

Ohio State Parks Fact Sheet

Overview

- * 74 state parks in 60 counties
- * 174,212 land & water acres
- * 1,025 miles of shoreline
- * 50,000,000+ visitor occasions annually
- * 3rd most visited state park system nationally
- * 57 state park campgrounds
- * Nearly 10,000 family campsites
- * 9 resort lodges
- * 518 cottages
- * 6 golf courses
- * 188 boat ramps
- * 80 beaches
- * 36 nature/visitor centers
- * 183 playgrounds
- * 394 trails/1,167 miles
- * 1,844 miles of road

Public Served

- 83% of Ohioans have visited at least one state park sometime (2002 Ohio Poll)
- 42% of Ohioans visited at least one state park during the prior year (2004 OSU Study)
- Approximately 87% of state park visitors reside in Ohio (Customer Satisfaction Surveys)
- Current users visit an average of 2 parks an average of 6.5 times per year (OSU)

Infrastructure & Equipment

- 2,638 buildings and 146 water/142 sewer systems
- Average age of largest buildings is 38 years and 80% are more than 20 years old
- \$500+ million needed to address the existing infrastructure and facility backlog
- 54% of vehicles exceed 100,000 miles and the average age is 10 years

Staffing

- Reduced full-time employees by 45% since 1991
- 458 permanent employees and 1,000 less-than-full-time (1 to 2.2 ratio)
- 32 state parks have no on-site manager and 22 state parks have no permanent staff

Funding

- 54% of the state park operating budget comes from the GRF (excluding debt service)
- GRF for state parks is 0.07% of total state budget or a mere 7 cents of every \$100
- \$0.74 GRF spent per visitor occasion and \$228 GRF spent per acre annually
- Revenues from fees and charges generated by state parks increased from 19% to 40% of the operating budget since 1991

Benefits of Ohio State Parks

- Preserves Ohio's natural & cultural heritage for future generations
- Contributes \$1.1 billion annually to state and local economies (2004 OSU Study)
- Supports healthy lifestyles through wholesome outdoor recreation
- Improves quality of life for Ohio's citizens