



## Chapter 2. UNDERSTANDING CURRENT CONDITIONS

## Parks, Open Space, and Trails Inventory

The Town of Snowmass Village has incrementally developed its portfolio of parks, open space, trails and recreation facilities by following market trends and resident's needs. The following inventory summarizes the resources, facilities, and programs found in Town today.

### PARKS

The Town currently maintains three dynamic parks that serve the varied needs of both residents and visitors. Town Park serves as a larger and more diverse "community park," while Cathy Robinson Park supports the population in close proximity as a "neighborhood park" and Yarrow Park provides a small relaxing space as a "pocket park" or "pause place." Below are brief descriptions of these parks, including the key recreational resources they contribute to the community.

#### Town Park

Town Park is the community's largest park consisting of 12 acres of public land (4 acres of which is maintained as a natural area). Town Park provides important spaces for recreation and retreat for the community, and plays host to some of Snowmass Village's premier special events. The park encompasses the Recreation Center and the Transit Station & Information Center at 2835 Brush Creek Rd. Parking is available in a variety of near-by lots; one situated between the Recreation Center and the Transit Center and a lot located across the street next to the softball field. These lots serve as daily/over-flow parking for Snowmass Resort in the winter months. Town Park provides a wide-range of recreational

opportunities for families, groups and individuals. All ages and abilities are accommodated at Town Park, incorporating features such as an accessible tennis court and gazebo/playground area. Although events at Town Park strive to be accessible to all, feedback from residents with mobility challenges suggests there is room for improvement for wheelchair access. Placement of some temporary event features (ticket booth, etc.) may block or infringe upon important ADA area/access points.

Town Park is home to at least 10 events each year, generally beginning with the RAGNAR race the first weekend in June and ending with the Balloon Festival in mid-September. Each of these events plays an integral role in the marketing of Snowmass Village as a world-class tourism destination and contributes to the economy of the community, while providing unique cultural and recreational opportunities not often afforded to residents of a rural community. For more information about the role of events in the economic fabric of Snowmass Village see Chapter 3: Recreation Means Business.

Town Park is seasonally maintained by a professional grounds-maintenance crew of 1 Full-time seasonal employee utilizing sustainable and effective irrigation techniques. In general, regular maintenance has kept Town Park and its related facilities in excellent condition and functioning well. This is no small feat, considering the level of use and activity on field spaces between programs, events and more. There is some minor field damage on the soccer/multi-use field space in the north east corner of the parcel. The "back of the house" outdoor storage for the department is found around the perimeter of the Rodeo Arena space (see page 19), which places heavy equipment near the tree playground and other important areas of Town Park.

Dogs are allowed at Town Park on-leash. Clean up stations for dogs are provided at Town Park, but dog activity at the park requires regular maintenance to keep the fields clean and ready for sport use.

Town Park is the center piece for park recreation offered to the Snowmass Village community. As seen in the following list, Town Park offers something to do for residents and visitors alike.



**Key Recreational Resources:**

- 2 Playgrounds: There are two playgrounds located at Snowmass Village Town Park for various age groups. The playground to the left of the Recreation Center is intended for older children, and is adjacent to the gazebo picnic area, and soccer field. This playground is suitable for ages 5-12. The playground to the right of the Recreation Center (the “Tree Playground”) is intended for younger children (ages 2-5), and is adjacent to the volleyball courts, basketball courts, and skate park. Both playgrounds are well utilized and feedback from the community suggest they are meeting the needs of the community well.
- Skateboard Park: The skate park is a 10,000 sq. ft. in-ground facility located near the basketball courts and Recreation Center. It is designed to provide exciting and diverse terrain for beginners all the way up to the most advanced skaters, although more learning opportunities could be provided. The skate park is open during snow-free months. The Recreation Department utilizes the space for skateboard lesson programming instruction for all levels Private lessons are also available.

- Multi-Use/Soccer Field: The multi-use field is a natural turf field space primarily used for soccer and passive recreation located near the picnic area and gazebo. The field is ADA accessible, although a synthetic turf field may provide better accessibility for wheelchairs and other mobility challenged users. The space utilizes movable soccer goals and accommodates 2 condensed soccer fields at a time. No lights are currently provided on the multi-use field space, which limits the effectiveness of the fields for sports programming and seasons in which leagues can operate. The field space also serves as event space for Jazz Aspen Snowmass and other large events, which complicates their use for team sports programming.
- Softball Field: The softball field is located on the South side of Brush Creek Road, adjacent to the Snowmass Club. A temporary bathroom is provided throughout summer months. The space is programmed for scheduled events and leagues, and is available for rent by the community. While organized sporting activities other than softball do not generally utilize the field, special events also take place on here. Lighting is not currently provided on the softball field.



- Outdoor Basketball: There is one outdoor basketball court located at Town Park near the Recreation Center. The court is available on a first come first served basis, and can be reserved in advance. The outdoor basketball court is open in the snow-free months, with indoor basketball opportunities available in winter. Surface of the court is in deteriorating condition due to the proximity of the skate park.
- Sand Volleyball: There are 2 sand volleyball courts located at Town Park near the Recreation Center. Courts are available on a first come first served basis, and can be reserved in advance. The courts, along with other temporarily constructed volleyball courts, are utilized for the annual Snowmass Doubles Volleyball Tournament. Courts are in good condition.
- Tennis Courts: There are 4 outdoor tennis courts located at Town Park. There are three shaded benches located between courts and one practice backboard located in court 1. Courts are available on a first come first served basis, and can be reserved in advance. While in good condition, the tennis courts are currently underutilized and are currently open only during snow-free months.
- Brush Creek Pond: The pond at Town Park is a man-made catchment that facilitates storm water and wetland functioning at the park. It is located to the east of the Tree Playground and to the north of the Rodeo Lot. Currently the area surrounding the pond is undeveloped. The pond is underutilized recreationally and does not have a consistent water flow throughout the year.
- Ice Rink: The ice rink, co-located with the Rodeo Arena (see sidebar) is open in the winter only. The rink offers public skate, youth stick and puck, open skate and broomball opportunities. Skate rentals are available. The ice rink employs a Zamboni to maintain a suitable ice surface, but weather and a lack of shade on the ice has created a challenge for consistent operation of the facility in the past 5 years it has been open. The ice rink/rodeo arena is serviced by lighting, although the lighting system should be upgraded to provide better service to the community and increased operational efficiency.
- Gazebo/Shelter: The Town Park Gazebo is located near the multi-use field and playground and includes six picnic tables. There is no electricity or grill located at the park. Gazebo is available on a first come first served basis, and may be rented in 3 hour time blocks.
- Support features and amenities: Town Park includes a network of concrete walkways and soft surface trails to provide circulation through the park. The park also includes water fountains, public art and installations, landscaping and a very effective wayfinding/signage system identifying where various activities in the park are located.



Existing Conditions Map: Town Park



## POSTR System Leases

### Rodeo Arena

The Snowmass Rodeo has been a community tradition since it was founded by Doug McLain in 1973. Since 2003, the Snowmass Rodeo has been produced by the Snowmass Western Heritage Association (SWHA), which was founded to preserve and enhance the western heritage, culture and character of Snowmass Village and the Roaring Fork Valley community. The Snowmass Rodeo is held on Town-owned park land leased to the SWHA. It takes place on Wednesday nights for 10 weeks a year, from June to August. Visitors to the rodeo can check out exciting competitions like saddle bronc and bull riding, team roping, and barrel racing. Children can participate in the Calf Scramble, Mutton Busting, and petting zoo.

Barbecue dinner, western vendors, live entertainment and a campfire sing-a-long are available to spectators.

The Rodeo Arena features the rodeo grounds, a corral area, spectator seating, ticketing, vending and restrooms. A lack of covered spectator seating can detract from the rodeo experience, particularly on days with inclement weather. In the winter months the rodeo grounds space is utilized for the ice skating rink, although the configuration of the rodeo grounds is not ideal for the ice skating operation. The dirt “Rodeo Lot” is an important component of skier parking in the winter and acts – inefficiently – as competitor prep space for the rodeo in the summer. The Rodeo Lot is not particularly aesthetically pleasing, and as part of the gateway into Snowmass Village it does not support the visual identity of the Town. Spectator Parking is provided in the Town Park/Transit Center Parking Lot.

### Horseback Expeditions

The Town currently leases space at Town Park for staging of commercial horseback expeditions. Through a lease agreement, the Town also allows horseback operators to utilize the Horse Ranch Trail for the expeditions. The agreement requires the operator to maintain the Horse Ranch Trail to safety and sustainability standards and to spray for noxious weeds on the trail.

### Balloon Launches

The Town also leases space in the Town Park parking lot to occasionally be used for hot air balloon launches by commercial operators. Balloon launches are typically infrequent and are generally scheduled early in the mornings when the demand for parking is low. Guests are often disrupted by location of launches. A different location might be recommended yearly.

## Cathy Robinson Park

The Cathy Robinson Park is located at 4598 Owl Creek Rd., approximately 0.5 mile from Brush Creek Rd. The 1-acre park offers a small play structure that is popular with the neighborhood children as well as families with children who attend the adjacent Little Red School House. Commuting users utilize the communal parking lot shared between Cathy Robinson Park and the school house. Due to its proximity to the surrounding neighborhood, park goers use the sidewalk and the connective neighborhood trail system to access the park. The park’s primary user base is younger families as its structures and open space is more compact in comparison to that found at the Town Park.

### Key Recreational Resources:

- Multi-purpose field: the field space at Cathy Robinson Park provides picnic, lounging and passive recreation opportunities. It is not large enough to accommodate most formal sport uses, but does provide an excellent space for youth soccer practices and informal pick-up games. The field space is used regularly by the Little Red School House and nearby neighbors, and is in good condition.
- Playground: the playground at Cathy Robinson Park is targeted at younger children (ages 2-5), but provides some opportunity for kids up to about 10 years of age. While small, the playground is appropriately sized for the local use it receives.

- Support features and amenities: Cathy Robinson Park also includes connectivity trails to allow easy access from adjacent neighborhoods, a shared parking lot, seasonal restrooms and benches.



## Yarrow Park

Yarrow Park is small pocket park located at the trail junction of Brush Creek Trail and Owl Creek Trail. The tranquil location is nestled within an aspen grove accompanied by the peaceful Brush Creek. Yarrow Park is the perfect place to stop, play, picnic or rest while rambling on trails through Snowmass Village. This park is owned by Snowmass Chapel and shares maintenance duties with the Town. The Town and the Snowmass Chapel are currently engaged in discussions over the future maintenance of Yarrow Park.

### Key Recreational Resources:

- Public Art and Landscaping: the “Lady with Diamonds” and “The Leaners” sculptural elements and flower gardens create a unique sense of place at Yarrow Park.
- Benches/Picnic Tables: The benches, picnic tables and stream-side platform provide excellent resting and picnicking space for a brief stop along the trail.
- Interpretive signage: Interpretative signage detailing the fish and habitat of Brush Creek is also found within the park, providing an educational component to the peaceful setting.

