

PARKS, RECREATION, AND OPEN SPACE

Seventy-nine percent of Pennsylvanians consider outdoor recreational activities an important part of their lives according to a recent statewide survey conducted by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. Parks and recreation facilities contribute to the overall quality of life in the community. Research shows that family life, health, and financial well-being are the main contributors to overall life satisfaction. Recreation plays a central role in life satisfaction, and consequently how citizens view their community. Public recreation should be supported as an essential community service in the same manner as public safety such as police and fire protection. In contrast to the traditional regulatory and enforcement types of municipal functions, recreation has the capacity to build strong, healthy communities through leisure opportunities. People value parks and recreation in communities - whether they actually use the facilities or not!

Benefits of Parks and Recreation

Decision-makers need good information to make informed decisions. Since parks and recreation are relatively new functions of small municipalities, it is important for decision-makers to be aware of the benefits of parks and recreation. The benefits show that municipal spending on recreation is an investment rather than a cost.

Economic Benefits

- Property values are higher when located near open space
- Tourism is a big business in Pennsylvania, generating more than \$16 billion dollars a year and supporting almost 300,000 jobs.
- For every dollar a municipality invests in recreation has a multiplier effect of 1.02 to 1.42 percent
- An area's quality of life is more important than business factors alone when it comes to locating a business, according to the Joint Economic Committee of the U.S. Congress.

Social Benefits

- Recreation facilities are a great source of community pride.
- Recreation opportunities deter crime, juvenile delinquency, and

substance abuse. It costs \$36,000 per year to incarcerate one youth while communities in Pennsylvania spend only about \$20 per capita on recreation.

- Citizen satisfaction with a community depends to a large extent on parks and recreation
- Sports help people develop self-esteem, more disciplined attitudes, greater awareness of health and hygiene, and confidence leading to the development of responsible citizens.

Personal Benefits

- Recreation has been found to be the single most important factor in building healthy families, the keystone of our society.
- Every mile a person walks for exercise adds twenty minutes to his/her life - and saves the United States 20 cents in health care costs, a finding of the Rand Corporation.
- Participation in leisure activities reduces anxiety and depression
- People who use parks report their health as good to excellent while park non-users more frequently report fair to poor health.

Environmental Benefits

- Living close to natural environments enhances the quality of life of the residents.
- The most popular activity among Pennsylvanians is walking, an activity with the least impact on the environment.

- Investing in the environment through parks and open space in residential areas leads to an increase in property values through accessibility to environmentally friendly green spaces and the recreation opportunities available.
- While only six percent of the American public use wilderness areas, 60 to 95 percent are willing to be taxed to preserve them.

At a time when fiscal resources are scarce, anti-tax sentiment is high, and accountability to tax-payers is crucial, it is important for decision-makers to be aware of these benefits. Recreation plays a broad role in the quality of life in the community. Responding to the personal, social, economic, and environmental needs of the citizens as we approach the next century can be accomplished through parks, recreation, and the provision of open space.

The three municipalities have different levels of park and recreation services. The nature of parks and recreation in each municipality is consistent with its level of development; the more developed a municipality, the higher the demand for parks and recreation services.

Leesport Borough

Leesport, as a Borough, offers the most highly developed of the three which is typical of urbanized small towns. The Borough provides parks, a variety of recreation facilities including a swimming pool, an historic lock house, and trails. The Borough also provides summer recreation programs, an aquatics program, and supports community volunteer efforts for organized sports. The Borough has a Parks and Recreation Board that serves as a citizens advisory group to the Borough Council.

Perry Township

Perry Township has a showcase community park, the Perry Recreation Area. With its ballfields, game courts, playground, and picnic area, the Perry Recreation Area is the hub of recreation in the Township. Volunteer efforts via the Perry Township Recreation Board and the organized sports groups support the operation and maintenance of the park. Programs are directed

towards youth sports managed by community volunteers. The Perry Elementary School has outdoor recreation facilities that include a basketball court, a playground, an all-purpose field and indoor recreation facilities including a library, gymnasium and community all-purpose room. Township recreation needs are met in part by the Borough of Shoemakersville. Shoemakersville Park has a swimming pool and tennis court that are available to the residents of Perry Township as well.

Private and commercial recreation facilities in Perry Township include the Perry Township Golf Course and the Perry Township Game Association, a shooting club. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania owns the Schuylkill Canal Five Locks property including lands transferred to the state by the Township via the Berks County Conservancy.

Ontelaunee Township

Ontelaunee Township has no municipal parks and

recreation areas. However, Lake Ontelaunee serves a recreation facility for the Township. The City of Reading owns the 3,142 acre lake as its reservoir. Recreation opportunities at the Lake include fishing and picnicking. At one time the Borough leased 29 acres of parkland but determined that maintenance costs exceeded the value of the land for recreation and gave up the lease. Recreation facilities on public school grounds at Schuylkill Valley Intermediate School and Schuylkill Valley High School include basketball and tennis courts; baseball football, field hockey, soccer, softball and all-purpose fields. Indoor recreation facilities include gymnasiums, libraries, and all purpose community rooms. The Intermediate School also has an indoor swimming pool. Ontelaunee citizens also make use of the programs and facilities in Leesport Borough.

Commercial recreation facilities in Ontelaunee Township include the Schellhammer Race Track, the Blue Falls Grove, and the Family Grand Prix. The race track offers cart racing. The Grove offers picnicking, fishing, boating, swimming and game fields. The Grand

Prix offers batting cages, bumper boats, go-carts, mini-golf, and a game room.

PARKS, RECREATION, AND OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

The assessment of existing parks, recreation, and open space in Leesport, Ontelaunee and Perry can be used to identify needs for the future and serve as the basis for developing strategies to address the needs. An assessment usually begins with a comparison of the existing parkland with an established set of standards for park acreage and recreation facilities. The standards provide a guideline for the amount and service areas of recreation areas that should be available locally and regionally.

Park and Recreation Standards

Standards established by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), the official organization of public parks and recreation, offer the standards

generally accepted throughout the United States. The standards express the minimal acceptable facilities for communities. The standards are a guide by which communities can set their own goals for parkland and recreation facilities. The NRPA has classified park and recreation facilities into seven classifications, these classifications are summarized below.

- Regional:** Larger natural areas for nature-oriented, passive recreation experiences. Typical facilities may include: picnic areas, trails, nature centers, camping, boating, and/or fishing facilities.
- Community:** May include typical neighborhood park facilities, as well as diverse recreation opportunities for both passive and active experiences. Active areas may include an athletic complex, swimming pool, courts, and age-segregated playgrounds. The park may include natural areas for hiking, bird watching, and nature study.
- Neighborhood:** Facilities provide opportunity for active recreation and may include athletic fields, basketball and tennis courts, playgrounds, and picnic areas.
- Mini-Park:** Specialized facilities that serve a limited population such as children or senior citizens.
- Linear:** Often called greenways these parks are natural and man-made corridors of public and private lands and water made available for recreational purposes. Linear parks

may link parks, schools, neighborhoods, and retail areas and provide recreational opportunities for biking, walking, horseback riding, and cross country skiing.

