

# Parks and Recreation Citizen Survey

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## Executive Summary of Citizen Survey Results


### Overview of the Methodology

Arlington County conducted a community attitude and interest survey from March to June of 2002 to help determine citizen usage, satisfaction, needs, and priorities for the parks and recreation system. The survey was designed to obtain statistically valid results from households throughout Arlington County.

LeisureVision/ETC Institute worked extensively with Arlington County officials in the development of the survey questionnaire. This work allowed the survey to be tailored to issues of strategic importance to effectively plan the future system.

The goal was to obtain at least 800 completed surveys. This goal was far exceeded and 955 surveys were completed. The results of the random sample of 955 households have a 95% level of confidence with a precision of at least +/-3.2 %.

This report contains: 1) an executive summary; 2) cross tabular analysis for survey findings by gender, age of respondent, and area of residence; 3) cross tabular analysis by race and health conditions; 4) comparisons of survey results to national benchmarks; and 5) a copy of the survey document.

The following  summarize major survey findings:

## Potential Improvements to Parks and Facilities

Based on a list of 17 potential improvements that could be made to parks/facilities in Arlington County, respondents were asked which three improvements they would most like to have made to the parks/facilities they use most often. The following summarizes key findings:

- # **Drinking fountains (34%)** had the highest percentage of respondents indicate it as one of the top three improvements they would like to have made to the parks/facilities they use most often. Other improvements that a high percentage respondents indicated as one of the three they would like to have made include year round restrooms (26%), connecting trails (21%), and lighted fields/courts (19%).

