Parks, Recreation and Open Space
Dataset schema

NAME	OWNER	CITY	COUNTY	ACRES	SQUARE MILES	SHAREABLE	SOURCE	DESCRIPTION
[text]	[text]	[text]	[text]	[double]	[double]	[text]	[text]	[text]

CATEGORY	USE	TYPE
Natural	Preserve	State Park
		Open Space Park
		National Conservation Area
		National Forest
		National Park
		National Wildlife Refuge
		Historic Preserve
		Conservation Easement
		Community Separator
		Buffer Inholding
	Hydrological	Lake Park
		Reservoir
		Riverbed/Wetland
Functional	Productive	Agricultural
		Ranch
	Institutional	Church
		Historic/Government
		Recreation Center
		School/School Park
		Water Facilities
	Burial	Cemetery
Amenity	Open Recreational	Large Urban Park
		Community Park
		Pocket Park
		Greenway
		Gardens
		Dog Park
	Built Recreational	Athletic Park
		Bike Park/Skate Park
		Fairgrounds
		Golf Course
		Pool/Water Park
	Incidental	Proposed
		Median
		Other

OWNER TYPE
City
County
Federal
HOA
Metro District
Nonprofit
Private
Regional
School District
State
Unknown

Least Specific → Most Specific

Field descriptions

Category: Generic description of the type of the open space parcel.

- Natural
- Functional
- Amenity

Use: Generic description of the purpose or use of the open space parcel.

- Natural
  - ◊ Preserve
  - ◊ Hydrological
- Functional
  - ◊ Productive
  - ◊ Institutional
  - ◊ Burial
- Amenity
  - ◊ Open Recreational
  - ◊ Built Recreational
  - ◊ Incidental

Type: Specific description of the type of the open space parcel.

- Natural
  - ◊ Preserve
    - State Park: Lands owned by the State of Colorado and designated and managed as protected state parks. Example: Golden Gate Canyon State Park.
    - Open Space: Lands protected from development as mountain parks or conservation areas, specifically categorized as permanent open space units.
    - National Conservation Area: Wildlife preserves, conservation easements, and trust lands specifically protected to support wild plant and animal species and provide habitat.
    - National Forest: Lands dominated by tree growth that are designated as State or National Forest.
    - National Park: Lands owned by the U.S. Department of Interior and designated as part of the National Park

System with improvements that allow public access. Example: Rocky Mountain National Park

- National Wildlife Refuge: Lands owned by the U.S. Department of the Interior and managed as wildlife refuges by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Example: Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge.
- Historic Preserve: Lands preserved for their historic importance, but which contain extensive natural habitat and outdoor opportunities, such as a multiacre historic ranch property with a single historic building.
- Conservation Easement: Lands under permanent limited development protection. Unlike natural conservation areas, such lands may currently have minimal development.
- Community Separator: Undeveloped urban parcels of land.
- Buffer Inholding: Lands designated as part of open space systems, but for visual benefit or development protection and not formally designated, maintained or managed as parks or conservation areas.

◊ Hydrological

- Lake Park: Large community or urban parks with at least half of their land area covered by a lake.
- Reservoir: Any large natural or artificial lake or gravel pit area designated for large-scale water storage. This also includes surrounding lands protected from development for water quality, inundation or recreation purposes.
- Riverbed/Wetland: Floodable areas, riparian zones and wetlands that are undevelopable or protected from development.

● Functional

◊ Productive

- Agricultural: Fields or otherwise cleared land used commercially (or previously used commercially) for growing crops.
- Ranch: Large swaths of land used for crop production, livestock rearing or equine activities.

◊ Institutional

- Church: Church buildings and associated surrounding lands.
- Historic/Government: Government buildings and public properties such as small historic buildings.
- Recreation Center: Properties that serve as the site of a recreation or community center, including parking lots and associated athletic facilities.
- School/School Park: School buildings, playgrounds, athletic fields or other land surrounding and owned by a school.
- Water Facilities: Properties with built water treatment facilities, storage tanks or similar development.

◊ Burial

- Cemetery: Park areas set aside to contain graves, tombs, urns or other burial sites.

- Amenity
  - ◊ Open Recreational
    - ▪ Large Urban Park: Large parks with multiple uses, including athletic fields, courts, or recreation centers, but dedicating over half of their land area to low-impact development, pervious surface, lakes or tree cover.
    - ▪ Community Park: Mid-sized parks with land areas dedicated to low-impact development, pervious surface or tree cover.
    - ▪ Pocket Park: Small neighborhood parks with land areas dedicated to low-impact development, pervious surface or tree cover.
    - ▪ Greenway: Bike paths, linear park units and incidental connectors dedicated to recreation, flood management or conservation. Unlike riverbeds and wetlands, these areas are improved with paths for public recreation.
    - ▪ Gardens: Mostly pervious land with alterations that, although significant, work to attract species and enhance regional aesthetic quality.
    - ▪ Dog Park: Open pervious areas dedicated to canine recreation.
  - ◊ Built Recreational
    - ▪ Athletic Park: Hardscaped or highly altered parks dedicated to sports activities. Examples: soccer fields, tennis courts.
    - ▪ Bike Park/Skate Park: Hardscaped or highly altered parks dedicated to bicycling or skateboarding.
    - ▪ Fairgrounds: Lands cleared for hosting county fairs and other events, usually with parking lots, arenas or other structures and little pervious surface, vegetation or tree cover.
    - ▪ Golf Course: Highly altered lands dedicated to golfing.
    - ▪ Pool/Water Park: Highly maintained and altered lands with significant concrete/impervious surface dedicated to water sports or swimming activities.
  - ◊ Incidental
    - ▪ Proposed: Land, sometimes purchased, that is planned to be improved or otherwise designated as parks, recreation or open space in the future.
    - ▪ Median: Lands located between more intensive development uses such as highway lanes and therefore undevelopable.
    - ▪ Other: Any land that is difficult to classify within the above categories, or any land that is included in a community open space dataset but not identified as Parks, Recreation and Open Space land by DRCOG. Example: lands owned by the Colorado State Land Trust.

Name: The name of the land parcel, if available. Example, “Washington Park.”

Owner: The owner of the land parcel, if available. Example, “City of Boulder.”
Owner Type: The type of owner from one of the below categories.

- City
- County
- Federal
- HOA
- Metro District
- Nonprofit
- Private
- Regional
- School District
- State
- Unknown

City: The city in which the parcel is located.

County: The county in which the parcel is located.

Acres: The area of the parcel in acres.

Square miles: The area of the parcel in square miles.

Shareable: Field included for DRCOG internal use.

Source: Source of the integrated data, if available.

Description: Description of the parcel as provided by the original data source.

(DRCOG is not liable for any costs, expenses, or damages arising from inconsistencies in the data. These categories were derived using guidance from Carys Swanick, Nigel Dunnet and Helen Wooley’s “Nature, Role and Value of Green Space in Towns and Cities: An Overview,” Built Environment *2003 and Donna Erickson’s* Metro Green: Connecting Open Space in North American Cities, *2006.)*

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