



Golf in the Garden Spot

WHERE GOOD SWINGS GROW

- How can these areas of designated green space benefit our community beyond golf?
- How can we show municipal golf's value as a community cornerstone & prove to its detractors that it is worthy of investment?
- How can we address parks & open-space needs for the community while revitalizing habitats & improving biodiversity?
- How can a golf course create partnerships & programs with non-profits & educational institutions to improve access and inclusion for underrepresented populations, while keeping the game affordable for all?



The Himalayas- St. Andrews, Scotland

About me:

BS Turfgrass Science, CSU

Charter Member-Rotary Club of North Fulton (GA)

GCSAA

CDPHE Certified Pesticide Applicator

Grow-in Asst. Supt./Spray Tech

PGA Member Professional

PGA HOPE Certified

Certified Master Club Fitter



Bandon



Magnolia Lane









The mission is simple:
To provide a community & golf
experience unlike any other-
sustainable, accessible and truly enjoyable.



Mulligan Course at Ballyneal- Holyoke, CO

The Solution



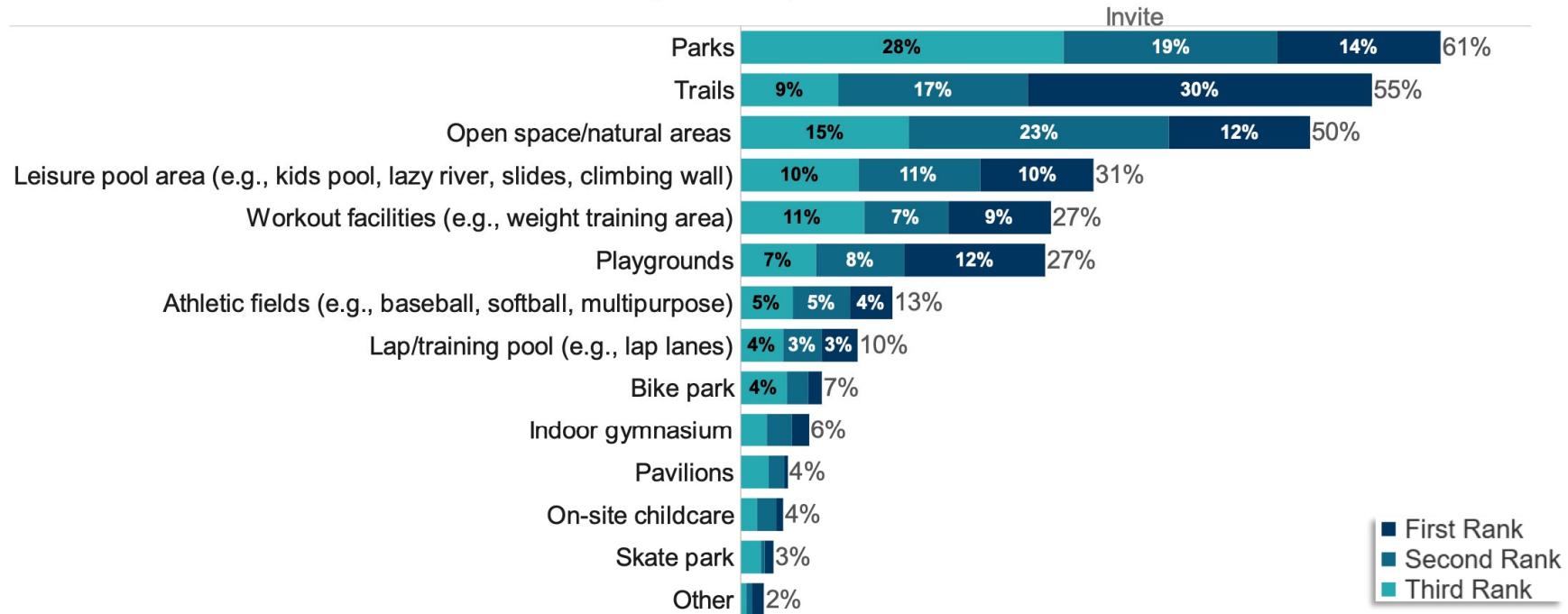
A high-impact Community Golf Park concept that costs far less to build & maintain, increases town revenue while preserving open space and fits into our existing park & trail system.

The Sandbox at Sand Valley- Nekoosa, WI

TOP 3 MOST IMPORTANT AMENITIES

When asked to select the top three most important amenities from the list, parks, trails, and open space/natural areas were most commonly chosen. Following in importance are the leisure pool area, workout facilities and playgrounds.

From the list above, which amenities are most important to your household?

