



**Avon, Ohio  
Parks and Recreation  
Community Survey  
July 3, 2017**



# Background

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- Survey conducted from Dec. 2016 – Mar. 2017
- 1,838 surveys submitted electronically or via paper copy
- Survey marketed through water bills, newspapers, social media and Avon Local school's email contacts
- Last Avon Parks and Recreation survey was conducted in 2008 and received 1,286 responses

# Executive Summary

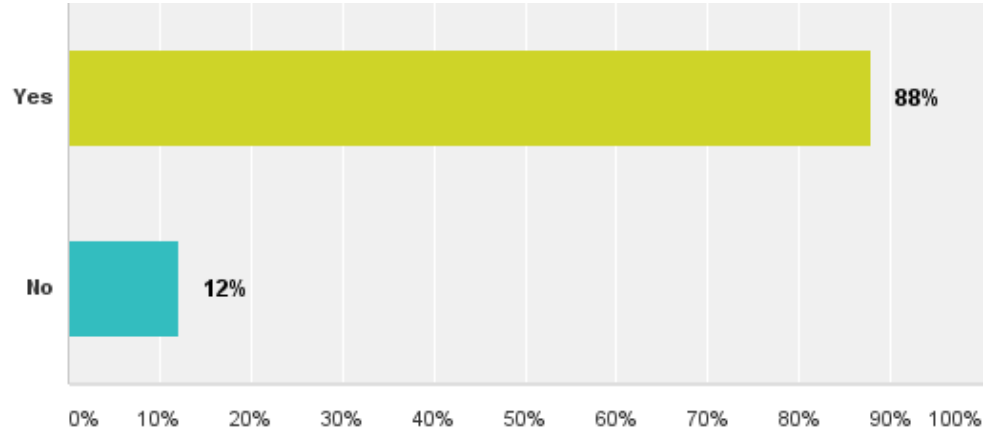
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The 2017 Avon Parks and Recreation survey included 13 questions covering: demographics, importance of facilities and programs, recommendations and comments on Avon's 7 parks, where to allocate funds, French Creek Park development, new program offerings and other comments. Free form comments for questions 9-13 were summarized into main themes and then additional comments were captured to provide feedback and ideas for Avon's Parks director.

Main points from the survey were focused on improving connectivity within the city, especially providing sidewalks leading to Avon's Aquatic Center and other parks. Biking and walking/running trails were at top of the list for outdoor facilities. The number one indoor recreational facility requested was for Avon to build a community center for Avon residents.

# Q1: Have you or a household member visited an Avon City Park in the past 12 months?

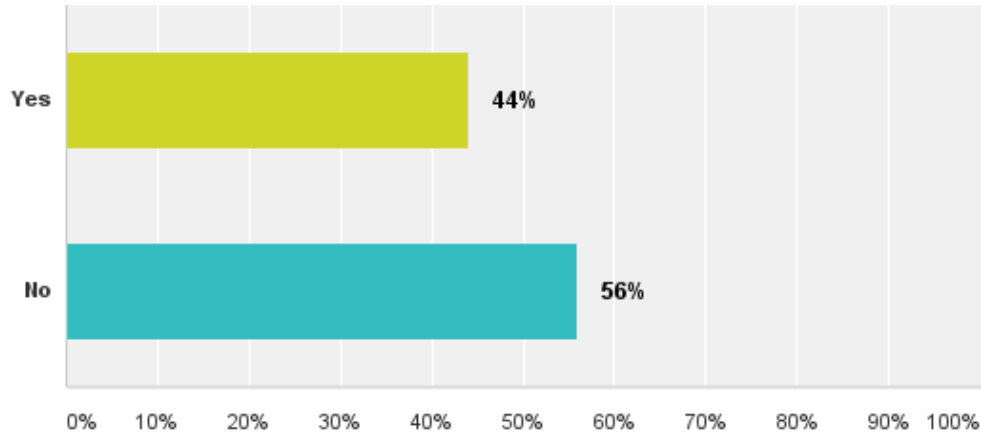
Answered: 1,834 Skipped: 4



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	88%	1,613
No	12%	221
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,834</b>

## Q2: Have you or a household member participated in an Avon City Recreation program in the past 12 months including Lacrosse, Youth Football, ASLA Soccer, Little League, Eagle Swim Team?

