

# 2010 OPEN SPACE SALES TAX REPORT



Great Blue Heron

Barr Lake State Park

Dear Citizens,

2010 was another productive and busy year for the Open Space program. During the year, Adams County jurisdictions received just over \$2.8 million to complete parks and open space projects. In the grant program, we awarded \$10.9 million during the fall 2010 and spring 2011 grant cycles – the most money ever distributed in a single year. With these awards, approximately 361 acres of land have been

preserved, numerous parks are receiving improvements to the amenities they offer, two Veterans' memorials are being enhanced, several planning efforts are underway to determine future community needs and two organizations are engaging in environmental education efforts.



Open Space Advisory Board, L-R: Norma Authier, Gloria Rudden, Scott Jaquith, Edwin Hicel, Susan Worth, Merle Menin

The Open Space Advisory Board enthusiastically welcomes the diversity of projects it has seen this year. The board works diligently to ensure that all projects funded fit the purpose and spirit of the Adams County Open Space Sales Tax. We want to be confident that the projects being funded will truly benefit the residents of Adams County and be in their best interest. From improvements to parks and Veterans' memorials to purchasing land, these projects all represent our efforts to serve the Adams County community now as well as provide for future generations.

As committed Open Space Advisory Board members, we believe that open space and parks are part of what makes Adams County such a wonderful place to live. These community assets provide our residents the opportunity to get outdoors and enjoy the beautiful area where we live. From clean air and water to recreation and time spent with family and friends, the services provided by these open spaces and parks are truly irreplaceable.

As chairman, I invite you to explore the many open spaces and parks available in Adams County. Be sure to look for our Open Space sign to see if your favorite local park has received funding from the program!

Norma Authier, Chairman  
Adams County Open Space Advisory Board

### Open Space Advisory Board

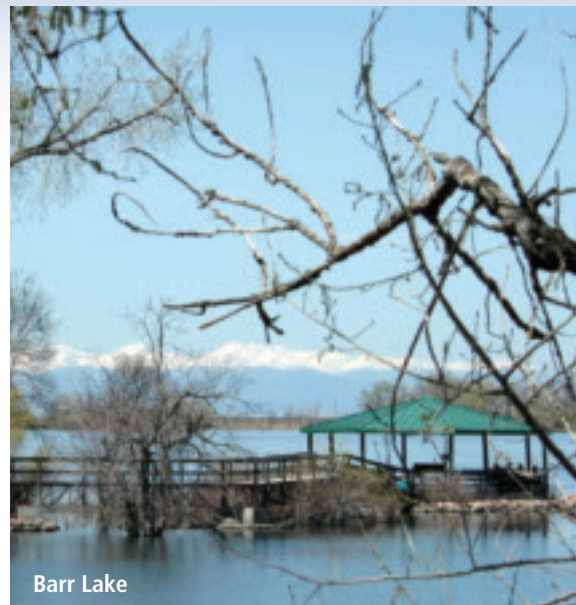
The Open Space Sales Tax was approved by Adams County voters in 1999. The sales tax is ¼ of one percent, or 25 cents on every \$100 purchase and is authorized through 2026. Proceeds from the sales tax benefit parks, recreation and open space projects countywide. Funds are distributed in three ways:

- 68% is awarded through a competitive grant program
- 30% is distributed back to the jurisdiction where the tax was generated
- 2% is allocated to administration costs

The Open Space Advisory Board, a seven-member board appointed by the Board of County Commissioners, reviews all grant applications and makes recommendations for funding to the Board of County Commissioners.

The Board of County Commissioners makes the final decision on all grant applications. To date, the Open Space Sales Tax has contributed almost \$84 million to parks, recreation and open space projects throughout Adams County.

The Open Space Advisory Board meets on the 4th Thursday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at the Adams County Regional Park and Fairgrounds. For more information, please visit our website at [www.adcogov.org](http://www.adcogov.org) or call 303.637.8039.

