

## SPECIAL INITIATIVES



GOCO developed its **School Play Yard Initiative** to help improve the health and wellness of Colorado's youth and families by creating or enhancing playgrounds to encourage more outdoor physical activity and learning. First offered in 2013, the program's inaugural grants to 16 schools are benefiting more than 6,000 children. > [goco.org/schools2014](http://goco.org/schools2014)

To help flood-ravaged communities restore damaged parks, trails and open spaces, GOCO is providing up to **\$5M in Flood Recovery Grants** in spring 2014. > [goco.org/flood](http://goco.org/flood)



At a glance | 2014

[www.goco.org](http://www.goco.org)



## What Is GOCO?

Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) invests a portion of Colorado Lottery proceeds to help preserve and enhance the state's parks, trails, wildlife, rivers and open spaces. Created when voters approved a Constitutional Amendment in 1992, GOCO has funded **more than 3,500 projects in urban and rural areas in all 64 counties** without any tax dollar support.

## How Does GOCO Work?

GOCO's independent board awards competitive grants to local governments and land trusts, and makes investments through Colorado Parks and Wildlife. GOCO's grant programs include:

- Local Government Park and Outdoor Recreation Grants, including Mini Grants for smaller local government projects
- Open Space Grants
- Planning Grants
- Trails Grants (via the State Trails Program and special grant cycles)

## GOCO's Accomplishments To Date

GOCO has committed more than **\$825M** in its 21-year history. GOCO grants have helped to:

- preserve more than **1M acres of open space**, including land in urban and rural areas, wildlife habitat, agricultural land and land along rivers.
- build or restore nearly **800 miles of trails**.
- protect more than **712 miles of rivers**.
- create or enhance **1,100 community parks and outdoor recreation areas**, including skate parks, ball fields and playgrounds.
- create more than **400 jobs for youth** annually via the Colorado Youth Corps Association.

## INVESTMENTS

### Colorado Parks & Wildlife

Each year, GOCO invests nearly half its funding in projects via CPW. GOCO funds help:

- protect wildlife habitat for big game and non-game species.
- support programs for threatened and endangered species.
- acquire land for, and fund development of, new state parks and enhance facilities at existing state parks.
- support wildlife management research.
- provide youth education and outdoor programming for urban youth.
- fund grants for wetland and riparian restoration projects.

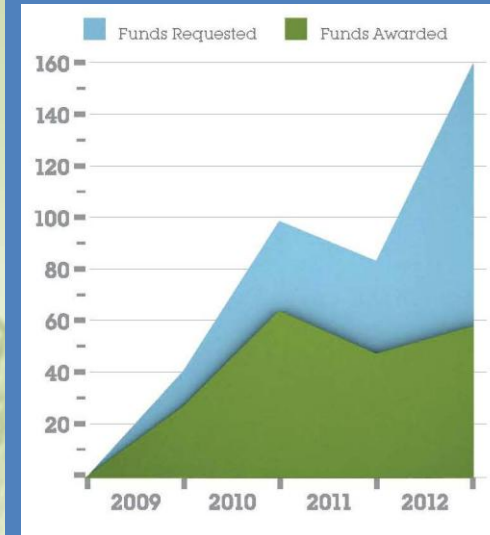
## Did you know?

**Each year, outdoor recreation in Colorado generates:**

- \$13.2B in consumer spending
- \$4.2B in wages & salaries
- 125K jobs
- \$994M in state & local tax revenue

## FUTURE CHALLENGES

### Growing demand for grants ...



### ... and a growing population.

- **1.9M** new residents have moved to Colorado since 1990.
- Another **2.9M** residents are expected by 2040.
- **2.7M** acres of agricultural land have been lost to development in the last 60 years.
- An **additional 3M** acres could be lost in the next 30 years.