

# NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP COMPREHENSIVE PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN UPDATE



February 26, 2014

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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**NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP**  
**COMPREHENSIVE**  
**PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Northampton Township Department of Parks and Recreation is recognized for providing a wide variety of parks and recreation facilities and programming opportunities to Township residents and contributes significantly to the quality of life in Northampton Township and the surrounding area. The residents can take pride in the parks, facilities, and recreation programs that are provided by the Township. The Parks and Recreation Board and Staff are also recognized for not only the increase in programs and recreation opportunities created but for the many initiatives accomplished since the last update of the Northampton Township Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Plan in 1999. Several projects were completed by cooperative efforts and partnerships among public and private agencies.

Accomplishments include:

- The renovation of the Recreation Center, which included the addition of a gymnasium, art room, storage areas for youth sports programs, office space and restrooms.
- The acquisition of NAWC lands on Hatboro and Bristol Road through the Department of Interiors Lands to Parks Program for the development of a park.
- Construction of the Municipal Park and a Parks Maintenance garage on the NAWC lands.
- Implementation of a sponsorship program to showcase businesses and their support of the youth sports programs and Parks and Recreation.
- Adoption of a Shared Use agreement between the Council Rock School District and the Township for use of the Maureen M. Welch Elementary School and the ball fields on Municipal Park.
- Implementation of computer software, which includes a Parks and Recreation website and online registration.
- A partnership with the Northampton Business and Professional Association which fostered the Garden of Remembrance at the Municipal Park
- Adoption of a Fee Schedule, which authorizes facility use fees and non-resident fees.
- Land swap between the Township and Council Rock School District to enable the construction of the Senior Center on Township Road.

- A lease agreement with the Northampton Valley Country Club that allows for the use of the Swim Club Monday thru Friday for camp programs, a swim team and a membership.
- A partnership with the Miracle League of Northampton Township, which fund raised to construct a specially designed baseball and multipurpose field for individuals with special needs at the Municipal Park.
- Completion of the Northampton Township Open Space Plan which meets the requirements of the Bucks County Open Space Program and enabled the Township to receive County Open Space Funds to purchase the Huescher Property on Hatboro Road and Temperance Lane.

Although there was much progress since the 1999 Comprehensive Plan many other goals have not yet been accomplished and remain on the list of things to do. The execution of the recommendation to construct a Community Center adjacent to the Council Rock South High School was voted down after much time and deliberation was spent researching, planning and re-evaluating the project. This set back affected the plans for the Recreation Center to serve as a youth sports and a teen center. Additionally, improvements to the Civic Center parking lot to ease congestion and improve circulations issues were not implemented as recommended. With additional programs at the Recreation Center feasible by the construction of the gymnasium in 2011, the need for improvements is even greater.

As part of this update, improvements to the Civic Center were addressed and a design was formulated. Extensive discussion amongst the public, sports groups, the study committee and the Parks and Recreation Board took place. A grant application was submitted to the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to help fund the Civic Center Improvement Project. Individuals and Sports Groups support this project and have offered to provide in-kind and monetary donations. The project is far reaching and extensive but complete.

The Township's Comprehensive Plan serves as the long-range planning tool for Northampton. The Parks and Recreation Plan represents Northampton's commitment to parks and recreation for the Township residents and other users and stakeholders. This update focuses on parks, recreation facilities, programs, services, and operations. It is the Parks and Recreation Board's mission to provide active and passive recreation primarily for all members of the Northampton Township Community.

The Goals noted within the plan are general statements, are meant to set the framework for decisions to be made in terms of the community's desire to improve its quality of life. These

Goals are based on the findings uncovered during the process of developing this document. Goals are stable and long ranging; they are not measurable actions, and may take years to achieve. The goals listed below are the overarching plan goals for the Update to the Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Plan, which are further expounded on in Chapter 7.

