller Street in 1972. When this facility had outgrown its limits the Arvada Horseman's Association requested the city to make available a site at 76 th Ave. and Indiana Street, the present site of the Arvada Equestrian Center.
Arvada Tennis Center	6430 Miller St.	The City of Arvada built the Arvada Tennis Center as a result of a successful bond election in 1974. And it was completed in 1975. Scheduling is programmed by North Jeffco Metropolitan Recreation and Park District. It is located along the Ralston Creek Greenbelt for good pedestrian access.
Allendale Park	10850 W. 62 nd Ave.	Purchase of property for the original Allendale Park site was made possible by a 1974 Bond Referendum. The original site was then enlarged to nearly five acres by a land trade between the City of Arvada and Johnson Homes. This park is located in Allendale Subdivision and was completed in 1991. The Allendale name was for William Allen, the original owner of this land.
Alice Sweet Thomas Park	W. 80 th Ave. & Simms St.	Alice Sweet Thomas Park was completed November 15, 1974. It includes four acres, four tennis courts and a basketball court, built on Arvada's 10 million gallon water storage tank, which is mostly recessed into the ground. City Council members and Mayor Don Feland officially dedicated this complex. Cost of the project was \$860,000 with \$66,000 used for the recreational facility. The water tank will help maintain proper water pressure for the city. The park was named for Alice Sweet Thomas, wife of councilman Thomas G. Thomas, who died December 11, 1974.
Appllemeadows Park	60 th Place & Dunraven St	Appllemeadows Park was dedicated 10-12-1984. Land was acquired by transfer of ownership of the open space in Appllemeadows Subdivision to North Jeffco Recreation and Park District. A trail was also constructed through the subdivision.
Beeman Park	84 th Drive & Arbutus St.	This undeveloped park site was named for Arvada pioneers and is located near Meiklejohn Elementary School. Watson and Jane Beeman arrived on Ralston Creek from Missouri in 1861, and secured 320 acres by Military Bounty in 1870. In this area the Beemans built a log cabin. Later George Swadley bought part of the property, including the cabin, which was demolished in 1935. The third Beeman child died in 1862. George Swadley and Watson Beeman chose protected school land for the burial. This was the beginning of Arvada Cemetery. The Beemans left Arvada in 1870 and moved to Pueblo. The rest of the property was sold to Spotswood K. and Mahala Longan who built a flour mill at the location of the Horner Peck house; 9700 Ralston Road. This house burned to the ground in 1974.

Bridgeside Park	59th Ave. & Routt St	Bridgeside Park is a City park, approved in the 1974 Bond referendum, and completed in the Fall of 1975. This five acre park has a service area of a one fourth mile radius. Together with Vanderhoof Elementary school grounds it provides a good neighborhood complex. The dropped down design of the open area is good because the children have to run uphill to cross the street. That slows them down sufficiently to add safety to the road crossing. It is not known why the park was named Bridgeside.
Broad Lake Park	83 rd Ave. & McIntyre St.	This future park site will be developed for the Westwood Villas at Broad Lake subdivision.
Club Crest Park	W. 76 th Ave. & Carr Drive	Club Crest Park is one of several open space areas designed and constructed to feature native grass. An area west of Club Crest Drive and Carr Drive, and between W. 76 th Ave. and W. 77 th Place and along the Croke Canal is a greenbelt area with a bike trail that runs through Club Crest Subdivision.
Club Crest South	W. 76 th Ave. & W. 75 th Way	Club Crest South is a 40 foot-wide greenbelt adjoining Robby Ferrufino Park to the northwest. The vacation for the greenbelt originated about 1975.
Columbine Park	6300 W. 53rd Ave	North Jeffco purchased the property for Columbine Park from Walt Black and Francis Marie Black in 1963. The lake at Columbine Park was built when the park was redeveloped with funds provided by the 1974 City Bond Referendum. The purpose of the lake was to catch the overflow from Spano's truck farm south of W. 52nd Avenue. Spano sold the truck farm to Arvada Urban Renewal and when that project was developed there was no more water available for Columbine Lake. Recreational improvements at the site were two tennis courts, tot lot, picnic tables, drinking fountain, trash cans, bike rack, and horseshoe pits. The City of Arvada provided a concrete pathway and an asphalt parking lot. A child was killed in an accident at the park and on a rock north of the park is a plaque which states, "In Memory of Daniel E. Felton, 1958-1964, the park was an important part of his world. This park is owned jointly by the City of Arvada and North Jeffco.
Danny Kendrick East & Danny Kendrick West Parks	W. 70th Ave. & Ward Rd	The parks on 5 acres east and 6 acres west of Ward Road were the result of a 1974 bond election and were developed the following year. The Park was named for a small boy, Danny Kendrick, who was hit by a car and killed on Ward Road. The park's development would establish it as an integral part of Ralston Creek greenbelt system. East and west of Ward Road are playgrounds, picnic areas and bike trails.
Davis Lane Park	69th Pl. & Quail St	This neighborhood park was once part of a 160 acre parcel that Harpin Davis homesteaded from about 1864 until his death in 1903. Harpin also operated a ferry across Ralston Creek at present day Simms Street and donated land for a road, Davis Lane. Later the name of this road was changed to the present day Oak Street. The City of Arvada acquired land for the park from John F. Fuller & Co. in 1967 and it has been owned and operated by the city and North Jeffco Recreation District ever since. Additional park land was provided by a developer of nearby residential property. The park was developed in 1975 as a result of the 1974 City of Arvada Bond election.