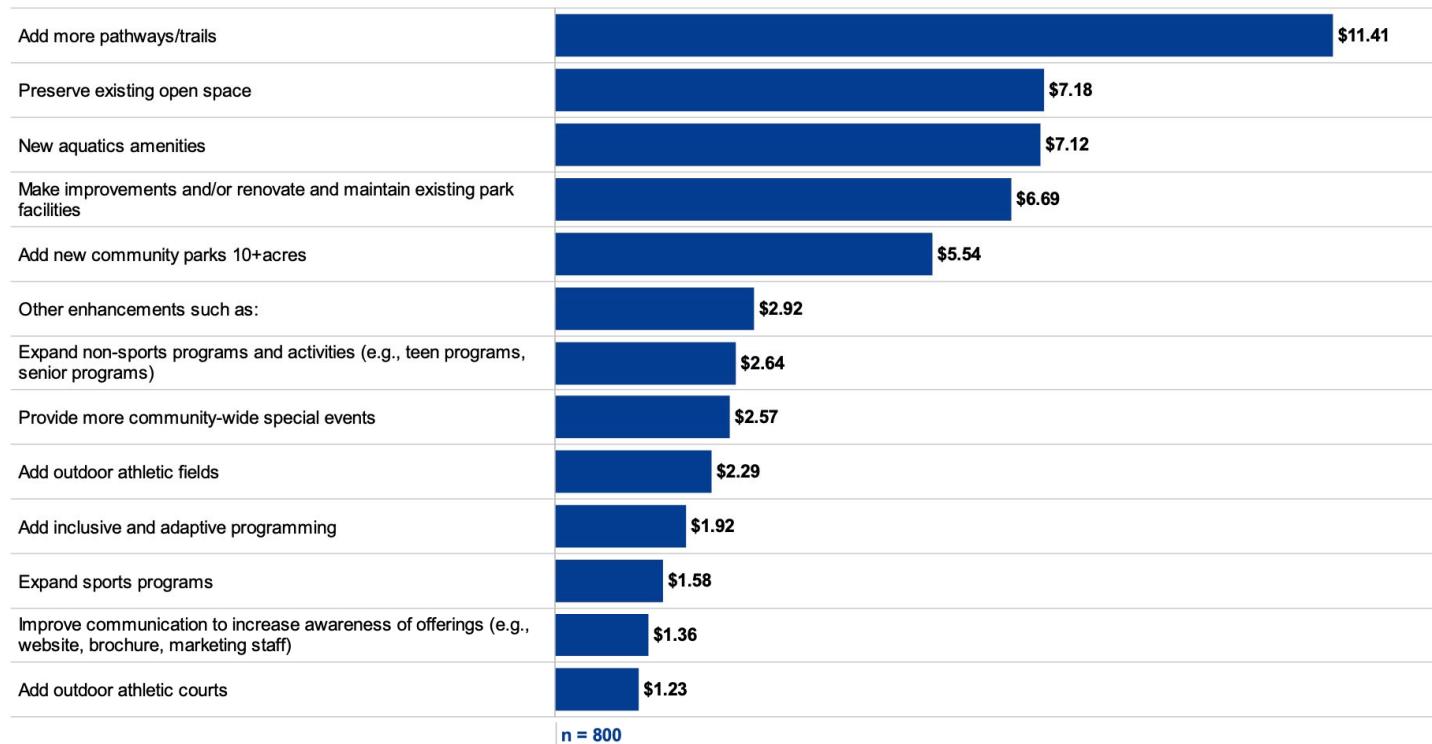


*Darker colors indicate a higher ranking
Source: RRC

BUDGET ALLOCATION

- Respondents were asked how they would allocate a hypothetical \$100 across different parks and recreation facilities, services and/or programs.
- The majority of that budget went to adding more pathways/trails (\$11.41) followed by preserving existing open space (\$7.18), and new aquatics amenities (\$7.12)
- Respondents on average allocated less money toward improving communication and adding outdoor athletic courts.

With \$5 increments being the smallest amount you might use, if you had \$100 to spend on parks and recreation facilities, services and/or programs, how would you allocate that \$100 across the following categories?



Source: RRC

IMPORTANT AMENITIES

OPEN-ENDED COMMENTS

Respondents were asked why each amenity is most important to their household and what features are most important to them. The word cloud below shows the top 150 most frequently used words.

Common themes:

1. Family and Community Activities:

- Engagement for All Ages: Emphasis on facilities that cater to both children and adults, supporting family-friendly activities.

2. Health and Wellness:

- Exercise and Fitness: High priority on fitness facilities like gyms, pools, and trails for physical health and mental well-being.

3. Accessibility and Connectivity:

- Safe and Connected Paths: Demand for better infrastructure to ensure safe and accessible travel to parks and recreational areas.

4. Maintenance and Development:

- Upkeep of Existing Facilities: Importance of maintaining and improving current parks and amenities.

5. Recreation and Leisure:

- Variety of Recreational Options: Desire for a diverse range of recreational activities and facilities to cater to different interests and needs.



OTHER POTENTIAL NEW AMENITIES

OPEN-ENDED COMMENTS

Respondents were asked for suggestions for other new amenities the Town should consider for the future. A total of 271 comments were suggested and a word cloud of the 150 most commonly used words as well as common themes are highlighted below.

1. Accessibility and Connectivity:

Need for better bike lanes, trails, and safe pedestrian crossings to connect different areas and neighboring towns.

2. Recreation and Leisure:

Desire for more recreational facilities like pools, splash pads, amphitheaters, and various sports areas.

3. Community and Family Engagement:

Focus on creating inclusive, family-friendly spaces that cater to all age groups, including seniors and children.

4. Natural and Open Spaces:

Emphasis on preserving natural areas, creating gardens, and maintaining open spaces with shade trees and water features.

5. Adaptive and Inclusive Facilities:

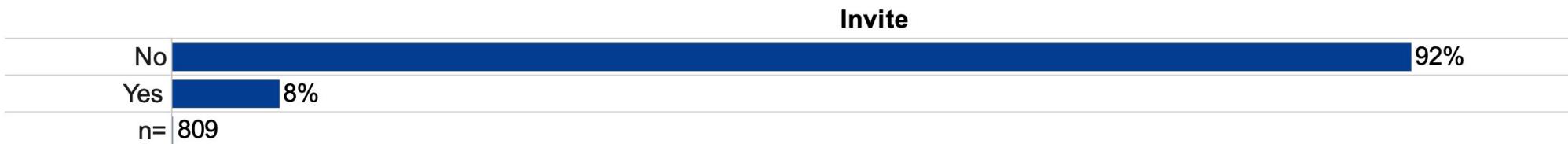
Importance of providing adaptive programs and equipment for individuals with disabilities to ensure accessibility for everyone.



