

HISTORY: NATIONAL GOLD MEDAL AWARD GRAND PLAQUE RECIPIENTS								
Running Total	60	59	59	59	59	14	15	
325	CLASS I	CLASS II	CLASS III	CLASS IV	CLASS V	ARMED FORCES RECREATION	STATE PARKS	
Current	Population 400,001 and over	Population 150,001-400,000	Population 75,001-150,000	Population 30,001-75,000	Population less than 30,000	Worldwide	All	
2025	Johnson County Park & Recreation District, Shawnee Mission, KS	Arlington County Department of Parks and Recreation, Arlington, VA	Lewisville Parks and Recreation Department, Lewisville, TX	Park District of Oak Park, Oak Park, IL	Oak Brook Park District, Oak Brook, IL	Fort Carson, Colorado Springs, CO	Ohio State Parks and Watercraft, Columbus, OH	
2024	Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, Minneapolis, Minnesota	South Suburban Park and Recreation District, Littleton, Colorado	City of New Braunfels Parks and Recreation, New Braunfels, Texas	Douglasville Parks and Recreation, Douglasville, Georgia	Dickinson Parks and Recreation District, Dickinson, North Dakota	Naval Air Station Whiting Field, Milton, Florida		
2023	Virginia Beach Parks & Recreation, Virginia Beach, VA	City of Plano Parks & Recreation Department, Plano, TX	Champaign Park District, Champaign, IL	Hoffman Estates Park District, Hoffman Estates, IL	Cullman Parks, Recreation, and Sports Tourism, Cullman, AL	MWR Dept. Naval Air Facility Atsugi, Kanagawa, Japan	Texas State Parks	
2022	Recreation & Park Commission for the Parish of East Baton Rouge (BREC), Baton Rouge, LA	City of Des Moines Parks and Recreation, Des Moines, IA	South Bend Venues Parks & Arts, South Bend, IN	Waukesha Parks, Recreation & Forestry Department, Waukesha, WI	Town of Fountain Hills Community Services, Fountain Hills, AZ	Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Naval Submarine Base, Kings Bay, GA		
2021	Cleveland Metroparks, Cleveland, Ohio	City of Tampa Parks & Recreation Department, Tampa, Florida	Provo Parks & Recreation, Provo, Utah	Coppell Parks & Recreation, Coppell, Texas	Vernon Hills Park District, Vernon Hills, Illinois	Naval Base Coronado, Morale, Welfare and recreation (MWR) San Diego, California	Delaware State Parks, Delaware	
2020	Toledo Metroparks, Toledo, Ohio	City of Greensboro Parks and Recreation, Greensboro, NC	Carmel Clay Parks and Recreation, Carmel, IN	Decatur Park District, Decatur, IL	Green River Parks and Recreation, Green River, WY	Fort Riley Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation – Kansas		
2019	Fairfax County Park Authority, Fairfax, VA	Metro Parks Tacoma, Tacoma, WA	The Woodlands Township, Woodlands, Texas	City of Westerville Parks and Recreation, Westerville, OH	Glencoe Park District, Glencoe, IL	Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler – Okinawa, Japan	Department of Environmental Protection, Florida State Parks	
2018	Palm Beach County Parks and Recreation Department, Florida	City of Arlington Parks and Recreation Department, Arlington, TX	City of Bloomington Parks and Recreation, Bloomington, IL	Town of Castle Rock Parks and Recreation, Castle Rock, Colorado	Homewood-Flossmoor Park District, IL	NAS Pensacola Morale, Welfare and Recreation, Pensacola, FL		
2017	Johnson County Parks and Recreation, Shawnee Mission Kansas	Grand Prairie Parks, Arts and Recreation Department, Grand Prairie, TX	Roswell Recreation, Parks, Historic and Cultural Affairs Department, Roswell, GA	Bismarck Parks and Recreation District, Bismarck, ND	Itasca Park District, Itasca, IL	MCCS Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point, NC	Arizona State Parks	
2016	Cleveland Metro Parks, Cleveland, OH	Cary Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services, Cary, NC	Allen Parks and Recreation Department, Allen, TX	Willamalane Park and Recreation District, Springfield, OR	Frankfort Square Park District, Frankfort, IL	United States Coast Guard Base - Kodiak, AK		
