

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

AGENDA

November 16, 2016

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

- ADMIN-1 Advisory Board Member Introductions
ADMIN-2 Adoption of Minutes – October 19, 2016 Advisory Board Meeting

INFORMATION ITEMS

- I-1 Ragged Mountain Natural Area Process Update
I-2 Meadow Creek Valley Master Plan Implementation
I-3 Tonsler Park Master Plan Implementation Update
I-4 Comprehensive Plan 2017 Update and Park Classifications Review

CHAIRMAN'S MATTERS

BOARD MATTERS

DIRECTOR'S MATTERS

ADJOURNMENT

City of Charlottesville
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board – Agenda Item
November 16, 2016

ADMINISTRATIVE – 1

Advisory Board Member Introductions

ADMINISTRATIVE – 2

Adoption of Minutes – October 19, 2016 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

ACTION REQUIRED:

Advisory Board adoption of the minutes of the October 19, 2016 meeting.

ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS:

Minutes of October 19, 2016 meeting.

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES

October 19, 2016

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board held a regular meeting on Wednesday, October 19, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. held @ City Council Chambers. Members present were: Ruth Barnett, Elise Cruz, Llezelle Dugger, Anne Hemenway, David Hirschman, Jody Lahendro, Ned Michie and Maurice Walker. Members absent: Jennifer Slack

Staff: Brian Daly, Vic Garber, Doug Ehman, Chris Gensic

Adoption of Minutes – September 21, 2016

Motion:

- Ned Michie made a motion to approve September 21, 2016 minutes, Ruth Barnett second, motion was unanimously approved

Advisory Board Introductions

- Advisor Board members introduced themselves and gave some background as to how long on the board and where they lived.

Ragged Mountain Natural Area

- David Hirschman read the following acknowledgements:
- As it deliberates on the challenging issue of use at the RMNA, The Parks & Recreation Advisory Board would like to take a step back and acknowledge the following entities for their various contributions to our regional parks and trail system.
- The City Park system and its staff play a vital role, not just for City residents, but for the entire region. The Parks & Recreation Department manages many facilities of regional importance, including regional athletic fields, the McIntire Skate Park, the therapeutic recreation program, City Market, aquatic facilities, and many wonderful parks and trails, among others. As the heart of the region, the City takes responsibility for managing these facilities and programs, and RMNA certainly fits into this context. Many commenters in the RMNA process were from Albemarle County and other jurisdictions, and this points to the added responsibility that our park system takes in its regional presence.
- With regard to RMNA, one must acknowledge the masterful job performed by the Ivy Creek Foundation (ICF) in managing the natural area for the past 20 years. ICF advocated for the Natural Area in the late 1990s, lay out and built the trails, and managed the area to fulfill the natural area mission. We would not be having this community discussion today without the efforts of the ICF.
- Our regional park system also would not have so many fine trail systems without the volunteer and expert trail building efforts of several groups, including the Rivanna Trails Foundation, the Charlottesville Area Mountain Bike Club, Potomac Appalachian Trail Club, various Scout troops, and others. Countless hours of volunteer labor have led to the creation and maintenance of many miles of trails in our region, enhancing the experience for the entire community.
- Many of our citizens have weighed in on the RMNA discussion over the past months and years, taking time to attend meetings, write comments, and express passionately-held opinions. This

shows true community investment and interest in the continued well-being of RMNA and our other parks and natural areas.

- We owe another debt of gratitude to the team from the Center for Urban Habitats for their rigorous and comprehensive ecological study, helping to characterize multiple ecosystems and habitats at RMNA, and build or collective understanding of the interrelated parts of these systems. Many hours of volunteer time went into this effort, and the methodology and report will be a lasting legacy for such efforts.