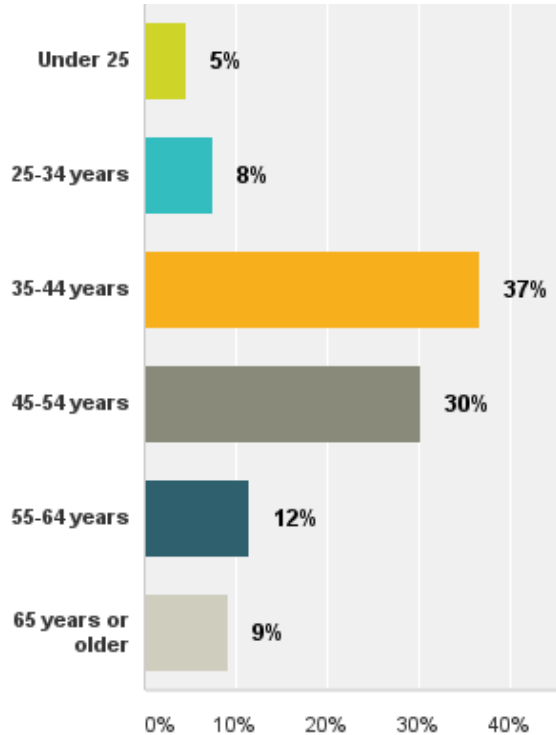
Answered: 1,826 Skipped: 12



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	44%	804
No	56%	1,022
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,826</b>

# Q3: What is your age group?

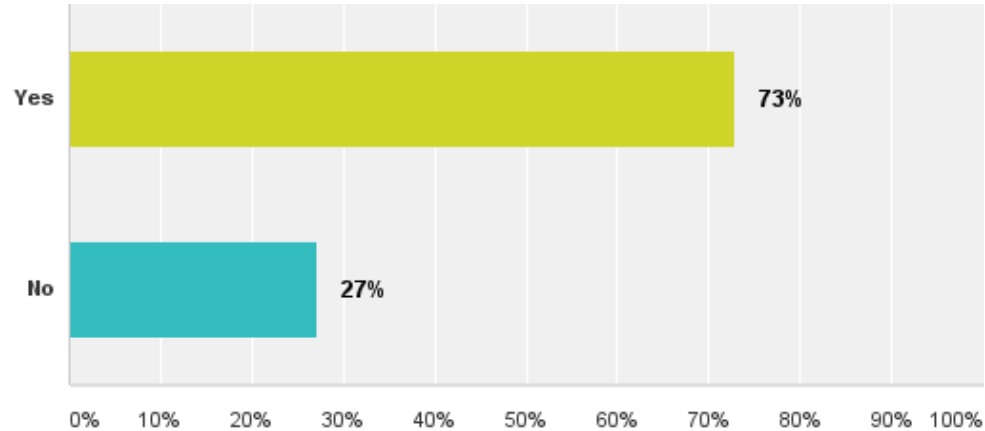
Answered: 1,831 Skipped: 7



Answer Choices	Responses
Under 25	5% 83
25-34 years	8% 138
35-44 years	37% 674
45-54 years	30% 556
55-64 years	12% 211
65 years or older	9% 169
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,831</b>