Double E Park	77 th Drive & Ward Rd.	This undeveloped site will be a future neighborhood park serving the Double E subdivision.
Emil Schneider Park	7607 W.72nd Pl	This park is located in Indian Tree Village Subdivision. The property was deeded to North Jeffco from the City of Arvada May 17, 1971, and an agreement was made between North Jeffco and Tanco Corp. for the development of the park. Indian Tree Homeowners Association requested the Board name this Mini Park after Emil Schneider, Sr., the former owner of the park site. The park was dedicated August, 10, 1979.
Fairmount Trail	Parallel to Easley Rd	The Fairmount Trail is a Jefferson County Open Space trail that follows a Denver Water Board irrigation canal, starting near the Arvada Reservoir east of S.H. 93 on the south edge of 64th Avenue. From there, the trail follows the canal through the city's Long Lake Ranch Regional Park past the historic Churches Ranch, then south along the canal to Easley Road. This trail is entirely soft surface for equestrian, joggers and mountain bikers.
Far Horizons Park	Chase Dr. & Fenton Wy	Far Horizons Park agreement by and between Jefferson County School District R-1 and North Jeffco Recreation and Park District, was approved September 26, 1968. The school District is owner of 14 acres of land at 84th Ave. and Fenton Street known as Parr Elementary School. Far Horizons Citizen's Association and Community Group proposed a map for the 4 and 1/2 acre park to include a ball diamond, soccer field and football field. North Jeffco developed the park, which was completed in 1969. This is a joint School-Park and Recreation agreement, similar to others in the Arvada area. Far Horizons Park was named for the subdivision in which it was located.
Farmstead Park	73rd Ave. & Braun Wy.	Farmstead Park is a 2.5 Acre site and includes walkways and playground for younger children. The park was turned over to the City of Arvada as part of a Melody Homes development in April, 1980.
Fitzmorris Park	62nd Pl. & Independence St	Fitzmorris Park in Oberon Subdivision joins Fitzmorris School grounds on the north. Park land was obtained from James B. Dutrow and Helen B. Dutrow who deeded lots 143 and 144 to North Jeffco on July 11, 1960. Later that same year, G. Ed Dorsett and Clarence M. Dorsett deeded an additional 2.382 acres to North Jeffco October 14, 1960.
Foster School Park	5300 Sausbury St.	The City of Arvada utilized Block Grant funds to develop and construct playground fields at Foster Elementary School. In 1983, the Recreation District provided for the maintenance of the facilities developed by the City and the R-1 School District.

Gold Strike Park	56th Ave. and Depew	<p>This park, the site of Lewis Ralston's gold find, is of great significance in the recorded history of Arvada. Jefferson County and the State of Colorado. Prior to 1850 some trappers and traders carried a stray gold nugget, but no record of a discovery had been documented, and no group had been organized to search for gold in the Rocky Mountains.</p> <p>Prior to 1850 the land that would become Colorado was wilderness occupied only by wandering native Indians. Lewis Ralston's discovery on June 22, 1850 brought the prospecting wagon companies of 1858. These miners uncovered the rich veins of gold in the high peaks of Clear Creek Canyon. Even more important than gold were the pioneer settlers and the beginnings of civic government. The first villages were founded in the following years.</p> <p>Lois C. Lindstrom began researching Ralston's discovery in 1972 and finally succeeded in having it recognized. With the help of the Arvada Historical Society the area of the gold find was placed on the Colorado Register of Historic Places on December 1, 1995.</p>
Hackberry Roadside Park	71st Ave and Wadsworth Blvd	<p>Hackberry is very significant in Arvada history. It is the name of the prominent hill making up this area and the Hackberry Tree has been included as a symbol on the official Seal of the City of Arvada. The name comes from one such tree that stood near this location as a source of many legends told by the natives of the area including one stating that a Chief killed in battle was buried on this hill. A seed from his medicine bag sprouted and grew into the gnarly tree that could be seen from as far as North Denver thus serving as a landmark for the pioneers on their way to the goldfields to the west. In 1937, the Colorado Highway Dept attempted to move the 135 year old tree to straighten Wadsworth blvd but unfortunately the tree was victim of vandalism and did not survive. Shortly thereafter, the Arvada Garden Club was organized and planted hackberry seeds about 75 feet west thus making this small park. In 1966, the Club applied for and received a Sears and Roebuck Co. grant of \$1,404.90 for a Community Beautification Project for the park. In August, 1969, the Mayor, Richard S. Bartlett, proclaimed September 1, 1969, as Hackberry Tree Day.</p>
Hackberry School Park	79th Ave. & Upham	<p>Hackberry is very significant in Arvada history. It is the name of the prominent hill making up this area and the Hackberry Tree has been included as a symbol on the official Seal of the City of Arvada. The name comes from one such tree that stood near this location as a source of many legends told by the natives of the area including one stating that a Chief killed in battle was buried on this hill. Hackberry Hill Elementary School was built in 1966 and the park commissioned later.</p>
Harder Property	7020 Garrison	<p>Mr. Harder was a primary owner of land in this area. Arvada citizens have the pleasure of experiencing this land at the Majestic View Park which was one of 30 parks resulting from City Bond elections in 1974. Ten more acres of Mr. Harder's land expanded the park to the west in 1984 allowing for tennis courts and horse shoe pits.</p>
Harry S Truman Park	6580 Union	<p>Named for President Harry S Truman. President Truman visited the Arvada area in 1948.</p>