Special Use: Areas for single purpose recreational activities such as golf courses, swimming pools, nature centers, outdoor theaters, historic sites, etc.

Conservancy: Areas for the protection and management of natural environmental resources.

Table 1 presents the NRPA standards by which many parks and open space are evaluated. No quantitative standards have been established to determine acreage needs for linear parks, special use facilities and conservancy areas. These facilities are unique and characteristics are variable. Needed acreage depends upon what is necessary to protect the resources and/or provide maximum recreational use.

Park Type	Acres/1000 Population	Minimum Size	Service Area Radius
Mini-Park	0.25 to 0.50	1 acre or less	< 1/4 mile/5 min. walk
Neighborhood Park	1.0 to 2.0	15 acres	1/2 mile/12 min. walk
Community Park	5.0 to 8.0	25 acres	1-2 miles/5 min. drive
Regional Park	variable	200+ acres	30 miles/1 hr drive

Source: *Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines*, National Recreation and Park Association, 1983.

Berks County Open Space and Recreation Acreage Standards

Since the national standards are intended to be guides which jurisdictions can use to customize their own standards to reflect special local circumstances, the Berks County Planning Commission adapted the NRPA standards for Berks County municipalities in consideration of urban, suburban, and rural population. Table 2 shows the classification of municipalities according to population density.

While Leesport’s population is 1,270, the Borough’s density

falls in the urban classification. In Leesport, large tracts of open space are scarce although space for neighborhood or sub-neighborhood parks is available as shown in the Borough’s recent negotiation for park land in a new development adjacent to Bern Township. The County recommends that urban areas have many small parks of five acres or less and a few larger parks for more passive pursuits. According to County standards, Leesport meets the standard of 7.9 acres with the Leesport Playground at 8 acres. However, the Borough is seeking additional parkland because of the great use the Leesport Park already has. The Borough is also pursuing trail development for which there is no acreage standard.

Ontelaunee and Perry Townships are considered rural under Berks County standards. Since open space is the norm in rural communities, not including farmland, many rural residents satisfy their recreation needs on their own property. In contrast to neighborhood and sub-neighborhood parks, centrally located municipal parks for organized recreation activities should be available.

Both the NRPA and Berks County recommend a *minimum* of 6.25 acres per 1,000 persons for local public park land. In addition, Berks County recommends 15 acres of regional public park land per 1,000 persons.

Table 2 Classification of Berks County Municipalities by Population Density		
Classification	Population per Square Mile	Municipality
Urban	2,500 +	Leesport
Suburban	500 to 2,499	N/A
Rural	less than 500	Ontelaunee, Perry

Berks County adapted these standards to reflect the unique size and diversity of the communities in the county. The tailored standards reflect the mix of urban, suburban, and

rural characteristics found not only in Berks County but sometimes within each municipality. Table 3 presents the Berks County standards for acreage by park type.

Park Type	Classification	Urban Park Acreage	Suburban Park Acreage	Rural Park Acreage
Minipark	Local	up to .5	N/A	N/A
Sub-neighborhood	Local	.5 - 5	N/A	N/A
Neighborhood	Local	6 - 15	up to 15	N/A
Community	Local	15+	16-75	N/A
Community/ Municipal	Local	N/A	N/A	10-100
Metropolitan	Regional	N/A	75+	N/A
Sub-Regional	Regional	N/A	N/A	100+
Regional linear	Regional	N/A	N/A	1,000+
Conservancy, Special Use	N/A	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard

The Planning Area will utilize both the NRPA standards and the Berks County standards and the criteria specified below to evaluate current and future open space needs:

- The Planning Area will seek to provide a minimum of 6.5 acres of open space for 1,000 residents.
- Public school recreation land and open space will not be included in the calculations for open space requirements.
- Home-owners Association lands and other non-public

recreation lands will not be included in the calculations for open space.

- Perry and Ontelaunee Townships desire community/ municipal park land at a minimum size of 10 acres to serve residents living within two miles.
- Leesport Borough desires community parkland at a minimum size of 15 acres to serve residents living within one mile.

- Special use and conservation land will not be included in the calculations for open space requirements.
- The Planning Area will not accept any property for recreational use which does not meet the following criteria:
 - The land must be a minimum of 5 acres in size (unless the intended use is for a special use park or linear park development).
 - The land is configured to include natural features worthy of preservation.
 - The land is easily and safely accessible for vehicles, pedestrians and/or bicycles.
 - A maximum of 15% of the tract can consist of floodplain, wetlands, steep slopes, utility easements or rights-of-way, or other feature that renders the lot undevelopable for its intended recreation use.
 - The tract should have accessibility to utilities including, water, sewer and power unless deemed unnecessary by the Township for the intended park facility development such as greenway/linear park development.

- The tract should not contain stormwater facilities designed to detain or retain stormwater for another site.

PARK AND RECREATION FACILITY INVENTORY

Regional Parks

County Parks, State Parks and State Game Lands serve as regional facilities and there are several located within a short drive of the municipality. Within 30 miles of The Planning Area are Nolde Forest, French Creek, Swatara, Locust Lake, and Tuscarora State Parks. Also within the same distance are several State Game Lands and Blue Marsh Lake. Within The Planning Area is Lake Ontelaunee, the water reservoir for the City of Reading and a regional park offering passive recreation opportunities.

Community Parks and Community/Municipal Parks

Leesport Playground is classified as a community park because of the wide variety of recreational facilities located there. The swimming pool is a facility that draws users from the entire community. Perry Township Recreation Area is a community/municipal park facility. Ontelaunee Township has no community/municipal parks.

Neighborhood, Sub-Neighborhood, and Miniparks

Because of the small scale of Leesport Borough and the associated management and maintenance issues that accompany multiple small parks, within a municipality, neighborhood, sub-neighborhood, and minipark classifications have not been analyzed or recommended for the Borough.

Linear Parks

Linear parks, trails and greenways are an important component of any park and recreation system. Community surveys in Pennsylvania consistently show that trails and greenways are among the greatest interests of the citizens regarding preferred recreation facilities. Greenways benefit a community by providing:

- Open space preservation;
- Buffer zones of non-developed land to protect sensitive water resources;
- Maintenance of natural filter systems which trap pollutants prior to reaching streams and drainage

areas;

- Safe havens for the habitat and passage of endangered species;
- Recreational and educational opportunities for the outdoor environment;
- Linkages and connectors to people from urban and suburban areas to rural open spaces; and
- Transportation pathways between residential areas, commercial areas, and schools and public facilities.

In 1987, the President’s Commission on America’s Outdoors found that America’s open spaces were losing ground to development at an alarming rate. The Commission made the following recommendations: "Communities should establish Greenways-corridors of private and public recreation lands and water-to provide people with access to open spaces close to where they live, and to link together the rural and urban spaces in the American landscape." This concept has been supported at the federal level by the creation of a National Trails System. At the state level, Pennsylvania has developed the Pennsylvania Trails Program. These initiatives have been further supported and

expanded through efforts at the county and local level. Communities throughout the Commonwealth are developing trails and greenways as recreation facilities for their residents.

