



Summer 1980

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Recommended Citation

Kent B. Downing, *Land and Leisure: Concepts and Methods in Outdoor Recreation, 2d Ed.*, C. S. Van Doren, G. B. Priddle, and J. E. Lewis, Editors, 20 Nat. Resources J. 697 (1980).

Available at: <https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/nrj/vol20/iss3/21>

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LAND AND LEISURE: CONCEPTS AND METHODS IN OUTDOOR RECREATION

CARLTON S. VAN DOREN, GEORGE B. PRIDDLE and
JOHN E. LEWIS, Editors

Chicago: Maaroufa Press, Inc. 2d ed. 1979. Pp. 317. \$7.95.

The second edition of *Land and Leisure* is a collection of papers written by educators, researchers, and planners from the fields of recreation, urban and regional planning, economics, architecture, and geography. Five years have elapsed since the first edition was published and the editors indicate that this edition is an attempt to address old and new problems, issues, concepts and methods from a fresh perspective. Sixteen of the 22 papers are new to this edition. Special effort was made to include writings which highlight urban recreation and the use of resources within the metropolitan setting. Moreover, a very useful section was added which addresses the private sector as a means to provide recreation/leisure services.

The book is intended primarily for use in a general course in recreation/leisure at the university level but, as the editors suggest, it will also be enlightening to professional planners. *Land and Leisure* can be used as a basic text although, for many of the topics, I feel it would be necessary to supplement the coverage with additional readings. Several topic-specific reading lists and a general list of sources as well as a listing of bibliographies on a variety of recreation subjects have been included. In addition the editors describe how reference sources can be obtained from computer search services through the library.

The scope of the book is intentionally broad and offers a diversity of thought-provoking ideas ranging from philosophical and theoretical views of man and leisure to more how-to-do-it applications for field practice. Recreational needs of urban citizens are emphasized, and one author makes a persuasive argument for providing a new focus to recreation and parks programs. We need to think beyond the usual focus on recreational activities and critically examine what opportunities are being provided in terms of human experience. The emphasis should be on human development, well-being, and development of a positive self-image. Furthermore, evaluation of program efforts should be in human terms. Papers by Driver and Tocher, McCool and Parker develop concepts that reinforce this humanistic notion—that there are important differences among people in terms of the experiences (as opposed to activities) they seek which must be reflected in planning and management.

Differences in how human values ought to be reflected in resource allocation decisions are evident among several of the papers. While economists, versed in well developed economic theory, emphasize "willingness to pay" as a central concept in valuation, Dunn, LaPage and Stankey suggest other factors which must weigh in recreation resource allocation decisions. Their diverse viewpoints provide very profitable reading and study.

The article on carrying capacity and maintaining outdoor recreation quality provides a useful framework within which to consider the papers dealing with ecological and physical criteria for recreation area planning and maintenance, concepts for incorporating public input and amenity considerations in resource decisions, and travel simulation as an aid for management planning. Moreover, the article by Fisk and Hatry demonstrates a practical application of evaluating program quality and effectiveness in terms of clearly defined management objectives and measurement criteria.

Although most of the articles are available from previously published sources, the editors have provided a valuable service by bringing them together in one package with a rich listing of supplementary reference materials.

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