Harold Lutz Complex	58th and Miller	<p>Land for a Sports Complex at 58th and Miller Street was acquired in a 99 year lease agreement between the State of Colorado, acting through the Department of Institutions, for 40 acres of State Home and Training School property (Ridge Home) to be used by North Jeffco for Recreational activities. Bill #264 was enacted by the Colorado General Assembly and approved by Governor Love. September 30, 1969. North Jeffco leases the property for \$400 annually and 6% to 9% of the net income from concessions. This complex originally had four baseball fields and four football fields. Finally, The Sports Complex at 58th and Miller Streets was given a name at the 25th anniversary celebration of the North Jeffco District in 1981. It was named for Harold D. Lutz, the attorney who organized North Jeffco Recreation and Park District in 1956, and continued as the District's attorney until 1994. His other contributions to Jefferson County were: he filled an unexpired term as Jefferson County Judge in 1950 and was elected to that office in 1952 for an additional four years; he was appointed the attorney for Jefferson County R-1 School District for 18 years; he also organized and is the attorney for Foothills Park and Recreation District and for Evergreen Park and Recreation District. In 1993, the complex expanded to the east with 13 acres purchased from Stan Lassak, et al. This complex has been the host to our City's elaborate firework displays on the Fourth of July.</p>
Hillside Park	74th Avenue and Jay St.	<p>Funding and approval for the park was provided by the 1974 Bond Referendum approved by the citizens of Arvada.</p>
Homestead Park	63rd Ave. and Depew	<p>This property was originally purchased for irrigation easement from 15 previous owners. Bates Lake on the site was eventually drained and filled in. Funding for the park was provided by the 1974 Bond Referendum approved by the citizens of Arvada. The land was homesteaded by the Bates family and was named "In order to memorialize the hardy pioneers responsible for settling Arvada." Homestead Park was agreed upon by the Park Naming Advisory Board for the Pioneers and the Bates family.</p>
Hoskinson Park	Estes Street to Carr St.	<p>City of Arvada leased land to North Jeffco Metropolitan Recreation and Park District to manage, maintain and control property for recreation and park purposes for a period of 99 years. The lease in Alta Vista Subdivision for 2.5 Acres was signed in February, 1958, and the park was developed by 1973. The park was named for Chet Hoskinson, who developed 256.5 acres of land west of Arvada following World War II. In the 60s and 70s he left further development to his brothers and entered into politics. He was elected to Arvada City Council in 1963, served as a Jefferson County Commissioner, and was appointed to a committee by Governor Lamm.</p>
Independence Park	67th Ave. & Oberon Rd.	<p>Independence Park was purchased by the Arvada City Bond Referendum approved by the voters in 1974 and the City's share of Open Space funds, approved December 15, 1975. A resolution passed by Arvada City Council, granted \$28,000 to North Jeffco to develop the park the following year, and voted to name it Independence Park in 1977. Owners of Oberon Ditch Company and the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad Co. requested that a durable pipe be constructed and channelled through a residential area to carry the 100-year flood and or waters coming from Hayes Lake to Ralston Creek. Jefferson County Commissioners approved Open Space funds be used to build Hayes Lake spillway in 1980.</p>

Kennedy Property	7000 Garrison Street	Mr. Kennedy was a primary owner of land in this area. Arvada citizens have the pleasure of experiencing his land at the Majestic View Park which was one of 30 parks resulting from City Bond elections in 1974. This 25 acre property was finally purchased on December 19, 1995 from the University of Wyoming Board of Trustees for \$1.2MM through Jefferson County resolution CC95-771.
Ladybug Park	6565 Dover Street	Originally named Homer Peck Park, this park was one of the City Parks approved in the 1974 referendum. A neighborhood child suggested the name of Ladybug Park which was accepted by City Council on March 22, 1976.
Lakecrest Park	81st Place and Miller	Lakecrest Park was introduced as a park / school facility by the City of Arvada in 1985 and dedicated in 1986. In May 1992, this park was renamed to Michael Northey park and re-dedicated with a monument. Mr. Northey was an Arvada Police Office killed in the line of duty on August 13, 1979 at the young age of only 25 years.
Lake Arbor Recreation Center	7451 West 83rd Way	The lake that is the namesake of this park was originally named Church Lake, then Tynon Lake before receiving it name from the adjacent subdivision. It is in a natural drainage area dating from farm irrigation days of early times in Arvada. It has been improved and incorporated into part of Lake Arbor Park. The Park of the same name was the last of the city's 30 bond issue parks to be completed in 1977. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor and Arvada City Clerk to execute a contract to purchase Real Estate at Lake Arbor for \$355,000 was passed May 5, 1975. In addition to the referendum, \$110,000 was received from the Federal Government for the project and 12 acres were purchased by Jefferson County Open Space. The total park includes 98 acres with 35 of those as water surface. At the time of purchase, arrangements were also made for school land (Far Horizons Park) to be maintained by North Jeffco for recreational purposes between Lamar St., Pomona Drive and the housing development north of W. 80th Avenue. for recreational purposes to be maintained by North Jeffco.
Lamplighter Park	75th Ave. & Queen Cir.	Lake Arbor Recreation Center was approved by City Council October 19, 1970. This is a City owned center, and was funded by City's share of Open Space Funds and Witkin Homes 6% developers fee for recreational purposes.
Lew Walsh Park	68th and Otis	Lamplighter Park is named for the subdivision in which it is located. This park is one of five joint parks which are co-funded by the City of Arvada and open space funds for North Jeffco. Others were Arvada Center Parking construction, Moon Gulch Tennis Courts, Meadow Lake, and Shadow Mountain. This City of Arvada owned park, was originally named Hideaway Park. A local cowboy, originally from Wyoming, frequently brought horses to the nearby school for the school children to ride. That cowboy was Lew Walsh and quickly became quite a friend of the young people. Mr. Walsh died in the spring of 1992 after being diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's disease in 1991. After his death, the City of Arvada officially changed the name to Lew Walsh Park July 6, 1992.