Leesport, Ontelaunee, and Perry are fortunate in being located in the Schuylkill River Heritage Corridor, a state Heritage Park designed to preserve the natural, cultural and recreational resources along the Schuylkill River. The Park is a 128 mile long greenway extending through Schuylkill, Berks, Montgomery, Chester, and Philadelphia Counties. The Heritage Park offers exciting opportunities for trails, ecotourism, and open space protection for Leesport Borough and Ontelaunee and Perry Townships.

The Schuylkill River Greenway and the National Park Service have conducted a number of planning studies designed to locate trails for biking to connect Hamburg with Reading through Perry, Ontelaunee, and Leesport. Plans such as the Leesport to Gibraltar Trail Plan developed by the National Park Service in 1985 identify desirable routes. The goal is to keep the trail along back roads and the riverfront. Where necessary, the trail could be located on highways that could be striped for bike lanes. One of the challenges

in developing the trail is that part of the desirable route goes along private property along the river and easements must be obtained.

Since trail planning is a long term effort, the most immediate steps should be taken to heighten the awareness of the need for trails in the area before more development occurs. This awareness can be created through community walks and promotional efforts through the media. An immediate goal should be to develop a loop trail in the Borough of Leesport along the river and near Five Locks connecting the Leesport Playground. The Leesport Jaycees have been active in this effort.

Special Use and Conservancy Lands

Lake Ontelaunee is a 3,142 acre facility owned by the City of Reading as a reservoir. It is considered a passive preserve. Recreation facilities are minimal consisting of a few picnic tables. Park visitors can enjoy nature, picnic, fish, walk, and birdwatch. It is anticipated that the passive, nature and preservation mission of this lake will continue in the future as a function of its primary purpose as a water supply.

The Fish Commission owns a 1.7 acre parcel of land at the Bern Bridge in Perry Township. The Schuylkill River Greenway is seeking private funding to construct a canoe launch ramp here.

Privately-Owned Parks or Recreation Facilities

There are several privately-owned recreation facilities in The Planning Area as noted on Table 16 in Chapter 2. Significant among those listed are the Perry Township Golf Course and Blue Falls Grove.

Home-owners associations are another form of privately-owned recreation facility provider. There are currently no home-owners associations which provide recreation area in The Planning Area. Table 2 below identifies the parks and recreation open space of The Planning Area.



**Table 4
Park and Recreation Facility Inventory
Leesport Borough/Ontelaunee Township/Perry Township**

Facility Name	Ownership	Acreage	Facilities	Park Type	Condition	ADA Accessibility
Leesport Playground	Leesport Borough	9.59	2 softball fields, 1 baseball field, amphitheater, playground, swimming pool, basketball court, picnic pavilions	Community Park	Fair	An accessible walkway should access all facilities, play equipment is not accessible
Leesport/Bern Park	Leesport Borough	4 ±	Undeveloped	Community Park	-	-
Perry Township Recreation Area	Perry Township	19.88	2 baseball fields, sand volleyball court, basketball court, horseshoe courts, picnic pavilion, soccer field, pond	Community /Municipal Park	Good	Accessible walkway and viewing area should access facilities

SPATIAL PARK ANALYSIS

Standards and Planning Considerations

As communities in Pennsylvania experience growth and development, it is important for rural and suburban communities to protect open space and obtain sufficient recreation and park land to meet the future needs of the population before desirable locations are developed or the

cost of land becomes prohibitive. Many suburban communities in the Commonwealth experienced a rapid rate of development that left them hard-pressed for adequate land to meet recreation needs as well as facing expensive bond issues for land acquisition. Even when growth appears to be remote, it is important for municipalities to be vigilant in their watch over growth patterns to assure the provision of adequate recreation lands for the future.

Regional Parks

According to the Berks County Open Space and Recreation Plan, the County is well supplied in terms of regional recreation acreage, although it is not distributed sufficiently. However, in the Leesport, Ontelaunee, and Perry area, Blue Marsh lake and French Creek State Park meet regional recreation needs by nature of their facilities, size, and convenient locations.

Community and Community/Municipal Park Analysis

The community park land needs of the municipalities have been investigated. This analysis explored the recreational land acreage provided and its ability to meet the needs of existing and future populations. Table 5 applies the *minimum* standard of 6.25 acres of park land for each 1,000 residents and illustrates the excess or deficit of park acreage through the year 2010.

Because 6.25 acres per 1,000 population is a minimum standard the analysis has also been completed utilizing the NRPA standard of 10 acres per 1,000 population as illustrated in Table 6. The NRPA standard reflects the current trend in both urban and rural communities where more park land acreage is needed than promoted by the

standards. This trend results from expanding league and programming use of park, introduction of new sports, expansion of seasons when sports are traditionally played, and the introduction of more girls to sports activities.

Findings

Perry Township

The Perry Township Recreation Area is a community/municipal park located in the western portion of the Township which is currently providing for the recreation needs of the municipality.

Perry Township is currently meeting the recreation needs of its citizens and is projected to satisfy the acreage requirement through the year 2010 with consideration of the minimum standard. The results of Table 6 indicate that by the NRPA standard an additional 10+ acres of park land will be required by the year 2010. To meet this need a second community/municipal park is recommended for western Perry Township, north of Shoemakersville. This area is designated for low, medium, and high density residential use on the future land use map.

Leesport Borough

Leesport Borough is meeting the recreation need of the municipality in recreation acres with the recent acquisition of the Leesport/Bern Park. The development of the Leesport/Bern Park should be prioritized to provide the recreation opportunity of this acreage.

2010 is 9.8 acres and 15.71 acres for the minimum and NRPA standard respectively. The acquisition of a community/municipal park is recommended for Ontelaunee Township to meet the park acreage deficit. The northern portion of Ontelaunee Township, east of Leesport Borough is targeted for a community/municipal park.

Ontelaunee Township

Ontelaunee Township has no community recreation land. The Township has the unique situation of having a large regional park within its boundary. Lake Ontelaunee provides passive recreational opportunities to residents of the Township. Additionally, the campus of the Schuylkill Valley School District is in Ontelaunee Township. The three schools of the campus provide community recreation facilities typically located in a community park. Although the school campus provides active recreation opportunities the use is not guaranteed for the future. School policies regarding access to recreation facilities can change and building expansion can reduce available acreage.

