



2025 Annual Report

Evergreen Park and Recreation District



Letter from the Executive Director

Evergreen Park & Recreation District (EPRD) is pleased to present our 2025 Annual Report. Our focus this year has been preparing thoughtfully for the exciting improvements coming to Buchanan Park and Recreation Center in 2026, while continuing to care for the facilities, programs, and community experiences our residents take part in every day.

This year, we completed essential groundwork for next year's capital projects, including planning, design coordination, and operational preparation. These efforts set the stage for enhancements such as expanded recreation spaces, updated facilities, and improvements that will help EPRD better serve our community for years to come.

At the same time, we remained committed to delivering high-quality programs and maintaining our existing facilities. From recreation programs and community events to daily operations and preventative maintenance, our team worked hard to ensure that guests continued to enjoy safe, welcoming, and reliable experiences throughout the District.

We are proud of the balance we struck in 2025: planning for the future while taking care of what we have today. As we move into 2026, we look forward to advancing these important improvements with minimal disruption and maximum long-term benefit for the Evergreen community. We invite you to follow along on our progress by signing up for our newsletter, checking our website, or connecting with us on social media. See you out there, Evergreen!

Cheers,

Cory Vander Veen

Executive Director, Evergreen Park & Recreation District



About Evergreen Park & Recreation District



EPRD is a Special District, which is a form of local government authorized under state law and created to perform a specific purpose. In our case, that purpose is to serve the park and recreation needs of our constituents.

Today, EPRD serves approximately 23,000 people residing within District boundaries. The District covers 50,000 acres (78 square miles) and serves the communities of Evergreen, Bergen Park, Indian Hills, Kittredge, and Marshdale.



EPRD: Elevate Your Life!

Strategic Vision

Together we build opportunities to elevate the lives of our community!

Mission Statement

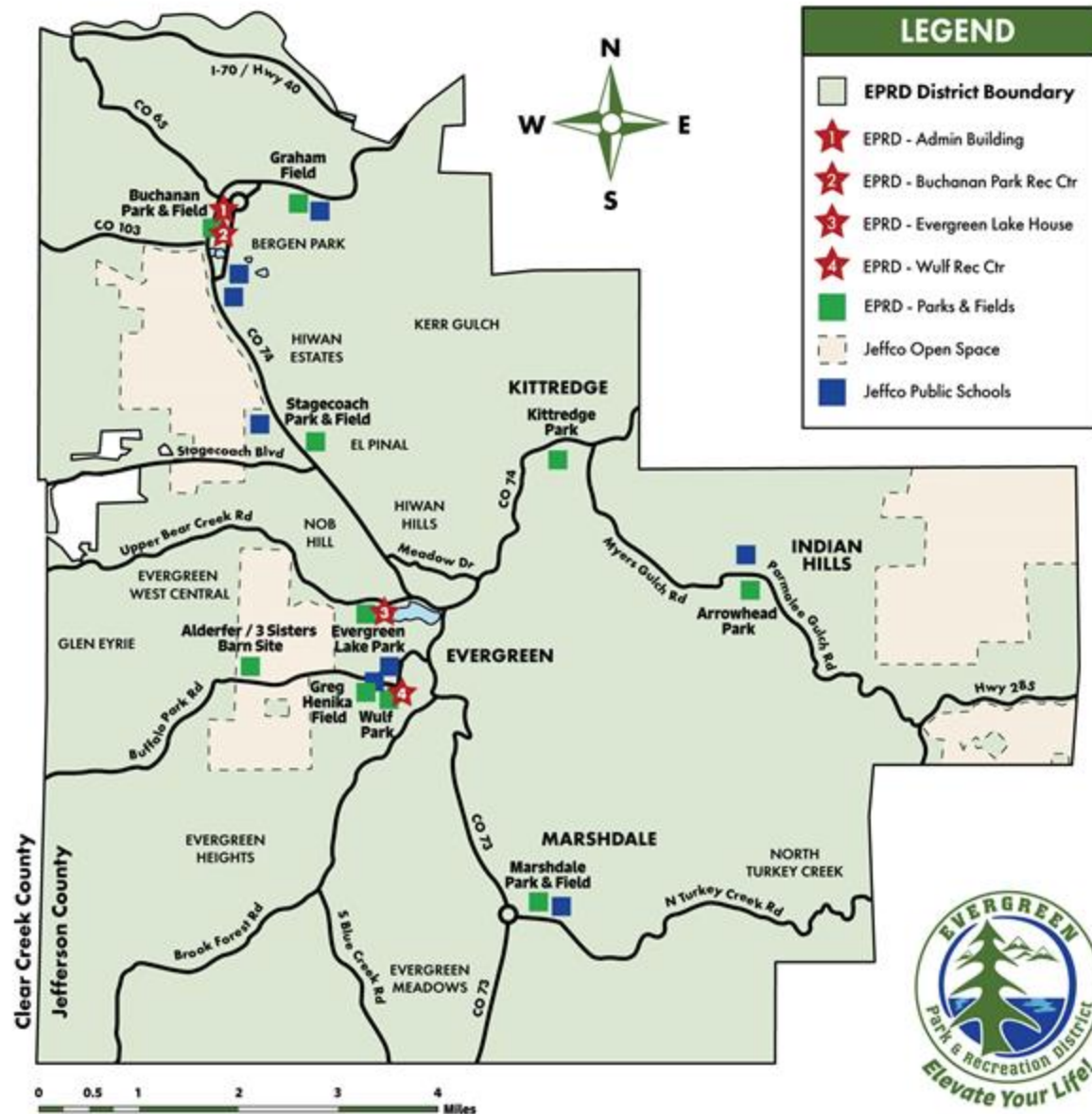
The mission of EPRD is to improve the quality of life of the Evergreen community by providing a wide range of excellent, financially responsible park and recreation amenities and programs while maintaining and enhancing the area's mountain character.