ADA NEEDS AND DOG OWNERSHIP

Nearly 1 in 10 respondents (8%) do have a need for ADA-accessible facilities and services.

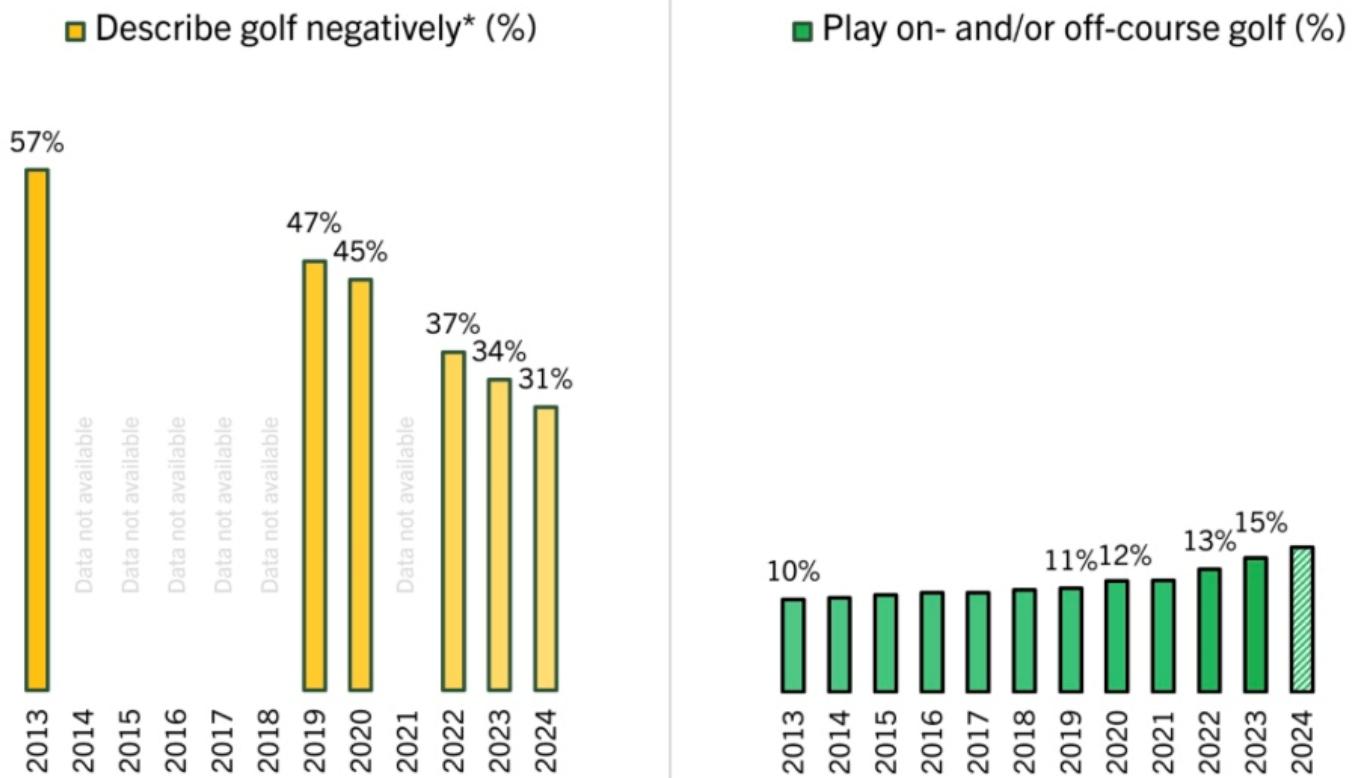
Does your household have a need for ADA-accessible (Americans with Disabilities) facilities and services?



Soure: RRC

Golf Sentiment & Engagement Trend

(Among Americans Age 6+)



