

**Boyce Mayview
Land Management Plan**

May 16, 2006

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A. INTRODUCTION

A1. Charge

MEMORANDUM

To: Douglas A. Watkins, Township Manager

From: Paul Besterman, Director of Recreation and Leisure Services

Date: February 3, 2005

Subject: BOYCE MAYVIEW PARK PLAN/GILFILLAN DEVELOPMENT PLAN GUIDELINES

As requested by the Parks and Recreation Committee of the Board of Commissioners and confirmed by the entire Board of Commissioners at the January 31, 2005 Informational Meeting, the following are potential guidelines for use by the Parks and Recreation Board in the development of management parameters beyond those already established requirements in the Township of Upper St. Clair Administrative Code.

- Develop elements of a Management Plan that would pertain to the current passive segment of the park(s), the current active segment of the park(s).
- Elements could include Administrative Policies, Operational Policies, Land and Facilities Management Plan, Management of Volunteer Groups and Funding Resources.
- Hold open public meeting with resident stakeholders, including but not limited to the following: USC School District, Citizens for Recreation Facilities, Boyce Road Gardeners, Citizens for Land Stewardship, USC Athletic Association, USC Historical Society, REEC Inc. and Home Owner Associations. Input from nonresidents should also be accepted and considered.
- Use available Township Staff and Volunteers as needed or consider hiring Professional Consultant such as the example set by the Interior Trails Committee.
- Complete task within 18 - 24 months after charge from Board of Commissioners to Parks and Recreation Board is accepted.



Township of

Upper St. Clair

A2. Land Management Focus Group Participants

Citizen Volunteers:

Chairperson

Rectenwald, Don

Vice Chairperson

Bakayza, Kelly

Dudzinski, Linda

Fitzgibbons, Josette

Fleckenstein, Janice

Kender, Jerry

Kerman, Amy

McGroarty, Mike

Morris, Diane

Norton, Amanda

Palmer, John

Petersen, Angela B.

Shaffer, Kris

Township Personnel:

Besterman, Paul

Jarosh, Walter

A3. Land Management Focus Group Mission Statement

The primary objective of the management plan is to balance Boyce Mayview Park's diverse uses to provide an enjoyable park experience for all visitors. The plan will preserve the Park's ecologically sensitive resources while optimizing recreation opportunities through policies designed to maximize user benefit while minimizing ecological impact.

B. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 475-acre Boyce Mayview Park is a regional asset situated in the Township of Upper St. Clair. At a glance, this “gem” of a park can provide residents with the opportunity to enjoy a diverse array of activities, greatly contributing to the quality of life in the Township. The abundance of natural resources and quality landscapes rival any in Allegheny County, while the construction of exemplary recreational facilities will contribute to and enhance the recreational enjoyment of the community. In recognition of the importance of Boyce Mayview Park to the well-being of Upper St. Clair residents and the community as a whole, the Land Management Plan was prepared to determine the actions that should be taken to shape the future of the park.

The Boyce Mayview Park Land Management Plan was prepared through an open planning process that included the formation of a citizen’s committee. The Land Management Committee utilized planning documents, including the Boyce Mayview Park Master Plan of October 1999 and the Boyce Mayview Park Pre-Schematic Study of 2003 as well as other publicly accepted and acknowledged documents referenced in the Land Management Plan, to determine the direction of developing and maintaining the Park. The Land Management Committee meetings were open for public participation with relevant comments and suggestions incorporated into the Land Management Plan. The intent of the Committee was to consolidate key concepts and recommendations contained in the professional studies. It was not the intent of the Committee to be inconsistent with the previously approved documents.

The Land Management Plan recommends the formation of a Boyce Mayview Park Advisory Work Group. This group will be the focal point of action with regard to all aspects of Park development. In addition, a park superintendent is proposed who will provide actively-engaged management. A volunteer corps is also planned.

Sustainable design, which is defined as the wise use of natural and man-made resources to ensure the most benefit from the least destruction or depletion of finite resources, is the proposed philosophical framework for implementing and managing the Park.

The Land Management Plan also provides a set of guidelines designed to aid in the coordinated development of the Park. They include:

- Habitat Management Strategy
- Landscape Management
- Issues Related to Meadows, Woodlands, Buffers, and Wetlands
- Public Safety
- Interior, Gateway, and Directional Signage
- Interior and Perimeter Trails
- And Many Others

Financial considerations are touched upon in this plan. Chief among the funding sources is the proposed creation of a “Friends of the Park” group. This group would provide a key component of fundraising while building community involvement.

Management objectives are based on the Master Plan process conclusion that Boyce Mayview Park’s exceptionally varied landscape is a unique regional resource. In the broader scope of sustainable design, Boyce Mayview Park can be developed as the cornerstone of the community

by providing a myriad of recreational uses for residents of all ages interested in participating in a diverse array of activities. Adoption of the principles of this land management plan will transform 475 acres of property into a vibrant destination for recreation, education, relaxation, and community celebration.

C. BACKGROUND

C1. Park Description

a. Vision Overview

The vision of Boyce Mayview Park (henceforth called the Park) balances the community's need for passive, nature-oriented activities with recreational activities, features the Park as a corner stone of the community, and advocates the Park as a model of sustainable design in practice.

b. Physical Attributes

The Park is a 475-acre jewel nestled in Upper St. Clair Township, just 12 miles south of Pittsburgh. The Park is the largest of the Township's 19 parks and is composed of two distinct halves. The east portion (Boyce) is approximately 237 acres and the western portion (Mayview) is 238 acres. Each half contributes unique characteristics to the overall park. Chartiers Creek (which eventually flows into the Ohio River) flows through the Park and forms its western boundary sharing this boundary, sharing this boundary with South Fayette Township.

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) has completed three phases in a compensatory mitigation project to create wetlands along Chartiers Creek adjacent to the Boyce Mayview property. These wetlands, constructed to offset the impacts of local highway construction in the north hills of Pittsburgh, are owned by Penn DOT and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The Township is not responsible for managing the artificial wetlands or its perimeter trail.

In addition to the mitigated wetlands, Mayview State Hospital, neighboring South Fayette Township and residential areas of Upper St. Clair border the Park along Township maintained roads.

The Mayview Barn complex is located in the northwest section of the Park. Once an operating dairy barn (up until the early 1980s), current use of the remaining barns and silos is limited to minimal equipment storage or sit empty.

The Park is bounded by the following roads: Boyce Road forms the southern border, Morton Road forms the eastern border, Morrow Road and Skyridge Drive form the northern border, and Mayview Road forms the western border. Five major access points allow entrance into the Park: Mayview Gateway, Baker Park Gateway, Morton Gateway, Boyce Gateway, and Boyce Station Gateway.

c. Natural Features

The combined value of the Park's wide range of physiographic characteristics is more important than any specific natural feature found in the Park. Currently the property is largely undeveloped and contains extensive woodlands, open fields, and streams. The site includes regional elevation extremes and an unusual spectrum of topographical features. Extensive woodlands, meadows, ravines, floodplains or bottomlands, river terraces, upper plateaus, three unmanned headwater tributary streams (flowing into Chartiers Creek), and the full range of possible aspects and slopes are all present on the site. The Park supports an incredibly diverse ecosystem of over 30 habitats.

Annual bird counts within the Park have identified 167 bird species while plant surveys have identified more than 500 species of plants.



d. Deed Restrictions/Lease Agreements

Both parcels of land (east and western) were acquired by Upper St. Clair and were accepted under deed restrictions. The Boyce property deed specifies that the property be used for recreation, conservation, and historic purposes. The Mayview property deed contains a restriction that land be used for recreational, conservational, and other municipal purposes. See Appendix A for more detail.

C2. Historical Perspective

a. Site History

The Park is located within the Township of Upper St. Clair, Allegheny County. The parceled land was acquired through transactions with Allegheny County in 1985 and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in 1996.

History reveals the presence of Indian settlement in the Chartiers Creek floodplain terrace. Chartiers Creek was an important transportation route for local Native American tribes and early European settlers.

The southern portion of the Park was originally owned by Richard Boyce, one of the early landowners in Upper St. Clair. The Mayview State Hospital, constructed in 1892, was occupied by inmates and patients in 1894. The northern parcel of the Park served for most of the 20th century as the Mayview Farm that provided dairy products, grain, and produce to the Mayview State Hospital and three other state facilities in Pennsylvania. Today, Mayview State Hospital operates in a limited capacity and occupies only a small amount of its original property.

Underneath the Park lies the Mayview Mine, a room and pillar coal mine.

C3. Planning Process

a. Master Plan (October 1999)

The Boyce Mayview Park Master Plan¹ (henceforth called the “Master Plan”) was submitted to the Township of Upper St. Clair by Wallace Roberts & Todd, with Ecological Restorations, Inc., Economics Research Associates, and H.F. Lenz Company in October 1999. The Master Plan process began with data collection and review, including a site reconnaissance visit, key informant interviews, and review of data including the 1997 Boyce Mayview Park Recreational Preference Survey, Upper St. Clair Township Comprehensive Plan, Allegheny County Natural Heritage Inventory Report, and a variety of other documents and maps identifying natural features and existing conditions.

In addition to the 47-page Master Plan report, the plan also includes 11 technical memoranda found in the Boyce Mayview Park Technical Memorandum Appendices and documents each phase of the master planning process.

The concept of the Master Plan involves seven principles that are described as touchstones of the Park’s eventual design:

- Preserve sensitive habitats
- Improve water quality
- Limit vehicular traffic
- Link Boyce and Mayview properties which are separated by a deep ravine
- Define and enhance spatial areas
- Limit active recreation to the northern area of the site
- Connect major habitats, program features, and key adjacent uses
- Improve pedestrian access
- Green Design

Sustainable design, which is defined as the *wise use of natural and manmade resources to ensure the most benefit from the least destruction or depletion of finite resources*, is the proposed philosophical framework for implementing and managing the Park. Reference the Master Plan (page 4) for more detail.

