

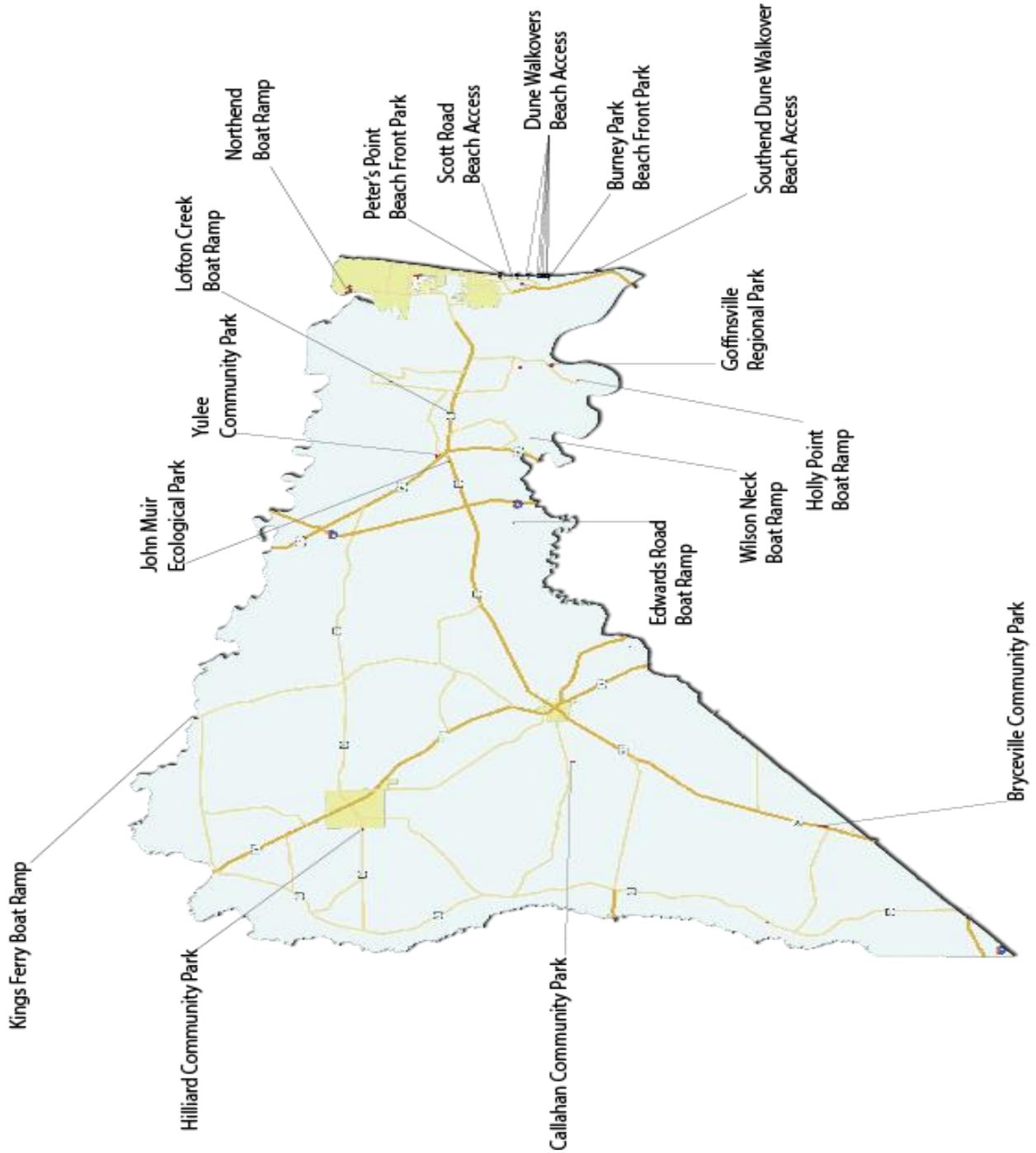
Parks Programmer Survey for Nassau County

Do you work in a Nassau County Park, or arrange for others to use them? If so, you are a "Parks Programmer" and we want to know what you think! We have a survey just for you!