Source: National Golf Foundation
December 2024

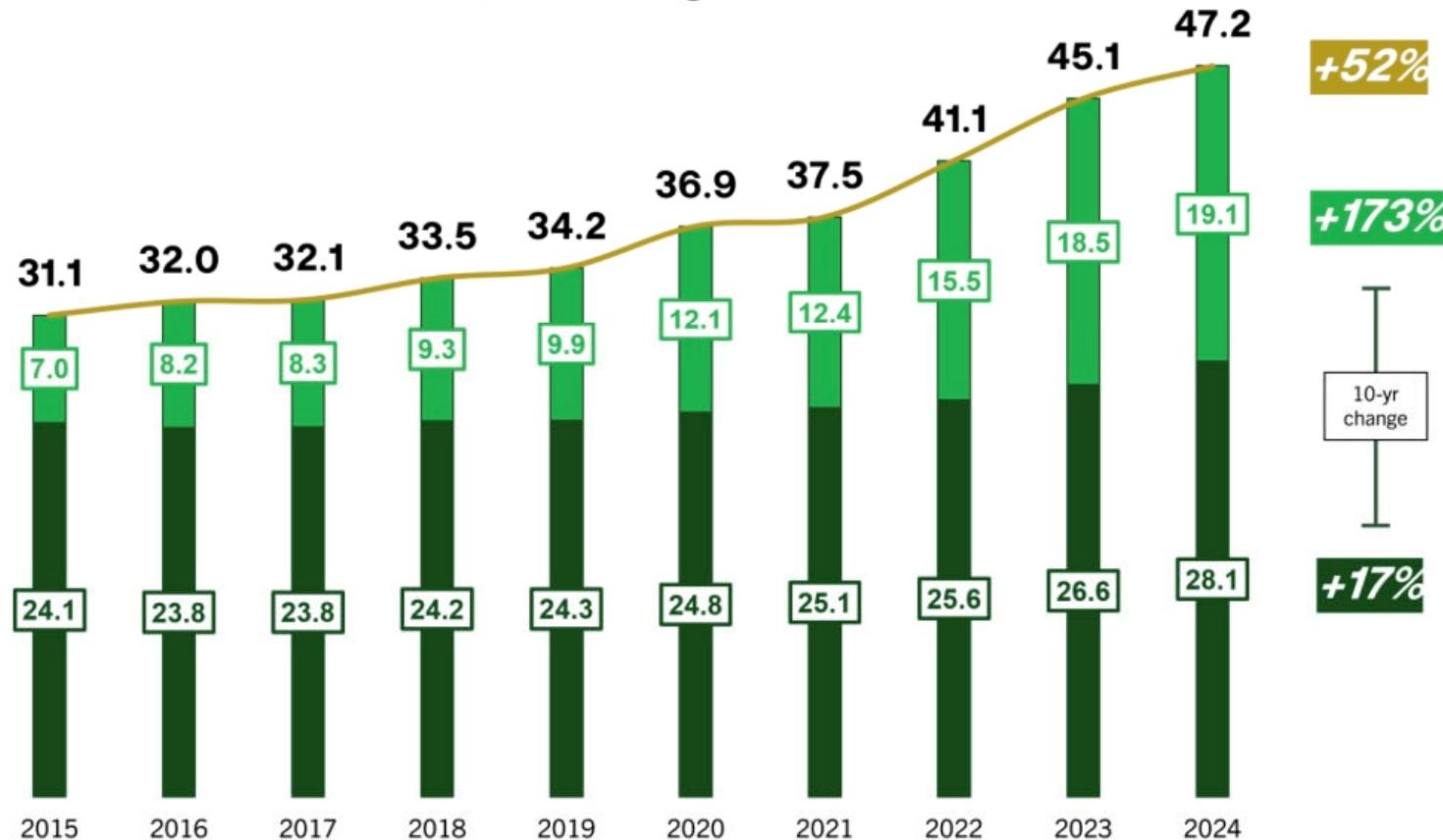
*Q: What words or phrases would you use to describe the game of golf? (Data not available for years 2014-2018, 2021)
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NGF

Total U.S. Golf Participation

Millions, Age 6+

- Total On- and Off-Course
- Off-Course participants (exclusive)
- On-Course golfers



Source: National Golf Foundation – January 2025

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NGF

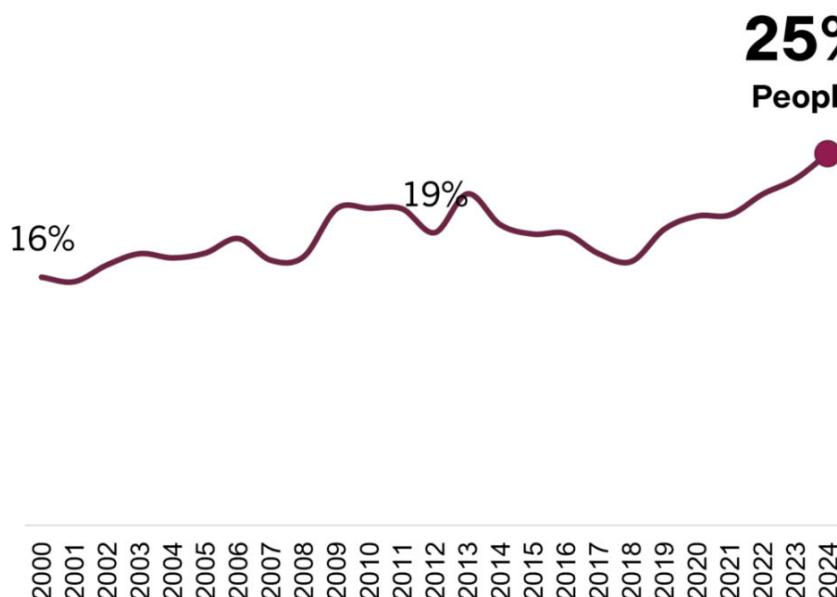
Golfer Totals and Trend in On-Course Proportions

People of Color and Females

(*Reflects record high)

6.9M*

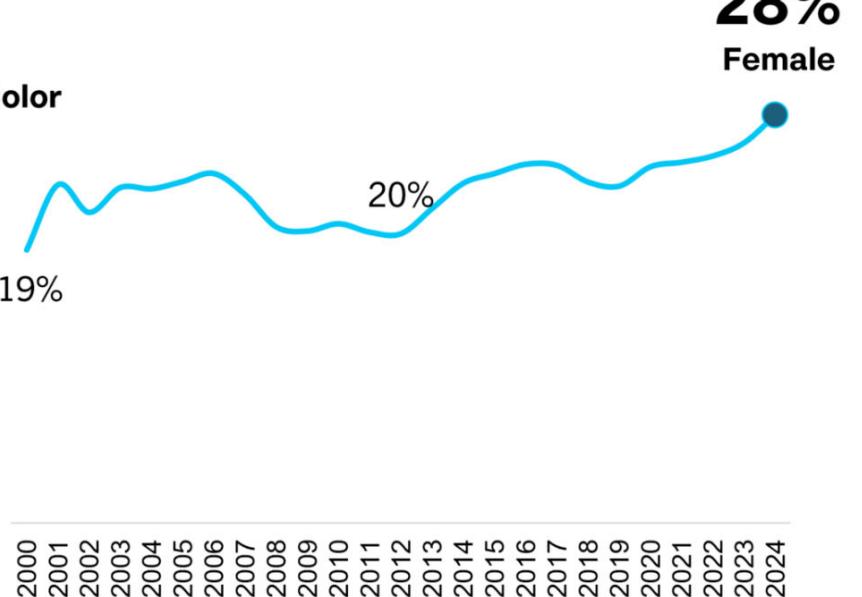
Asian, Black and Hispanic golfers playing in 2024