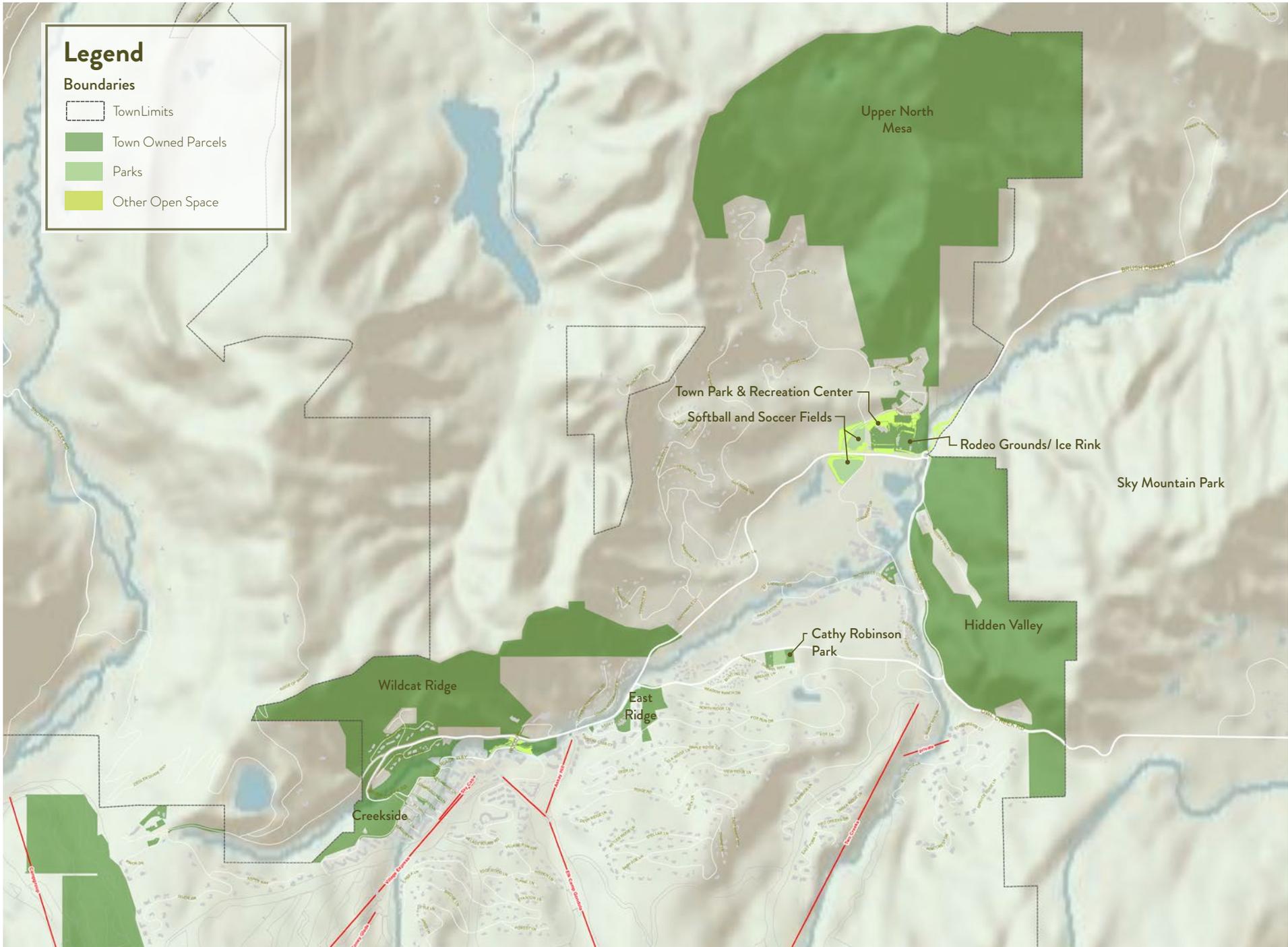


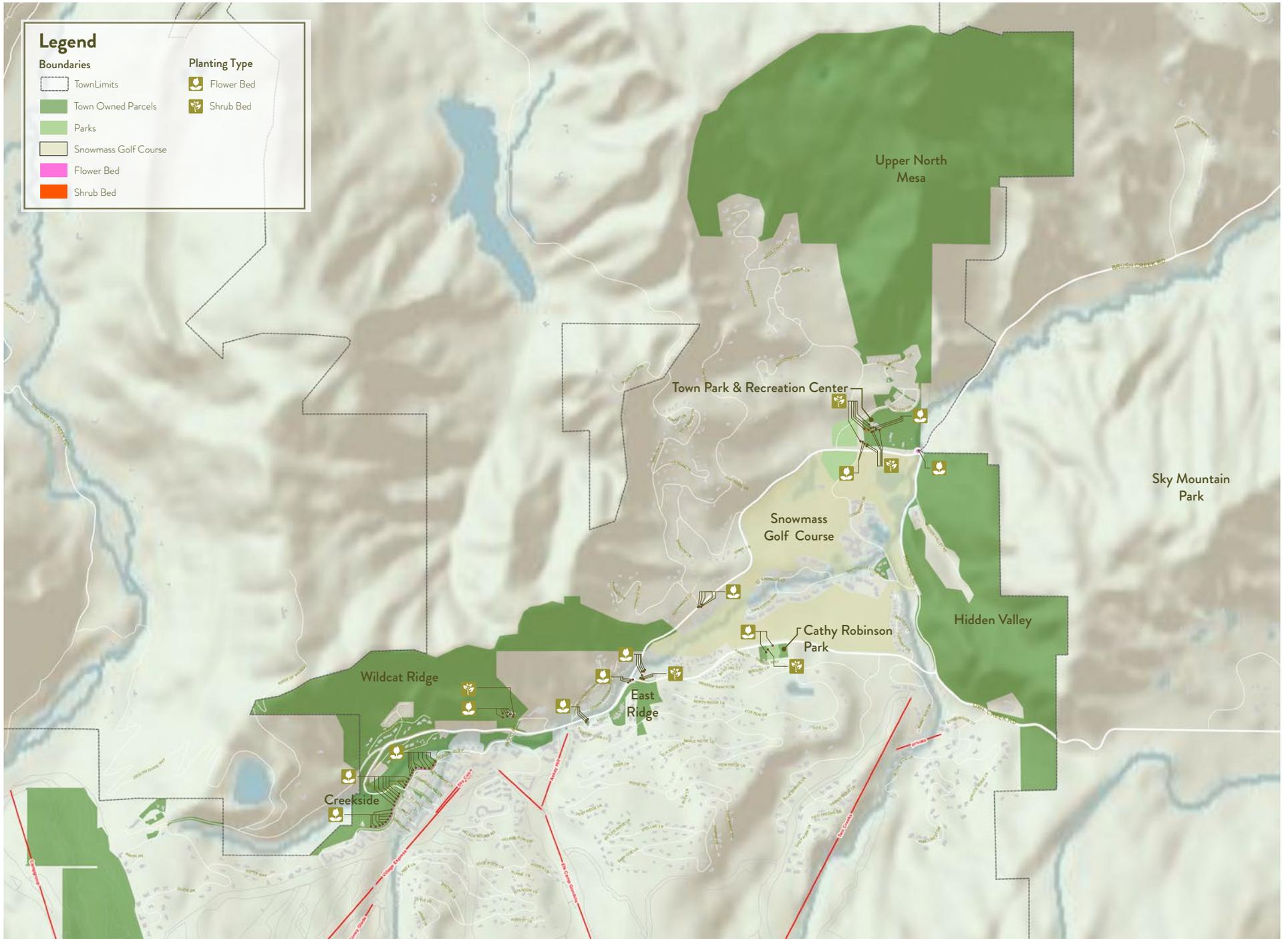
### **OPEN SPACE**

“Open space” is a comprehensive term that can mean different things across organizations, jurisdictions, or individuals. Most people think of open space as natural, undeveloped lands that are special in some way—they may be scenic or indicative of an area’s heritage (e.g. agricultural lands), create separation between communities or land uses, or provide areas for wildlife and natural communities to thrive. Open space areas and associated buildings may be open for recreation and educational purposes. For a tourism-driven community, open space can be powerful on a variety of levels to preserve rural/mountain identity, promote areas for recreation, and reinforce quality of life.

The Town of Snowmass Village has been active in assembling a patchwork of 1,451 acres of open space properties within the community. Some of this open space has been acquired through the efforts of the community itself. Other areas have been established as open space through the planned residential development process. Regardless of how established, the presence of open space in the Town supports long-held community values and can enable future opportunities for recreational use and enjoyment. Other land managers also manage open space in or adjacent to the Town of Snowmass Village, including Pitkin County Open Space and Trails, the US Forest Service and the Aspen Valley Land Trust.

The Town of Snowmass Village, also maintains 1.5 acres of gardens and 12 irrigation systems. Expert landscaping and noxious weed control is performed by the Town’s maintenance crew.





Garden Map

## Vegetation

On south-facing slopes in the Brush Creek Valley, the alkaline soil that develops from the Mancos Shale supports Gambel oak, sagebrush, serviceberry, and chokecherry. The north-facing slopes feature aspen, subalpine fir, Douglas fir, Engelmann spruce, and blue spruce.

## Wildlife

The Town of Snowmass Village is surrounded by wild land and open space on all sides. In mountain communities, wildlife is an integral part of our daily life. Residents are able to observe many of these species: elk, mule deer, moose, black bear, mountain lion, pine marten, ermine, porcupine, marmot, raccoon, golden eagle, red tail hawk, great horned owl, wild turkey, beaver, red fox, and badger.

South-facing slopes in Snowmass Village support the mountain shrub communities of Gambel oak, sagebrush, serviceberry, and chokecherry. North-facing slopes support aspen, subalpine fir, Douglas fir, Engelmann spruce, and blue spruce. These vegetation communities provide critical habitat for a diverse range of wildlife species.

Preserving and protecting wildlife habitat in Snowmass Village is a decision of its residents. Observing wildlife in a natural setting is inspirational to most guests and a town benefit. Conducting biological studies before developing open space is crucial. Respecting the need for wildlife to have space, forage and solitude should be honored in all discussions. Rapid growth is fracturing our habitat and altering important migratory movements. Wildlife need consideration.

## Elk Migration Corridor through Snowmass Village

Elk move through Snowmass Village as a part of

a larger migration corridor. Burnt Mountain is a critical migration link between summer range in the wilderness area (Willow/West Willow and beyond) and lower elevation winter range which includes Sky Mountain Park, Horse Ranch, Wildcat Ranch, Williams Hill and Light Hill. This migration corridor has been pinched from both sides due to development. Numerous biological research studies date back to 1974 and support the historical use of Burnt Mountain and East Snowmass Village by elk during migration and calving.

