



# Gahanna

## *Proclamation*

### **PARKS AND RECREATION MONTH**

*July 2021*

**WHEREAS:** Parks and recreation programs are an integral part of communities throughout this country, especially within the City of Gahanna; and

**WHEREAS:** Parks and recreation programs are vitally important to maintaining and enhancing quality of life in communities, ensuring the health of all citizens, and contributing to the economic and environmental well-being of cities and regions; and

**WHEREAS:** Parks and recreation programs build healthy, active communities that aid in the prevention of chronic disease, provide therapeutic recreation services for those who are mentally or physically disabled, and improve the mental and emotional health of all citizens; and

**WHEREAS:** Parks and recreation programs increase a community's economic prosperity through increased property values and increased tourism, aid in enhancing the attraction and retention of businesses, and lead to a reduction in crime; and

**WHEREAS:** Parks and recreation areas are fundamental to the environmental well-being of a community, as they protect groundwater, prevent flooding, improve the quality of the air we breathe, and produce habitat for wildlife; and

**WHEREAS:** Parks and natural recreation areas ensure the ecological beauty of our community and provide a place for families to connect with nature and recreate outdoors; and

**WHEREAS:** Thanks to the efforts of the Gahanna Department of Parks & Recreation, Creekside Park was certified as a Level 1 Arboretum through ArbNet (part of the Morton Arboretum) in 2021, and is home to 40 different labeled tree and shrub species; and

**WHEREAS:** The City of Gahanna Department of Parks and Recreation maintains over 750 acres of parkland, including 26 community and neighborhood parks and facilities; manages preservation and conservation areas and open spaces; maintains 21.4 miles of bike and walking trails throughout the City; provides programming for seniors, youth and families; and presents and supports annual community events - all of which contribute to the quality of life for our residents.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Laurie A. Jadwin, Mayor of the City of Gahanna, Ohio, urge Gahanna residents in recognizing the contributions of parks and recreation services to our city and the benefits they provide for our quality of life, and do hereby proclaim the month of July 2021 as

### **PARKS AND RECREATION MONTH**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Gahanna, Ohio, to be affixed on this 6<sup>th</sup> day of July in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-One.



  
Laurie A. Jadwin, Mayor