# Q4: Do you have children in your household?

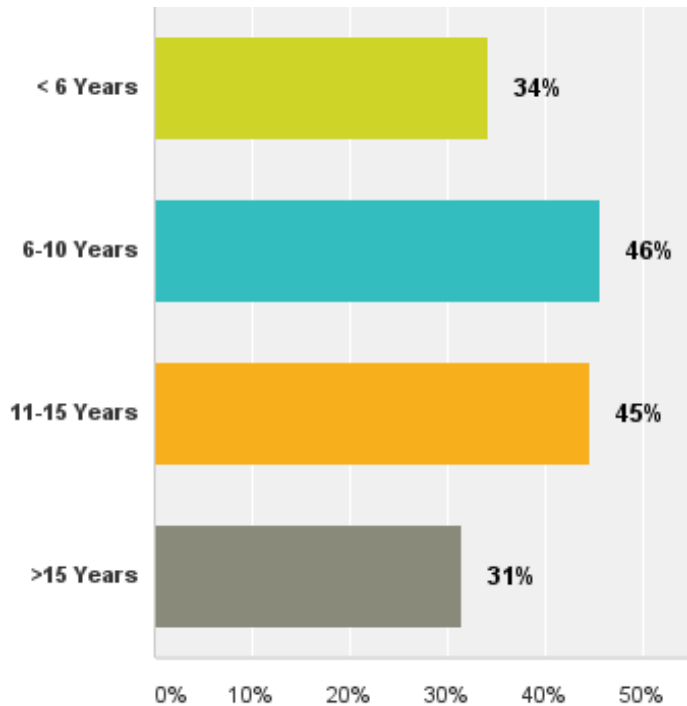
Answered: 1,833 Skipped: 5



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	73%	1,334
No	27%	499
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,833</b>

# Q5: If you have children in your household, check all children's age groups that apply:

Answered: 1,292 Skipped: 546

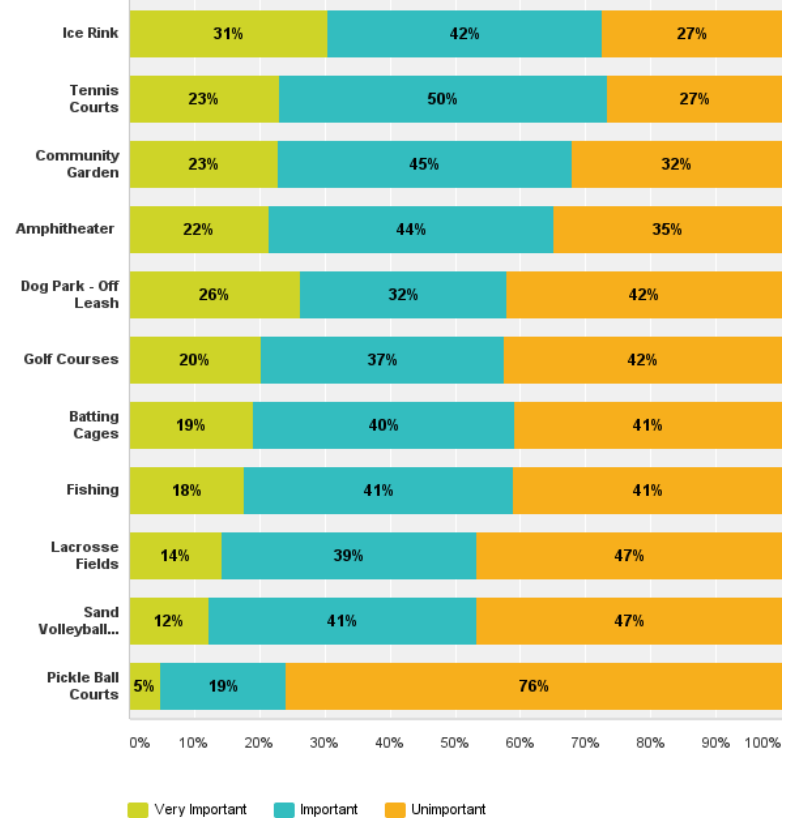
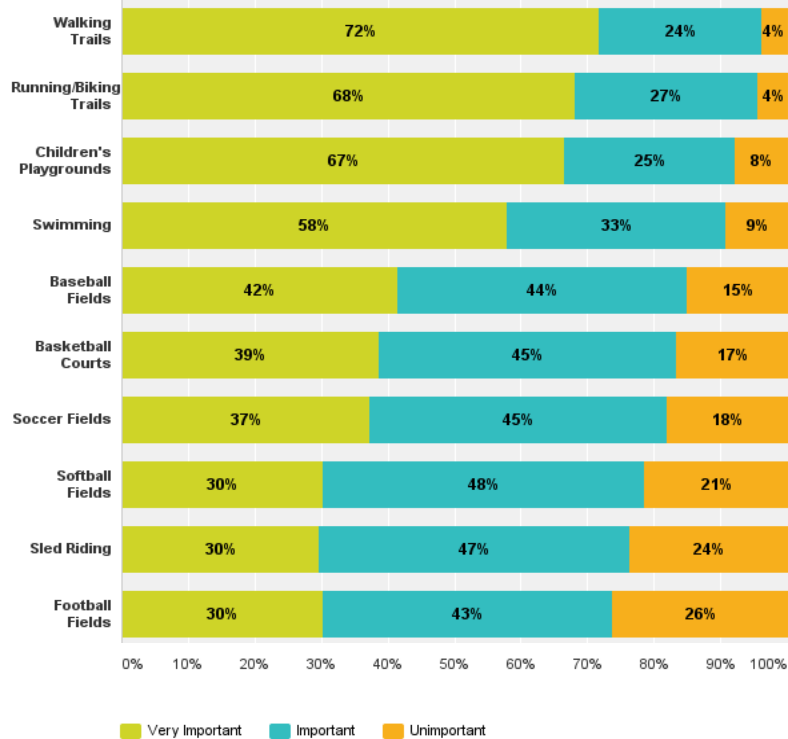