25%*
People of Color

7.9M*

Women and girls
playing on-course
golf in 2024



Source: National Golf Foundation

February 2025

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Core Golfer Short Course Perceptions

Perceived Benefits and Shortcomings

Top 5 Benefits

Q: What do you see as the main benefit(s) of par-3 and executive courses? Select up to 3.

Good for practice: 59%



Less intimidating: 56%



Short-game focused: 44%



More affordable: 41%



Family-friendly atmosphere: 29%



Other responses: Less physically-demanding (24%), faster pace of play (23%), Don't see any benefits (<1%)

Top 5 Concerns

Q: What concerns, if any, do you have about par-3 and executive courses?

Not enough of them: 39%



Poor course conditions: 37%



Don't provide full golf experience: 28%



Attract too many beginners: 15%



Lack prestige: 11%



Other responses: Too easy/not challenging enough (7%), Too traditional (1%), Too difficult (<1%), No major concerns (19%)

Source: National Golf Foundation

July 2025

Based on NGF survey of U.S. Core golfers, fielded in July 2025 (n=340)

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The Solution



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The Sandbox at Sand Valley- Nekoosa, WI

















youth on course

Play rounds of golf
for **\$5 or less** with a
Youth on Course
membership!

Youth on Course Impact

BY THE NUMBERS

386,549 Members

with access to rounds of golf for \$5 or less

2,307 Partner Courses

providing members access to play

909,788 Rounds

played by members in 2025

4,982,947 Rounds

total played by members



FROM OUR MEMBERS

98%

"Having a Youth on Course membership makes golf accessible and affordable for my family."

86%

"The benefits I get from my Youth on Course membership have positively impacted my life."

79%

"Playing golf with my Youth on Course membership has helped improve my physical and mental health."

First Tee School Program

Our program is embedded into more than 10,000 schools through PE classes, bringing our positive youth development approach to students from all backgrounds. We've trained educators across the nation to teach our curriculum, where kids experience the integration of golf (motor skills) and value-based lessons.

First Tee Community Program

Our engaging after-school program is offered at more than 1,400 locations. We partner with youth experts like the YMCA and Boys & Girls Clubs to bring the program to kids who might not otherwise have exposure to golf and life lessons that are learned through the game.



First Tee College Scholarship Program

Higher education continues to be a critical factor in unlocking opportunities for young people to thrive, and we are committed to the success of our alumni. Designed to provide further support, life skills development and mentorship, our First Tee College Scholarship Program supports selected alumni throughout their college career.

The program includes:

- Scholarships of up to \$5,000 per year for four years
- Dedicated adult mentor throughout college
- Professional development workshops

First Tee Alumni

The First Tee Alumni Network aims to foster lifelong connections, providing alumni with a path for continuous growth and opportunities to make a difference.

First Tee Alumni Network is for past participants 18 and older and is free to join, with offerings including intern and job opportunities, engagement, and workshop events.





GOLF IN SCHOOL ELEMENTS

1

Deliver the instruction where the children are – at school

2

Provide a high quality, consistent program lead by PGA Professionals

3

Transition the children from the school to the golf facility on a field trip to experience the game in its natural setting

4

Opportunity to incorporate science elements delivered by the Golf Course Superintendent

OVERVIEW

The Colorado PGA Golf in Schools Program is a collaborative effort between the founding associations of the Colorado Open Golf Foundation: the Colorado PGA Reach, Colorado Golf Association, Colorado Women's Golf Association, Rocky Mountain Golf Course Superintendents' Association (the Allied Golf Associations), and the El Pomar Foundation to introduce school-age children across the state to the game of golf and the valuable life skills it teaches.

This program is offered to schools at no cost to either the student or the school!

COSTS

Funding for this program is made through the generous support of the Colorado Open Golf Foundation, the Colorado PGA Foundation, the Allied Golf Associations of Colorado and contributions from private donors and corporations.

Golf that is truly for everyone



PGA HOPE

HELPING OUR PATRIOTS EVERYWHERE



Community partnerships & service

- The First Tee
- Youth On Course
- Golf In Schools
- Berthoud HS golf teams
- Internships- UCCS PGM, CSU Turf Management
- US Adaptive Golf Association
- Community Emergency Assembly Point (EAP)



A shorter course keeps the group together more, enhancing the social nature of golf.

-Andy Johnson, Fried Egg Golf



“There should be a complete absence of the annoyance and irritation caused by the necessity of searching for lost golf balls.”