A site analysis, used to determine usefulness and program development in the Park, classifies the Park into four sensitivity areas: most sensitive, moderately sensitive, less sensitive, and least sensitive. This analysis assesses opportunities and constraints at proposed sites in the Park. Active park programs including a community pool and recreational campus, multipurpose fields, multi-use trails, and a pet exercise area are enumerated. Passive recreational activities are also detailed. An environmental education center, a compost area, and a community gardens area are included in the Master Plan.

b. Parkwide Pre-Schematic Study (December 2003)

The 34-page Parkwide Pre-Schematic Study of Boyce Mayview Park², dated December 31, 2003, (henceforth called the “Pre-Schematic Study”) is based on the approved Master Plan of 1999. The Pre-Schematic Study was completed to help review and validate or amend the general

¹ The Boyce Mayview Master Plan can be found in its entirety on the Township of Upper St. Clair’s website at www.twpusc.org. It is also available at the Upper St. Clair Township Library.

² The Parkwide Pre-Schematic is located on the Upper St. Clair website, and can be accessed at www.twpusc.org.

program in the Master Plan, and to establish the scope, program, and budget with sufficient accuracy to be the basis for an architectural/engineering contract. It is intended to create a more detailed implementation plan for the Park by providing more specific detail about the program and form of the recreational facilities and land management plans.

The Pre-Schematic Study examines the Park in two ways:

1. Parkwide systems that apply throughout the Park
2. Site specific features that occur in the three major use areas of the Park

The three major use areas of the Park are defined as:

1. Active recreation [henceforth called “Mayview Commons”]
2. Education
3. Passive recreation and conservation

Cost estimates for each of these three major use areas are further detailed by specific element/feature of the area under consideration.

c. Interior Trails Plan (January 2005)

The interior trails design and implementation plan as prepared by Troy Scott Parker of Nature Shape LLC of Boulder are documented in the Boyce Mayview Park Interior Trails Plan³ dated January 7, 2005. In June 2005, the Parks and Recreation Board recommended modifications/clarifications to the Interior Trails Plan in a memo to the Board of Commissioners; this memo is included in Appendix B. Shortly thereafter, the Upper St. Clair Township Commissioners received and acknowledged the Boyce Mayview Park Interior Trails Plan (henceforth called the “IT Plan”).

The IT Plan, which institutes a sustainable design, encompasses 9.3 miles of trails, or 8.2 miles of trail if Bird Meadow Drive and Ravine Drive (old farm roads) are not considered part of the trail system. The IT Plan introduces the concept of natural shaped trails that twist, bend, and wind unpredictably and encompasses interrelated core concepts into the trail design:

- | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Anchors (edges, gateways) | 6. Compaction |
| 2. Safety | 7. Displacement |
| 3. Efficiency | 8. Erosion |
| 4. Playfulness | 9. Tread texture |
| 5. Harmony | 10. Tread watersheds |

All new trails and trail reroutes were carefully designed, laid out, and staked in the field using blue, whisker-like stakes.

The IT Plan designates a mixture of new trails, existing trails, trail reroutes, and existing unpaved roads creating a wide variety of loops. The IT Plan includes four maps:

1. Final Proposed Trail System
2. New, Existing, and Closed Trails
3. Dog Access
4. Sign and Bench Locations

The IT Plan discusses each trail, its intended experience, its current condition, and specifically addresses required construction for use. Trail shaping and trail maintenance are detailed. The IT

³ The Boyce Mayview Park Interior Trails Plan can be found at www.twpusc.org.

Plan specifies the philosophy and design of six bridges, benches (to be used sparingly), signs, and signposts.

Dog management is covered in a separate chapter and addresses many concerns with leashed and unleashed animals in the Park. The final two chapters of the IT Plan concentrate on cost estimates for construction and maintenance of the interior trails over time: Phase I and Phase II.

d. Regional Environmental Education Center (REEC)

Southwestern Pennsylvania is endowed with a wide array of natural assets. The rolling hills and wealth of creeks, streams, and rivers provide a diversity of ecosystems that is unmatched throughout the country. The Regional Environmental Education Center (henceforth called the REEC) in Upper St. Clair's 475-acre Boyce Mayview Park has been established to highlight the connection between people and the natural world in the Pittsburgh region through programs, exhibits, and resources in order to foster informed stewardship of the environment.

The development of the REEC was recommended in the Master Plan. Along with serving as a regional resource for environmental education and stewardship, the REEC was also conceived as a transitional element between a proposed active recreation area in the northern portion of the Park (approximately 67 acres) and the balance of the acreage that is designated for passive recreation and conservation.

A two million dollar grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection enabled the construction of an outdoor laboratory, two classrooms, office and exhibit space, landscaping, and a pervious-surface parking lot as part of the first phase of the project. The goals of the REEC were defined by a 21-member committee of volunteers, and were based on extensive benchmarking of similar facilities in Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. A non-profit corporation was set up in 2003, and a board of directors with representatives from communities throughout the South Hills region was appointed.

Since the official opening in September 2004, the REEC has provided environmental education programs to nearly 2000 school students and community residents. These programs include student education programs, community education series, outreach educational programs for several local schools and church groups, and Earth Day celebrations complete with hikes and family activities. The REEC has also begun to explore and develop collaborations with local groups such as Venture Outdoors, the USC Citizens for Land Stewardship, the Allegheny Land Trust, the Urban Ecology Collaborative, and the Pennsylvania Resources Council.

e. Boyce Mayview Park Active Area Development Phase I

The Upper St. Clair Athletic Association is an independent organization chartered for the sole purpose of developing, implementing, and managing athletic programs for the youth of Upper St. Clair.

In 1995 the Township Board of Commissioners asked the Athletic Association to develop a needs analysis indicating future growth of athletic programs by number of participants and the subsequent need for expanded field facilities. This report was revised in 1999 and resubmitted to the Board. In 2004, the Fields Committee, a group including representatives from the School District, Township, and USC Athletic Association, expanded on these analyses and presented to the Board of Commissioners a summary of outdoor recreational facilities for review by the

Board in formulating a resource plan to meet the Township's outdoor recreational needs. This January 15, 2004, document, "Executive Summary on Outdoor Recreation Facilities," enumerated existing outdoor recreational facilities, identified youth participation growth levels in Department of Recreation and Leisure Services athletic programs, and made several recommendations for outdoor recreation facilities enhancement and development. This executive summary was used as the starting point for public discussion and furtherance of an outdoor recreation resource plan.

In **February 2005**, the USC Board of Commissions approved the Boyce Mayview Park Active Area Development Plan Phase 1 which included development of:

- Mayview entrance road
- Storm water management controls
- Parking
- Four athletic fields
 - 2 soccer/football
 - 1 baseball
 - 1 softball

f. Boyce Mayview Land Management Plan

As requested by the Parks and Recreation Subcommittee of the Township's Board of Commissioners and confirmed by the entire Board of Commissioners at the January 31, 2005, Information Meeting, the Parks and Recreation Board was charged with the task of writing "Boyce Mayview Park Plan/Gilfillan Development Plan Guidelines." The charge included:

- Development of management parameters beyond those already established requirements in the Township Administrative Code.
- Management plan developmental elements encompassing both the passive and active segments of the Park; where, elements of the plan could include administrative and operational policies, land and facilities management plans, volunteer management plans, and funding resources.

To accomplish this charge, the Parks and Recreation Board convened a focus group (a group of voluntary Township citizens). The focus group chose to concentrate on guidelines specific to Boyce Mayview Park and developed the Boyce Mayview Land Management Plan (henceforth called the Land Management Plan).

As described in the "Planning Process" section of this document, the community planning process for the Park has resulted in the creation of a number of professional studies and plans. Each of these studies and plans contains information related to park management. The focus group labored to develop an in-depth understanding of the recommendations put forth in these professional studies and plans and to consolidate key concepts and recommendations into this document to create a fairly comprehensive management guideline document. It is not the intent of this document to supersede any previously approved or acknowledged reports and plans of the Upper St. Clair Board of Commissioners relating to, appertaining to, or regarding the Boyce Mayview property. Rather, the Land Management Plan for the Park incorporates herein all plans and reports previously approved and acknowledged by the Upper St. Clair Board of Commissioners including, but not limited to, the Master Plan, agreements between the Township and the Regional Environmental Education Center Corporation, the Pre-Schematic Study, the IT Plan, and the Athletic Fields Phase I Development Plan. To the extent that the Land Management

Plan contradicts or is in any way inconsistent with those previously approved documents, the inconsistent language shall not supersede said plans and reports referenced and incorporated herein, but shall be deemed inconsistent and shall not become a part of the Land Management Plan.

D. MANAGMENT STRUCTURE

D1. Goals

- * Establish an organizational structure for advising the development and implementation of the Park.
- * Provide a qualified staff sufficient to manage, operate, maintain, and secure the Park, with proper vision and adherence to the guiding principles of the Master Plan.
- * Adopt a strategic plan with adequate funding to maintain the Park. Recognize that budget constraints necessitate rethinking of the role of partnerships and volunteer organizations.
- * Develop a prioritized implementation plan. Give significant attention to ensuring that design and implementation adhere to sustainable design principles.

D2. Administration

a. Boyce Mayview Park Advisory Work Group

The first step in implementing the Master Plan is to form a Boyce Mayview Advisory Work Group (henceforth called the Advisory Work Group). The Advisory Work Group should guide the development of all phases of park implementation including the preparation of a prioritized phasing plan, fund raising, staffing, volunteer coordination, and programming.

Representatives from the following groups should be considered for membership:

- Township Management Office
- Board of Commissioners
- Public Works / Township Forester / Park Superintendent
- Recreation and Leisure
- Parks and Recreation Board
- School District
- Independent Organizations

The Advisory Work Group should be the focal point of action with regard to all aspects of Park development. Additionally, the committee will provide a forum for the community to discuss future modifications / adherence to the principles of the Master Plan.