➤ **Process**

- 1) Suggest motions on items that had consensus as indicated by minutes in last meeting
- 2) Be clear with recommendations

Motion:

- Llezelle Dugger made a motion to recommend that the following uses be allowed @ Ragged Mountain Natural Area – trail running, fishing, hiking, non-motorized boats (electric motors allowed, no gasoline motors), continue the prohibition against dogs. Elise Cruz second, motion was unanimously approved.
- Elise Cruz stated that the discussion of uses for Ragged Mountain Natural Area brought many people to the table including conflicting groups, both groups appreciate beauty, hiking & biking have same impact on land, introduce young people to recreation, opportunity too good to pass up
- Ned Michie stated that everyone has spent a lot of time concerning Ragged Mountain Natural Area in the interest of arriving @ the right answer, stated that he was in favor of multiple uses including bikes as long as bike use is separated out by separate trails for experience, or separation out by days, or areas that bikes could not go, felt more people there, more people will care about the area.
- Maurice Walker stated that based on the evidence, he can support multiple use, have some caveats, agreed on separation of walkers & bikers, introduce biking in a separate area and reevaluate in future, maybe with possibility of expanding
- Llezelle Dugger stated that her concern is allowing multi use, what the numbers will be, a lot of upkeep, if more than now, will it have a serious impact, voting against multiple use
- Jody Lahendro stated that he has listened to the testimony by the public, has went out there several times walking, has given this a great deal of thought, felt that the value of Ragged Mountain is not recreational and that it is a place for passive activity, voting against multi use, no biking.
- Anne Hemenway stated that she mirrored Elise Cruz's comments, felt that with the outpouring of emotion and care, she is very optimistic, did not see as bikers against hikers, both groups are keenly interested in the beauty of the area, both care. These groups have much more in common than they do in opposition. They are keenly interested in the beauty @ Ragged Mountain and they want to make sure there is a sustainable trail system for a long period of time. In favor of controlled multi-purpose, said the area is multi use now (fishing, hiking,

picnicking), should accommodate all uses, trail system should be separated, recommend walking in the southwest corner, does not appear to be a suitable place for mountain biking, discourage biking in that area from parking lot to pontoon bridge

- David Hirschman stated that he has written comments that will be part of the record that goes to City Council, very difficult deliberation, exquisite natural setting close to the city, try to think not about the current passions and drama but what the area will be like in 20-50 years from now, which led him to think building a community constituency to care for the place. He agreed with other board members that the trails should be laid out in such a way as to preserve the experience for people who want to hike in peace. Stated the experiences he has had with biking is that if you're on the shared trail and there's an adventurous bike going past, it does change the experience and it can be unnerving. Tip slightly towards limited biking with some stipulations on the easier terrain, slower family separated system, conditional approval of biking use.
- Ned Michie stated that there seems to be a number of possibilities to go with biking

Motion

- Ned Michie made a motion to support concept of bikes @ Ragged Mountain, then further discuss how to do that, Anne Hemenway second, vote had two opposed: Jody Lahendro & Llezelle Dugger
- Elise Cruz made a motion to add non-motorized – vote had two opposed: Llezelle Dugger and Jody Lahendro
- Elise Cruz wanted to add hiking only be separate as much as possible, Ned Michie stated that there aren't any single track shared use trails
- David Hirschman stated that there was not enough time tonight to discuss the conditions of biking @ Ragged Mountain
- Llezelle Dugger recommended that the board make a recommendation for City Council tonight
- Ned Michie showed where possible separation of trails could be on map, will need further discussion on separation of trails
- David Hirschman stated that he felt that the Parks & Recreation staff are experts, they can suggest where the trails would be appropriate

Motion:

- Llezelle Dugger made a motion to make a decision on uses @ Ragged Mountain tonight, second by Jody Lahendro, unanimously approved
- Ned Michie stated that he was not in favor of sharing on single track trails, showed on map where might be suitable, could be separate trails in many places
- David Hirschman felt that board members need to think about the role of staff and property permissions, stated not in favor of shared use from parking lot to pontoon bridge at this time, would like staff to work with naturalists, figure out appropriate locations

Motion:

