COMPREHENSIVE PARKS AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

Adopted
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Yamhill County’s Comprehensive Parks and Open Space Master Plan was adopted by the Yamhill County Board of Commissioners on June 19, 2003 by Board Order 03-413.

YAMHILL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose of the Master Plan

Yamhill County parks are unique natural, cultural, and historic places we people can enjoy outdoor activities and educational opportunities. The purpose of the Yamhill County Comprehensive Parks and Open Space Master Plan is to establish a vision for the future public use of the county's parks and open spaces, and to provide a policy framework and action strategies for how to get there. The document is also intended to create a strategy for planning, management, improvement, and expansion activities, and to help provide for long-term continuity between current and future staff and decision makers. This effort is viewed as a benchmark project, since it is Yamhill County's first officially adopted comprehensive plan for parks and open spaces.

Master Plan Objectives

These are specific objectives of the master plan:

- To describe Yamhill County’s goals, philosophy, and standards for its parks and open spaces;
- To evaluate adequacy and conditions of existing parks, natural open space areas, and historic sites;
- To provide for effective planning and management decisions; and
- To envision a preferred future, with implementation strategies.

Yamhill County Comprehensive Land Use Plan

The Yamhill County Parks and Open Space Plan is consistent with the Yamhill County Comprehensive Land Use Plan (1996), the official policy guide for land use decisions concerning growth, development, and natural resource management in Yamhill County. Elements of the adopted Yamhill County Comprehensive Plan include goals and policies that have special relevance for planning County parks and open spaces. These include:

- identifying open space, scenic resources, and historic sites and developing measures for preservation and use;
- providing greater opportunities for water-based recreation on the Willamette and Yamhill Rivers and their tributaries;
• **managing sites that have** unique aesthetic value, appropriate access, and are suitable for picnicking and water-related activities; **and**

• **promoting the development of an** integrated bicycle and pedestrian trail system to provide recreational opportunities that link open spaces, Yamhill County communities, and park areas.

Existing Parks and Open Spaces

Yamhill County currently owns and maintains 17 parks and open space areas totaling 126.4 acres. Ten of the sites are developed, six are undeveloped, and one is leased. There are two county-owned and decommissioned landfills, one located adjacent to the Monroe Boat Landing on the South Yamhill River, and one near Rogers Landing on the Willamette River. Both former landfill sites have potential for passive recreation and open space once reclamation is completed. For most of the parks and open space sites maintained by the county, improvements are needed in physical conditions and quality of management. A map showing the locations of county, state, and federal parks and open space areas in Yamhill County is included on page 9.

For an emerging county park and open space system, the variety and distribution of Yamhill County sites is notable. There are good representations of natural habitats and historic resources, although the size of many of these sites is considered marginal both from the perspective of ability to manage and protect them, and with respect to benefits and costs.

Disappearing Landscapes

With close proximity to the Portland metropolitan area, urban growth pressures will increasingly become a factor in protecting and managing natural habitats in Yamhill County. Conversion of natural habitats to other uses as well as the introduction of invasive species increase the importance of actively managing and rehabilitating Yamhill County Parks for responsible use.

Strategic Issues

The following strategic issues were identified as a framework for the plan, based on findings gleaned from results of the planning process including public involvement and outreach, needs assessment, and evaluation of the existing and potential parks and open spaces.
Overall Theme: Yamhill County has special natural, scenic, cultural, ecological, and historic resources; highly valued by residents.

- Existing county sites are special places.
- An integrated and connected open space system is lacking.
- County park sites are not evenly distributed; some are not accessible.
- A strong legacy of public engagement exists in the county.
- Habitat restoration is a major volunteer activity in the county.
- Opportunities exist for partnering with others.
- County parks lack plans, design standards, management guidelines.
- Resource protection needs to be balanced with public use.
- High potential exists for habitat rehabilitation, education, and research.
- Natural and scenic resources contribute to the high quality of life in Yamhill County.
- Rights of adjoining landowners must be valued, respected, and protected.

The Plan

The policy framework for the Yamhill County Park and Open Space Plan includes a vision statement and goals and policies that provide guiding principles for achieving the vision. The Vision Diagram translates the vision, goals, and policies into an image of a preferred future.

Vision

Based on a review of findings and strategic issues, the Yamhill County Parks Board brainstormed its vision for the future of the parks and open spaces system, resulting in a vision statement that outlines the preferred future of the system. A summary of the vision statement is included on page iv.
Vision Statement Summary

Yamhill County is valued for its significant natural, cultural, and scenic qualities including rugged coast mountains; prominent valley hills, ridges, and prairies; picturesque stream valleys; free-flowing rivers and streams; cascading waterfalls; diverse vegetation; abundant wildlife; and rich history and cultural heritage.

The desired future of the county parks and open spaces will feature strategically located natural, cultural, and historic sites representative of Yamhill County’s ecosystems, habitats, history, and cultural heritage, and will be connected by a system of trails and bikeways that promote public access and enjoyment. Emphasis will be placed on preserving, rehabilitating, enhancing, and interpreting the County’s scenic and recreational assets, using management practices and strategies that are the most effective and practical.

In achieving this preferred vision, the result will be sustainability and enjoyment of the natural, cultural, and historic landscape to enhance the quality of life for Yamhill County residents, visitors and future generations. It is intended that our parks and open spaces will be an exemplary model that others emulate.

Goals and Policies

Seven goals and thirty policy statements provide direction for achieving the vision. The goals include the following.

Exemplary System

Goal 1: To develop exemplary parks and open spaces that include representative habitat types and historic and cultural assets, with a focus on the major river corridors and their tributaries, and opportunities for citizens of all ages to enjoy parks and open spaces where a variety of recreational opportunities exist.

Quality Services

Goal 2: To achieve the highest possible level of quality for public use in planning, managing, and providing infrastructure for the county parks and open spaces.

Public Support
GOAL 3: To obtain the highest possible level of public support and awareness of the goals for parks and open spaces in Yamhill County.

Sustainability

GOAL 4: To achieve greater biological diversity and ecological health throughout the County parks and open spaces by preserving and rehabilitating natural habitats and maintaining the integrity, stability, and beauty of the region.

Compatibility

GOAL 5: To seek the highest level of compatibility between County parks and open spaces and adjacent private land uses.

Safety and Accessibility

GOAL 6: To create a safe and accessible environment in all County parks, open spaces, and cultural and historical sites.

Maintaining Livability

GOAL 7: To assure the County parks and open spaces keep pace with population and growth and play a major role in maintaining livability.

Future Yamhill County parks and open spaces

The Vision Diagram (Map 2, page 52) provides an image of the county’s future parks and open spaces, a visualization of what could emerge by fulfilling the vision statement, goals, and policies of the Plan. It is emphasized, however, that the diagram is a conceptual framework for what could be, not a rigid prescription for how to get there. In this context, possibilities unfold, opportunities come into view, and public dialogue – even debate – will be encouraged.

These themes provide the basic structure and planning concepts to help guide initiatives and strategies for achieving a vision for the future of Yamhill County parks and open spaces.

Key Water-based Connections – Rivers and creeks are the skeleton of the system, providing opportunities for recreation access, linking communities, and fostering greater understanding of the county’s history and culture. Concepts include:

Anchors – focal points along river and creek corridors where existing parks and natural, scenic, recreational, and historic values converge. Examples: Baker Creek Corridor, Wheatland Ferry Landing, Palmer Creek, Yamhill River, and Rogers Landing
River Confluence Areas – “points of influence” where rivers and creeks join and tend to have greater concentration of habitat and recreational significance. Examples: Yamhill and Willamette Rivers, North and South Yamhill Rivers, Chehalem Creek and Willamette River, Palmer Creek and Yamhill River

Blueways – recognition of the county’s navigable waterways and selected creeks that have significant riparian zones and floodplains, and have high potential for habitat protection, restoration, and water trails as navigable waterway corridors. Examples: Yamhill River, North and South Yamhill Rivers, Willamette River

Willamette River Corridor – the Willamette River Greenway provides land use protection and scenic and recreational opportunities. This corridor in Yamhill County represents the single largest recreation resource in the county. Examples: Wheatland Ferry Complex including state and county riverfront lands, Rogers Landing and adjacent county landfill

Natural, Cultural, and Historic Sites – existing and potential places that have special significance as high quality representations of the ecological, historic, and cultural values of the county. Examples: Deer Creek Wet Prairie, Lafayette Locks, Wrex Cruse Oak Savanna, Yampo Springs.

Trails and Connectors – existing and potential multi-use paths and trails that frequently can provide both recreational and transportation uses, such as along the Willamette Greenway, also provide linkages between communities and more cohesive parks and open spaces. Examples: Deer Creek to the Nestucca River, Dundee to Newberg, Palmer Creek in Dayton to the Yamhill River, Powerhouse Road to Peavine Road, East Creek Road to Willamina Falls

The Vision Diagram (Map 2, page 52) and the images portrayed do not change existing plan designation or land use zoning in any of the areas identified. The purpose of the diagram is to create enthusiasm for achieving a greater sense of place, preserving the county’s unique resource values, and linking parks, communities, and habitats.

Implementation

To facilitate implementation of the Plan, a total of 105 action strategies are recommended that respond to each of the seven goals for the Plan. These strategies have short-term, intermediate, and long-term time frames. Listed here are the key strategies. One of the most important actions will be to find innovative and secure methods of funding and acquiring parks and open spaces.
County Parks and Open Spaces

**ACTION STRATEGY:** Focus on waterways as the backbone of the County parks and open spaces.

**ACTION STRATEGY:** Establish a comprehensive and interconnected system that includes high quality representations of Yamhill County’s natural and cultural heritage, with a major emphasis on land acquisition.

Planning and Management

**ACTION STRATEGY:** Accelerate systematic planning and design for individual parks and open space sites.

**ACTION STRATEGY:** Prepare a management plan to guide the most effective and efficient maintenance, protection, and public use of the County parks and open spaces.

Funding and Public Support

**ACTION STRATEGY:** Seek innovative and secure funding to plan, improve, maintain, and operate County parks and open spaces.

**ACTION STRATEGY:** Maintain high level of collaboration and cooperation with local communities, government agencies, non-profit groups, and the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde.

**ACTION STRATEGY:** Create a comprehensive information and education program to develop public awareness of and appreciation for the rich natural and cultural heritage in Yamhill County.

Natural Resource Management

**ACTION STRATEGY:** Establish a natural resource inventory of County parks and open spaces as a tool for prioritizing and maintaining an effective management program.

**ACTION STRATEGY:** Develop a natural resource management program designed to achieve sustainable use of the County parks and open spaces.

Maintaining Partnerships with Others

**ACTION STRATEGY:** Employ open communications and a variety of partnering methods to achieve the highest level of harmony with stakeholders.
Safety and Accessibility

**ACTION STRATEGY:** Establish programs that will achieve a high level of public safety in county parks and open space sites.

**ACTION STRATEGY:** Take action to make existing park sites and open spaces accessible to the general public as well as for persons with disabilities.

Maintaining Livability

**ACTION STRATEGY:** Actively participate in efforts to preserve the scenic, ecological, and cultural values of the county.

This picnic area at Ed Grenfell enjoys a view of Baker Creek
INTRODUCTION

Yamhill County parks and open spaces are places for people. The parks and open spaces owned and maintained by Yamhill County reflect how county residents treasure the abundant scenic, recreational, and historical values that exist in this part of the Willamette Valley.

Mission Statement

The Yamhill County Parks Board has adopted the following mission statement, which not only expresses concern for maintaining a quality living environment, but also has provided an underpinning to prepare Yamhill County’s first comprehensive park and open space plan:

“Yamhill County parks and open spaces are unique natural, cultural, and historic places to be managed, preserved, and restored for people to enjoy outdoor activities and educational opportunities.”

Purpose of the Master Plan

The purpose of the Comprehensive Parks and Open Space Master Plan is to establish a vision for the future public use of the county’s parks and open spaces, and to provide a policy framework and action strategies for implementation. This effort is viewed as a benchmark project, since it is Yamhill County’s first officially adopted comprehensive plan for parks and open spaces. The Plan also facilitates achievement of the mission statement.
Master Plan Objectives

These are specific objectives of the master plan:

• To provide continuity, direction, and strategy over time to current and future decision makers as they plan, manage, improve, develop, and expand Yamhill County parks and open spaces.

• To determine appropriate public uses for each site

• To establish preferred levels of development for infrastructure and amenities

• To serve as a basis for determining maintenance requirements for each site

• To identify, prioritize, and schedule capital improvements

Yamhill County Comprehensive Land Use Plan

This Parks and Open Space Plan is consistent with Yamhill County’s Comprehensive Land Use Plan (1996), the official policy guide for land use decisions concerning growth, development, and natural resource management in Yamhill County.

Two elements of the adopted Yamhill County Comprehensive Plan include goals and policies that have special relevance for planning County parks and open spaces:

Open Spaces

Goal 1. To ensure the continuance of the open space character that has always existed in Yamhill County.

Policy 1. Yamhill County will make efforts to cooperate with all governmental and recreation agencies within the region to identify open spaces and scenic resources, to determine resident and non-resident recreation needs, and to formulate and implement measures for open space preservation and use.

Policy 2. The inventory will include but not be limited to the location, quantity and quality of the following resources: fish and wildlife habitats; ecologically and scientifically significant natural areas; outstanding scenic view and sites; water areas, wetlands, watersheds, and groundwater resources; wilderness areas; historic areas, sites, structures and objects; cultural areas; potential and approved Oregon recreation trails; potential parks and recreation sites.
Goal 2. To preserve and improve potential recreational and other open spaces in both urban and rural environments for all to enjoy.

Policy 1. Yamhill County will seek to establish a permanent county open space network; increased public access to areas of prime recreational significance; the development of additional water-based recreational opportunities; and continuity of scenic views, buffer areas, wildlife and natural habitat and associated natural environments.

Parks and Recreation

Goal 3. To provide adequate recreational opportunities in both the rural and urban environments to meet existing and projected needs.

Policy 3. Yamhill County will seek to offer greater opportunities for water-based recreation on the Willamette and South Yamhill Rivers and their tributaries.

Policy 5. Yamhill County will encourage the development of rural parks with appropriate spacing to serve the needs of county residents on sites that have unique aesthetic value, appropriate access by road or path, and are otherwise suitable for picnicking and water-related activities.

Policy 7. Yamhill County will promote the development of an integrated bicycle and pedestrian trail system to provide recreational opportunities to link open space, Yamhill County communities, and park areas.

Volunteer Scouts build a fire pit at Charles Metsker
YAMHILL COUNTY PROFILE

History

Yamhill was the second of the four original districts created by the Provisional Legislature in 1843. Its boundaries were drawn to include all the area from the Willamette River west to the Pacific Ocean and from the Yamhill River south to the California border. The district consisted of 12,000 square miles; however, twelve counties were eventually created from Yamhill County leaving 709 square miles within its present borders. The county shares borders with Washington County to the north, Tillamook County to the west, Polk County to the south, and Marion and Clackamas Counties to the east. The county was named for the original inhabitants of the area, the Cheaahmill Indians, a tribe of the Kalapuyan family, who lived around the Yamhill River. The tribe was moved to the Grand Ronde Reservation in 1855. The earliest non-native settlers entered the area in 1814; most were employees of the various fur companies operating in Oregon. Many of the American immigrants who came over the Oregon Trail during 1843-1844 settled in the Yamhill region, which became the agricultural center of the Willamette Valley. Today, the county's primary industry is agriculture, specifically wheat, barley, horticulture, hazelnuts, and dairy farming. Yamhill County is also the center of Oregon's wine industry. One-third of the county is covered with commercial timber, and the economic mainstay of the western part of the county is logging and timber products. Non-seasonal light industries have also located in Yamhill County. Nearly one-fifth of the county's workforce commutes to the Portland metropolitan area.1

Natural History and Ecology

Located in the northern Willamette Valley, Yamhill County stretches from the Willamette River on the east up to the summit of the Coast Range on the west. Topography of the valley is a major determinant of the ecosystems found here. About one-third of the area of the county is gently sloped valley bottomland, ranging in elevation from about 60 feet above sea level on the eastern boundary at the Willamette River to about 400 feet above sea level in the upper valleys of the tributaries of the Yamhill River. The remaining two-thirds is forested uplands with elevations up to about 3,400 feet (Trask Mountain 3,423 feet). The higher elevations receive much greater amounts of precipitation (up to 160 inches per year) than the lowlands, which receive about 40-60 inches annually. Differences in elevation, slope, and precipitation, along with the historic role of fire on the landscape, have produced the diverse habitat types in Yamhill County.

1 Excerpt from Oregon State Archives website - http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us/county/cpyamhillhome.html
Geological history of the valley is a major factor contributing to evolution of the bottomland ecosystems. About twelve thousand years ago, a series of immense floods originating in the Upper Columbia River basin filled the Willamette and Yamhill Valleys with water to a depth of 400 feet above sea level. These floodwaters reshaped topography of the valley and deposits of vast quantities of silt produced the County’s deep, rich topsoil. Flooding also created shallow lakes and extensive wetlands throughout low areas of the valley.

After the ice age, about ten thousand years ago, the glaciers retreated and humans began to migrate south from northern reaches of North America. They eventually reached the Willamette Valley. For at least four thousand years, humans then played a major role in the evolution of Willamette Valley ecosystems, systematically setting fires to burn off the vegetation. Yamhill County was occupied by people called Kalapuya who applied fire to the landscape, creating grasslands where there otherwise would be forests. This landscape practice evolved into what could be called "wildland management" in order to create and maintain favorable plant community characteristics.

There are four major habitat types in Yamhill County that evolved in relation to fire: lowland riparian forest, prairies, oak savanna, and upland conifer forests. Historically, these vegetation patterns dominated the watershed. These habitats were extremely productive and sustained large populations of wildlife.