The Advisory Work Group responsibilities will be dependent on the level of development and implementation activity within the Park and as development and implementation activity within the Park are completed, advisory responsibilities will be assumed by the existing Parks and Recreation Board.

b. Staffing

b1. Park Superintendent

Critical to the success of the Park is the commitment from the Township to provide qualified staff to manage, operate, maintain, and provide security. Keeping in mind the size and scope of the Park, it is highly recommended that the Township establish a new position of Park Superintendent. Boyce Mayview Park is unlike parks entirely devoted to active recreation, and unlike most of Upper St. Clair's neighborhood parks. It is more akin to parks managed by other

county, state, and federal agencies whose mandate and capabilities provide background on large-scale land management, especially with regard to habitat management. The Land Management Plan depends on an actively engaged superintendent to guide the process of change towards ever-higher ecological integrity. Training of staff to ensure the development of the proper vision of the Park is vital to its long-term success and would be the responsibility of the Park Superintendent.

b2. Volunteer Coordination

Community engagement through volunteerism is a vital component of the success of the Park. Recruiting and training a volunteer corps will lead to a community-wide shared sense of stewardship and an appreciation for and commitment to the mission, values, and resources of the Park. Budget constraints can be eased by the use of volunteers. Recognition of volunteers with proper signage will honor our “local heroes” and add to the sense of partnership with the Township.

D3. Implementation Priorities

The immediate charge of the Advisory Work Group should be to prepare a prioritized phasing plan. It is suggested that the committee consider grouping proposed projects into three categories: 1) High priority immediate actions, 2) Moderate priority recommendation actions, and 3) low priority discretionary actions.

1. High Priority immediate actions should include all actions that help to ensure the safety and well being of park users. Provisions for vehicle access, trail construction, and athletic fields should also be considered.
2. Moderate Priority recommended actions are important to the realization of the Master Plan. These actions include major facilities whose funding is linked to other sources, and fundamental habitat enhancements.
3. Low Priority discretionary actions don't impact the critical mass of the Master Plan and can be phased in throughout the project build out.

Projects and activities that might be considered for High Priority immediate action include:

- Establishment of the Advisory Work Group as described in section D2. Administration.
- Promote establishment of a “Friends of the Park” group to provide volunteers and benefactors opportunity to offer fiscal support for Park development. Establish protocols to enable such a group to readily benefit Park development.
- Complete projects currently active within the Park:
 - Interior Trails implementation Phase I & II
 - Boyce Mayview Park Active Area Development Phase I
 - Perimeter Trail Phase I
 - Ongoing development of REEC facilities
- Establish volunteer education and management infrastructure and protocols. Successful establishment of volunteer programs will enable the community to complete numerous projects in a more-timely and less-costly manner through volunteer labor.
- Continue Park cleanup.
- Remove outdated signage within the Park.

- Remove the police training area.
- Develop of a harmonious design standard for Park signage and execute Park-wide signage installation.
- Work with local police and fire authorities to develop emergency plans.

D4. Financial Considerations

There is no single strategy to follow with regard to the raising of capital funds or operational and maintenance funds for the Park.

The service-area definition will affect fund raising strategy. This issue relates to whether or not the Park and its individual facilities are used largely by local residents or whether the Park has a broader regional draw. Facilities with a regional appeal should have the potential to draw a greater number of visitors and generate higher levels of revenue. On the other hand, if supported solely by Township residents, the development of facilities may be more modest.

Partnerships come with different levels of potential funding and different types of demands. Each partnership should be examined individually. Funding contributions often come with “strings attached.” Control issues must be resolved.

Clearly, community involvement is a key component of funding and should be considered as a first step. A “Friends of the Park” group should be established to show the vested interest residents have in the development and continued maintenance of the Park through fund raising efforts, grant research, and other fiscal support opportunities.

Once the Park is operational, the Township must be willing to provide for its maintenance through standard budgeting or through creative partnerships with businesses or community groups interested in “Adopt-A-Park” programs.

To date, the Township has successfully obtained grant funding for Park development from:

- Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission (SPC)
- Allegheny Regional Asset District (ARAD)
- Federal Highway Administration TEA-21
- Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR)

These grant funds have been instrumental in current Park development. Opportunities to continue or enhance grant funding opportunities should be actively pursued.

E. PARK-WIDE SYSTEMS

E1. Sustainable Design Strategy

a. Goals

- * Introduce a culture of sustainability as a mutually-held value in the Park’s design, construction, and maintenance operations. Through these mutually-held values, decisions about relative environmental values can be made in the context of this broad sustainability framework.
- * Park development should use sustainable design as a basic consideration in decision making.
- * Utilize integrated sustainable design protocols, facilities focused on green building techniques, and proactive habitat management to form the core of sustainable design, implementation, management, and maintenance of the Park.

b. Interpretation

Ideally, sustainability is a value that can and should inform all decisions related to the Park, but it does not in any way preclude the planned recreational development of the Park. A culture of sustainability provides an “overlay” encouraging the community to consider environmental and societal within the strategic and day-to-day decisions that shape the Park.

The proposed management strategies are based on the Master Plan process conclusion that Boyce Mayview Park’s exceptionally varied landscape is a unique regional resource. The natural variety serves two purposes: interesting recreational experience and diverse habitat that supports species diversity. This finding has shaped the management strategy and has driven how the Land Management Plan addresses the long-term management objectives for the care of both natural and manmade landscapes.

Ultimate design criteria preserve the Park’s ecologically sensitive resources while optimizing recreation opportunities through policies designed to maximize user benefit while minimizing ecological impact.

c. Recommendations

Significant attention should be given to ensuring that the design, construction, and operation of the Park serve as a model of sustainable design in practice. The Pre-Schematic Study documents a process for “Implementing a Sustainable Park.” Some of the highlights are listed here:

- Consultants and contractors should be pre-qualified based on the capability of performing in accordance with accepted industry standards (U.S. Green Building Council = USGBC) in their fields.
- The USGBC “Leadership in Energy and Environment” (LEED) process should be recognized as a useful guide for sustainable design, and if used to officially certify projects, can be used to fulfill funding requirement for certain grant programs.

**United Nations
Report of the World
Commission on
Environment and
Development
1987**

**“...sustainable
development, which
implies meeting the
needs of the present
without
compromising the
ability of future
generations to meet
their own needs,
should become a
central guiding
principle of the
United Nations,
Governments and
private institutions,
organizations and
enterprises...”**

- A subset of the Sustainable Park Implementation Checklist follows:
 - Township Leadership: conduct in-house Township sustainability workshop.
 - Consultants: Use a selection process that includes documented experience with LEED.
 - Contractors: Contractors to be pre-qualified in the use of LEED on completed projects.
 - Project Management: Strive to include owners, users, consultants, and contractors in early green design meetings to establish a clear green building plan.

The Pre-Schematic Study provides a “Sustainable Project Checklist.” This checklist is included in Appendix C.

Since the completion of the Pre-Schematic Study, other industry standards, guidelines, and rating systems may have matured; these competing rating systems should be considered.

E2. Habitat

a. Goals

- * Define management objectives and plans for all habitats within the Park.
- * Evolve and implement a sophisticated, comprehensive land management plan that yields habitat integrity and stability and enables the Park to function at a higher degree of ecological capability.
- * Integrate sustainable and ecologically-sound management practices in all aspects of park operation.
- * Enhance the rural look and feel of the Park by keeping all landscaping projects consistent with habitat management goals.
- * Decrease maintenance time and costs through the use of sustainable landscape principles.

b. Habitat Management Strategy

Utilize the detailed information available in the Master Plan, the Master Plan Technical memorandum & memorandum attachments (example: Habitat Units Map & Habitat Unit Sensitivity Map), and the Pre-Schematic Study to identify the physical location of each of the habitats within the Park. Develop a clear understanding of the sensitivity ranking for specific habitats: most sensitive, moderately sensitive, less sensitive, and least sensitive; where sensitivity rankings are described as:

- Most Sensitive – habitat is of high value and should not be disturbed.
- Moderately Sensitive – habitat is minimally disturbed and may be enhanced through relatively modest means.
- Less Sensitive – habitat is significantly disturbed, but may be significantly enhanced.
- Least Sensitive – habitat has low value due to severe disturbance and potential exists for development or creation of new habitats.

Sensitivity rankings were based on:

- Diversity of vegetation and wildlife
- Relative availability of the habitat regionally
- Indicator/rare/endangered species (either confirmed or suspected)
- Degree of past disturbance
- Potential for enhancement of habitat quality/bio-diversity

Give significant attention to developing an enhanced understanding of the connections between land use, land management, and ecological performance and using this knowledge to:

- Establish management plans and maintenance protocols to minimize disturbance within the most sensitive habitats.
- Identify opportunities to create “most sensitive” habitat through habitat enhancement of “moderately sensitive” habitat.
- Develop and implement proactive management plans for specific habitats.
- Develop and implement appropriate animal management plans (i.e. deer management, beaver management, bird nesting box programs, etc...) subject to applicable laws.

The habitat management strategy should encompass the Habitat Management Principles defined in the Pre-Schematic Study:

- Connect / Preserve Habitat Corridors to allow species movement from upland to lowland areas. These include: the creeks, riparian corridors, and bits of woodland that connect upland patches.
- Retain and Enhance Habitat Woodland Edge Complexity managing woodland edges to provide “covers” and “lobes” to allow for varied places for predators and prey and to increase edge lengths.
- Maximize Contiguous Woodland Cover to create expanded habitat for threatened forest-interior species.
- Minimize Fragmentation by keeping contiguous woodland areas intact and connecting outlying woodland areas in a network via corridors.
- Preserve and Enhance Meadows for their value to open field species
- Enhance Woodlands through removing exotic species, planting desirable natives, and retaining down trees as habitat.
- Protect and Enhance Riparian Corridors.

c. Habitat Management Action Plan

c1. Habitat Conservation Areas

In order to conserve habitat areas, the following steps should be taken:

- Protect the Park from further disturbance
- Remove trash, tires, and debris from the Park in general
- Encourage forest regeneration by removing exotic species and replanting indigenous species
- Control deer browsing
- Develop and implement a comprehensive habitat management strategy and plan designed with the goal of enabling the Park to function at a higher degree of ecological capability.

c2. Ornamental Managed Landscape:

To achieve an attractive landscape appearance of consistency and integrity, the image of a rural preserve should dominate; where possible, native species should be used unless there is a compelling reason to choose otherwise. Landscape maintenance should be limited in scope. Formal landscape maintenance practices, such as shearing shrubs or hedges, pollarding trees, etc., should not be practiced. Planting should be arranged in irregular patterns.

Flower bedding using hybridized annual flowers should be avoided in favor of using informal displays of native wildflowers and shrubs. Exotic species eradication should be pursued.

Lawn areas will be limited to the least area necessary to accommodate recreational programs. Playfields and the commons lawns will be the only substantial lawn areas mown on a typical weekly or biweekly schedule.

c3. Meadows:

1. Description

A meadow is land that is predominately grassy, but may contain other herbaceous plants. A meadow can quickly move from the grass stage to a pioneer forest if not maintained. It must be determined which Park meadows are to be successional and which are to be preserved.

The following is a list of meadows and their approximate size within the Park:

- Mayview Meadow 30 acres
- Bird Meadow 15-20 acres
- Saddle Meadow 10 acres
- Hawk Meadow 7-8 acres
- Deer Meadow 4 acres
- Sky Meadow 4 acres

2. Operations & Maintenance

In order to maintain a meadow and its habitat:

- Each year in late summer one third of the meadow should be mowed to prevent multi-flora rose and other woody plants from taking over.
- Mow back and forth instead of from perimeter to center to avoid trapping animals in a center circle.
- Mow to no lower than nine inches to protect nesting birds, seed heads, and fall flowers, as well as milkweeds for fall butterflies.
- If invasive species become too large, treatment with herbicides may be required.

3. Habitat Evolution

A meadow can quickly move through the transitional stage of grasses, becoming multiflora rose and briars, then pioneer forest. The pioneer trees that invade the meadows are box elder, elm, ash, and cherry.

4. Recommendations and Actions

- The future use of each meadow will determine how to maintain each one: meadows designated as successional should be left alone to become forest, while meadows to be preserved as meadows will be maintained by mowing (see O&M above). Habitat configuration greatly affects the ecological health of a given sight; decisions about habitat future must consider the complex interrelationship among various natural factors.

c4. Woodlands:

1. Description

Woodlands consist of new growth as well as mature/deep forests (cooler, damper, moister). The Park's woodlands are on level areas and hillsides and constitute approximately 20% of the Park's acreage. The diversity and mix of trees and plants allow the woodlands to feed itself and offer its inhabitants many food sources.

2. Operations & Maintenance

For sustainability, the woodlands should be managed for deer, insect, invasive species (including tree of heaven and garlic mustard plant), and windstorms.

3. Habitat Evolution

Pioneer trees in the woodlands are the locust, elm, and cherry trees. As these trees die off, room is made (by opening the canopy and allowing sunlight) for new tree growth consisting of beech maple (damper areas) and oak trees (white and red).

4. Recommendations and Actions

- Allowing nature to guide and dictate the maturation and decay of trees in the woodlands is current *modus operandi*. More engaged management of the woodlands would promote the long term health and sustainability of the woodlands in the face of over-browsing, invasive species encroachment, and increased human traffic. Proper planning and management of the woodlands will play a key role in habitat enhancement park-wide.
- Deer Management: The presence of excessive numbers of deer creates a stress on woodland areas due to the removal of seedlings. This diminishes the seed stock for forest diversity, eliminates succession, leads to a precarious single-age forest stand, contributes to erosion, and generally leads to a depauperate species bank by reduction of habitat. Forest health cannot fully recover until the deer herd is controlled. Accordingly, the Township shall continue to manage the deer population through USDA Wildlife Services and other appropriate mechanisms.

To gain better insight into the deer browsing impact on the Park, construct several deer exclosure areas throughout the wooded, interior of the Park. Deer exclosures use high fencing set in a square. Although these exclosures are visually unappealing, they serve multiple purposes:

- Educational tool. Over time as the forest floor fauna regenerates under no-graze conditions, the plant density and variety within the exclosure indicate to observers the impact of deer grazing on the surrounding forest areas. Educational signage would assist observers in understanding the dynamics displayed.
- Scientifically recognized method to quantify deer browse impact. The comparison of flora density and variety in exclosure areas and an adjacent, unfenced control area is a scientifically accepted method to document deer browse impact. If monitored, these exclosure/control areas could provide valuable, scientifically sound data to assess deer impact within the Park.

A fairly accurate and precise methodology for determining existing deer population and an understanding of acceptable deer population levels within the Park would greatly enhance any deer management plan.

c5. Riparian Buffers:

1. Description

Most bodies of water, both running and standing, have a flood plain or riparian area. Whether the waterway is a large river or a small, intermittent creek, the water directly affects and is affected by the adjacent land. The riparian area serves as a transition between aquatic and upland habitats; it is the link between land and water. When this area is planted in such a way to protect the waterway from negative impacts of the adjacent land use it becomes a buffer, specifically, a riparian buffer. Buffers have been found to: increase groundwater infiltration, provide cooler water and air temperatures, decrease stream bank erosion, filter sediments and pollutants commonly found in runoff, provide floodwater storage, increase wildlife habitat, and provide recreation areas.

2. Operations & Maintenance

There is little or no cost involved in protecting existing riparian buffers. Restoring forested buffers requires an initial investment in plant materials, tools, and labor. Watering new plantings and removing invasive weeds are the primary maintenance requirement for restored riparian buffers. Ongoing maintenance activities for all buffers may include selective cutting and/or pruning and replanting bare spots or unsuccessful trees and shrubs. Riparian buffer areas should not be mowed frequently (only about once a year for newly created buffer areas). Existing mature riparian areas should require no mowing at all.

3. Habitat Evolution

Multiple benefits accrue with minimal expense when a riparian buffer remains undisturbed. The buffer is a system that functions effectively when allowed to remain in a natural condition.

4. Recommendations and Actions

- Organize volunteer inspection of existing riparian buffers to determine the need for streamside forest restoration and/or long term stream monitoring.
- Incorporate forest conservation and stream corridor protection in land use planning within the Park.

c6. Wetlands:

1. Description

Wetlands are land where water saturation is the dominant factor determining the nature of soil development and the types of plant and animal communities living in the surrounding environment. Ponds, marshes, swamps, and peat bogs are types of wetlands.

Wetlands identified on the site include:

- A large woodland area in the southeastern corner of the Park, near the junctions of Morton and Boyce Roads. This area has been described as young, mixed deciduous woodland, and is the location of the headwaters for the tributary that forms the deep ravine in the central part of the Park before it flows into Chartiers Creek.

- Two small wetland areas exist near the compost facility.
- The “human activity-induced wetland” is a small wetland found along Boyce Road near the entrance to Friendship Village.
- The “constructed wetland” is a small wetland near the compost facility that was created as a mitigation measure when the Township received its permit to build the compost facility.
- As part of a compensatory mitigation project in 1991, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) created the large wetland that borders Chartiers Creek on the USC side of the creek. (See the section of this report, “Park Description / Physical Attributes,” for more information.)

2. Operations & Maintenance

The PennDOT wetlands bordering Chartiers Creek site are owned and managed by PennDOT.

Small wetlands near the entrance to Friendship Village are “human activity-induced wetlands” and are managed by PennDOT.

Two small wetlands (.33 acres) adjacent to the pond near the compost facilities require no maintenance at this time.

3. Habitat Evolution

Wetlands can become a meadow if sediments accumulate over time and a new environment emerges.

4. Recommendations and Actions

- PennDOT should continue to maintain the mitigation wetlands.

c7. Creek Edges:

Stabilize creek edges where needed to reduce erosion. Natural Stream Channel Design (NSCD) stream restoration methods to should be used to the greatest extent possible for all stream restoration or enhancement projects within the Park.

Remove existing incompatible uses (Police Training Facility).

Provide stream crossing appropriate to the type of traffic, designed to limit impact on sensitive areas.

c8. Habitat Restoration / Demonstration Features:

These isolated features would be multi-purpose projects that would provide destinations along the path system, serve to improve or restore habitat, integrate environmental art into the Park, and be a way to involve other organizations from within the community. Habitat restoration / demonstration features could be the subject of partnerships between the Township and other entities. The projects could include deer exclusion fencing, erosion control check dams and brush bundles, stream restoration, settling ponds at pipe outlets, and runoff filtration gardens.

c9. Plant Buffer:

Provide a strip of vegetation around the perimeter of the Park in order to buffer adjacent land owners from the Park experience by creating views of natural landscape, and create a filter for runoff from adjacent property.

E3. Public Safety

a. Goals

- * Develop emergency plans for the Mayview Commons area and emergency plans for the more remote areas of the Park.
- * Implement procedures to identify, prioritize, and react to safety hazards.
- * Integrate public safety messages or signage into the overall signage plan for the Park.

b. Policy and Procedures

Appendix D contains “*Upper St. Clair Code: Chapter 93, Parks and Playgrounds.*” These rules apply to the Park with the following exceptions:

- In reference to 93.2.1: Non-permitted areas of the Park are open to non-residents as well as residents without written application.

93.2.1 Township facilities and grounds are intended for the use and enjoyment of township residents and organizations. Nonresidents must file written application with the Township Manager or his designated representative in order to ensure proper scheduling. Where specific user regulations or fees have been established to govern specific facilities, written permission must be obtained for all prospective users.

- The Township has authorized dog walking on specified trails within the Park under the following conditions:

[Amended 11-01-04 by Ord. No. 1919]

93.2.4.1. Dog walking is an authorized activity in Boyce Mayview Park subject to the following restrictions:

- A. Dogs shall be under the control of standard fixed length leashes, not to exceed 6'.
- B. Dog walking shall be permitted in designated areas.
- C. Dogs must be under voice and sight control of the dog's attendant at all times.
- D. All dog waste must be picked up and disposed of in a sanitary manner.
- E. All dogs must have current registration tags and vaccines in accordance with municipal and County Codes.

Installation of appropriate signage to designate dog permitted and not-permitted trails is a prerequisite for enforcement of said restrictions. Educational signage and campaigns will be required to alter the existing culture of unleashed dog walking within the Park.

Information about the Park (temporary closures, special events and activities, conditions, etc.) should be broadcast on Cable 7, posted on the Township website, and available at the Township reception desk in the Municipal building on McLaughlin Run Road.

c. Security / Police / Emergency Assistance

The Township of Upper St. Clair police provide security and enforcement for the Park.

Non-emergency security protocols should respect the conservation and preservation principles of the Park. Wherever feasible, emergency access routes and protocols should avoid sensitive habitat areas and respect the conservation and preservation principles of the Park.

d. Hazard Management

Implement procedures to identify, prioritize, and react to safety hazards:

- Ensure that what constitutes a high-priority safety hazard is well defined and that procedures exist for prompt resolution of high priority safety hazards.
- Develop a process for identifying and prioritizing less immediate safety hazards and develop procedures for timely resolution of identified hazards. (Examples: stinging insects, poisonous plants, trees that represent potential falling hazard.)
- Develop a process for identifying those safety hazards that are consistent with the nature of the Park and require no action (steep slopes, creeks, etc); implement due diligence activities to alleviate potential liability.

Exercise due diligence to mitigate fire hazards and develop a fire-fighting plan with the USC VFD. Wherever feasible, mitigation of fire hazards should be designed in such a way as to avoid disturbance of sensitive habitat and to not override the organic nature of the Park.

E4. Signage

a. Goal

- * A harmonious design standard should be determined for Park signage.

b. Overall

Professional guidance is recommended for both design and content since signage will play a key role in setting the tone of the Park and limiting Township liability.

- All signage should adhere to consistent design standards adopted for Park signage.
- While it is imperative to clearly specify rules and regulations, efforts should be made to set a tone of welcome and respect; avoid heavy-handed signage consisting of lists of “DO NOTs.” Seek creative alternatives that gently remind visitors of the need to respect others and the Park.
- From gateway to interior, rules and regulation signage should decrease in size and verbosity; use a “need to know” test assuming that visitors have read all signs encountered (assuming no liability issue).
- Signs should include maps of perimeter and interior trails at all trail entrances.
- Signs must be informative enough to limit liability:
 - The size of the Park and the Park’s interior terrain prohibit rapid, emergency vehicle access; all external trailhead signage should clearly indicate this to visitors.
 - Since the Park contains several streams and is bordered by Chartiers Creek, trailhead signage should clearly indicate the potential dangers of rapidly rising waters during rain events.

- Signage referring to dates and times of controlled deer hunts in the Park should be accurate and current at all times.
- The Township Solicitor should be consulted regarding any liability issues.

c. Directional Signage

System-wide, way-finding signage of arrival and departure areas shall be developed and posted.

Signs directing visitors to specific Park facilities should be developed and posted.

Informational signage regarding Park usage, parking, general rules, and rules for specific areas should be designed and posted.

Directional signage, preferably consistent with the template proposed for the Park signage, should be posted throughout the Township directing residents and non-residents to the Park.

E5. Structures / Facilities / Maintenance

a. Restrooms

- All restroom facilities should use innovative “green” technologies when feasible.
- Establish a schedule to regularly service and stock restrooms.
- Restrooms shall utilize and be stocked with recycled materials, to the extent practical.

b. Litter / Trash

- Recycling bins should be strategically placed throughout the Park.
- The Park should at all times be free of garbage and trash, and no unsightly material or machinery should be allowed to accumulate thereon, unless specifically authorized by the Township Manager or his representative. Trash and litter should be removed from the Park according to the Township schedule; the presence is unsightly and contributes to a cycle of further abuse.
- Continued efforts will be required to remove trash that has accumulated over the years when large parts of this land were used as dumping sites.



F. SITE SPECIFIC FEATURES

Introduction

F1. Regional Environmental Education Center (REEC)

a. Introduction

It is important to note that the items discussed in this portion of the Land Management Plan address the REEC facilities in their current form, which includes two modular classroom buildings, the composting toilets, and the outdoor lab/classroom building.

The Environmental Education Area, as outlined in the Master Plan, is a portion of the Park consisting of the current Regional Environmental Education Center buildings, the outdoor lab/classroom building, the composting toilets, and the encompassing meadow. This area is designed to serve two purposes within the Park:

1. Environmental education: The REEC Board and its staff are responsible for implementing programs and activities which further the mission of the center, which is to highlight the connection between people and the environment of Southwestern Pennsylvania.
2. Buffer zone: This area is designed to serve as an ecological buffer, or transition, area between the Mayview Commons active recreation area and the passive recreation/conservation area. For the most part, this Land Management Plan will address issues relevant to the REEC land area's role as a buffer.

b. Maintenance

REEC modular buildings: General upkeep and maintenance of these buildings is the responsibility of the REEC staff and board. However, recommendations should include:

- Use of environmentally safe cleaning products.
- Use of recycled products where possible, especially paper goods.
- Recycling of cardboard, paper, glass, plastic, aluminum, and other items when possible.

These same recommendations should be applied to the Outdoor Lab/Classroom and composting toilets.

Driveways and parking lots:

- Use environmentally safe snow and ice removal products and practices.
- When making repairs, use permeable materials that promote drainage.
- The line of trees and brush that buffers the Sky Ridge Meadow from the REEC driveway should be enhanced.

c. Security

Solar-powered safety lighting should be installed along the driveway and along the walkways between the REEC buildings, the composting toilet, and the outdoor classroom, if feasible.

d. Signage

- Directional signage for the REEC should be increased.

- “Authorized Personnel Only” signs at the Mayview Commons entrance and at the foot of the REEC driveway should be removed.
- The REEC driveway, and the parking spaces near the buildings, should be for drop-off/pick-up and handicapped use only. Appropriate signage should be developed.

F2. Interior Trails

a. Goals

- * Construct the entire interior trail system as proposed in the IT Plan making every effort to install the trails precisely as defined by the IT Plan and the whisker-like flags placed within the Park.
- * Amend the IT Plan to allow leashed pets on the Ravine Drive & Switchback trails as recommended by the Parks and Recreation board to allow pet owners to more easily traverse the park from north to south.
- * Remove the construction staging area from the park as soon as an alternative site is located. This storage area severely diminishes the look and feel of the surrounding natural areas and brings an unacceptable level of vehicular traffic into the park.



- * Deconstruct the police training area for both safety and aesthetic reasons.
- * Redistribute the earthen mound above the PennDOT wetlands to restore this area to a more natural and more visually appealing state. Topsoil might be reused for the gardens or in gateway landscaping while less fertile soils might be used as backfill in various trail construction projects. This needs to be done with minimum disturbance to the surrounding meadow as this is established bird habitat.

b. Description

The IT Plan includes a mixture of new trails, existing trails, trail reroutes, and existing unpaved roads. The system creates a web of trails that make a wide variety of loops possible. A concentration of short trails near the REEC offer a variety of experiences in a relatively short distance. The trail system visits all major ecosystems, all known viewpoints, and all points of significant interest. Most new trails are natural surface and are narrow to reduce impact, and maintenance needs.

Interior trail access is gained through five gateways:

- Mayview Gateway (primary access to the Mayview Commons area).
- Baker Gateway.
- Morton Gateway.
- Boyce Gateway (intersection Boyce and Morton Roads).
- Boyce Station Gateway (access to the Composting facility).

Each gateway provides parking areas in close proximity to trailheads.

Access to the interior trails can also be gained via several pedestrian throughways where parking facilities are not in close proximity to the trailhead:

- Boyce School Trail.
- Morton Falls Trail (once constructed).
- Friendship Trail.

c. **Rules and Regulations**

c1. The Existing

The existing Rules and Regulations (see Appendix D) outlined for Parks and Playgrounds in the Township apply here with the following exceptions:

- Non-residents welcome

c2. Users

The IT Plan indicates that the interior trails are for pedestrian and wheelchair access only; horses, bicycles, and motorized vehicles of any kind are prohibited beyond parking areas with the exception of security or emergency aid vehicles.

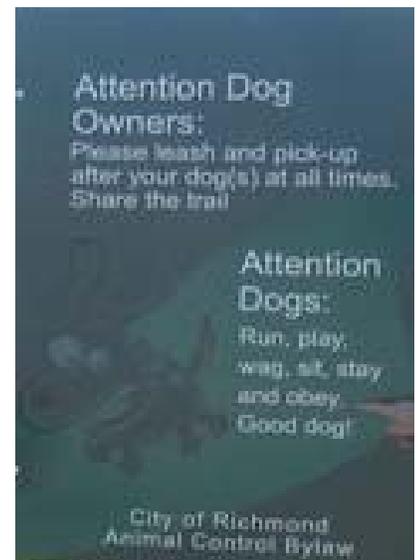
The Parks and Recreation Board recommended modifications to the IT Plan including but not limited to, recommendations about Park access for wheeled vehicles including bikes, wheelchairs, and strollers. (See Appendix B)

c3. Pets.

Leashed pets are permitted on select trails within the Park. The IT Plan identifies a number of pet-permitted trails in the southeastern portion of the Park. Pet owners must clean up after their pets. All trail maps and trailhead signage should clearly specify that pets must be leashed, should remind pet owners of their obligation to clean up after their pets, and should clearly delineate pet-permitted and pets-not-permitted trails.

Upon review of the IT Plan by the Parks and Recreation Board, it was noted that without the physical existence of the proposed perimeter trail the IT Plan limited pet walkers access to the Park from the Mayview Gateway. The Parks and Recreation Board suggested amending the plan to allow pet walkers:

- Entrance at Mayview Gateway.



- Access through the Mayview Commons area.
- Access past the REEC along the current trail that leads to the Baker tennis court parking lot and to Baker School area via sidewalk to the Baker School bus turn-around area.
- Traverse across the mowed lawn above the Morton Soccer Field area to connect to Ravine Drive; where Ravine Drive is designated for dog walking in the IT Plan.

This Parks and Recreation Board recommended modification allows pet walkers to enter the Park from the north or south and connects the northern and southern pet-permitted trails providing a lengthier traverse for pet walkers while still protecting the most ecologically sensitive areas of the Park. This modification to the IT Plan should be adopted. This modification may need to be revisited as the proposed perimeter trail is developed since this will provide alternative pet-permitted routes.

As previously noted, installation of dogs permitted and dogs not permitted interior trail signage is critical to the ability to enforce the desired leash laws. Additionally, education signage and campaigns will be required to alter the existing culture of unleashed dog walking in the Park.

d. Trail Construction

The IT Plan was specifically designed to minimize construction efforts and costs while maximizing trail sustainability yielding minimized maintenance efforts and costs over time. According to the IT Plan, 95-100% of the sustainability of natural surface trails comes directly from their exact alignment; this is why every effort should be made to install the trails precisely as defined by the IT Plan and the whisker-like flags placed within the Park to designate trail alignment.

Initial construction efforts, though limited, are required and will need to be planned and managed by the Township. These activities include:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| • Liability signage. | • Soil and rock excavation |
| • Bridge and boardwalk construction. | • Cutting into slopes |
| • Stone stair construction. | • Tree and brush clearance |
| • Drainage and hardening work. | • Trailhead entrance/parking |
| • Gully crossings. | • Road removal/restoration |
| • Retaining walls. | |

These initial construction efforts will provide safe access over some of the more difficult terrain. Tree and brush clearing will make the trails visible to visitors and most of the trail tread will then be formed by visitors “walking in” the trails (i.e. visitor footfalls compact the natural trail surface).

For many of these construction projects, labor costs can be significantly decreased through the use of volunteer labor; many people in the community have expressed a willingness to volunteer for such projects. Using volunteer labor will require the Township expend time and energy to formulate plans and processes for organizing, training, and overseeing volunteers and legally limiting Township liability.

e. Operation & Maintenance

Standard Trail Maintenance

Because sustainability is built into the trail system, trail tread will become more stable over time as equilibrium is reached. For this reason, maintenance needs are high in the beginning and decrease with time.

Maintenance Schedule:

- Year One: Inspect entire trail system monthly. Take basic hand tools to solve most common problems during inspection. Also inspect immediately after moderate or heavy rains and after windstorms.
- Year Two: Inspect entire trail system every 6 weeks and after heavy rains and windstorms.
- Year Three: Inspect entire trail system every 2 months and after exceptionally heavy rains and windstorms
- Year Four and beyond: Inspect entire trail system every 3 – 4 months and after exceptionally heavy rains and windstorms.

Standard maintenance to be undertaken during each inspection is listed in Appendix E.

Major Maintenance and Replacement:

- Because of sustainable design and with frequent light maintenance, natural surface treads should never need to be extensively reconstructed, heavily repaired, or closed for structural/physical reasons.
- Wood structures will need eventual repair and replacement. Southern yellow pine pressure treated with ACQ has a rated life up to 40 years, but will likely need to be replaced before then. Bridge and boardwalk decks will wear out from exposure and use long before wear of the superstructure.
- Fiberglass parts of fiberglass bridges need no maintenance.
- Signs with high amounts of sun exposure may fade after many years or need to be replaced due to loss or vandalism.

f. Guidance Signage

The IT Plan provides details for common signs:

- Trail intersection signs.
- “No Dogs” signs.
- “No Bike” signs.
- “Area Closed” signs.

The interior trail signs should adhere to the guidelines provided in the IT Plan.

External trailhead signs will need to be somewhat larger in scale as more information needs to be provided to visitors at these entrances. These signs should:

- Adhere to overall design standard specified for Park signs.
- Welcome visitors and gracefully specify important rules and regulations.
- Include a map of the trail system.
- Encourage visitors to pack out all trash: “Take only pictures, leave only footprints.”

- Clearly designate the phone number & location of police in the event of an emergency.
- Clearly inform the public of the Township’s limitation of liability.

In support of recycle/reuse, if pamphlet maps are provided for trail users, it should be requested that these maps be “gently used” and returned to the gateway for use by other visitors.

g. **Maps**

Interior Trail Maps:

- Final Proposed Trail System.
- New, Existing, and Closed Trails.
- Dog Access.
- Sign and Bench Locations.

F3. Athletic Fields

a. **Goals**

- * Complete implementation of the Boyce Mayview Park Active Area Development Phase I including the construction of:
 - Mayview entrance road
 - Storm water management controls
 - Parking
 - Four athletic fields: 2 soccer/football, 1 baseball, and 1 softball.
- * Give significant attention to identifying and incorporating green design principles in the construction of the athletic fields and all associated structures.
- * Efforts should be made to identify and implement sustainable athletic field management practices including but not limited to:
 - Reduce use of fertilizers and pesticides to the degree practical.
 - Attempts should be made to reduce the volume of potable water for irrigation through modified water practices and technologies.
- * Native plant vegetative buffers should be used to decrease the sight and sound impacts of the athletic fields on neighbors and habitat conservations areas.

F4. Perimeter Trail

a. **Goals**

- * Construct the perimeter trail system in its entirety.
- * Use green construction protocols to the extent possible.

b. **Description**

The perimeter trail will provide visitors a different experience than the interior trails. The perimeter trail offers visitors the potential for a more vigorous outdoor experience and will attract bikers, skaters, skateboarders, and joggers, as well as walkers.

c. Rules and Regulations

c1. The Existing

The existing Rules and Regulations (see Appendix D) outlined for Parks and Playgrounds in the Township apply here with the following exceptions:

- Non-residents welcome.

c2. Users

The perimeter trail should be designed to accommodate pedestrian and people-powered vehicles including wheelchairs, strollers, bicycles, inline skates, skateboards. Horses and motorized vehicles of any kind are prohibited with the exception of security and emergency aid vehicles.

c3. Pets

Leashed pets are permitted on the perimeter trail. Pet owners must clean up after their pets. All trail maps and trailhead signage should clearly specify that pets must be leashed, should remind pet owners of their obligation to clean up after their pets, and should clearly delineate pet-permitted and pets-not-permitted trails.

As previously noted, installation of dogs permitted and dogs not permitted trail signage is critical to the ability to enforce the desired leash laws. Additionally, educational signage and campaigns will be required to alter the existing culture of unleashed dog walking in the Park.

d. Design & Construction

The perimeter trail, as its name implies, should skirt the perimeter of the Park. Where physically possible, the perimeter trail should be limited to a maximum of 100 feet from the boundary of the Park.

A proposed route and basic construction parameters for the perimeter trail are available in the Pre-Schematic Study (page 14). A more detailed, professional construction plan will be required to accurately cost and implement the perimeter trail. The Township has acquired a number of grants in support of construction of the perimeter trail and is currently working with Gateway Engineers to design and construct the Boyce Mayview Perimeter Trail Phase I that connects the Morton gateway, to the Baker gateway, and proceeds into the Mayview Commons area of the Park.

Based on the proposed usage, the perimeter trail will need to be hard surface; bikers and other users of wheeled conveyance generally express a preference for asphalt over concrete due to the concrete joints.

Safety will be a major concern related to the perimeter trail based on assumptions of high usage by multiple users via multiple transport options and speeds, and sometimes close proximity to surrounding roadways.

The perimeter trail as proposed allows for connection to a rails-to-trails type trail if the regional rails-to-trails potential of the Chartiers Branch of the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, and St. Lois Railroad corridor is realized. This opportunity should not be overlooked during planning and

implementation of the perimeter trail. As the Township sidewalk and bikeway plan proceeds, connections to the perimeter trail should be a major design consideration.

e. Operations and Maintenance

Regular safety inspections, including resolving any identified safety concerns will be primary. Hard surface repair, water management, and trash collection (if bins are provided) will be required. Additionally, tree and brush management for safety and for accessibility will be needed. The Township should not be expected to undertake snow removal on the perimeter trail but if liability concerns can be minimized, leaving the trail open in winter would benefit cold-weather, outdoor enthusiasts.

The Montour Trail is predominantly, if not wholly, volunteer maintained. Volunteer assistance with trail maintenance should be given serious consideration (excepting safety maintenance).

f. Maps

- Parkwide Pre-Schematic Parkwide Study, page 13.
- Boyce Mayview Perimeter Trail Phase I

F5. Farm Buildings

If physically and fiscally feasible, the farm buildings should be restored and reused. These buildings reflect the history of the land and reuse supports the overarching philosophy of sustainable design. If not physically or fiscally feasible to restore and reuse the buildings and demolition is required, reuse of the farm buildings materials would be a sustainable alternative.

F6. Picnic Pavilions

a. Goals

- * The Pre-Schematic Study recommends three picnic pavilions in the Mayview Commons area.
- * Additional picnic shelter construction should incorporate green design construction principles including the use of recycled materials and native vegetation in landscaping.

b. Description

The Township renovated the “old kitchen building” into a visually appealing picnic shelter in the Mayview Commons area of the Park. The picnic shelter is made of natural materials and is complementary to the Park’s surroundings. It is supplied with multiple picnic tables.

c. Rules and Regulations

c1. The Existing

The existing Rules and Regulations outlined for Parks and Playgrounds in the Township (see Appendix D) apply here with the following exceptions:
Non-residents welcome.

c2. Users

It is assumed that a permitting process will be used to reserve the pavilion and that when unreserved the pavilion may be used by any visitor.

d. **Rules and Regulation Signage**

Assuming that rules and regulations will be posted, signage should adhere to design criteria chosen for all Park signage. Every effort should be made to avoid long, oppressive lists of “don’ts.” The permitting paper work would be a more appropriate place to ensure that pavilion users are aware of rules and regulations.

F7. Gardens

Currently, the garden plots are located in the southeastern corner of the Park and are surrounded by areas defined in the Master Plan site assessment as most to moderately sensitive. According to the Master Plan, habitat enhancement in this section of the Park would be served by relocating the gardens to a less sensitive area of the Park. The Master Plan recommended location for the garden plots is to be the moderately sloped, south-facing hillside near the Mayview Commons area in the northern portion of the Park. Creative reuse of storm water runoff might be considered as a possible source for irrigation water.

