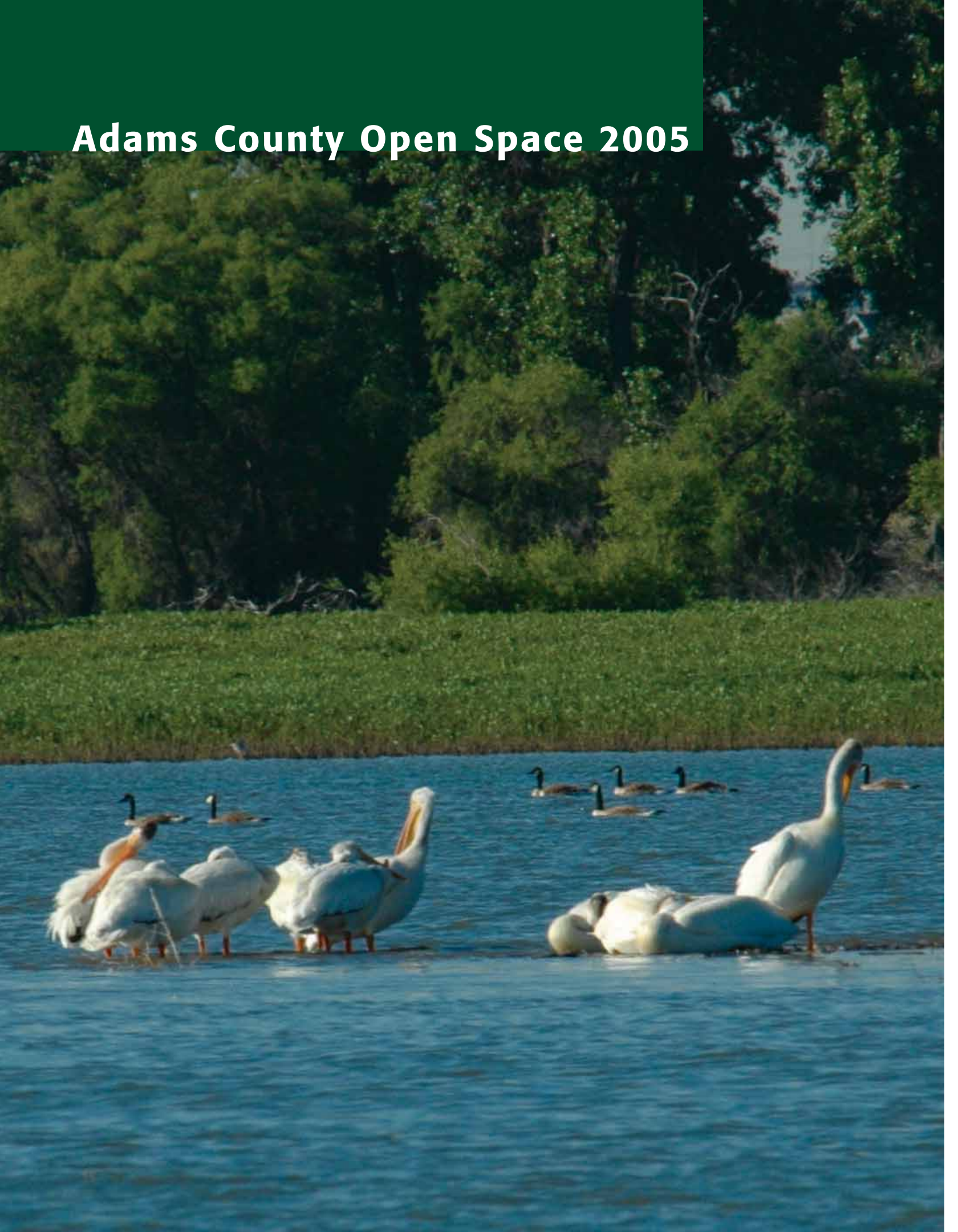


**Adams County Open Space 2005**



## A Message From The Adams County Open Space Advisory Board Chairman



As a fourth generation resident of Adams County, I know in my heart that my great-grandparents would be proud of the work we have all done to preserve open space in this county. When they arrived here in the 1800s, they had vast acres of open space to enjoy and clean air to breathe. Little did they realize when they planted their crops many years ago, their land would someday be transformed into large apartment complexes and strip malls. The legacy they left with me was a love of the outdoors and a deep commitment to protect the beauty, wildlife and open space for which Colorado is famous.