The park land need for Ontelaunee Township for the year

Table 5 Municipal-Wide Park Land Park and Open Space Analysis 6.25 Acres/1,000 Population				
Municipality/Year	Population	Municipality-Wide Park Land Open Space (Acres)		
		Required by Standard	Presently Owned	Deficit/Excess
Leesport Borough				
1990	1,825	11.4	13.59	+ 2.19
2000	1,963	12.3	13.59	+ 1.29
2010	2,055	12.8	13.59	+ 0.79
Ontelaunee Township				
1990	1,359	8.5	0	- 8.5
2000	1,453	9.1	0	- 9.1
2010	1,571	9.8	0	- 9.8
Perry Township				
1990	2,516	15.7	19.88	+ 4.8
2000	2,789	17.4	19.88	+ 2.48
2010	3,040	19	19.88	+ 0.88

Table 6 Municipal-Wide Park Land Park and Open Space Analysis 10 Acres/1,000 Population				
Municipality/Year	Population	Municipality-Wide Park Land Open Space (Acres)		
		Required by Standard	Presently Owned	Deficit/Excess
Leesport Borough				
1990	1,825	18.25	13.59	- 4.66
2000	1,963	19.63	13.59	- 6.04
2010	2,055	20.55	13.59	- 6.96
Ontelaunee Township				
1990	1,359	13.59	0	- 13.59
2000	1,453	14.53	0	- 14.53
2010	1,571	15.71	0	- 15.71
Perry Township				
1990	2,516	25.16	19.88	- 5.28
2000	2,789	27.89	19.88	- 8.01
2010	3,040	30.4	19.88	- 10.52

Linear Park Analysis

Analysis of linear parks in The Planning District involved the following steps:

- Inventory of existing open space, parks, and community interest area in the Township.
- Inventory resources influencing the creation of a linear park such as streams, ridge tops, inactive/active railroads, easements and wide road rights-of-way.
- Identify areas that contain potential linear parks.

Findings

In The Planning Area the following greenways/trails were identified:

- Schuylkill River Corridor - The Schuylkill River Greenway Association is currently planning a Heritage Park along the entire length of the Schuylkill River. This includes the river in Perry and Ontelaunee

Townships and Leesport Borough.

- Maiden Creek Corridor - This creek corridor in Ontelaunee Township links the Schuylkill River to Lake Ontelaunee.

FACILITY STANDARD ANALYSIS

The parks and recreation areas within The Study Area should be analyzed to determine if there are sufficient facilities to support the needs of the municipality's population. This analysis is completed by comparing the number of existing facilities with the national standard developed by the NRPA. Facility analysis will reveal if there are adequate numbers of game courts, playing fields and swimming pools to meet community needs. The NRPA standards are presented in Table 7.

Table 7 NRPA Facility Development Standards		
Activity/Facility	No. Of Units Per Population	Service Radius
Badminton	1 per 5,000	1/4-1/2 mile
Basketball - Youth - High School - Collegiate	1 per 5,000	1/4-1/2 mile
Handball (3-4 wall)	1 per 20,000	15-30 minute travel time
Ice Hockey	Indoor-1 per 100,000 Outdoor - depends on climate	1/2-1 hour travel time
Tennis	1 court per 2,000	1/4-1/2 mile
Volleyball	1 court per 5,000	1/4-1/2 mile
Baseball - Official - Little League	1 per 5,000 Lighted - 1 per 30,000	1/4-1/2 mile
Field Hockey	1 per 20,000	15-39 minutes travel time
Football	1 per 20,000	15-30 minutes travel time
Soccer	1 per 10,000	1-2 miles
Golf-Driving Range	1 per 50,000	30 minutes travel time
1/4-Mile Running Track	1 per 20,000	15-30 minutes travel time
Softball	1 per 5,000 (if also used for youth baseball)	1/4-1/2 mile

Table 7 NRPA Facility Development Standards		
Activity/Facility	No. Of Units Per Population	Service Radius
Multiple Recreation Court (basketball, volleyball, tennis)	1 per 10,000	1-2 miles
Trails	1 system per region	N/A
Archery Range	1 per 50,000	30 minutes travel time
Combination Skeet and Trap Field (8 station)	1 per 50,000	30 minutes travel time
Golf - Par 3 (18-Hole) - 9-Hole standard - 18-hole standard	- 1 per 25,000 1 per 50,000	1/2 to 1 hour travel time
Swimming Pools	1 per 20,000 (Pools should accommodate 3 to 5% of total population at a time)	15 to 30 minutes travel time
Beach Areas	N/A	N/A

Source: National Recreation and Park Association, 1983.

**Table 8
Recreation Facility Analysis for Year 2010**

Activity/Facility	Leesport Borough Required by Standard/ Unit Provided/ -Deficit + Excess	Ontelaunee Township Required by Standard/ Unit Provided/ -Deficit + Excess	Perry Township Required by Standard/ Unit Provided/ -Deficit + Excess
Basketball	1/1/0	1/0/-1	1/-1/0
Tennis	1/0/-1	1/0/-1	2/0/-2
Volleyball	1/1/0	1/0/-1	1/1/0
Baseball	1/1/0	1/0/-1	1/2/+1
Soccer	1/0/-1	1/0/-1	1/1/0
Softball	1/2/+1	1/0/-1	1/0/-1

Findings

When the municipalities park and recreation facilities are compared to the NRPA Facility Development Standards based on population, needs emerge in the municipality for specific park facilities. Analysis of facilities must consider the context of the municipality and the trends and popularity of the sport which the facility serves. The

recreation facilities were analyzed on a community-wide basis for the year 2010 and the results are tabulated in Table 8. It was determined that there is a general need for athletic fields and game courts in the community.

School Recreation Facilities

Generally school facilities are available for public recreation use. Organized sports groups can obtain permits for the regular use of recreation facilities on school property when the facilities are not being used for school-related purposes. Individuals can use these outdoor facilities when they are not in use by groups. While school recreation facilities are an important source of recreation opportunities for communities, they are not used in calculating the facility needs because their primary purpose is to support the educational functions of the schools. The protection of the recreation facilities on school grounds is also not guaranteed in the future although it may reasonably be assumed that they will continue to be provided.

Citizen Recreation Interests

Berks County conducted a county-wide recreation survey to determine citizen interests in parks and recreation. A survey of 2,000 households yielded a 23 percent return, more than twice normally generated in a mail survey. Table 9 presents the top five facility and program preferences of the respondents of the survey.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Typically in rural areas such as Berks County, recreation programs and services are minimal. Community organizations and volunteers pitch in to provide community recreation services. Such services are targeted primarily at summer, youth sports and special events. Leesport, Ontelaunee, and Perry offer a mix of services.

Table 9 Top Five Facility and Program Preferences of Berks County Recreation Survey Respondents	
Facility Preferences	Program Preferences
Hiking/Walking trails	Trips/Tours
Bicycle Trails	Holiday Events/Festivals/Concerts
Natural Areas	Arts and Crafts/Hobbies
Picnic Areas and Pavilions	Senior Citizen Programs
Indoor Recreation Space	Aerobics/Adult Exercise/Weight Training

Findings of the survey include:

- 63 percent of respondents use local parks
- Local parks are the most frequently used of all park facilities in the County
- The most important recreation and park needs were: trails, protection of natural areas, more recreation facilities closer to home
- Respondents saw a more pressing need for indoor recreation facilities than additional outdoor facilities
- Generally people are satisfied with public recreation facilities; the facility preferences are consistent with this finding as they are the least available in Berks County.

Leesport

The Borough of Leesport with the Leesport Playground has facilities conducive to running a full-service summer recreation program and three season sports leagues. Leesport also serves citizens from Ontelaunee Township. Programs include:

Swimming

The Leesport Pool is open from June through Labor Day. The pool has about 100 members who purchase a season pass for less than \$100. Pool programs include recreational swimming and instructions.