Growth Management Staff, working in partnership with the Northeast Florida Regional Council and local stakeholders, will be gathering public input into the needs and desires of residents. There is a survey directed at Parks Programmers, and one that will allow you and anyone from the public to tell us what you think about parks from the perspective of an individual user. You are welcome to take both, just be sure to respond to the question that tells us that you have done so.

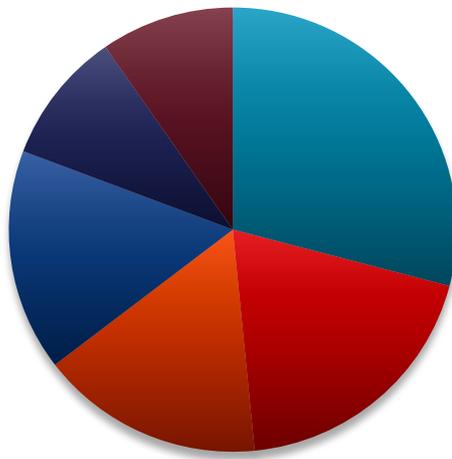
There will be a series of public workshops, which will culminate in a final written document that complies with the 2030 Comprehensive Plan and the Vision 2032 effort. The anticipated completion date is Feb-March of 2014. For more information as the project progresses, including the workshop schedule, visit www.nassaucountyfl.com/index.aspx?nid=587

Welcome to our survey. Note that it is directed towards those parks and facilities under the control of the Nassau County Board of Commissioners and does not refer to those parks managed by the City of Fernandina Beach, Town of Hilliard, and Town of Callahan. A map is provided to remind you of which parks we mean. Please leave your survey with a staff member. If you want to mail it to us, send it to Ameera Sayeed, NEFRC, 6850 Belfort Oaks Place, Jacksonville, FL 32216. The survey ends May 15, 2013.



What is Your Role as a Parks Programmer?

1. The following describes my role as a Parks Programmer. You may choose more than one. *

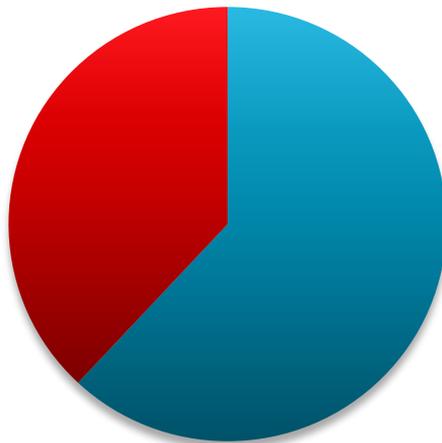


- 29.0% - I coordinate a youth sports activity. (9)
- 19.3% - I work in the Parks and Recreation Department. (6)
- 16.1% - I volunteer in a park. (5)
- 16.1% - "Other" Answers
- 9.6% - I coordinate a youth group that uses parks. (3)
- 9.6% - I coordinate a sports activity for all ages . (3)
- 0.0% - I coordinate a sports activity for seniors. (0)
- 0.0% - I coordinate exercise classes in a park. (0)

"Other" Responses:

- I manage a national park.
- Nassau County Master Gardener
- Master Gardener
- Recreation Commission

2. Have you also responded to the Resident Survey? *



- 61.9% - No (13)
- 38.0% - Yes (8)

3. What do you think about the following statements regarding Nassau County parks from your experience as a Parks Programmer?

	I agree completely	I agree, with some reservations	I disagree
Parks are well maintained.	52.9%	41.1%	5.8%
Parks are located where they are needed.	41.1%	52.9%	5.8%
Parks provide adequate facilities for residents.	29.4%	47.0%	23.5%
Parks are safe.	70.5%	17.6%	11.7%
Parks Department staff serve my needs well.	64.7%	35.2%	0.0%
Wait times to use park facilities are reasonable.	76.4%	17.6%	5.8%
Parks facilities are seldom overcrowded.	41.1%	35.2%	23.5%
There are enough parks in Nassau County.	5.8%	41.1%	52.9%
Parks are easy for my group to use.	47.0%	41.1%	11.7%
There are enough recreational facilities in Nassau County to support our program's/group's needs.	5.8%	29.4%	64.7%
There are adequate facilities in place to allow our program to grow over the coming years and serve additional citizens.	0.0%	35.2%	64.7%
Our program is adversely impacted by a lack of available facilities.	47.0%	17.6%	35.2%
Our program relies heavily on the private sector to provide facilities to accommodate for a lack of County facilities.	41.1%	11.7%	47.0%
Our program relies heavily on City or Town facilities to accommodate for a lack of County facilities.	29.4%	11.7%	58.8%
Our program relies heavily on facilities outside of Nassau County to accommodate for a lack of Nassau County facilities.	5.8%	23.5%	70.5%