I've watched many families enjoy the new parks, sports facilities, playground equipment, trails and natural areas that open space funds have facilitated. As the population of the county increases, so does the impact on the land from development. The tremendous growth this county is experiencing demands continued attention to nurturing and preserving more open space opportunities for all to enjoy.

The Adams County Open Space Program exists today because of the concern and generosity of the local taxpayers. This year, I encourage everyone to get involved in preserving open space, not just in their communities, but also in partnerships with the county and surrounding areas. Please take advantage of the informational opportunities, such as the annual Open Space Forum and various seminars offered throughout the year, to gain an understanding of why the preservation of farmland, wildlife habitat and open space is vital, and how your efforts can make a difference for the future of Adams County. The importance of preserving open space has never been more urgent than now.

Sincerely,

Patricia Bisant  
Adams County Open Space  
Advisory Board Chairman



## Open Space Advisory Board

A seven-member board is appointed by the board of county commissioners to review grants and recommend open space funding.

Board meetings are open to the public and are usually held the 4th Thursday of each month at the Adams County Regional Park in Brighton. Please visit our website at [www.co.adams.co.us](http://www.co.adams.co.us), or call 303.637.8004 for more information.

From left to right: front row, Ed Hickel, Gloria Rudden and Lance Grothe  
Back row, Tim Ferrell, Chris De May and Mike Sweeney

## **Adams County Open Space Highlights**

Each spring, Adams County hosts an informational forum for the public to attend. The theme of this year's open space forum was "Keeping It Wild" and featured many groups and agencies that discussed the importance of wildlife corridors, land preservation, creating wildlife habitats and developing partnerships. Adams County residents continue to show interest in open space preservation as evidenced by a 30 percent increase in attendance over last year's forum.

Grant training workshops for jurisdictions and interested residents were held in the eastern and western sections of the county.

An audit process for all projects funded with Open Space Sales Tax grants was developed and implemented to ensure accountability and integrity of the Open Space Program.

