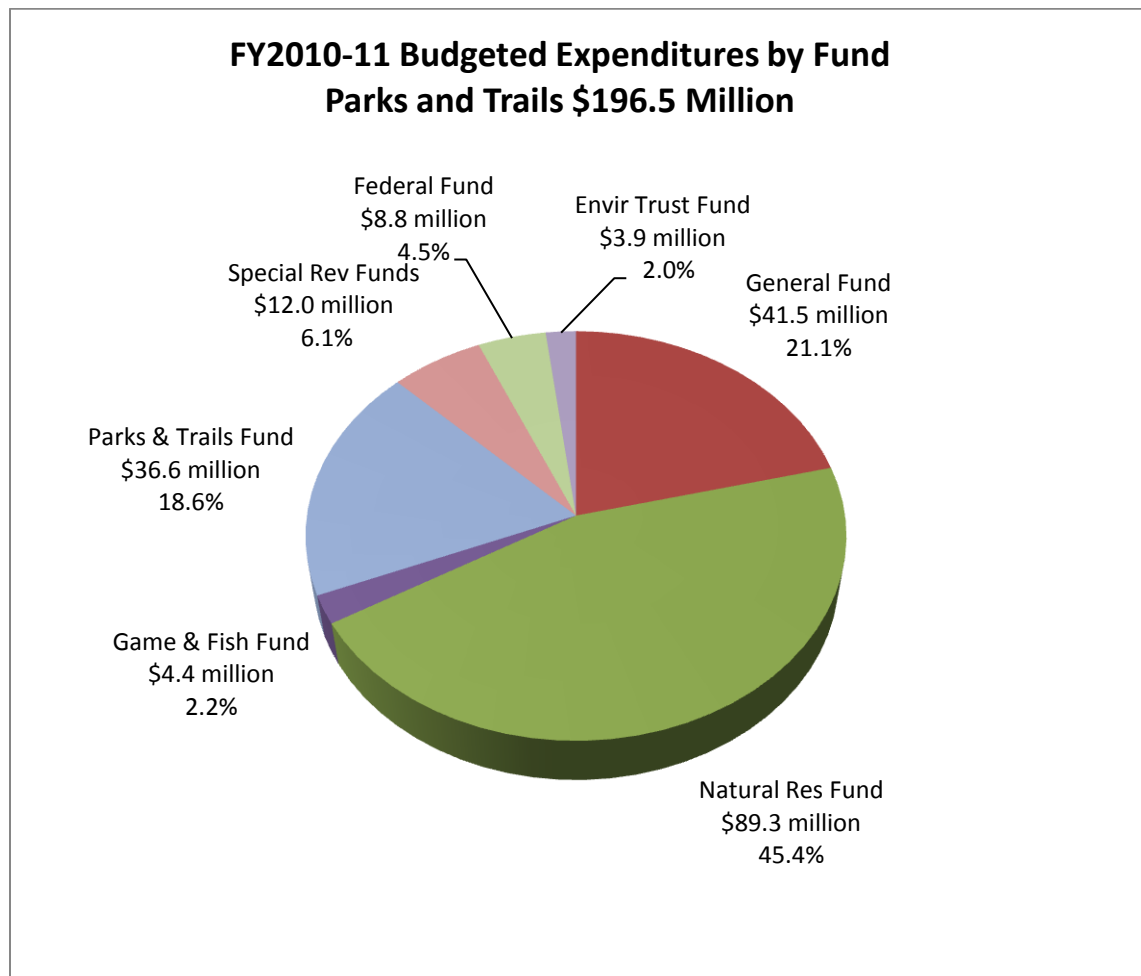
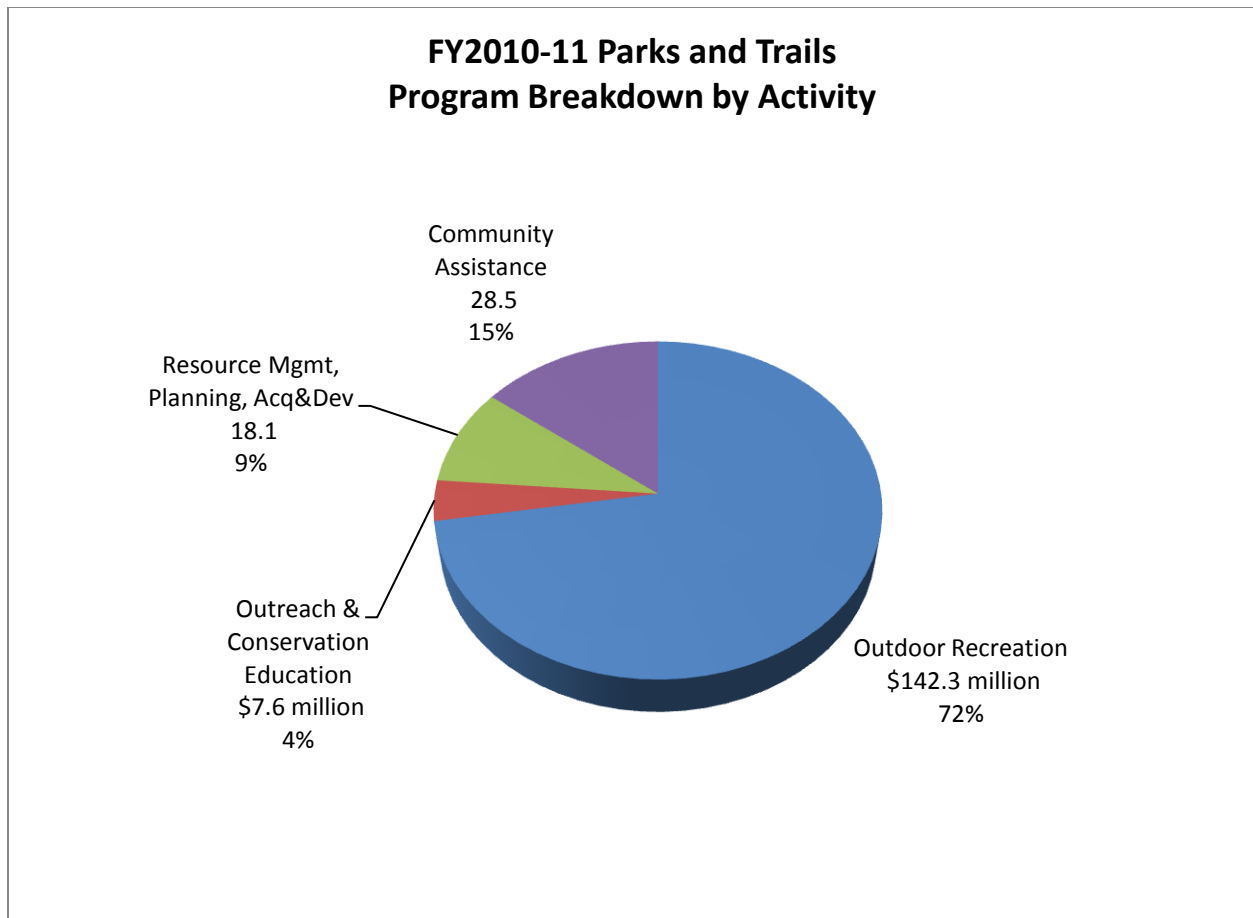