History of the District

The Evergreen Park & Recreation District (originally named the Evergreen Metropolitan Recreation and Park District and renamed in 1991) was authorized in January 1969 by a vote of the residents of the area. While our District's roots can be traced as far back as 1956 when the non-profit Evergreen Recreation Association was formed, it was in 1969 that our District officially became the governing body entity that it is today. At that time, the stated purpose of the District was to provide recreational opportunities to its residents and construct a community center with a swimming pool.

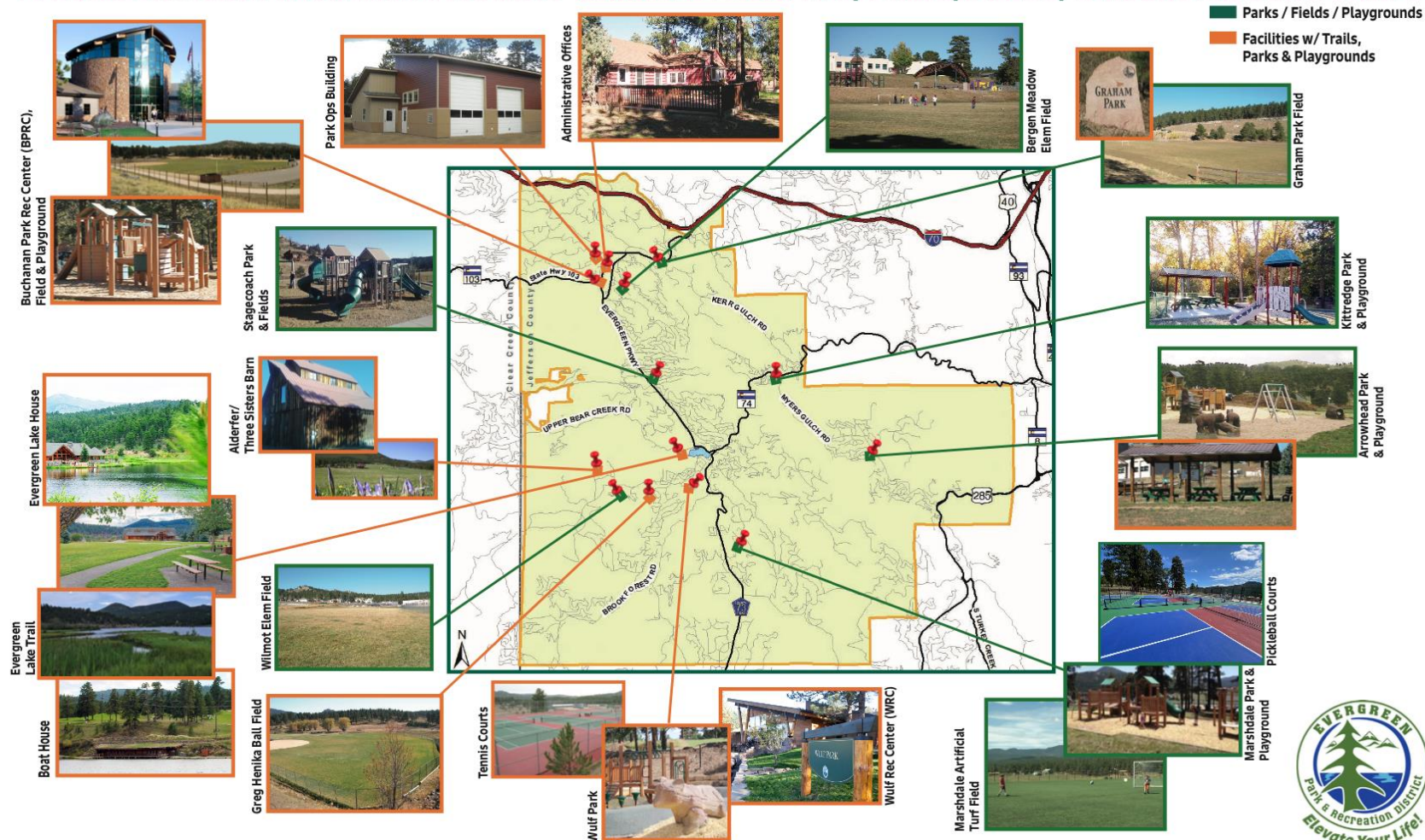


EPRD District Map



EPRD Facilities, Parks, Fields, Playgrounds & Trails

EVERGREEN PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT MANAGED FACILITIES, PARKS, FIELDS, PLAYGROUNDS AND TRAILS



2025 Board of Directors

The District is governed by a 5-person Board of Directors, each elected for a four-year term by the District residents.

(left to right)

Nina Armah

Secretary (Jan-Apr)

Mary McGhee

First Vice President

Peter Eggers

Treasurer

Don Rosenthal

Second Vice President

Betsy Hays

President

Ally Hilgefort

*Secretary (May-Dec)
Not Pictured*



***THANK YOU TO OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FOR THE INCREDIBLE PROGRESS MADE IN 2025!***



Parks

The Evergreen Park & Recreation District owns over 75 acres of parkland on 15 different parcels and partners with various other agencies in the management of approximately 180 additional acres on 7 additional parcels. Components of the Evergreen Park and Recreation District's managed park property include:

- *Ball Diamonds (7)*
- *Grass Multipurpose Fields (4)*
- *Artificial Turf Fields (3)*
- *Reservable Park Shelters (8)*
- *Playgrounds (6)*
- *Outdoor Tennis Courts (4)*
- *Outdoor Pickleball Courts (8)*



There are over 230 miles of hiking and biking trails within the boundaries of the Evergreen Park & Recreation District (EPRD), 6.45 miles of which are on EPRD property. Most of these trails are owned and managed by other agencies. Several types of trails exist, including natural trails and paved trails. Some trails are contained within the extent of individual parks, and some meander through the District and connect parks and open space to homes and businesses.