2015	The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Riverdale, MD	Plano Parks and Recreation, Plano, TX	City of St. George, St. George, UT	Park District of Oak Park, Oak Park, IL	Oak Brook Park District, Oak Brook, IL	Marine Corps Community Services, Marine Corps Installations West, Camp Pendleton, CA	Delaware State Parks	
2014	Chicago Park District, Chicago, IL	City of Henderson, Henderson, NV	Carmel Clay Parks and Recreation, Carmel, IN	City of Kettering, Kettering, OH	City of Lafayette, Lafayette, CO	Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Naval Submarine Base, Kings Bay, GA		2014- Revised Population Categories

Original Categories	Population over 250,000	Population 100,000- 250,000	Population 50,000-100,000	Population 20,000-50,000	Population less than 20,000	Armed Forces Recreation	State Parks	
2013	City of Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine, Long Beach, CA	Round Rocks Parks and Recreation, Round Rock, TX	Waukegan Park District, Waukegan, IL	City of Westerville Parks and Recreation, Westerville, OH	Town of Erie Parks and Recreation, Erie, CO	Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, Fort Knox, KY	Florida State Parks	
2012	Mecklenburg County Parks and Recreation, Charlotte, NC	Rockford Park District Rockford, IL	James City County, Williamsburg, VA	Town of Castle Rock Parks and Recreation, Castle Rock, CO	Durango Parks and Recreation, Durango, CO	Morale, Welfare & Recreation-Naval Station Great Lakes, IL		2012- First Year for Armed Forces Recreation Category
2011	Portland Parks and Recreation, Poiorland, OR	City of Lakewood Department of Community Resources, Lakewood, CO	City of Waukesha Parks, Recreation and Forestry, Waukesha, WI	Town of Parker Parks and Recreation, Parker, CO	City of Fairfax Parks Parks and Recreation, Fairfax, VA		Michigan Department of Natural Resources	
2010	Fairfax County Park Authority, Fairfax, VA	Pleasure Driveway and Park District, Peoria, IL	Lee's Summit Parks and Recreation, Lee's Summit, MO	Gurnee Park District, Gurnee, IL	City of Golden Parks and Recreation, Golden, CO			
2009	Milwaukee County Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture, Wauwatosa, WI	Fox Valley Park District, Aurora, IL	Hoffman Estates Park District, Hoffman Estates, IL	Lombard Park District. Lombard, IL	Itasca Park District, Itasca, IL		Pennsylvania Department of Comnservation and Natural Resources	
2008	Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation, Lawrenceville, GA	Grand Prairie Parks and Recreation Department, Grand Prairie,TX	Canton Leisure Services. Canton, MI	Carol Stream Park District, Carol Stream, IL	Town of Herndon, Herndon, VA			
2007	Cleveland Metroparks Cleveland, OH	City of Westminster Depaartment of Parks, Recreation and Libraries, Westminster, Colorado	City of Bloomington Parks and Recreation, Bloomington, IN	City of Westerville Parks and Recreation, Westerville, OH	Town of Parker Department of Parks and Recreation, Parker, CO		Tennessee State Parks	
2006	City of Long Beach Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine, Long Beach, CA	City of Tempe Community Services, Tempe, AZ	Bend Metro Park and Recreation District, Bend, OR	Homewood- Flossmoor District, Flossmoor, IL	Town of Herndon Parks and Recreation, Herndon, VA			
2005	St. Paul Parks and Recreation St. Paul, MN	Bellevue Parks and Community Services, Bellevue, WA	Wheaton Park District, Wheaton, IL	Town of Leesburg Department of Parks and Recreation, Leesburg, VA	Frankfort Square District Park District, Frankfort Square, IL		Florida State Parks	