**Lowland Riparian Forest**

Historically, in the low gradient valleys of the Yamhill watershed, rivers and streams formed multiple, meandering channels that created extensive floodplains covered with trees. These closed-canopy forests were composed of deciduous species such as Oregon ash, red alder, black cottonwood, and bigleaf maple, along with conifers including Douglas-fir, grand fir, and ponderosa pine. Western red cedar may have occasionally been present, but since it is very fire sensitive, it would not likely have been common. Generally these forests were within 50 feet of rivers, and then transitioned into prairies. High soil moisture levels present in these riparian forests allowed them to resist the fires set to burn the prairies. Absence of fire in these forests allowed a complex understory of shrubs to develop.

Beaver were plentiful in the region, producing dams that slowed the water and trapped and stored sediment. As the beaver ponds filled in, new channels would develop around the obstructing dam, forming multiple side-channels. Other dams were produced by fallen trees and logjams of large, woody debris carried downstream from the forested uplands. The strong forces of floodwaters were slowed and dissipated by these dams and dense riparian vegetation, and were dispersed over the adjacent floodplains. Sediments accumulated on these floodplains and the seasonal inundation recharged groundwater levels, essential for maintaining sufficient flows and cool stream temperatures during dry summers.
Prairies
As a result of periodic burning by the Kalapuyan people, extensive prairies dominated the valley floor. One third of these prairies were wet prairie, dominated by tufted hairgrass. This tall perennial grass was well adapted to both periodic fires and hydric soils, providing forage for herds of deer, elk, and pronghorn, which the natives hunted for food. Growing intermixed in the prairies with the grasses, there were numerous species of the Lily family that had been semi-cultivated for centuries by humans, and were also adapted to annual burning practices of the Kalapuyan people. The fires burned back more competitive grasses, allowing wildflowers to flourish and utilize the nutrients released by burning. Among the bulbs was camas, which formed a staple crop for many tribes in the west. Many other members of the Lily family were also utilized for food.

The dominant grass of the dry, upland prairie was red fescue. In both the wet and dry prairies, shrubs and small trees grew such as hazel, serviceberry, and cascara, and burning would kill them back and force a burst of sprouts in the spring. This re-sprouting was the source for most of the native people’s fiber materials.

Oak Savanna
The fires set by the Kalapuya to burn the prairies occasionally burned up into the eastern foothills of the Coast range. Unobstructed exposure to east winds and upward slope of the land allowed fires to rapidly spread west to higher elevations of the range. However, these fires were not as frequent as fires in the valley, resulting in the establishment of solitary or small groups of Oregon white oaks surrounded by dry prairies. This oak savanna habitat type was present in the foothills up to elevations of 1000 feet above sea level.

Due largely to fire suppression practices during the last 150 years, the oak savannas have become replaced by faster growing Douglas-fir forests, which overtop the oaks and produce shade, killing the remaining oaks. Oregon white oak stands provide more cavity habitat than any other cover type in the Coast Range.

Upland Conifer Forests
The forests of Yamhill County are very typical of East Side Coast Range forests. Species composition varies depending on elevation, precipitation, and aspect. Douglas-fir is the dominant species in young forests, with Western red cedar and Western hemlock becoming more dominant in older forests. Fire has been a part of these upland ecosystems for thousands of years, ignited from lightning strikes and resulting in mixed-age forests of mixed conifer species. Other species of trees present in the upland forests include red alder, bigleaf maple, and Pacific madrone. Prior to arrival of European settlers, very little forest existed in the lower foothills of the Coast Range up to about one thousand feet in elevation, because of human induced fires in the valley.
Disappearing Landscapes

With close proximity to the Portland metropolitan area, urban growth pressures will increasingly become a factor in protecting and managing natural habitats in Yamhill County. Conversion of natural habitats to other uses as well as the introduction of invasive species increase the importance of actively managing, and rehabilitating Yamhill County Parks for responsible use.

Population and Demographics

Between 1990 and 2001, Yamhill County’s population increased by 31.8%, from 65,551 to 86,400 people. Between 2001 and 2020, the State of Oregon’s Office of Economic Analysis projects that Yamhill County’s population will see a 38.2% increase of approximately 33,000 persons, and will total 119,589 by the year 2020.

According to United States Census estimates, just over half (52.4%) of the County’s current populace resides in the cities of McMinnville and Newberg, with the remaining 47.6% of residents living on farms and in smaller towns. Some notable population characteristics that are important for parks and recreation are:

- Families with children under 18 years old constituted 37.4% of the County’s 28,732 households in 2000.
- Children under 18 years of age, and seniors 65 years and older (who characteristically participate in recreation activities at high rates) totaled 38.6% of the population in 2000.
- Yamhill County’s percentage of seniors (11.7%) is slightly lower than that for the State of Oregon as a whole (12.8%).

The largest minority ethnic group, Latinos, represent 10.6% of Yamhill County’s population. The Latino population increased by 118.4% between 1990 and 2000, growing from 4,129 to 9,017 persons. This may require consideration for bilingual information, signage, and educational activities.

As the population of Yamhill County continues to grow, county parks and open spaces will become more important. With its proximity to the growing Portland metropolitan area, and the increasing population of children and seniors, Yamhill County will play a vital role in contributing to the quality of life of its residents by managing, protecting and restoring an abundance and variety of natural, scenic, and historic features and places, and making them available for high quality outdoor recreation experiences.

Public Parks, Recreation and Open Space System

In Yamhill County, the public parks, outdoor recreation areas, and open spaces consist of lands managed by federal agencies, the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, State
of Oregon, Yamhill County, Chehalem Parks and Recreation District (Newberg and Dundee), the City of McMinnville, and the seven rural communities – Amity, Carton, Dayton, Lafayette, Sheridan, Yamhill, and Willamina. These outdoor recreation opportunities are described by geographic location, and are shown on Map 1, page 9.

**Coast Range**

In the Coast Range uplands in the western part of the county, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), U.S. Forest Service, and the Grand Ronde Reservation have large ownerships that provide mostly dispersed recreation opportunities. These include primarily motorized recreation trails; part of the Hebo-Nestucca Roadless Area in the Siuslaw National Forest; part of the Nestucca River Special Recreation Management Area and Back County Byway managed by the BLM; and the BLM’s Bald Mountain Off-Highway Vehicle Area along the Bald Mountain Loop Road formally designated as a motorcycle trail.

A segment of the Nestucca River was found by the BLM to be suitable for inclusion in the national scenic and wild river system, and the Walker Creek tributary meets eligibility requirements. A 23-mile segment of the Nestucca River is designated as a State Scenic Waterway extending from McGuire Reservoir Dam in Yamhill County to the Blaine community in Tillamook County.

The 9,800-acre Grand Ronde Reservation is open to the public, including two hiking trails and a day-use park on Agency Creek. The Tribe is currently working on a ten-year recreation management plan that will include restoration of historical and cultural trails on the reservation that will connect with trails in the adjacent national forest.

**Willamette Valley**

Throughout the valley part of the county, recreation opportunities occur in small county parks on creeks and rivers, with several located on Baker Creek including a small lake near the headwaters. County parks are also located on Turner Creek (Menefee Park), Willamina Creek (Blackwell Park), and Mill Creek (Stuart Grenfell Park). Several county-owned sites are representations of ecosystems (Deer Creek wetland prairie, Wrex Cruse oak savanna), and a number of sites have significant historical and cultural value (Lafayette Locks, Powerhouse, Juliette). Yampo is a BLM site with cultural and botanical significance.

The State of Oregon manages Bald Peak Scenic Viewpoint in the Chehalem Mountain Range, Maud Williamson State Recreation Site near the Wheatland Ferry, and Erratic Rock State Natural Site located between Sheridan and McMinnville, featuring a 40-ton rock deposited during a prehistoric flood.
Several years ago, State statute allowed the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission to enter into agreements with landowners to create the Carlton Lake Wildlife Refuge, a former sawmill pond that was breached in the ‘60s. No action has been taken to create this state refuge. In 1996 the Bureau of Reclamation explored alternatives for restoring the lake to improve migratory waterfowl habitat and enhance recreation opportunities.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is currently studying whether to convert all or a portion of a 6,800-acre area as the Wapato Lake National Wildlife Refuge. Part of the study area is located in Yamhill County northeast of the community of Cove Orchard.

Yamhill County manages two former landfill sites under DEQ post-closure permits. The Newberg Landfill site and the Whiteson Landfill both have strong future potential to increase the total acres of high quality open space in Yamhill County. Both sites are located in strategically excellent positions on local waterways. The Whiteson Landfill is located adjacent to Monroe Landing County Park on the South Yamhill River. Monroe Landing is the only public boat landing on the South Yamhill River. Because of its close proximity to the Whiteson Landfill and concerns for safety, access to Monroe Landing is restricted. Additionally, the boat ramp is non-functional due to heavy sediment deposition on the ramp. The Newberg Landfill is located on the banks of the Willamette River, less than 300 yards upstream of Rogers Landing.

**Yamhill River Basin**

The Yamhill River and its two forks, the North Yamhill and the South Yamhill, are excellent potential sources of recreation opportunities. Currently, Dayton Landing is the only developed and operational boat launch facility on the Yamhill River. The Yamhill River also offers great opportunity for historic interpretation. In the late 19th century, the cities of Dayton, Lafayette, and McMinnville depended heavily on river transportation to transport goods. Dayton Landing and Lafayette Locks are strategically located to highlight the influence that the river systems had on economic and cultural development in the County.

**Willamette River Corridor**

The State’s Willamette Greenway Program (Statewide Planning Goal 15) outlines strategies for protection and conservation of the natural, scenic, historical, and recreational qualities of lands along the Willamette River. State-owned greenway lands along the Willamette include Grand Island Access near Wheatland Ferry, Yamhill Landing near Dayton, Hess Creek Landing, and Parrett Landing across from Champoeg State Park in Marion County.

Several submerged land sites are owned by the Division of State Lands including a significant piece adjacent to the Wheatland Ferry Landing, and Lambert Bar at the outlet of the Lambert Slough. The Wheatland Ferry is the oldest ferry in the state, and is jointly owned and managed by both Yamhill County and Marion County. Ediger Landing is a small county-owned landing adjacent to the ferry site that provides basic access to the Willamette River.
Located near Newberg, Rogers Landing is a major river staging and boat access site owned by the county. The adjacent Newberg Landfill provides an opportunity to expand the landing site once the landfill is reclaimed.

A remnant of the Lafayette Locks, as viewed from the bank of the Yamhill River

Community Parks, Recreation Areas, and Open Spaces

Community parks, outdoor recreation facilities, and open space areas are managed by the City of McMinnville; by the Chehalem Parks and Recreation District, a special purpose district with a service area including Newberg and Dundee; and by the rural communities including Amity, Carlton, Dayton, Lafayette, Sheridan, Willamina, and Yamhill.
Existing Parks and Open Spaces

Yamhill County currently owns and maintains 17 parks and open space areas totaling 126.4 acres. Ten of the sites are developed, six are undeveloped, and one is leased (see Table 1). The two county-owned landfills are listed in the inventory because they are adjacent to the two county boat landings on major rivers, and provide potential for future passive recreation and open space use once landfill reclamation is completed. The locations of these facilities are included in Map 1 on page 9.

Table 1: Yamhill County Parks and Open Space Inventory

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Acres</th>
<th>Major Feature</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Developed Sites:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blackwell</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>Willamina Creek cascades over formations of bedrock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Metsker</td>
<td>20.1</td>
<td>Rainbow Lake on upper Baker Creek; restricted to chaperoned youth groups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dayton Landing</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>Boat landing on Yamhill River near Dayton; Palmer Creek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer Creek</td>
<td>29.4</td>
<td>Largest remnant wet prairie site in lower Willamette Valley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ed Grenfell</td>
<td>7.0</td>
<td>Baker Creek; variety of park facilities incl. group shelter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huber</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>Baker Creek; small wayside park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lafayette Locks</td>
<td>8.8</td>
<td>Remnant of early sternwheeler navigation on Yamhill River</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Menefee</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>Turner Creek; small wayside park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rogers Landing</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>Prime Willamette River boat access/landing; infrastructure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stuart Grenfell</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>Mill Creek; small wayside park</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Undeveloped Sites:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>Ediger Landing</td>
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<td>Basic concrete boat landing adjacent to Wheatland Ferry; no boarding floats.</td>
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<td>5.8</td>
<td>Baker Creek dam; historic and scenic site</td>
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<td>Monroe Landing</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>Nonfunctional, un-repaired boat landing on South Yamhill River</td>
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<td>Powerhouse</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>Remnant of hydro-electricity plant on Baker Creek</td>
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<td>Renee</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>Small forested site deed restricted to equestrians</td>
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<td>Wrex Cruse</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>Oak savanna habitat; south-facing slope in Cove Orchard</td>
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<td><strong>Leased:</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</table>
Summarized here are descriptions and assessments of the sites managed by Yamhill County, and concluding statements with respect to a possible management emphasis for each site.

**Developed Parks and Open Spaces**

**Blackwell** – 5.9 Acres: located 4.5 miles north of Willamina off of Willamina Creek Road

**Assessment:** Blackwell Park features scenic Willamina Creek, which cascades over large bedrock formations and provides opportunities for fishing and creek access under a canopy of Oregon white oak. Park infrastructure is marginal due to minimal facilities (unpaved parking lot; picnic tables, primitive restrooms) and basic repair needs. Impacts from visitor use include exposed tree roots and damage to the creek zone.

**Management Emphasis:** Protection and restoration of significant resource values associated with the creek corridor and riparian zone; managing for outdoor recreation experiences in a creek environment.

*Willamina Creek flows across rock formations at Blackwell*
**Charles Metsker** – 20.1 Acres: located 9.2 miles west of McMinnville near the end of Baker Creek Road

**Assessment:** Rainbow Lake is the focal point of this park, a former millpond located in the upper reaches of Baker Creek in the Coast Range. The park is deed restricted to organized youth groups and juvenile rehabilitation activities and is not open to the general public. Facilities include a covered group shelter, field station lab, floating dock, trails, and a vault toilet. The lake collects sediment from upstream, has algae problems, and the retention dam obstructs fish passage. Baker Creek Road is an old wagon road. Potential harvesting of the adjacent private forest could impact scenic integrity of the site.

**Management Emphasis:** Stewardship of the lake and surrounding forest in a unique upland setting that has high scenic, recreational, and educational value. Revisit the deed restriction to determine if there are options to expand use for the general public, which would require additional park infrastructure.

*Rainbow Lake is the focal point at Charles Metsker*
**Dayton Landing** – 2.3 Acres: located at the termination of Water Street on the Yamhill River in Dayton at the confluence of Palmer Creek

**Assessment:** This landing on the Yamhill River in Dayton is strategic because it is the only developed public boat access site on the Yamhill River, and only a few miles from the confluence with the Willamette River. Facilities are considered marginal due to a lack of basic infrastructure, with no amenities to experience the river other than the boat ramp. The local high school has adopted nearby Palmer Creek as a greenway project connecting the school and city-owned land, with potential for also connecting with the boat landing. A city-owned river park is located on the opposite bank of the river accessed by a pedestrian bridge. The boat landing has potential to become an important amenity for the community of Dayton.

**Management Emphasis:** Public access to the Yamhill River with supporting amenities that provide a positive connection and relationship to the Dayton community; also partnership opportunities with local schools to make a connection with the Palmer Creek Greenway.

*Dayton Landing is the only developed boat access to the Yamhill River.*
**Deer Creek**  
29.4 Acres: located approximately 7.5 miles north of Sheridan off Gopher Valley Road

**Assessment:** This site is very significant because it is the largest remnant wet prairie in the lower Willamette Valley. The developed part of the site includes picnic facilities and play area in a shady ash grove along Deer Creek, and basic infrastructure. Additional land acquisition and conservation easements along Deer Creek could expand the Kincaid lupine habitat, emergent wetland, and riparian communities. Educational and interpretive information is lacking at the site. Strong partnerships have been developed with conservation groups and resource management agencies to manage, restore, and protect the site.

**Management Emphasis:** Protection and active restoration of the largest remnant wet prairie in the lower Willamette Valley, including interpretive information and park amenities that are consistent with this management regime. Strong partnership with Friends of Deer Creek Park, Cheahmill Chapter of the Native Plant Society, Linfield College, and others to achieve management goals. Pursue acquisition and/or easements of additional high value lands to enhance ecological quality of the site.

*Deer Creek contains the largest remnant wet prairie site in the lower Willamette Valley and is home to a growing population of Camas Lilies*
**Ed Grenfell** – 7.0 Acres: located 4.5 miles west of McMinnville off of Baker Creek Road

**Assessment:** Of the five county sites along Baker Creek, this is the most developed park and one of the more popular outdoor recreation sites in the county. Infrastructure investment is substantial including a large group picnic shelter, vault restrooms, and paved entrance road and parking facilities. The streamside setting under a canopy of mixed riparian trees provides a variety of recreation opportunities. The Yamhill Basin Council has been active in restoring native vegetation in the park. Parking is inadequate, bank erosion is undercutting the creek, there are drainage problems, and visitors trespass onto neighboring ponds. The site is fragmented by private land that separates two parcels of the park. There is potential for the park to function as a “hub” along a future greenway connecting other county-owned sites along Baker Creek.

**Management Emphasis:** Protection and restoration of the riparian zone and natural amenities, upgrading infrastructure, and invasive vegetation management. Explore opportunities to begin creating a greenway along Baker Creek with Ed Grenfell Park as the catalyst. Pursue an easement or land purchase to consolidate the two land parcels that cause fragmentation of the park.