## Wildlife Area Closures for Elk Migration and Calving

As a component of the overall trails management plan, the Town of Snowmass Village cooperates with the United States Forest Service, the Aspen Skiing Company, Colorado Parks and Wildlife and Pitkin County to protect critical areas located within our boundaries. Elk calving grounds extend from Faraway Road to Buttermilk Ski Area and extend through East Village and Burnt Mountain in the aspen habitat type. East Village trail restrictions are based upon intensive negotiations between agencies and multiple wildlife studies of the Burnt Mountain elk herd. Using sound science, a wildlife closure was adopted into town ordinances in an attempt to lessen the impact of the East Village development on the calving grounds. Colorado Parks and Wildlife originally recommended trails be closed through June 30, but recreational pressure resulted in a compromise which allows trails to be open on June 21st annually.

Elk show a strong fidelity to this area and they return to this traditional calving ground each spring because it provides water, seclusion and grazing. The area closure begins on April 25th, because elk begin to stage on lower Burnt Mountain in April. Cow elk are recovering

## **Wildlife Area Closures**

The Town of Snowmass Village enforces trail closures enacted to protect sensitive wildlife habitats and prohibit human activity, including trail maintenance. Trail closures are strictly enforced in partnership with Pitkin County, Colorado Parks & Wildlife, Aspen Skiing Company and the USFS. Wildlife monitoring cameras are used in closed areas and citations are issued.

Per Section 10-29 / Seasonal Trail Closures of the TOSV Municipal Code:

It shall be unlawful for any person, to use by any means, the following trails during wildlife sensitive periods, as follows:

### **East Village Trail System / Opens on June 21 annually**

- Tom Blake Trail: April 25 - June 21
- Anaerobic Nightmare Trail: April 25 - June 21
- Sequel Trail: April 25 - June 21
- Government Trail east of Elk Camp Work Road: May 15 - June 21

### **North Rim and Sky Mountain Trail Systems / Open on May 16 annually**

- Rim Trail North: December 1 - May 16
- Sky Mountain Park: December 1 - May 16

from winter and have high energy demands. They need to forage and nurse without being startled or disrupted. Any disturbance during this time will have negative impacts to reproductive success and calf survival. Elk will calve in East Village and transition onto Burnt Mountain as the snow line recedes. In addition, wildlife cameras have proven that many other species of wildlife are using this protected area to have young of the year. According to Colorado Parks and Wildlife, over the last 30 years, calving numbers have significantly declined.

In addition, Sky Mountain Park and the Upper North Mesa parcel are closed to protect winter range and movement corridors for wildlife. Winter range provides an undisturbed area, while elk are on a declining diet in stressful winter conditions. Trails open in mid-May because wildlife studies show that most elk have crossed into the East Village production areas. See Wildlife Area Closures Box for closure dates.

### Recreation

On Upper North Mesa old equestrian trails are being used again to separate equestrian and mountain bikes and provide a commercial use trail for outfitters. There are a number of old trails that connect to Town property. Two picnic areas exist, one off the equestrian trails originating from Town Park in Snowmass Village and in a prominent view location on the Skyline Ridge Trail. The one on the equestrian trails is a rest stop for equestrian users and contains some old picnic tables. On the Skyline Ridge Trail there is an old hitching post and picnic table at one of the most scenic spots along the ridge.

The North Rim Trail, Seven Star Trail, and North Rim Equestrian Trail are all located on open space lands.



### **GARDENS**

The Town of Snowmass Village, also maintains 1.5 acres of gardens and 12 irrigation systems. Expert landscaping and noxious weed control is performed by the Town's maintenance crew.

Irrigation systems include:

- Brush & 82
- Welcome Sign
- Round-a-bout and medians
- Town Park & Transit Station

- Sinclair Bus Stop
- Town Maintenance Facility
- Cathy Robinson Park
- Yarrow Park
- Council Corner – (Brush Creek & Owl Creek)
- Faraway Bus Stop
- Town Hall
- Brush Creek Rd. & Wood Rd. Round-a-bout & Medians (2017)

## TRAILS

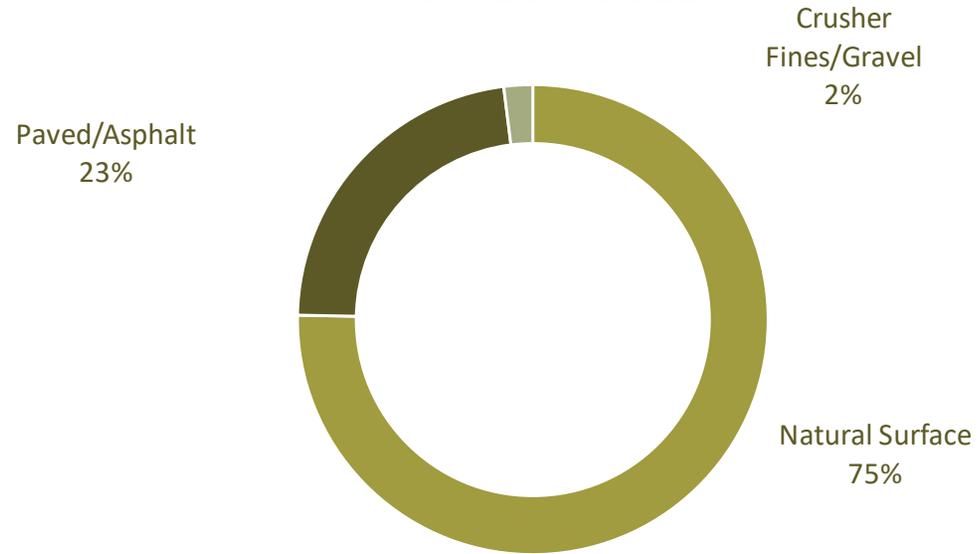
The Town of Snowmass Village manages 30 trails—both paved and unpaved—for a wide range of users and abilities. Most of the system is comprised of multi-use trails, although there are some hiking and equestrian-only trails. There are currently no bicycling-only trails. The majority of the Snowmass Village trail system is made up of natural surface/gravel trails. The Town also manages 5 trailheads and 18 bridges as part of the trails system.

In the winter, the Town plows 2.24 miles of the paved trail system and grooms 5.49 miles of the paved trail system in order to provide a winter trail amenity that serves both transportation and recreation functions. See the Winter Trail Map on page 30 or a graphic representation of the winter trail procedures. Winter trail grooming is performed with a tracked All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) and grooming attachment and winter trail plowing is performed with a Utility Trail Vehicle (UTV) equipped with plow and snow blower attachments.

In terms of ability level, trails in Snowmass Village are skewed towards intermediate and advanced level trails. Trails in the expert and beginner category make up less than a quarter of the total system, indicating a significant deficiency in the learning progression. While available terrain is a major factor in determining the ability level of trails, the ideal system would include approximately 1/3 of the trails in each ability level. This analysis includes only natural surface trails and excludes the equestrian-only trails, as difficulty ratings for paved surfaces and equestrians users can vary.

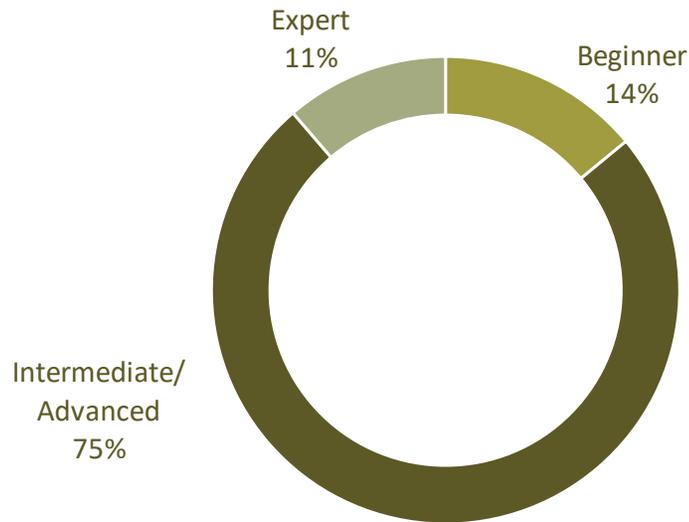
Dogs must be on leash at all times on all Town trails.

## Trail Surfaces



Allowed Trail Use	Mileage of Trails	Percent of System
<b>Equestrian, Hiking, &amp; Biking</b>	1.93 Miles	5%
<b>Hiking &amp; Biking Only</b>	27.47 Miles	77%
<b>Equestrian &amp; Hiking Only</b>	4.11 Miles	12%
<b>Equestrian Only</b>	1.47 Miles	4%
<b>Hiking Only</b>	0.56 Miles	2%
<b>Biking Only</b>	0 Miles	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>35.54 Miles</b>	<b>100%</b>

# TOSV Trails by Ability Level



While this plan deals only with town-managed trails, and the project area is limited to the boundaries of the Town, partnerships with other trail managers and regional trail connections are important factors to understand. The Town routinely engages with Pitkin County Open Space & Trails, the City of Aspen, the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Aspen Skiing Company and other partners on trail development and has participated in the Upper Roaring Fork Valley Trails Plan, which is an on-going project that seeks to unify all the trails in the region into a cohesive system.

The Town of Snowmass Village manages a 2-person trail ranger team who among other duties are responsible for patrol of trails and open spaces and enforcement of regulations. The Town employs a maintenance crew of 3 employees to keep the trails in Snowmass Village maintained at a very high level of service. The Town employs a digital request tracker to allow the community submit trail maintenance issues. In general the Town’s soft-surface trails (dirt, gravel, etc.) are in excellent condition, while many of the paved trails are in need of repaving and more regular sweeping to clear debris. This is particularly true for the Brush Creek Trail. There are a few areas of soft-surface trails which currently require maintenance, such as rutting in the lower portions of the North Rim Trail, but these are addressed on an on-going basis.

Town-managed trails are as follows:

Paved Trail Name	Winter Procedure
Brush Creek (Rec. Center to Yarrow Park)	Plowed
Brush Creek (Yarrow Park to Numbered Lot 4)	Groomed
Fox Run	Groomed
Horse Ranch	Groomed
Melton Ranch	Groomed
Owl Creek	Groomed
Stark's	Nothing
Sleigh	Nothing
Village Way	Groomed

## Brush Creek Trail

The Brush Creek Trail is the main artery of the Snowmass Village Paved Trail System. Use the Brush Creek Trail to access Base Village, the Village Mall, the Village Center, Anderson Ranch Art Center, the Snowmass Chapel, or descend approximately 2.5 miles to The Snowmass Village Recreation Center. This trail has moderate usage.

### Stats

- Difficulty: Beginner
- Closure: None
- Uses: Biking, Hiking
- Surface: Paved
- Length: 5.83 miles
- Winter Conditions: Some portions are groomed, some are plowed, and some are closed.