- Elise Cruz made a motion that hike only and shared use be separated. Ned Michie added that no single track trail should be shared use. Anne Hemenway second. Opposed: Jody Lahendro and Llezelle Dugger

Motion

- Anne Hemenway made a motion not to have biking from dam to pontoon bridge in southwest corner. Ned asked to clarify if this would still be opposed if a separate trail could be built. David said staff should have some input. Jody seconded. Opposed: Ned Michie
- David Hirschman – not specific recommendation, suggest staff work with natural advisors to lay out appropriate trail system for resources in that area, Opposed, Jody, Llezelle
- Maurice Walker felt that it was prudent to be conservative at this point, and would like to get staff comment

Motion

- Elise Cruz made a motion - if separating trail, will not be fruitful to separate days
 - Motion: Allow approved uses on all days, Anne Hemenway second; Opposed – Jody Lahendro and Llezelle Dugger
 - David Hirschman stated that he appreciated everyone's input and asked Brian Daly to speak on the process going forward
 - Brian Daly stated that staff will take the board members decisions tonight, go back to maps to align trail system with recommendations.
 - Next will be carried forward to the Planning Commission on 11/9, they can make comments on what was recommended, they will not be voting, just comments
 - Next will go to City Council first week in December, won't shift any earlier but could go to second meeting in December, ordinance has to passed by City Council
 - All public comments to date have been captured and will be provided to City Council, all this information is also online – www.charlottesville.org/raggedmountain
 - All board member comments will be passed on to City Council. Asked if all comments could be received by the end of this week
- David Hirschman called to take a break in the meeting
- Meeting resumed:
- A person from the public in attendance asked will there be a map showing where bike trails would be proposed, Brian Daly replied that it will be made public
- **Chairman Matters**
- A person from the public in attendance asked the question, how board functions, thanked board members for each of their comments, asked for some presentation, what legal steps,

so public is aware. David Hirschman replied that they did have some of this information @ the September meeting, thanked for his comments

- David Hirschman stated that a couple of months ago he attended a meeting as representative of the board for the Vinegar Hill Park project, found one thing interesting, did not know that the Downtown Mall was part of the park system, will probably see this project in the news, encouraging development.
- Wanted to hear about grant for land acquisition, Brian Daly replied that Chris Gensic will discuss in Director's matters

➤ **Board Matters**

- Jody Lahendro stated that he was leaving the board and was being replaced by John ?, said he will be taking on the Housing Advisory Board, Tree Commission, PACC Board, in addition to the Planning Commission, stated that he asked to stay on this board until the Ragged Mountain issue was voted on. Said it was a pleasure to serve on the board
- Ned Michie stated that he would like to see @ the next meeting an update on the Meadowcreek Stream Valley including design, hard numbers, from railroad through the second bridge, should know how much cost is, Senior Center area, trail in that corridor
- Ruth Barnett stated that her term was up in December, and that she was going to reapply, that she initially filled a partial term and is able to serve two 3-year terms so is eligible for another term

➤ **Directors Matters**

- Chris Gensic stated that the City had received a grant - Virginia Land Conservation Fund in the amount of \$82,000 to purchase for parkland a subdivision that is not going to be built. This is state money, the process is moving forward, the property is next to Jordan Park and was shown on a map.
- Grant received from Bama Works - \$100,000 for Skatepark, feel that there is enough funding for the Skatepark project to move forward at this point
- Doug Ehman stated that there will be a new Urban Forester starting November 7, comes from Davey Tree Company, comes with good experience
- October 29 - Halloween event from 2-5 pm @ Downtown Pavilion
- Brian Daly thanked Jody Lahendro for his service on the Advisory Board; Jody Lahendro thanked staff for their work, very impressed.

➤ **Motion - Adjourn**

- David Hirschman made a motion to adjourn meeting, Ruth Barnett second, unanimously approved
- Meeting was adjourned @ 6:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Daly
Secretary to the Advisory Board

City of Charlottesville
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board – Agenda Item
November 19, 2016

INFORMATION – 1

Ragged Mountain Natural Area Process Update

Staff will provide an update of the ongoing efforts to implement the Master Plan for the Meadow Creek Valley.