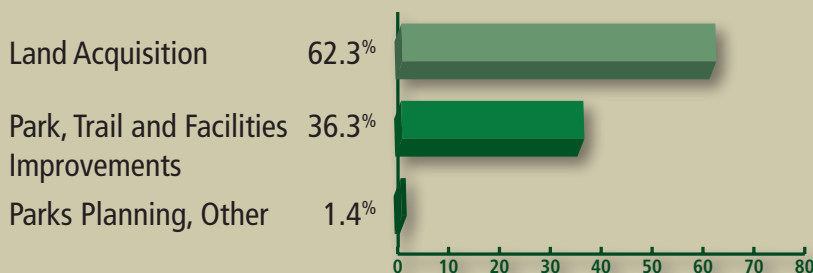


Barr Lake

### 30% Distribution Funds Received in 2010

Arvada	\$24,647.44
Aurora	318,149.01
Bennett	14,181.84
Brighton	259,338.83
Commerce City	249,433.20
Federal Heights	67,042.01
Northglenn	210,795.86
Thornton	698,021.99
Westminster	413,016.64
Adams County (unincorporated)	591,895.94
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,846,522.76</b>

### 30% Open Space Sales Tax Distribution 2010



Snowy Egrets

# 68% GRANT DISTRIBUTIONS

FROM FALL 2010 TO SPRING 2011, THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS TOTALING \$10,923,477 WERE AWARDED THROUGH THE OPEN SPACE SALES TAX GRANT PROGRAM:

## THISTLE EDUCATION AND IDENTIFICATION MATERIALS

### City of Aurora

**Mary Ann Bonnell, 303.859.8911**

Grant funds will be used to compile and create a comprehensive, full-color Colorado Thistle Guide.

Grant Award: \$2,000

## LAKE APPRECIATION DAY 2011

### Barr Lake State Park

**Michelle Seubert, 303.655.1495**

Lake Appreciation Day is an annual event at Barr Lake designed to bring public awareness to water quality and other issues facing lakes and waterways.

Grant Award: \$2,500

## KIOWA BENNETT TRAIL ALIGNMENT STUDY

### Town of Bennett

**Trish Stiles, 303.644.4506**

The Kiowa Bennett Trail Alignment Study will produce a preferred trail alignment between Hwy. 79 and Kiowa Creek that will be negotiated with property owners.

Grant Award: \$5,000

## INTERACTIVE BIRD BANDING DISPLAY

### Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory

**Cassandra Bohnet, 303.659.4348 x15**

The Interactive Bird Banding Display project will develop a portable display that will allow students to play the role of a Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory ornithologist.

Grant Award: \$1,181

## SAND CREEK TRAIL TO HIGH LINE CANAL CONNECTION PLAN

### City of Aurora

**Pat Schuler, 303.739.8947**

This grant is for the planning and design of a soft surface trail and low water crossing to connect the High Line Canal Trail to the Sand Creek Regional Greenway Trail.

Grant Award: \$44,000

## WESTMINSTER REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OPEN SPACE ACQUISITION

### City of Westminster

**Lauren Schevets, 303.658.2191**

Grant funds will be used to acquire 2.24 acres from the Westminster Reformed Presbyterian Church property near 112th Ave. and Vrain St. along the Big Dry Creek.

Grant Award: \$81,229

## ROTELLA PARK IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PHASE 1

### Adams County

**Roger Harvey, 303.637.8005**

Upgrades and improvements will be made to the west side of Rotella Park, which is located at 2224 Coronado Pkwy. south.

Grant Award: \$195,000

## SAVORY FARM ESTATES MASTER PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

### City of Westminster

**Sarah Washburn, 303.658.2226**

A new trailhead parking area will be constructed and the 8.16 acre property near 108th Ave. and Federal Blvd. will be graded and re-vegetated.

Grant Award: \$232,000

## BIG DRY CREEK OPEN SPACE AT YORK STREET & E-470

### City of Thornton

**Diane Van Fossen, 303.255.7843**

Grant funds will be used to acquire 44.08 acres of open space along the Big Dry Creek, adjacent to York St. and E-470.

Grant Award: \$288,548

## GREAT LAWN PARK CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

### City of Brighton

**Gary Wardle, 303.655.2135**

The Great Lawn Park Construction project will provide a 1.77-acre neighborhood park adjacent to the future Brighton Adult Recreation Center, 1150 Prairie Center Pkwy.