Recreation and Facilities

Camps

- 495 Individual Adventure & Preschool campers
- 51 Individual Youth in INSPIRE camp
- 248 Youth in Gymnastics camp
- 73 Individual Youth in Sports camps
- 80 Youth in Climbing camps
- 178 Youth in Specialty Camps

Lake House

- Approximately 22,000 Boating & stand-up paddle board admissions
- Approximately 12,000 Skating admissions

Facilities

- 250,400 Recreation center visits
- 7,808 Fitness class admissions
- 1,859 Aquatic lessons/participants



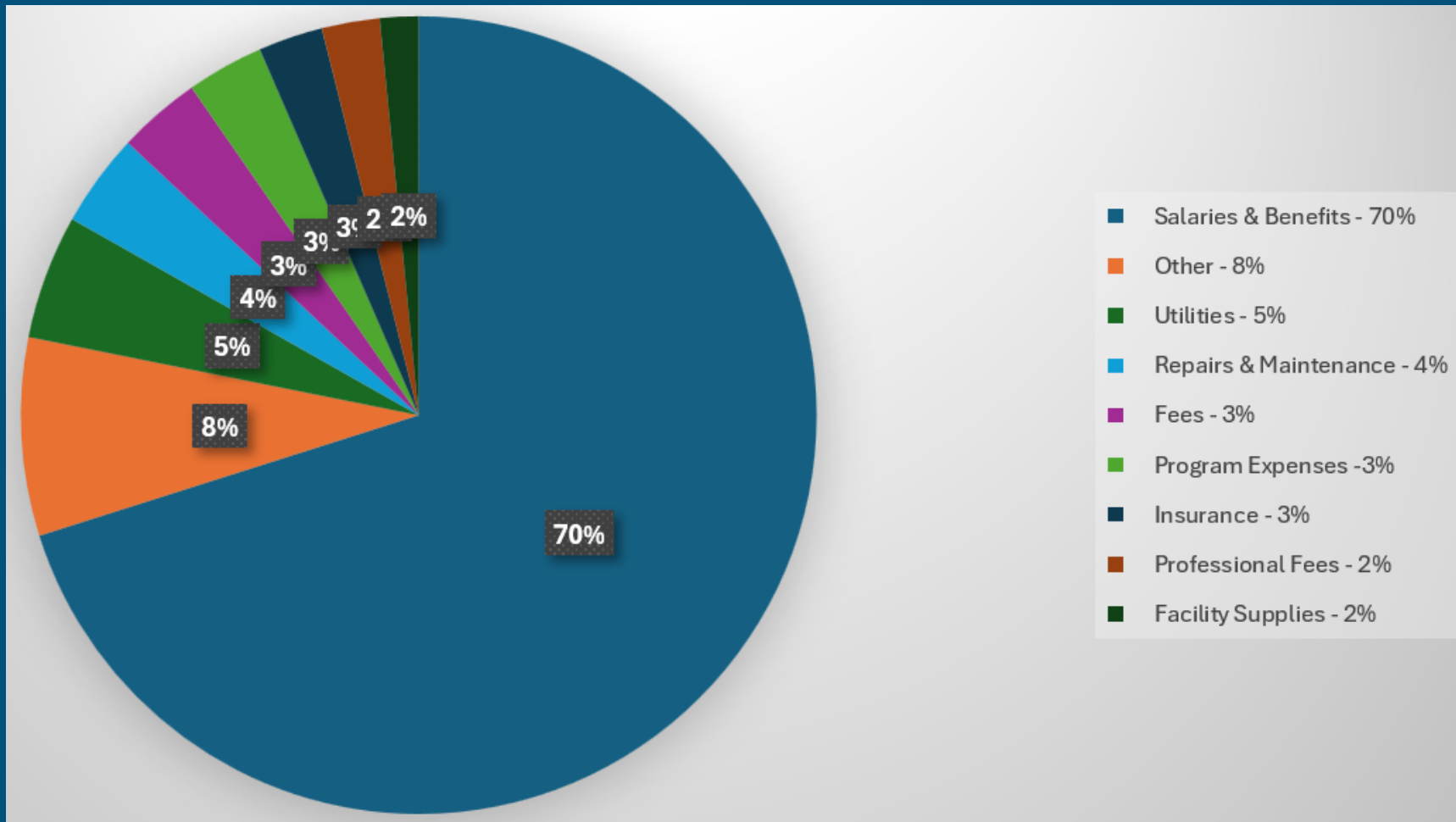
Information Technologies (IT)