Playground Program

The summer playground program attracts children from ages six through 12. In 1996, there were about 110 participants with daily attendance at about 30. Instructors offer a variety of programs, games, arts & crafts, and special events. Participation trends appear to be stable..

Bingo

Operated by a private organization at the Leesport Playground, proceeds from bingo fund the parks and recreation budget. It is very popular as shown in the \$700 proceeds from the month of March that went to parks and recreation.

Leesport Athletic Association

The LAA controls the Leesport Playground playing fields. They schedule all games and perform maintenance functions. The LAA operates a concession stand which produces revenues to offset their costs. Sports offered include little league, girls softball, football, and basketball.

Special Events

Community special events are organized by organizations such as the Jaycees. Special events include a Halloween parade and community walks.

Schuylkill Valley Community Library

In addition to supplying reading materials, the library offers programs such as storytime and special events to encourage reading through leisure activities.

Self-Directed Activities

The Borough's goal is to provide recreation facilities which the citizens can enjoy for their own self-directed activities. To that end, the Borough has negotiated with a developer for land on which to build a neighborhood park. The Borough directs its capital improvement program to enhancing existing facilities.

In keeping with the top leisure interests of the citizens: walking and biking, the Borough is working to develop trails for walking and biking in partnership with the Schuylkill

River Greenway.

Perry Township

Perry Township offers outdoor recreation programs at the Perry Recreation Area. Volunteers run the programs and provide facility maintenance. Programs include the following:

Girls Softball

About 100 girls participate in the girls softball league. The league is incorporated and serves girls 8 to 17.

Baseball

The baseball league serves primarily boys as well as younger girls who play tee ball on coed teams. About 48 participants were involved in 1996.

Soccer

Soccer is a relatively new and growing sport in Perry Township. It is played in the fall on the outfield of the

baseball fields. It is anticipated that there will be a greater demand for soccer in the future and field considerations must be made for soccer. Participant numbers were not available.

Volleyball

The Recreation Board offers volleyball on Tuesday evenings. Participant numbers are not available.

Swimming

Perry Township residents use the swimming pool at Shoemakersville Park. Residents purchase a seasonal pass.

Self-Directed Activities

The Perry Township Recreation Board is interested in establishing trails consistent with the Schuylkill River Heritage Corridor Plans. A potential canoe launch near the Bern Bridge would provide a boating opportunity on the river.

Volunteerism

The Lions Club, the Boy Scouts, and the Recreation Board participate in volunteer activities in the Perry recreation Area. These activities include capital improvements, maintenance, and programs.

Ontelaunee Township

Ontelaunee Township, as a very rural community, offers no recreation programs. Citizens use the Schuylkill Valley Schools and the Borough of Leesport for recreation activities. They also use the commercial recreation facilities available at the Family Grand Prix and the Race Track.

MANDATORY DEDICATION OF LAND

One mechanism that many municipalities use to ensure that future residents have adequate park and recreation opportunities is to require developers to dedicate public open space within proposed developments. Each of the three municipalities does include provisions for mandatory dedication of park land in its Subdivision and Land

Development Ordinance.

Mandatory Dedication of Land: Section 503(11) of the MPC enables municipalities to require the mandatory dedication of land from developers for park and recreational purposes. To comply with the legislation, the Township must meet these requirement:

1. Adopt a recreation plan that establishes open space standards and park service areas, identifies areas in need of open space, and includes a capital improvement program.
2. Develop a mandatory dedication ordinance that contains definite standards for determining the portion of a development to be dedicated and the amount of any fee to be paid in lieu of land.
3. Create a separate interest bearing account for the placement of any collected fees.

APPENDIX C

RECREATION, PARKS AND OPEN SPACE PLAN

The Planning Area municipalities should consider increasing their mandatory dedication amount as justified by the following calculations:

The municipalities (L.B. = Leesport Borough, O.T. = Ontelaunee Township, P.T. = Perry Township) have developed a goal of providing 10 acres of park land per 1,000 residents. To derive a per unit calculation, the 1,000 population figure is divided by the municipality's 1990 U.S. Census average household size. (L. B. = 2.5, O.T. = 2.5 and P. T. = 2.79). The following calculation results.

$$\text{L.B. - } 1,000 / 2.5 \text{ persons per dwelling unit} \\ = 400 \text{ dwellings.}$$

$$\text{O.T. - } 1,000 / 2.5 \text{ persons per dwelling unit} \\ = 400 \text{ dwellings.}$$

$$\text{P.T. - } 1,000 / 2.79 \text{ persons per dwelling} \\ \text{unit} = 358 \text{ dwellings.}$$

Dividing this number by the desired 10 acres per 1,000 residents goal yields this amount of land.

$$\text{L.B. - } 10 \text{ acres} / 400 \text{ dwellings} = .025 \text{ acres}$$

$$\text{O.T. - } 10 \text{ acres} / 400 \text{ dwellings} = .025 \\ \text{acres}$$

$$\text{P.T. - } 10 \text{ acres} / 358 \text{ dwellings} = .028 \text{ acres}$$

Therefore, a subdivision of 50 homes would require a net 1.25 acres of park land in Leesport Borough and Ontelaunee Township and 1.4 acres of parkland in Perry Township.

As an alternative to land dedication, a developer can pay a fee. This approach can only be used in those instances where the developer agrees to the alternative. To relate the open space requirement to a fee, the municipalities should require the fair market value of the land to be dedicated. Using the above example, for a 50-unit subdivision, the developer would provide the municipality with an appraisal of the 1.25-acre in Leesport Borough and Ontelaunee Township and the 1.4 acre parcel in Perry Township. If the land was appraised at \$30,000 per acre, then the Leesport and Ontelaunee would accept the \$37,500 and Perry \$42,000 as its fee in lieu of the land dedication.

Another method used for calculating fee contributions is to require a flat fee per lot of a proposed subdivision. Following through with the above example, the following calculations results:

L.B. - 1 acre/.025 = 40 dwellings.

O.T. - 1 acre/.025 = 40 dwellings.

P.T. - 1 acre/.028 = 36 dwellings.

L.B. - \$30,000/40 = \$750.

O.T. - \$30,000/40 = \$750.

P.T. - \$30,000/36 = \$833.

The fee calculation per unit in the example is \$750 for Leesport Borough and Ontelaunee Township and \$833 per dwelling unit for Perry Township. The per lot fee is set by the municipality and adopted by resolution.

MANAGEMENT AND FINANCING

Municipalities are responsible for planning, directing,

maintaining, and financing public recreation and park facilities. In an era of scarce resources, it is impossible for municipalities to provide all of the services and facilities that residents would like. Consequently, jurisdictions throughout Pennsylvania are exploring alternative ways of providing public recreation than through tax dollars alone. Other options include partnerships, volunteerism, fundraising, private sector involvement, and joint ventures with other communities.