Grant Award: \$118,000

## AMPHITHEATER AT MARGARET CARPENTER SITE

### City of Thornton

**Diane Van Fossen, 303.255.7843**

The outdoor amphitheater will be an addition to the community park complex, 112th Ave. and Colorado Blvd.

Grant Award: \$376,122

## RECREATION CENTER REHABILITATION

### City of Northglenn

**Amanda Peterson, 303.450.8950**

This funding will replace the HVAC system and put a new roof on the Northglenn Recreation Center, 11801 Community Center Dr.

Grant Award: \$500,000

## FAIRFAX PARK RENOVATION PHASE 1

### City of Commerce City

**Traci Ferguson, 303.227.8788**

Improvements to Fairfax Park (6850 Fairfax St.) will include a new irrigation system, a new maintenance building and site modifications to allow for soccer use.

Grant Award: \$312,000



Fairfax Park

## GAZEBO BOARDWALK RENOVATION

### Barr Lake State Park

**Michelle Seubert, 303.655.1495**

Grant funds will be used to renovate the 20-year-old, 900-ft. Gazebo Boardwalk, Barr Lake State Park.

Grant Award: \$149,700



Badding Open Space

**BADDING OPEN SPACE EXPANSION  
City of Thornton**

**Diane Van Fossen, 303.255.7843**  
Grant funds will be used to expand the Badding Open Space by acquiring 10.97 acres of land adjacent to Thornton Pkwy. and I-25.  
Grant Award: \$914,338

**BENNETT COMMUNITY CENTER  
PAVILION**

**Town of Bennett**  
**Stuart McArthur, 303.644.3249**  
The Bennett Community Center Pavilion, 1100 Colfax Ave., includes construction of a pavilion and addition of picnic tables, a barbeque pit and benches.  
Grant Award: \$21,800

**WRIGHT FARMS PEDESTRIAN  
BRIDGE CONNECTION**

**Wright Farms Metropolitan District**  
**Mathew Mendisco, 303.265.7922**  
A pedestrian bridge will be constructed across Brantner Gulch near 123rd Ave. and Holly St. in the Wright Farms subdivision.  
Grant Award: \$297,975

**TRIANGLE PARK PLAYGROUND  
& SHELTER RENOVATION**

**City of Aurora**  
**Tracy Young, 303.739.7166**  
Triangle Park, located at 1600 Espana Way, will receive a new, relocated playground and picnic shelters.  
Grant Award: \$300,000

**CAMPBELL PARK CONSTRUCTION  
PROJECT**

**City of Brighton**  
**Gary Wardle, 303.655.2135**  
Funding will help design and construct a park at 650 Southern St. with a playground, ball fields, basketball court, picnic shelters, a restroom, trail and landscaping.  
Grant Award: \$500,000

**ADAMS COUNTY OPEN SPACE  
MASTER PLAN**  
**Adams County**  
**Roger Harvey, 303.637.8005**  
Funding will help Adams County create a comprehensive Open Space Master Plan that will identify issues, community preferences, critical habitat and agricultural areas to be preserved.  
Grant Award: \$50,000

**RIVERDALE BLUFFS OPEN SPACE**  
**Adams County**  
**Roger Harvey, 303.637.8005**  
Grant funds will be used to reimburse a purchase of 226 acres of open space near 136th Ave. and Riverdale Rd.  
Grant Award: \$1,800,000

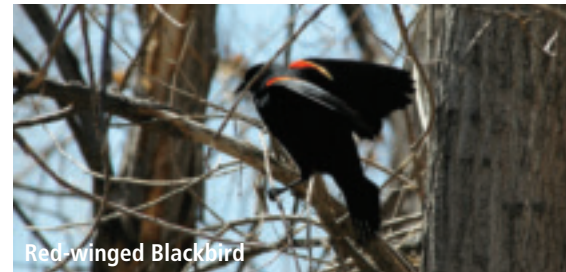


Riverdale Bluffs Open Space

**NORTHERN RANGE LOOP TRAIL  
PLANNING**  
**Commerce City**  
**Traci Ferguson, 303.227.8788**  
Funds will be used to create design and construction documents to extend the Second Creek Greenway Trail north to the O'Brian Canal, which will create a 10-mile soft surface trail loop.  
Grant Award: \$187,500