In 2025, the IT Department led several critical initiatives aimed at strengthening our technology infrastructure, enhancing security, and improving user experience across the district while reducing overall cost. Key accomplishments include:

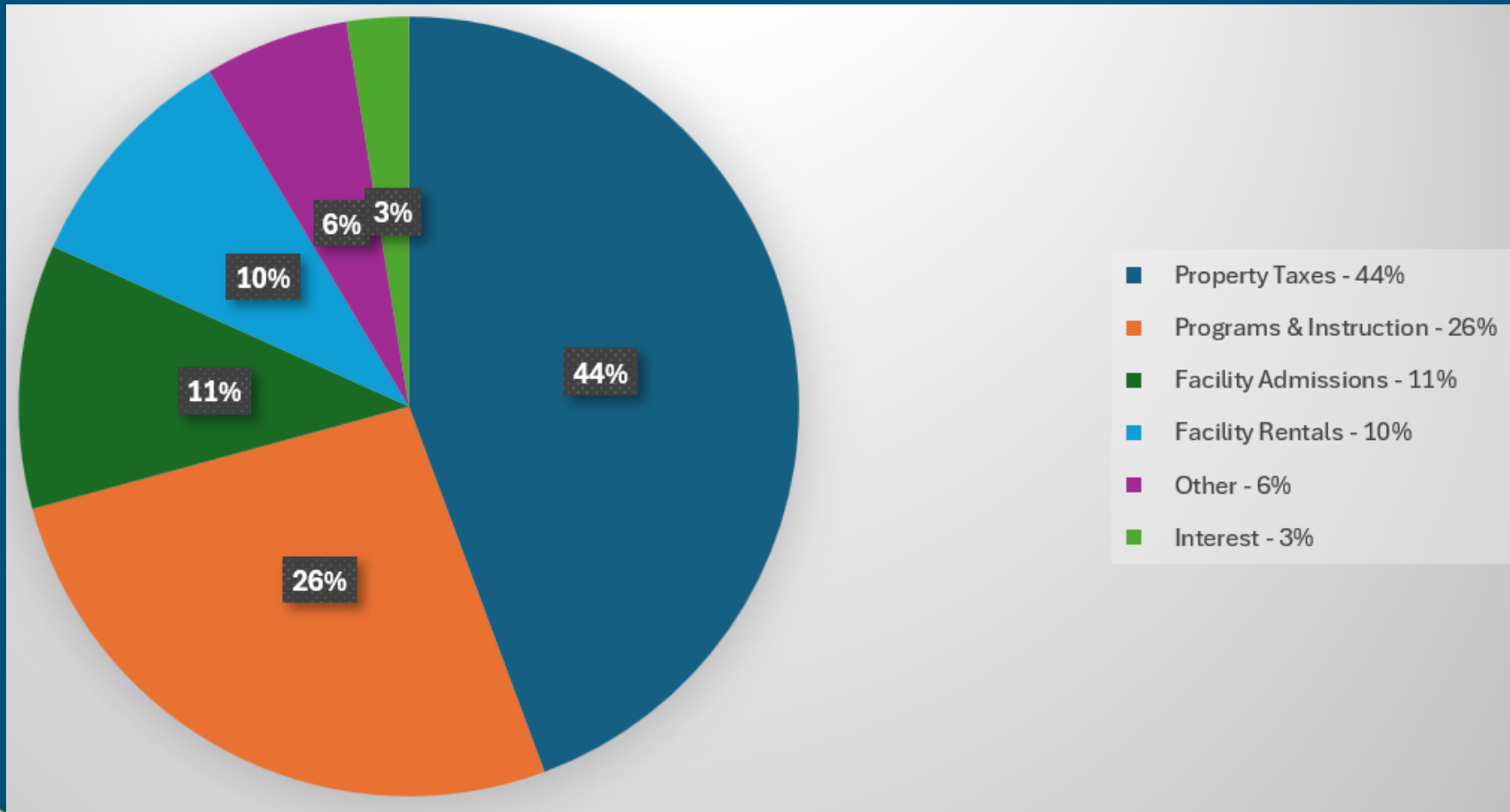
Infrastructure & Security Enhancements	• Deployed Microsoft Intune across all Windows devices, ensuring timely security updates and real-time monitoring without requiring manual IT intervention. • Implemented geolocation blocking to prevent unauthorized login attempts to Microsoft accounts from outside the country. • Enforced MFA for all user accounts, aligning with industry standard security practice.
Technology Upgrades	• Introduced Microsoft 365 reporting, providing a streamlined view of our security posture and better visibility into at-risk accounts. • Extended our existing internet connection from Buchanan Rec Center to Miller House, eliminating the cost of a new building expansion. • Established direct purchasing through Dell, ensuring all new laptops include warranties while staying within per-device budget. • Installed new switches District Wide.
Web & Accessibility	• Automated our email distribution list maintenance to ensure contact data stays current. • Removed unused accounts and SharePoint sites to reduce clutter and security exposure. • Cleaned up Microsoft 365 groups, removing inactive groups to streamline access management.
Communications & Engagement	• Streamlined the Rec Center check-in process to improve the community experience.
Cybersecurity	• Launched Security Awareness Training (SAT) for all district employees, providing monthly training modules to continuously improve cybersecurity awareness.