## Deadline Trail

The Deadline Trail is an advanced trail built with optimized flow for Mountain Biking. This Downhill Only flow-style trail incorporates bermed turns, rollers, and table top jumps. The Deadline Trail is open to both hikers and mountain bikers, with moderate to high usage. A loop opportunity is possible with the Viewline Trail. Dogs are not allowed on the Deadline Trail. This trail was built and maintained in cooperation with Pitkin County's Open Space & Trails (POST) plan.

### Stats

- Difficulty: Expert
- Closure: December 1st to May 16th
- Uses: : Downhill Mountain Biking

- Surface: Dirt
- Length: 1.54 miles
- Winter Conditions: Closed

## Ditch Trail

A favorite among locals for leisurely strolls, the Ditch Trail follows an old irrigation ditch and is relatively flat with gentle grades and beautiful views of Mt. Daly and the Maroon Snowmass Wilderness Area on the East end. The West end of the Ditch trail takes on a different demeanor as it takes a sharp turn to the South and climbs up to the West Government Trail before descending to the East Snowmass Trail (no biking).

### Stats

- Difficulty: Intermediate
- Closure: None
- Uses: Mountain Biking, Hiking, Horse, XC Skiing
- Surface: Dirt
- Length: 2.05 miles
- Winter Conditions: Volunteer boot packed

## East Brush Creek Nature Trail

Located along the Snowmass Club Golf Course and Highline Rd, the East Brush Creek Nature Trail is a great hiking only beginner trail. Enjoy a stroll alongside wetlands and native wildflowers. Signage designating the trailhead location and the connection to nearby trails is difficult, especially for first-time users.

### Stats

- Difficulty: Beginner
- Closure: None

- Uses: Hiking
- Surface: Dirt
- Length: 0.27 miles
- Winter Conditions: Not maintained

## Fox Run Trail

The Fox Run Trail is a short paved trail connection between the Village Way Trail and Fox Run Drive.

### Stats

- Difficulty: Beginner
- Closure: None
- Uses: Biking, Hiking
- Surface: Paved
- Length: 0.13 miles
- Winter Conditions: Groomed

## Highline Trail

The Highline Trail is a beginner to intermediate trail that is often used with Lowline Trail as a short, but fun loop, which works best when traveled counterclockwise.

### Stats

- Difficulty: Intermediate
- Closure: None
- Uses: Mountain Biking, Hiking
- Surface: Dirt
- Length: 1.37 miles
- Winter Conditions: Not maintained

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## Horse Ranch Trail

The Horse Ranch Trail connects the bottom of the Rim Trail North to Town Park. The trail include two unsigned road crossings.

### Stats

- Difficulty: Beginner
- Closure: None
- Uses: Biking, Hiking
- Surface: Paved and Gravel
- Length: 0.5 miles
- Winter Conditions: Groomed

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## Lowline Trail

The Lowline Trail is a great beginner trail that can be used with the Highline Trail as a short, but fun loop, which works best when traveled counterclockwise. This trail serves as the sole connection to Tom Blake Trail from Town Park for equestrian users.

### Stats

- Difficulty: Beginner
- Closure: None
- Uses: Mountain Biking, Hiking, Equestrian
- Surface: Dirt
- Length: 0.99 miles
- Winter Conditions: Not maintained

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## Mayfly Trail

The Mayfly Trail is a great, quick getaway, hiking only trail right in Town. Interpretive signage along the trail allows users to learn about the life sequence of the Mayfly and how it relates to trout as they stroll along Brush Creek.

### Stats

- Difficulty: Beginner
- Closure: None
- Uses: Hiking
- Surface: Dirt
- Length: 0.29 miles
- Winter Conditions: Not maintained

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## Melton Ranch Trail

The Melton Ranch Trail connects Martingale Lane and Sinclair Road to the Village Center (Post Office, Grocery Store, and local Restaurants and Stores). The Melton Ranch Trail can also be linked to the Brush Creek Trail via Wood Bridge.

### Stats

- Difficulty: Beginner
- Closure: None
- Uses: Biking, Hiking
- Surface: Paved
- Length: 0.79 miles
- Winter Conditions: Groomed

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## Mountain View Trail

The Mountain View Trail connects the Rim Trail as well as the Mountain View Employee Housing to the Village Center (Post Office, Grocery Store, and local Restaurants and Stores) and on to the Melton Ranch Trail. The Mountain View Trail lies on an old road bed and is relatively mellow in grade except for the initial climb out of the Village Center parking lot. This trail serves as an excellent connector to the Rim Trail.

### Stats

- Difficulty: Beginner
- Closure: None
- Uses: Mountain Biking, Hiking
- Surface: Dirt
- Length: 0.80 miles
- Winter Conditions: Volunteer boot packed

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## Nature Trail

A short but sweet route along Brush Creek, the Nature Trail travels through lush riparian zones, wildflower filled meadows, and aspen and conifer stands, providing a small example of most ecosystem types found nearby in the surrounding Rocky Mountains. The Nature Trail is rated expert for it's technical challenges for mountain bikers, but is not too terribly challenging for hikers. The Nature Trail lies on a narrow easement, with private property on either side of the trail.

### Stats

- Difficulty: Expert
  - Uses: Biking, Hiking
  - Surface: Dirt
  - Length: 0.85 miles
  - Winter Conditions: Volunteer boot packed
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## Owl Creek Trail

The Owl Creek Trail connects Snowmass Village to Aspen starting near the intersection of Brush Creek and Owl Creek Roads near the Anderson Ranch Art Center in Snowmass Village and traveling East, crossing the Owl Creek drainage on to the Buttermilk Ski Area. The trail is rated for beginners, but is moderately challenging because of substantial elevation gain. The Owl Creek Trail is very scenic passing through beautiful Aspen groves and meadows.

### Stats

- Difficulty: Beginner
- Closure: None
- Uses: Biking, Hiking
- Surface: Paved
- Length: 5.74 miles (1.85 miles are maintained by TOSV)
- Winter Conditions: Groomed

## North and South Rim Trail

The Rim Trail is a Roaring Fork Valley Classic not only for its fun factor but also for the beautiful views along the entire trail, which traverses the west and north rims of Snowmass Village. This fast rolling, sinuous singletrack is not technically challenging, but is rated expert for its steep climbs and aerobic demands. The Rim trail as a whole is referred to in two sections: Rim Trail South and Rim Trail North. Rim Trail South travels approximately 3.8 miles in a Northerly direction before intersecting Sinclair Road and tying into the Rim Trail North. South to north is the recommended direction of travel. The entire Rim Trail has a high amount of usage. The “Ying-Yang” is a popular trail landmark and a perfect scenic spot for a trail respite.

### Stats

- Difficulty: Expert
- Closure: Rim Trail North - Closed December 1st to May 16th
- Uses: Mountain Biking, Hiking
- Surface: Dirt
- Length: 7.88 miles
- Winter Conditions: Volunteer boot packed

## Sleigh Ride Trail

The Sleigh Ride Trail travels from the Top of the Village (i.e. the top of Carriage Way) to the top of Divide Road. A beginner friendly trail, the Sleigh Ride Trail is great for those looking for a relatively flat grade for a leisurely walk. The Sleigh Ride Trail can be used to access the Nature Trail as well as the Ditch Trail.



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**Stats**

- Difficulty: Beginner
- Closure: None
- Uses: Mountain Biking, Hiking, Equestrian
- Surface: Gravel
- Length: 0.61 miles
- Winter Conditions: Groomed

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**South Rim Connector Trail**

The South Rim Connector Trail links the Nature Trail to the South Rim Trail. This trail lies on a narrow easement, with private property on either side of the trail. This trail serves as a connection from Lot 7 (mall) to South Rim Trail.

.....

**Stats**

- Difficulty: Intermediate
- Closure: Closed to mountain biking daily 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. due to guided Nature Hikes
- Uses: Mountain Biking, Hiking
- Surface: Dirt
- Length: 0.3 miles
- Winter Conditions: Not maintained

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**Stark's Trail**

This short connector trail links the Stark's Trail to Faraway Road.

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**Stats**

- Difficulty: Intermediate
- Closure: None
- Uses: Mountain Biking, Hiking
- Surface: Dirt

- Length: 0.09 miles
- Winter Conditions: Not maintained

.....

**Powerline Trail**

The Powerline Trail is an intermediate level trail that can be used to access the Tom Blake Trail and the Government Trail as well. The trail traverses through beautiful stands of Aspen and Mixed-Conifer trees, home to Mule Deer, Elk, and Bear. The Powerline Trail has moderate to high levels of use.

.....

**Stats**

- Difficulty: Intermediate
- Closure: None
- Uses: Mountain Biking, Hiking
- Surface: Dirt
- Length: 1.85 miles (0.6 miles are maintained by TOSV)
- Winter Conditions: Not maintained

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**Stark's Trail (Bike Path)**

The Stark's Trail (Bike Path) is a short paved trail that connects the Owl Creek Trail to the Starks Powerline Trail.

.....

**Stats**

- Difficulty: Beginner
- Closure: None
- Uses: Biking, Hiking
- Surface: Paved
- Length: 0.39 miles
- Winter Conditions: Not maintained

.....

**Tom Blake Equestrian Trail**

The Tom Blake Equestrian Trail, is just that, an Equestrian only trail. Enjoy a mellow trail ride entirely shaded in deep Aspen groves. There are sections of the Tom Blake Equestrian Trail that are shared with the Tom Blake Trail.

.....

**Stats**

- Difficulty: Equestrian
- Closure: April 25th to June 21st
- Uses: Equestrian, Hikers
- Surface: Dirt
- Length: 1.47 miles
- Winter Conditions: Not maintained

