

Arapahoe County Fairgrounds

The 110-acre Park at Arapahoe County Fairgrounds is a new feature to celebrate. Phase 1 offers many new amenities including a new main entrance to the park and fairgrounds, a central green with walkways and a plaza and picnic shelter, multi-use fields, nature play area, accessible loop path, natural surface trails, and water features including two ponds and a naturally meandering stream play area. The theme of the park design focuses on three central concepts: nature play, interpreting the history and heritage of the region, and 21st century concepts of fairgrounds of the future.

The site offers many special gem stories surrounding features such as windmills, archaeology, agricultural influences, native plant material, front range views, and education. Specifically, 'Behind the Design' stories of the new park include Nature Play: Opportunities for children to engage with the environment and encourage interaction in nature. Water: A new well serves as an irrigation source but also supports nature play for the stream and ponds. Contouring the Prairie Land: The site was intentionally contoured as a design element.

- Unified fairground nature play park
- Phase I = \$4.8 million
- Overall Project Site = 210 acres
- 900LF of buck and rail fencing x4 = 3,600LF of rails. That's 10 football fields!
- 825LF of stream = 40,000CF of sand. That weighs as much as 330 adult elephants!
- 225,000 gal in upper pond + 678,500 gal lower pond = 903,584 gal total stored for irrigation. That's almost 1.5 times the size of an olympic swimming pool!
- 2+ miles of single track trails. That's 8 trips around a high school track!
- 125,000 CY of earth moved. Let's just say that's a lot of dirt!

Design Team Members

Design Concepts - Lead Consultant, Landscape Architects
JVA, Inc. - Civil Engineering
JVA, Inc. - Environmental Engineering
Wright Water Engineers - Water Well Engineers
The RMH Group, Inc. - Electrical Engineering
Hines, Inc. - Pump/Mechanical Engineering
White/Designscapes Joint Venture - General Contractors



**DESIGN
CONCEPTS**

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Gem Stories

Nature Play - The 'valley' is designed especially for children to engage with the environment and interact with nature. It is a contoured natural play field gently sloping down to the pond. Nature play is about non-structure play. It's 'free play' unbounded by structures or formality. It's putting children in their natural environment and letting their minds work...naturally. Here, there are simply opportunities provided to encourage that interaction.

Water - It's a critical component—and feature. It's re-introduced in the park to serve many purposes. A new well adds a much needed irrigation water source but also supports the amenities of the nature play stream and ponds.

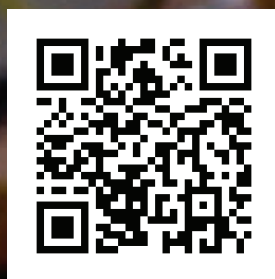
Contouring the Prairie Land - From a gradual sloping 40-acre site, to a seemingly random rise and fall of ground swells, the park site was intentionally contoured as a design element. Swales, berms, mesa-top hills, peaks, canyons and ridge-top expanses provide areas equivalent to secret gardens, choreographed views with window-like peeks into special areas, and natural stadium-like viewing from hillsides.

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— Guided Tour —



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information
and more!



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Blaze
your
Trail

Don't miss this!

- 1 Exhibition Building Expansion
- 2 Multi-Use Festival Area
- 3 Covered Arena
- 4 Plaza with Shelter
- 5 Historic Windmill
- 6 ADA Loop
- 7 Deep Water Well
- 8 Nature Play Area w/ Stream and Trails
- 9 Lower Irrigation Pond
- 10 Over 2 Miles of Walking Trails
- 11 Upper Pond
- 12 Midway
- 13 Existing Water Tower

