



plug
into thriving economies



unplug
ILLINOIS®

> **PUBLIC PARKS AND RECREATION IS THE GENERATOR FOR THRIVING ECONOMIES:**

Public parks and recreation are a \$3 billion dollar industry in Illinois alone. In the U.S., outdoor recreation accounted for \$646 billion dollars of user spending (gear, equipment, travel-related expenses) per year.

Nearly 63,000 people are employed by Illinois public park and recreation agencies. The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects the number of jobs in parks and recreation to increase by 22% over the next decade.

Trees save US Communities \$400 billion in storm water retention.

On average, a community garden receives a \$500 return on investment per plot (National Gardening Association, 2009).

Operationally, Illinois public park and recreation agencies spend over 1/3 of a billion dollars per year with local businesses, contractors, and suppliers.

Illinois regional trail data indicates trail users spend \$30.40 per visit.

Day camp programs are a \$15 billion dollar industry in the U.S. space per capita.



what's your outlet?