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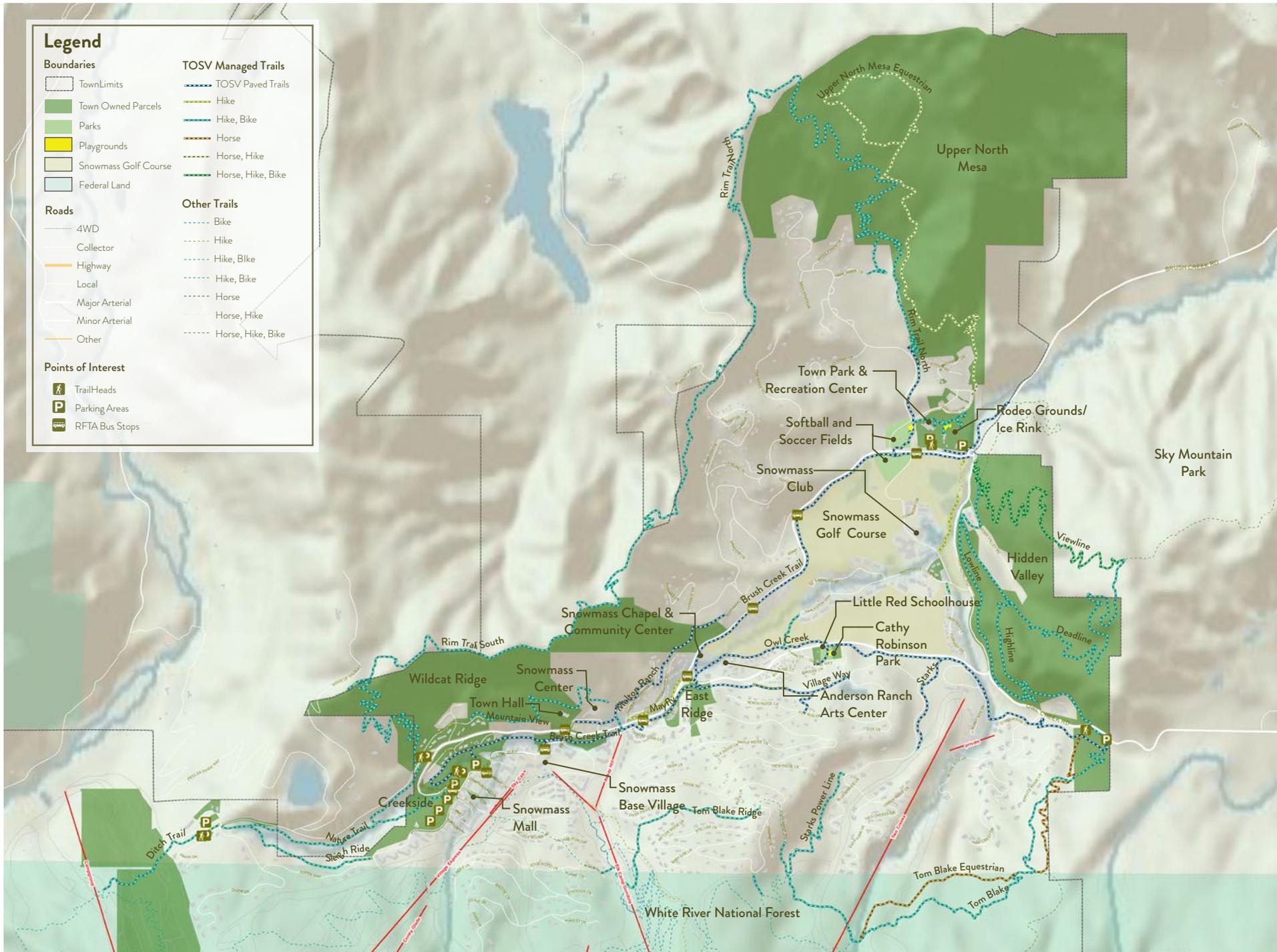
**Tom Blake Trail**

The Tom Blake Trail is a great intermediate singletrack that can be traveled in either direction. It is perhaps the most buttery smooth trail in the Roaring Fork Valley with optimized flow for mountain biking, and shaded in deep aspen groves the entire way for its 3+ miles. There are sections of the Tom Blake Trail that are shared with the Tom Blake Equestrian Trail. This trail has moderate to high usage.

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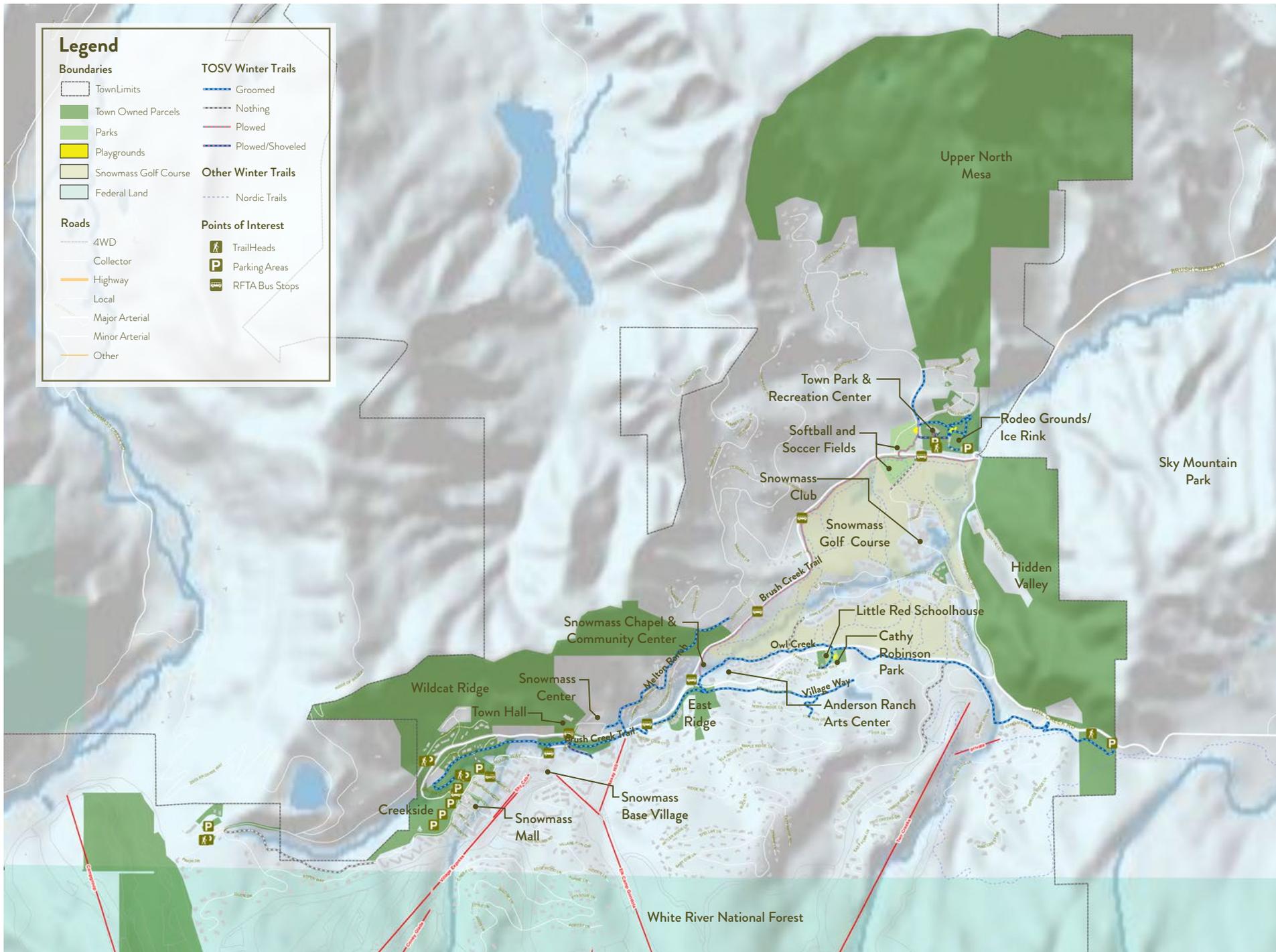
**Stats**

- Difficulty: Intermediate
- Closure: April 25th to June 21st
- Uses: Mountain Biking, Hiking, Nordic Skiing
- Surface: Dirt
- Length: 3.91 miles
- Winter Conditions: Volunteer boot packed



Existing Conditions Map: Summer





Existing Conditions Map: Winter





### Upper North Mesa Equestrian Trail

The Upper North Mesa Equestrian Trail is a great 2-hour horseback ride with breathtaking 360 degree views of Snowmass Village, Aspen, and the surrounding mountains. Snowmass Creek Outfitters utilize the trail for guided horseback rides.

#### Stats

- Difficulty: Equestrian
- Closure: December 1st to May 16th
- Uses: Equestrian and Hiking
- Surface: Dirt
- Length: 2.52 miles
- Winter Conditions: Closed

### Viewline Trail

Gateway to Sky Mountain Park, the Viewline Trail is a great intermediate singletrack, recommended as a climbing route to access the rest of the Sky Mountain Park Trails. The Viewline Trail offers phenomenal views of the Town of Snowmass Village and the surrounding mountains once you top out on the 1.6 mile climb. Dogs are not allowed on the Viewline Trail, as it leads to Sky Mountain Park where they are prohibited. This trail has been built and maintained in cooperation with Pitkin County's Open Space & Trails (POST) plan.

#### Stats

- Difficulty: Intermediate
- Closure: December 1st to May 16th
- Uses: Mountain Biking, Hiking, and Equestrian
- Surface: Dirt
- Length: 1.89 miles
- Winter Conditions: Closed

### Village Way Trail

The Village Way Trail connects the Brush Creek Trail to the Fox Run Trail and on to Fox Run Drive. The moderate grades on this trail are great for those looking for an easy stroll.

#### Stats

- Difficulty: Beginner
- Closure: None
- Uses: Biking, Hiking
- Surface: Paved
- Length: 0.57 miles
- Winter Conditions: Groomed

### Wildlife Area Closures

The Town of Snowmass Village enforces trail closures enacted to protect sensitive wildlife habitats and prohibit human activity, including trail maintenance. Trail closures are strictly enforced in partnership with Pitkin County, Colorado Parks & Wildlife, Aspen Skiing Company and the USFS. Wildlife monitoring cameras are used in closed areas and citations are issued.

Per Section 10-29 / Seasonal Trail Closures of the TOSV Municipal Code:

It shall be unlawful for any person, to use by any means, the following trails during wildlife sensitive periods, as follows:

#### **East Village Trail System / Opens on June 21 annually**

- Tom Blake Trail: April 25 - June 21
- Anaerobic Nightmare Trail: April 25 - June 21
- Sequel Trail: April 25 - June 21
- Government Trail east of Elk Camp Work Road: May 15 - June 21

#### **North Rim and Sky Mountain Trail Systems / Open on May 16 annually**

- Rim Trail North: December 1 - May 16
- Sky Mountain Park: December 1 - May 16



## RECREATION CENTER

The state-of-the-art Snowmass Village Recreation Center opened its doors in September 2006 and offers 18,000 square feet of recreation and fitness space to resident and non-resident guests 362 days a year (closed only on Thanksgiving, Christmas Day, and Easter). The Recreation Center lies within the Brush Creek Valley adjacent to Town Park and provides expansive mountain views from much of the facility. The Recreation Center hosts administrative staff for the Town's Parks, Recreation, and Trails department and Recreation Center staff as well as the amenities and equipment listed below:

- Concession area: After entering through the breezeway, the first thing encountered is the concession area. This space offers concession preparation for staff. Guest must purchase concessions at the Front Desk. This does not allow pool guests to purchase concessions from the pool deck. While food is available throughout the day, the concession area does not typically have a dedicated staff person, sharing staff with the front desk. The concession area is also used for camps and programming, such as SnowMassive Mondays poolside BBQ nights. A variety of beverages and snacks are available for sale throughout the year. Pizza by the slice and hot dogs are available Memorial Day - Labor Day.
- Office space: Located to the immediate right of the entry way and behind the Front Desk area are the Recreation Department offices for both facility and program staff members. Office space is somewhat constrained especially during high staffing periods in the summer months which can deteriorate the work environment for full time staff. Office space is limited but



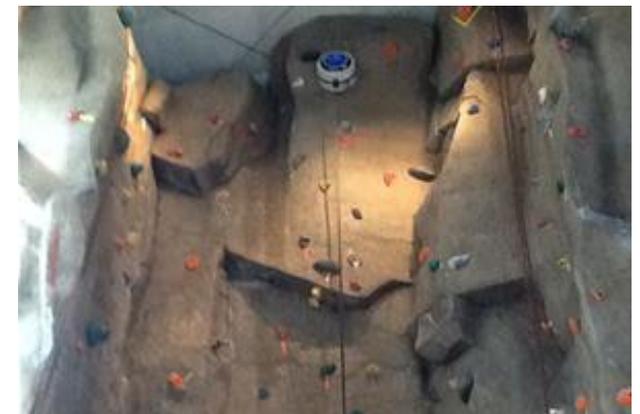
adequate in the winter months.