INFORMATION – 2

Meadow Creek Valley Master Plan Implementation

Staff will provide an update of the ongoing efforts to implement the Master Plan for the Meadow Creek Valley.

INFORMATION - 3

Tonsler Park Master Plan Implementation

Staff will provide an update of the ongoing efforts to implement the Master Plan for Tonsler Park.

INFORMATION - 4

Comprehensive Plan and Park Classifications

Staff will provide an update on the next Comprehensive Plan review for the City as well as discuss the Park Classification System. The current Park Classifications from the City's 2013 Comprehensive Plan are attached for information.

Park Classifications

Charlottesville's parks can be grouped into 4 different classifications: urban parks, neighborhood parks, community parks, and regional parks. Figure 1 on page 5 inventories the facilities for each park classification.

Urban Parks

Purpose: Publicly accessible urban parks should include facilities that are pedestrian-oriented and provide visual enhancement, a sense of identity, opportunities for social interaction, enjoyment of outdoor open space and performing and visual arts.

Location and Access: Urban parks are generally integrated into mixed-use developments or major employment centers in areas of the City that are planned or developed at an urban scale. Primary elements of urban-scale local parks are ease of non-motorized access and a location that complements, or is integrated with, surrounding uses. Features may include urban style plazas, mini-parks, water features, and trail connections, oriented to pedestrian and/or bicycle use by employees and residents. Short-term, informal activities and programmed events during lunch hours and after-work hours are intended to foster social interactions among users, provide leisure opportunities, and create a visual identity to strengthen sense of place and orientation.

Character and Extent of Development: Urban park size is typically less than three (3) acres and can be as small as ½ acre. Service area is generally within a 5-10 minute walking distance from nearby offices, retail, and residences. To be successful urban parks need high visibility, easy access, lots of pedestrian traffic, immediacy of casual food service, access to basic utilities, landscaped vegetated areas, ample seating, high quality materials, a focal point or identity, regular custodial maintenance, and an inviting and safe atmosphere. Visits to urban parks are typically one hour or less.

The urban parks in Charlottesville include Jackson Park, Lee Park, and McGuffey Park.

Neighborhood Parks

Purpose: Neighborhood parks serve neighborhoods and other residential areas of the City. They primarily offer a variety of active or passive recreation opportunities, or a combination of both, in close proximity to residents and employment centers. Areas designated for natural and/or cultural resource protection may also be included within these parks.

Location and Access: Neighborhood parks should be located to serve local residential neighborhoods, broader residential communities and/or urban employment or mixed-use centers. Pedestrian, bicycle and/or car access is appropriate depending on the setting and access features. School grounds also serve as neighborhood parks and should be treated with the same experiences and length of stay.

Character and Extent of Development: Neighborhood parks primarily provide facilities for active or passive recreation, or both; areas for scheduled and unscheduled recreation activities and social gathering places; and serve residential, employment and mixed-use centers. In the City, park size will typically be at least ½ acre and less than 25 acres. Visits to neighborhood parks are typically less than two hours.

The character of neighborhood parks may vary depending on their location within the City. In residential settings, neighborhood parks will generally be larger than in urban parts of the City. Neighborhood parks offer open space to those with little or no yards. Typical facilities may include open play areas, playgrounds, courts, athletic fields, game areas, trails, trail connections, natural areas, picnic facilities, and facility lighting. The service area for neighborhood parks is typically no more than 1 mile.

The user experience at neighborhood parks may be casual and informal, geared toward social interaction, play, and outdoor enjoyment, or may be more structured to support organized sports and park programs. Co-Location of a mix of park uses and facilities that support both informal and structured activities is increasingly necessary to meet the City's diverse and varied recreation and leisure needs with minimal available land. To the extent possible, facilities should be planned so that areas that address different needs are compatible.