Answer Choices	Responses	
< 6 Years	34%	442
6-10 Years	46%	591
11-15 Years	45%	577
>15 Years	31%	406
<b>Total Respondents: 1,292</b>		



# Q6: Indicate the importance of the following **OUTDOOR recreational facilities** in Avon. Make one selection per row.

Answered: 1,769 Skipped: 69



# Q6: Indicate the importance of the following **OUTDOOR recreational facilities** in Avon. Make one selection per row.

Answered: 1,769 Skipped: 69

	Very Important	Important	Unimportant	Total	Weighted Average
Walking Trails	<b>72%</b> 1,252	<b>24%</b> 427	<b>4%</b> 66	1,745	1.32
Running/Biking Trails	<b>68%</b> 1,187	<b>27%</b> 475	<b>4%</b> 78	1,740	1.36
Children's Playgrounds	<b>67%</b> 1,145	<b>25%</b> 438	<b>8%</b> 136	1,719	1.41
Swimming	<b>58%</b> 997	<b>33%</b> 564	<b>9%</b> 159	1,720	1.51
Baseball Fields	<b>42%</b> 704	<b>44%</b> 737	<b>15%</b> 253	1,694	1.73
Basketball Courts	<b>39%</b> 656	<b>45%</b> 758	<b>17%</b> 283	1,697	1.78
Soccer Fields	<b>37%</b> 631	<b>45%</b> 754	<b>18%</b> 306	1,691	1.81
Softball Fields	<b>30%</b> 509	<b>48%</b> 808	<b>21%</b> 360	1,677	1.91
Sled Riding	<b>30%</b> 503	<b>47%</b> 793	<b>24%</b> 400	1,696	1.94
Football Fields	<b>30%</b> 507	<b>43%</b> 728	<b>26%</b> 441	1,676	1.96