- Goal 1: Continue to provide parks, recreation facilities, and programming throughout Northampton Township to meet the needs of residents. (An analysis of each facility was reviewed and concerns noted. Safety, ADA compliance and usability are top priority for all sites.)
- Goal 2: Establish safe and accessible pedestrian and bicycle routes within a PennDOT Smart Transportation Guidelines framework throughout the Township. (Strong public support was evident for enhancing the ability to travel throughout Northampton Township without the use of a motor vehicle.)
- Goal 3: Continue to manage Northampton Township's parks and recreation system in a professional manner that conveys the greatest possible benefit to the public. (With the heavy amount of usage that the Township facilities receive, it is important that policies pertaining to all aspects of use be developed.)
- Goal 4: Continue to invest in parks, recreation, and their associated facilities to sustain and enhance the quality of life in Northampton Township. (The number of residents that utilize the Township facilities either through Township programs or sports organizations is great. Without continued funding from the Township the quality of the facilities and programs would diminish and the residents would be deprived of the quality of life they have come to know and enjoy.)

Recommendations and the action plan for Northampton Township to consider over the next five to ten years and beyond are outlined in Chapter 8. The recommendations and plan of action presented in this plan are based upon an investigative and educational process, which identified recreation initiatives, and opportunities that are important to Northampton Township. It is understood that before any action is implemented it should be further investigated to reflect changing circumstances. The plan is intended to be reviewed on a regular basis so that goals are kept in the forefront and objectives measured.

Furthermore, not everything can or should be done at once. Nothing listed within the action plan is a requirement. The recommendations can be viewed as a road map for the Township to consider and consult on the path to achieving its goals. The Township can follow the map at its

own pace determining where to follow the path exactly and where to take detours to seize opportunities or meet emerging needs.

The actions recommended should be viewed like the pieces of a puzzle rather than a list of things to do. Just as a puzzle is completed by piecing together many parts, Northampton Township will achieve community goals by undertaking parts of the Action Plan simultaneously. The action plan provides a basis for additional planning necessary for projects such as parks improvement, and other capital purchases and projects. The plan is intended to be a flexible, living document that may be used as a tool to assist the Township as it analyzes future options and makes decisions regarding Parks and Recreation.

As many accomplishments were achieved after the adoption of the 1999 Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Plan, it is believed that many more will be achieved as a result of this update. By adoption of this plan, the Township will reinforce their commitment to the community by providing parks, recreation opportunities, and open space.

## INTRODUCTION

The Northampton Township Department of Parks and Recreation is recognized for providing a wide variety of recreation program opportunities to all Township residents and contributes significantly to the quality of life in Northampton Township and the surrounding area. The Township is a leader in Pennsylvania in municipal recreation with higher participation rates and revenues than comparable municipalities elsewhere. The hallmark of Northampton's award-winning programs is quality, innovation, and its noted staff and leadership.

This plan represents Northampton's commitment to parks and recreation in response to the expressed opinions of Township residents and other users and stakeholders. The Township needs to explore a full range of opportunities to meet the needs of the community into the future.

### **Purposes of the Parks and Recreation Plan**

This **Parks and Recreation Plan** is now part of the Township's **Comprehensive Plan**, which was last adopted in 1999. The **Comprehensive Plan** serves as the long-range planning tool for Northampton and is to be used to guide its development policies. The **Comprehensive Plan** meets the guidelines of the *Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code* and addresses: community objectives, land use, housing, circulation, facilities, and implementation strategies. The plan includes several parts: the **Comprehensive Plan 1999 Update**, the **Natural Resource Inventory**, the **2010 Open Space Plan**, and this document, the **Parks and Recreation Plan**. Each is presented as a separate document but together make up the **Northampton Township Comprehensive Plan**.

### Purpose for Update to the Parks and Recreation Plan

In accordance with the *Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code*, Article III, Section 301(c), the municipal comprehensive plan (or each individual portion of the municipal comprehensive plan) is required to be reviewed for consistency with the County comprehensive plan every ten years. The Northampton Township Comprehensive Recreation, Park and Open Space Plan was formulated to consider the community needs over a 10-year horizon. As it has been fourteen years since that plan was adopted, some of the information is now out of date and may not be in total alignment with current community needs and priorities, with the more recent 2011 Bucks County Comprehensive Plan, the 2010 Northampton Township Open Space Plan, and other more recent planning documents. The review of the 1999 Recreation, Park and Open Space Plan finds that there are goals still relevant and not yet achieved. These goals along with the action plan are identified once again. In addition, it is anticipated that the population of Northampton Township will grow by approximately 12% over the next 30 years. While not an astonishing rate of growth, the increase in population will still create a demand on parks, recreation facilities, open space, greenways, and programming. It is important to bring this portion of the Comprehensive Plan in line with current and future user needs, demographics, planning requirements, recreation standards, and community objectives, and to provide guidance for the community over the next ten to fifteen years.