Leesport Borough

Management

Leesport Borough operates with a citizen advisory group for parks and recreation. The Parks and Recreation Board has nine members including the Mayor and representatives of the Borough Council. The Board operates under an ordinance that specifies roles, responsibilities, mission, and terms of office. The Board makes recommendations to the Borough Council which has the policy making authority for parks and recreation. The Public Works Department provides maintenance. Maintenance of ballfields is provided by citizen volunteers from the Leesport Athletic Association. A seasonal recreation staff is hired for the summer

playground program and the pool. The Borough hires a Summer Playground/Pool Manager to oversee these functions. The Manager provides an annual report of recommendations for the Borough to consider.

Financing

The Borough of Leesport had an operating budget for Parks and Recreation of \$42,100. This amount has been stable over the last five years; increases have been consistent with cost of living increases. Of this amount, 51 percent is generated through non-tax sources while 49 percent is invested through tax dollars. The operating budget represents per capita spending of about \$23 which is above the average per capita expenditure of Pennsylvania municipalities for parks and recreation. Generating over half of the budget through fees and charges is a notable accomplishment for Leesport Borough.

Ontelaunee Township

Management

The Township Supervisors oversee all municipal functions. As a rural community, there are no parks, recreation areas,

or programs. Any management functions should deal with supporting volunteer efforts, coordination with the Schuylkill River Greenway for trails development, and planning efforts consistent with assuring adequate recreation facilities and park land in the future as the area develops or citizens interest is indicated.

Financing

There is no parks and recreation budget in Ontelaunee Township

Perry Township

Management

Perry Township has a Recreation Board. The Recreation Board should operate within the parameters set forth in the Commonwealth's codes for townships of the second class. The code specifies roles, functions, mission, responsibilities, and terms of office. The Perry Township Recreation Board services in an advisory capacity. The Board makes recommendations to the Board of Supervisors regarding parks and recreation.

The Township has been forward thinking in contracting out mowing functions. Contracting out such a function is a cost-efficient way of doing park mowing. The Township does trash pick-up at the Perry Recreation Area. Volunteers from the Recreation Board, the Lions Club, the Boys Scout and citizens do other park maintenance and improvements.

Financing

According to the 1992 Local Government Financial Statistics produced by the Pennsylvania Department of Community Affairs, Perry Township spent \$12,340 on parks and recreation. This was about \$5 per capita. It is important to consider that this is a rural community and that the municipal investment is complemented by extensive volunteer efforts.

CONCLUSIONS

Leesport, Ontelaunee, and Perry are located in one of the most scenic areas in Pennsylvania. The area is characterized by rural agrarian charm, rolling hills, and scenic landscapes. The Borough of Leesport serves as a small town hub that offers businesses, shopping, historic, cultural, and recreation amenities. The location in the Schuylkill River Heritage

Corridor offers immense potential for the development of a greenway and trails. The preservation of natural resources and the development of trails are the most important interests among the citizenry of Berks County according to a recent survey conducted by the Berks County Planning Commission.

Generally the municipalities appear to satisfied with the current parks and recreation opportunities. The Borough of Leesport offers the most highly developed facilities in Leesport Playground and is seeking to expand facilities in neighborhood parks in new housing developments, by improving existing facilities, and through the development of trails for biking and cycling. The Borough does an exceptional job of raising more than half of its recreation operating budget through fees, charges, volunteerism, and donations. Perry Township's recreation opportunities thrive on the efforts of volunteers and creative approaches to maintenance management. Because of its rural nature, Ontelaunee Township has minimal services. As in most rural areas, the residents provide their own recreation or seek opportunities in neighboring communities and commercial enterprises.

Given the rural nature of the area and the small town of

Leesport, several opportunities in parks, recreation, and open space can be considered as follows:

Natural Resource Protection

The rural agrarian character should be protected from sprawling development. This should be considered in the overall comprehensive plan for the municipalities.

Greenways and Trails

Working with the Schuylkill River Greenway will provide great assistance to the municipalities in developing greenways and trails here. A number of planning efforts already been undertaken could help to launch the development of trails. Trails for walking and cycling are the top interest of citizens according to surveys across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Parkland

Because Perry and Ontelaunee are still rural, the Townships are in the enviable position of being able to identify parcels of land that would make good community parks. In accordance with the Berks County Recreation Plan, the

Townships should identify and consider the acquisition of land before land is developed or land values exorbitant. While this may not occur for many years, the communities should be watchful.

Recreation Facilities

The first order of business in recreation facilities is insuring safe, clean and attractive appearance. All facilities should meet public safety standards. Additions and improvement to recreation facilities should be made consistent with changing interests, recreation trends, and emerging opportunities. All three municipalities have limited funds and will need to rely on grants, private sector support, partnerships, and fundraising. There appears to be an interest in year round indoor recreation according to the Berks County recreation survey. Working with the School District could be an avenue of providing indoor recreation opportunities for the citizens.

Planning and Grants

Each municipality should have a plan for parks, recreation, and open space that examines the issues and provides recommendations in depth. While Leesport, Ontelaunee,

and Perry are of different sizes and at different levels in the provision of public recreation, joint planning efforts could be considered. Community recreation plans would enable the municipalities to be more competitive for grants under Pennsylvania's Keystone Community Grant Program. Keystone provides grants for acquisition and development of parks and recreation facilities, feasibility studies for recreation facilities, and planning grants for parks and recreation plans.

Partnerships

Because of the scarce resources, partnerships with municipalities, the school district, the Schuylkill River Greenway, and the private sector should be considered. Examples include Perry Township working with Shoemakersville on the swimming pool and tennis court and possibly expanding recreation facilities near Shoemakersville. Regional recreation efforts make sense in terms of providing effective public services at the lowest cost.

Volunteerism

Volunteers are the backbone of parks and recreation in

Leesport, Ontelaunee, and Perry. While municipal operations a small in scale, elected officials should continue their efforts in recognizing and supporting the volunteers. The Borough of Leesport regularly thanks people in the community for their assistance. Appreciation goes a long way!

LEESPORT BOROUGH, ONTELAUNEE TOWNSHIP AND PERRY TOWNSHIP PARK AND RECREATION RECOMMENDATIONS

GOAL: *To provide parks and recreation facilities at an adequate level of service that ensures equitable distribution and access to all citizens throughout the community.*

OBJECTIVES

Objective 1

Continue to assess community recreation needs and maximize the use of existing park facilities given the expanding needs and interests of the community.

Recommendations

1. Develop park master plans for existing parks which identify improvements and additional recreation facilities. The master plans will serve as a blue print to guide the future development of the parks. Phases should be determined as appropriate to align with available funding/financial resources and the management capabilities of the operating and maintenance departments.
 - Leesport Playground - The park is well developed at this time but facilities should be added to expand the park use to all ages and meet accessibility and safety standards. A sand volleyball court should be added in the lawn area. A pathway/trail should be installed which encircles the park to provide accessibility and a surface for walking and in-line skating. The outdated playground equipment must be removed. An age segregated tot lot and playground should be established which complies with safety and accessibility standards. The restrooms and pool area should be renovated to meet accessibility standards.
 - Leesport/Bern Park - This park parcel is undeveloped at this time. A master plan should be completed which establishes the direction for development of the park. The Borough has expressed an interest in developing two basketball courts and a in-line hockey rink which would have winter ice skating use in the park.
 - Perry Township Recreation Area - This park is well developed offering numerous recreation opportunities to Perry Township residents. A trail should be developed to access each recreation facility and area and an accessible viewing areas should be added at athletic facilities. Develop a park master plan which incorporates a trail, second picnic pavilion and landscaping into the park.
- In general park master plans should be developed with the following general objectives:
- Provide walking trails to park facilities. Trails are enjoyed by all segments of the population.

