



- WHEREAS, parks and recreation are an integral part of communities throughout this country, including Gaston County; and,
- WHEREAS, parks and recreation promote health and wellness, improve quality of life, and support the mental and physical well-being of all people; and,
- WHEREAS, parks and recreation contribute to the economic vitality of communities by creating jobs, attracting visitors, increasing property values, and stimulating local businesses; and,
- WHEREAS, parks and recreation services such as youth enrichment programs, senior activities, special events, athletic leagues, trails, open spaces, and nature programs are fundamental to community engagement and lifelong learning; and,
- WHEREAS, parks and recreation professionals and volunteers work tirelessly to ensure that parks, trails, open spaces, and recreation programs are safe, inclusive, and welcoming for all residents and visitors; and,
- WHEREAS, the theme of National Parks and Recreation Month 2025, *"Build Together, Play Together,"* highlights how parks are essential spaces for social connection, equity, and community resilience.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaims the month of July 2025 as

Parks and Recreation Month

in Gaston County and encourage all residents to celebrate by visiting a local park, participating in recreation programs, and recognizing the important contributions of our parks and recreation staff and volunteers.

Chad Brown, Chairman

Jim Bailey

Bob Hovis

Cathy Cloninger, Vice-Chair

Tom Keigher

Allen R. Fraley

Scott Shehan

To be Adopted the 22nd Day of July 2025