*A bridge crossing Baker Creek provides access to picnic and recreation facilities at Ed Grenfell*
Huber – 1.0 Acres: located 6.2 miles west of McMinnville on Baker Creek Road

Assessment: This is a small site located a relatively short distance upstream from Ed Grenfell Park and an even shorter distance downstream from the Powerhouse site. Huber Park currently functions as a secluded wayside park that provides picnicking in a riparian setting, creekside access, and nature enjoyment. The site is considered marginal in size, and encroachment of non-native vegetation and bank erosion are management issues.

Management Emphasis: Wayside park with emphasis on riparian restoration and protection, creekside access, picnicking, and potential to function as an anchor along a future connected greenway from Ed Grenfell Park to Metsker Park.
**Lafayette Locks** – 8.8 Acres: located .5 miles east of Lafayette on Highway 99W

**Assessment:** Lafayette Locks is primarily an historic park, consisting of basic infrastructure, mixed forest, and meadow overlooking a remnant lock and dam on the Yamhill River. The lock system allowed sternwheelers to navigate the river to McMinnville. The site also has cultural significance, as early Native Americans used natural stepping-stones for a river crossing at this location. Although the lock is not considered rebuildable, historic interpretation is a major opportunity. Volunteers are actively working to remove English ivy and enhance river viewing and interaction opportunities.

**Management Emphasis:** Historic interpretation of the lock and dam system, and early Native Americans present on the site. Providing basic park amenities and infrastructure support. Actively managing the mixed forest and wetland on the site.

*Remnants of Lafayette Locks on the Yamhill River that once enabled commercial river traffic to navigate to McMinnville.*
Menefee – 1.1 Acres: located 7.5 miles west of Yamhill on Turner Creek Road

**Assessment:** Menefee Park is a small, secluded site located on Turner Creek, a tributary in the headwaters of the North Yamhill River in the Coast Range. A grove of Western redcedar trees dominates the site. Blackberries threaten native vegetation, and the bank area along Turner Creek is eroding. This park is considered marginal in size and has primitive infrastructure. The parking lot is connected to a private driveway and nearby residence.

**Management Emphasis:** Protection and restoration of natural values of the site, especially along the bank of Turner Creek, and invasive vegetation management. Explore expansion of the site to function as a more viable park site.

* A Western Red-Cedar grove along Turner Creek provides a charming setting for a secluded picnic in this small, out-of-the-way park
Rogers Landing – 9.0 Acres: located on the Willamette River, south of downtown Newberg on River St.

Assessment: Rogers Landing functions as a major hub in the Willamette River corridor, with a multi-lane boat ramp and extensive parking facilities that can accommodate a large number of boats and vehicles, as well as an RV site with utility hookups for a park host. The complex currently functions as a single purpose facility because of a lack of amenities for visitors other than boaters. Railroad tracks create a barrier that isolates Rogers Landing from the community. The surrounding industrial zone creates noise and visual intrusions, although the Newberg Riverfront Master Plan envisions redevelopment of the area to become a pedestrian-oriented “Gateway Park” including a riverfront commercial theme, and potential greenway from Newberg to Dundee. Once reclamation has been completed, the adjacent Newberg Landfill has potential for expanding the park to become a multi-purpose day use complex compatible with the vision for a gateway theme on the river.

Management Emphasis: A “Gateway Park” to the Willamette River, Rogers Landing provides multi-use opportunities to access the river as well as experience riverside outdoor activities including picnicking and river viewing. Excellent opportunity exists for a partnership with the City of Newberg and commercial interests to transform over time the industrial area into a viable river enhancement zone, with mixed public and commercial use. There is potential for expanding Rogers Landing once the Newberg Landfill is reclaimed.
**Stuart Grenfell** – 3.7 Acres: located 2.7 miles west of Sheridan with frontage on State Highway 18

**Assessment:** Located in a cottonwood grove on Mill Creek, Stuart Grenfell Park is a popular roadside area for travelers to and from the Oregon coast. Infrastructure is minimal, and due to the small size and odd shape, this park may be a candidate for land exchange or management by another agency.

**Management Emphasis:** A wayside park on a heavily traveled state highway. Explore options for land exchange or disposition to another managing agency.

*Maple, cottonwood and ash trees greet visitors traveling to and from the coast. This park provides a welcome setting for a picnic and a rest with easy access to Mill Creek.*
Undeveloped Parks and Open Spaces

**Ediger Landing** – 0.8 Acres: located on the Willamette River, adjacent to Wheatland Ferry

**Assessment:** Ediger is an unimproved boat landing on the Willamette River, and has special significance because of its location within a large complex of public-owned greenway lands and the historic Wheatland Ferry crossing, Oregon’s oldest and busiest ferry crossing.

**Management Emphasis:** An integral part of a future “Gateway Park” to the Willamette River by providing boat access to the river, public access to the adjacent and sizable public greenway, and historic interpretation and sightseeing opportunities related to the Wheatland Ferry.

*A sandbar adjacent to Ediger Landing is the only public site in Yamhill County that offers riverside vehicle access to the Willamette.*
Juliette – 5.8 Acres: located 8.5 miles west of McMinnville on Baker Creek Road

Assessment: Juliette is a very picturesque site featuring an early 1900s dam on Baker Creek. Still visible are remnants of pipe that connected the dam with a power generating plant 1.5 miles downstream to the Powerhouse site. A narrow footbridge is upstream from the dam. The dam represents a complete barrier to fish passage (including cutthroat trout and ESA listed Upper Willamette Steelhead), preventing fish from moving upstream to Rainbow Lake and beyond into the South Baker Creek watershed. A hazardous situation exists for vehicles and pedestrians due to proximity of the dam and creek to the road. Pedestrians also walk on the dam, with risk potential.

Management Emphasis: A special scenic and historic interest area along a future Baker Creek greenway from Ed Grenfell Park to Charles Metsker Park. Address potentially hazardous issues. Consider excluding vehicle parking if sufficient space is not feasible. Pursue easement or purchase of adjacent land to expand the recreation and education values of the site, as well as to connect to the scenic vistas of Slide Mountain located on nearby BLM land.

A remnant of a time gone by, the dam at Juliette Park still captures the flow of Baker Creek and sends it cascading twenty-five feet over its smooth vertical face. In years past, water was channeled through the dam by a large pipe and carried at high speeds downstream to a powerhouse that generated electricity for the City of McMinnville. In addition to its historic value, Juliette Park is also home to a thriving beaver population, and extensive wetlands.
Monroe Landing – 4.5 Acres: located on the South Yamhill River adjacent to the Whiteson Landfill

**Assessment:** Monroe is an improved but un-maintained and un-repaired boat landing within a dense riparian forest on the Yamhill River next to the Whiteson Landfill that is undergoing reclamation. Even though it is not functional due to extensive siltation and lack of infrastructure, it is the only public boat access site on the South Yamhill River. Currently permission is given to local hunters for access; otherwise the site is not open to the general public. Boundaries of this ownership are not evident.

**Management Emphasis:** While this site is a potential hub on the South Yamhill River, further study is required to determine the preferred management emphasis including future disposition of the landfill once it is reclaimed, feasibility of rehabilitating the boat ramp, or finding an alternative location.
Powerhouse – 3.9 Acres: located 7.2 miles west of McMinnville off Baker Creek Road

Assessment: Powerhouse is an historic site, the location of an early 1900s hydro-electricity and steam-powered electricity generating plant operated by McMinnville Water and Light Company. One of the turbines still exists in the remnant building. Water stored behind upstream Juliette Dam powered the plant. Significant riparian vegetation provides a natural setting along Baker Creek.

Management Emphasis: An historic interest area along a future Baker Creek greenway from Ed Grenfell Park to Charles Metsker Park. There is high historic interpretation and education value, including possible restoration of the turbine and understanding of the connection to the Juliette dam site and flume and the importance of local electricity generation in early community development.
Renne – 6.0 Acres: located 5 miles north of Newberg on Highway 219

Assessment: Located in the Chehalem Mountains area, the Renne site is a forested, severely sloping natural area that is currently inaccessible. Use is restricted to equestrians.

Management Emphasis: Since the site is deed restricted to equestrians and functions otherwise as a natural area, explore opportunities for a “friends” group to oversee and assume some resource management responsibility for the site.
**Wrex Cruse** – 6.7 Acres: located in Cove Orchard adjacent to Highway 47

**Assessment:** A significant natural area consisting of an oak savanna habitat on a south-facing slope located in the Tualatin Valley Watershed. Volunteers have planted Oregon white oak trees and Ponderosa pines on the site. No interpretive information or infrastructure currently exists, and a utility structure detracts from the resource. The site is highly visible and accessible from the highway.

**Management Emphasis:** Protection, restoration, and interpretation of one of the rapidly disappearing oak savanna habitats in the valley. Basic infrastructure is needed, especially formal parking and restrooms.
**Leased County Park**

**Crabtree**— 12.4 Acres: located approximately 4 miles north of Dundee off Worden Hill Road

**Assessment**: None (this park is leased to the City of Dundee and is operated and maintained by the Chehalem Parks and Recreation District).

**Management Emphasis**: Review terms of the lease agreement and make annual site inspections to determine if provisional requirements and public functions are being met.
County Landfills

**Whiteson Landfill** – 42.0 Acres: located on the South Yamhill River midway between McMinnville and Sheridan, next to Monroe Landing

**Assessment:** The Yamhill County solid waste manager has determined that public access must be restricted to the Monroe Boat Landing to maintain control and security while reclaiming the adjacent landfill. The County manages the site under a post-closure permit from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

**Management Emphasis:** Work with the county’s Solid Waste Management Department to review interim access issues affecting Monroe Landing, and explore future disposition of the Whiteson Landfill including potential for passive recreation and public open space.

**Newberg Landfill** – 40.2 Acres: located near Rogers Landing on the Willamette River in Newberg

**Assessment:** Efforts are underway to develop a strategic plan for the Newberg Landfill, with an opportunity for passive recreation on the site within the DEQ post-closure permit. The City of Newberg’s Riverfront Master Plan has been one of the catalysts for exploring a greenway park concept, including discussion among the Yamhill County Parks Department, the Newberg Planning Department, Chehalem Parks and Recreation District, the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, and private citizens.

**Management Emphasis:** Continue to work with interested parties so Rogers Landing functions as part of a broader vision to develop a vibrant riverfront and greenway park that will not only become a major hub on the Willamette River, but will also be embraced by the Newberg community and potentially extend to Dundee.
Park Conditions Assessment

During the fall of 2001, the Yamhill Parks Board conducted a systematic survey of each of the Yamhill County park sites in order to assess physical conditions and functionality (see assessment instrument in Appendix F). While it is acknowledged that the survey was conducted by different individuals who may not have always made consistent application of the evaluation criteria, the results (shown on page 32) are considered to be reliable because they are consistent with general assessments made by the consultants. Numerical scores were generated for key factors. By averaging scores for each of the factors, site conditions that should receive more management emphasis were identified:

1. Clear and inviting access - “Legible Access” indicates unattractive entryways and lack of site information, including poor entry signage

2. Interpretation and education - “Interp. Ed” indicates lack of trails and environmental and historic interpretation.


4. Signage – “Signs” indicates lack of information, no uniform sign system, signs tacked on trees.

5. Accessibility - “Disab. Access” indicates few opportunities for persons with disabilities to use the parks and facilities.

6. Infrastructure - “Infrast. Avail., Infrast. Condition” indicates lack of clearly defined minimum standards for infrastructure, lack of minimal infrastructure in some parks; several sites have primitive pit toilets or no facilities, minimal vehicle controls, drainage problems, and vandalism (note: a recent effort has been made to replace pit toilets with new vault systems).

7. Misfits and Intrusions - “Misfits” indicates items such as power lines, pump stations, etc., which create aesthetic detractions.

8. Vandalism - “Vandal.” indicates damage to facilities such as restrooms, tables, etc.

9. Parking Accessibility - “Pking Access” indicates insufficient or poor parking.

10. Safety - “Safety” indicates poor lighting, hidden areas, etc.

11. Off-site Concerns - “Off site” indicates nearby logging, industrial development, etc.

12. Inappropriate Use - “Use” indicates excessive partying, underage drinking, etc.

13. Play Equipment - “Play” indicates inadequate play equipment.
Table 2: Park Conditions Assessment Survey

Conducted by Yamhill County Parks Board, Fall 2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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* Undeveloped parks
** Potential for surrounding hillside to be logged

Higher Scores indicate parks with poorer conditions. A score of 0 indicates no problems. A score of 4 indicates serious deficiencies. Higher average scores indicate park factors that should be considered for increased management emphasis.
Deer Creek, Ed Grenfell, and Menefee produced scores indicating relatively good conditions at those sites. The other developed parks generated scores indicating major deficiencies in physical conditions and quality of management. Listed here are parks with the poorer scores, by rank.

1) Dayton Boat Landing
2) Blackwell
3) Lafayette
4) Stuart Grenfell
5) Charles Metsker
6) Huber
7) Rogers Landing

System Analysis

For an emerging parks and open spaces system, the variety and distribution of Yamhill County sites is notable. There are good representations of natural habitats and historic resources, although the size of many of these sites is considered marginal, both from the perspective of ability to manage and protect them and with respect to benefits and costs.

There are only four boat landings, one of which is closed and not functional. For a county with such an abundance of waterways, lack of river access is considered to be a major deficiency in the system. At the same time, there is excellent potential for working with private landowners, local and state agencies, and hub communities to strategically fashion a more cohesive and accessible system with a focus on the rivers and creeks.

While geographic distribution of sites is considered good, five of the 17 sites are located on Baker Creek, and only two small sites are in the northern half of the county. Monroe Landing is the only public site on the South Yamhill River and also the only county park in the south central part of Yamhill County.

The Willamette River Greenway, with significant state-owned lands, presents an outstanding opportunity to work cooperatively with state and local agencies and private landowners to improve public access to and recreational and scenic enjoyment of this important resource.

Finally, several sites have an opportunity to revitalize, strengthen, and be more connected to local communities, especially the Dayton Boat Landing in Dayton, Rogers Landing in Newberg, and Wrex Cruse in Cove Orchard.
Deer Creek is home to the native Camas lily, which also appears on the cover.

Comparison With Other Selected Counties

Yamhill County’s park acreage was compared with two neighboring counties and two other selected counties. Benton County was selected for comparison because it is of very similar size and population, and Lane County was included because it operates with minimal tax base support. The results are shown in Table 3.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>2001 Population</th>
<th>Total Acres in County</th>
<th>County Parks Acreage</th>
<th>Parks Acres as % of Total Acres</th>
<th>Acres Per 1000 Persons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yamhill</td>
<td>86,400</td>
<td>458,240</td>
<td>126.4</td>
<td>0.03%</td>
<td>1.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marion</td>
<td>288,450</td>
<td>757,760</td>
<td>517.3</td>
<td>0.06%</td>
<td>1.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>455,800</td>
<td>463,360</td>
<td>1,139.0</td>
<td>0.25%</td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lane</td>
<td>325,900</td>
<td>2,914,560</td>
<td>4,487.4</td>
<td>0.15%</td>
<td>13.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benton</td>
<td>79,000</td>
<td>432,640</td>
<td>1,403.9</td>
<td>0.32%</td>
<td>17.77</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Of the counties chosen for comparison, Yamhill County has the lowest park acreage and the lowest level of service as measured by acres per 1,000 persons. These results indicate Yamhill County is far behind its neighboring or nearby counties, and Benton County, of equivalent population and gross size, has almost 90% more acres of parkland than Yamhill County.

2 Research conducted by Don Ganer and Associates, 2002
To encourage public involvement in preparing the comprehensive master plan, residents were provided opportunities to express their ideas, interests, and concerns. Three methods were used to generate information: a questionnaire survey that was distributed at the County Fair as well as several other events, a series of public outreach meetings to obtain ideas for inclusion in the plan, and public review meetings to review the draft master plan. Outlined here are the results of these efforts.

Questionnaire Survey

Public participation in the development of the plan began in the summer of 2001 at the Yamhill County Fair. At the Yamhill County Parks booth, visitors were invited to complete a brief questionnaire designed to garner information about each respondent’s recreational interests, find out what they like about Yamhill County parks, and generate ideas for improving the parks. Questionnaires were also distributed at several other community events.

Survey Findings

Specific results of the survey are reported in Appendix G. The following summary highlights the findings.

- Most respondents visit Yamhill County parks (77%)
- Top recreation activity interests of respondents are:
  1) Hiking or walking
  2) Travel or camping
  3) Fishing
  4) Picnicking
  5) Horseback riding
  6) Bicycling
  7) Swimming or water activities
  8) Boating or canoeing
  9) Family activities

- Respondents like these features of Yamhill County parks:
  1) Natural amenities or greenery
  2) Cleanliness
  3) Atmosphere or quiet
  4) Facilities (picnicking, playgrounds)
  5) Trails
Respondents would like these features in Yamhill County parks:

1) More or better restrooms
2) More covered picnic areas
3) More or better playgrounds or areas
4) Better maintenance or security
5) Overnight camping
6) More hiking or biking trails
7) More parks
8) Easier access to rivers or creeks
9) Horse trails or facilities
10) Potable water and fountains

Public Outreach Meetings

The Yamhill County Parks Board advertised and held a series of five public outreach meetings in the cities of Dayton, Yamhill, Sheridan, Newberg, and McMinnville during October and November 2001. These meetings were designed to solicit public input on the importance of various types of parks, open space, and recreation opportunities; and to gather ideas for goals, opportunities, and priorities for Yamhill County Parks.

In addition to the five public outreach meetings, a meeting of invited community leaders was held on January 17, 2002. Ideas and recommendations from the public outreach meetings were shared at this meeting, and additional input and ideas were invited.

Outreach Themes

Following are the themes that emerged from the public outreach meetings and the community leaders meeting:

1. Physical Resources
   - Expand the parks and open space system
   - Focus on preserving historic and significant ecological sites
     - water resource areas
     - vistas
     - natural habitat (such as oak savanna and wetland prairie)
     - wildlife areas
• Focus on providing basic infrastructure at all “developed” parks
  - playgrounds
  - restrooms
  - picnic areas
  - fishing ponds
  - bridges and pathways
  - access to waterways

• Establish “connected” hiking, bicycle, and equestrian trail systems
  - Metro Connections
  - Willamette Greenway
  - Mid-Willamette river Connections
  - Willamette River Initiative Project
  - Palmer Creek Greenway Project
  - Dundee-Osprey-Eagle Nest Trail
  - McMinnville-Carlton-Yamhill Trail
  - Baker Creek Corridor Project
  - National Park Service Connections

2. Activities or Services
• Provide for family-oriented activities at parks
  - picnics
  - playgrounds or game areas
  - tent camping
  - RV camping

• Provide for education at parks
  - brochures (locations, features, activities, and services)
  - interpretive
  - environmental
  - historical
  - outdoor

• Provide consistent maintenance
  - volunteers
  - schedules
  - camp hosts
  - prompt repair of vandalism

3. Approach and Methods
• partnerships with cities, schools, districts, BLM, state parks, private land owners, and others such as “Friends” groups
• communication and inclusiveness
• donations - via community relationships
• trusts
• Establish “Friends of” groups

Public Review Meetings

The Yamhill County Parks Coordinator presented the draft master plan to an area Kiwanis Club in mid-February 2003, and the Yamhill County Parks Board advertised and held a public review meeting on February 24, 2003. These meetings were designed to solicit public comment on the goals, opportunities, and priorities identified in the draft Yamhill County Comprehensive Parks and Open Space Master Plan.
PART II: FRAMING THE PLAN

STRATEGIC ISSUES AND FINDINGS

The basic framework, rationale, and subsequent recommendations for the plan were formed from strategic issues and findings of fact that were identified during the needs and assessment phase of the planning process, and from the results of the public involvement efforts.

**Overall Theme: Yamhill County has special natural, scenic, cultural, ecological, and historic resources, highly valued by residents.**

- Yamhill County has significant habitats, water resources, wildlife, scenic vistas, cultural sites, and history.
- The Willamette River corridor has strategic state and county lands and recreation potential.
- Rich heritage resources exist – Wheatland Ferry, Native American history, Lafayette Locks, Powerhouse and Juliette sites, Yampo site.

Existing county sites are special places.

- Many county park sites are very popular and receive significant use.
- The county park sites represent significant natural, scenic, ecological, and historical and cultural resources.

An integrated and connected open space system is lacking.

- Existing parks and open space sites are fragmented; connectivity is a major issue.
- Some county park sites are marginal in size and difficult for efficient maintenance and management.
- There is no county trail or greenway system, although the potential for both is high, especially on major rivers and streams.
- High public interest exists for a connected non-motorized trail system.
County park sites are not evenly distributed; some not accessible.

- Issues concerning lack of access should be evaluated for Monroe Landing, Charles Metsker Park, Juliette Park, Powerhouse Park, and the Renee site.

- There is some unevenness in the geographic distribution of existing county park sites.

A strong legacy of public engagement exists in the county.

- Habitat restoration is a major volunteer activity in the county.

- Participatory involvement is a high priority for residents.

- High potential exists for partnerships with schools, communities, other landowners and managers.

Opportunities exist for partnering with others.

- Both the BLM and Oregon Parks and Recreation Department have lands that may have potential for land exchange or transfer.

- Conceptually, there is potential for the National Park Service to assist in the planning and development of a regional trails system focused on area geology and natural history.

- High potential exists for the County to work with the State in managing significant resources in the Willamette River corridor.

- The Yamhill Basin Council, Cheahmill Chapter of the Native Plant Society, Soil and Water Conservation District, Friends of Deer Creek Park, Friends of Charles Metsker Park, and many other organizations are active partners in restoring and managing natural habitats.

- Private landowners are interested in pursuing easements, providing land donations and other win-win approaches with the county.
County parks lack plans, design standards, management guidelines.

- Master plans are needed for each park site, including clarification of the desired role, function, and management prescriptions.

- Individual park plans should set standards for infrastructure consistency including signage, choice of park materials, and maintaining a positive image for county parks and facilities.

- Site deficiencies include unattractive and illegible entry development, lack of parking, poor signaage, bank erosion and exposed tree roots, invasive vegetation, non-functional restrooms, and other deteriorating or non-existent infrastructure.

- Some sites are vulnerable to adjacent and off-site encroachment (e.g. harvest activities adjacent to Charles Metsker Park); some sites have resource attractions that are used by the public but may not be in public ownership (e.g. falls near Charles Metsker Park).

- While existing management keeps parks clean and safe, other than vegetation management guidelines there is no maintenance management plan or standard to efficiently and effectively guide and control park maintenance and resource management efforts.

Balancing public use and resource protection is important.

- Without park system guidelines and a maintenance management plan, there is ambivalence about how to balance public use and resource protection.

- Some parks are overused, others underused.

- Optimum carrying capacity must be considered in achieving balance.

- Clarifying park roles and functions is fundamental to balancing use and resource protection.

High potential exists for habitat restoration, interpretation, research.

- Outstanding resources exist in the county for environmental interpretation, education, discovery, and learning.

- Models are in place for engaging citizens in hands-on restoration and monitoring efforts such as the Yamhill Basin Council projects, Deer Creek Wet Prairie restoration, and Dayton Schools Trail Project on Palmer Creek.
Clearly, Yamhill County residents want opportunities to be involved in creating greater understanding and awareness of the county’s resource values, and outstanding expertise is available from local specialists.

Natural and scenic resources are disappearing.

- Pressures of urban development are threatening the scenic and ecological integrity of county resource values.
- Creative efforts are needed to protect the County’s significant natural, scenic, recreational, historical, cultural, and ecological values.
- Several local volunteer groups are dedicated to this issue.

The rights of nearby property owners must be valued and respected.

- To achieve park and open space planning goals, there must be awareness and understanding of, and sensitivity to private landowners, their concerns, and interests.
- Partnering, cooperative efforts, and win-win negotiations should be the hallmarks of resource protection; not rules, regulations, and aggressive land acquisition efforts.

*Forest surrounds Rainbow Lake at Charles Metsker*
This part of the planning process represents a policy framework for the Yamhill County Park and Open Space Plan, reviewed and adopted by the Parks Board. The vision statement outlines a preferred future of County parks and open spaces. Specific goals and policy statements provide guiding principles for achieving the vision. The classification system provides direction for acquiring and managing specific types of parks and open spaces according to their desired purpose and function. The Vision Diagram (page 52) translates the vision, goals, and policies into an image of a preferred future.

**THE PLAN**

VISION STATEMENT
a preferred future of the system

GOALS AND POLICY STATEMENTS
guiding principles

CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM
preferred types of parks and open spaces

VISION DIAGRAM
an image in map form

**Board Vision**

In March 2002, the Yamhill County Parks Board participated in a visioning workshop, and the results became the framework for preparing a vision statement. Outlined here is a summary of the themes generated by the Board, and on the following page is the vision statement that emerged from this process. The vision statement provides a mental picture of what future County parks and open spaces could be if the Plan was implemented, and is believed to represent the values and beliefs that are held by the parks staff, the Board, and the citizens of Yamhill County.
Yamhill County Board’s Themes for Parks and Open Space

**System Framework**

- Extensive river and waterway system becomes the structure for greenways and trails connecting communities as a network
- All habitat types are represented in the system
- A system of multi-use trails connects national, state, county, and local open spaces
- A multi-use open space classification system guides planning, land acquisition, and maintenance management

**Other System Features**

- Parks have a special identity; each park is unique
- Ecological integrity of parks is achieved by active management
- High level of quality and standards for all park infrastructure
- Interpretive trails provide attractively presented information on natural history
- What we do is the very best for Yamhill County citizens

**Implementing Strategies**

- Strong support of county officials and the public
- Financial support for county parks and open space, and more creative financing
- Successful partnership with others, e.g. adopt-a-park program
- County is active participant in understanding/preserving historic sites
- Volunteer coordination program
- Non-residents help financially support parks (e.g. user fees)
- Successful expansion of the system through creative methods
- Learning opportunities – recognizing potential of county resources
Vision Statement

Yamhill County is valued for its significant natural, cultural, and scenic qualities including rugged coast mountains, prominent valley hills, ridges, and prairies; picturesque stream valleys, free-flowing rivers and streams, cascading waterfalls, diverse vegetation, abundant wildlife, and rich cultural history.

The desired future of the county parks and open spaces will feature strategically located natural, cultural, and historic sites representative of Yamhill County’s ecosystems, habitats, cultural and historic heritage, connected by a system of trails and bikeways that promote public access and enjoyment. Emphasis will be placed on preserving, enhancing, and interpreting the county’s natural, cultural, historic, and recreational assets, using management practices and strategies that are effective and practical.

Opportunities will be provided for site-appropriate recreation and public use that is supported by minimal development and guided by sound park design and infrastructure standards. These standards will focus on achieving balanced, inclusive, appropriate, and sustainable public use and management of natural systems and processes. Residents value the county’s rich natural, cultural, and historic heritage, and a sense of community and respect for our natural resources will be strengthened through environmental interpretation, education, and research. These efforts will be accomplished through strong partnerships with local community organizations, county schools and local colleges and universities.

Community volunteers will be viewed as a major avenue for creatively achieving management and restoration goals for park and open space values. Hands-on, inclusive involvement will instill a deep sense of ownership, stewardship, and civic pride. Partnerships including land transfers, land exchanges, and cooperative resource management efforts will be actively explored with other providers, land managers, and property owners. Creative resource protection strategies such as scenic, conservation, and public access easements will be pursued. Special efforts will be made to respect and protect and address nearby landowner concerns.

In achieving this preferred vision, the result will be sustainability and enjoyment of the natural and cultural landscape to enhance the quality of life for Yamhill County residents, visitors, and future generations. It is intended that our parks and open spaces will be an exemplary model that others emulate.
Goals and Policies

The following goals and policy statements provide direction for achieving the vision.

Exemplary System

Goal 1: To develop exemplary parks and open spaces that include representative habitat types and historic and cultural assets, with a focus on the major river corridors and their tributaries, and opportunities for citizens of all ages to enjoy parks and open spaces where a variety of recreational opportunities exist.

Policy 1.1 Acquire and manage lands and sites that represent the natural, scenic, recreational, scientific, historic, and cultural resources of the county, strategically distributed to provide access to all residents.

Policy 1.2 Create an integrated and connected network of parks and open spaces by providing trail linkages, easements, and greenways. Coordinate and support implementation of the county’s transportation plan for bicycle and pedestrian paths, to develop connections with national, state, county, and local parks and open space.

Policy 1.3 Provide opportunities for low-impact recreational uses that are resource-related or dependent such as nature enjoyment, hiking, water-based activities, picnicking, fishing, nature based education, and cultural and historical education and appreciation.

Policy 1.4 Plan, acquire, maintain, and manage the parks and open space system based on the multi-use classification system outlined in the Plan(Pg.54).

Policy 1.5 Collaborate and coordinate with public and non-public entities to provide diverse outdoor recreation opportunities and to avoid duplication or competition.

Policy 1.6 Seek opportunities for land transfers and land exchanges, and actively negotiate with others to meet common goals and objectives.

Quality Services

Goal 2: To achieve the highest possible level of quality for public use in planning, managing, and providing infrastructure for the county parks and open spaces.

Policy 2.1 Strive for a balance between resource protection and public use at each site. Develop site management plans that minimize environmental impacts on natural systems and processes, and guide public use in appropriate and sustainable ways.

Policy 2.2 Provide outdoor recreation facilities and educational opportunities that create a special identity for each site. Avoid all non-park related intrusions that detract from the natural setting.
Policy 2.3  Adhere to minimum infrastructure standards for the number and type, design, location, choice of materials, and physical lay-out for all park infrastructure. All sites should have a minimum level of park infrastructure for adequate site management and public use.

Policy 2.4  Assure site maintenance practices reflect the management goals and policies of the Plan, and minimize use of chemicals such as herbicides and pesticides.

Policy 2.5  Expand the system in a manner that takes advantage of creative land acquisition methods and negotiation practices.

Policy 2.6  All improvement and expansion decisions must be weighed against the ability to manage and maintain.

Public Support

Goal 3: To obtain the highest possible level of public support and awareness of the goals for parks and open spaces in Yamhill County.

Policy 3.1  Pursue dedicated support for managing and maintaining the quality of parks and open spaces outlined in the Plan. Augment budgeted funding with creative and alternative funding sources.

Policy 3.2  Explore opportunities for non-residents to financially support operation and maintenance of the county parks and open space system such as user fees.

Policy 3.3  Involve county residents and communities in the planning, restoration, and enhancement of park and open space areas and sites, with hands-on, inclusive projects that are managed by a volunteer coordination program.

Policy 3.4  Enter into partnerships with other providers, agencies, organizations, and landowners to creatively implement this Plan, and take advantage of the wealth of knowledge available in the community, and at public schools, colleges, and universities.

Policy 3.5  Make recreation, environmental interpretation, cultural and historic interpretation, education, and research a cornerstone of County parks and open spaces, providing opportunities for learning and information exchange in creative and attractive ways.

Policy 3.6  Develop working relationships with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and other groups to enhance cultural resource opportunities.

Policy 3.7  Respect private property rights and landowner concerns, and make every effort to be good neighbors.
Sustainability

Goal 4: To achieve greater biological diversity and ecological health throughout the County parks and open spaces by preserving and rehabilitating natural habitats and maintaining the integrity, stability, and beauty of the region.

Policy 4.1 Make eradication and removal of invasive vegetation one of the highest management priorities involving county maintenance staff and community volunteers.

Policy 4.2 Assure most current habitat restoration and enhancement methods and practices are used. Take advantage of the extensive expertise available in the county.

Policy 4.3 Collaborate and cooperate with other land managers and property owners to protect and restore healthy functioning ecosystems and watersheds, especially threatened natural systems and species in the urbanizing areas.

Compatibility

Goal 5: To seek the highest level of compatibility between county parks and open spaces and adjacent private land uses.

Policy 5.1 Work cooperatively with adjacent property owners and nearby land managers to meet common goals and objectives. Encourage neighbors to serve as “eyes and ears” with respect to park use and misuse.

Policy 5.2 Work towards providing existing parks and open spaces with adequate land and configuration to meet management objectives of the Plan, as well as provide appropriate buffers and screening as needed.

Policy 5.3 Work with county and local planners and property owners for zoning and land use compatibility adjacent to county parks and open spaces.

Safety and Accessibility

Goal 6: To create a safe and accessible environment in all County parks, open spaces, and cultural and historical sites.

Policy 6.1 Make sites and facilities accessible to persons with disabilities to the maximum degree practicable.

Policy 6.2 Assure all county parks and open space sites meet general public interest goals.

Policy 6.3 Work to reclaim and restore existing landfill sites to accommodate a wide variety of public use.
Maintaining Livability

Goal 7: To assure the County parks and open spaces keep pace with population and growth and play a major role in maintaining livability.

Policy 7.1  Pursue creative land use and resource protection strategies such as scenic and conservation easements, public access easements, and other methods.

Policy 7.2  Work actively toward understanding and preserving natural, cultural, historic, and recreational resources and sites.

Future Yamhill County Parks and Open Spaces

The Vision Diagram provides an image of the county’s future parks and open spaces, a visualization of what could emerge by fulfilling the vision statement, goals, and policies of the Plan. It is emphasized, however, that the diagram is a conceptual framework for what could be, not a rigid prescription for how to get there. In this context possibilities unfold, opportunities come into view, and public dialogue—even debate—can be encouraged.

Vision Diagram Concepts

These themes provide the basic structure and planning concepts to help guide initiatives and strategies for achieving a vision for the future of the Yamhill County parks and open spaces (see Map 2: Vision Diagram, page 52).

Key Water-based Connections – rivers and creeks are the skeleton of the system, providing opportunities for recreation access, linking communities, and fostering greater understanding of the county’s history and culture. Concepts include:

Anchors – focal points along river and creek corridors where existing parks and natural, scenic, recreational, and historic values converge. Examples: Baker Creek Corridor, Wheatland Ferry Landing, Palmer Creek and Yamhill River, Rogers Landing

River Confluence Areas – “points of influence” where rivers and creeks join and tend to have greater concentration of habitat and recreational significance. Examples: Yamhill and Willamette Rivers, North and South Yamhill Rivers, Chehalem Creek and Willamette River, Palmer Creek and Yamhill River

Blueways – recognition of the county’s navigable waterways that typically include riparian zones and floodplains, and have high potential for habitat protection, restoration, and water trails as navigable waterway corridors. Examples: Yamhill River, North and South Yamhill Rivers, Willamette River
Willamette River Corridor – the Willamette River Greenway provides land use protection and scenic and recreational opportunities. This corridor represents the single largest recreation resource in Yamhill County. Examples: Wheatland Ferry Complex including state and county riverfront lands; Rogers Landing and adjacent county landfill

Natural, Cultural, and Historic Sites – existing and potential places that have special significance as high quality representations of the ecological, cultural, and historical values of the county. Examples: Deer Creek Wet Prairie, Lafayette Locks, Wrex Cruse Oak Savanna, Yampo (BLM site)

Trails and Connectors – existing and potential multi-use paths and trails that frequently can provide both recreational and transportation uses, such as along the Willamette Greenway; also provide linkages between communities and more cohesive parks and open spaces. Examples: Deer Creek Wet Prairie to the Nestucca River, Dundee to Newberg, Palmer Creek in Dayton to the Yamhill River, Powerhouse Road to Peavine Road, East Creek Road to Willamina Creek and falls

The Vision Diagram and the images portrayed do not change existing plan designation or land use zoning in any of these areas identified. The purpose of the diagram is to create enthusiasm for achieving a greater sense of place, preserving the county’s unique resource values, and linking parks, communities, and habitats.
PART IV: IMPLEMENTATION

ACTION STRATEGIES

Parks and Open Space Classification System

The Parks and Open Space Classification System provides information for managing and acquiring specific types of parks and open spaces according to desired purpose and function. (see Table 4, page 53). The classifications are essential for effective planning and design, determining appropriate public uses for each site, establishing preferred levels of development, prioritizing capital improvements, and identifying maintenance requirements.