The neighborhood parks in Charlottesville include Bailey Park, Belmont Park, Fifeville Park, Forest Hills Park, Greenleaf Park, Jordan Park, Northeast Park, Rives Park, and Starr Hill Park, in addition to Clark Elementary, Burnley-Moran Elementary, Jackson-Via Elementary, Johnson Elementary, Greenbrier Elementary, Venable Elementary, and Walker Upper Elementary.

Community Parks

Purpose: Community parks include larger parks that serve larger geographic areas of the City and provide a variety of indoor and/or outdoor recreation facilities and park experiences. Portions of these parks may be designated for natural and/or cultural resource protection.

Location and Access: These parks are located throughout the City. Access should be available by the major roads and the regional greenway network to encourage pedestrian and bicycle trips; public transit access is also desirable. The service area can range from 3 to 6 miles. Size can range from 5 to 30 acres. Parking must be provided.

Character and Extent of Development: Community parks provide diverse opportunities for passive and active recreation uses. Generally, facilities in these parks are larger in number and scale than at neighborhood Parks and support a longer visit. Community parks may combine recreation-oriented complexes of developed facilities with areas of the park that are undeveloped. The extent of development will depend on actual site conditions, such as topography, amount of developable acreage, and access. Appropriate facilities include those that support active and passive recreation, often clustered together, areas for programmed activities and gathering places, and areas designated for resource protection. Lighted facilities and extended hours of operation are also present in these parks.

These parks offer diverse experiences and activities that typically involve an individual or group for a time period of up to a half day and may attract spectators or participants. Typical recreation activities at community parks include athletics, trail usage, swimming, gardening, skating, special events, and performing arts. Additionally, woodlands, open space, trails, and open play areas are highly desirable features. Sensitive environmental areas and cultural resource sites within the parks will be managed as Natural or Cultural Resource Areas. Visits to community parks are can range from two (2) to six (6) hours.

The community parks in Charlottesville include Azalea Park, Greenbrier Park, Meade Park, Meadow Creek Gardens, Quarry Park, Riverview Park, Skate Park, Tonsler Park, and Washington Park.

Regional Parks

Purpose: This park classification includes larger parks that serve regionally and provide a variety of large-scale indoor or outdoor recreation facilities, or both, as well as facilities that are unique within the City. Areas designated for natural and/or cultural resource protection may also be included within these parks.

Location and Access: These parks may be located in an area of the City where available land can support a large-scale park facility. Access should be available by the major arterials and the regional greenway network to encourage pedestrian and bicycle trips; public transit is required. The service area is typically larger than 10 miles, including areas outside the City limits. Park size is a minimum of 50 acres. Parking must be provided.

Character and Extent of Development: Regional parks provide diverse opportunities for passive and active recreation uses to a wide range of simultaneous users. Generally, these parks provide complexes of intensively developed activity areas. The complexes may include multiple facilities for the same activity, an assortment of different activity focuses in one or more areas of the park, and/or unique facilities found in only one or a few parks within the entire park system. Facilities in these parks are larger in scale than those found in community parks.

Regional Parks may combine larger complexes of developed areas with extensive natural areas. The extent of development will depend on actual site conditions, such as topography, amount of developable acreage, access, and intensity of adjacent land uses. Appropriate facilities include those typically found in Community Parks as well as the facilities unique to regional parks and the support uses necessary for a full day activity such as concessions and restrooms. Formally scheduled community gathering places and areas for large programmed activities and events are also typical. Lighted facilities and extended hours of operation are the norm.

These parks offer diverse experiences and activities that typically involve an individual or group for a time period of up to a day and which may attract large numbers of spectators or participants. Typical activities include those found in regional parks as well as facilities such as athletic complexes, recreation centers, nature centers, golf courses, indoor gymnasiums, and indoor aquatic facilities. Sensitive

environmental areas and cultural resource sites within the parks will be managed as Natural or Cultural Resource Areas. Visits to regional parks are can range from two (2) to eight (8) hours.