2025 Operations Expenses



2025 Operations Revenue



2025: Continued Momentum on Major Capital Improvements



In 2025 EPRD continued its steady progress toward the implementation of major capital improvements to meet community needs.

We set the course for major capital improvements in 2023 with our Strategic Plan and successful Ballot Measure. In 2024 we continued forward with Planning, Community Input & Fundraising.

In 2025, EPRD progressed the following projects further toward final design and construction:

AQUATICS EXPANSION

Final design completed in 2025

BUCHANAN PARK IMPROVEMENTS

*Location & Extent permit received in October 2025;
Skatepark Design/Build Contract approved in December 2025*

GYM/FIELD HOUSE

Conceptual design & community engagement in 2025

These improvements will be built in 2026-28, thanks to the community's support to pass our Ballot Measure, your involvement in project planning, and your generous donations.



Taking Care of What We Have

As part of our 2023 Strategic Plan, EPRD has prioritized **taking care of what we have** to address current maintenance needs at indoor and outdoor facilities over the next 5+ years. In 2025, that included:

- Replacing the hot water heater at Buchanan Park Recreation Center (BPRC)
- Replacing the HRU unit for the BPRC pool
- Replacing the rusted metal doors within Wulf Recreation Center (WRC)
- Upgrading the outdoor water fountains within several parks
- Replacing the gymnastics facility floor
- Repairing concrete pillars along the Evergreen Lake North Trail
- Refurbishing our mobile trailer stage after the original trailer was damaged in a wind storm
- Continued turf grass maintenance and irrigation repairs throughout the District
- Maintenance and updates to Employee Housing rental units in Buchanan Park
- Replacing the bridge on the southeast corner of the Buchanan Ponds
- Repairing and replacing vents on the BPRC pool boiler
- Sanding and refinishing hardwood floors at WRC and BPRC
- Painting all downtown walkways
- Installing new fencing and gate at the Kittredge Park parking lot
- Repatching roof at WRC
- Refinishing and resealing tile floors at WRC
- Beginning of conversion of the Park Operations yard into an enclosed area to allow for secure storage of District equipment and project materials
- Regular maintenance of fitness equipment at both Recreation Centers
- Regular maintenance of District vehicles and equipment
- Making updates to the drainage culvert and path at Evergreen Lake