### 1999 Recreation, Park and Open Space Plan

In addition to the parks and recreation components included here, the 1999 plan also included the Open Space component, which is now broken out into its own section of the Comprehensive Plan. This update to the Parks and Recreation Plan is arranged in much the same way as the original **Recreation, Park and Open Space Plan** and has the same purposes and intent as that

original plan, but is updated based on current data and community trends and needs. The original 1999 plan was instrumental in the implementation of many important parks and recreation improvements throughout Northampton Township, including the planning, design, and construction of Municipal Park on the old Naval Air Warfare Center (NAWC) property on Hatboro Road, as well as the Senior Center and improvements to the Northampton Township Recreation Center. Many parts of the 1999 plan remain relevant to current situations within the Township, and those portions have been preserved within the updated document. For example, as part of the preparation of the 1999 **Recreation, Park and Open Space Plan**, an extensive Community Recreation Survey was conducted through the U.S. Postal Service. In the fourteen years since the implementation of the 1999 plan it was determined through public meetings, key person interviews and much discussion with the study committee and Parks and Recreation Board that many of the findings of that survey remain relevant:

- Most of the respondents expressed the opinion that open space is important. Most people want to see open space used for a mix of resource protection and recreational use as opposed to only conservation or only recreation.
- The most popular park is the Northampton Township Recreation Complex. Most respondents reported never using Township parks. This finding makes sense when one looks at the facilities that respondents most want to see developed: walking paths, bike paths, trees and shade, comfort facilities, and picnic pavilions. The majority of the respondents reported using Tyler State Park and Churchville Nature Center.
- Most people would like to see a few parks developed in sections of the Township as opposed to large centralized parks. Location of parks seems to be important. Convenience is important in commuter communities, especially for families making many trips for youth activities.
- Indoor facilities are of most importance to families with children. The indoor facilities of most interest to the respondents were the fitness facilities, indoor track, and family aquatics centers.
- While the respondents stated that the level of service was about right for children and youth, working adults emerged at the top of the list for groups not getting enough service.
- The most preferred leisure activities include socializing with family and friends, enjoying nature and fitness. Activities that would interest people include special events and self-improvement programs.

### Planning Purposes

The **Parks and Recreation Plan** focuses on parks, recreation facilities, programs, services, and operations. The plan should be viewed as a departure point rather than an end product. Its purpose is to guide actions and decision-making toward providing effective public service. The plan may help Northampton Township to acquire funding from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Bucks County, Federal grant programs, and foundations.

Once adopted by the Township, this plan can serve a planning function. The Pennsylvania Municipalities Code provides planning requirements that can be adopted by municipalities. The MPC stipulates that planning documents and ordinances must be adopted by the municipality to provide a defensible basis for sound decision-making regarding land use. MPC Section 503(11) provides municipalities the authority to require a developer to dedicate public land for park and recreation purposes. In order to require dedication of open space as a condition of final approval, the municipality must first meet these general conditions:

- The governing body must have adopted a recreation plan that defines principles and standards for determining developer obligations.
- The recreation plan should provide direction to ensure that the amount and location of land or fees bear a reasonable relationship to residents of the proposed development.
- The municipality should adopt a Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance that reflects the recreation plan's principles and standards and includes definite standards to determine the open space or fee requirements.

### Advisory Purposes

This plan is advisory only and is intended to serve as a planning tool and reference to the governing body. This plan can serve as a reference document for overall Township planning and management with aspect to parks and recreation. The recommendations of this plan are based upon an investigative and educational process to identify recreation initiatives and opportunities that are important to Northampton Township. The plan is intended to be a living document to assist the Township as it makes future decisions about parks, recreation, financing, management, open space preservation, and related planning efforts. The plan should be reviewed on a regular basis. Through this review, accomplishments, needs, and emerging opportunities should be determined. Actions should be adapted to changing circumstances in the Township's pursuit of the goals identified.