Leyden Creek Park	7290 Union Court	<p>While the rage of the time was gold, three brothers (Martin, Michael, and Patrick Leyden) discovered rich coal seams along a local creek in 1865. Like riches from gold, riches from opening several coal mines led to both fame and tragedy for the Leydens with Michael being murdered in 1869 and Martin dying of methane gas poisoning in the mine in 1870.</p> <p>The area has a rich history including being a significant source of coal to the City of Denver with the arrival of electric lines and a tramway in 1902. In 1903, the manager of the Leyden Coal Mine named the local town housing over a hundred mine works as "Leyden". In addition to the town, the Leyden name can also be found on a lake, creek, trail, greenbelt, reservoir, road and chapel and thus the namesake for this park.</p> <p>The 30 Park Referendum of 1974 was the primary impetus for this park which was completed in 1975. This park also contains part of the Leyden Creek Trail and is part of the greenbelt system incorporating several parks.</p> <p>While the rage of the time was gold, three brothers (Martin, Michael, and Patrick Leyden) discovered rich coal seams along a local creek in 1865. Like riches from gold, riches from opening several coal mines led to both fame and tragedy for the Leydens with Michael being murdered in 1869 and Martin dying of methane gas poisoning in the mine in 1870.</p> <p>The area has a rich history including being a significant source of coal to the City of Denver with the arrival of electric lines and a tramway in 1902. In 1903, the manager of the Leyden Coal Mine named the local town housing over a hundred mine works as "Leyden". In addition to the town, the Leyden name can also be found on a lake, creek, park, greenbelt, reservoir, road and chapel and thus the namesake for this trail.</p> <p>This trail is part of the greenbelt system incorporating several trails and parks and was funded primarily as part of the 30 Park Referendum of 1974 and was designated as the "Leyden Creek Corridor" at the time of the referendum.</p> <p>Today, this trail starts near Quaker street and extends past Leyden Reservoir and the Town of Leyden following an old irrigation ditch. It continues through hogback formations, past the historic Leyden Coal mine and finally tying into the proposed trail along the east side of Colorado Highway No. 93. It connects to Leyden Creek Park and finally at Davis Lane Park at the confluence of Leyden and Ralston Creeks.</p>
Leyden Creek Trail	Northwesterly from Davis Lane Park to Leyden Canyon	<p>This trail is part of the greenbelt system incorporating several trails and parks and was funded primarily as part of the 30 Park Referendum of 1974 and was designated as the "Leyden Creek Corridor" at the time of the referendum.</p> <p>Today, this trail starts near Quaker street and extends past Leyden Reservoir and the Town of Leyden following an old irrigation ditch. It continues through hogback formations, past the historic Leyden Coal mine and finally tying into the proposed trail along the east side of Colorado Highway No. 93. It connects to Leyden Creek Park and finally at Davis Lane Park at the confluence of Leyden and Ralston Creeks.</p>
Little Dry Creek	78th Ave & Pierce St.	<p>Little Dry Creek is a small drainage likely named for its proximity to another drainage called "Big Dry Creek". The park received its name for its close proximity to the creek and the trail of the same name which runs through it.</p> <p>The 30 Park Referendum of 1974 was the primary impetus for this 4.277 acre park which was completed in 1975.</p>

Little Dry Creek Trail	Northwesterly from 75 th & Sheridan to 86 th & Indiana	Little Dry Creek Trail is in an Open Space Corridor which runs along the drainageway from Chase Drive on the east edge of Arvada to the west end of Little Dry Creek near Indiana Street. This trail is the City of Arvada's second-most-continuous trail and enables trail access to many other municipalities in the Metro area through it's inclusion in the Trails Masterplan.
Marge Roberts Park	59th and Miller	The building of this trail was authorized by the City of Arvada through the use of developer escrow funds from Western States Reclamation Inc. Marge Roberts Park, originally named Holder Park, was purchased with Arvada's share of Open Space funds, August 20, 1979. Early on it has some maintenance issues. Nearby King of Glory Lutheran and Arvada Mennonite Church had been trying to have the park site upgraded for sometime. A neighborhood group was organized in 1986 and decided to use a "Naturalistic Approach." Through the efforts of Marge Roberts, a park for the young and elderly was finally completed, dedicated and named for Marge Roberts, June 8, 1990.
Majestic View Park	70th Way & Estes Drive	Majestic View Park is one of 30 parks voted on in the City Bond election of 1974. It was named for Majestic Avenue (now Garrison Street) and the original Majestic View subdivision, now Huntington Heights. The land first was part of the parcel belonging to Charles Rand, an original Fifty-Niner. In 1984 the park was expanded to include the Harder Family estate, about 10 acres, which brought the total to 75. The Nature Center was opened in 2002 in the remodeled Harder Residence. One of the main features of the park is Oberon Lake. It was constructed by the Oberon Land and Water Company 1887. Its water is obtained from Clear Creek via the Farmer's Highline Canal and Oberon Lateral. The Fox residence on the north side of the lake is planned for hosting conferences and receptions.
MacArthur Park	83rd and Kipling	It is named for the subdivision in which it is located. The subdivision is named after the famous park of song in Los Angeles. That MacArthur Park is named after General Douglas MacArthur. The subdivision was built in 1988 and re-platted and added to in 1992.
Mcllvoy Park	5750 Upham Street	Mcllvoy Park was named for Dennis D. and Clemency Mcllvoy who built their house in 1897. The house was known as the Park or Legion House, and has been used by the Mental Health Office and Urban Renewal Authority. After her husband's death, Mrs. Clemency Mcllvoy gave house and surrounding grounds to the City of Arvada in 1919 and it became Arvada's first public park in 1935. Tennis courts were built on the property by funds raised by the Town Board and School District No. 2. The three acres of land at the park site were leased to North Jeffco for 99 years in 1958. In the 1990's the tennis courts were removed and the outstanding playground facilities and a pavilion were built, later dedicated to Dick Connor, an admired sports writer for THE DENVER POST.
Meadowglen Park	81st Lane and Everett	Meadowglen Park runs between Club Crest Drive and Pomona Drive and includes a trail along Little Dry Creek. The park includes a lake and is named after the subdivision in which it is located. The area to the north is a private homeowners association.