- Front Desk: Receiving guests as they walk into the facility, staff members greet members and single day visitors, address questions and perform registration into Recreation Programs. The welcome is diluted as this counter is submerged into the wall with no angle towards the entry way.
- Gallery Space: Located at the opposite end of the entryway, this space serves, somewhat inadequately, as a fitness area for spin classes. This space is located directly next to the locker room, weight room and pool entry.
- Weight, Stretching and Fitness area: This area offers a variety of cardio equipment, free weights, and circuit machines amid stunning mountain views. While a beautiful space, a line of cardio equipment crowds a narrow hallway which also serves as the locker room/restroom entry/exit. The state-of-the-art Matrix Fitness equipment is equipped with Virtual Active, a suite of fully interactive video-based cardio workouts. Users are engaged on all levels through audio soundtracks and video footage. On the treadmills, the incline will adjust to match the terrain shown in the video. For ascent, cycle, and elliptical machines, the resistance level adjusts to match the terrain. Videos are speed interactive.
- Cardio Equipment
  - 6 Treadmills
  - 4 Elliptical Trainers
  - 3 Hybrid Bikes
  - 11 Keiser M3 Indoor Cycling Bikes
  - 2 Ascent Trainers

- Strength Training Equipment
  - Free Weights and Adjustable Weight Benches
  - TRX Suspension Trainer
  - Functional Trainer
  - Assist Chin Dip
  - Bicep Curl
  - Chest Press and Shoulder Press
  - Lateral Raise
  - Pectoral Fly
  - Triceps Press
  - Pulldown
  - Row
  - Hip Abductor/Adductor
  - Squat Rack
  - Fit Balls
  - Leg Curl
  - Leg Extension
  - Seated Leg Press
  - Abdominal
  - Back Extension
  - Medicine Balls
  - Resistance Cords
  - Bosu Balance Trainers
- Family Locker room : The primary entry into the family restrooms and general locker rooms is located at the opposing end of the entry way, adjacent to the Gallery space. There are two Family changing rooms offering ADA restrooms and showers to guests. Signage to better

distinguish these rooms from the general locker rooms could be improved.

- Gender-specific Locker Rooms: Adjacent to the Gallery and sharing the same hallway as the family locker area are the male & female locker rooms. These areas provide an ample number of lockers, restroom and shower space, although more privacy could be afforded in the shower space.
- Bouldering and Climbing Wall: Approximately 25 vertical feet of wall space offers Recreation Center guests multiple belay and self-belay routes as well as a padded bouldering wall. This space is often used by groups, for programming and occasionally used by cardio/weight room attendees when they can't not find space on the gym floor. Instruction on the self-belay system is offered by Recreation staff. Climbing shoes can be rented at the front desk.
- Multi-purpose gymnasium: Accessed by walking through the rock climbing/bouldering area, the gymnasium serves many purposes for overall recreation, fitness and recreation programs. This is a relatively confined space as the facility walls and exposed support beams line the courtside. Even without these beams, structural walls are located to close too the playing court, limiting any space for both sport and spectators. The gymnasium can be rented hourly dependent upon use and availability.
- Fitness/Program Area: Following a set of stairs located near the rock climbing/bouldering wall, is the fitness and program room which overlooks the multi-purpose gymnasium. This 1,000 square foot space features wood floors, mirrors, televisions, and top-of-the-



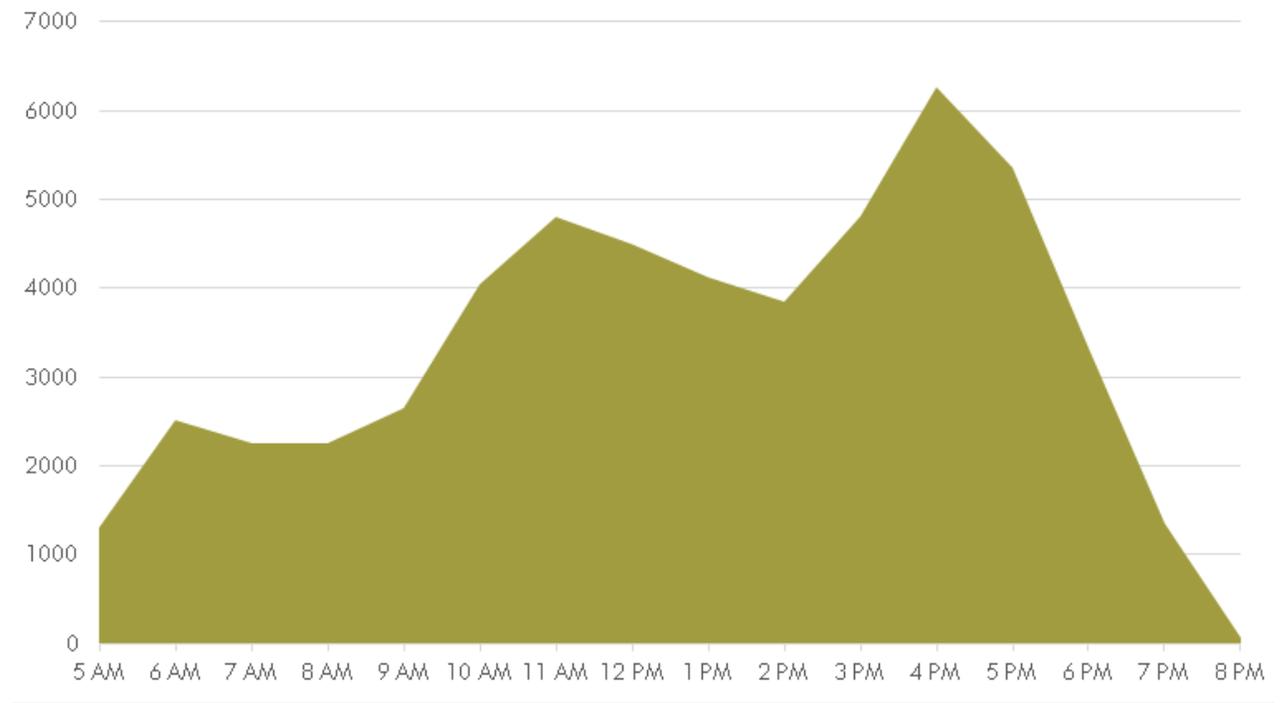
line sound equipment, directly connecting to the craft room and an elevator providing ADA accessibility. It can be divided into two separate rooms capable of holding two separate exercise classes or activities. The space includes many of the fitness programs as well as youth recreation programming:

- Plyo Balls
- Jump ropes
- Bosu Balls
- Body Bars
- Dumbbells
- Kettle Balls
- Battle Rope
- Gliders
- Craft room: Adjacent to the Fitness & Program room, this space is primarily used for youth recreation programming during camps. This is not a day care space.
- Storage space: Accessed via the weight room or Multi-Purpose gymnasium, this space provides storage for the majority of the facility and program equipment. It is elevated by a brief set stairs from the gymnasium floor making the movement of heavy equipment and refuse difficult.
- IT Equipment: The IT equipment shares space with the Aquatics infrastructure room, which is an inadequate and inconvenient space for such equipment.

In general, the Snowmass Village Recreation Center serves the needs of the community and provides a high level service for its resident and non-resident guests. The Recreation Center is open from 5:30 a.m - 8:30 p.m. Monday – Thursday, 5:30 a.m - 6:00 p.m. Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Saturday and 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Sunday. Peaks in usage occur in the morning/pre-work period, during lunchtime,

and after-work periods. The busiest time of day for the Recreation Center has consistently been between 4 PM and 6 PM for the past few years. The facility is used continuously throughout the year, averaging approximately 4,500 visits per month. A modest increase in usage is experienced during the winter months as guests tend to utilize more outdoor recreation during the summer, spring and fall months.

Hourly Recreation Center Usage



In comparison to most of its competitors, the Recreation Center has a very straight forward fee for daily and membership access:

Pass Type	Rate (\$)
Youth Daily	10.00
Adult Daily	15.00
Youth 20 Punch Pass	175.00
Adult 20 Punch Pass	240.00
1 Year Youth	522.50
1 Month Adult	125.00
Installment billing of \$65 per month, after initial payment of \$125 due at registration	65.00
1 Year Adult	660.00
1 Month Family	250.00
Installment billing of \$120 per month, after initial payment of \$250 due at registration.	120.00
1 Year Family	1232.00



The Snowmass Village Recreation Center offers a number of party rental options to the community, including:

- Ultimate parties are 3 hours in length; 1 hour party room or reserved pool deck space, and your choice of 2 (1 hour each) at climbing wall, swimming pool, bounce house, ice rink (winter only). Ultimate parties are allowed a maximum of 25 guests at the flat rate of \$450. Parties reserved for more than 25 guests will require a \$5.00 per person fee in addition to a \$35.00 additional staff fee.
- Pool parties at the Recreation Center are 2 hours in length and include use of pool as well as reserved tables and deck space during your party. Pool parties allow a maximum of 25 guests at the flat rate of \$200. Parties reserved for more than 25 guests will require a \$5.00 per person fee in addition to a \$35.00 additional staff fee.
- Bounce House Parties are 2 hours in length (1 Hour Bounce House, 1 Hour Party Room). Parties include exclusive use of both the Bounce house and Party Room. Tables and chairs are provided. Bounce House parties allow a maximum of 25 guests at the flat rate of \$300. Parties reserved for more than 25 guests will require a \$5.00 per person fee in addition to a \$35.00 additional staff fee.
- Climbing Parties are 2 hours in length (1 hour Climbing Wall, 1 hour Party Room.) Parties include exclusive use of the climbing wall, one climbing attendant and use of party room with tables and chairs. Climbing parties allow a maximum of 25 guests at the flat rate of \$200. Parties reserved for more than 25 guests will require a \$5.00 per person fee in addition to a \$35.00 additional staff fee.