### **The Planning Process**

The Northampton Township Parks and Recreation Plan was completed in accordance with the guidelines established by the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and the needs of the community. In addition to being rooted in the public participation process, the following key tasks were each addressed during the planning process:

- Review and assess existing plans and conditions
- Solicit and compile public input
- Review and assess best practices and recommend how they can be applied to Northampton Township
- Identify opportunities for ensuring highest and best use of parks and open space within the Township
- Assess needs for additional recreation programs, facilities, and/or improvements
- Prepare recommendations based on needs assessment
- Prepare a site drawing of the Recreation Complex
- Prioritize recommendations
- Create a timeline and capital budget for implementing plan recommendations
- Create the final document

## Public Participation

The public participation process included four components: a Study Committee, Key Person Interviews, Public Meetings, and two Community Visioning Meetings. This process provided valuable information and feedback from community members and members of groups, which regularly utilize recreation facilities. Feedback was gathered in a number of settings over a period of time in order to ensure accuracy, to ensure that as many people as possible could be heard, and to ensure that results would not be skewed in favor of one or two individual issues.



## Related Planning Documents

It is the intent of the Northampton Township Park and Recreation Plan to either incorporate or complement information from related previous and ongoing regional, county, state, and municipal planning documents, including, but not exclusive to the following:

### *The Northampton Township Comprehensive Plan (1999 Update)*

The introduction to the Northampton Township Comprehensive Plan describes it as the “master plan of the municipality which guides its development policies and serves as a long range planning tool for the Township. The Comprehensive Plan should serve as the guide for the Township’s Zoning Ordinance, Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance, and Official Map.” In addition to meeting the PA Municipalities Planning Code requirements that the Comprehensive plan provide for land use, housing, circulation, community facilities plans, interrelationships, short-and long-range planning, and other standard elements, the Northampton Township Comprehensive Plan also deals with environmental resources, historic resources, agriculture, and commercial and industrial areas.

Northampton Township has had a comprehensive planning program for fifty years. The first comprehensive plan was developed in 1963 and revised in 1976. In 1989, the Township adopted a second comprehensive plan which later included a Natural Resources Inventory adopted in 1991, and a Park and Recreation Plan adopted in 1993. The Comprehensive Plan now consists of the 1999 Comprehensive Plan Update, the 1991 Natural Resources Inventory, the 2010 Open Space Plan, and now this Parks and Recreation Plan update.

### *The Northampton Township Natural Resources Inventory (1991)*

The Natural Resources Inventory provides an inventory of significant environmental and historic resources in the Township. These resources are mapped and assessed as to their environmental importance. Composite mapping was developed to determine land suitable for development and environmentally sensitive lands. These two maps were analyzed to provide a “composite suitability for development” map. This map delineates areas “least suitable” for development in the Township. Acquisition of these areas for parkland can play a vital role in their protection while providing opportunities for enjoyment of the natural environment.

### *The Northampton Township Open Space Plan (2010)*

The Open Space Plan is intended to be a guide for Township decisions regarding agricultural preservation, natural resource protection, and recreational land acquisition. The plan contains goals and objectives for the preservation, protection, and acquisition of land, an inventory of protected lands and vulnerable resources, indicates potential linkages, analyzes resources, discusses tools and techniques at the Township's disposal, and gives an overview of financing opportunities for the Township. Finally, an action plan is provided indicating priorities for each of the recommendations and goals provided within the plan. The goals and objectives indicated in this planning document provide a roadmap for the preservation, protection, and acquisition of open space land within Northampton Township going forward.

### *Northampton Township Municipal Park Masterplan (December 1999)*

This is the masterplan for approximately 125 acres of land transferred to Northampton Township after the close of the Naval Air and Warfare Center in Warminster, which was transformed into what is now known as Municipal Park. The design within the document was used as the basis for the park layout; this document was used for planning, as an operations and maintenance plan, and to aid in obtaining funding for the park.