**THORNTON TRAIL WINDS PARK &  
OPEN SPACE SKATEPARK**  
**City of Thornton**  
**Diane Van Fossen, 303.255.7843**  
The city of Thornton plans to construct a 13,000 square foot in-ground concrete skatepark at Thornton Trail Winds Park & Open Space.  
Grant Award: \$150,000

**ADAMS COUNTY GOVERNMENT  
CENTER NATURAL PARK**  
**Adams County**  
**Mike Goins, 720.523.6303**  
Funding will provide restored habitat and park amenities on 13 acres within the 90-acre campus at 4430 S. Adams County Pkwy. near 124th Ave. and Sable Blvd.  
Grant Award: \$501,674



Red-winged Blackbird

**SPENCER GARRETT PARK  
RENOVATION**  
**City of Aurora**  
**Tracy Young, 303.739.7166**  
The Spencer Garrett Park, located at 11008 E. 17th Ave., will be renovated to include a new playground, basketball courts, community garden, restrooms and a picnic shelter.  
Grant Award: \$100,000

**THORNTON VETERANS MEMORIAL  
Thornton Veterans Memorial  
Foundation**  
**Tony Hake, 303.312.0315**  
This grant funds the second phase of the memorial, which is located near 136th Ave. and Holly St., including benches commemorating each branch of service and a five-sided obelisk honoring veterans.  
Grant Award: \$54,817

**MARGARET CARPENTER RECREATION CENTER COMMUNITY PARK IMPROVEMENTS**

**City of Thornton**

**Diane Van Fossen, 303.255.7843**

The community park at 112th Ave. and Colorado Blvd. will include a boat house with paddle boats, concession stand, flush toilets, fishing pier, playground and tennis and basketball courts.

Grant Award: \$1,500,000

**144TH AVENUE FARMLAND PRESERVATION**

**City of Brighton**

**Gary Wardle, 303.655.2135**

The 144th Avenue Farmland Preservation project will protect 74.86 acres of farmland adjacent to Hwy. 85 between E-470 and Bromley Lane and 80.5 shares of Fulton Ditch water to irrigate the farm.

Grant Award: \$1,710,500

**COMMUNITY CENTER RECREATION ENHANCEMENT PROJECT**

**Town of Bennett**

**Stuart McArthur, 303.644.3249**

The town of Bennett will add a walking trail, new basketball court and fitness equipment for children and adults at the Bennett Community Center, 1100 Colfax Ave.

Grant Award: \$65,545

**CLEAR CREEK VALLEY PARK SITE ADDITION**

**Hyland Hills Park and Recreation District**

**Terry Barnhart, 303.650.7609**

Grant funds will be used to purchase a one acre parcel located at 5845 N. Lowell Blvd. The parcel will become part of the future Clear Creek Valley Park.

Grant Award: \$110,000

**VETERANS MEMORIAL RENOVATION**

**Commerce City**

**Traci Ferguson, 303.227.8788**

The Veterans Memorial, 6060 E. Parkway Dr., will be refurbished with new walls, plantings and a reconfiguration of the irrigation system.

Grant Award: \$35,000



Environmental Education Program, Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory

**ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

**Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory**

**Tammy VerCauteren, 303.659.4348**

Grant funds will support two years of RMBO's environmental education staff and volunteers and provide scholarships for schools and families.

Grant Award: \$55,000

**SWIM AND FITNESS LOCKER ROOM RENOVATION**

**City of Westminster**

**Kathy Piper, 303.658.2227**

In accordance with Master Plan recommendations, grant funds will be utilized to fund an outdoor, pop jet zero-depth water feature at the Swim and Fitness Center, 3290 W. 76th Ave.

Grant Award: \$205,000



Veterans Memorial

**REDUCING COYOTE CONFLICT IN ADAMS COUNTY: COYOTE BEHAVIOR AND HUMAN DIMENSIONS RESEARCH**

**City of Aurora**

**Mary Ann Bonnell, 303.859.8911**

Coyote behavior research will include conflict mapping, analysis and surveys to assess human attitudes toward coyotes to develop education that will minimize negative interactions.

Grant Award: \$57,048