Provide additional comments below:

- As a YMCA Sports Director, I rely on our facilities in Fernandina. Our programming is currently unable to reach other parts of the County.
- Bryceville Community Park is in the process of adding a new t-ball field but there is nothing for the older kids once they reach the 13-year-old level. I would like to see a multi-purpose soccer/football field come in to give the Bryceville community some more options without having to drive to other surrounding towns to play these sports if they wanted to.
- I have never been to a park facility in Nassau County
- It would be nice to see a racquetball facility (2-3 courts) or paddleball facility (2-3) in one of the city or county parks in Fernandina Beach.

- Our organization is required to set a maximum capacity due to a lack of facilities. Practice sessions for individual teams are fewer than desired due to a lack of facilities.
- The west side of the county & specifically Bryceville has very inadequate park facilities. We have a play area at the ball field that seriously lacks equipment for the kids to play on. We have 2 ball fields for 5 age groups & when our kids reach 14 years old they have to find somewhere else to play & that means taking any younger siblings with them. That kills any chance for growth.
- There is a great need for a public pool in Callahan.
- We need more basketball courts, inside and outside. We are forced to rely on church gyms because there is only one court available. Outside courts work late in the season but we have younger children that cannot play outside in the winter. Our season runs from November to March.

4. How do you think your group members would feel about the following statements regarding Nassau County parks from your experience as a Parks Programmer?

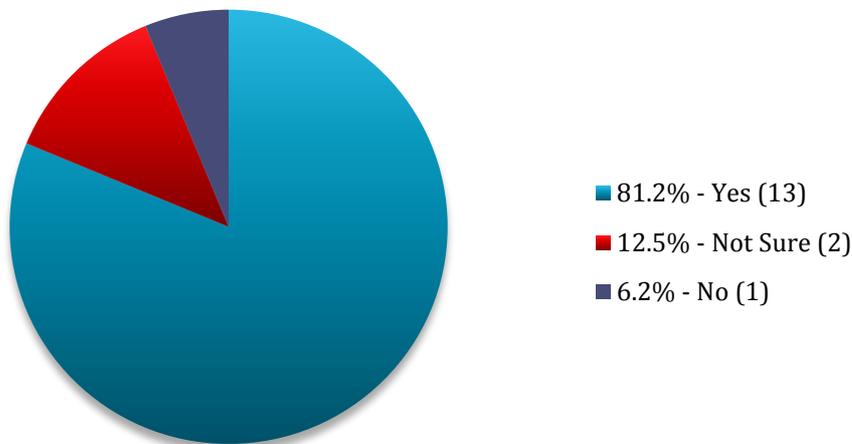
	They would agree completely	They would agree, with some reservations	They would disagree
Parks are well maintained.	37.5%	62.5%	0.00%
Parks are located where they are needed.	37.5%	43.7%	18.7%
Parks provide adequate facilities for residents.	31.2%	43.7%	25.0%
Parks are safe.	68.7%	25.0%	6.2%
Parks Department staff serve my needs well.	50.0%	43.7%	6.2%
Wait times to use park facilities are reasonable.	50.0%	37.5%	12.5%
Parks facilities are seldom overcrowded.	43.7%	25.0%	31.2%
There are enough parks in Nassau County.	18.7%	25.0%	56.2%
Parks are easy for my group to use.	56.2%	37.5%	6.2%
Group members are frustrated by a lack of facilities.	25.0%	43.7%	31.2%
Participation is limited due to a lack of adequate facilities.	50.0%	25.0%	25.0%
Practices, meetings, outings, sessions are limited due to a lack of facilities.	50.0%	25.0%	25.0%
Group members rely heavily on the private sector to provide facilities to accommodate for a lack of County facilities.	43.7%	25.0%	31.2%
Group members rely heavily on City facilities to accommodate for a lack of County facilities.	31.2%	25.0%	43.7%
Our program relies heavily on City or Town facilities to accommodate for a lack of County facilities.	25.0%	25.0%	50.0%

	They would agree completely	They would agree, with some reservations	They would disagree
Our program relies heavily on facilities outside of Nassau County to accommodate for a lack of Nassau County facilities.	12.5%	18.7%	68.7%

Provide additional comments below:

- I have never been to a park facility in Nassau County

5. Do you think that there are things that should be changed in order to improve service to residents and groups who use parks in Nassau County?



