

# Anchorage Park Foundation 2008

AnchorageParkFoundation.org



## FORSYTHE PARK

11301 Birch Road

### Park History

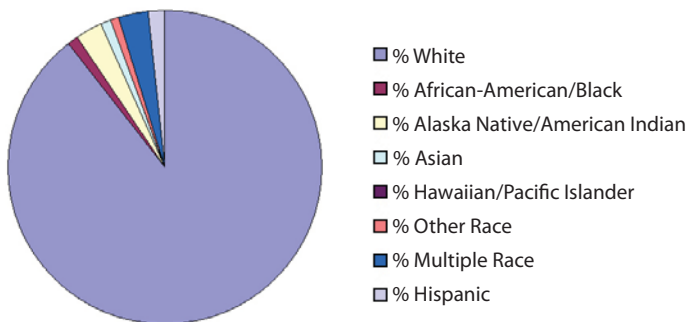
In 1975, the Forsythe family offered a portion of his homestead to the Municipality of Anchorage for use as a park. This property was homesteaded in the 1940's and the Forsythe family wished to see the property stay in its natural state. The Forsythes sold the property to the city at a reduced price, so the park was named in their honor.



### Neighborhood Statistics\*

Population: 4,210  
 Percent of Population under age 19: 31.8%  
 Rate of referrals to Dept. of Juvenile Justice: Low

Ethnic Composition:



\*2000 Census Data

### Park Facilities & Equipment

- 26.83 acres
- ADA-accessible play equipment for 5-12 year olds
- Two tennis courts
- Fitness trail
- Parking lot with 12 spaces on Birch Road
- Parking lot with 6 spaces on E. 112th Avenue



### COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES:

Mayor Mark Begich  
 BegichMP@muni.org

Southeast Park District Manager  
 Shawna Popovici  
 PopoviciSL@muni.org

Mid-Hillside Community Council  
 Linda Perkins, Chair - miniaturehorses@alaska.net

Assembly District 6  
 Jennifer Johnston - jjohnston@gci.net  
 Chris Birch - chrisbirch@gci.net

Alaska State Legislative District 31P  
 Representative Bob Lynn  
 Rep\_Bob\_Lynn@legis.state.ak.us  
 Senator Con Bunde  
 Senator\_Con\_Bunde@legis.state.ak.us



# REPORT CARD ON PARKS: FORSYTHE PARK 2008

## Report Card Background

The Anchorage Parks Report Card utilized community volunteers to create a comprehensive picture of the condition of our neighborhood parks, reflecting the Anchorage community's opinions, preferences and ideas. Almost 1,000 citizens along with APRD staff evaluated 53 neighborhood parks based on 6 different settings. Parks were surveyed based on cleanliness, safety, structure, appearance, and function. APRD will use this information to strategically employ its funding and volunteer resources to better meet the needs of the Anchorage community.

### OVERALL GRADE

C+

Active Recreation Areas	72
Green Spaces	93
Park Entry	74
Passive Recreation Areas	81
Pathways	74
Playgrounds	76

Scores were calculated on a 100 point scale

## Forsythe Park Findings

Report Card participants at Forsythe Park reported a variety of concerns, including broken play equipment, trails in poor condition, missing athletic equipment, downed trees blocking access to park features and rotting or broken bollards. Community members also requested a dog station and upkeep to the picnic tables.

## Fix It List

- Repair play equipment
- Remove dead and downed trees near picnic area and trails
- Evaluate park uses with community and consider replacing par course
- Repair cracks in paved trails and improve drainage in soft-surface trails
- Repair bridge at southeast corner of park
- Add informational signs in picnic area and repaint tables
- Repair bollards in parking area to prevent vehicle access
- Establish appropriate location and install dog station



Participants are concerned about the condition of the bridge



Fitness equipment also requires upgrades

For a complete directory of Report Card results for neighborhood parks, go to [www.AnchorageParkFoundation.org/projects/reportcard.htm](http://www.AnchorageParkFoundation.org/projects/reportcard.htm)

The Anchorage Park Foundation developed the Anchorage Parks Report Card in partnership with the Eppley Institute for Parks and Public Lands at Indiana University, and community volunteers, thanks to a generous grant from the Rasmuson Foundation. The APF has raised over \$15 million dollars since 2004 to improve public parks, trail and recreation areas. To make a contribution or volunteer, please visit us at: