



## SECTION 3

### RECREATION STANDARDS AND FACILITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

#### Introduction

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), in their publication Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines, edited by R. A. Lancaster defines recreation and park standards in this manner:

"Community recreation and park standards are the means by which an agency can express recreation and park goals and objectives in quantitative terms, which in turn, can be translated into spatial requirements for land and water resources. Through the budget, municipal ordinances, cooperative or joint public-private efforts, these standards are translated into a system for acquisition, development and management of recreation and park resources."<sup>1</sup>

The publication further describes the role standards have in establishing a base for the amount of land required for various types of park and recreation facilities, in developing the community's acceptable minimum, correlating needs to spatial requirements, and for providing justification for recreational expectations and needs.

National and state standards are a useful guide in determining minimum requirements; however, the Town of Cornelius must establish its own standards in consideration of the expressed needs of the residents and the county's economic, administrative, operational, and maintenance capabilities.

#### Park Classification and Land Requirements

The following standards and classifications for recreational facilities are proposed by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), the North Carolina Department of Environmental Health and Natural Resources, and Mecklenburg County. Table 3-1 "Standards of Park Classification and Land Area Requirements" defines the standard used in this Master Plan and Table 3-2 "Total Park Sites and Acreage Per Park Classification" summarizes how these standards establish park needs for the Town.

##### Regional Park

A regional park is a park with a fifty-mile service radius that serves several communities or a multi-county region. Approximately 10 acres per 1,000 population served is the standard for providing regional park acreage and generally 400 to 1,000 acres is required for development. The regional park provides access to diverse and unique natural resources for nature oriented outdoor recreation such as nature viewing and study, wildlife habitat conservation, hiking, camping, canoeing and fishing. Usually 80% of the land is reserved for conservation and natural resource management, with less than 20% of the site developed for active recreation. The recreation areas consist of play areas and open fields/meadows for informal use. Exhibit 3-1 illustrates a typical regional park.

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<sup>1</sup> Source: NRPA Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines, 1983 edition.



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**District Park**

A district park provides more diverse recreational opportunities than the regional park. The district park emphasizes passive recreational opportunities that are similar to the regional park in addition to including limited active recreational facilities. It is easily accessible by the population (typically 40,000) it serves and maintains a 2½ -5 mile service radius. The park contains a minimum of 5 acres per 1,000 population and should be a minimum of 200 acres in size.

An indoor recreation building/ community center will normally be included in a district park. These facilities typically reflect the character of the park with a historic, natural, or urban theme. Active recreational facilities located in a district park include play areas, ball fields, hard surface courts, multi-purpose play fields, picnicking locations, and various types of trails. Exhibit 3-2 illustrates a typical district park.

**Community Park**

A community park is easily accessible to either a single or several neighborhoods depending on local needs and population distribution at the time the park is developed. When possible, the park may be developed adjacent to public schools to provide multiple or joint use of facilities. The community park provides recreational opportunities for the entire family and contains areas suited for intense active recreational purposes including a recreation center building, athletic fields, swimming, tennis, and walking/jogging trails. The park may also possess areas of natural quality for passive outdoor recreation such as viewing, sitting, and picnicking.

Community parks have an average service radius of two miles and require a minimum of 5 acres per 1,000 population served. Community parks should be at least 40 acres in size and serve a population from 5,000 - 10,000. However, it may become necessary to use a site that is smaller than 40 acres and many times these sites can accommodate community park usage if they have very few limitations for development (gentle slopes, no easements or restrictions etc.). Exhibit 3-3 illustrates a typical community park.

**Neighborhood Park**

A neighborhood park is designed to serve a population of up to 5,000, but in many instances it may even serve more. The park requires 2.5 acres per 1,000 population served and should be a minimum of 7 to 15 acres. Neighborhood parks are typically characterized by recreational activities for each member of the family, such as field games, court games, crafts, playground apparatus, picnicking, and space for quiet/passive activities.

The service radius for a neighborhood park is one-half to one mile and is easily accessible to the neighborhood population through safe walking and biking access. Parking may or may not be required. Where feasible the activity areas are equally divided between quiet/passive activities and active play. This type of park may be developed as a school park or community center facility. Exhibit 3-4 illustrates a typical neighborhood park.



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#### **Mini-Park**

A mini-park is characterized by its relatively small size (approximately an acre) and its specialized facilities are to serve a specific segment of the population (i.e., tot lots or senior citizens). This park is typically located close to higher density neighborhoods such as apartment complexes, townhouse developments, and housing for the elderly. The service area for a mini-park is less than ¼ mile. Exhibit 3-5 illustrates a typical mini-park.

#### **Linear Park / Greenway**

A linear park is an area developed for one or more varying modes of recreational travel such as hiking and biking. Often the linear park will be developed to connect recreational facilities, schools, and residential neighborhoods.

The acreage and service area of a linear park is variable and subject to existing natural and man-made features, the existence of public right-of-way, and the public demand for this type of park. In some cases, a linear park is developed within a large land area designated for protection and management of the natural environment, with recreational use a secondary objective.

#### **Unique or Special Areas**

Unique or special areas are park types that exist to enhance or utilize a special man-made or natural feature. They can include beaches, parkways, historical sites, sites of archeological significance, arboretums, conservation easements, floodplains, etc. Minimum standards relating to acreage or population have not been established for this category. A size sufficient to protect and interpret the resource while providing optimum use is desirable.

### **Total Acreage per Park Classification**

The minimum parkland requirement (in acres) for the total population for the Town of Cornelius is provided in Table 3-2. The acreage requirement is based upon the population ratio method (acres of parkland per 1,000 population) established for each park.

### **Evaluation of Parkland Site Needs**

Total park sites can be determined from the total acreage requirements for each park classification by dividing the total acreage by the park size standard. By the year 2015 there will be a need for a total of three community parks, eight neighborhood parks, three mini-parks, and thirteen miles of linear park/greenway (existing and proposed sites). The Town's population will contribute to the overall requirements for regional and district parks. These park types are typically provided by county or state agencies. See Table 3-2 "Total Park Site and Acreage Per Classification" for a detailed breakdown of the needs for the entire planning period.

Currently there is one community park (Bailey Road Park) serving the Town of Cornelius. In addition, the Town is working with Mecklenburg County in a lease agreement for 50 acres of land in the western section of town (Robbins Park). Legion Park, Smithville Park, Jetton Neighborhood Park, and Torrence Chapel Park function as neighborhood parks. The town operates one mini park (Walter Henderson Road Mini Park) and one playground park (Yacht Club Playground). There are no linear parks or greenways in Cornelius.



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#### Open Space

Perhaps the most appropriate standard used to calculate open space standards is a determination by the community that certain open space and significant natural areas are necessary to protect. Public open space is defined as any land acquired for the purpose of recreational opportunities either developed or undeveloped for the public or private good. The functions of such land include:

- Protection of drainage areas for water supplies (watersheds)
- Protection of areas which are particularly well suited for growing crops (farmland preservation)
- Protection of attractive waterways (wild and scenic rivers)
- Preservation of spaces between communities to prevent urban sprawl (greenbelts)
- Protection of wildlife habitat (sanctuaries)
- Protection of approach and take-off areas near airports (clear zones)
- Protection of land (landfills) that can not be developed

The Town currently has (or is working towards acquiring) 136.87 acres of public open space at several sites. While some of this land may be used for greenways or small parks, the majority will be left as natural area.

One of the public amenities most mentioned in both interviews and public meetings was the need for preservation of public open space. The public seems to have a real desire to preserve open space within the town. Over three fourths (78%) of those surveyed believe it is important for the town to preserve open space.

#### Facility Standards

Minimum standards for recreational facilities (i.e., ball fields, courts, outdoor areas, etc.) proposed for the Town of Cornelius were developed in accordance with the industry guidelines established by the NRPA (National Recreation and Park Association) and the NCDEHNR (North Carolina Department Environmental Health and Natural Resources) and from input gained during the public meetings, telephone survey, and from the interviews with local stakeholders. These standards, identified in Table 3-3 "Standards for Public Facilities", are the minimum recreation facility standards that should be used to establish a needs assessment for the town.

#### Evaluation of Facility Needs

The number of public facilities needed in Cornelius through the 10-year planning period (2006 to 2015), are identified in Table 3-4, "Current and Projected Facility Needs".

The table illustrates that while there are some areas of deficiencies in several recreation facility categories, many deficiencies have been resolved since the 1999 plan. Based on the standards that have been established specifically for Cornelius, there will be a need for a number of additional recreational facilities by 2015. These facility needs include:



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- 2 Adult/older youth baseball fields
- 4 Youth baseball fields
- 5 Softball fields
- 3 Football fields
- 3 Soccer Fields
- 3 Outdoor basketball courts\*\*
- 2 Tennis courts
- 6 Playground activities
- 13.57 Miles of pedestrian trails\*
- 30 Miles of urban bikeway paths
- 1 Recreation/Community center
- 1 Swimming pool

\*The facility need for greenways was determined as part of the Greenway Master Plan.

\*\* In addition to the expressed need for outdoor basketball courts, there is a strong demand for indoor basketball courts as well. This demand will be met with the development of joint use gymnasium facilities at Westmoreland Elementary School, Bailey Road Middle School, and Bailey Road High School.

### State and Federal Assessments

Surveys designed to determine the demand for outdoor recreation have been conducted on the Federal level by the President's Commission on Americans Outdoors, the State of North Carolina, and various other organizations and associations.

The President's Commission Report indicated the following significant facts:

Top ten outdoor recreation activities nationwide:

- Picnicking
- Driving for pleasure
- Swimming
- Sightseeing
- Walking for pleasure
- Playing sports
- Fishing
- Attending sport events
- Boating
- Bicycling

Activities rapidly growing in popularity:

- Canoeing
- Bicycling
- Attending outdoor sports
- Camping, all types
- Sailing
- Hiking/backpacking
- Walking for pleasure
- Water skiing

The local levels (Cities and Counties) of the nation are providing 39% of the public recreation opportunities.

The National Sporting Goods Association (NSGA) conducts an annual study of Sports Participation. The survey lists the following top 25 activities per million participants. A participant is defined as someone seven years of age or older who participates in a sport more than once within a year for all sports except aerobic exercising, bicycle riding, calisthenics, exercise walking, exercising with equipment, running/jogging, and swimming. For these seven fitness sports, participation is defined as six times or more during the year. The following information reviews the findings for the past ten years.



<b>Sport</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1993</b>	<b>1991</b>	<b>1989</b>	<b>1987</b>
1. Exercise Walking	76.3	70.3	64.4	69.6	66.6	58.1
2. Swimming	59.5	61.5	61.4	66.2	70.5	66.1
3. Exercising W/Equipment	47.9	44.3	34.9	39.2	31.5	34.8
4. Camping	46.6	42.8	42.7	47.1	46.5	44.2
5. Bicycle Riding	45.1	56.3	47.9	54.0	56.9	53.2
6. Bowling	44.8	41.9	41.3	40.4	40.8	40.1
7. Fishing	44.7	44.2	51.2	47.0	46.5	45.8
8. Billiards/Pool	37.0	31.1	29.4	29.6	29.6	29.3
9. Basketball	30.7	30.1	29.6	29.2	26.2	25.1
10. Hiking	28.4	25.0	19.5	22.7	23.5	17.4
11. Boating (Motor/Power)	27.2	26.8	20.7	22.4	29.0	30.9
12. Roller Skating/Inline	26.6	23.9	12.4	7.3	N/A	N/A
13. Aerobic Exercising	26.3	23.1	24.9	25.9	25.1	23.1
14. Golf	26.2	24.0	22.6	24.7	23.2	20.3
15. Running/Jogging	21.7	20.6	20.3	22.5	24.8	24.8
16. Dart Throwing	21.4	19.8	19.2	17.0	17.4	13.1
17. Volleyball	17.8	18.0	20.5	22.6	25.1	23.6
18. Hunting w/ Firearms	17.0	17.4	18.5	17.1	17.7	N/A
19. Softball	16.3	17.6	17.9	19.6	22.1	21.6
20. Mountain Bike (On Road)	16.0	10.5	10.5	N/A	N/A	N/A
21. Baseball	14.1	15.7	16.7	16.5	15.4	15.2
22. Soccer	13.7	12.0	10.3	10.0	11.2	9.8
23. Target Shooting	13.5	13.9	12.8	11.5	N/A	N/A
24. Backpacking	12.0	10.2	9.2	10.4	11.4	8.9
25. Football (Touch)	11.9	12.1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

NSGA Sports Participation Study (in millions)

The North Carolina Outdoor Recreation Survey provided an indication on the most popular outdoor recreation activities in the State. The most popular outdoor recreation activities in North Carolina are:

- |                              |                            |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Walking for pleasure      | 6. Swimming                |
| 2. Driving for pleasure      | 7. Visiting natural areas  |
| 3. Viewing scenery           | 8. Picnicking              |
| 4. Beach activities          | 9. Attending sports events |
| 5. Visiting historical sites | 10. Visiting zoos          |

### Bench Marking Relative to Other Communities

To better understand how towns/cities similar to Cornelius are funding their park and recreation programs, this study conducted a review of other similar agencies. This review began with an assessment of the data presented in the "North Carolina Municipal and County Parks and Recreation Services Study" conducted by North Carolina's Recreation Resources Services. This is an annual study on tax supported funding trends for both operational and capital expenditures. In addition, this study provides limited information on existing facilities of the departments included in the survey.



In addition to the review of North Carolina communities, this study looked at data provided by the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration on their Gold Medal Award Winners. The Park and Recreation programs found in these communities represent the finest programs in the country.

**North Carolina Municipal and County Parks and Recreation Survey**

Based on the 2003/2004 report, this study identified ±ten towns/cities in North Carolina that exhibit similar population characteristics to Cornelius. All of the towns/cities have a larger population than Cornelius’ current population, but they are representative of Cornelius’ anticipated population in the next five to ten years.

**Population Estimates for Communities Comparable to the Town of Cornelius**

Town	Population Estimate
Apex Parks Rec & Cult Res	23,595
Asheboro Parks & Recreation	22,346
Cornelius Parks & Rec	14,577
Huntersville Parks & Rec	27,984
Kernersville Parks & Rec	19,860
Lexington Parks & Rec	20,327
Matthews Parks & Recreation	23,824
Mooreville Recreation Dept	19,905
Salisbury Parks & Recreation	26,804
Statesville Rec & Parks	24,292
Thomasville Parks & Rec	25,344

**Acres of Owned Park and Recreation Lands**

A review of the existing developed and undeveloped parkland shows that Cornelius currently ranks very high among municipalities of similar size. It should be noted that as Cornelius’ population grows over the next ten years, the acres per 1,000 people ratio will go down significantly. As the Town’s population reaches 30,000, the acres per 1,000 rate of parkland will drop to 16-17 acres per 1,000 people. Even with this increased population, Cornelius will rank well among North Carolina communities with similar populations.

Agency	Developed P&R Land	Undeveloped P&R Land	Total Acreage	Acres per 1000 people
Apex Parks Rec & Cult Res			Information not available	
Asheboro Parks & Recreation	1,310	350	1,660	74.286
Cornelius Parks & Rec	334.78*	136.87	471.65	32.52
Huntersville Parks & Rec	10	16	26**	.93
Kernersville Parks & Rec	242	68	310	15.65
Lexington Parks & Rec	237	100	337	16.60
Matthews Parks & Recreation	39		39	1.63
Mooreville Recreation Dept	111	20	131	6.58
Salisbury Parks & Recreation			Information not available	
Statesville Rec & Parks	274	4	178	7.35
Thomasville Parks & Rec	84	8	92	3.63

\* Includes the 177 acres of Mecklenburg County parkland within Cornelius town limits.

\*\*Does not include any Mecklenburg County Park Land



### Operating and Capital Expenditures

Based on the current level of funding for operational needs, the Town of Cornelius is well within North Carolina’s median range for towns approximately its size or larger.

The range of per capita expense for capital expenditures in North Carolina varies greatly (\$.42 to \$166 per capita) making it difficult to determine an average.

Capital Expenditures are more difficult to chart because of the variance in spending by agencies from year to year. In addition, many agencies fund capital improvement projects from funds other than general funds, so these projects may not be included in this analysis. For example, it should be noted that the capital expenditure for Cornelius does not reflect the \$250,000 that was spent on improvements to Bailey Road Park in 2004. If this capital expenditure had been included in this survey, Cornelius would have been between \$17 and \$18 per capita. That would have made Cornelius one of the leaders in North Carolina’s per capital spending in its size category.