The two regional parks in Charlottesville are Pen and McIntire Parks.

Natural Resource Management Areas

Purpose: Natural Resource Management Areas are primarily designated for natural resource protection and stewardship. These areas may include forested areas, stream valleys, wetlands, and wildlife habitat. Primary intention is for protection of natural resources with a secondary use for passive recreation, interpretation, and education.

Location and Access: These areas can be located anywhere throughout the City, and may include water reservoir properties. Size can range from 1-1,000 acres or more depending on setting and location. Access is generally available from local connector trails or small parking lot trailhead areas. Access into the park itself is primarily on foot.

Character and Extend of Development: Natural Resource Management Areas provide opportunity to enjoy natural resources in and around the urban area. These areas typically do not include spaces for active recreation such as athletic fields, playgrounds, etc. Buildings, other than small restrooms or picnic shelters, are generally not included in these areas. Lighting is not generally included in these areas but may be included at parking and trailhead areas. These lands may be placed into conservation or open space easements to preserve natural features, but easements are not required. Fishing is allowed but not hunting or trapping. Forest management is intended to preserve native plants and control invasive plant species.

Natural Resource Management Areas in and around the City include Ragged Mountain, Ivy Creek Natural Area , Sugar Hollow Reservoir, the Meadow Creek Stream Valley, and {Fry's Spring Park}. Additional properties may be added to this classification as acquired.

	Urban Parks (3)	Neighborhood Parks (9)	Community Parks (9)	Regional Parks (3)	Natural Resource Management Areas (6)	TOTAL
NAME	Lee, Jackson, McGuffey	Belmont, Fifeville, Forest Hills, Greenleaf, Jordan, Longwood, Northeast (+Davis Field), Rives, Starr Hill	Azalea, Meade, Meadowcreek Gardens, Meadow Creek Valley, Quarry, Riverview, Schenks Greenway, Tonsler, Washington	McIntire, Pen, Darden Towe	Ragged Mountain N.A., Ivy Creek N.A., Sugar Hollow Reservoir, Meadow Creek Valley, Fry's Spring Park, Greenbrier	30
Diamond Fields	--	1	6	9	--	16
Rectangular Fields	--	1	1	5	--	7
Open Play Areas	--	6	5	2	--	13
Spray Grounds	--	3	--	--	--	3
Outdoor Pools	--	--	2	1	--	3
Playgrounds	1	8	5	2	--	15
Tennis Courts	--	--	4	12	--	16
Basketball Courts	1	8	7	--	--	16
Dog Parks	--	--	1	1	--	2
Garden Plots	--	--	93	--	--	
Linear Ft of Trail (estimate)	--	4,000	26,870	24,000	30,000	74,870
Acres	2.5	49	160.51	540	21,070.29	21,822.3

Figure 1. Inventory of Park Facilities by Park Classification

Other Outdoor Facilities

In addition to its numerous parks and open spaces, Charlottesville also has a variety of other outdoor facilities that provide a source of recreation to City residents. Many of these facilities are maintained by the City of Charlottesville, though some involve partnerships with the County and with various non-profit organizations. Some of these outdoor facilities are located in the heart of Charlottesville while others are found outside the City's limits in Albemarle County. The character of these facilities ranges from urban, such as the Downtown Mall, to natural, such as the Ragged Mountain Natural Area.

Downtown Mall

Charlottesville's Downtown Pedestrian Mall turned 30 years old in July of 2006. Closing Main Street to automobiles has been highly successful in Charlottesville. The Downtown Mall is both an economic and a cultural center for the greater Charlottesville area. The new Transit Center is currently under construction on the east end of the Downtown Mall.

The Charlottesville Pavilion

The renovation of the old Amphitheater and the east end extension of the Downtown Mall are the final steps for completing the Mall's original plan, drafted in 1976. The Charlottesville Pavilion, which is the result of amphitheater renovations, was substantially completed in July of 2005.