### *Pennsylvania Outdoors: The Keystone for Healthy Living: 2009-2013 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan*

This plan establishes statewide goals, recommendations, and action steps for parks and recreation based upon extensive citizen participation and a study of recreation needs throughout the Commonwealth. Following are the overarching goals established as part of this Statewide Plan; more detailed recommendations and action steps, as well as the complete Recreation Plan and other supporting documentation can be viewed at <http://www.paoutdoorrecplan.com/>

- Goal 1: Strengthen connections between outdoor recreation, healthy lifestyles, and economic benefits in communities.
- Goal 2: Reconnect people to the outdoors and develop a stewardship ethic through outdoor recreation opportunities and experiences.
- Goal 3: Develop a Statewide land and water trail network to facilitate recreation, transportation, and healthy lifestyles.
- Goal 4: enhance outdoor recreation through better state agency cooperation.

*Connections: The Regional Plan for a Sustainable Future (2009 and 2010 Updates)*

This is the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission's long-range plan for the Greater Philadelphia Area. Among other things, it is used as the basis for obtaining federal funding for major transportation projections in the region; it is used to evaluate public sewer and water investments, and to identify important large areas for natural resource protection and agricultural preservation. Most importantly, it "serves as a collective vision across municipal and county boundaries for how the region should look in the future." Key plan principles called for include:

- Managing growth and protecting resources.
- Developing livable communities.
- Building an energy-efficient economy.
- Establishing a modern, multimodal transportation system.

*Bucks County Comprehensive Plan (2011)*

The Bucks County Comprehensive Plan "presents a common vision for the future of Bucks County and seeks to coordinate and assist the county's municipalities, agencies and the general public in the planning, development, and management of Bucks County's natural and built environment." A number of guiding principles are put forth in the plan for the purposes of ensuring that the plan is carried out in a manner that is consistent with the overall vision for Bucks County:

- Protect natural, historic, and scenic resources.
- Preserve and expand parks, open space, and agricultural resources.
- Promote energy conservation and efficiency.
- Protect water resources and reduce waste.
- Mitigate hazards to life and property.
- Provide adequate community facilities and services.
- Enhance transportation mobility.
- Promote economic opportunity, housing diversity, and efficient use of land.

*Bucks County Open Space and Greenways Plan (2011)*

The purpose of this plan is to "provide a decision making, implementation, and management tool designed to protect and create linkages between the County's vast natural resources, open space and farmland, recreational facilities, and historic and cultural resources." This includes the proposal of multi-use greenway trails along the main stem of the Neshaminy Greenway, along the Little Neshaminy Creek Greenway, and along Mill, Neshaminy, Core and Dyers Creeks, which comprise the Cross County Greenway. In addition, the plan outlines several overall goals to be followed to meet the purposes of the plan:

- Conserve open space and farmland.
- Enhance the quality of life of residents through the preservation of a diversity of recreation opportunities and park facilities.
- Conserve the County's diverse natural resources.
- Protect historic resources and cultural assets.

### *Bucks County Bicycle Master Plan (2012)*

From the executive summary of the Bucks County Bicycle Master Plan, the purpose of this plan is “to inventory existing conditions, advance opportunities for the improvement and expansion of a broader network of multimodal routes serving existing residential and business areas of the County, enhance the outreach and education of bicycle safety and leverage the existing recreational resources in the communities at large.” Plan recommendations for within Northampton Township include: the establishment of portions of greenway/trail systems along the Neshaminy Creek and along the Little Neshaminy Creek, a cross-county on-road bicycle connection via SR 0532 (Buck Road) which would connect the Delaware River and the D&L Trail/Washington Crossing Historic Park with Montgomery County, and improvements to Sackettsford Road.

### *Bucks County PA Natural Areas Inventory (1999) and Update (2011)*

This document (2011) is often used as the principal source for identifying important ecological resources within Bucks County. It is “intended to be used for allocating open space funds, preparing zoning, subdivision, land development regulations, comprehensive plans, Act 167 and Act 537 planning and management, and reviewing individual site plans.” The 2011 Update generally supersedes the 1999 Inventory. However, several sites identified in the 1999 inventory fall outside of the boundaries of the larger Conservation Landscapes delineated in the 2011 report. Therefore, for the purposes of this plan, both Inventories have been reviewed. One recommendation made by the 2011 inventory is that permanent protection and public access be sought for open land around Churchville Reservoir that is not already part of Churchville County Park.

