



A Place to Play: Parks and Trails at Issaquah Highlands

At Issaquah Highlands, more than 75% of the community's 2,200 acres has been set aside for permanent open spaces and parks, and each home is within 1/4-mile of a neighborhood park, playground or trail. These connections to nature encourage homeowners to get outside, walk, and enjoy the outdoors and their neighbors.

Issaquah Highlands' park plan calls for a network of 18 neighborhood parks comprising nearly 100 acres, in addition to 1,400 acres of permanently preserved open space that surrounds the community. The community association provides equipment, such as volleyball, badminton, bocce ball, croquet and oversized chess pieces, for residents to use. Residents are involved in the park planning process and with the selection of the playground amenities.

Highlighted Parks —

Central Park, a City of Issaquah Park, is, at nearly 48 acres, the largest park in the City of Issaquah, and will be built in five phases. At completion, Central Park will include: a playfield complex, basketball or sport courts, a trailhead park with restrooms and parking, picnic areas, three softball/baseball fields, five full-sized soccer fields and four tennis courts.

Black Nugget Park, whose name connotes the area's mining history, is a three-acre City of Issaquah park with two tennis courts, a basketball court, and a children's play area.

Grandview Park is an 11-acre City of Issaquah park in the northern-most location of Issaquah Highlands with an anticipated spring 2006 opening. Grandview Park will feature views of the Seattle skyline and Mt. Baker as well as a playground, walking path and picnic area. Future facilities will include baseball and soccer fields.

Bark Park, a two-acre, off-leash dog park suggested by Highlands' residents, will provide a designated, fenced area for dogs. The park will open in the summer of 2005.

Summit Park provides a play area, giant chess set and beautiful Seattle skyline views. At two acres, it is a focal point for the Summit Park neighborhood.

Ashland Park is the first neighborhood park within the Issaquah Highlands, and with an amphitheater-style stage it is often used for summer concerts. The park also features a play area.

Trails —

Issaquah Highlands' trail system is growing and evolving. Designed to connect with trails in the King County open space that surrounds the community, pervious materials line all Issaquah Highlands paths — each maintained by the Highlands' Trails Committee. All accommodate both pedestrians and bikes, though plans are underway to dedicate some trails for pedestrian use only. Today, three primary trails create a loose, 10-mile path through Issaquah Highlands, and several other trails pass through the open space. Other trails will be added as construction progresses.