### Per Capita Expenditures

Agency	Total Per Capita Expenditures	Operating Per Capita Expenditures	Capital Improvement Per Capita Expenditures
Matthews Parks & Recreation	\$10.29	\$9.61	\$0.68
Lexington Parks & Rec	\$28.13	\$28.13	
Thomasville Parks & Rec	\$43.79	\$43.05	\$0.75
Asheboro Parks & Recreation	\$46.15	\$43.47	\$2.68
Kernersville Parks & Rec	\$47.59	\$35.44	\$12.15
Cornelius Parks & Rec	\$57.73	\$57.32	\$0.42
Huntersville Parks & Rec	\$66.54	\$45.81	\$20.72
Salisbury Parks & Recreation	\$68.89	\$65.48	\$3.41
Statesville Rec & Parks	\$92.41	\$81.03	\$11.38
Apex Parks Rec & Cult Res	\$106.21	\$69.39	\$36.82
Mooresville Recreation Dept	\$118.39	\$58.70	\$59.69

### Gold Medal Winners

The American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration in partnership with the National Recreation and Park Association presents National Gold Medal awards to the nation’s outstanding park and recreation agencies for excellence in the field of recreation management. Gold medal winners exhibit excellence in:

- Dedication to serving the needs of citizens
- Creative financing
- Use of volunteers
- Service to the disabled and disadvantaged

As part of this planning effort, several previous gold medal winning agencies were reviewed to learn more about their programs and facilities. Agencies reviewed included:



**Evans, Colorado Winner 2004**

Population	17,000	Tax Rate	3.5% Sales Tax
Family Income	\$38,000	House Price	\$120,000
Employees Full Time	10	Part Time/Seasonal	50
Per Capita Expenditure	88.23		
Budget	1.5 million + 1m capital		

The Evans Parks and Recreation Department currently operates a 25,000 square foot Community & Senior Center and has an outdoor pool. They will be adding an indoor pool. The Town provides mostly youth and senior programs. Adults utilize nearby Greeley, CO programs. The Town levies an impact fee on new construction of \$2,132 per unit for parks. In addition, it requires dedication of usable land for park development (4 ac min) based on 3.5ac/1,000 (2.9 persons per household). The impact fee is split between neighborhood and district parks.

**Itasca, Illinois Winner 2003**

Population	9,000	Tax Rate	.3597/100
Family Income	\$70,000	House Price	\$208,000
Employees Full Time	13	Part Time/Seasonal	100+
Per Capita Expenditure	344.44		
Budget	3.1 million (must generate 1.5 m in fees to balance budget)		

The Department operates a 40,000 square foot fitness center, an outdoor water park, a softball complex, a community garden, and school facilities. It combines with 11 agencies to provide services to people with disabilities (Town share \$100,000).

**Lafayette, Colorado Winner 2002**

Population	25,000	Tax Rate	3.5% Sales Tax
Family Income	\$70,000	House Price	\$200,000
Employees Full Time	15	Part Time/Seasonal	100-150
Per Capita Expenditure	80.00		
Budget	2m		

The Parks and Recreation Department operates a 43,000 square foot recreation center with admission and membership fees, and a golf course. 66% of the budget is recovered from fees. Produces an annual Wine Festival and an Oatmeal Festival.

**Herndon, Virginia Winner 2001**

Population	22,000	Tax Rate	.28/100
Family Income	\$73,000	House Price	\$185,200
Employees Full Time	28	Part Time/Seasonal	150
Per Capita Expenditure	163.63		
Budget	3.6m		

Operates three indoor facilities of 45,000 square feet or greater. Has a golf course. Has little theater program that utilizes a lease (25k per year) in an industrial park.



**North Carolina Communities**

In addition to looking at National Gold Medal Award Winners, this study reviewed five North Carolina communities to be used as a benchmark for the Cornelius Parks and Recreation Department. The populations listed below are estimated as of 2004 and the Family Income and House Price are based on the 2000 census. These communities included:

**Apex, North Carolina**

Population	28,000	Tax Rate	.40/100
Family Income	\$71,052	House Price	\$178,800
Employees Full Time	14		
Per Capita Expenditure	89		
Budget	2.5 m		

2 indoor facilities, 5 school sites, 9 parks. Passed a 13 million bond in November with 87% of vote.