6. If you think changes should be made, what do you recommend?

- A pool in Callahan and more land for soccer and football.
- Add additional boat ramps with breakwater structure.
- Additional areas for baseball (little league) practices in/around the Yulee Community Park. Currently teams have to wait on one another to use fields for practice, or cancel practice because they have no field to practice on; Long term: another indoor gym for basketball practices (YBA). Currently the number of youth that can play is limited due to limited facilities.
- Additional facilities are desperately needed. The County needs to establish a fund that provides a designated flow of monies specifically for land acquisition and facility development.
- Additional Funding
- At the Bryceville Community Park, provide the president full access to the light controls to turn them on/off and look to see if they are scheduled on or when they are scheduled to go off. Since we live in the community we can police the lights better than someone who doesn't even live in the community.
- Better parking at the Yulee Community Park (Yulee Sports Complex)
- Better variety of parks; better connectivity and access to parks.
- More Parks/Boat Ramps- Skate park- Pool on the West Side of the County.

- Normally I think government is too big but I believe the County should have a separate Parks and Recreation division. We do not emphasize it enough.
- Operating hours of restrooms on beaches should be open until sunset when the public uses them.
- Providing recreation facilities for the west part of the county. It makes us wonder why we can't have the same facilities that Yulee, Callahan & the rest of the county are getting.
- There should be a full Parks & Recreation Department to include programs & sports

7. Do you have ideas that would help Nassau County make the changes you recommend? Ideas on how to fund or staff changes? Ideas on how to provide services in a better way?

- Additional facilities are desperately needed. The County needs to establish a fund that provides a designated flow of monies specifically for land acquisition and facility development.
- Build a central community center
- Get contributions from local businesses
- Give each president of each community park a username and password to be able to log in and monitor the lights
- No, I understand these changes would cost money and do not know how to get additional resources.
- No, sorry.
- Not at this time.
- Partner with city resources as much as possible to provide for shared resources.
- Perhaps those using the facilities could participate in the clean-up, mowing, etc. of the grounds.
- Start funneling more recreation to the west part of the county. Callahan got a new soccer field & concession stand last year. We would like to have some of that come our way. Also, we have a real problem getting the lights turned on for practice & games. We are going to have a child get hurt trying to practice or play a game waiting for the county to turn the lights on. This should be turned back over to the individual parks & if a park abuses the privilege then take control back.
- The volunteers can do more with the upkeep to take the pressure off the county with a new park for soccer and football and a pool.
- We love the natural aspects of our county and think any changes can/should keep that spirit.
- Yes

8. What can Nassau County do to assist in expanding the services provided by your program?

- Build additional gym facilities for indoor basketball in Yulee for youth basketball; build additional baseball practice fields in Yulee.
- Clear the land on Musselwhite Rd for the park.
- Focus on the West Side of the County, there is no nice park like Goffinsville Park on the West Side.

- Fund it
- Help with facilities; we have a playground with a swing set & an antique rocking ride. That's all the playground equipment for the whole west end of the county.
- More basketball courts. Also an indoor court we could use for game days. The gym at YSC is inadequate for our needs, as far as parking as well as seating and concessions.
- N/a
- Provide additional facilities.
- Purchase more land and protect those areas for future posterity to use.
- Working closer with the community parks to come up with a plan to expand the existing parks if needed.

9. What is the single largest impediment to providing your program to additional citizens?

- Fields
- Indoor basketball facilities: only have one county facility in Yulee for youth basketball.
- Lack of facilities.
- Money
- Money.
- More areas for the Children to play safe.
- N/a
- Not enough land to expand and grow.
- The lack of courts. With more courts, we could have more teams and have different game days.
- Transportation
- We play 5 teams in 5 different age groups on 2 fields. We need more baseball fields so that when our kids reach 14 years old they won't have to find another park to go play at.