Parks and Trails Program

The Division of Parks and Recreation and the Division of Trails and Waterways have been merged to form the new Division of Parks and Trails beginning in FY 2010. The Division of Parks and Trails provides a state park and state recreation system and creates recreation opportunities through a system of trails and water recreation facilities that conserves and manages Minnesota's natural, scenic, and cultural resources, for current and future generations. The division maintains and operates 73 state parks and recreation areas, 54 state forest campground and use areas, and provides access to lakes, rivers, and streams; designates canoe and boating routes; and provides trails to be used for a variety of motorized and non-motorized recreational activities. The division, in cooperation with local governments, constructs boat accesses and fishing piers; acquires shore-fishing sites; and plans, acquires, develops, and manages the state trail system. Eight million visitors visit state park and recreation areas annually generating \$15 million in annual revenue. For more information on the DNR Division of Parks and Trails, please visit: http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/parks_recreation/index.html and http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/trails_waterways/index.html.





Outdoor Recreation- To provide a high-quality, safe and diverse outdoor recreation system for the state of Minnesota that is geographically dispersed and contains natural and cultural landscapes of statewide significance.

Outreach and Conservation Education - To provide programs that connect people to the outdoors through skill building, conservation educational opportunities, special events and natural and cultural resource interpretation to build the next generation of stewards for Minnesota's great outdoors. To promote, advertise and create awareness and motivation for participating in these conservation education programs and outdoor recreation opportunities offered by the DNR.

Resource Management, Planning, Acquisition and Development - To protect, manage and restore natural features, plants and animals to maintain high quality recreation opportunities in parks, trails and water access lands. Prescribed fires, control of invasive plant species, reconstruction of native plant communities, repair of visitor impacts and other types of active management are required to insure that important natural features on state park, trails lands and water access sites are maintained.

Community Assistance (Grants & Partnerships) - To manage trail recreation programs through local grants. Grant programs are funded on both public and private lands and provide trail users the opportunity to access and enjoy the outdoors in a safe, responsible manner, while protecting sensitive resources and fostering local economic development. Water access sites provide the public with water-based recreational boating, canoeing, kayaking and fishing opportunities and services. Maintain and enhance partnerships to provide safe and convenient access to state outdoor recreation systems.