



Yardstick Parks Information Session

DATE/TIME: Monday, October 21st, 12:30 pm to 3:00 pm
VENUE/HOST: Town of Tillsonburg
Tillsonburg Community Centre, Lion's Den Meeting Room
45 Hardy Avenue, Tillsonburg, ON N4G 3W9
INVITEES: Parks/Open Space Managers/Parks & Facility Asset Managers
COST: Free, lunch and tour included
RSVP by Oct 17th: To register, click here: <http://bit.ly/YardstickTillsonburg>

12:30pm

Lunch, Networking and Tour of Local Park Amenities

(tour includes skate park, pump track, waterpark, band shell and more)

1:15pm

Welcome, Introductions and Information Session

Why should you attend?

How do you know if you are doing a good job, and what is a good job? The Yardstick Benchmarking program provides management, financial and planning information for parks, open space and facilities managers. Participating in this project will allow you to measure and compare your performance, levels of service and operational costs with similar sized municipalities across the province, the country and internationally.

Still unsure if this information session is for you? Try answering the following questions:

- How many hectares of park land do you provide per 1000 residents?
- What is it costing you per hectare to provide this level of service?
- How many street trees do you provide per kilometre of road and what is your annual expenditure per street tree?
- How many playgrounds do you provide per 1000 children and what are they costing to maintain?
- What is your annual expenditure per m² of garden bed?
- Do you have activity strategies for provision of tracks and trails, playgrounds or washrooms in your parks?
- How much is your organization spending each year on parks as a proportion of its total spend?
- What do your park visitors value about your parks, and does the level of service you provide meet their expectations?

Were you able to answer all, or at least most of the questions above? If not, don't worry, you are not alone. Most members of the Yardstick project had the same problem ... until they started benchmarking. Now they are able to confidently respond to those, and many other questions, while providing quantifiable data to support their claims.

Yardstick provides easy to use, flexible, online reports, along with an individual analysis report for each member organization—measuring each member against industry best practices. Wouldn't you, or the elected officials in your community, like to know how your municipality/facility will measure up so you can plan, and invest, more wisely?

Join us October 21st to learn more about this exciting benchmarking program.

For more information on Yardstick and how it can help drive your best practices visit: www.yardstickglobal.org

Or email Project Manager Chris Rutherford at chris@yardstickglobal.org
Or contact PRO or OPA at Mike (mhood@prontario.org) or Keely (opa@ontarioparksassociation.ca)