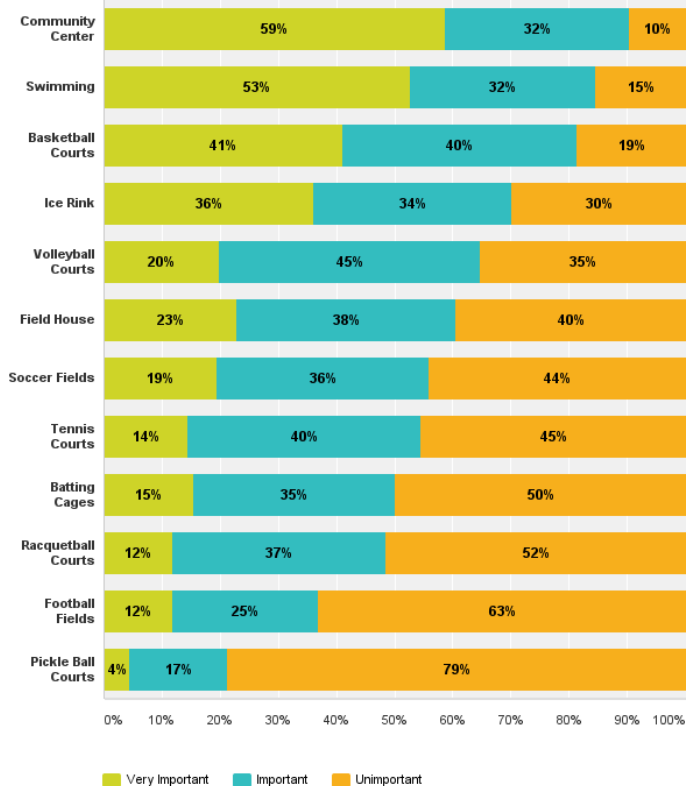
	Very Important	Important	Unimportant	Total	Weighted Average
Ice Rink	<b>31%</b> 520	<b>42%</b> 716	<b>27%</b> 466	1,702	1.97
Tennis Courts	<b>23%</b> 389	<b>50%</b> 849	<b>27%</b> 452	1,690	2.04
Community Garden	<b>23%</b> 386	<b>45%</b> 768	<b>32%</b> 543	1,697	2.09
Amphitheater	<b>22%</b> 364	<b>44%</b> 738	<b>35%</b> 589	1,691	2.13
Dog Park - Off Leash	<b>26%</b> 445	<b>32%</b> 541	<b>42%</b> 715	1,701	2.16
Golf Courses	<b>20%</b> 343	<b>37%</b> 634	<b>42%</b> 721	1,698	2.22
Batting Cages	<b>19%</b> 320	<b>40%</b> 674	<b>41%</b> 687	1,681	2.22
Fishing	<b>18%</b> 301	<b>41%</b> 701	<b>41%</b> 698	1,700	2.23
Lacrosse Fields	<b>14%</b> 239	<b>39%</b> 655	<b>47%</b> 783	1,677	2.32
Sand Volleyball Courts	<b>12%</b> 204	<b>41%</b> 690	<b>47%</b> 780	1,674	2.34
Pickle Ball Courts	<b>5%</b> 81	<b>19%</b> 318	<b>76%</b> 1,260	1,659	2.71

Weighted Average Scoring (**Lower is more important**):