- Enhance the visual image of the park sites through park beautification programs. Improvements may include street trees along road frontage, planting native plants to enhance the natural image of the site, park identification signs, and landscaping that adds color and identifies a park's entrance.
 - Provide gathering and sitting areas in the park that accommodate seniors. Seniors desire shady locations for many activities.
 - Consider the safety of the park user. If possible limit the extent of vehicle penetration into the site. Provide safety zones around sports facilities and play equipment.
 - Provide facilities for life-time recreation/leisure pursuits such as trails, volleyball courts, tennis courts, picnic pavilions, and ice skating areas.
 - Provide sports fields that do not overlap. Overlapping fields contribute to the wear and tear of field facilities and does not allow for field rest periods.
 - Sports field and court lighting should be considered as a way to extend the playing time on facilities and generate revenues through user fees.
 - Consider the need for storage of sports organization equipment on-site at community park sites.
 - Play areas should be age segregated and should be developed to include facilities for imaginary and group play.
2. Each municipality should have a Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan. Consideration should be given to a regional recreation plan or joint ventures for plan development. Pursuing a Keystone Community Grant should also be considered.
 3. The Park and Recreation Boards should consider discussing the potential in indoor recreation programs in cooperation with the School District. Such programs should be fee based to avoid a tax burden. The cost of program personnel should be included in program fees.

- 4. The municipalities should incorporate recreation planning and good design into zoning and subdivision regulations to insure the adequate provision of recreation facilities and trail connections.
- 5. Stay in tune to trends such as in-line skating and street hockey and monitor the need for associated facilities or existing facility renovations to accommodate such trends.

Objective 2

Develop a comprehensive greenway network throughout The Planning Area.

Recommendations

Trail development should be the highest priority for facility development. Each municipality should develop and adopt a trail plan. Request assistance from the Schuylkill River Greenway for the plan. The Plan could be done as a cooperative effort among the three municipalities and others as identified such as Shoemakersville. The municipalities should support the Schuylkill River Greenway plans for trails in the greenway. Making people aware of the importance of

trails should be considered and promoted through the newsletters, media, volunteers, and events organized to focus on trails. A trail loop through Leesport should be undertaken as a first priority. Methods of providing the trails through signage and road striping should be considered as the more arduous task of obtaining easements for rights-of way are negotiated.

The two greenways are identified as follows:

- Schuylkill River Corridor - The Schuylkill River Greenway Association is currently planning a Heritage Park along the entire length of the Schuylkill River. This includes the river in Perry and Ontelaunee Townships and Leesport Borough.
- Maiden Creek Corridor - This creek corridor In Ontelaunee Township links the Schuylkill River to Lake Ontelaunee.

Objective 3

Seek additional park acreage to meet the recreation needs of the current and projected municipal populations. Although The Planning Area's existing park and recreation system provide recreation opportunities to the citizens of the

area, analysis revealed that the facilities are not meeting the applied standards based on population.

Recommendations

1. Amend the mandatory dedication provisions to align with the fair market value of property in each municipality and to further define the criteria of land that the municipality will accept as recreational land. The minimum size of land that is offered for dedication should contain not more than fifteen percent floodplain. Land offered for dedication should not contain stormwater facilities designed to detain or retain stormwater for another site.

Land calculations for dedication of recreation land should be based on the current average household size and fair market value of land. If the municipality chooses to utilize a per lot fee, the fair market value of an acre of land must be determined. The value of land is dynamic and the municipality should strive to amend a per lot fee on a regular basis by resolution.

2. Perry Township should acquire a ten acre minimum

size community/municipal park north of Shoemakersville Borough.

3. Ontelaunee Township should acquire a ten acre minimum size community/municipal park east of Leesport in the northern portion of the municipality.
4. Consider the acquisition of park land if the acquisition meets one or more of the following criteria:
 - The proposed site is compatible with the proposed park facility development.
 - The land will help to preserve significant environmental resources, area that contributes to the community's character, or add acreage to an existing facility where acreage need has been established.
 - The proposed site will facilitate the completion of a proposed greenway or trail link.

- The site is within an area requiring stream stabilization or stream buffer zone.
5. Develop additional outdoor recreation facilities within the existing and proposed parks to meet immediate needs of the citizens. The following needs have been identified:

Leesport Borough

- 1 Tennis Court
- 1 Soccer Fields

Ontelaunee Township

- 1 Basketball Court
- 1 Tennis Court
- 1 Volleyball Courts
- 1 Baseball Field
- 1 Soccer Fields
- 1 Softball Fields

Perry Township

- 2 Tennis Courts
- 1 Softball Fields

These facilities were identified to meet current needs.

Consideration must be given to trends in sport popularity and the possibility of expanding sports seasons. Both spring soccer and fall baseball are currently being played in many municipalities.

Objective 4

Provide facilities for public use that comply with all accessibility and safety regulations and guidelines.

Recommendations

1. Evaluate the existing park facilities to determine if the ADA standards are currently being met. Playgrounds must offer play equipment which provides play options for the physically challenged. Pathways should be provided to access facilities within park sites. A playground must be accessible as well as the route to reach the playground. Trails cannot exceed specific slopes, including trails in natural areas.
2. Evaluate the playground area at Leesport Playground for compliance with the guidelines of the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) Guidelines for Public Playground Safety. Much of this equipment does not meet safety guidelines and should be removed. Leesport Borough Road Department should conduct ongoing safety inspections at the

playground. Each play equipment piece should have a use area designated that is surfaced with a safety material which meets the test requirements of the CPSC and the latest ASTM criteria.

part of each municipalities annual capital improvement program.

3. Identify and prioritized improvements needed to bring existing facilities into compliance with the ADA and CPSC. A phased implementation schedule should be developed and improvements should be included in the capital improvement program budget.

4. Create policy statements that addresses the need to comply with all regulations and guidelines with regards to safety and accessibility. The policy statement should commit to the phased improvements implementation and capital expenditure within a set time table. The department should designate one person to lead the compliance efforts and interact with design consultants on master plans for existing facilities.