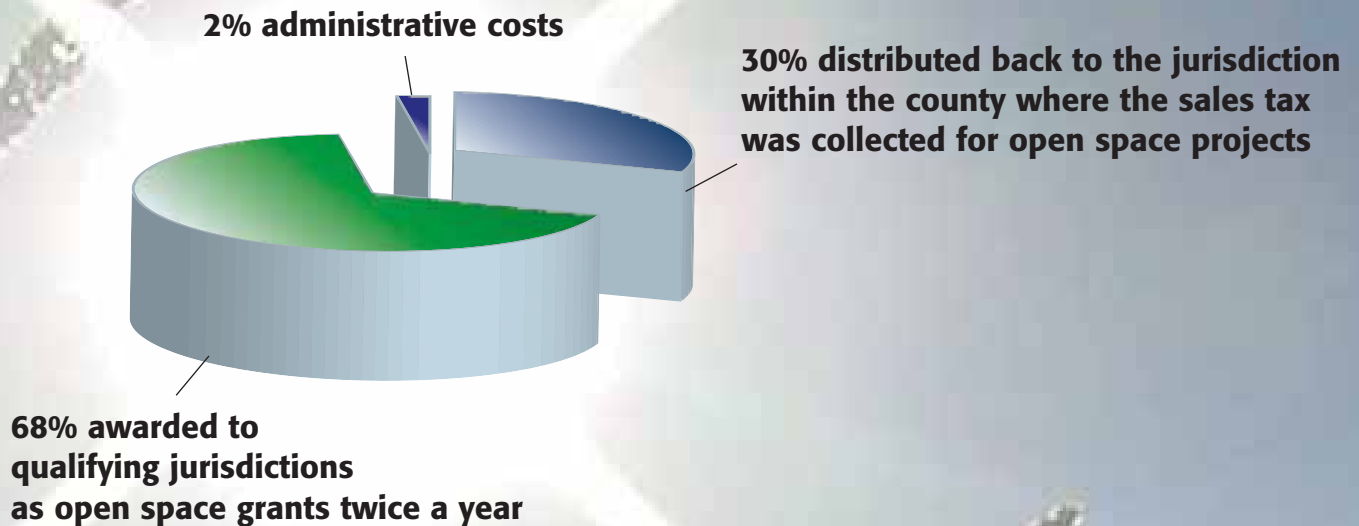
### **Save The Date**

Land Preservation Seminar: Conservation Easements & Tax Credits for Open Space – Fall 2006  
6th Annual Open Space Forum – March 29, 2007



Coyote on the ice at Barr Lake.

## How Your Adams County Open Space Sales Tax Funds Are Distributed



### Adams County Open Space Sales Tax Facts

- Tax passed on November 2, 1999
- 1/5th of one cent on each dollar with food and other items excluded
- Length of the current tax is seven years and set to expire on December 31, 2006
- Tax reauthorized and extended 20 years by voters and increased to 1/4th of one cent starting January 1, 2007
- 2005 revenue collected was \$7,710,806
- A seven-member Open Space Advisory Board reviews grants and recommends funding
- Three members come from cities within the county and four from unincorporated Adams County
- Uses include land preservation of open space, habitat, rivers, creeks, trails, conservation easements for farmland, parks, ballfields, recreation and environmental education projects

# Adams County Open Space Projects Funded in 2005



## Farmland Preservation

### Adams County

McIntosh Conservation Easement, 6.8 acres – \$100,000  
Riverdale Road Farmland, Phase II, 62 acres – \$1,111,600



## Land Preservation for Parks & Trails

### Adams County

Fishing Lakes, Phase II, 3.5 acres – \$450,000  
Grange Hall Creek Open Space, 13 acres – \$230,000

### City of Commerce City

Blanding Purchase, 4.37 acres – \$30,000

### City of Thornton

Ehler Property Open Space, 60.3 acres – \$750,000

### City of Westminster

Tanglewood Creek Open Space Acquisition,  
40 acres – \$775,000  
Purebred Arabian Trust Open Space Acquisition,  
6.39 acres – \$353,000

# Adams County Open Space Projects Funded in 2005

## New Park Construction

### City of Arvada

Tennyson Knolls Skate Park  
& Playground – \$49,065

### Hyland Hills Park & Recreation District

Baker Recreation Project – \$60,000  
Hidden Lake Park New  
Water Use Project – \$50,000