- Very Important = 1 pt
- Important = 2 pt
- Unimportant = 3 pt

# Q7: Indicate the importance of the following **INDOOR recreational facilities** in Avon. Make one selection per row.

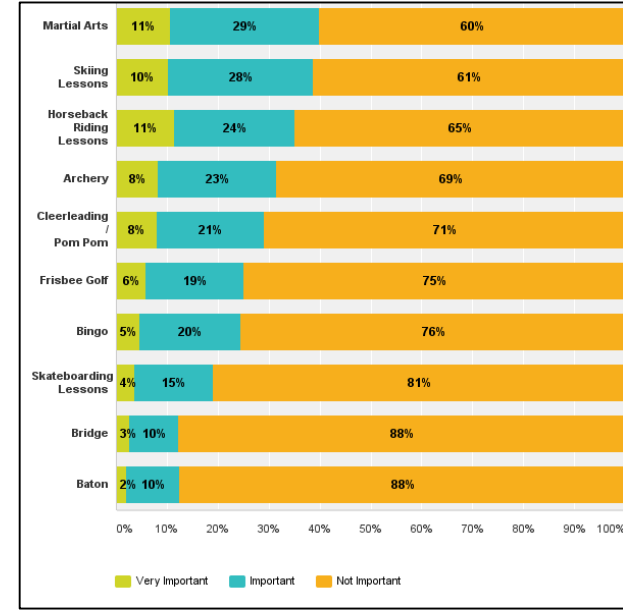
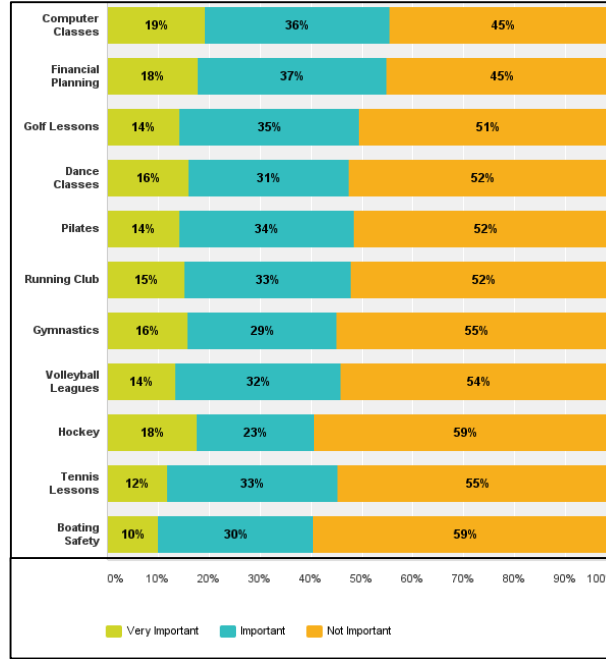
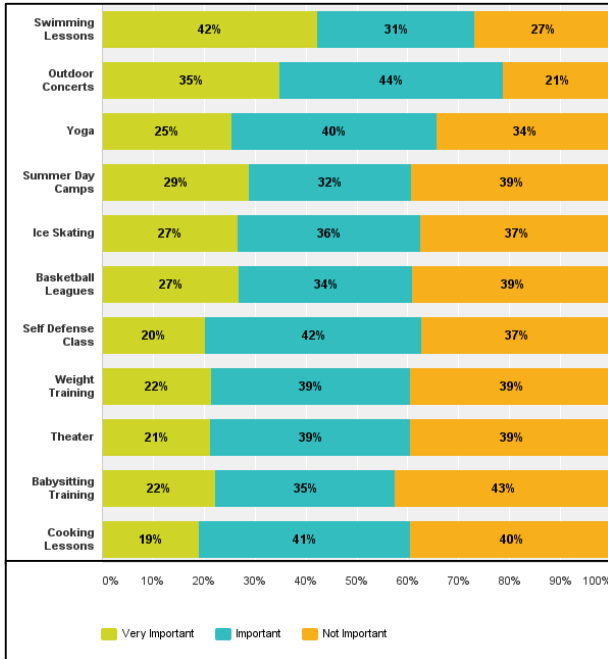
Answered: 1,725 Skipped: 113



	Very Important	Important	Unimportant	Total	Weighted Average
Community Center	59% 993	32% 536	10% 163	1,692	1.51
Swimming	53% 887	32% 533	15% 260	1,680	1.63
Basketball Courts	41% 687	40% 671	19% 313	1,671	1.78
Ice Rink	36% 603	34% 570	30% 499	1,672	1.94
Volleyball Courts	20% 328	45% 737	35% 581	1,646	2.15
Field House	23% 375	38% 618	40% 649	1,642	2.17
Soccer Fields	19% 320	36% 599	44% 725	1,644	2.25
Tennis Courts	14% 238	40% 660	45% 749	1,647	2.31
Batting Cages	15% 255	35% 570	50% 821	1,646	2.34
Racquetball Courts	12% 194	37% 603	52% 848	1,645	2.40
Football Fields	12% 193	25% 411	63% 1,035	1,639	2.51
Pickle Ball Courts	4% 71	17% 276	79% 1,284	1,631	2.74

# Q8: Indicate the importance of the following programs to your household. Make one selection per row:

Answered: 1,699 Skipped: 139



# Q8: Indicate the importance of the following programs to your household. Make one selection per row:

Answered: 1,699 Skipped: 139

	Very Important	Important	Not Important	Total	Weighted Average
Swimming Lessons	42% 693	31% 507	27% 442	1,642	1.85
Outdoor Concerts	35% 577	44% 729	21% 352	1,658	1.86
Yoga	25% 418	40% 665	34% 563	1,646	2.09
Summer Day Camps	29% 473	32% 522	39% 643	1,638	2.10
Ice Skating	27% 439	36% 591	37% 616	1,646	2.11
Basketball Leagues	27% 441	34% 557	39% 642	1,640	2.12
Self Defense Class	20% 331	42% 694	37% 611	1,636	2.17
Weight Training	22% 352	39% 639	39% 646	1,637	2.18
Theater	21% 349	39% 648	39% 648	1,645	2.18
Babysitting Training	22% 365	35% 575	43% 697	1,637	2.20
Cooking Lessons	19% 313	41% 682	40% 650	1,645	2.20