The Upper St. Clair Board of Commissioners approved a Cooperative Understanding between the Township of Upper St. Clair and the Boyce Mayview Gardeners Corp., on March 7, 2005, regarding, among other things, the location of the gardens in Boyce Mayview Park.

F8. Compost Facility

The Township maintains a composting area for Upper St. Clair residential leaf waste collection. This facility complements the Park’s theme of communal sustainability and has a relatively low impact on Park habitat. The current access route to the facility negatively impacts the ravine through which it runs; consideration should be given to relocating this access road to the east of its current location.

F9. Subsequent Potential Development

Additional recreational opportunities recommended in the Master Plan include:

- Community Center/Recreation Center
- Aquatic Center

With the proposed community center and/or aquatic center potentially being the largest “brick and mortar” construction projects within the Park, for the Park to serve as model of sustainable design in action it is essential that these projects be designed, constructed, and maintained with significant attention to green building principles. The LEED process should be used as a guide to sustainable design; and it should be recognized that if official LEED certification is gained, this certification can be used to fulfill funding requirements for certain grant programs.

- Pet Exercise Area (Dog Run): The Master Plan suggests an area of seven to eight acres, unobtrusively fenced, in the Mayview Commons area of the Park to provide an

opportunity for dog owners to allow dogs to run unleashed and yet be contained and separated from the general use areas of the Commons Area and from the sensitive habitat areas of the Park. The dog run will need to be accessible via “pets permitted” trails in the Commons Area. This concept, though relatively new, has been implemented in a number of communities/parks (including South Park); it can be assumed then that design and construction guidelines should readily available for reference.

Additionally it has been suggested to the focus group that additional facilities be considered:

- Designated fire circles within the Park: Fire circles were requested to benefit outdoor activity groups that plan/execute “day camp” type activities. Development of fire circles would need to adhere to applicable laws and regulations. For safety, fire circles would require a reasonably large area cleared of weeds/brush and close proximity to a water source. Proximity of fire circle(s) to the perimeter of the Park would increase nighttime visibility of the fire circle, thus discouraging after hour use and facilitate ashes collection (or ash bin emptying) as required.
- Canoe launch: The former police-training site was suggested as a viable location for a Park canoe launch.

APPENDIX A: DEED RESTRICTIONS

TUCKER | ARENSBERG
Attorneys

Memo

TO: Douglas A. Watkins, Township Manager
FROM: Charles P. McCullough, Esquire
DATE: May 11, 2004
RE: Boyce/Mayview Park Property – Deed Restrictions

Doug,

As per our telephone conference this morning:

- There are two deeds from Allegheny County to the Township related to Boyce Park and both are dated October 2, 1985. One pertains to Lot and Block No. 570-A-300 ("Lot 570"), the other to Lot and Block Nos. 670-C-175, 571-P-160, 571-P-15, 670-C-145 and 1-C-1 (collectively, "Lot 670")
- There is one deed, dated October 28, 1996, from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to the Township for the Mayview Property.
- The deeds for Lots 570 and 670 contain the following resolution: "So long as the property below is used for recreation, conservation and historical purposes as defined in the Project to Land Acquisition and Borrowing Act . . . and the Land and Water Conservation Act . . ." (emphasis added).
- The Mayview Property deed contains this restriction "Under and subject to the condition that the land herein conveyed shall be used for recreational, conservational and other municipal purposes by Upper St. Clair Township and if at any time Upper St. Clair Township or its successor in function sells or transfers the property or permits the property to be used for any purpose other than those specified in this Section, the property should immediately revert to and revest in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania."
- "Recreation and historical purposes," as used in the Project 70 statute is defined as "any use of land for public park, fishing, history, boating, open space purpose, scenic sights or preservation of the historical significance, or for any related public outdoor recreation or historical purpose."
- The work "conservation" is not separately defined in the Project 70 statute, but is part of the term "conservation and reclamation purposes" which is defined as any use of land "for water supply, flood control, water quality control development, reforestation, wildlife

reserves or any other uses that will maintain, improve or develop the natural environment of soil, water, air, minerals or wildlife of this Commonwealth so as to assure their optimum use."

- The foregoing restrictions would preclude any venture not in conformity therewith, particularly a for profit venture undertaken by a private business concern (note that the Mayview Property deed speaks of other "municipal purposes of Upper St. Clair Township").

Because of these restrictions, it is recommended that any contemplated activity on these lands which would not fall within the plain meaning thereof be forwarded to Allegheny County, or the Pennsylvania Attorney General's Office, as the case may be, for review.

Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me.

CPM/lms

APPENDIX B: PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEMORANDUM RE: IT PLAN

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Commissioners

From: Parks and Recreation Board

Date: June 2, 2005

Subject: **BOYCE MAYVIEW PARK INTERIOR TRAILS PLAN**

The Parks and Recreation Board recommends that the Boyce Mayview Park Interior Trails Plan, dated January 7, 2005, "The Plan", be adopted by the Township with the following modifications/clarifications:

- 1) **Bikes, Wheelchairs and Strollers:** The Plan, which envisions narrow earthen trails, is not accommodating of any vehicles with wheels. It is important to recognize this fact and account for their use on the Perimeter Trail, when built, so that residents using wheelchairs, strollers or bikes can also enjoy some trails in the park. One partial exception to this is noted on page 15 which states that there could be wheelchair access on all or part of three trails unless the soils are recently wet. "Rather than claim full accessibility for these trails, the park should promote them as barrier-free trails usable in good conditions." (See page 15 Accessible Trails)

Our Board has received requests from residents, through the mail as well as through the public forum meeting on The Plan, regarding mountain biking in the park. Many residents are already using the park for mountain biking. The needs of these residents would not be met by the Perimeter trail experience. Therefore in the interest of compromise, we recommend that a particular trail loop be designated permissible for mountain bikers while the remainder of the trails can be posted off limits to mountain bikes. If it appears the bikers are regularly straying from the permissible trail or that the damage to the bike trail proves difficult to maintain, we would recommend re-evaluation after a sufficient trial period.

- 2) **Benches:** The Plan on page 64 states that benches should be "designed for resting more than longer sitting - and to reduce their visual impact - the benches have no backs." While we agree that the benches should be of an appropriate aesthetic for the park, we believe the benches should be comfortable for longer sitting, especially at the more scenic points.
- 3) **General Philosophy on Use of Trails:** In direct contrast to the statements made on pages 11, 12, and 13 of The Plan, we DO NOT want to design "trails and management to encourage only low amount of human use..." (see page 11, # 2). The Township encourages ALL permissible uses of the trails.
- 4) **Dogs:** The Plan's Dog Access map does not show any permissible access to the trails where dogs are permitted, if entering the park from the active recreation entrance on Mayview Road. We strongly believe dogs should be allowed to enter the park from the active recreation site and from there travel to the designated dog walking trails in the southern end of the park (off Boyce Road) via an existing route, most of which will ultimately be incorporated in the Perimeter Trail. Until the Perimeter Trail is constructed, dogs should be permitted to travel from the active recreation site, past the REEC, along the current trail that leads to the Baker tennis court parking lot. From there they can continue to the Baker School area via sidewalk to the Baker School bus turn-around area, across the mowed lawn above the Morton Soccer Field area, to the Ravine Drive (designated for dog walking in The Plan) which connects with the network of trails in the southern end of the park where dogs

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are permitted. We believe this would best accommodate the needs of the dog walkers entering from either side of the park while still protecting the most ecologically sensitive areas of the park.

- 5 **Trail Development Priorities**: While it seems reasonable to follow the outline designated in The Plan (see pages 22-23), we believe the bridges should have a high priority as they will help create connectivity among the trails and help those with less athletic ability traverse more challenging portions of the park.
- 6 **Security**: Another topic of concern raised at the public forum for The Plan was security in the park. Obviously once the trails are fully operational there will likely be increased use of the park. We would strongly recommend that the Board of Commissioners address the issue of patrols/security within the park with the Upper St. Clair police prior to the official opening of the trails.

APPENDIX C: SUSTAINABLE PROJECT CHECK LIST

Sustainable Project Checklist (Based on the USGBC's LEED project checklist):

(See Pre-Schematic Study Page 5)

Sustainable sites

- Provide erosion and sediment control: implement per regulations.
- Avoid undisturbed “green field” sites: reuse original farm site.
- Use alternative transportation: provide for walking, jogging, bicycle, and shuttle access.
- Reduce site disturbance by limiting the area to already disturbed area.
- Manage stormwater by reducing impervious surface and using biofiltration techniques.
- Use landscape and exterior design to reduce heat islands, by planting trees and using light colored or living roofing.
- Reduce Light Pollution by limiting the number of light sources and using cutoff shields.

Water Efficiency

- Use native plants that are drought tolerant.
- Consider innovative wastewater technologies, such as “living machines.”
- Reduce domestic water use with low flush or waterless urinals, and graywater recycling.

Energy and Atmosphere

- Optimize energy performance through best siting and orientation, and use of high efficiency systems.
- Use renewable energy such as solar and geothermal heat exchange.
- Pursue building commissioning to ensure optimum operating efficiency.
- Reduce ozone depletion by eliminating or limiting use of pertinent chemicals.
- Provide for measurement of energy reduction.
- Explore use of green power, such as hydrogen fuel cell technology.

Materials & Resource

- Use recycled building materials.
- Adaptively re-use building material.
- Provide construction waste management.
- Salvage wooden barn timbers for re-use.
- Use high recycled content materials.
- Use local regional materials.
- Use Certified (sustainable grown and harvested) Wood.

Indoor Environmental Quality

- Exceed minimum indoor air quality performance.
- Provide environmental tobacco smoke control.
- Provide carbon dioxide monitoring.
- Increase ventilation effectiveness.
- Manage construction Indoor air quality.
- Use low (chemical) emitting materials.
- Provide indoor chemical and pollutant source control.
- Provide for controllability of systems.
- Provide thermal comfort.
- Provide daylight and external views.