### *Churchville Nature Preserve Master Plan and Watershed Conservation Plan (2006)*

This plan consists of the Churchville Nature Preserve Master Plan, Churchville Greenway Watershed Conservation Plan, and Strategic Action Plan for the Churchville Nature Preserve, a 650+/- acre Natural Park surrounding the Churchville Reservoir. Churchville Nature Center, located within the preserve, “provides environmentally based programs for visitors and the unique Lenape Indian Village living history exhibit.” The plan indicates that the planning project was initiated by the Bucks County Parks and Recreation Department in order to “assess the conservation aspects of the site and to create a vision for the Preserve and Nature Center into the future.”

### *Churchville to Playwicki Environmental Education, Recreation and Greenway Link Plan (2008)*

Based on recommendations made by the Churchville Nature Preserve Master Plan, the Heritage Conservancy, in partnership with Bucks County, Northampton Township, and Lower Southampton Township, prepared this plan to coordinate efforts in establishing a greenway extending from the Churchville Nature Center along the Mill and Ironworks Creeks and connecting a number of open space areas including Playwicki Park, 130 acres of undeveloped open space (including Bellwood, Pheasant Valley and the Seven Families Tracts protected by the Heritage Conservancy) and Playwicki Farm Park. The purpose of the project is to “bring stakeholders together to develop the Churchville to Playwicki Environmental Education, Recreation and Greenway Plan as a unified approach or strategy to achieving the desired resource conservation, environmental education and recreational objectives.”

### *Bellwood Preserve North Master Site Plan (2011)*

This plan has been prepared based on recommendations from the Churchville to Playwicki Study by the Heritage Conservancy that the Bellwood Preserve property is an integral component of the Churchville to Playwicki Greenway and should serve as a hub for environmental education and passive recreational activities. The plan “outlines how the northern portion of Bellwood preserve can be developed to support leisure and learning activities in a way that is compatible with efforts by Heritage Conservancy to maintain and restore the natural features of the site as part of the Churchville to Playwicki Greenway.”

### *Lower Neshaminy Creek Watershed Conservation Plan (2004)*

The Lower Neshaminy Creek Watershed Conservation Plan is a collaborative effort developed under the Rivers Conservation Plan Program, developed by the PA DCNR with the goal of “conserving and enhancing river resources through preparation and accomplishment of locally initiated plans.” (PA DCNR). Overall plan goals include:

- Protect and improve the water quality to improve recreational opportunities, wildlife habitat, and sources of drinking water.
- Improve stormwater management to reduce flooding, protect stream baseflow, and maintain hydrologic balance.
- Reducing impacts from flooding on economic, historic, and natural resources.
- Identify and protect unique historical and scenic resources.
- Promote the recharge of groundwater resources and protect floodplains, streambanks, wetlands, riparian, natural areas, and areas of biological importance.
- Increase recreational opportunities, link greenways, and promote open space acquisition.
- Educate the public, including builders, municipalities, and residents, about reducing negative impacts from their activities, on floodplains and riparian areas.

### *Little Neshaminy Creek River Conservation Plan (2007)*

This plan is a Rivers Conservation Plan for the Little Neshaminy Creek in the same vein as the Lower Neshaminy Creek Watershed Conservation Plan. Overall goals for this plan include:

- Protect and improve the surface and ground water quality to improve recreational opportunities, wildlife habitat, and sources of drinking water.
- Improve stormwater management to reduce flooding, protect stream base flow, protect stream quality, and maintain hydrologic balance.
- Mitigate impacts from floods.
- Protect cultural resources of the watershed.
- Protect the natural resources of the watershed.
- Maintain and enhance recreational opportunities and the parks and open space resources of the watershed.
- Increase participation in education and conservation activities.
- Encourage sustainable economic development practices.
- Improve watershed-wide plan coordination and integration.
- Improve implementation resources.

## **Overview of the Planning Document**

The Executive Summary in the beginning of the document provides a concise guide to the findings of the plan and course of action proposed. The planning document is organized according to three parts: an assessment of existing parks and recreation (**Chapters 2 - 5**), best management practices (**Chapter 6**) and goals and objectives and recommendations/action plan (**Chapters 7 and 8**).

**Chapters 2 - 5** provide community and demographic background information, information on the public participation process, local government, existing parks, recreation facilities, programs, services, and financing. An inventory and assessment of all resources in these areas is presented.

