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# PRESS RELEASE

## **City launches new conservation lands advisory group**

Missoula Parks and Recreation and the Missoula Park Board are seeking volunteers to serve on the newly forming Conservation Lands Advisory Committee (CLAC). The group, a subcommittee of the Park Board, will advise the Park Board and City staff on a variety of issues related to management of the City's 4,000 acres of open space.

The committee will be composed of citizens with expertise in natural and recreational resources, social aspects of land management, conservation, and education. The group will offer advice and recommendations on the implementation of the 2010 Conservation Lands Management Plan and provide a forum for the free exchange of ideas between City staff, the Missoula Park Board and the general public.

According to Park Board chairman Dale Harris, "There is a long history of citizen involvement in the management of Missoula's Conservation Lands. The CLAC will continue this commendable tradition by providing professional advice and support to the Conservation Lands Program." As advocates for the Conservation Lands Management Plan, CLAC will regularly communicate management priorities and goals to citizens and to the City Council, the Open Space Advisory Committee, neighborhood councils and other interested community groups or organizations. In addition, the Park Board is asking the new CLAC to assist with projects in the field, education and outreach, fundraising and other initiatives related to implementation of the Conservation Lands Management Plan.

The Conservation Lands Advisory Committee will begin with nine voting members, who will be appointed by the Missoula Park Board for staggered three-year terms. Because the CLAC is just forming, initial terms will be as follows: one-third of CLAC members will serve three years, one-third of CLAC will serve two years, and one-third will serve for one year. There are no term limits.

This is a volunteer (non-paying) position. Applications may be obtained through the Mayor's Office, City Hall, 2nd floor, 435 Ryman, Missoula, MT 59802, or you may [download one](#) from the City's Website. More information can be found on the web at [Missoula, MT - Official Website - Conservation Lands Advisory Committee](#).

Applications must be received in the Mayor's Office on or before 5:00 pm, Friday, May 27, 2011. If there are further questions, or if you need an application mailed to you, please call Missoula Parks and Recreation at 721-PARK. (721-7275)

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