Some parks may have a variety of functions and therefore may fit into more than one category or classification type. The organizing system is intended to provide adaptive planning and management direction for managers and policy makers. The system will help planners and managers determine the primary purpose of each site, and will serve as a framework to establish planning, management, and maintenance requirements and priorities. Moreover, since public education is vital for achieving respectful and appropriate recreational use, the classification system becomes an important tool for developing visitor understanding and awareness of the different functions of parks and open spaces.

Classification Types

The classification types listed in Table 4 respond to the vision, vision diagram, goals, and policies of the plan, as well as the characteristics of the existing system. Outlined here is the specific rationale for each of the categories.

- Natural Resources and Habitats – As the population grows, the plan establishes new initiatives for acquisition, protection, and rehabilitation of natural habitats in the county. The most recent Oregon Outdoor Recreation Plan determined that Oregonians have a high interest in nature observation and wildlife viewing.3

- Large Parks – the plan concludes that several existing parks are marginal in size; enlarging some and reviewing the viability of others makes for improved effectiveness and efficiency. Larger parks can accommodate multiple functions.

- Historic and Cultural Sites – preservation, education, and interpretation become key tools for maintaining integrity of resource values.

• **Greenways and Greenbelts** – linear open space has become a national movement, connecting people and resources, communities and waterways. Walking is the most popular outdoor recreation activity, and can be accommodated in greenways, especially along rivers and creek corridors.

• **Bikepaths and Trails** – the plan recognizes a need for more cohesiveness and connectivity in the park system and the trend toward walking and hiking as a top outdoor recreation activity; navigable waterways offer high potential for “water trails” and where appropriate, multi-use trails for hiking, biking, and walking.

• **Waysides** – parks and open space sites located on popular travel routes will continue to attract visitors and should be managed accordingly; those sites in remote and secluded areas should be reviewed for expansion or other public uses if they are to remain viable for optimum management.

• **Boat Landings** – With its extensive waterways, Yamhill County has a deficiency of developed sites for public access. Boat landings are viewed as more than single purpose boat-access areas, including amenities such as picnicking, river viewing, and nature enjoyment. Also needed are expanded opportunities for additional land and waterside access to natural sites along the county’s waterways, as well as linear “water trails” that promote water-based connectivity and recreation activities.

### Classifying the Existing System

Table 5, page 54 applies the new classification system to the existing system of parks and open space sites. This becomes a framework for reviewing current management emphasis and determine if existing sites lend themselves to future adjustments such as preferred size. These are important conclusions that can be drawn from this task:

- Most County parks and open space sites have significant natural habitats and resource values.

- Most County parks and open space sites have potential for functioning as anchors or catalysts for greenways and trails, including water trails.

- Several County parks are in need of expansion to accommodate multiple functions, and appear to have potential for achieving a “large park” status.

- Some County parks may currently be more costly to maintain than others and may not fit well into new management standards. However, the level of public use should be a primary consideration in the assessment to determine whether the park should be maintained.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification Type</th>
<th>Purpose and Function</th>
<th>Location and Size</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Natural Resource Areas and Habitats</td>
<td>Significant habitats and landscapes primarily for preservation, rehabilitation, interpretation, enhancement, and public enjoyment.</td>
<td>Located to be representative of major habitats throughout the county. Variable in size but large enough to protect integrity of the resource.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large Parks</td>
<td>Large parks and open space areas accommodating a wide variety of uses with a natural feature(s) serving as a focal point.</td>
<td>Located geographically throughout the county and representative of major natural features such as lakes, streams and rivers, and upland areas. Large enough to accommodate large numbers of visitors and protect natural values; preferred size of 20 acres or more.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historic and Cultural Sites</td>
<td>Lands and structures managed primarily to preserve, restore, interpret, &amp; commemorate history or preserve &amp; interpret cultural resources and activities.</td>
<td>Locations dependent on historical or cultural significance. Variable in size, but large enough to accommodate visitors and protect integrity of the resource values.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenways and Greenbelts</td>
<td>Linear open space either along waterways or serving as open space connectors as continuous strips preserving and linking significant undeveloped open space areas; often include trails and paths with interpretation, including water trails.</td>
<td>Located geographically throughout the county, often including and linked by bike paths and trails. Variable in size and frequently several miles in length, often with loop characteristics (greenbelts) that encircle open areas and provide relief to urbanizing areas and communities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bikepaths and Trails, Water Trails</td>
<td>Extended, looped, and usually continuous strips of land dedicated to hiking, horseback riding, or bicycling and providing connections to parks and open spaces; also water trails along navigable waterways.</td>
<td>Located geographically throughout the county, often part of a greenway, greenbelt, or navigable waterway. Variable in length with land surfacing geared to the type of use. May be large enough in size to accommodate primitive camping.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waysides</td>
<td>Small parks and open spaces along major travel routes. Due to economy of scale, not recommended in the future.</td>
<td>Strategically located along major travel routes. Less than 5 acres in size. Continually evaluate feasibility and public benefit, including options such as divestment or expansion (e.g. Menefee Park).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boat Landings</td>
<td>Boat access to major waterways including ramps, parking, and amenities. Infrastructure support for water trails.</td>
<td>Located along navigable waterways, and large enough to accommodate boats and trailers.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** This framework is intended only for planning, managing, and maintaining County parks and open spaces. Some parks and open space sites may have characteristics that apply to more than one classification type. The value of the scheme is to recognize the primary purpose and function of the site to establish management priorities, regimes, and prescriptions. Some guidelines are targets only, such as preferred size.
Table 5: Public use of Existing Yamhill County Parks and Open Spaces

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Natural Resource Areas and Habitats</th>
<th>Large Parks</th>
<th>Historic and Cultural Sites</th>
<th>Greenways and Greenbelts</th>
<th>Bike paths and Trails</th>
<th>Waysides</th>
<th>Boat Landings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blackwell</td>
<td>♦</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Metsker</td>
<td>♦</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dayton Landing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✔</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer Creek</td>
<td>♦</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ed Grenfell</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huber</td>
<td>✓ potential</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lafayette Locks</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Menefee</td>
<td>✓ potential</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rogers Landing</td>
<td>✓ potential</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Stuart Grenfell</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ediger Park and Boat Landing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juliette</td>
<td>❌</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monroe Landing</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Powerhouse</td>
<td>❌</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renee</td>
<td>❌</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wrex Cruse</td>
<td>❌</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crabtree (leased)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</table>

**Note:** Applying the new classification is intended to provide guidance to managing the future of the existing system; it is not viewed as a rigid prescriptive approach. For example, primary functions are highlighted (♦) to give direction and establish management emphasis at the park site. Secondary functions are noted with a (✓).
Implementation Strategies

To facilitate implementation of the Plan, action strategies are recommended for each of the seven goals identified in Chapter 6, Vision, Goals, and Policies. These strategies are listed in three categories: immediate, short-term, and long-term.

The time frame for implementing immediate and short-term strategies is two to six years, while long-term strategies could span ten to fifteen years. The list is not prescriptive, but represents a conceptual framework for a work program that can be adjusted according to the availability of funds and opportunities, and the removal of barriers and obstacles. In this context, the list is optimistic and should be viewed as an organized array of potential recommendations. However, the list must be continuously evaluated and refined based on feasibility and resource capabilities.

*Menefee offers an opportunity to picnic in a forested setting*
## 1.0 COUNTY PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

**ACTION STRATEGY 1.1:** Focus on waterways as the backbone of the County parks and open spaces.

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<tr>
<th>IMMEDIATE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1.1.1</strong> Continue to participate in the Mid-Willamette River Connections project, working to reconnect communities with the Willamette River and each other.</td>
<td><strong>1.1.6</strong> Continue to develop the “Points of Influence Plan” focusing on the Yamhill River, South Yamhill River, and the Willamette River.</td>
<td><strong>1.1.9</strong> Link major waterways and Yamhill County communities through a connected system of trails and river access nodes, including canoe trails.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1.1.2</strong> Explore options to improve management of and public access to existing State-owned lands along the Willamette River, including land exchange, transfer, and joint management.</td>
<td><strong>1.1.7</strong> Develop voluntary partnerships with landowners in critical watersheds, collaborating to protect and improve the ecological health of the river system and its natural processes.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1.1.3</strong> Accelerate efforts to expand and upgrade Rogers Landing to include partnering with adjacent property owners, the City of Newberg, and the Chehalem Parks and Recreation District.</td>
<td><strong>1.1.8</strong> Explore opportunities for acquiring potentially submerged lands along waterways resulting from changes in river patterns.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1.1.4</strong> Work with the “Salmon-Safe” program to explore ways to reduce impacts of park operations and maintenance practices on water quality and fish habitat.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1.1.5</strong> Create a “Points of Influence Plan” using a full array of participatory and collaborative methods to create strong physical connections between Yamhill County communities and the major waterway system. Initially begin with the Baker Creek corridor.</td>
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**ACTION STRATEGY 1.2: Establish a comprehensive and interconnected system that includes high quality representations of Yamhill County’s natural and cultural heritage, with a major emphasis on land acquisition.**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1.2.1</strong> Begin implementing strategies for acquisition and/or protection of high-value habitat types and other strategic patches of scenic, recreational, and ecological significance using a wide variety of methods including easements, development rights, fee simple purchase, bargain sales, donations, and life estates.</td>
<td><strong>1.2.7</strong> Evaluate existing parks that are marginal in size (Stuart Grenfell, Huber, Menefee) including an assessment of costs, usership, and functions and test against public benefits.</td>
<td><strong>1.2.11</strong> Connect open space “patches”, parks, and waterways through a system of trails, bikeways, greenways, and blueways including collaboration with transportation planners, developers, landowners, public agencies, and volunteers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1.2.2</strong> Pursue transfer of Erratic Natural Site from the Oregon Park and Recreation Dept. to Yamhill County.</td>
<td><strong>1.2.8</strong> Determine if smaller parks are candidates for expansion, exchange, transfer, or divestment and take action on the findings.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1.2.3</strong> Explore right-of-first-refusal and potential park designation for surplus County tract (80 ac) and adjacent BLM land (40 ac) located in the Chehalem Mt. Range.</td>
<td><strong>1.2.9</strong> Prepare a Trails Plan for the county, with general specifications and standards; work with transportation planners to integrate future trails and bikeways into the county’s transportation plan.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1.2.4</strong> Explore with BLM the potential for transferring the Yampo site to the County, as well as securing public access to the site.</td>
<td><strong>1.2.10</strong> Once a Trails Plan is prepared, build interest in implementing the Trails Plan and establish a volunteer pool to support trail development and maintenance.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1.2.5</strong> Collaborate with the McMinnville Park and Recreation Dept. and the Chehalem Parks and Recreation District to identify and acquire potential strategic high-value open space sites that could be accessed by hiking and biking trails near the two major urbanizing centers.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1.2.6</strong> Work with federal and state agencies and others to identify a priority list of potential high-value sites representing the four habitat types in Yamhill County, and develop a strategy for acquisition and/or protection.</td>
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# 2.0 PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

**ACTION STRATEGY 2.1:** Accelerate systematic planning and design for individual parks and open space sites.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.1.1 Develop a work plan for addressing major site deficiencies outlined in the Plan, with special effort to upgrade restroom facilities and address safety issues.</td>
<td>2.1.6 Prepare master plans for each park site including both site design and prescriptions for management, maintenance and operations, and construction.</td>
<td>2.1.9 Implement all master plans, and continually update management and maintenance plans for each site.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1.2 Adopt design and construction standards for park facilities and infrastructure.</td>
<td>2.1.7 Develop a strategic work plan for developing tent camping opportunities, preferably through working agreements to partner on federal and/or state lands or new, larger county park sites.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1.3 Develop a work plan for conducting a review of existing parks applying the new classification system, determine options for future decisions including those sites identified as marginal in size.</td>
<td>2.1.8 Cooperate with the County’s Solid Waste Department as they prepare master plans for the Newberg and Whiteson landfill sites.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1.4 Pursue formal agreements with adjacent landowners to protect the integrity of existing park and open space sites (Charles Metsker Park, Stuart Grenfell, and Wrex Cruse).</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.1.5 Work with DEQ to allow public access to the Monroe Landing as soon as possible. Request a feasibility study from the State Marine Board for potential boat access site.</td>
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</table>
**ACTION STRATEGY 2.2:** Prepare a management plan to guide the most effective and efficient maintenance, protection, and public use of the County parks and open spaces.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.2.1 Clarify park staff roles to improve coordination and quality of services, assure compliance with regulatory requirements, and to assess human resources and volunteer needs.</td>
<td>2.2.7 Develop a maintenance management plan including preferred types of maintenance geared to individual site functions and characteristics including standards, procedures, tasks, and resources required to maintain parklands and open spaces.</td>
<td>2.2.11 Prepare, maintain, and update a comprehensive management plan to guide all operations and maintenance activities of the department.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2.2 Develop and implement a routine and systematic program for site safety inspections, hazard removal, and record-keeping including repair and replacement needs.</td>
<td>2.2.8 Develop operational policies and practices for strategic sites in the system to include consideration of options for improving site management and operations.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2.3 Develop a staff-training program to begin certification for regulatory compliance (use of pesticides, etc.).</td>
<td>2.2.9 Prepare and implement a monitoring plan to evaluate natural resource conditions and impacts.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2.4 Review current maintenance management policies and practices, identify issues, and prepare an interim maintenance management plan to guide site maintenance practices and tasks.</td>
<td>2.2.10 Prepare a sustainable timber management plan for selected county-owned lands, with revenues dedicated to the acquisition, development, management, and maintenance of parks, open space, and natural areas.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2.5 Continue to partner with state and federal agencies to meet joint maintenance and operations needs, sharing resources and contracting for services.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2.6 Develop operational policies and practices for strategic sites in the system to include consideration of resident park hosts, on-site managers, and other options for improving site management and operations.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### 3.0 FUNDING AND PUBLIC SUPPORT

**ACTION STRATEGY 3.1:** Seek innovative and secure funding to plan, improve, maintain, and operate County parks and open spaces.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>IMMEDIATE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.1.1</strong> Seek a dedicated, consistent source of funds for managing and maintaining the county’s parks and open spaces.</td>
<td>3.1.7 Pursue partnerships with organizations such as the Nature Conservancy and the Trust for Public Lands to acquire parklands and easements for conservation.</td>
<td>3.1.10 Develop a wide variety of methods for public education and awareness concerning the public benefits of and county programs focused on parks, open spaces, natural areas, and habitats.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.1.2</strong> Consider a referendum for a local option levy for operations to fund a portion of parks management and maintenance activities.</td>
<td>3.1.8 Develop a revenue plan for the County parks and open space system.</td>
<td>3.1.10 Develop a wide variety of methods for public education and awareness concerning the public benefits of and county programs focused on parks, open spaces, natural areas, and habitats.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.1.3</strong> Review the County’s Parks System Development Charges rates for possible changes to reflect current costs for acquisition and development of parks facilities needed to serve growth.</td>
<td>3.1.9 Explore and pursue potential opportunities to generate positive publicity and revenues for the park system, such as hosted eco-tours, habitat celebration events, etc., consistent with the mission of Yamhill County Parks.</td>
<td>3.1.10 Develop a wide variety of methods for public education and awareness concerning the public benefits of and county programs focused on parks, open spaces, natural areas, and habitats.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.1.4</strong> Continue to pursue grant opportunities from federal and state government agencies, non-profit organizations, and private foundations and trusts, to be used for acquisition and development of parks, open space, and natural resources areas.</td>
<td>3.1.10 Develop a wide variety of methods for public education and awareness concerning the public benefits of and county programs focused on parks, open spaces, natural areas, and habitats.</td>
<td>3.1.10 Develop a wide variety of methods for public education and awareness concerning the public benefits of and county programs focused on parks, open spaces, natural areas, and habitats.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.1.5</strong> Prepare a revenue plan for Rogers Landing, including specific strategies to establish fees and charges as a funding source.</td>
<td>3.1.10 Develop a wide variety of methods for public education and awareness concerning the public benefits of and county programs focused on parks, open spaces, natural areas, and habitats.</td>
<td>3.1.10 Develop a wide variety of methods for public education and awareness concerning the public benefits of and county programs focused on parks, open spaces, natural areas, and habitats.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.1.6</strong> Consider referenda for General Obligation bond issues and/or local option levies for capital improvements, to be used for land acquisition and facility development.</td>
<td>3.1.10 Develop a wide variety of methods for public education and awareness concerning the public benefits of and county programs focused on parks, open spaces, natural areas, and habitats.</td>
<td>3.1.10 Develop a wide variety of methods for public education and awareness concerning the public benefits of and county programs focused on parks, open spaces, natural areas, and habitats.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**ACTION STRATEGY 3.2**: Maintain high level of collaboration and cooperation with local communities, government agencies, non-profit groups, and the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.2.1</strong> Explore opportunities for continued collaboration and partnering with other government agencies including cost-savings and benefits from job and equipment sharing, staff training, and coordinating additional revenue sources.</td>
<td><strong>3.2.6</strong> Prepare a formal Volunteer Coordination Plan, including options and recommendations for staffing and funding.</td>
<td><strong>3.2.8</strong> Obtain a Volunteer Staff Coordinator position to organize and manage the volunteer program as well as coordinate and collaborate with others.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.2.2</strong> Develop an interim volunteer program plan, including a work plan outlining major goals, projects, targets, and strategies.</td>
<td><strong>3.2.7</strong> Work with others to help establish a countywide inter-agency coordinating group to exchange information and work collaboratively on projects of joint interest and benefit.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>3.2.3</strong> Consider formal programs such as adopting a park or segment of trail or open space, Park Watch, park patrol, administrative assistance (mailing, fundraising, etc.), and facility maintenance (painting, litter removal).</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>3.2.4</strong> Continue to involve local communities, volunteers, and the general public in planning major projects and decisions.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>3.2.5</strong> Continue joint interests with others in regional planning for coordinated river access, trail development, ecosystem protection, facility maintenance and improvements, and land acquisition efforts.</td>
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**ACTION STRATEGY 3.3:** Create a comprehensive information and education program to develop public awareness of and appreciation for the rich natural and cultural heritage in Yamhill County.