2004	Austin Parks and Recreation, Austin, Texas	Tallahassee Parks and Recreation, Tallahassee, florida	Schaumburg Park District, Schaumburg, IL	Grand Junction Parks and Recreation, Grand Junction, CO	Bloomington Park District, IL			
2003	The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Riverdale, MD	City of Scottsdale, Scottsdale, AZ	Denton Parks and Recreation, Denton, TX	DeKalb Park District, DeKalb, IL	Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Lake Forest, IL		New York State Parks	
2002	Fairfax County Park Authority,Fairfax, VA	Greensboro Parks and Recreation Department, Greensboro, NC	Ashville Parks and Recreation, Ashville, NC	Carol Stream Park District, Carol Stream, IL	Evans Parks and Recreation, Evan, IL			
2001	Cleveland Metropark, Cleveland, OH	Pleasure Driveway and Park District, Peoria, IL	Arlington Heights Parks District, Arlington Heights, IL	City of Westerville Parks and Recreation, Westerville, OH	Itasca Park District, Itasca, IL		Virginia State Parks	
2000	City of Mesa Parks, Recreation and Cultural Disision Mesa, AZ	Springfield-Green County Park Board, springfield, MO	City of North Richlandland Hills Parks and Recreation Department, North Richland Hills, TX	Roseville Parks and Recreation Department, Roseville, MN	City of Lafayette, Lafayette, CO			
1999	Lake County Forest Preserve District Libertyville, IL	City of Henderson Parks and Recreation, Henderson, Nevada	City of Westminster Department of Parks, Recreation and Libraries, Westminster, CO	Bolingbrook Park District, Bolingbrook, IL	Town of Herndon, Herndon, VA		Florida State Parks	

1998	City of Long Beach Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine, Long Beach, CA	City of Chandler Community Services, Chandler, Az	Champaign Park District, Champaign, Champaign, IL	St. Charles Park District, St. Charles, IL	Town of Parker Department of Parks and Recreation, Parker, CO	Ohio State Parks	
1997	Cincinnati Recreation Commission Cincinnati, OH	City of Plano, TX	Skokie Park District, Skokie, IL	Germantown Parks and Recreation, Germantown, TN	Georgetown Parks, Education and Recreation, Georgetown, TX		1997 - First Year for State Parks (alternate years)
1996	Fort Worth Parks and Community Services Ft. Worth, TX	South Suburban Parks and Recreation District, Littleton, CO	Wheaton Park District, Wheaton, IL	Northbrook Park District, Northbrook, IL	City of Commerce City Parks and Recreation Department, Commerce City, Colorado		
1995	Johnson County Parks and Recreation, Shawnee Mission, Kansas	City of Tempe Community Services, Tempe, AZ	Schaumburg Park District, Schaumburg, IL	Columbus Parks and Recreation, Columbus, IN	Channahon Park District, Channahon, IL		
1994	Cleveland Metroparks Cleveland, OH	Pleasure Driveway and Park District, Peoria, IL	City of Kettering, OH	City of Rockville, Rockville, MD	Leesburg Department of Parks and Recreation, Leesburg, VA		
1993	Metropolitan Dade County Parks and Recreation Department Miami, FL	City of Fort Lauderdale, Fort Lauderdale, FL	Joliet Park District, Joliet, IL	Bismarck Parks and Recreation Department, Bismarck, ND	City of Naples, FL		
1992	City of Mesa Parks, Recreation and Cultural Division, Mesa, AZ	Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma, WA	Arlington Heights Parks District, Arlington Heights, IL	Elmhurst Park District, Elmhurst, IL	Louisville Parks and Recreation, Louisville, CO		
1991	Recreation and Park Commission Parish of East Baton Rouge, Baton Rouge, LA	Foothills Recreation and Parks District, Lakewood, CO	Department of Parks, Recreation and Libraries Westminster, CO	Homewood-Flossmoor District, Flossmoor, IL	Alsip Park District, Alsip, IL		