**Cary, North Carolina**

Population	108,000	Tax Rate	.42/100
Family Income	\$75,122	House Price	\$196,700
Employees Full Time	50		
Per Capita Expenditure	66.00		
Budget	7.2 m		

Operates 3 recreation centers, an arts center, a senior center, a 7,000 seat amphitheater, a 30 court tennis center, and a 7 field soccer complex with stadium. There will be a \$10 million bond election in May.

**Cornelius, North Carolina**

Population	16,827	Tax Rate	.26/100
Family Income	\$71,122	House Price	\$196,700
Employees Full Time	8		
Per Capita Expenditure	46.00		
Budget	763,238		

**Davidson, North Carolina**

Population	8,172	Tax Rate	.345/100
Family Income	\$78,370	House Price	\$270,000
Employees Full Time			
Per Capita Expenditure	118.00		
Budget	960,000		

**Huntersville, North Carolina**

Population	32,323	Tax Rate	.28/100
Family Income	\$71,932	House Price	\$182,800
Employees Full Time			
Per Capita Expenditure	52.		
Budget	1.6 m		

Please note: The above listed Budgets do not include the cost of Recreation Centers.



**Table 3-1**

**Town of Cornelius  
Standards for Park Classification  
and Land Area Requirements**

*Acres per 1000 Population*

<u>Park Type</u>	<u>NRPA</u>	<u>NCDEHNR</u>	<u>Mecklenburg County</u>	<u>Recommended Town of Cornelius</u>
*Mini-Park	.25-.5	N/A	N/A	.25
*Neighborhood	1-2	2	3	2.5
**/*Community	5-8	10	5	5
**District	5-10	10	5	5
***Regional	N/A	20	N/A	10
Unique/Special Areas Linear/Greenway Parks	Variable	Variable	Variable	Variable

\* Parks typically provided by City and Town Governments

\*\* Parks typically provided by County Governments

\*\*\* Parks typically provided by Federal and State Governments



**Table 3-2**

**Town of Cornelius  
Total Park Sites and Acreage Per Park Classification**

Park Type & Cornelius Standards Typical Acreage	Parks Required Based on Standards		Existing Parks # of Sites Total Acreage	Park Needs	
	Current Population 16,500	2015 Population 30,000		Current Population	2015 Population
Mini Parks 1-3 Acres/Park (.25 acres/1,000)	4.12 acres 2 sites	7.5 acres 3 sites	2.97 acres 1 sites <sup>3</sup>	1.15 acres 1 site	4.53 acres 2 sites
Neighborhood Parks 7-15 Acres/Park (2.5 Acres/1,000)	41.25 acres 5 sites	75 acres 8 sites	36.2 acres 4 sites <sup>2</sup>	5.05 acres 1 site	38.8 acres 4 sites
Community Parks 30-50 Acres/Park (5 Acres/1,000)	82.5 acres 2 sites	150 acres 3 sites	118 acres 2 sites <sup>1</sup>	0 acres	32 acres 1 site
District Parks ± 200 Acres/Park (5 Acres/1,000)	Provided by the County	Provided by the County	Provided by the County	Provided by the County	Provided by the County
Regional Parks 100-250 Acres/Park (10 Acres/1,000)	Provided by the County and State	Provided by the County and State	Provided by the County and State	Provided by the County and State	Provided by the County and State

<sup>1</sup> Community Parks include Bailey Road (68 acres) & Robbins Park (50 acres undeveloped).\*

<sup>2</sup> Neighborhood Parks include Legion Park (7.16 acres), Torrence Chapel Park (14.26 acres), Smithville Park (8.78 acres), and Jetton Road Neighborhood Park (6.0 acres).

<sup>3</sup> Mini Park includes Walter Henderson Road Mini Park (2.97 acres).

\*Land for Robbins Park has been reserved through an agreement with Mecklenburg County, but park development has not begun.



**Table 3-3  
Town of Cornelius  
Standards for Public Facilities**

Utilizing national and state standards as a guide and based on public input, the following Standards for Recreation Facility Development are recommended for the Town of Cornelius.