Meadowbrook Village Park	56th Avenue & Quaker	Property for Meadowbrook Village Park, containing 1.25 acres, was purchased with Jefferson County Open Space funds in 1975, and was named for Meadowbrook subdivision in which it is located. The "brook" refers to Van Bibber Creek near the park. Meadowbrook Nature trail runs from the northwest corner of the park to the northeast corner. Lottery funds from the County Commissioners to the District were used to develop Meadowbrook Park in December, 1985.
Meadowlake Park	62nd Avenue & Zinnia	When Meadowlake Village subdivision was developed by Ron Hossington, the City of Arvada's six per cent development requirement was used for the park. Meadowlake Park was named for the subdivision in which it was located.
Meadows at West Woods	1604 1 W. 64th Ave.	This park sits on land that was once part of the Boyd Ranch. The Boyd family sold some of their ranch property which was made into a housing development called Meadows at West Woods, from which the park derives its name. This park was dedicated by the Arvada Park Advisory Committee on October 25, 2005.
Memorial Park	8001 West 59th Ave	Memorial Park is a park for the handicapped approved in the Arvada 1974 Bond Referendum. A playground was constructed behind Arvada City Hall 1984. A footbridge across Ralston Creek was approved and built in 1986. The name for Memorial Park was approved by City Council, June 20, 1977 for the numerous persons who had contributed greatly to the Arvada Community.
Melman Park	Brooks and Carr	Two acres of Callahan and Melman Subdivision were deeded for park purposes, November 22, 1967. For a period of time the park was managed by various civic clubs and organizations. Finally a request was made by Arvada Jaycees that the District develop in cooperation with Boy Scout Troop 231. With North Jeffco specifications Scouts and Jaycees provided manpower and as much material as possible. They built bridges, installed picnic tables, planted grass and trees, and spruced-up the greenbelt along Ralston Creek.
Melody Park	74th and Alkire	Melody Park is an extension of Youth Memorial Park on Alkire Street. This is a blue grass area surrounded by a split rail fence. It is not known why the park was named Melody Park.
Michael Northey Park	84th and Simms	Michael Northey Park is named in the memory of Michael Northey, an Arvada police officer killed in the line of duty on August 11, 1979. The accident occurred when the driver of another car struck Officer Northey during a traffic stop. He had been with the police department only 18 months. The park was dedicated in 1992.
Moon Gulch Park	72nd Drive & Coors Ct.	The property for Moon Gulch Park was provided by the City's 6% park requirement from Melody Homes Development and by the City's portion of Jefferson County Open Space Funds. This five-acre park includes a softball field, back-stop and tennis courts. Part of the area is recessed for flood retention and gives the impression of being moon-shaped from overflow of heavy rains, giving it the name Moon Gulch Park. Walkway doubles for bike path along W. 72nd Avenue.
North Jeffco Park	9101 Ralston Rd.	A contract between the City of Arvada and North Jeffco Parks was agreed to on October 28, 1957 for 14.5 acres of Emma Louise Cheateley's and Richard Cole Cannon's property. North Jeffco gave the city certain water rights in exchange for 20 years free rent. The North Jeffco Center Park Building was constructed and the dedication was held at 9101 Ralston Road on March 5, 1960. The original building consisted of an all purpose room, District Administration Offices, Assembly Room, Arts and Craft Room, Kitchen, Utility Room and Rest Rooms.

North Table Mtn Park	58th & Antero St	This park sits at the base of North Table Mountain, on the north side. It consists of seven acres which include a picnic area and basketball courts.
Oak Park	65th and Oak	North Jeffco purchased the property from Thomas D. and Marjorie B. Vanderhoof, August 3, 1962. Funds for Oak Park were made possible in 1967 by the approval of North Jeffco Metropolitan Recreation and Park District. The park is adjacent to 10.7 acres of Campbell School property. In addition to 11.67 acres for the park, the City of Arvada leased the obsolete Campbell Cottage School property to North Jeffco for Oak Park in 1980. North Jeffco converted that area into midgeet football, baseball and softball fields in 1993. The Park was probably named for the nearby grove of oak trees planted by pioneer David Milne Stott.
Patridge Open Space	Leyden Road west of Quaker	The land was originally part of the Paul Patridge sheep and cattle ranch. Paul was active in the community and helped to establish the Jeffco Airport. He died in 1985 and in 2000 the family donated the property to the city under the Jeffco Open Space program.
Pearce Park	80th and Indiana	This open space park was acquired by the city in 2000 from the Pearce family. The family lived in this area and owned a grocery store at 78th and Indiana. The park is 65 acres of undeveloped land and the city plans to leave it as an open space.
Pioneer Ball Fields	82nd and Simms	The 20-acre Pioneer Park ball field complex was dedicated on July 12, 1996. Pioneer Park, with five ball fields, is the first major complex to be built in Arvada since 1985. The park, at West 82nd Avenue just west of Simms Street, was built by North Jeffco Park and Recreation District and Arvada. Funding was provided by Jefferson County Open Space and the Colorado Lottery.
Quaker Acres	74th and Terry Court	Land acquisition for Quaker Acres was provided by the City of Arvada's 6% developer's requirement and by Open Space. Jefferson County Commissioners approved \$125,000 of Open Space funds for land to be deeded to North Jeffco, May 7, 1985. The City of Arvada leased this property to North Jeffco for 99 years for one dollar. The park is named for the subdivision in which it is located.
Rainbow 2 & 3 Parks	8191 Pomona Drive 8181 Yarrow Street	Rainbow Parks 2 and 3 are City Parks, approved by the citizens of Arvada in the 1974 Bond Referendum. Rainbow 2 is located at W. 81st Pl and Pomona Dr. and Rainbow 3 at Yarrow St. and Allison St. It is not known how these parks are named. The three Rainbow Parks were originally referred to as Pomona Parks, East, Middle and West. Rainbow Park 1 was changed to the Arvada Volunteer Firefighters Park in 2005.
Rainbow Trail	Parallels 80th Ave west of Wadsworth	The Rainbow Trail starts at 81st Place and Yarrow Street in Rainbow Three Park, then runs west through Rainbow Two Park and passing Weber Elementary School headed to the Arvada Volunteer Firefighters Park at 84th and Garrison Street. This trail is primarily a paved neighborhood trail.
Ralston Cove Park	Brooks Drive & Holland	Formerly known as "Safeway Park," the name was changed to Ralston Cove Park, located south of Brooks Drive from Garrison Street west to W 59th Place along Ralston Creek. The Student Council at Fitzmorris Elementary School selected six final names from those submitted. Students voted for their favorite name. "Ralston Cove Park" suggested by a fifth grader, Wesley Coplen, became the name of the enlarged park. It was built primarily with Open Space funds and was dedicated on June 18, 1984.