Rebuilding Recreation



As part of our 2023 Strategic Plan, EPRD has prioritized **rebuilding recreation** to improve our parks and rework our recreation centers over the next 5+ years. In 2025, that included:

- Relocating the Historic Buffalo Park School House building from Wilmot Elementary to Marshdale Park.
- Purchasing our own Porta Potty fleet and pump truck to improve on experience within our parks and outdoor spaces.
- Built porta potty enclosures at Graham Field, Arrowhead Park & Buchanan Park
- Investing in making our events more sustainable by purchasing materials for and kicking off the ECO Hub zero waste station program to divert events waste from the landfill.
- Installing new perimeter fencing at Buchanan Park to reduce elk interactions with park users during programs and events.
- Pouring new concrete pads at the disc golf course and regrading areas with recycled asphalt.
- Replacing and regrouting tiles in the women's showers at BPRC
- Installing new bleachers at Teddy's Field
- Installing standby generator at Evergreen Lake House to ensure events can continue without interruption if there is a power outages
- Installed sun shade at Marshdale Pickleball Courts
- Installed banner and sign kiosks at entrances of BPRC, EPRD Administrative Office, and Kittredge Park



Expanding Facilities & Services

As part of our 2023 Strategic Plan, EPRD has prioritized **expanding facilities & services** to add new recreation opportunities to serve the whole community. In 2025, that included:

- Successfully implementing a \$16M COP, which will use the annual funds from the 2023 approved 6C ballot initiative to fund specific District capital projects.
- Installing lights (recycled from Bandimere Speedway) at Evergreen Lake to allow for evening programming
- Renovated and opened the Bristlecone Lounge, EPRD's new Active Adults center.
- Expanding and restriping the parking lot at the Buchanan Ball Fields
- Hosted EPRD's first Father Daughter dance at Evergreen Lake House



2025 Grants & Proposals

\$1,094,959 in grants & giving in 2025

2025 was a banner year in grants & giving to EPRD, with \$1,094,959 in awards from:

- Denver Regional Council of Governments
- Jefferson County Open Space
- Great Outdoors Colorado
- Gates Family Foundation
- Evergreen Legacy Foundation/Local Donor
- Can'd Aid Colorado

Thank you to our funding partners!

In 2025 we also made new proposals to the following organizations to keep the pipeline flowing:

- ❖ Denver Regional Council of Governments
- ❖ Colorado Parks & Wildlife
- ❖ Jefferson County Parks & Open Space
- ❖ El Pomar Foundation
- ❖ Daniels Fund
- ❖ US Bank Foundation



EPRD Partners and Relationships

EPRD maintains relationships with many entities that play important roles in District success.

- Active 4 All EPRD Foundation
- Evergreen Legacy Fund (ELF)
- Friends of Buchanan Park
 - Blue Spruce Kiwanis
 - Hops Drops Evergreen
 - Evergreen Skatepark Coalition
- Jefferson County Public Schools
- Jefferson County Open Space
- Evergreen Fire Rescue
- Denver Mountain Parks
- Evergreen Metro District
- Youth Sports Leagues
- Evergreen Downtown Business Association
- Evergreen Area Chamber of Commerce
- Community Non-Profits such as Center for the Arts Evergreen, Evergreen Mountain Area Historical Society, Evergreen Rotary, Mountain Music fest, Mountainfilm, and more!
- Local publications such as the Canyon Courier, Evergreen Living, Lariat Loop, Macaroni Kids, Peach Jar, and more!