	Very Important	Important	Not Important	Total	Weighted Average
Computer Classes	19% 317	36% 593	45% 730	1,640	2.25
Financial Planning	18% 290	37% 608	45% 737	1,635	2.27
Golf Lessons	14% 232	35% 578	51% 828	1,638	2.36
Dance Classes	16% 263	31% 514	52% 858	1,635	2.36
Pilates	14% 232	34% 562	52% 845	1,639	2.37
Running Club	15% 249	33% 531	52% 851	1,631	2.37
Gymnastics	16% 260	29% 477	55% 901	1,638	2.39
Volleyball Leagues	14% 221	32% 530	54% 883	1,634	2.41
Hockey	18% 286	23% 376	59% 969	1,631	2.42
Tennis Lessons	12% 193	33% 546	55% 895	1,634	2.43
Boating Safety	10% 164	30% 496	59% 969	1,629	2.49

	Very Important	Important	Not Important	Total	Weighted Average
Martial Arts	11% 172	29% 479	60% 980	1,631	2.50
Skiing Lessons	10% 168	28% 464	61% 1,003	1,635	2.51
Horseback Riding Lessons	11% 186	24% 387	65% 1,060	1,633	2.54
Archery	8% 133	23% 379	69% 1,116	1,628	2.60
Cheerleading / Pom Pom	8% 131	21% 340	71% 1,155	1,626	2.63
Frisbee Golf	6% 96	19% 314	75% 1,221	1,631	2.69
Bingo	5% 74	20% 325	76% 1,236	1,635	2.71
Skateboarding Lessons	4% 59	15% 249	81% 1,316	1,624	2.77
Bridge	3% 41	10% 157	88% 1,422	1,620	2.85
Baton	2% 32	10% 168	88% 1,421	1,621	2.86

## Q9: List any recommendations or comments for the following parks:

Answered: 603 Skipped: 1,235

Answer Choices		Responses	
Avon Aquatic Facility	Responses	55.56%	335
Schwartz Road Park	Responses	52.57%	317
Veteran's Park	Responses	38.64%	233
Northgate Park	Responses	30.18%	182
Heritage Square (Gazebo at Detroit and Stoney Ridge)	Responses	26.70%	161
Avon Isle Park	Responses	25.04%	151
Little League Park	Responses	24.88%	150

603 surveys with 1,529 comments grouped into:

- Main themes – items mentioned most often for Q9 on following pages

## Q9: Recommendations for **Avon Aquatic Facility**

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Answered: 335

**Main themes:** The Avon Aquatic Facility received the most amount of comments from Avon's citizens. The feedback was overwhelming that many liked/loved the new pool. Installing the lazy river and adding Route 83 sidewalks should be a priority.

## Q9: Recommendations for **Schwartz Road Park**

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Answered: 317

**Main themes:** Schwartz Road Park generated the second most amount of responses with the number one theme being how much the community loves this park. Next, improving park access is a huge concern. Adding a 2<sup>nd</sup> access (completion by end of September) and aligning the entrance with Jaycox Road were frequently mentioned. Adding to and maintaining the biking and walking paths was a popular topic. Removing the tire mulch and updating the playground equipment (younger children) were mentioned many times. More parking is needed and parking safety should be reviewed.



## Q9: Recommendations for **Veteran's Park**

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Answered: 233

**Main themes:** Many mentioned that Veteran's Park could use a 2<sup>nd</sup> entrance or add a traffic light on Detroit Road. More parking was a consistent comment. Additional bathrooms and port-a-potties were requested as well.