- Dr. Alister MacKenzie, The Spirit of St. Andrews

Narrow Fairways bordered by long rough makes bad golfers.
-Alister MacKenzie

SUSTAINABLE, ECONOMICAL DESIGN FEATURES

- ▶ Fewer traditional sand bunkers
 - ▶ The most expensive part of a golf course to maintain.
 - ▶ Difficult for some players to enter & exit
- ▶ Single-cut grass height tee to green: less equipment and staff to operate it.
- ▶ Less water use-BMPs
 - ▶ Center-line irrigation
 - ▶ Drought tolerant turf



Pinehurst #2- Pinehurst, NC

We need to push away from the ‘perfectly green all the time’ mentality.... We need to extend native areas and use drought-tolerant grasses.... Brown isn’t necessarily bad.

-John Fought, Golf Architect

SUSTAINABLE, ECONOMICAL DESIGN FEATURES

- ▶ Electric mowers-less pollution
 - ▶ Noise
 - ▶ Greenhouse gas emissions
 - ▶ Fuel spill risk
- ▶ Solar-powered buildings
 - ▶ Less electricity use compared to regulation-sized golf course
 - ▶ Walking-only facility
 - ▶ Send excess back to town grid



Pinehurst #2- Pinehurst, NC

LARGE PUTTING COURSE

INEXPENSIVE INTRODUCTION TO GOLF
REVENUE SOURCE FROM LEAGUES & CLINICS and REPEAT PLAY
RIDICULOUSLY ENJOYABLE



Putting Course at Olympia Fields- Chicago, IL

SITE 1

HOLE	BACK	FRONT
#1	203	164
#2	122	73
#3	134	96
#4	267	191
#5	159	110
#6	339	294
#7	147	103
#8	382	322
#9	165	118
TOTAL	1,918	1,471



- A. CLUBHOUSE / COMMUNITY SOCIAL SPACE (~8,000 S.F.)
- B. RANGE TEE WITH TRACKMAN ENABLED COVERED HITTING BAYS (APPROX. 30 STALLS)
- C. RANGE AREA ALLOWING FOR MAX SHOT DISTANCE UP TO 330 YDS
- D. PUTTING COURSE (~1/2 ACRE)
- E. PRACTICE PUTTING GREEN (~10,000 S.F.)
- F. SHORTGAME PRACTICE AREA WITH THREE (3) CHIPPING GREENS
- G. MULTI-USE RECREATIONAL TRAIL WITH TWO (2) 3/4 MILE LOOPS AND A 1 MILE PERIMETER LOOP
- H. POTENTIAL TUNNEL CONNECTIONS TO EXISTING BIKE TRACKS
- I. 10-HOLE DISC GOLF COURSE ALONG EXISTING RECREATIONAL TRAIL (ACCESS FROM BIKE TRACK PARKING AREA)

FOR CONCEPTUAL PURPOSES ONLY

SCALE: 1" = 150'

SITE 2

HOLE	BACK	FRONT
#1	162	124
#2	92	72
#3	188	151
#4	141	108
#5	133	90
#6	172	143
#7	218	183
#8	154	117
#9	111	83
#10	87	60
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- F. RIPARIAN BUFFER / POTENTIAL RECREATIONAL TRAIL

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DESIGN CONCEPT IMAGES



COURSE CHARACTER (ROCKWIND C.L.)

PUTTING COURSE (OLYMPIA FIELDS C.C.)

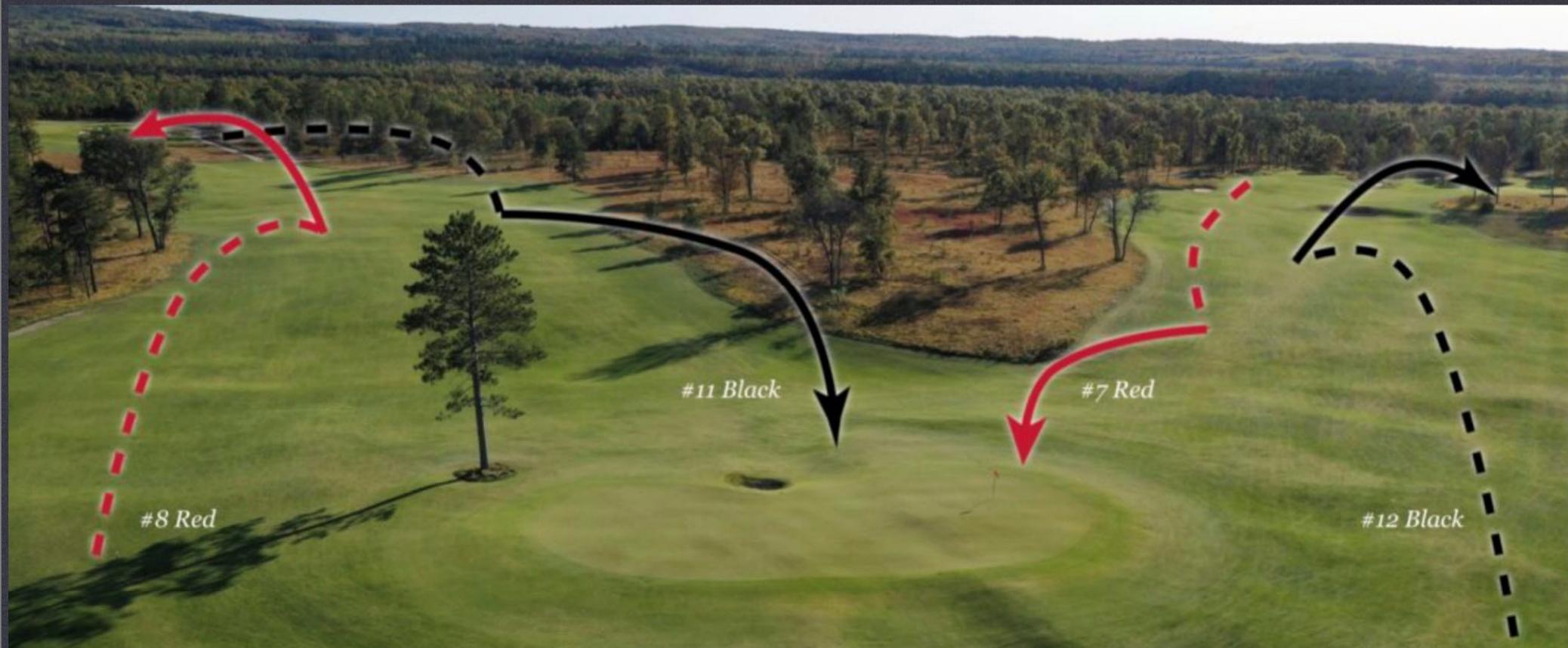
TRACKMAN RANGE (DOBSON RANCH)