Ralston Addition	64th and Quail	<p>North Jeffco acquired the property for Ralston Recreation Park by a joint agreement between the Hoskinson Brothers, the Allen Estate, and Jeffco School District R-1, in 1960. The Center consisted of Arvada's first indoor swimming pool (Architect Harold Carver), ball fields, open areas, and was dedicated in 1967. The pool did not have a name until it was dedicated McFadden Pool, January 25, 1986. Jim T. McFadden originated, administered, and had been a regular instructor in the pool's handicap program for 15 years. He taught disabled persons to swim, some were minus one or two limbs. Tim was terminally ill with cancer, but lived to see the pool named for him before he passed away, February 14, 1986.</p>
Ralston Cemetery	1466 West 62nd Ave.	<p>Ralston Cemetery was named because it was located near Ralston Crossing. The first burials in the cemetery were the triplets born to S.S. and M.J. Osborn on October 2, 1869. Ira died the day he was born, Ida died six days later on October 8, 1869, and Charles W. died on December 17, 1869. As expected, this cemetery was also referred to as the Osborn Hill Cemetery. A quit claim deed was given by Mary Ann Broad on May 17, 1902, and recorded on September 6, 1902, for a tract of land of 2.82 acres to be used as a community cemetery. The land's legal description is oval shaped on a knoll that can be seen from Eldridge Street or West Sixty-fourth Avenue. Trustees for the cemetery were William C. Carroll, Torrence White, and Joseph A. Newcomb. A wagon road, 16 feet wide, leading from the county road to the burial site was included with the order that the land area was to be used "for burial purposes only and never to be used for any other purpose." Early in the 1990s, the surrounding area was being developed into a subdivision. Dennis Bowman, Barbara and Jim Tracy were instrumental in having the City of Arvada preserve and maintain the Ralston Cemetery. The dedication was held June 29, 1996. Mayor Bob Frie participated by giving the history of the area.</p>
Ralston Creek Trail	Northwesterly from 58 th & Sheridan to 68 th & RT93	<p>The Ralston Creek Trail is the most complete Arvada trail running upstream from the Clear Creek Trail over the mast bridge near I-70 and Sheridan west through Gold Strike Park, Creekside Park, Memorial Park, Hoskinson Park, North Jeffco Park, Ralston Cove Park, Arvada Tennis Center, Oak Park, Davis Lane Park, Danny Kendrick's Parks, Oa€™Kane Park, Ralston Valley Park, Maple Valley Park, West Woods Golf Course, to and around Tucker Lake Park and the Arvada Reservoir. Along this route, trail users are introduced to a wide cross-section of Arvada from its historic beginnings in Gold Strike Park at the east end and newer developments around the West Woods Golf Course at the west. Along the way, trail users will meet bikers, hikers, joggers, walkers, roller-bladers, skate boarders and strollers of all ages. West of Eldridge Street, this trail includes a separate soft surface trail for equestrian riders, joggers and mountain bikers. Since the trails somewhat parallel Ralston Creek, the grade does not exceed ADA standards, even at the hilly west end around the Arvada Reservoir. If you enjoy recreational trails that take you through natural streamside habitat, past irrigation ponds, through open space parks, near playgrounds, tennis and play fields in a continuum of trees and past a wide variety of activities, you will enjoy the Ralston Creek Trail experience.</p>
Ralston Valley Park	Beech St. to Eldridge	<p>Ralston Valley Park was funded by developer escrow money and a grant from Land and Water Conservation Fund. The park consisted of 9.4 acres in blue grass, three bridges over Ralston Creek, a playground, a wooden deck, picnic area and a trail beside Ralston Creek.</p>

Robby Ferruffino Park	74th and Carr	This park was named for Robby Ferruffino, claimed by cancer in 1989 at the age of 10, was known for giving away gifts brought to him at Children's Hospital in Denver. Ferruffino found escape with a group called Sunshine Kids that took him and others to events such as Denver Broncos games. After he died, his family created a memorial fund and the group that bears his name.
Russell Park	86th Parkway @ Five Parks	This is one of five parks in the new Five Parks development, all of which were named for historic figures. This park is named after Dr. Richard Russell, the first mayor of Arvada in 1904. He went on to serve eight terms as mayor as well as three terms at president of the school board; he also organized the First National Bank of Arvada. He was born in 1865 and died in 1934.
Saddlebrook Park	75th & Indiana St	This park is named for the subdivision in which it is located.
Secret Park	W. 66th Ave. & Pierce St.	The Hoskinson Brothers (Chet & L.V.) Construction Company donated the land in 1960 to Jefferson County for park and recreational development. The site was named for T. Ellsworth Secret, the original owner of the land. Secret Park and Recreational Center is a multi-use facility, owned by North Jeffco Park & Recreation District and is separate from Secret Elementary School. The Center includes a recreation building, swimming pool, tennis courts, and roller hockey arena. The Center was completed in 1968 with the most recent update and remodel in 1998.
Shadow Mountain Park	W. 70th Place & Fig St.	S.K. Development Co. and the City of Arvada entered into an agreement for Shadow Mountain Subdivision, Filing 1 on September 17, 1979. Filing 2, January 3, 1980 was for bridge construction over Ralston Creek on Eldridge St. Filing 3, for 13.5 acres equal to the 6% land dedication requirement on an existing 100-year flood plain. Open Space Funds were used for the completion of Shadow Mountain Park and the extension of the Ralston Creek Trail, in 1986. Shadow Mountain Park is named for the subdivision that surrounds it; and for the shadows cast over the area by North Table Mountain.
Sierra Park	W. 78th Ave. & Oak St.	Sierra Park adjoins Sierra Elementary School. A 1974 Bond Issue Park, its design and development was the result of two neighborhood meetings held in the fall of 1975 held at the school. The citizens' established priorities for the park were: grass and sprinkler, trees and shrubs, water tap, and sidewalk. The park was completed in 1976 for a cost of approximately \$81,000.00. The park was named for Sierra Elementary School and the surrounding housing development. The name "Sierra" comes from the Sierra Vista subdivision in which it is located. Sierra is Spanish for "range of mountains." The subdivision's name, "Sierra Vista" refers to the view of the foothills seen from the community.
Skyline Estates Park	East of 56 th & Ward Rd	This park is named for the subdivision in which it is located.
Spring Mesa Park	West of 76 th & Quaker	This park is named for the subdivision in which it is located.