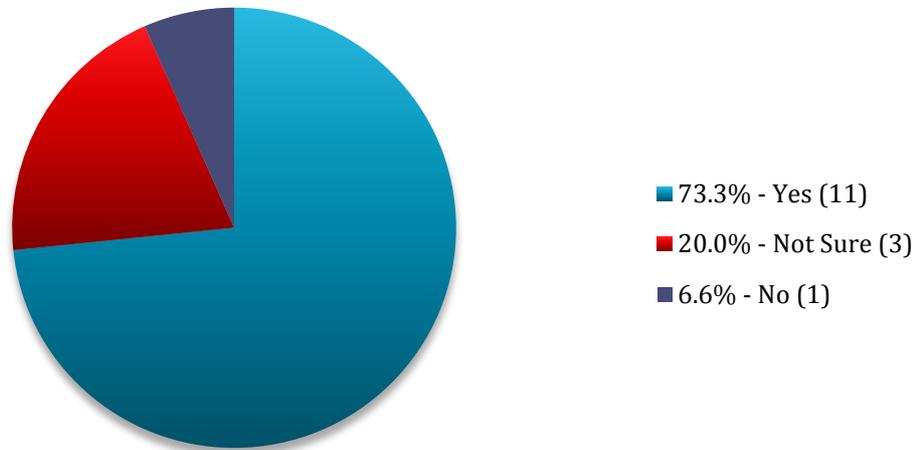
10. What recommendations would you have to provide funding for the acquisition of parkland and the construction of recreational facilities?

- At a minimum let the people vote to tax themselves and let the chips fall where they may.
- Don't know any recommendations; new facilities cost money, so it comes down to funding.
- FRDAP Program- Florida recreational development assistance program.
- Government grants.
- Grants
- It seems to me that the east side of the county has gotten quite a bit of the park & recreation facilities in the past. All we ask is to let us enjoy some of those perks that they have been getting for years. Fund us the same way you funded them. We pay taxes the same as the rest of the county. All we ask for is spend some recreation money out our way.
- Re-instate the recreation impact fee at an amount necessary to functionally serve its purpose as opposed to its current discounted rate, enforce or update current regulations that require the dedication of land, or money in-lieu-

thereof, on new residential developments, and please create a steady stream of income dedicated to land acquisition and facility development.

- Request donations from the community
- We all pay the same amount of taxes throughout Nassau county so the funding should be spread evenly among all parks to build funds to put towards expansion
- We have the parkland we just need to find out a dollar number that we would need to create the park out Musselwhite. A pool and football and soccer fields I would be able to manage the park for the community and try to be self-reliant to ease the cost.
- Why not use some of the impact fees to purchase land and/or maintain what we have?

11. Do you feel Nassau County should become more involved with providing recreational programming?



Any additional thoughts on this issue?

- Supporting the current programs is more important. However, if there is an activity that there is no provider. I feel it would only improve our quality of life.
- The County should provide some level of recreational programming.
- The more recreational programming, especially for kids, the more they are likely to stay off drugs, stay away from crime, and ultimately become productive citizens.
- We have more than enough volunteers just need to use the land we have set aside.
- We will need a new department similar to the City of Fernandina Beach. We could coordinate our efforts with them.

12. Anything else you want us to know as we work on the Nassau County Parks and Recreation Master Plan?

- Bike and walking access is nice to have.
- I could manage and be a program director and help with the upkeep to almost be even on cost for the county and most likely be one of the most efficient parks in the state. With a swim club, football, soccer teams, Basketball teams, fishing camps, exercise programs, and much more.

- I feel keeping program providers involved in the process will help us and give a different perspective to the plan. I appreciate the opportunity to contribute.
- No
- We have no type of indoor facilities on the west side of the county. We have no soccer facilities; we don't have a track for people of all ages to walk on. We have to walk up & down Motes Rd to get our walking in. As I said earlier, the playground area in Bryceville is pitiful at best.
- Work towards consolidation of assets with City of Fernandina. I know it will never work but it sure would be nice.

Respondents:

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