## Park & Trail Renovation

### City of Northglenn

Trail Replacement Program – \$214,610

### City of Commerce City

Sand Creek Regional Greenway Trail Completion – \$220,300



# Adams County Open Space Projects Funded in 2005



## Mini-grants

### Adams County

Park and Trail Kiosks - \$5,000

### City of Brighton

Wildlife Habitat Improvements - \$4,990

### City of Commerce City

Urquidez Centennial Park Improvements - \$2,714

### Prairie Dog Action

Front Range Community College - \$4,591

### Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory

Barr Lake Education & Bird Banding Station - \$4,218



## 30% Distribution Payments for 2005

**City of Arvada** - \$19,261.42

**City of Aurora** - \$257,329.69

**Town of Bennett** - \$4,309.35

**City of Brighton** - \$159,996.66

**City of Commerce City** - \$226,757.67

**City of Federal Heights** - \$57,107.68

**City of Northglenn** - \$202,800.58

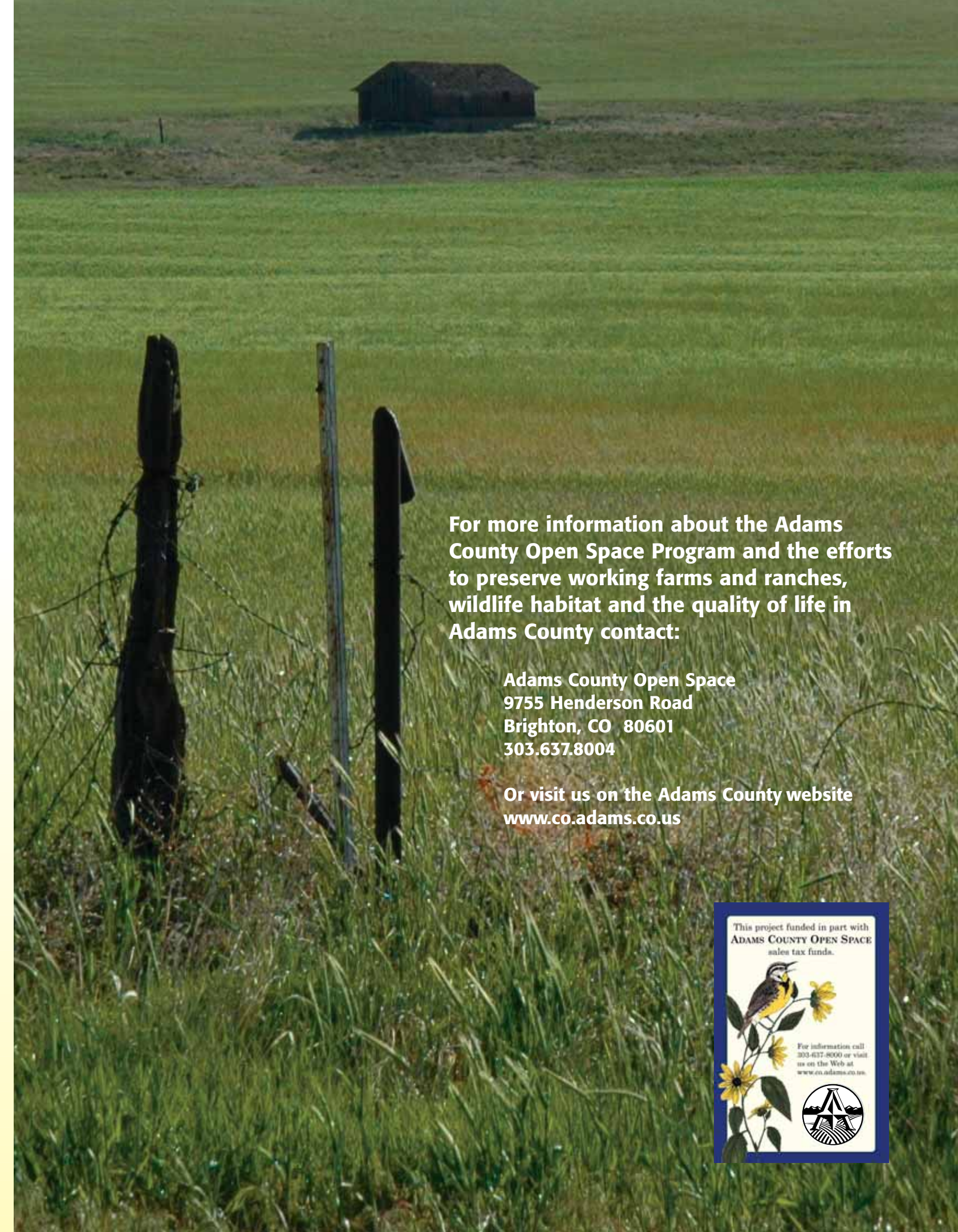
**City of Thornton** - \$505,917.07

**Town of Watkins** - \$2,491.75

**City of Westminster** - \$240,218.86

**Unincorporated Adams County** - \$521,401.75

The above totals represent the 30 percent distributions made to the cities and unincorporated Adams County from January – December 2005.



**For more information about the Adams  
County Open Space Program and the efforts  
to preserve working farms and ranches,  
wildlife habitat and the quality of life in  
Adams County contact:**

**Adams County Open Space  
9755 Henderson Road  
Brighton, CO 80601  
303.637.8004**

**Or visit us on the Adams County website  
[www.co.adams.co.us](http://www.co.adams.co.us)**

This project funded in part with  
**ADAMS COUNTY OPEN SPACE**  
sales tax funds.



For information call  
303-637-8000 or visit  
us on the Web at  
[www.co.adams.co.us](http://www.co.adams.co.us).