Stenger Soccer Complex	W. 58th Ave. & Miller St.	<p>The Stenger Sports Complex is approximately 80 acres. It was originally constructed and managed by The Arvada Soccer Association through a lease with the Stenger family, which included water owned by the Stenger family. In 1998, the city of Arvada received Open Space funding and acquired the Complex. The city took over ownership, operations and maintenance of the facilities. North Jeffco manages the programmed use of the facilities.</p>
Sunrise Park	Between W. 67th & 68 th Aves. & Lamar & Jay Sts.	<p>Sunrise Park was developed as a result of the 1974 Park Bond Issue. The site selection was determined by the City's 6% developer's requirement for park space in the Lamar Heights Subdivision. As a result of well-attended community meetings, the priorities for the park were identified. The priorities were: grass, sprinkler and a water tap, lights, trees and shrubs, hiker/biker path, a "tot lot", picnic area, practice field, a multi-purpose pad and play equipment. Sunrise Park was constructed the summer of 1976 for \$81,000.00. There are two reasons for the name "Sunrise Park". One reason comes from the unobstructed view of the sunrise to the east. The second reason because it is on the east or "sunrise" side of the city.</p>
Sunrise Ridge Park	W. 61st Ave. & Easley St.	<p>Sunrise Ridge Park was dedicated to the city in two forms: as eight acres of park land from the developer of the "Sunrise Ridge" housing development, and from 5.96 acres for an elementary school site which R-1 Schools declared surplus land. In 2004, the developer completed the landscape, irrigation and trail improvements, which connected to the main park area. In 2006, phase 2 of the park improvements were completed using park development fees. The improvements included landscaping and irrigation, trails, a multi-use pad and playgrounds. Completion of the park awaits receipt of remaining park development fees.</p>
Tennyson Knolls Park	W. 62nd Ave. & Tennyson St.	<p>Tennyson Knolls Park is located just west of Tennyson St. and north of the Tennyson Hills subdivision. It sits on a small knoll, hence the name for the park. The funds for developing the park were a result of the 1974 Park Bond Election. As a result of well-attended community meetings the priorities for the park were determined. The park was completed in 1975 and included playfields, a multipurpose play pad, two tennis courts and trails which connected Tennyson St. on the east, to Vrain St. on the south, and to Wolf St. on the west. The total cost of park construction was \$185,000.00</p>
Terrace Park	W. 53rd Ave. & Dover St.	<p>Terrace Park is a neighborhood park with a playground, open field space for pick-up sports activities, picnic tables, benches, irrigation and lights for night safety. The name is derived from the large terraced area on the north edge of the park.</p>
Thundercloud Park	7150 Hackberry Road W. 71st Ave. & Teller St.	<p>Thundercloud Park sits atop a water storage tank and provides a panoramic view of the entire metro area and front range. It is guessed that the name, "Thundercloud," was chosen because of the breath-taking views of clouds rolling over the metro area from the mountains and moving eastward to the plains. It was funded by a 1974 Park Bond election and was dedicated in 1975. As a result of community meetings, park improvements were determined. The final expense for the park was approximately \$132,000.00 for the playground, landscape and irrigation, two tennis courts (on the tank top) and trails.</p>

Tomlinson Park	W. 51st Ave & Garrison St.	<p>Tomlinson Park was originally named "Birdland Park." Due to the efforts of Arvadian Jan Eckhardt, the 12 acres were saved from becoming a subdivision because it originally had been an area mined for sand and gravel. State law stated the area, once mined, could be restored and become a state protected park site. It became "Birdland Park." The name was changed to Tomlinson Park in the 1987 to honor Jack Tomlinson, former North Jeffco Board President. Arvada "Man of the Year," City Councilman, Mayor, and for his dedication to making Arvada a better place for children. In 2005, the park's lake was enlarged, to accommodate storm water flow from the commercial development on Kipling St., and the gazebo (built by an Arvada Kiwanis Club) and walking paths were reconstructed.</p>
Tucker Lake Open Space	West of Quaker St. at W. 74th Ave.	<p>The Tucker Lake Open Space area overlooks the Arvada Reservoir and provides a panoramic view of the metro area, North Table Mountain and the entire front range. It surrounds a reservoir, which is referred to as "Tucker Lake." It is filled from Ralston Creek via the Haines and Piquette Ditch, dating back to 1869. The reservoir was enlarged in 1899 and dams were rebuilt in 2002. The reservoir is partially built on land once by T. F. Tucker. With several purchases using Jefferson County Open Space funding, the city of Arvada owns the land and some of the water rights for Tucker Reservoir, which is the city's water source for the West Woods Golf Course.</p> <p>In 1990, the southeast corner of 80th and Kipling Sts. was agricultural land with a cattail marsh, several ponds and grazing horses. Part of the area was zoned to become a hospital and the other to become the "Two Ponds" housing development. To protect the area, a grass roots neighborhood effort was developed, becoming the Tow Ponds Preservation Foundation. This group solicited the US Fish and Wildlife Service to help them acquire the land. In May of 1992, Two Ponds was established as a National Wildlife Refuge.</p>
Two Ponds National Wildlife Refuge	East of 80 th and Kipling	<p>Two Ponds is the smallest urban unit in the National Wildlife Refuge System. The Refuge covers 72 acres: 63 acres of upland, 9 acres of wetlands and 3 small ponds. The setting was once a High Plains prairie covered by short grass and mixed prairie grasses. The purpose of Two Ponds NWR is "to protect and enhance urban wildlife habitat and wetlands and provide opportunities for environmental education." In 2005, Two Ponds Trails received National Trail status.</p>
Van Bibber Open Space	West of Ward Rd at 56 th	<p>Jefferson County Open Space (with City and County shares of Open Space funding) purchased 92 acres of open space along Van Bibber Creek between Ward Road and Indiana Street. A paved trail extends the 1.5 mile length of the area. There are, also, several unpaved trails. Ultimately, the Van Bibber Open Space will extend from Ward Road west to Long Lake Regional Park. A pedestrian underpass was constructed in 2007 to allow walkers, runners and bikers to travel to/from Stenger Sports Complex and Van Bibber Open Space without having to cross the traffic of Ward Road.</p>