1990	Broward County Parks and Recreation, Oakland Park, FL	City of Raleigh Parks and Recreation Department, Raleigh, NC	Champaign Park District, Champaign, Champaign, IL	Wheaton Park District, Wheaton, IL	City of Brooklyn Department of Recreation, Brooklyn, OH		
1989	Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Minneapolis, MN	Rockford Park District Rockford, IL	Santa Barbara Recreation Department, Santa Barbara, CA	Loveland Parks and Recreation, Loveland, CO	Town of Herndon, Herndon, VA		
1988	City of Long Beach Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine, Long Beach, CA	South Suburban Parks and Recreation District, Littleton, CO	Schaumburg Park District, Schaumburg, IL	Kent Parks and Recreation, Kent, WA	Wood Dale Park District, Wood Dale, IL		
1987	Metropolitan Dade County Parks and Recreation Department, Miami, FL	Greensboro Parks and Recreation Department, Greensboro, NC	Plano Parks and Recreation, Plano, TX	Elk Grove Park District, Elk Grove Village, IL	Palm Beach Gardens Department of Parks and Recreation, Palm Beach Gardens, FL		
1986	City of Phoenix, Phoenix, AZ	Foothills Recreation and Parks District, Lakewood, CO	Ft. Collins Parks and Recreation, Ft. Collins, CO	Willamalane Parks and Recreation Department, Springfield, OR	Lemont Township Park District, Lemont, IL		
1985	Dallas Parks and Recreation, Dallas, TX	Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma, WA	North Jeffco Park District, Arvada, CO	Denton Parks and Recreation, Denton, TX	Carrollton Parks and Recreation, Carrollton, GA		
1984	The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Riverdale, MD	Aurora, CO	Columbia, MO	Wheaton Park District, Wheaton, IL	Mountlake Parks and Recreation, Mountlake Trace, WA		
1983	Annandale, MD	St. Petersburg, St. Petersburg, FL	Arlington Heights Parks District, Arlington Heights, IL	Downers Grove Park District, Downers Grove, IL	Deerfield Park District, Deerfield, IL		
1982	Lake Worth, FL	Colorado Springs, CO	Scottsdale, AZ	Gaithersburg, MD	Sterling, IL		
1981	San Antonio, TX	Ann Arbor, MI	Fox Valley Park District, Aurora, IL	Brooklyn Park, MN	Casa Grande, AZ		

1980	Honolulu, HI	FT. Wayne, IN	South Suburban Park and Recreation District, Littleton, CO	Highland Park, IL	Eden Prairie, MN		
1979	Miami, FL	Greensboro Parks and Recreation Department, Greensboro, NC	Champaign Park District, Champaign, IL	Bellingham, WA	Herndon, VA		
1978	San Jose, CA	Anaheim, CA	Mesa, AZ	Wilmette, IL	Bolingbrook, IL		
1977	The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Riverdale, MD	Portsmouth, VA- Hennepin County Parks, Maple Plain, MN	Kettering, OH	Glenview, IL	Plano, TX		
1976	Nashville, TN	Releigh, NC	Burbank, CA	Lockport, IL	Wheeling, IL		
1975	Recreation and Park Commission Parish of East Baton Rouge, Baton Rouge, LA	Huntington Beach, CA	Tempe, AZ	Vancouver, WA	Sterling, IL		
1974	Milwaukee County Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture, Wauwatosa, WI	Glendale, CA	Southfield, MI	New Hope, MN	North Platte, NE		
1973	The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Riverdale, MD	Bridgeport, CT	Aurora, CO	Oak Park, MI	Greenbelt, MD		
1972	Memphis, TN	Lincoln, NE	Downey, CA	Naperville, IL	Westerville, OH		
1971	Cincinnati Recreation Commission Cincinnati, OH	Pleasure Driveway and Park District, Peoria, IL	Scottsdale, AZ	Placentia, CA	Bexley, OH		
1970	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission	Madison, WI	Stockton, CA	Glenview, IL	Roseville, CA		
1969	Columbus, OH	Hayward, CA	Eugene, OR	Hutchinson, KS	Edinburg, TX		
1968	Phoenix, AZ	Austin, TX	Chula Vista, CA	Pittsburgh, KS	Lewistown, ID		
1967	Witchita, KS & Seattle, WA	Berkeley, CA	North Jeffco Park District, Arvada, CO	Duarte, CA	Brooklyn Park, MN		
1966	San Diego, CA	Oak Park, IL	Livingston, NJ	Bend, OR	Crescent City, CA		