Recreation Center Program Map

## AQUATICS

The Aquatics Facility is attached to the Recreation Center and accessed via the daily or membership fee. Three outdoor salinated pools are available year round. Salt water chlorination is a process that uses dissolved salt as a store for the chlorination system. In order to achieve this concentration, the chlorine generator uses electrolysis to break down salt (NaCl). The resulting chemical reaction eventually produces hypochlorous acid (HClO), and sodium hypochlorite (NaClO), which are the sanitizing agents already commonly used in swimming pools. As such, a saltwater pool is not actually chlorine-free; it simply utilizes a chlorine generator instead of the direct addition of chlorine. This aquatics facility includes:

- Leisure Pool: The leisure pool is the highlight of the Recreation Center in the summer months. Recreational enhancement features have been placed within and next to the Leisure pool such as; a waterfall, tumble buckets, a water-slide, and jets. The tumble buckets, bubble rock, down spout, and water slide attractions are near the end of their lifespan. The pool is 64,000 gallons and is heated to 93°F. Heating is completed through traditional means and solar panels. The pool is staffed with three guards in the winter and up to eight in the summer months. During peak usage periods in the summer there are generally three guards working at one time. During lower use periods in the winter the department operates with a single guard with a backup supervisor trained as a guard. There has been an expressed difficulty by guards to see every corner of the aquatics area from one position, hence the necessity of 3 guards in the summer. This pool includes a zero entry ramp, but there is no ADA chairs meant to lower

swimmers into the water. The existing zero entry ramp is narrow and restricts the potential recreational use by younger families.

- Lap Pool : The two lane, 23,000-gallon lap pool is located adjacent to the Leisure pool allowing fitness swimmers separation from recreation pool attendees. These 25 yard lanes are also heated to 80°F. Heating is completed through traditional means and solar panels.
- Hot Tub: The life of the party for any aquatics facility, this 3,000-gallon hot tub is heated to 104°F. The hot tub seats 17 guests and offers a remarkable view of Snowmass.
- Pool Deck: The existing pool deck space provides outdoor relaxing space for Recreation Center guests. One of the existing problems is the upkeep and replacement of furniture located on the deck, although pool deck furniture has been replaced in summer 2016. In

the winter months the pool deck surrounding the Hot Tub is heated to aid snowmelt, but snow is also shoveled and piled in unused space to provide winter access, which can be inefficient.

- Concession: Although an access window is present, guests must currently re-enter the Recreation Center to purchase and receive concessions.
- Pool infrastructure and equipment: Stored within the Recreation Center facility, this storage space also stores IT equipment, aquatic equipment and other miscellaneous items. This space is suitable for the time being however, if the aquatic equipment were to malfunction resulting in flooding, there would be catastrophic damage to the pool system, IT system and Recreation Center at large.

The aquatics facility opens at 8 am and closes 30 minutes prior to the facility closing daily.





## PROGRAMS

### Fitness Programs

Utilizing the Recreation Center, fitness programs are located throughout the Recreation Center and have found use in every corner of the facility. An impressive list of cardio, strength and aerobic equipment may be found on the Town's Fitness website. The Recreation Center offers 6 different group fitness classes that meet 19 times per week and personal training for all ages and fitness levels from nationally-certified instructors. These basic fitness classes are provided free of charge with a Recreation Center admission or membership.

Specialty programs, which may change seasonally, include:

- Yoga: There are three types of yoga offered to membership and pass holders, designed for beginner to advanced skills, to increase strength, flexibility and balance. These courses are offered on week days only. Membership, a punch pass, or a \$15 drop-in fee are required for participation. There is a plethora of yoga opportunities throughout the valley. Some competitors offer the full spectrum of yoga classes and have a similar fee membership based admission.
- Pilates Mat: This variation to the conventional Pilates class focuses on strengthen and tone core muscles, improved posture and flexibility. These classes are for beginner through advanced skill sets and require a membership, punch pass, or a \$15 drop-in fee. This course does not utilize Pilates machines. The Town's Pilates program is one of two recreation facilities to provide a Pilates course, however there are private studios focused solely on

Pilates fitness. While individuals looking solely for Pilates will likely use one of these Pilates-specific studios, the fact that only one other recreation facility provides Pilates courses, adds value to the overall membership.

- Sports Conditioning: Attracting athletes of all disciplines, this course incorporates high energy cardio, develops muscle strength, explosive power, endurance, balance, and flexibility through functional exercise. Designed for beginner through advanced skill sets, this class requires a membership, punch pass, or a \$15 drop-in fee. Many facilities in the valley offer conditioning courses, either specific to athletic activities or generic. Many competitors focus specifically on ski conditioning but specialty courses for cyclists, rock climbing, and other activities are also available. The Town's program is generally less expensive than its competitors. Ski conditioning is also offered in the fall.
- Indoor Cycling: A popular class within this and most recreation centers, guests enjoy interval, strength and terrain workouts on stationary bikes. Membership, a punch pass, or a \$15 drop-in fee are required for participation. Although it is less expensive than its competitors, there are many competing cycling courses within the valley. Some facilities offer upsells to their cyclists with outdoor classes and weight training courses.
- TRX Training: TRX is a suspension training course focused on developing strength, power, endurance, mobility, balance, flexibility and core stability. Membership, a punch pass, or a \$15 drop-in fee are required for participation. Aside from the Aspen Club, no other facility offers a TRX course. Aspen Club's course is

also membership based which puts the Town of Snowmass at an advantage as membership prices are significantly less expensive.

- H.I.I.T.: High-Intensity Interval Training courses are extremely popular at the moment. This challenging 45-minute course elevates heart rates, builds muscle, improves body composition, cardio fitness and metabolic function. Admission is based on membership, punch pass or a \$15 drop-in fee and is for beginner to advanced guests. Nearly every competitor has a high interval course, under a variety of names.
- Personal Training: The Snowmass Village Recreation Center offers personal training through independent contractors who maintain their own schedule to meet the needs of clients. Each trainer is a certified professional who designs programs for each individual's needs, such as weight loss, strength programs, yoga sessions and sport specific training. One-on-one sessions as well as 2 person or small group sessions are available. One session is \$90, and registration for multiple sessions receives a discount.

## Recreation Programs

Recreation Programs are divided into four categories; Adult and Youth Sport Leagues, Aquatics Programs and Youth Camps. These programs utilize the majority of the amenities offered through the parks, recreation and trails departments.

### Adult Sport Leagues

- Futsal league: A variation of indoor soccer, these leagues are coed and played in the winter months from January to March. Registration is facilitated through an online registration

system. The Town's hosts one league merging recreational and competitive players onto the same playing field. Throughout the valley, there are several soccer leagues but during the winter months Snowmass hosts the only indoor, futsal league. The impact of being the sole regional provider of futsal/soccer in the winter is demonstrated through the volume of players and interest by spectators. As the sole providers, Snowmass has command of the price point and schedule frequency for this sport.

- Volleyball league: Offered in the fall (October - December) and winter (January - March), these coed leagues are held every Wednesday night during the 10-12 week season. Throughout the valley, the Town's program is the only 6 vs 6 league. The other recreation centers or departments offer 4 vs 4 leagues, also taking place in the fall or winter seasons. With no competition in Aspen and the closest volleyball leagues in Basalt and Carbondale, this is another exciting program for Snowmass Village.
- Softball league: Also a coed recreation league, the Town hosts games every Tuesday and Wednesdays during the summer. One constraint on this program is the lack of lighting features on the Town Park field. This restricts the number of games per evening and affects scheduling as the days become shorter in the fall. As previously stated, this is a coed recreation league which may restrict users interested in a woman's or men's only league and/or a recreation or competitive league. Softball leagues are limited in the Valley, but Aspen Parks and Recreation does offer a competitive and a recreation men's and coed recreation softball league. Prices are





comparable. The Aspen field does not have lighting features either.

- Soccer league: Facilitated in the summer, this 10 to 12 week coed league is played at Town Park and experiences similar constraints to the Softball league in terms of lighting. Play depends on weather, as with most outdoor sports, but the number of games and length of season is primarily constricted to the hours of day light. Again, similar to softball, Snowmass's main competition is with the Aspen Parks and Recreation department. These two leagues seem to conflict as both leagues are scheduled for Monday nights.
- Tennis Instruction: Snowmass has direct competition with the Aspen Recreation Center within the tennis market. Snowmass is approximately half the rate of the Aspen \$20/ class fee.
- Drop-in play: Three drop-in activities are offered at the Recreation Center; basketball, pickleball, and soccer. Similar to the fitness programs, admission into these league is based off of membership/punch cards or a \$10 drop in fee.
- Basketball is offered October through April on Monday evenings, Tuesdays and Thursdays at noon. There are two basketball leagues in the valley, although they are nearly 30 minutes away in Basalt and Carbondale.
- Pickleball is an up and coming sport, gaining the interests of many demographics but predominately with aging tennis players, as it requires similar skills with less movements. This activity is held from October to April at the Recreation Center on Mondays, Wednesday

and Friday at specific times. Drop-in pickleball is also offered at the Aspen Recreation.

- Soccer: Supporting winter Futsal and summer Soccer enthusiasts, the Recreation Center hosts drop-in soccer on Tuesdays and Friday from October to April. Snowmass Village offers one of the only indoor soccer facilities in the valley.

### **Youth Sport Leagues & Athletics**

- Youth Soccer (ages 6-10 & 11-14+): Snowmass and Aspen Recreation Center host youth soccer camps throughout the summer,.Aspen has soccer for kids from kindergarten up to age 10 on every night of the week during the summer. This provides Snowmass the majority of players ages 10+, although some may move onto private, traveling or school teams. Aspen United currently does not utilize the field space in Snowmass Village, creating a potential opportunity for a partnership to bring more youth players to Snowmass Village Like the Snowmass field, Aspen plays on a field without lights so games must be played during the day. This presents another growth opportunity for Snowmass.
- Youth Tennis (ages 5-12 & 13+): Supporting three different clinics for children ages 5-8, 5-11 and 8-12 throughout the summer months. These clinics are located on the Town Park Tennis courts adjacent to the Recreation Center and costs between \$10-15. Similar to the program offered for the adults, the main competition is Aspen Recreation Center, although Snowmass offers less expensive prices per class.

## Aquatics Programs

- Parent & Child aquatics: A Red Cross supported program, this course teaches basic skills to infants and young children. This is an educational course for the children as well as the parents as they are informed proper techniques to create a safe aquatic experience for their child.
- Preschool aquatics: As a Red Cross supported program, this course is designed to orient young children, approximately 4 and 5 years old, into the aquatic environment as well as support a positive space for aquatic development.
- Levels 1 through 4 swimming lessons: These classes are meant for any individual wishing to progress their aquatic skills. Students engage in safe, yet developmentally challenging tasks as they progress from water comfortability and basic water skills to stroke refinement. The pricing structure supporting these programs is one of the least expensive options in the valley.
- Private & Semi-private lessons: Facilitated by Red Cross certified instructors, these lessons are offered year-round.