Trails

The Rivanna Trail encircles the City with approximately 22 miles of walking, jogging, and hiking trails located on private, public, and University lands. Greater than 50% of the Rivanna Trail parallels the City's three primary waterways – Meadow and Moore's Creeks and the Rivanna River. The open space and parkland along these riparian buffers meanders alongside area stream and riverbanks, and buffers and protects the waterways. The Rivanna Trail passes through Greenbrier and Quarry Parks. The volunteer-based, non-profit Rivanna Trail Foundation provides upkeep to this trail. The Rivanna Greenbelt Trail, a City-maintained trail located in Riverview Park, offers space for jogging, bicycling, dog walking, fishing, and wildlife viewing. The 1.25 mile-long trail is a public right-of-way across private property. Short walking trails also exist at Meadowcreek Gardens, Greenleaf, Pen, and Darden Towe Parks for a citywide total of nearly 9 miles of trail.

Outdoor Pools

The City of Charlottesville maintains four outdoor pools: Onesty Pool at Meade Park and the Washington Park Pool, and wading pools at Forest Hills and McIntire Parks. Spray grounds are located in Belmont and Greenleaf Parks.

Play lots

The Charlottesville Redevelopment and Housing Authority, maintains eight play lots at various public housing developments in the City. Play lots are small playground areas intended for use primarily by children under twelve years of age. They serve as substitutes for individual backyards that may not always be present in dense living environments. At present, play lots in the City include two at Westhaven Public Housing; two at the South 1st Street Public Housing; one at 6th Street Public Housing; one at Riverside Avenue Public Housing; one at Michie Drive Public Housing, and; one at the Madison Avenue Public Housing. The housing developments at South 1st Street, 6th Street, and Madison Avenue also have basketball courts. The South 1st Street site also has a large field for soccer and baseball.

Jointly-Funded Parks

The City of Charlottesville and Albemarle County share the operating costs of three parks that are located near the City in Albemarle County. These parks represent excellent examples of how City-County cooperation can address mutual recreational needs. The Ivy Creek Foundation also assists the City and County in managing both the Ivy Creek and the Ragged Mountain Natural Areas. Ragged Mountain Natural Area is located southwest of Charlottesville in Albemarle County and provides expansive recreational areas for hiking, bird watching, boating, and fishing. This natural area also includes a reservoir that is part of the regional water supply. Ivy Creek Natural Area, located north of Charlottesville in Albemarle County, consists of a small farm and 215 acres of protected wildlife area that offer hiking trails and opportunities for various other nature-oriented activities. Darden Towe Park is located on Elk Ridge Drive, off Route 20 North. The park provides a total of 110 acres of open space, including a wide variety of activity areas, space for team/field sports, and canoe access to the Rivanna River.

Public Cemeteries

Maplewood Cemetery, the oldest public cemetery in Charlottesville, opened in 1827. It is closed to new patrons, but burials are still performed occasionally for families with inherited plots. Oakwood Cemetery, the second public cemetery in Charlottesville, opened circa 1860. Burials are still performed. Both public cemeteries are maintained by the Parks and Recreation Department.

In addition to these outdoor public amenities, City residents make use of County facilities such as Chris Green Lake, Mint Springs, Walnut Creek, and Beaver Creek.

Schools

Schoolyards offer recreation facilities including playgrounds, ball fields, hard courts, and open play areas.

Schools										TOTAL
NAME	Buford	Burnley Moran	Clark	Greenbrier	Jackson Via	Johnson	Venable	Walker	CHS	7
Diamond Fields	--	1	--	1	--	--	1	--	2	4
Rectangular Fields	1	1	--	1	1	1	1	1	4	11
Open Play Areas	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	
Playgrounds	--	2	2	2	3	2	2	--	--	13
Hard Surface Court		1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	10
Acres	18.868	10.121	3.076	10.34	20.36	17.35	7.103	15.3318	42	144.5

Figure 2. Inventory of Schoolyard Recreational Facilities