COURSE CHARACTER (SHEEP'S RANCH)

SHORTGAME AREA (TRIPOLI C.C.)

CLUBHOUSE & SOCIAL SPACE (PAPAGO G.C.)



CONCEPT

REVERSIBLE COURSE CONCEPT

Spreads out the wear & compaction from play and maintenance equipment.
Repeat players get a new experience each time they play.

TWO COURSES FOR THE PRICE OF ONE!

EXAMPLE THE LOOP AT FOREST DUNES- ROSCOMMON, MI

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PREPARED BY: ANDY STAPLES, ASGCA | SCOTTSDALE, AZ | © 2025 - ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

- We aim to be a model for environmental stewardship, earning Audubon's Cooperative Sanctuary for Golf Courses designation within 3 years.



- Walking paths with potential Arboretum extension
- Much-needed training facility for BHS golf teams
- Little Free Library with shade, seating & drinking water
- Keeping in character with current town parks



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- Little Free Library with shade, seating & drinking water
- Keeping in character with current town parks & small-town vibe



Self-sustaining: Once constructed, covers its own operating costs. Revenue streams include:

- Golf Rounds
- Putting Course Rounds
- Practice Membership Fees
- Food & Beverage
- Merchandise
- Leagues & Clinics
- Corporate Outings
- PGA Instruction
- Club Fittings & Equipment Sales
- Club Repair

Photo credit

 ZS Photography

Staple Course at PGA National- Palm Beach Gardens, FL



Photo credit

 *ZS*
Photography

Staple Course at PGA National- Palm Beach Gardens, FL

Alternative Concepts, Features & Cost-saving measures

- Solar-powered buildings
- All electric mower fleet
- Autonomous range ball picker and mowers*
- Alternative pricing structure
- Ball field construction soil repurpose
- TPC mimicry
- Honey bees
 - Much-needed pollinators
 - Sell honey in golf shop
 - Educational opportunity
- No formal tee boxes- general teeing areas
- Indoor practice & fitness facility
- Alternative forms of golf & property uses
- Course Closed Mondays



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FORE THE GOLFER

Bees And Golf Courses, A Natural Partnership

December 06, 2019
By Lisa D. Mickey



Cantigny Golf superintendent Scott Witte takes pride in ensuring bees and the golf course have a mutually beneficial relationship.
(Courtesy: Cantigny Golf)

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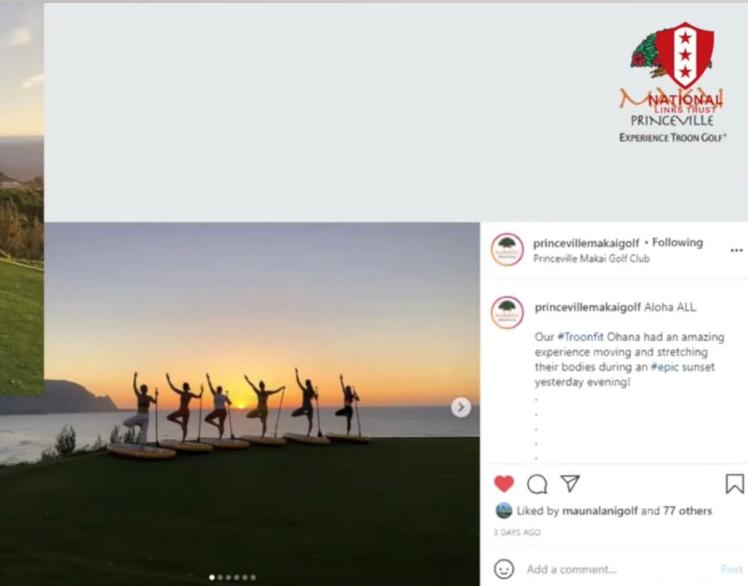
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TroonFIT

Leverage The Health/Wellness Movement





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#9	111	83
#10	87	60
TOTAL	1,458	1,134



FOR CONCEPTUAL PURPOSES ONLY

SCALE: 1" = 150'