Objective 5

Develop a capital improvement program which will guide the planning area capital expenditures. Capital improvements identified in this Plan are outlined below, costs of improvements, as well as a timetable for implementation are provided. This list should be made a

Table 8 Park Facilities Cost Opinions Capital Improvement Program Leesport Borough/Ontelaunee Township/Perry Township				
Perry Township				
Park Improvements	Quantity	Cost	Park Phase	CIP Year
Perry Township New Community/Municipal Park (PTNCMP)				
Master Site Plan (including survey)	-	\$12,000		3
Park Sign	1	1,200	1	3
Benches	6	3,900	1	3
Tot Lot with safety surface	1	25,000	1	3
Youth Playground with safety surface	1	35,000	1	3
Trash Receptacles	3	900	1	3
Bike Rack	1	500	1	3
Trails	.5 mile	35,000	1	3
Parking Area	40 cars	28,000	1	3
Erosion Control	-	5,000	1	3
Stormwater Management	-	14,000	1	3
Seeding	-	18,000	1	3
Softball Field	1	25,000	2	5
Tennis Courts	2	78,000	2	5
Restrooms/Storage Building	1	35,000	2	5
Utility Extensions	-	10,000	2	5
Picnic Pavilion	1	20,000	2	5
Picnic Tables	6	3,000	2	5
Grills	2	1,000	2	5
Landscaping	-	15,000	2	5
SUBTOTAL		\$353,500		
Bond/Mobilization/Layout (3% of subtotal)		10,600		
Design and Engineering (8% of subtotal)		28,300		3
Contingency (10% of subtotal)		35,350		
TOTAL IMPROVEMENT COSTS		\$427,750		
Land Costs (\$30,000/acre) (10 acres)	10	300,000		3
Master Plan		12,000		
TOTAL COSTS		\$739,750		

Ontelaunee Perry Township				
Park Improvements	Quantity	Cost	Park Phase	CIP Year
Ontelaunee Perry Township New Community/Municipal Park (OTNCMP)				
Master Site Plan (including survey)	-	\$12,000		3
Park Sign	1	1,200	1	4
Benches	6	3,900	1	4
Tot Lot with safety surface	1	25,000	1	4
Youth Playground with safety surface	1	35,000	1	4
Trash Receptacles	3	900	1	4
Bike Rack	1	500	1	4
Trails	.5 mile	35,000	1	4
Parking Area	40 cars	28,000	1	4
Erosion Control	-	5,000	1	4
Stormwater Management	-	14,000	1	4
Seeding	-	18,000	1	4
Soccer Field	1	30,000	2	5
Tennis Courts	1	39,000	2	5
Restrooms/Storage Building	1	35,000	2	5
Utility Extensions	-	10,000	2	5
Picnic Pavilion	1	20,000	2	5
Picnic Tables	6	3,000	2	5
Grills	2	1,000	2	5
Landscaping	-	15,000	2	5
SUBTOTAL		\$319,500		
Bond/Mobilization/Layout (3% of subtotal)		9,600		
Design and Engineering (8% of subtotal)		25,600		3
Contingency (10% of subtotal)		31,950		
TOTAL IMPROVEMENT COST		\$386,650		
Land Costs (\$30,000/acre) (10 acres)	10	300,000		2
Master Plan		12,000		2
TOTAL COSTS		\$698,650		

Leesport Borough				
Park Improvements	Quantity	Cost	Park Phase	CIP Year
Leesport Playground (LP)				
Master Site Plan (including survey)	-	\$5,000		1
Park Sign	1	1,200	1	1
Benches	4	2,600	1	1
Tot Lot with safety surface	1	25,000	1	1
Youth Playground with safety surface	1	35,000	1	1
Trash Receptacles	3	900	1	1
Bike Rack	1	500	1	1
Trails	.25 mile	12,000	1	1
Seeding	-	3,000	1	1
Sand Volleyball Court	1	4,000	1	1
Landscaping	-	20,000	1	1
SUBTOTAL		\$104,200		
Bond/Mobilization/Layout (3% of subtotal)		3,100		
Design and Engineering (10% of subtotal)		10,400		
Contingency (10% of subtotal)		10,400		
TOTAL IMPROVEMENT COSTS		\$128,100		
Master Plan		5,000		
TOTAL IMPROVEMENT COSTS		\$133,100		

Cost Opinion does not include renovations to the restrooms or pool area to meet ADA.

Leesport Borough				
Park Improvements	Quantity	Cost	Park Phase	CIP Year
Leesport/Bern Park (LBP)				
Master Site Plan (including survey)	-	\$7,000		1
Park Sign	1	1,200	1	1
Benches	4	2,600	1	1
Basketball Courts	2	80,000	1	1
In-line Hockey Court	1	40,000	1	1
Trash Receptacles	3	900	1	1
Bike Rack	1	500	1	1
Trails	.25 mile	12,000	1	1
Seeding	-	3,000	1	1
Parking Area	20 cars	14,000	1	1
Landscaping	-	20,000	1	1
SUBTOTAL		\$164,200		
Bond/Mobilization/Layout (3% of subtotal)		4,900		
Design and Engineering (10% of subtotal)		16,400		
Contingency (10% of subtotal)		16,400		
TOTAL IMPROVEMENT COSTS		\$201,900		
Master Plan		7,000		
TOTAL IMPROVEMENT COSTS		\$208,900		

Perry Township				
Park Improvements	Quantity	Cost	Park Phase	CIP Year
Perry Township Recreation Area (PTRA)				
Master Site Plan (including survey)	-	\$3,000		1
Walkway (HC viewing area)	1 mile	50,000	1	1
Mile Markers	10	1,500	1	1
Landscaping	-	15,000	1	1
Picnic Pavilion	1	20,000	1	1
Picnic Tables	6	3,000	1	1
Grills	2	1,000	1	1
SUBTOTAL		\$90,500		
Bond/Mobilization/Layout (3% of subtotal)		2,700		
Design and Engineering (10% of subtotal)		9,050		1
Contingency (10% of subtotal)		9,050		
TOTAL IMPROVEMENT COSTS		\$111,300		
Master Plan		\$3,000		
TOTAL IMPROVEMENT COSTS		\$114,300		

Table 9 Capital Improvement Program Summary Chart by Year					
Project Description	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
LP - MP	\$5,000				
LP - D&E	\$10,400				
LP - 1	\$133,100				
LBP - MP	\$7,000				
LBP - D&E	\$16,400				
LBP - 1	\$185,500				
PTRA - MP	\$3,000				
PTRA - D&E	\$9,050				
PTRA - 1	\$114,300				
OTNCMP - ACQ		\$300,000			
OTNCMP - MP		\$12,000			
PTNCMP - ACQ			\$300,000		
PTNCMP - MP			\$12,000		
OTNCMP - D&E			\$25,600		
PTNCMP - D&E			\$28,300		
PTNCMP - 1			\$188,150		
OTNCMP - 1				\$188,150	
OTNCMP - 2					\$172,900
PTNCMP - 2					\$211,300
TOTAL COSTS/YEAR	\$483,750	\$312,000	\$554,050	\$188,150	\$384,200

LP - Leesport Playground
LBP - Leesport/Bern Park
PTRA - Perry Township Recreation Area
OTNCMP - Ontelaunee Township New Community/Municipal Park
PTNCMP - Perry Township New Community/Municipal Park

ACQ - Acquisition
MP - Master Plan
D&E - Design and Engineering
1,2 - Park Phase 1, 2