



July 2012 is Parks Make Life Better![®] Month

Whereas, Parks and Recreation makes lives and communities better now and in the future; and

Whereas, it is established through statewide public opinion research, 98% of California households visit a local park at least once a year; two in three households visit a park once a month; 50% of households participate in an organized recreation program; and most park use is with family and friends; and

Whereas, Visalia residents value recreation as it provides positive alternatives for children and youth to reduce crime and mischief especially during nonschool hours; it promotes the arts, it increases social connections; aids in therapy; and promotes lifelong learning; and

Whereas, Visalia residents value their parks for access to outdoor spaces for children and adults to play and be active; exercise and group sports; and

Whereas, Visalia parks provide access to the serenity and the inspiration of nature and outdoor spaces as well as preserve and protect the historic, natural and cultural resources in our community; and

Whereas thousands of Visalia residents including children, youth, families, adults, seniors, businesses, community organizations, and visitors benefit from the wide range of parks, trails, open space, sports fields, tennis courts, facilities and programs including Tule Fog Run, Father Daughter Dance, Swim Lessons provided by Visalia Parks and Recreation Department.

Whereas, the City of Visalia urges all its residents to recognize that parks and recreation enriches the lives of its residents and visitors as well as adding value to the community's homes and neighborhoods; and

Whereas, July is Parks and Recreation Month nationally,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the City of Visalia hereby proclaims July 2012 as Parks Make Life Better![®] Month and in doing so, urges all its citizens to use and enjoy its parks, trails, open space, facilities, and recreation opportunities.