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<tr>
<td>3.3.1 Encourage educational institutions to involve students and faculty in projects to help start an environmental interpretation program in selected county parks and open space sites to include building information kiosks and trailside exhibits, preparing brochures, and leading guided tours and walks in the park.</td>
<td>3.3.4 Prepare plans for the restoration and interpretation of identified historic features at Lafayette Locks, Powerhouse, and Juliette.</td>
<td>3.3.7 Secure funding for selected improvements to the Lafayette Locks, Powerhouse and Juliette sites that will lead to high impact interpretation and interactive learning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3.2 Work with groups such as the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde to collaborate on projects to instill a greater awareness and appreciation for the cultural heritage of Yamhill County.</td>
<td>3.3.5 Seek technical assistance from federal and state agencies and non-profit groups including the National Park Service, Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and the Nature Conservancy.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.3.3 Develop work plan for special research projects to begin to assemble an information base for future restoration and interpretation (e.g. turbine and generator at Powerhouse Park; history of the Lafayette Locks; the dam at Juliette).</td>
<td>3.3.6 Expand the environmental interpretation program throughout the County parks and open spaces, relying primarily on volunteers for programs and services.</td>
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4.0 ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT AND RESTORATION

ACTION STRATEGY 4.1: Establish a natural resource inventory of County parks and open spaces as a tool for prioritizing and maintaining an effective management program.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.1.1 Identify and prioritize where natural systems within the County parks and open spaces are being degraded by invasive species, erosion, human activities, etc.</td>
<td>4.1.4 Maintain a current assessment of existing conditions of ecosystems, natural processes, and natural resource values of County parks and open spaces as a basis for prioritizing ecosystem management and restoration projects.</td>
<td>4.1.7 Work with the planning department to maintain a natural resource inventory of County parks and open spaces and monitoring program, including permanent research plots maintained by volunteers, faculty, and students.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.1.2 Work with scientists and other key professionals and volunteers to develop a more complete inventory of resource values in County parks including rare native plant associations, rare plant and wildlife species, wildlife habitat diversity values, and scenic and historic values.</td>
<td>4.1.5 Prioritize connectivity opportunities and needs between public parks and open space sites, with multipurpose values for wildlife and plant movement, recreation, and scenic corridors.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.1.3 Identify opportunities for integrating new knowledge and procedures with opportunities for ecosystem restoration, education, and recreation.</td>
<td>4.1.6 Continue to involve volunteers, scientists, and others in the assessment and monitoring process.</td>
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**ACTION STRATEGY 4.2:** Develop a natural resource management program designed to achieve sustainable use of the County parks and open spaces.

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<td>4.2.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Continue to target areas within the parks and open spaces where natural processes or values are especially threatened by invasive vegetation, erosion, or human impacts and work with maintenance staff and volunteers to carry out ecosystem restoration and re-vegetation projects.</td>
<td>Based on the prioritized list in Action Strategy 4.1, acquire, manage, and continue restoration of high priority areas and other significant habitats which are appropriate for the use by the public for parks and open spaces.</td>
<td>Continue to encourage the public to use the Yamhill County parks and open spaces for education, training and as a research laboratory as the system evolves, monitoring is underway, and more is learned.</td>
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<td>4.2.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acquire, manage, interpret and restore threatened ecosystems, natural processes, and resource values identified in Action Strategy 4.1.</td>
<td>Provide appropriate public access to corridors and linear open space connectors.</td>
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<td>4.2.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Encourage educational institutions and others to use county parks and open spaces as laboratories to promote non-value laden discovery and learning and conduct research in ecosystem management, restoration, and re-vegetation.</td>
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5.0 MAINTAINING PARTNERSHIPS WITH OTHERS

**ACTION STRATEGY 5.1:** Employ open communications and a variety of partnering methods to achieve the highest level of harmony with stakeholders.

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<tr>
<td><strong>5.1.1</strong> Maintain open communications with all major stakeholders who may be interested in or affected by county parks and open spaces projects. Seek win-win solutions through collaborative and consensus building strategies.</td>
<td><strong>5.1.6</strong> Develop a formal agreement with Yamhill County schools to develop an on-going partnership that will foster an open environment for learning opportunities as well as open communications, understanding, and awareness of the important benefits of parks, open spaces, and heritage resources.</td>
<td><strong>5.1.8</strong> Continue to plan and host periodic special events honoring those who have contributed in major ways to the Yamhill County parks and open spaces system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5.1.2</strong> Develop a list of priority sites where special communications and efforts are required to meet common goals with adjacent landowners.</td>
<td><strong>5.1.7</strong> Sponsor periodic &quot;Open House&quot; events at strategic parks, inviting major stakeholders and adjacent property owners to review common goals and objectives, and identify issues that require resolve.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>5.1.3</strong> Continue to develop and maintain strong working partnerships with the Yamhill Basin Council, Yamhill County Chapter of the Native Plant Society, Natural Resources Conservation Service, United States Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, local communities, and the general public.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>5.1.4</strong> Make buffering, screening, vehicle control, and increased park management high priorities when making improvements and/or responding to visitor use impacts.</td>
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<td><strong>5.1.5</strong> Ensure that county planners review the present County Land Use Code to determine if land use development standards and zoning designations achieve compatibility objectives, especially in terms of set-back requirements adjacent to parks and open spaces.</td>
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</table>
6.0 SAFETY AND ACCESSIBILITY

**ACTION STRATEGY 6.1:** Establish programs that will achieve a high level of public safety in county parks and open space sites.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IMMEDIATE</th>
<th>SHORT-TERM</th>
<th>LONG-TERM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.1.1 Work with local fire districts and the Oregon Dept. of Forestry to develop fire prevention and management policies and practices, including code enforcement and compliance.</td>
<td>6.1.6 Create a Risk Management program, establishing policies and procedures for a comprehensive approach to park facility inspection and record keeping.</td>
<td>6.1.10 Consider establishing a Park Ranger program through contract with a security firm or other formalized alternatives should community policing and other “soft” approaches need to be augmented.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.1.2 Target high priority parks and open space sites for initiating Park Watch and Adopt-A-Park programs and partnering with neighbors and the community for preventing vandalism and criminal activities.</td>
<td>6.1.7 Work with law enforcement agencies to collect crime and vandalism statistics to track trends.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.1.3 Work with local law enforcement authorities to establish common goals, open communications, and a commitment to community policing.</td>
<td>6.1.8 Continue to build alliances with local authorities to address safety and crime issues.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.1.4 Begin efforts to establish a safety inspection and record-keeping program.</td>
<td>6.1.9 Evaluate benefits of establishing a “Park Host” program at strategic sites to create presence and oversight, as the need arises.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.1.5 Review design and construction standards and park maintenance practices for effectiveness in enhancing public safety and discouraging vandalism.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**ACTION STRATEGY 6.2**: Take action to make existing park sites and open spaces accessible to the general public as well as for persons with disabilities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IMMEDIATE</th>
<th>SHORT-TERM</th>
<th>LONG-TERM</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.2.1 Continue making improvements to existing park infrastructure to remove barriers for persons with disabilities.</td>
<td>6.2.3 Create a committee of persons with disabilities to advise on the most practical and responsive program and methods to make parks, trails, and open space sites more accessible.</td>
<td>6.2.4 Establish special programs and facilities for persons with disabilities, including the hearing and sight impaired.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.2.2 Evaluate current policies and agreements that create exclusive use of parks, and determine feasibility of expanding use for the general public (Metsker, Monroe Landfill).</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**7.0 MAINTAINING LIVABILITY**

**ACTION STRATEGY 7.1**: Actively participate in efforts to preserve the scenic, ecological, historic, and cultural values of the county.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IMMEDIATE</th>
<th>SHORT-TERM</th>
<th>LONG-TERM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7.1.1 Work with others to identify and prioritize significant scenic, ecological, historic, and cultural features of the county that could be lost or threatened by development, and help establish strategies for protection such as scenic and conservation easements, and/or acquisition by local and national land trusts.</td>
<td>7.1.3 Encourage the county to establish benchmarks and performance measures for livability, and to use these for setting program and budget priorities and expectations.</td>
<td>7.1.4 Determine feasibility of coordinating with the Metro Greenspaces program, expanding concepts and projects to include Yamhill County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.1.2 Work with county planners to assure the Land Use Code and development standards address growth management</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDICES

Appendix A: Potential Funding Sources
Appendix B: Community Leadership Meeting Packet
Appendix C: Existing and Potential Federal and State Recreation Opportunities
Appendix D: Board Visioning Workshop Results
Appendix E: Park Conditions Assessment Survey Instrument
Appendix F: Public Outreach Survey Instrument and Numeric Analysis
Appendix G: Maintenance and Management Guidelines
Yamhill County currently relies on donations and development fees to fund land and facility acquisitions, on grants for operations support, and on labor from Community Corrections for maintenance. While these sources are significant, they do not provide adequate support to maintain the current parks system, and will need to be supplemented in order to provide the type of parks and open space system envisioned in this Plan. Following are some potential sources to explore for additional funding for acquiring, developing, and maintaining the County’s Parks and Open Space System.

1) General Fund

General fund revenues consist chiefly of property taxes derived from the County’s permanent tax rate, and are subject to the $10 combined limit on local government taxing agencies imposed by Measure #5 (1990), and the 3% annual increase in property valuation imposed by Measure #50 (1997). General fund revenues are severely limited and are an inconsistent and unlikely source for funding parks and recreation improvements. General fund revenues should be considered as a possible funding source for some operations and maintenance activities.

2) System Development Charges (SDCs)

System Development Charges (SDCs) are fees paid by new development to cover a portion of the costs of capital facilities needed to serve new development. The County collects parks and recreation SDCs for all new residential development in unincorporated Yamhill County. Revenue from SDCs can be used only for land acquisition and development related to growth, and may not be used for maintenance. Revenues from SDCs are not sufficient to provide funding for large acquisitions or projects, but are a good source of funding for smaller capital improvements. The SDC fee levels should be updated on a regular basis to account for changes in the costs of land and construction.

3) Timber Resources

The County owns lands that may have value both as parks and open space and as timber resources. Selected thinning of on these lands could provide a source of revenue for the parks and open space system, and improve access for recreational uses. Timber revenues may be used to fund parks and recreation land acquisitions, development, operations, and maintenance.
4) **General Obligation Bonds (G.O. Bonds)**

G.O. Bonds are debt instruments sold to fund new capital facilities or make improvements to existing facilities. These bonds are repaid with property tax revenue generated by a special levy that is outside the property tax limits imposed by Measure #5 (1990) and Measure #50 (1997). Voters must approve G.O. Bonds, and this approval must occur in a general election in an even-numbered year, or in another election in which at least 50% of registered voters participate. Yamhill County has used G.O. Bonds in the past for items such as road improvements, but has not sought voter approval of bonds for parks. G.O. Bonds may be a good option to consider for partnered projects with cities and service districts within the County.

5) **Local Option Levy for Capital Improvements**

A local option levy for capital improvements provides for a separate property tax levy outside the City’s permanent rate limit, but subject to the $10 combined rate limit imposed under Measure #5. The levy may be used to fund a capital project or a group of projects over a specified period of time, up to 10 years. Revenues from these levies may be used to secure bonds for projects, or to complete one or more projects on a “pay as you go” basis. Voters must approve local option levies, and this approval must occur in a general election in an even-numbered year, or in another election in which at least 50% of registered voters participate. These levies may be considered for projects, but are not a good alternative to G.O. bonds for large projects or groups of projects.

6) **Federal/State/Other Grants**

Federal, state, and other government agencies and foundations sometimes make funds available to serve specific purposes related to parks and recreation, such as land and water conservation, open space preservation, or bicycle path construction. In addition to often requiring a local match, grants may also have other conditions and limitations, such as providing for project planning but not for construction. The availability of grants is limited, but may be useful for specific project needs, such as pathways and trails or greenways acquisition. Some potential sources of grants are listed below.

**Land and Water Conservation Fund**

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) administers this program, which uses federal dollars from the Department of Interior, National Park Service that are passed down to the states for acquisition, development, and rehabilitation of park and recreation areas and facilities.

Web: [http://www.prd.state.or.us/grants-lwcf.php](http://www.prd.state.or.us/grants-lwcf.php)

Contact: Marilyn Lippincott
Grants Project Officer
503-378-4168 ext. 241
**County Opportunity Grant Program**

OPRD also administers this program, which provides funding for acquisition, development, rehabilitation, and planning for county park and recreation sites that provide, or will provide, camping facilities.

Web: [http://www.prd.state.or.us/grants-county.php](http://www.prd.state.or.us/grants-county.php)

Contact: Marilyn Lippincott  
Grants Project Officer  
503-378-4168 ext. 241

**Recreation Trails Program**

Every year, the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department accepts applications for Recreational Trail Program (RTP) grants. Projects eligible for RTP funding include the maintenance and restoration of existing trails, development and rehabilitation of trailhead facilities, construction of new recreation trails, and acquisition of easements and fee simple titles to property.

Web: [http://www.prd.state.or.us/grants-rectrails.php](http://www.prd.state.or.us/grants-rectrails.php)

Contact: Sean Loughran  
State Trail Coordinator  
Oregon Parks and Recreation Department  
503-378-4168 ext. 477

**Oregon Bicycle and Pedestrian Program**

The Oregon Bicycle and Pedestrian Program funds pedestrian and/or bicycle projects which are situated within existing street, road or highway right-of-way. Eligible projects include sidewalk infill, pedestrian crossings, intersection improvements, and minor roadway widening for bikeways.

Web: [http://www.odot.state.or.us/techserv/bikewalk/funding.htm](http://www.odot.state.or.us/techserv/bikewalk/funding.htm)

Contact: Michael Ronkin  
Bicycle/Pedestrian Program Management  
Oregon Department of Transportation  
503-986-3555
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

This organization funds projects to conserve and restore fish, wildlife and native plants through challenge grants, small grants, and special grants.

Web: [http://www.nfwf.org](http://www.nfwf.org)

Contact: Suzanne Piluso
Project Coordinator
Pacific Northwest Region
Suzanne.Piluso@nfwf.org
503-4178700

Ben B. Cheney Foundation

The Ben B. Cheney Foundation makes grants to entities in Washington, Oregon, and Northern California for capital projects and program development related to civic and cultural activities, education, health, social services, and youth and the elderly.

Contact: William O. Rieke M.D.,
Executive Director
253-572-2442

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Priority is given to investments that serve as a catalyst to quicken the pace of progress, and to efforts whose net effect is to augment, not supplant, government funding streams. Grants are made by submitting a letter of inquiry to one of the following program areas Global Health, Pacific Northwest, and Public Access to Information

Web: [http://www.gatesfoundation.org](http://www.gatesfoundation.org)

The Conservation Fund American Greenways Program

The American Greenways DuPont Awards Program is administered by The Conservation Fund, and provides small grants to local greenway projects.


Contact: Amy Gibson
703-525-6300
The Collins Foundation
The Foundation funds projects that focus on developing the arts, humanities, education, environment, religion, youth activities, and community.

Web: http://www.collinsfoundation.org

Contact: Cynthia G. Adams
503-227-7171

Fohs Foundation
The foundation funds projects for economic development, human services, children/youth, environment, and education in the northwest.

Contact: Rosemary Cooper
Secretary-Treasurer
Fohs Foundation
541-447-1587

Ford Family Foundation
This foundation makes grants to organizations in rural communities in Oregon and the northwest for projects related to community improvement and development, education, and recreation.

Web: http://www.tff.org

Contact: Susie Johnston-Forte
Roseburg Forest Products Co.
541-957-5574

Meyer Memorial Trust
The Trust offers both general-purpose grants and small grants for capital projects, program development, general operations, and continuing project support.

Web: http://www.mmt.org

Contact: Charles S. Rooks
Executive Director
503-228-5512
The Oregon Community Foundation

The Oregon Community Foundation makes grants to tax exempt 501(c)(3) organizations throughout Oregon for various causes including community enrichment, economic development, capital projects, program development and expansion, and matching funding. This source is a potential for projects which involve partnering between the County and eligible organizations.

Web: http://www.oregoncommunityfound.org

Contact: Gregory A. Chaill
President
Oregon Community Foundation
503-227-6846

Woodard Family Foundation

The Woodard Family Foundation makes grants to non-profit entities in Oregon for religious, charitable, scientific, educational, and economic development purposes.

