

The mission of the **Medford Parks** Foundation is to establish partnerships to finance and promote the value, use and benefits of Medford parks, recreational facilities and programs.





# Q: What's so great about parks?

A: Parks are good for communities.
In fact, they're great – helping to revitalize communities, boost economic development and tourism, create safer neighborhoods, engage with children and families, help children learn, promote public health, the arts, and cultural programs, and so much more.

Great parks are significant factors in what makes a city liveable. Parks and recreation programs are a smart investment, and a good indicator of how much we care about ourselves, seniors, children and local families.

Please support Medford Parks. They are one of the wisest long-term investments we can make in our community. Your gift to the Medford Parks Foundation is a critical part of that investment.

"My kids absolutely love the City's summer day camps. When my husband was laid off, we went through some tough times financially. We're grateful for the scholarship assistance that allowed our kids to stay (in the day camps)." – Jennifer P. (mother of children ages 5, 8 and 10)

# **About Us**

The Medford Parks and Recreation Foundation, a nonprofit 501(c)(3), was established in 2005. The Foundation raises funds, fosters partnerships, and advocates in support of specific projects and activities that benefit our City parks and recreation programs. The Foundation is funded primarily

through support by individuals, groups and businesses committed to the preservation and expansion of youth and adult programs as well as the City park and trail system.

Contributions support:

- Youth Program Scholarships
- Park Development Projects
- Trail Development Projects



Jackson Park

Swimming Pool

Parks improve the local tax base and increase property values.

The purpose of the Medford Parks and Recreation Foundation is to enhance the quality of life for everyone in Medford. We accomplish this by cooperating with and seeking to implement the City of Medford Leisure Services Plan. which includes:

- Raising funds to support parks and recreation programs, facilities, and services
- Promoting the value and benefits of our city parks and recreation programs
- Providing opportunities for partnerships with other community organizations
- Supporting parks programs that educate our community, especially our youth





PHOTO BY LOUIS RUTH 2011

**Projects & Programs** 

# Play Every Day Scholarship Fund

Established in 2006, the Play Every
Day Scholarship Fund provides
opportunities for youth to attend
recreational and enrichment programs
offered by the Medford Parks &
Recreation Department. Since its inception,
this fund has provided \$97,200 in scholarship
support for such programs as: day camps,
swimming lessons, and youth sports programming.

Funds are secured through the following events: Parks Uncorked, Beat of the Rogue, Lithia Open Tennis Tournament, and individual donations. Here is what a donation to this fund will provide:

- \$25 = One week of swim lessons
- \$50 = One week of an all-day camp program
- \$75 = A full year of recreational sports programs
- \$100 = Swimming lessons and a family season pass to the Jackson Aquatic Center

# My Neighborhood Park Initiative

Want to make improvements to your neighborhood park? This initiative allows for groups to partner with the Foundation to raise funds for such items as: play equipment, picnic shelters, memorial benches and other items that are listed within the Leisure Services Plan for the City of Medford. Individuals or groups interested in partnering with the Foundation and City on improvements can contact Foundation members at: parks@medfordparksfoundation.org

# Park Facts

Parks and recreation facilities are the places that people go to get healthy and stay fit.

# **Past Projects**

 2007: Fichtner-Mainwaring Park Tennis Court Expansion

Through the generous efforts of the Tennis in the Park committee, over \$280,000 was raised in order to build four new tennis courts with lights. These courts have helped grow the sport of tennis in west Medford and have provided space for tennis lessons offered to both youth and adults.

• 2008: Summerfield Park

The Foundation played a large role in the development of this 1.8-acre park within the SE Area Plan. Through the donation of land by Mike and Lou Mahar, the Foundation was able to coordinate the first developer-built park in the Medford park system. This partnership saved the City nearly \$800,000 in land and development costs.

• 2009: Larson Creek Greenway

The Foundation received another land donation from Mike and Mary Mahar along the Larson Creek Greenway which will serve as a future pedestrian path from the Bear Creek Greenway to the SE Area Plan and beyond.

2012: Santo Community Center Play Structure

The installation of a new play structure at the Santo Community Center was completed just prior to summer activities beginning in May 2012. This

new play structure was the result of private foundations and the Medford Kiwanis Club joining forces with the Foundation to create this new recreational space.



## Park Facts

Parks are a tangible reflection of the quality of life in a community. They provide identity for citizens and are a major factor in the perception of quality of life in a given community. Parks and recreation services are often cited as one of the most important factors in surveys of how livable communities are.

Tennis at Fichtner-

Mainwaring Park





# Ways to Give

#### **Cash Donations**

Most gifts to the Medford Parks and Recreation Foundation take this form, and it is as easy as writing a check. Checks should be made payable to the Medford Parks and Recreation Foundation. You can also call 541-774-2400 and gift using a Visa or Master Card.

# **Gifts of Appreciated Property**

With careful planning, charitable gifts of long-term appreciated securities or real estate can create very favorable tax benefits.

## **Bequests**

Gifts via wills and bequests can provide you with an opportunity to honor and sustain your family name in conjunction with the Medford Parks and Recreation Foundation's name recognition program. The Medford Parks and Recreation Foundation will work with you and your attorney to provide the language necessary to ensure that your intentions are clearly expressed.

## Life Income/Charitable Trusts

Charitable Trusts and charitable gift annuities offer an opportunity to make a substantial gift to the Medford Parks and Recreation Foundation without forfeiting the annual income produced.

# **Matching Gifts**

Many companies will match your contribution to the Medford Parks and Recreation Foundation. Submit your company's matching gift form with your contribution and it can significantly increase your support and associated giving level.

## Life Insurance

Many people own some form of life insurance, which can play a very important part in planned charitable giving. Life insurance for charitable purposes can be accomplished by 1) the transfer of ownership of an existing policy to the Medford Parks and Recreation Foundation, or 2) the purchase of life insurance which names the Medford Parks and Recreation Foundation as the beneficiary and/or owner.

## Gifts-In-Kind

Gifts of good or services can be of great financial assistance to the Medford Parks and Recreation Foundation, while offering the donor a tax dedication for the fair market value of the gift.

Please consult your tax advisor for further information.

Parks provide gathering places for families and social groups, as well as for individuals of all ages and economic status, regardless of their ability to pay for access.

# **DONATE TODAY!**

Make a secure online donation at <a href="https://www.medfordparksfoundation.org">www.medfordparksfoundation.org</a> or fill out and return the form below.

Yes, I would like to s	upport the Med	ford Parl	ks Foundation!
\$50 gift \$100 gi	ft \$200 gift _ gift (Please fill in y	\$50 our amount	
☐ I do not want to be listed recognition materials. ☐ I would like to know more			oundation
Recognition (optional) This is a gift in honor/memor	ry of		
I will pay by: Check/Cash	ı (please include in r	mailing)	Credit/Debit
Name/Business			
Address	City	State	Zip
Telephone	Email		
Card #	Expiration		
Signature			
Medford	ase make checks pay I Parks & Recreation olumbus Ave., Medfo	Foundatio	
The Medford Parks and Recre organization. Your contribution not sha		to the exte	



701 N. Columbus Avenue Medford OR 97501 (541) 774-2400 parks@medfordparksfoundation.org

www.medfordparksfoundation.org