Facilities	National Recreation and Park Association	N.C. Department of Environment & Natural Resources	Cornelius 1999 Standards	Cornelius 2005 Standards
<b>Fields</b>				
Adult Baseball	1/12,000	1/5,000	1/15,000	1/15,000
Youth Baseball	1/10,000	1/10,000	1/2,000	1/3,000
Softball	1/5,000	1/5,000	1/5,000	1/5,000
Football	1/10,000	1/20,000	1/5,000	1/10,000
Soccer	1/10,000	1/20,000	1/5,000	1/5,000
<b>Courts</b>				
Basketball	1/5,000	1/5,000	1/2,000	1/5,000
Tennis	1/2,000	1/2,000	1/2,000	1/2,000
Volleyball	1/5,000	1/5,000	1/5,000	1/5,000
Shuffleboard	1/5,000	1/5,000	1/5,000	1/5,000
Horseshoe	1/5,000	1/5,000	1/5,000	1/5,000
<b>Outdoor Areas</b>				
Picnic Shelter	N/A	1/3,000	1/3,000	1/3,000
Playground Activities*	N/A	1/1,000	1/1,000	1/1,000
<b>Trails</b>				
Hiking	1/region	.4 mile/1,000	.4 mile/1,000	.4 mile/1,000
Equestrian	N/A	.4 mile/1,000	.4 mile/1,000	.4 mile/1,000
<b>Specialized</b>				
Community Center (+20,000 SF)	1/20,000	1/20,000	1/20,000	1/20,000
Neighborhood Center (10,000 SF)	1/20,000	1/3-10,000	1/10,000	N/A
Swimming Pool	1/20,000	1/20,000	1/20,000	1/20,000
Golf Course	1/25,000	1/25,000	1/25,000	N/A
Bicycling/Urban	N/A	1 mile/1,000	1 mile/1,000	1 mile/1,000
Camping	N/A	2.5 sites/1,000	2.5 sites/1,000	N/A
Archery Area	1/50,000	1/50,000	1/50,000	1/50,000
Stream/Lake Mileage	N/A	.2 mile/1,000	.2 mile/1,000	.2 mile/1,000
Stream/Lake Access	N/A	1/10 miles	1/10 miles	1/10 miles

\*Standards for playgrounds are expressed in play activities. Each playground contains 3-5 activities.



**Table 3-4  
Town of Cornelius  
Current and Projected Facility Needs**

Facilities	Cornelius 2005 Standards	Existing Facilities	Current Demand 16,500	Current Need	2015 Demand 30,000	2015 Projected Need
<b>Fields</b>						
Adult Baseball	1/15,000	0	1	1****	2	2****
Youth Baseball	1/3,000	6	5	(1)****	10	4****
Softball	1/5,000	1	3	2****	6	5****
Football	1/10,000	0	2	2****	3	3****
Soccer	1/5,000	3	3	0	6	3****
<b>Courts</b>						
Basketball	1/5,000	3	3	0	6	3
Tennis	1/2,000	13	8	(5)	15	2
Volleyball	1/5,000	4	3	(1)	6	2
Shuffleboard	1/5,000	0	3	3	6	6
Horseshoe	1/5,000	0	3	3	6	6
<b>Outdoor Areas</b>						
Picnic Shelter	1/3,000	12	5	(7)	10	(2)
Playground Activities*	1/1,000	24	16	(8)	30	6
<b>Trails</b>						
Pedestrian**	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Biking	1 mile/1,000	0	16.5	15.5	30	30
<b>Specialized</b>						
Community Center	1/20,000	0	1	1	1	1
Neighborhood Center	N/A	0	-	-	-	-
Swimming Pool	1/20,000	0	1	1	1	1
Golf Course	N/A	0	-	-	-	-
Camping	N/A	0	-	-	-	-
Archery Area	1/50,000	0	-	-	-	-
Stream/Lake Mileage***	.2 mile/1,000	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Stream/Lake Access***	1/10 miles	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

\*Standards for playgrounds are expressed in play activities. Each playground contains 3-5 activities.

\*\*Cornelius completed a Greenway Master Plan in 2004 that recommended 13.5 miles of greenways be constructed throughout the town.

\*\*\*Lake access provided at Jetton Park and Ramsey Creek Access.

\*\*\*\*Lighting fields greatly extends use. Number of athletic fields may be reduced if fields are lighted.