Contact: Carlton Woodard
President
Woodard Family Foundation
503-942-2458

The Brainerd Foundation

The Brainerd Foundation is a grantmaking institution dedicated to protecting the environmental quality of the Pacific Northwest

Web: http://www.brainerd.org/

Contact: The Brainerd Foundation
1601 Second Avenue, Suite 610
Seattle, WA 98101
206-448-0676
The Bullitt Foundation

The Bullitt Foundation supports non-profit organizations in efforts to protect and restore the environment of the Pacific Northwest.

Web: http://www.bullitt.org

Contact: The Bullitt Foundation
1212 Minor Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101-2825
206-343-0807

River Network

River Network offers watershed assistance grants to local watershed partnerships to support organizational development and long-term effectiveness.

Web: http://www.rivernetwork.org

Contact: River Network
520 SW 6th Avenue
Portland, OR 97204
503-241-3506

7) Special Assessment / Local Improvement Districts

Residents may choose to form a local improvement district (LID) to pay for capital improvements or maintenance of facilities through special assessments on their property. This method requires the approval of at least 51% of the owners of land within the proposed district, and must represent at least 51% of the land abutting the proposed improvement. The use of LIDs would not be appropriate for most types of parks and open space facilities provided by Yamhill County.

8) Local Option Levy for Operations

A local option levy for operations provides for a separate property tax levy outside the County’s permanent rate limit, subject to the $10 combined rate limit imposed under Measure #5. These levies may be useful to fund operations and maintenance activities over a specified period of time, up to 5 years. Voters must approve local option levies and this approval must occur in a general election in an even numbered year, or in another election in which at least 50% of registered voters participate. This source should be considered for funding County parks operations and maintenance activities.
9) **User Fees and Rents**

User fees and rents are direct charges to individuals and groups who use specific programs, facilities, and services. These fees and rents usually help pay only a portion of the costs of providing public programs and services. User fees generally are set at levels sufficient to cover only a portion of program and maintenance costs, and are rarely used to fund capital projects. When renting a facility the group or individual must comply with the rules and regulations of the specific facility. This source may provide very limited funds for operations and maintenance.

10) **Sponsorships/Partnerships/Donations**

Public, private, and/or not-for-profit organizations may be willing to fund outright or join together with the County to provide additional parks and recreation facilities and/or services. For example, the County may receive assistance from local civic organizations in construction of picnic shelters, or may partner with a foundation for acquisition/development of natural areas, trails, etc. This method for funding is generally limited to specific projects or portions of projects and may be subject to the same types of requirements and conditions identified for grants, above. Some programs and organizations that specialize in land acquisition and protection for parks and open space conservation are listed below.

**The Trust For Public Land**

The Trust for Public Land works exclusively to protect land for human enjoyment and well-being, helping conserve land for recreation and spiritual nourishment and to improve the health and quality of life of American communities. The Trust for Public Land works with government agencies and landowners to arrange for conservation easements or government ownership of lands to be used for parks, open space and other recreational uses.

Web: [http://www.tpl.org](http://www.tpl.org)

Contact: The Trust for Public Land
Oregon Field Office
1211 SW 6th Avenue
Portland, OR 97204
503-228-6620
Forest Legacy Program

Funded through the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service Cooperative Forestry Program, the Forest Legacy Program provides monies to states to acquire development rights for private forestlands threatened by conversion to non-forest uses.

Web: [http://www.odf.state.or.us/DIVISIONS/management/forestry_assistance/legacy/](http://www.odf.state.or.us/DIVISIONS/management/forestry_assistance/legacy/)

Contact: Oregon Department of Forestry
2600 State Street, Operations Building
Salem, OR 97310
503-945-77386

The Nature Conservancy

The Nature Conservancy is dedicated to the preservation of the plants, animals and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on Earth by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive. The Nature Conservancy protects prairie grasslands, oak savannas, and similar lands in the Willamette Valley of Oregon.

Web: [http://www.natureconservancy.org](http://www.natureconservancy.org)

Contact: The Nature Conservancy of Oregon
821 SE 14th Avenue
Portland, OR 97214
503-230-1221

Willamette Basin Technical Assistance Program

This program was created to increase the capacity of watershed councils, soil and water conservation districts, various public agencies, and citizens group to develop, fund and implement watershed restoration activities. This is a program of the Willamette and North Coast Provincial Interagency Executive Committees, the Willamette Restoration Initiative, and the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board.

Web: [http://www.oregonwri.org/willamette-tap.html](http://www.oregonwri.org/willamette-tap.html)

Contact: Mark Brown
Bureau of Land Management
541-750-7431 or 503-375-5685
**Willamette Restoration Initiative**

This program is designed to promote, integrate, and coordinate efforts to protect and restore the health of the Willamette watershed, focusing on the restoration interests and capabilities of businesses, landowners, non-profit organizations, local governments, and watershed councils in the basin.

Web: [http://www.oregonwri.org](http://www.oregonwri.org)

Contact: Willamette Restoration Initiative  
1717 Fabry Road SE  
Salem, OR 97306  
503-375-5686

**Flintridge Foundation**

This organization provides grants and works in partnership with small, community-based organizations promoting natural environmental sustainability.

Web: [http://www.flintridgefoundation.org](http://www.flintridgefoundation.org)

Contact: Flintridge Foundation  
1040 Lincoln Ave., Suite 100  
Pasadena, CA 91103  
626-449-0839

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Restoration Center**

This federal program is designed to inspire local efforts to restore marine, estuarine, and riparian habitat. The program links seed money and technical expertise to citizen-driven restoration projects.

Web: [http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration/community/about.htm](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration/community/about.htm)

Contact: NOAA Restoration Center (NOAA/RC)  
1315 East-West Highway  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910  
301-713-0174
For the Sake of the Salmon

This regional organization supports multi-stakeholder watershed focus efforts to restore salmon to levels that ensure healthy, sustainable natural populations and support productive fisheries.

Web: http://www.4sos.org/

Contact: For the Sake of the Salmon
319 SW Washington St., Suite 706
Portland, OR 97204
503-228-8511
Planning the Future of Yamhill County Parks
Public Outreach Program

Community Leadership Meeting
January 17, 2002

1. Introduction/Overview
   - Purpose of the Public Outreach Program
   - Yamhill County Comprehensive Land Use Plan
   - Mission of Yamhill County Parks
   - Overview of Yamhill County Parks System (including current plans)
   - Themes Emerging from Public Outreach

2. What Yamhill County open space, parks, and outdoor recreation opportunities are most important to residents?
   - Physical Resources (e.g. rivers, forest, mts., hills, historical sites)
   - Benefits (how do Yamhill County residents benefit)
   - Issues and Concerns (do you have concerns about the future)

3. What are your ideas for the future of Yamhill County Parks and Outdoor Recreation?
   - Goals
   - Opportunities
   - Priorities

4. Meeting Summary
   - What’s Next

You are invited to record your comments attached to this meeting agenda and submit them to us at the end of the meeting, or mail them to the address below. Thank you for helping us prepare for the future of Yamhill County’s Parks.

David Primozich, Parks Coordinator
Yamhill County Parks Department
615 East Sixth
McMinnville, Oregon 97128
PRIMOZID@co.yamhill.or.us
### Existing and Potential Federal and State Recreation Opportunities in Yamhill County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nestucca River Special Recreation Area</td>
<td>BLM</td>
<td>7 mi</td>
<td>Existing SRMA and Back Country Byway extends from the western county line to the Haskins Creek G.S.; the potential Back Country Byway addition extends to Highway 47 near the Carlton State Game Refuge; no potential trail indicated for Yamhill County portion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nestucca River and Walker Creek Eligible National Wild, Scenic, and Recreational Rivers (NSWR)</td>
<td></td>
<td>2 mi</td>
<td>A 15.5 mile segment of Nestucca River is found by the BLM to be suitable for inclusion in the national scenic and wild river system, and a 2 mile segment is located in Yamhill County (Section 8 and a portion of Section 9); Walker Creek, a tributary of the Nestucca River, also meets eligibility requirements as a NWSR and a 2.5 mile segment has outstandingly remarkable values.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willamina Cr. Potential Recreation Site</td>
<td></td>
<td>56 ac</td>
<td>Potential camping and picnicking site on Willamina Creek.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheridan Overlook (under construction)</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 ac</td>
<td>Existing day-use site at abandoned rock ppt on Bald Mt. Access Rd; views of Mt. Ranier, Mt. Adams, Mt. St Helens, Mt. Hood, Mt. Jefferson, and Three Sisters; also in Tillamook County.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nestucca River ACEC</td>
<td></td>
<td>?</td>
<td>Scenic, fish, wildlife, botanical, &amp; recreational values.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheridan Peak ACEC</td>
<td></td>
<td>?</td>
<td>Botanical: Habitat for bluegrass, monitoring species; also in Tim Co.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Butte ACEC/RNA</td>
<td></td>
<td>40 ac</td>
<td>Botanical: Diversity of microhabitats ranging from very xeric to mesic at margins of Coast Range and Willamette Valley; 40 acres east of Upper Deer Creek.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walker Flat ACEC (Potential)</td>
<td></td>
<td>39 ac</td>
<td>Botanical: Checkermallow, rare plant species, wetland perimeter and wetland species in a palustrine marsh complex; located south of the Nestucca River and west of McGuire Reservoir.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yampo (Eola Hills) ACEC (Potential)</td>
<td></td>
<td>13 ac</td>
<td>Botanical: Willamette Valley foothill riparian and upland environment containing native plant species representing a specific seral stage (nondclimax); tall bugbane; located 2 mi. east of Amity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bald Mt. Off-Highway Vehicle Area</td>
<td></td>
<td>3-4 mi</td>
<td>Formally designated motorcycle trail along the Bald Mt. Loop Rd; approx. 3-4 miles are in Yamhill County.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### APPENDIX C: EXISTING AND POTENTIAL FEDERAL AND STATE RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES IN YAMHILL COUNTY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Distance</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nestucca River Back Country Byway</td>
<td>10 mi</td>
<td>Part of the national Back Country Byway program, designed to identify and promote scenic driving opportunities on lesser-traveled BLM roads; portion in Yamhill County includes approx. 10 miles along the Nestucca River and the Bald Mt. Loop Rd. with potential extension to S.H. 47 (conceptual diagram, Map 3-9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State of Oregon Nestucca River State Scenic Waterway</td>
<td>5 mi</td>
<td>23 miles of the mainstream designated as a free-flowing river with state protection (Oregon Parks &amp; Recreation Dept.) 1/4 mi. each side of the river, extends from McGuire Reservoir Dam in Yamhill County to Blaine community in Tillamook County.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bald Peak State Scenic Viewpoint</td>
<td>26 ac</td>
<td>1,629' peak is located in the Chehalis Mt. Range in northeast corner of the county. Views of the Willamette Valley and 5 Cascade peaks (Mt. St. Helens, Mt. Ranier, Mt. Adams, Mt. Hood, Mt. Jefferson).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erratic Rock State Natural Site</td>
<td>4 ac</td>
<td>Located 6 miles east of Sheridan, this 40-ton rock was deposited during a prehistoric flood, carried here on an iceberg during an Ice Age some 20,000 years ago, probably by way of the Columbia River. The rock was deposited when the ice melted. This is the largest glacial erratic found in the Willamette Valley. Other than this specimen, rocks of this type are only found in Canada. The trail to the rock provides a view of valley vineyards.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maud Williamson State Recreation Site</td>
<td>24 ac</td>
<td>A Willamette Valley Park with picnicking (group shelter), volleyball, and horseshoes with a canopy of second-growth Douglas-fir trees; excellent wildflower viewing; trilliums. Fee for reserving shelter. Located 5 miles southeast of Amity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willamette Greenway (Yamhill Landing)</td>
<td>127 ac</td>
<td>Greenway between the Willamette and Yamhill Rivers, near Dayton Boat Landing along Carey Bend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willamette Mission State Park</td>
<td>480 ac</td>
<td>Developed part of the park is on the east bank of the Willamette River in Marion County; the undeveloped part is on Grand Island in Yamhill County at the confluence of Lambert Slough and the Willamette River north of Wheatland; the site is considered to be a high quality Willamette River natural area, with a sizable riparian forest. The nearby Wheatland Ferry site is a popular day-use area on a portion of the river; some visitors use the ferry to access the developed part of the park on the east bank of the river.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX C: EXISTING AND POTENTIAL FEDERAL AND STATE RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES IN YAMHILL COUNTY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carlton Lake Wildlife Refuge</td>
<td>1000 ac This approx. 1000 acre site was created by state statute allowing the ODFW to establish refuges on private lands. The site is located on the Yamhill River west of Carlton. The lake is no longer existent, and the focus of several local efforts to recreate the lake, including a study by the Bureau of Reclamation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Siuslaw Hebo-Nestucca Roadless Area</td>
<td>3300 ac Closest roadless area on the Siuslaw to urban areas in the Willamette Valley; portion in Yamhill County is the Mt. Hebo ridgeline and the Niagra Creek drainage (approx. 3300 acres or 25% of the total area); waterfalls, cascades, mature stands of Douglas-fir and western hemlock; undisturbed forest.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Lake and North Lake Recreation Sites, Pioneer Indian Trail</td>
<td>20 ac South Lake is a developed recreation site on a small lake near Mt. Hebo and the Tillamook County line. North Lake is a small undeveloped site, also on a small lake; the two sites are connected by Pioneer Indian Trail that also connects with Mt. Hebo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niagra Falls Trail</td>
<td>A trail on Niagra Creek near the Mt. Hebo Roadless Area.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources:
Salem Westside Recreation Map, BLM, 1996
Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation, website information; staff conversation

ACEC=Area of Critical Environmental Concern
RNA=Research Natural Area
APPENDIX D: BOARD VISIONING WORKSHOP RESULTS

Yamhill County Parks & Recreation Comprehensive Plan
Parks Board Visioning
March 18, 2002

Board Visioning Process Results
March 18, 2002

Note: These are transcribed results of the Board visioning workshop including those recorded on wall-cards through group participation, and those recorded on individual comment sheets.
## Wallcard Results

### Outdoor Recreation Resources Important to Residents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assets and Characteristics</th>
<th>Benefits and Satisfactions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trails and connections</td>
<td>Yesterday is history, tomorrow mystery, today a gift</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecosystem preservation</td>
<td>Enjoying outdoors, communing w/nature/education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viewpoints and vistas</td>
<td>Preserving biodiversity &amp; endangered species</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public - inclusive to all</td>
<td>Attracting visitors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural elements - Native American heritage</td>
<td>Natural, environmental, education benefits for youth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural settings in close proximity to cities</td>
<td>Aesthetics - improves the world</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uniqueness - best elements of a special place</td>
<td>Enjoyment of the outdoors at slower pace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geologic history</td>
<td>Exercise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historical resources - L. Locks; Nat. Am. Sites</td>
<td>Connecting ecology and the community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural wonders - old trees, views, falls</td>
<td>There is no life without water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preserving land/heritage for our community</td>
<td>Access to boating, fishing, and hunting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappearing species</td>
<td>Great opportunities for partnerships, esp. greenways, waterways, trailways, bikeways</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappearing habitats - wet prairies, oak habitats</td>
<td>Picnicking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Existing public parks; proposed Crest proposal</td>
<td>Sense of place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic/nearby venues for families/com. groups</td>
<td>Appreciating mother earth and its variety</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water features - rivers, streams, wetlands</td>
<td>Opportunity to explore nature - poking around</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountains and forests</td>
<td>Health environment - healing, rehabilitation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual, scenic sense</td>
<td>Spiritual benefits; meditation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wildlife habitat</td>
<td>Reducing stress - therapeutic value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mix of open space/woodland/hills/mts</td>
<td>Non-commercial</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Major Issues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Habitat degradation - erosion; noxious weeds</td>
<td>Need more land acquisition</td>
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<tr>
<td>Need more land acquisition</td>
<td>Need for 3 C's: communication, coordination cooperation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of county financial support</td>
<td>Operational capacity lacking - funding/staffing needs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concentrating on quality of parks &amp; facilities</td>
<td>Vandalism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inclusion in county/regional/state land use planning; elevate to higher level</td>
<td>Create our own buffers to protect parks from surrounding impacts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limit development near existing parks (minimize land use conflicts)</td>
<td>More specialized expertise in working w/partnerships and landowners</td>
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<tr>
<td>Articulate a variety (menu) of options to work w/ private landowners</td>
<td>Need tax law guidance to help with land acquisition</td>
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<tr>
<td>Address accommodation of motorized recreation use</td>
<td>Resolve conflicts in compatible use for large groups; needs for policy guidance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Need for aesthetic uniformity of signage, materials, standards (for positive image, attractiveness)</td>
<td>Resolve camping as an issue in county parks in terms of benefits/costs and policy; [need for special work session w/Board]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Park neighbors often in conflict w/park use, yet need their support</td>
<td>Safety issues (e.g. Menefee footbridge; buckled Ed Grenfell pathway)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Need for a minimum standardized infrastructure for every developed park</td>
<td>State land is an opportunity for possible transfer or exchange</td>
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<tr>
<td>Need more public support for county parks program, including public awareness</td>
<td>Accessibility is a problem for disabled persons in some parks</td>
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<tr>
<td>With expansion of the park system, need increased maintenance</td>
<td>Park development standards and classification system needed (purpose, role, type of parks and open spaces)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Find out from other counties what works best</td>
<td>Marketing ability is constrained -- no solid marketing plan for the county park system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintain appropriate access to water features (to avoid physical impacts)</td>
<td>Current maintenance practices at odds with management objectives and policies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vastly improve promoting county parks within the entire parks and open space system</td>
<td>Physical access to parks is a problem, including signage</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physical access to parks is a problem, including signage</td>
<td>Outdated infrastructure (restrooms, potable water) in some parks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interpretation and education is needed</td>
<td>Lack of picnicking, bicycle &amp; pedestrian access at Rogers Landing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accessibility is a problem for disabled persons in some parks</td>
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## Vision for the Preferred Future