## Youth Camps

The Snowmass Village Parks, Recreation and Trails Department offers seasonal and weekly camps for kids throughout the year. Those camps consist of a Winter Break, School's Out, Summer Camp, Fall Break, and Thanksgiving Camp. Activities include, but are not limited to: arts and crafts, field trips, hiking, indoor rock climbing, playground time, and swimming. These camps are approximately \$30-\$50/day and operate all day Monday through Friday. While popular, prior registration and more than sporadic commitment is a challenge for the department. A pattern of

registration by parents has emerged where parents fail to pre-register in favor of drop-ins. This creates a challenge for the department as registration must meet a minimum number of participants for the camp to operate. These classes heavily depend on local kids and families, which means the scope of competition primarily falls on Aspen Recreation Center, but the Smashbox, Camp and other alternative providers are also in the mix. These programs offer nearly identical programs as Snowmass Village, resulting in a convenience decision for the families. Admission fees are generally cheaper in Snowmass Village but not by a significant margin.

Snowmass also offers specialty camps and clinics such as Challenger Soccer, and mountain biking clinics. Specialty camps like this are fairly consistent throughout the valley. Aspen Recreation Center also hosts youth soccer camps in the fall and for a comparable price.



## **Walkability and Connectivity**

Because of its compact size, the Town of Snowmass Village is fairly well connected, though there are some constraints to being truly walkable or bikeable, depending on where you live. Brush Creek Road is a barrier to movement, even where there are striped crossings. This is exacerbated during the colder months, when reasonable walking and biking distances and visibility are more limited. The Town of Snowmass Village has made incremental improvements to walkways, trails and road crossings in recent years, but there are still areas to improve or complete.

In 2015, Snowmass Village Town Council adopted a goal of taking the necessary steps to improve the overall connectivity of the community. The Community Connectivity Plan (CCP) was conducted concurrently with the POSTR plan and was developed to recommend strategies and projects to improve overall connectivity and safety to key destinations within the Town for people biking, walking and taking transit. Specifically, the Community Connectivity Plan identifies projects relating to: crossings of Brush Creek Road, connectivity-related trails and walkways, transit, the Sky Cab (Skittles), parking and traffic calming. These proposed connectivity projects have been incorporated into the analysis of the POSTR system.

## Wayfinding

As a mountain resort community, Snowmass Villages' economy is primarily tourism-based, creating a strong need for effective wayfinding and consistent community branding. The Snowmass Village Trail Signage Design Guidelines and resulting signage have been very effective at both branding the community and directing travelers. The signs incorporate the branding and identity standards for the community, which transcend mediums extending from the web, to printed materials all the way through to the built environment, and provide a seamless journey for visitors. While these guidelines are excellent for trails they could be better integrated into vehicle and roadway wayfinding to create an "information hierarchy" to organize community gateways, routes, districts, and destinations regardless of mode of travel.

## Market Assessment

A comprehensive market assessment was conducted as part of the POSTR process. The market assessment defines resident demographic profiles, visitor trends, and a broad analysis of existing regional recreational amenities and attractions in the Roaring Fork Valley. This research explores the opportunity for the broader community's recreation needs, and provides a context for understanding the current and potential role for the Town's parks, open space and trails. The information below summarizes the key findings and observations of the assessment.

## Key Findings

### Small Local Population; Big Seasonal Population

The full-time resident population of Snowmass Village is 2,826, remaining relatively flat for the past few years. The small local population of Snowmass Village belies a large influx of second homeowners and visitors throughout the year, peaking at an estimated 11,000 peak seasonal population (example: Christmas week and 4th of July). This includes full-time, part-time/second homeowners, and visitors. The variation in the size of the population (residents plus second homeowners plus visitors) during the year creates different levels of demand for parks and recreation services.

### Second Home Proportions

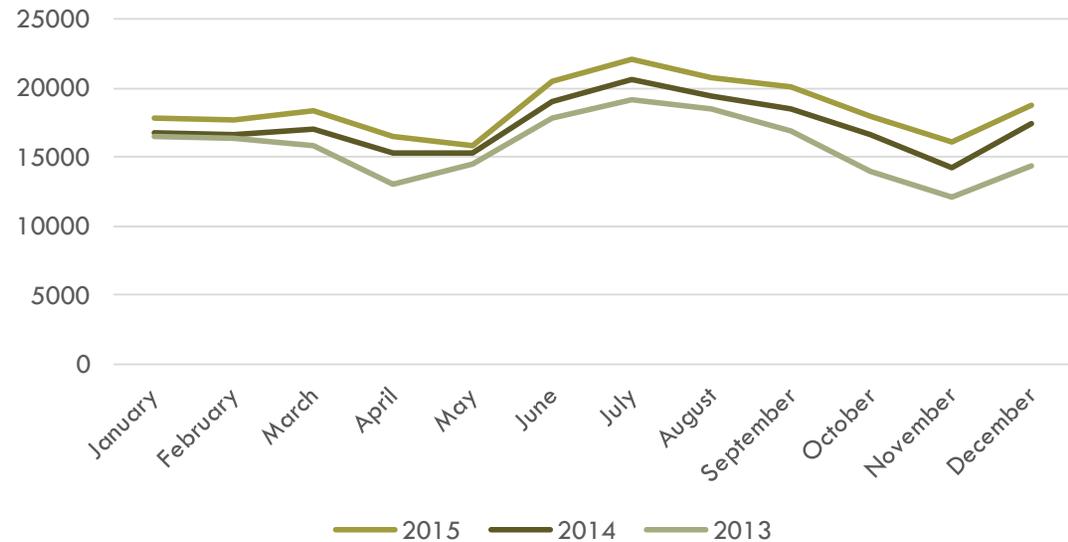
US Census records indicate that approximately 38 percent of the total residential properties in Snowmass

Village are utilized for seasonal/recreational use (second homes). The Town of Snowmass Village has a relatively low proportion of second homeowners compared to other mountain resort communities (Beaver Creek is 84% seasonal/recreational use, while Teton Village is 54% and Mountain Village is 42%). This indicates the vast importance of both visitors and locals to the success of the POSTR system in Snowmass Village.

### Seasonality of Traffic

Colorado Department of Transportation traffic numbers indicate that traffic counts on Highway 82 typically peak in July and March, with troughs in May and November. These numbers indicate the times of year when the Town might have the greatest opportunity to connect with visitors, especially in areas proximate to and visible from area highways.

### Snowmass Village Traffic Counts



Source: Colorado Department of Transportation Traffic Data Explorer



### **Resident Demographics**

The demographic statistics of residents of the Town of Snowmass Village a few observations of note. First, residents' median age is 40 (Generation X), while overnight visitors are primarily baby boomers (ages 50-69). Second, the household income stats shows a very high level of income, suggesting some level of disposable income. Third, 33% of the workforce lives within the village, which is relatively high for the Roaring Fork Valley.

### **Recreation Competition**

As a tourism and recreation-based mountain community, there is a wide range of recreation competitors in Snowmass Village, and in the broader region with which the Town of Snowmass Village Parks, Trails and Recreation department must contend with. These include: Aspen Parks & Recreation, the Basalt Recreation Department, the Carbondale Recreation Department, Pitkin County, the US Forest Service, the US Bureau of Land Management, the Aspen Skiing Company, the Snowmass Club, the Aspen Club (temporarily closed) and a number of smaller, one-off recreation providers, such as yoga or Pilates studios. The offerings of each of these providers were analyzed to understand the strengths, opportunities,

weaknesses and threats in the recreation environment of the Roaring Fork Valley. Below is summary of key findings in the major areas of the POSTR system.

#### **Parks**

TOSV offers substantial park space and facilities at Town Park, Cathy Robinson Park and Yarrow Park. Across these parks, TOSV residents and guests are afforded: multi-purpose field space, sporting fields and courts, playgrounds, parking, concrete and soft surface trails, water fountains, landscaping, art, and other parks. These amenities are similar to near-by parks facilities. One opportunity unforeseen within TOSV and its competitor's is lighting features to provide evening activities on the sporting fields. This would be a distinguishing features for TOSV's parks amongst its competitors, and could increase the attractiveness of the Town's sports leagues offerings.

#### **Trails**

Regional trail providers are more partners than competition, but it is still important to understand the context in which Snowmass Village sits. Trail connections with each of the recreation competitors mentioned above are possible in Snowmass Village, and the Town has worked hard to develop good working relationships with each.

### **Recreation Center**

Viewing the competition at large, the Town of Snowmass Village's Recreation Center has many competitors when examining individual amenities but, with the exception of the Aspen Recreation Center, no other competitor has all these amenities at one facility. Another major difference in that the Town's Recreation Center pricing model is a consistent fee between residents and non-residents. The majority of facilities will charge residents or members one price and non-residents or tourists another. This resident model can increase the loyalty of residents, as well as increase the yield per non-resident guest as they are looking to satisfy a short term need instead of a calculated long term need present with residents.

When comparing the cost of amenity use to competitors, the Recreation Center's rates are less expensive. Most competitor facilities include fitness and other amenities into their admission fee (daily or membership) just like the Town of Snowmass Village, however the Town's Recreation Center is priced at a less expensive rate.



### Aquatics

Similar to its competitors, access to the aquatics facilities are granted by paying the admission fee into the Recreation Center. When comparing the variety of programs to those competitors, Snowmass Village does not offer any swim teams, master swim periods, or aquatic fitness programs. Like Snowmass Village, most of these competitors also offer group and private swim lessons for all ability levels. The pricing structure supporting these programs is consistent if not one of the least expensive options in the region. Some competitors lack the enhancement features that increase the recreation experience and value afforded to users of the Snowmass Village facilities, such as the water-slide and splash fountain.

### Programs

On the whole, TOSV has a variety of competitors in the adult and youth recreation programming sector with primary competition coming from the Aspen Recreation Center and the Aspen Parks & Recreation Department. Depending on the activity or camp, TOSV is the sole provider of some activities while they are amongst a populated pool of providers for others. Within the greater Roaring Fork Valley, TOSV is the

sole provider for: futsal leagues and volleyball leagues. Between TOSV and its competitors there is overlap in the programs and activities offered such as: adult softball leagues, softball, tennis, pickleball, soccer, youth climbing and youth camps.

In most cases, program fees are within a reasonable margin when compared to similar programs offered by competitors. For the majority of programs, TOSV is the less expensive option. Other constraints caused by competition may be the dates offered for these programs. One example is the adult soccer league. Both the TOSV and the Aspen Parks and Recreation Soccer leagues are scheduled for Monday nights. This forces players to choose between the leagues and, due to their close proximity, rescheduling the night they are provided may present an opportunity to potentially increase participation in each.

When comparing similar fitness programs offered at TOSV to its competitors, the Town does have significant competition for courses like yoga, sport conditioning, cycling and H.I.I.T. Most courses are scheduled mid-week through-out the Roaring Fork Valley, suggesting opportunities for more weekend offerings.

Competitors, on the whole, offer all the courses offered by the Town's Fitness program. In some cases, they offer many others as well. These additional classes include, but not limited to: Senior oriented courses, conditioning, taekwondo, activity specific conditioning or weight lifting courses, Zumba, tough mamas and others.