Ongoing Management and Operational

- Use integrated pest management plan.
- Eliminate the use of fertilize except for fine lawn areas.
- Eliminate irrigation except for play fields.
- Eliminate use of pesticide and herbicide.
- Provide recycling containers and a recycling program.
- Continue to make use of compost facility.

APPENDIX D: TOWNSHIP CODE: PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS

GOVERNMENT IN UPPER ST. CLAIR

TOWNSHIP CODE: PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS

The following regulations are quoted from the *Upper St. Clair Code: Chapter 93, Parks and Playgrounds*. The complete code, which includes definitions of terms and footnotes, is available online.

§ 93.2. Rules and regulations.

The following rules and regulations shall govern the use of all parks, parklets and traffic islands within the Township or Upper St. Clair, unless otherwise expressly limited or restricted hereinafter:

93.2.1 Township facilities and grounds are intended for the use and enjoyment of Township residents and organizations. Nonresidents must file written application with the Township Manager or his designated representative in order to ensure proper scheduling. Where specific user regulations or fees have been established to govern specific facilities, written permission must be obtained for all prospective users.

93.2.2. No person shall injure, deface or destroy any notices, rules or regulations posted or otherwise permanently fixed by order of the Township Manager or his designated representative.

93.2.3 No person shall **post or fix any notice** or bill or other writing or printing of any kind on or about such facilities and grounds without the written permission of the Township Manager or his designated representative, except upon notice boards specifically provided for such purpose.

93.2.4. Domesticated animals, such as **dogs and cats**, shall not be permitted in the parks, parklets or islands except for the following exceptions and with the restrictions thereto.

[Amended 11-01-04 by Ord. No. 1919]

93.2.4.1. Dog walking is an authorized activity in Boyce Mayview Park subject to the following restrictions:

- A. Dogs shall be under the control of standard fixed length leashes, not to exceed 6'.
- B. Dog walking shall be permitted in designated areas.
- C. Dogs must be under voice and sight control of the dog's attendant at all times.
- D. All dog waste must be picked up and disposed of in a sanitary manner.
- E. All dogs must have current registration tags and vaccines in accordance with municipal and County Codes.

[Added 11-01-04 by Ord. No. 1919]

93.2.4.2. The Township Manager is authorized to develop rules and regulations concerning off-leash dog exercise in specified areas in Boyce Mayview Park. These rules and regulations shall include, at a minimum:

- A. Dogs are only permitted off leash in specified areas.
- B. Dogs must be under voice and sight control of the dog's attendant at all times.
- C. All dog waste must be picked up and disposed of in a sanitary manner.
- D. Adherence to all posted rules and regulations and/or permit requirements.
- E. All dogs must have current registration tags and vaccines in accordance with municipal and County Codes.

[Added 11-01-04 by Ord. No. 1919]

93.2.4.3. Leashed dogs in transit through a park or other Township property to an otherwise permitted dog walking area are subject to the following restrictions:

A. This provision shall be by exceptions only such that an individual wishing to legally transverse a park or parklet with a domestic animal must be able to demonstrate a specific need to transverse the park by addressing the following:

1. It is otherwise impractical and/or unsafe to use alternative routes.
2. The selected route is the shortest and most unobtrusive route available to connect to an authorized walking area.

B. Dogs are leashed by a standard fixed length leash, not to exceed 6'.

C. Dogs must be under voice and sight control of the dog's attendant at all times.

D. All dog waste must be picked up and disposed of in a sanitary manner.

E. All dogs must have current registration tags and vaccines in accordance with municipal and County Code.

[Added 11-1-04 by Ord. No. 1919]

93.2.4.4. Notwithstanding any of the provisions of this Ordinance, the Township assumes no responsibility or liability for any injury, accident or loss, to person or to property, caused, in whole or in part, proximately or otherwise, by any dog in the aforesaid parks. All dog owners assume full responsibility for the consequences of their dogs while in any Township park. Further, the Township shall post the entrances to Boyce Mayview Park with the following notice:

NOTE: BE ADVISED THAT DOGS UNDER LEASH ARE PERMITTED IN THIS PARK UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS, AND WITHOUT LEASH IN CERTAIN AREAS, PURSUANT TO TOWNSHIP OF UPPER ST. CLAIR CODE CHAPTER 93. THE TOWNSHIP OF UPPER ST. CLAIR ASSUMES NO RESPONSIBILITY OR LIABILITY FOR ANY INJURY, ACCIDENT OR LOSS OF ANY KIND BY ANY DOG IN THIS PARK.

[Added by 11-1-04 by Ord. No. 1919]

93.2.5. No person shall carry **firearms**, shoot or throw stones or set **snare**s for wildlife.

93.2.6 No person shall cut, break, pluck or in any way injure or **deface** the trees, shrubs, plants, turf, fences, statuary, buildings or structures or throw anything whatever in any springs, streams, ponds or swimming pools.

93.2.7. No gambling, **alcoholic beverages** or illegal use of drugs shall be permitted.

93.2.8. No swing or play device shall be attached to any tree.

93.2.9. No person shall **erect any booth, table or stand** for the sale of any article whatever, or hawk or otherwise attempt to sell or sell any article whatever, on or about such facilities and grounds without the written permission of the Township Manager or his designated representative.

93.2.10. No parade or procession shall take place unless a permit has been obtained.

93.2.11. **Motor vehicles** shall be permitted only on paved streets or roadways within parks and parklets and shall not be operated thereon at a speed in excess of fifteen (15) miles per hour, unless specifically authorized by the Township Manager or his designated official.

93.2.12 The parking of motor vehicles shall be permitted only in areas specifically designated therefor.

93.2.13 All park and parklets will **open at sunrise**, prevailing time, and **close at sunset**, prevailing time, except for park areas which are lighted for night use which will close fifteen (15) minutes after the lights switch off. Except for official business or with the written permission of the Township Manager or his designated representative, no person or motor vehicles shall be permitted within any park or parklet after the established closing hour.

93.2.14. No **motorcycles, motor scooters, minibikes** or gas powered vehicles will be permitted to operate within parks, parklets or traffic islands.

93.2.15 No person shall conduct himself in an unruly or disorderly manner.

93.2.16 No **fire** shall be permitted except in those areas where grills, burners or barbecue pits are provided for that purpose.

93.2.17 No person shall use, occupy or otherwise conduct any activity upon property designated as a "traffic island," other than the authorized use of benches where such are provided.

93.2.18. Parks and parklets may be used for general recreational purposes, except that in parklets none of the following activities shall be permitted:

93.2.18.1. The playing of formal athletic contests or events.

93.2.18.2. The engagement by more than five (5) participants in team activities, such as baseball, softball, football, touch football, volleyball, basketball, soccer, field hockey or badminton.

93.2.18.3. The installation or placement of bases, stanchions nets any other equipment in any area for use in the above described activities.

93.2.19 **No loudspeakers, amplifiers** or other means of sound amplification will be permitted in parks, parklets or islands without written permission of the Township Manager or his designated representative, and then only for specific uses and times as designated in the permit.

93.2.20 No person shall construct or install any homemade device within any park, parklet or traffic island.

93.2.21 No person shall cause malicious vandalism to any park, parklet or traffic island, nor to any electrical, water, botanical, recreational or other equipment, structure, sign or installation in any park, parklet or traffic island.

§ 93.3. Violations and penalties.

Any person violating any of the provisions of this chapter shall be subject to the provisions of Chapter 5, Enforcement of Ordinances; Penalties and/or removal from the Park or Parklet.

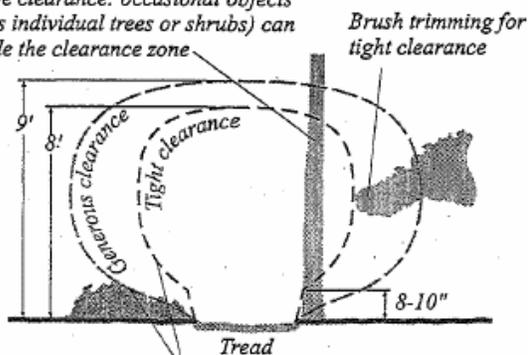
APPENDIX E: STANDARD TRAIL MAINTENANCE DURING EACH INSPECTION

- Clean out, widen and/or deepen drainage dip and tread dip outlets as needed.
- Inspect for and drain any puddles caused by tread compaction from trail use.
- Inspect for any excess trail erosion and add additional drainage dips upstream or conduct other repair. Look for the water source and the context for erosion, then change the context to reduce future erosion potential. Do not simply fill in erosion ruts without changing the underlying causes of erosion.
- Selectively remove berms that block drainage off the outside edge of trail tread.
- Add soil to fills and causeways where excess compaction or displacement occurred.
- Inspect and adjust drainage of trail structures and drainage crossings.
- Inspect and stabilize gullies, especially gullies caused or exacerbated by human actions.
- Adjust tread to accommodate visitors' actual path (primarily during the first year).
- Selectively remove roots exposed by compaction, displacement, and erosions. Roots that are not a severe tripping hazard can be left in place.
- Add or increase layer of woodchips or organic soil on tread where clay is excessively muddy.
- Check and adjust function of trail structures and bridges.
- Inspect signs, replace any lost or excessively damaged signs.
- Clear fallen trees and branches.
- Clear or mow excess grass in tread, especially in meadows.
- Spot water transplanted plants and planted trees (primarily during the first year).
- Pick up litter.

Check and adjust trail clearance, clear brush growth. Humans need clearance shaped like a keyhole, with much more space around the head and torso than around the legs:

Selective clearance

Selective clearance: occasional objects (such as individual trees or shrubs) can be inside the clearance zone



Clearance zones are average clearance distances. Individual tree trunks, branches, etc. can optionally extend to the tread edge. Width varies by modality and desired trail experience.

Differential clearance on sideslopes

Brush below tread forms a perceived safety buffer, makes slope feel less steep