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>System Vision</th>
<th>Sites and Facilities Vision</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Appropriate infrastructure at all sites (water, signs, shelters)</td>
<td>Landfills are restored to sites for large numbers of users, e.g.</td>
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<tr>
<td>High level of quality for all park infrastructure</td>
<td>amphitheater at Rogers Landing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Active participants in understanding and preserving cultural history &amp; resources: gathering places, springs, camas, etc.</td>
<td>Juliette and Powerhouse parks are more usable (is easement where old flume was available for public access?); linkage is made</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Successful corporate gifting program</td>
<td>to nearby BLM land, Crest project via loop trail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks have special identity w/ state of art facilities including benches @ special places &amp; vistas, picnic tables, etc.</td>
<td>Loop forest trail is established near an urban area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Successful partnering with others</td>
<td>Ed Grenfell expanded to include the small lake and mountain to the south;</td>
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<tr>
<td>All habitat types represented in the system</td>
<td>acquire &amp; convert house to parkland; create a large park and</td>
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<tr>
<td>Each park is unique</td>
<td>add more flatland and places for volleyball &amp; family-type activity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tax base support for county park system</td>
<td>Baker Creek trail system becomes a regional attraction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program to acquire and coordinate volunteers</td>
<td>Oak savanna is restored at the site level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpretive trails with information on natural history including good signage and a uniform system of symbols</td>
<td>Yampo spring site is acquired for Native American interpretation;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-level use classification system including boating, family use, education/environmental focus, parks</td>
<td>Valley to the Coast trail becomes reality -- Nestucca River, gateway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willamette River corridor utilized as part of the system</td>
<td>Metsker Park is expanded and available to the public w/trail to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High support of county officials and the public for a system of parks and open spaces</td>
<td>nearby waterfalls; park host is a scientist and provides on-site mgt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quantity in acreage not as important as quality</td>
<td>education for public; adjacent hillside are forested, no clearcuts;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-residents purchase permits; residents mailed stickers</td>
<td>expanded educational opportunities w/newly acquired forest land;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;I LOVE OUR COUNTY PARKS&quot;</td>
<td>Confederate tribes of Grand Ronde utilize county parks for camas harvesting, other activities (e.g. Deer Creek fields)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There is no ivy or noxious vegetation in county parks (L. Locks)</td>
<td>Fish passage is created at Juliette Park over the dam and natural</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yamhill County parks are a model of success nationally and others come to us for standard setting</td>
<td>features are protected, enhanced and interpreted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extensive waterways become the fabric for a system of green-ways and trails linking communities in the county as a cohesive and supporting network</td>
<td>Hiking trail is established along the North Yamhill River</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All actions are weighed against ability to maintain; maintenance impacts always considered in decision-making</td>
<td>Pedestrian and bicycle access is enhanced throughout the county</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linking national, state, and regional trails by acquisition, easements, etc. for hiking, biking, equestrian use</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We do what we do the very best</td>
<td>&quot;Parkapedia&quot; approach to provide extensive site information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>through kiosks and other interpretive methods</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Comment Sheet Results

### Outdoor Recreation Resources Important to Residents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Important Assets &amp; Characteristics</th>
<th>Benefits and Satisfactions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Waterway resources, riparian values, rivers</td>
<td>8 Learning about local ecology, history, cultural values</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetation - i.e. wetlands, forests, biodiversity, native species</td>
<td>7 Places to play; recreate; explore natural areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paths/trails</td>
<td>6 Aesthetic appreciation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural and historic values, Native American values</td>
<td>6 Connect w/nature; appreciate the earth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual/scenic values; vistas; scenic beauty</td>
<td>5 Relaxation; slower pace; peacefulness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural settings and values</td>
<td>5 Place for family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappearing/threatened habitats (upland/wet prairie, oak sav.)</td>
<td>4 Exercise; good health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wildlife habitat</td>
<td>3 Sense of place; appreciation for where we live</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountains, hills, &quot;Oak Peak&quot;</td>
<td>2 Spiritual values; meditation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proximity of parks to cities and communities</td>
<td>1 To save places/natural areas for future generations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Community gatherings, special events, economic benefits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Education of our youth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Greenway building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Improving ecosystem functioning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>There is no life without water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Visitor attractions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Major Issues**

- Financial constraints; adequate funding for operations; fees? 9
- Maintaining quality in maintenance, operations, and facilities 5
- Lack of available parkland; in all parts of the county; size 4
- Accessibility, including public access and disabled access 2
- Acquisition of adequate land for camping 2
- Connectivity -- linking parks, trails, bike routes w/others 2
- Infrastructure inadequacy (need tables, fireplaces, shelters, restrooms, water, etc.) 2
- Involving citizens; generating partnerships 2
- Lack of standards, uniformity for park infrastructure 2
- Public awareness; informing public; convincing of importance 2
- Actively pursue land donations, easements, grants, tax law 2
- Classifying parks and establish categories of use 1
- Communications 1
- Conflict between maintenance practices & mgt objectives 1
- Habitat degradation/noxious weeds 1
- Highlight relationships of habitat and species at each site 1
- Impacts of adjacent neighbors/landowners 1
- Inclusion in state and local land use planning 1
- Keeping up with the population and growth; siting parks 1
- Limiting development near existing parks 1
- Limiting use 1
- Need to accommodate large groups 1
- Our parkland is not interchangeable, but unique & exemplary 1
- Safety -- for children, the public 1
- State land available for exchange, transfer 1
- Types of uses not compatible 1
- Vandalism 1
Vision for the Preferred Future

Maintain all parks to a minimum standard
Develop park infrastructure at all parks to a minimum standard
Develop and implement a plan to acquire more trail & parkland
Actively pursue partnerships w/others to arrive at common goals (I.e. hiking, biking, horse trails; expanded parks, information signs, etc.)
Improve infrastructure at appropriate parks (I.e. drinking water, shelters, playground equipment, information sighs, trails, etc.)
Vastly improve the promotion of county parks and how they fit into other parks/recreational facilities in the county or region.
Improve/maintain the ecological uniqueness of each park (I.e. riparian areas, native plants, wetlands, etc.). Accomplish this while maintaining the parks as a place where people can enjoy and recreate.
Make parks as safe and inviting as practical for all park users (includes access for disabled).
Improve all unimproved parks as much as practicable.
All actions concerning county parks should be weighed against the ability to maintain such (DO NOT BUILD IF YOU CANNOT MAINTAIN).

Ridgeline hike/bike trail - Ridge
Baker Creek trail
Willamette Greenway Trails for boating, hiking, riparian potential - River
"Native American" Park (spring site) - Cultural History
"Oak Peak" Trail
Valley to Coast Trail
Parks sticker for County residents; make nonresidents pay
"Parkapedia" through kiosks, etc.
Well-signed interpretive trails in parks.
Stable funding for capital improvements and acquisitions.
Covered structures for field stations and groups.
Restored oak savanna park.
Baker Creek Dam -- fish passage.
Landfill sites restored for large group gatherings.
Tribal members utilizing camas fields
System immensely expanded -- 1000s of acres
All habitat types represented in parks
Parks networked with trails.
Rogers Landing is expanded to include large day use area, pedestrian and bike access routes, picnic facilities.
Paths are improved at Huber Park.
Parks are unique to all that access.
Uniformity of signs, structures, etc.
Quantity of acreage not as important as quality.
Volunteer System
Process: Defining issues, vision reflecting all of us
New picnic tables; benches at vista points.
Accessible for disabled persons at all parks that are feasible.
Water access at parks on waterways.
Non-native vegetation removal.
Tree planting to obstruct views that don't complement the parks.
Public drinking water at all parks.
Multi-level use/activities:
High use - many facilities, recreational purposes, camping
Family use - picnicking, fishing, hiking, relaxing
Educational/research use - wetlands
Connected with State and Local park systems.
Greenways, waterways, trailway system connecting w/ state, local, other county trails, greenways etc. to the coast, Portland, Max, etc.
Natural settings, native plants in county parks
Historically significant sites are showcased in county parks
Educational settings for schools/public in county parks, including day use, overnight use, field study w/lab
Ideal quiet spaces for city dwellers
Outdoor learning opportunities in county parks
Successful corporate gifting partnerships
Developed greenways, waterway, trail system with corporate help, private citizen land donations/easements, grants, financial donations, bond or tax base specific to the accomplishment of goals
Financial structure exists to support systems and development
Expand from day use only to include overnight camping
User fees where appropriate
Park uniformity
Brochures
Form public partnerships through organizations and schools
Dave Hanson's Park Maintenance Guidelines are used
Good communications with Park Coordinator, county officials, maintenance, and Park Board
Corrections crew is continued.
Partnering with groups for stewardship/park adoption, including corporations
Market parks in order to receive donations.
APPENDIX E: PARK CONDITIONS ASSESSMENT SURVEY INSTRUMENT
Yamhill County Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Master Plan
PARK CONDITIONS ASSESSMENT INSTRUMENT

Park site: _________________________________________________
Prepared by: _________________________________________________________________
Date: ________________________

ASSIGN A NUMERICAL RATING TO EACH OF THE CATEGORIES:

Category 1: ENTRY LEGIBILITY AND PUBLIC ACCESS
(Ease of access, adequate signage off roadway and into the park; inviting, safe, attractive entry)
0 – Excellent entry conditions
2 – Some entry elements missing
4 – Entry has major deficiencies
Comments: ____________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________

Category 2: SIGNAGE
(Adequate information including main park sign, rules and regulations, directional signs, etc.)
0 – Excellent signage and public information
2 – Some signage elements missing
4 – Poor signage and public information
Comments: ____________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________

Category 3: ECOSYSTEM PROTECTION
(Minimal impacts on park resources – soil compaction, erosion, drainage, maintenance impacts such as mowing)
0 – No problems
1 – Some minor ecological impacts
2 – Ecosystem is in fair condition
3 – Several areas have problems that need rehabilitation or restoration
4 – Very poor ecological protection
Comments: ____________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
APPENDIX E: PARK CONDITIONS ASSESSMENT SURVEY INSTRUMENT

Category 4: MISFITS AND INTRUSIONS
(Degree of human intrusions that affect scenic and ecological integrity of the park, such as signs attached to trees, hand-painted signs, power lines, etc.)
0 – No problems
1 – Some minor intrusions
2 – Moderate number of intrusions
3 – Several areas have problems that need correction
4 – Large number of intrusions and misfits
Comments: __________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________

Category 5: VANDALISM
(Presence of broken glass, graffiti, facility damage, plant/habitat damage)
0 – No problems
2 – Moderate number of problems
4 – Large number of problems
Comments: __________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________

Category 6: PARKING/ACCESS/CIRCULATION
(Defined parking, logical vehicle circulation, good drainage and surfacing, adequate path system)
0 – No problems
1 – Not enough parking during peak-use periods or occasionally
2 – Poor parking and pedestrian access
4 – Poor availability and physical condition (drainage, surfacing)
Comments: __________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________

Category 7: INFRASTRUCTURE AVAILABILITY
(Availability of restrooms, waste receptacles, picnic tables, benches, picnic shelters, structures)
0 – Good availability
2 – Some infrastructure inadequate
4 – Infrastructure is very inadequate
Comments: __________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
APPENDIX E: PARK CONDITIONS ASSESSMENT SURVEY INSTRUMENT

Category 8: INFRASTRUCTURE CONDITION
(Condition of restrooms, waste receptacles, picnic tables, benches)
0 – No problems
1 – Good condition, need minor routine maintenance
2 – Fair condition, need minor repairs
3 – Poor condition, need major repairs but still can be used
4 – Very poor condition, need replacement
5 – Dangerous conditions
Comments: ____________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________

Category 9: PLAY EQUIPMENT
(Physical condition)
0 – No problems
1 – Good condition, need minor routine maintenance
2 – Fair condition, need minor repairs
3 – Poor condition, need major repairs but still can be used
4 – Very poor condition, need replacement
5 – Dangerous conditions
Comments: ____________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________

Category 10: INTERPRETATION/EDUCATION
(Adequate interpretive information describing features and natural processes)
0 – Excellent interpretive information
2 – Some interpretive information
4 – Poor or no interpretive information
Comments: ____________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________

Category 11: USE
(Appropriateness of use)
0 – Park receives appropriate use
2 – Park tends to be overused or underused
4 – Park tends to be misused (inappropriate uses such as loud parties, drug use, use of firearms, etc.)
Comments: ____________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
Category 12: SAFETY/SECURITY  
(Is the park safe and secure, with a minimum of unlawful activities?)
0 – Park is perceived as safe, with no problems
2 – Park has minor safety problems
4 – Park is considered unsafe
Comments: ____________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________

Category 13: OFF-SITE COMPATIBILITY  
(Adjacent land uses are compatible with the park)
0 – No problems with zoning, land use, misfits or intrusions
2 – Minor problems with zoning, land use, misfits or intrusions
4 – Major compatibility problems adjacent to the park
Comments: ____________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________

Category 14: ACCESSIBILITY  
(Are persons with disabilities accommodated in the park?)
0 – Persons with disabilities not only have minimal access but can participate in recreational use
2 – Minor problems with physical access and use
4 – Major deficiencies in accessibility and use for persons with disabilities
Comments: ____________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________

OTHER COMMENTS:
QUESTION 1: What Yamhill County open space, parks, and outdoor recreation facilities are most important to you?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Physical Resources (e.g. rivers, forests, hills, mountains, historical sites)</th>
<th>Benefits (how do you and others benefit from parks and open space opportunities?)</th>
<th>Issues and Concerns (do you have concerns about the future of outdoor opportunities?)</th>
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</table>

QUESTION 2: What are your ideas for the future of Yamhill County’s parks and outdoor recreation opportunities?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goals What should the plan address?</th>
<th>Opportunities List some specific ideas</th>
<th>Priorities Where should emphasis be placed?</th>
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COMMENTS:

NAME: 
ADDRESS: 
APPENDIX G: NATIONAL MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

NATIONAL RECREATION AND PARKS ASSOCIATION MAINTENANCE STANDARDS

Maintenance can vary because of labor rates, cost of materials, extent of landscape design, length of season, moisture availability, transportation cost, and intensity of public use. At higher maintenance levels it is assumed that the administering department will have adequate time, budget, and properly trained personnel to accomplish the quality that should accompany the quantity of work done. The following descriptions are for “state of the art maintenance” applied to a high quality diverse landscape.

1. **Turf Care** - Grass height maintained according to species and variety of grass. Mowed at least once every five working days but may be as often as once every three working days. Aeration as required, not less than four times per year. Reseeding or sodding as needed. Weed control should be practiced so that no more than ten percent of the surface has weeds present at any time.

2. **Fertilizer** - Adequate fertilization applied to plant species according to their optimum requirements. Application rates and times should ensure an even supply of nutrients for the entire year. Nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium percentages should follow local recommendations from the County Extension Service. Trees, shrubs, and flowers should be fertilized according to their individual requirements of nutrients for optimum health and nutrition. Unusually long or short growing seasons may modify the chart slightly.


4. **Litter Control** - Minimum of once per day, seven days per week. Extremely high visitation may increase the frequency. Receptacles should be plentiful enough to hold all trash generated between servicing without normally overflowing.

5. **Pruning** - Frequency dictated primarily by species and variety of trees and shrubs. Length of growing season and design concept also a controlling factor as are clipped hedges versus natural style. Timing usually is scheduled to coincide with low demand periods or to take advantage of special growing characteristics.
6. **Disease and Insect Control** - Control program may use any of three philosophies: 1) Preventative: a scheduled chemical or cultural program designed to prevent significant damage. 2) Corrective: application of chemical or mechanical controls designed to eliminate observed problems. 3) Integrated pest management: withholding any controls until such time as pests demonstrate damage to plant materials or become a demonstrated irritant in the case of flies, mosquitoes, gnats, etc. At this maintenance level, the objective is to control the problem prior to the public noticing. It is anticipated that problems will either be prevented or observed at a very early stage and corrected immediately.

7. **Lighting** - Maintenance should preserve the original design. Damaged systems should be repaired as quickly as they are discovered. Bulb replacement should be done during the first working day after the outage is reported.

8. **Surfaces** - Sweeping, cleaning, and washing of surfaces needs to be done so no accumulation of sand, dirt or leaves distract from the appearance or safety of the area. Repainting or restaining of structures should occur when weather or wear deteriorate the appearance of the covering. Stains to surfaces should be removed within five working days. Graffiti should be washed off or painted over the first working day after reported.

9. **Repairs** - Repairs to all elements of the design should be done immediately upon discovery provided replacement parts and technicians are available to accomplish the job. When disruption to the public might be major and the repair not critical, repairs may be postponed to a less disruptive time period.

10. **Inspection** - Inspections should be done daily by a member of the staff.

11. **Floral Plantings** - May include ground level beds, planters or hanging baskets. Often multiple plantings are scheduled, usually at least two blooming cycles per year. Some designs may call for a more frequent rotation of bloom. Maximum care of watering, fertilizing, disease control, disbudding, and weeding is necessary. Weeding flowers and shrubs is done a minimum of once per week. The desired standard is essentially weed free.

12. **Restrooms** - Not always a part of the design but where required will normally receive no less than once per day servicing. Especially high traffic areas may require multiple servicing or a person assigned as attendant.

13. **Special Features** - Features such as fountains, drinking fountains, sculpture, speaker systems, structural art, flag poles or parking and crowd control devices may be part of the integral design. Maintenance requirements can vary drastically but it should be of the highest possible order.