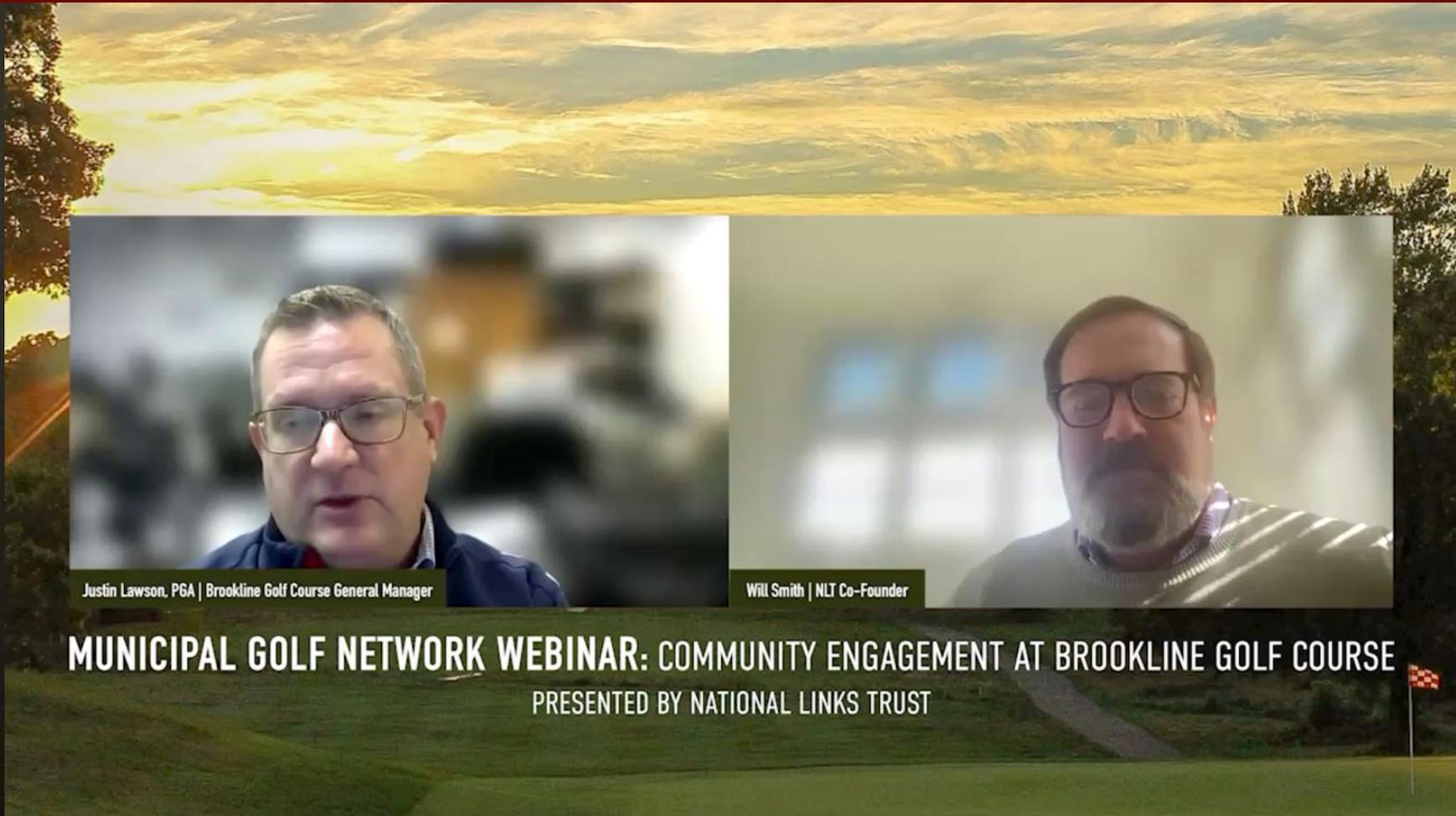
DESIGN CONCEPT IMAGES



PREPARED BY: ANDY STAPLES, ASGCA | SCOTTSDALE, AZ | © 2025 - ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

“Regardless of whether a course is public, private or somewhere in between, unnecessary earth-moving and the cost of repairing the disturbance significantly increases the construction budget. Ultimately this debt is serviced by golfers - members, vacationers or daily fee players . When designers spend more time in the beginning, configuring the holes so they adhere naturally to a property, more resources remain for artistic elements while huge savings are realized on line items like drainage, irrigation, and landscaping.”

—Don Placek, Renaissance Golf Design



MUNICIPAL GOLF NETWORK WEBINAR: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AT BROOKLINE GOLF COURSE

PRESENTED BY NATIONAL LINKS TRUST

Park Concept

MUNICIPAL GOLF NETWORK WEBINAR PROGRAM: WINTER PARK GOLF COURSE PRESENTED BY NATIONAL LINKS TRUST



Steve Leary - Former Mayor of Winter Park



Keith Rhebb - Course co-architect



Will Smith - Co-founder of National Links Trust



33:32 / 1:03:30



Gregg Pascale - Pro Shop and Country Club Manager



Matt Ginella - The Fire Pit Collective



More videos
Tap or swipe up to see all



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Community Engagement



NATIONAL
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National Links Trust

Reversible course concept

Potential names for this facility:

- Berthoud Golf Park
- Garden Spot Golf
- Berthoud Golf Club
- Knievel Farm Links
- Berthoud Community Links
- Peakview Golf Park



Key Community Themes

- **Small-Town Charm & Community Spirit**

Berthoud is widely cherished for its friendly, close-knit atmosphere and strong volunteerism.

- **Agricultural Heritage & Scenic Beauty**

Locals value the rural identity, open space, and mountain views. Visual cues like grain elevators and tree-lined streets reinforce this character.

- **Growth vs. Identity Tension**

The town is growing quickly, which brings concerns about losing small-town charm and inconsistencies in planning and development.

- **Parks, Trails, and Events**

Berthoud is praised for its outdoor amenities and community traditions like Berthoud Day and Oktoberfest.