Van Bibber Trail	W. 58th Ave. & Independence St. to Long Lake Ranch Regional Park, along Van Bibber Creek	The Van Bibber Trail Corridor extends from the confluence with Raiston Creek near Brooks Drive and Garrison Sts., to the foothills through the city's 2004-06 Van Bibber Drainage Project, through the Harold D. Lutz and Stenger Sports Complexes, along the Valley of Rainbow Ridge Subdivision, under Ward Road, west through Van Bibber Open Space, to Indiana St. Although the next part is privately owned, the Trail resumes along Van Bibber Creek west of McIntyre St. adjoining the Meadow Brook Village Subdivision. Another private gap occurs before the trail starts again along 60th Ave., west of the Church Ditch, which connects west to and through the Long Lake Regional Park, then west through the Apple Meadows area. Another private gap remains before the trail starts up the east edge of the White Ranch Open Space, another Jefferson County Open Space property.
Wadsworth Park	W. 63rd Ave to W. 64 th Ave, along Olde Wadsworth Blvd.	Wadsworth Park is a peaceful stretch of parkland paralleling Wadsworth Blvd. It provides a green space buffer between the businesses to the east, and the private residences to the west.
Westlake Park	W. 84th Ave. & Kipling St.	Westlake is a naturalistic and wildlife park, the only one of its kind in Arvada. It includes juniper trees, and oak grove, berry and fruit trees, and is a birdhouse shelter. The four-acre park acts a buffer between a private pond within The Pond subdivision, Kipling Street, and the Wood Run subdivision. It was completed in 1987 for approximately \$95,000.00.
West Tree Park	8500 Zephyr St.	A City of Arvada Referendum funded West Tree Park in 1974. It is a small park with a playground and an open space covered with blue grass. It is directly north of the Pomona High School ball fields. Design and construction started with a neighborhood meeting September 1975. At the second neighborhood meeting, the citizens established the following priorities for park improvement: fencing between the park and the high school, grass, grading and sprinkler, water tap, pay area with sand and swings, irrigation ditch piping, hiker/biker path, trees and shrubs, sitting area and a drinking fountain for approximately \$52,000.00
West Woods Golf Course	6655 Quaker St.	In the planning stages since the early 1980s, the property for West Woods Golf Course was annexed into the City of Arvada in 1991. Jefferson County Open Space funds were used to acquire 150 acres for the course, ten acres were a gift and the remainder was part of the required land dedication form the West Woods subdivision. The golf course derives its name from the subdivision in which it is located. The grand opening was held June 1994.
West Woods Park	Quaker St. & 70th Ave.	West Woods Park adjoins West Woods Elementary School. It is named for the subdivision in which it is located. Park land was dedicated by Genessee, developer of the West Woods Subdivision, around a 5 million gallon water tank site north of 70th Ave. Park development fees from the same subdivision paid for park improvements including: ball fields, parking area, a playground, tennis courts (on top of the water tank), hiker/biker trail, landscaping and irrigation improvements. The park was completed in 1999 for slightly more than \$500,000. In addition to the city's cost, the School District improved one ballfield on the park property for joint use.
Wildgrass Park	89th Loop & Ellis St.	Wildgrass Park is a public park in the Village of 5 Parks subdivision. The park adjoins Mieceklejohn Elementary School. Final park development is in progress.

Willflower Ponds	Near 64 th & McIntyre	There is no park at this site. It was developed in 1996 as trail access to Hyatt Lake, part of the Croke Canal water system.
Woodrun Park	W. 81st Ave. & Hoyt Way	At this location is the Ralston Cemetery, founded prior to 1869. There are numerous headstones marking early pioneer graves. A sign leading to the area sayings "Dedicated to the pioneers of the area. Erected by descendants and friends. 1995"
Wynndham Park	Wynndham Park drive @ Braun Court	Woodrun Park funds were approved in 1985. It was originally planned to be another school-park development. When the Jefferson County Schools determined it was excess land, the city of Arvada acquired the land. A portion of the park is trail along Little Dry Creek. In 2007, extensive improvements to the playground, ball fields and irrigation systems were made.
Yankee Doodle Park	6500 Yank Way	Wynndham Park is neighborhood park completed in 2001. The cost of the park was approximately \$400,000.00, which included landscape, irrigation, playground equipment and a gazebo.
Youth Memorial Park	W. 76th Ave. & Alkire St.	Yankee Doodle Park adjoins Stott Elementary School and serves as a peaceful park buffer between the school and the neighboring retirement development. It was originally completed in 1976 with trail and park improvements made in 1986. It is named Yankee Doodle Park because it is located on Yank Way, and was opened in 1976, the our country's bi-centennial year. Thirty acres of the Youth Memorial Park property was purchased from Elmer & Donna Werth with Open Space funds and 19.17 acres was dedicated to the city as a school-park in the Ralston Valley Filing 4 Subdivision. When the area was annexed to Arvada in the late 1970s, Open Space deed the park to the city who retained an existing lease to North Jeffco. An 1980 North Jeffco bond issue provided the finding for four softball fields, three soccer fields, a concession building, a pavilion and a trail system. In 1996, the VanArsdale Elementary School was built on part of the 19.17 acres. The name, Youth Memorial Park, was selected to honor the children who used to play in the open fields.

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Doug Magee -- Secretary
Jean Scharfenberg
Bob Barber
Pat Cervera
Dick Feuerborn
Dave Giddings
Susan Kracklauer
Steve Lichon
Brian Marette
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Jessica Myklebust
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Jean Scharfenberg
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Carol Whipple

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