## Q9: Recommendations for **Northgate Park**

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Answered: 182

**Main themes:** Northgate Park is considered a hidden gem within the city. Residents are happy with the new playground equipment and like the pond and sled hill. Main ideas included: remove the geese/droppings, the curvy slide may be too curvy, and add a restroom in the park rather than having to cross the street.

## Q9: Recommendations for **Heritage Square (gazebo area)**

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Answered: 161

**Main themes:** The Heritage Gazebo is viewed as a beautiful space with flowers and holiday lights. Many have not visited or are unaware that this space is considered an Avon park. There were some mentions of updating the landscaping while others said it looked great.

## Q9: Recommendations for **Avon Isle Park**

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Answered: 151

**Main themes:** Avon Isle Park is well regarded as a historical site that has been beautifully restored. Comments were made about parking being limited and the single lane for ingress/egress was mentioned frequently as an opportunity for improvement.

## Q9: Recommendations for **Little League Park**

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Answered: 150

**Main themes:** Little League Park is a nice set of baseball/softball fields for the younger children. Improving the quality of the fields and drainage were some of the top themes for the park. Adding a portable bathroom towards the back of the park was mentioned many times. Moving the skate park behind the police station was a common theme both to free up parking and to move the older children away from the younger ball players.

# Q10: List Up to 3 Areas to Allocate Funds

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Answered: 567 Skipped: 1,271

**Main themes:** The main themes for allocating funds within Avon Parks and Recreation focused on building a community center/field house including an ice rink with hockey and ice skating, and improving park access. Connectivity within Avon could be greatly improved by adding sidewalks and biking/running trails.

Sports Exercise Classes Activities Outdoor Pool  
Running Trails Bike Lanes Sidewalks  
Hiking Trails Programs Indoor Pool  
Bike Trails Recreation Center Ice Rink  
League Park Schwartz Walking Trails  
Green Space Community Field House Paths  
Ice Arena Hockey Picnic Areas Kids Swim Lessons  
Rec Center Playground

# Q11: Park Amenities at French Creek Park When Developed?

Answered: 725 Skipped: 1,113

**Main themes:** Suggestions for the French Creek Park development were similar to question 10 covering areas to allocate funds. Build a field house with 2 sheets of ice and an indoor pool were frequently mentioned. Adding biking and running trails were common items and several residents requested a dog park. There are concerns about access to this park due to its remote location within Avon.

Community Center Running Track  
Basketball Courts Play Area Walking Paths  
Theater Running Trails Golf Biking Trails  
Fishing Park Sledding Hill Indoor Rec Center  
Ice Rink Bike Paths Walking Trails  
Splash Pad Fields Amphitheater Playground  
YMCA Tennis Courts Trees Kids Running Path  
Picnic Areas Ice Arena

## Q12: What Other Programs Would You Like to Have Offered?

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Answered: 448 Skipped: 1,390

**Main themes:** Other programs, not currently available, that Avon residents would like offered included hockey and ice skating. Additionally, adult leagues and classes such as soccer, indoor volleyball, tennis, basketball, softball, flag football, cards, games, yoga, etc. would be beneficial.

Arts Younger Children Trails Music Lessons Outdoor Place  
League Sidewalks Kids Camps Programs  
Senior Hockey Activities Ice Rec Center  
Skating Golf Lessons Indoor Bike Paths Adult  
Horseback Riding Park Tennis Courts Community Youth Basketball  
Yoga Walking



# Q13: Please Provide Any Other Comments

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Answered: 335 Skipped: 1,503

**Main themes:** Many of the “Other Comments” were concentrated around how much Avon’s residents love Avon, love the parks and love the job that Avon Parks and Recreation is doing. Many were thankful for the opportunity to take the survey and to provide feedback. In addition to the positive feedback, comments were focused around adding a community center/field house with an indoor pool and ice rink. Connectivity within Avon is still a concern as noted in many comments about adding sidewalk access to all parks and aquatic center.

Taxes Services Thanks for Asking Green Space  
Offered Cross Pool Ice Arena Residents Run  
Hockey Doing a Great Job Love Rec Center  
Parks Play Community Survey  
Ice Rink Good Work Programs Stop Nice  
Miller Preserve Develop Great Place to Live Enjoy Opportunity