Sponsorships & Advertising

EPRD is grateful for the support of our sponsors, whose contributions are essential to offering diverse programs and events to the community each year. Through collaboration with these businesses and organizations, EPRD is able to enhance our event and program offerings to provide even more memorable experiences for community members and visitors alike. Our 2025 sponsors included:

- Bistro Del Lago
- Blue Sky
- Hop's Drops
- Beau Jo's
- Lynn Westfall
- Natural Grocer's
- Evergreen Brewery
- Piney Wine & Spirits
- And more...



Events

EPRD hosts a diverse array of events each year, ranging from outdoor concerts in our stunning mountain setting, to sporting events, to family-friendly festivals celebrating local community and culture. With something for everyone, EPRD's events have grown and continue to enhance the quality of life for our residents and attract visitors from near and far, showcasing the vibrant spirit of our mountain community.

This year's new and bigger than ever events:

Oktoberfest



Frostrival



Haunted House



Plus,

- IceFest
- Pond Hockey
- Father Daughter Dance
- Family Campout
- Movie Nights
- Trick or Treat Trail
- AND MORE!

Summer Concert Series x5



Foothills Fourth



Volunteers & Community Days

EPRD's volunteers play a crucial role in enhancing our community through their commitment to giving back and supporting events. We are incredibly thankful for their dedication and the lasting positive impact they have on our District.



Staff Volunteer Hours	# of Organizations Supported
91	10
Our staff used volunteer time to support various organizations in 2025 including Colorado Wildlife Federation, Boogie for Benefits, Resilience 1220, Big Chili, and more!	

INSPIRE Fundraisers

Sparkle for Special Needs	5 Volunteers	\$4,000
Andy Smith Sr. Golf Tournament	12 Volunteers	\$11,000
Lazy Butcher Dinner Proceeds	-	\$583
Evergreen Ice Melt	37 Volunteers	\$2600
Boogie Brain Trust	25	\$10,000



Active4All (A4A) Evergreen is the charitable partner of EPRD.

They strive to mobilize public support and financial improvement of parks and recreational opportunities for all members of the Evergreen community. They do this by accepting donations and hosting fundraising events. In 2025, they raised **\$236,000** for EPRD. This funded scholarships for EPRD'S INSPIRE program and various capital projects.

The 2025 A4A polar plunge event at Evergreen Lake had hundreds of participants and 10 volunteers, raising **\$17,000** in funds! EPRD is grateful for their partnership and the volunteer base that supports their fundraisers.



2025 Green Initiatives

In 2025, EPRD Green Team made incredible progress on its environmental and sustainability initiatives! The Green Team consists of staff members with a passion for sustainability and environmental stewardship. The mission of the EPRD Green Team is *to increase sustainability and improve the environmental impact of EPRD activities, events and facilities.*



Green Business
Network Certified
SILVER MEMBER



2025 Green Team projects included:

- Advanced from Bronze Level to **Silver Level Certification with the Colorado Green Business Network (CGBN)** through the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment
- **Launched EPRD's first-ever ECO (Evergreen Cleanup Operation) Hub program**, bringing waste sorting stations to the 2025 Summer Concert series to divert waste from the landfill. Successfully diverted 48% of all concert waste from the landfill
- Worked with our funding partner, **Crush It Crusade**, to **audit event and facility waste diversion practices** and recycling infrastructure to create a road map for improvements
- Conducted outreach and research to select and contract a **new waste hauler** for the District, ensuring all recycling is sent to the right facilities for processing
- **Awarded the Evergreen Impact Award** by the Evergreen Sustainability Alliance for our accomplishments in sustainable operations, leadership, and collaboration.



More to come in 2026!



EVERGREENRECREATION.COM