

**GRPA**

**Funding for**

**ONE**

**Recreation and Parks**



**GEORGIA RECREATION  
AND PARK ASSOCIATION**  
since 1945



**ONE DOLLAR**



# GEORGIA RECREATION AND PARK ASSOCIATION

## STATE ISSUES

### CRIME DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

The crime rate in Georgia is approximately 18% higher than the national average.

Parks and recreation agencies must collaborate with other government and private agencies to address the needs of the young. Parks and Recreation, police, and judicial courts: these three entities are links in a chain that can help prevent juvenile delinquency.

While parks and recreation is not the only solution, it is a very valuable part of the chain that can reduce Georgia's crime rate for adults and youth.

### ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Environmental stewardship and conservation have long been the focus of parks and recreation professionals in Georgia. Through the purchase of lands for parks, we have sought to insure that future generations "have a place to recreate".

The health of our environment has also been paramount in the careful application of pesticides and herbicides to our grounds.

Watershed protection and preventative erosion and sediment control practices make sure that our waterways stay clean for many years to come.

### IMPROVING COMMUNITY HEALTH

State and local entities feel the financial and social strain and recognize that prevention is the key to healthier communities.

Public parks and recreation promote and support the physical and environmental health of the communities they serve.

Environmental health is comprised of those aspects of human health, including quality of life. Georgia's parks and recreation programs provide availability of important elements in assisting communities in being healthy more livable places.

## NATIONAL ISSUES

### LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

We urge you to support LWCF to help provide Georgia with full and dedicated funding that is equally divided between the State Assistance program and the federal land acquisition program.

The LWCF Act of 1965 was enacted to help acquire, conserve, and develop public lands and outdoor recreation facilities, as well as assure Public access and use "in order to strengthen the health and vitality" of U.S. citizens.

The LWCF is one of the principal sources of funding for land for our parks in the state of Georgia.

The LWCF State Assistance Program was established to stimulate a nationwide action program to assist in preservation development, and assurance to all citizens of the United State of the present and future generations to provide quality and quantity of outdoors and its recreation resources.

### THE URBAN REVITALIZATION AND LIVABLE COMMUNITIES ACT

We are attempting to redevelop Urban Areas by Re-investing in Community Recreation.

The Urban Revitalization and Livable Communities Act (H.R. 3734) will invest in the health and well-being of communities across the nation and the state of Georgia from the standpoint of economic recovery and environmental protection. The act will achieve to increase physical activity, as well as provide safe and affordable places for recreation to the communities.

The Act authorizes \$445 million to be appropriated annually for urban park and recreation agencies through matching federal assistance grants.

Almost 80% of the U.S. population lives in urban areas many of which are suffering from deteriorating community infrastructure, limited green space, poor health, chronic diseases, and juvenile delinquency.