**Chapter 6** provides recommendations for which best management practices, policies, and strategies should be applied in Northampton Township, and how Green and Sustainable Park principles and ADA Access can be implemented throughout the park system.

**Chapter 7** offers goals and objectives for Northampton Township to consider over the next five years and beyond.

**Chapter 8** provides suggested recommendations and an action plan for those goals and objectives. Not everything can be accomplished in one year or even five years. However, the schedule provides an orderly framework for accomplishing goals. Projects may move up or down on the list depending upon resources available, changing opportunities, or emerging needs. Because the framework is orderly, informed decisions can be made about implementing the actions.

The recommendations and plan of action presented in this plan are based upon an investigative and educational process, which identified recreation initiatives, and opportunities that are important to Northampton Township. It is understood that before any action is implemented it should be further investigated to reflect changing circumstances that affect feasibility and affordability. The plan is intended to be reviewed on a regular basis so that goals are kept in the forefront and objectives are measured.



# COMMUNITY BACKGROUND AND MANAGEMENT

## Background and Location

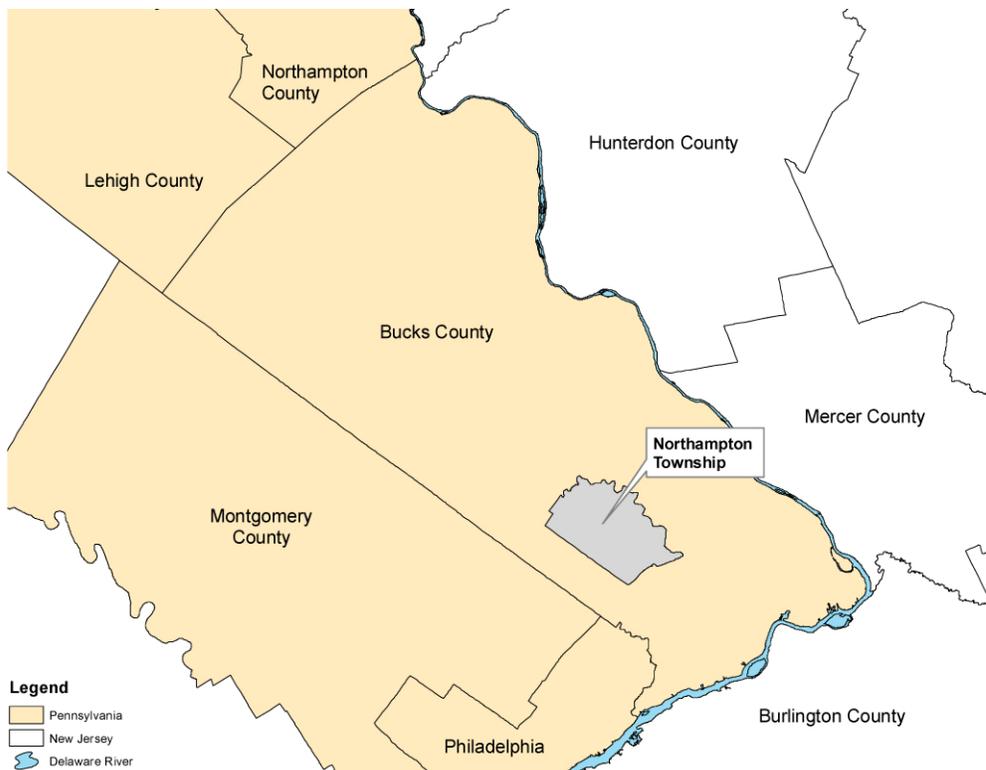
Northampton Township was a rural community in the 1960's and is now nearly fully developed. While farms are still an important part of the landscape, Northampton Township represents a transitional community in Bucks County between Doylestown and Buckingham Townships to the north with their higher percentage of farming land, and Middletown and Bensalem Townships to the south with less land for farming.

Northampton Township is a community of neighborhoods. Citizens identify more with living in Richboro, Holland, Ivyland, or Churchville than they do with the jurisdiction of Northampton Township. The identification with neighborhoods also provides a way of thinking and planning for how best to serve the community.

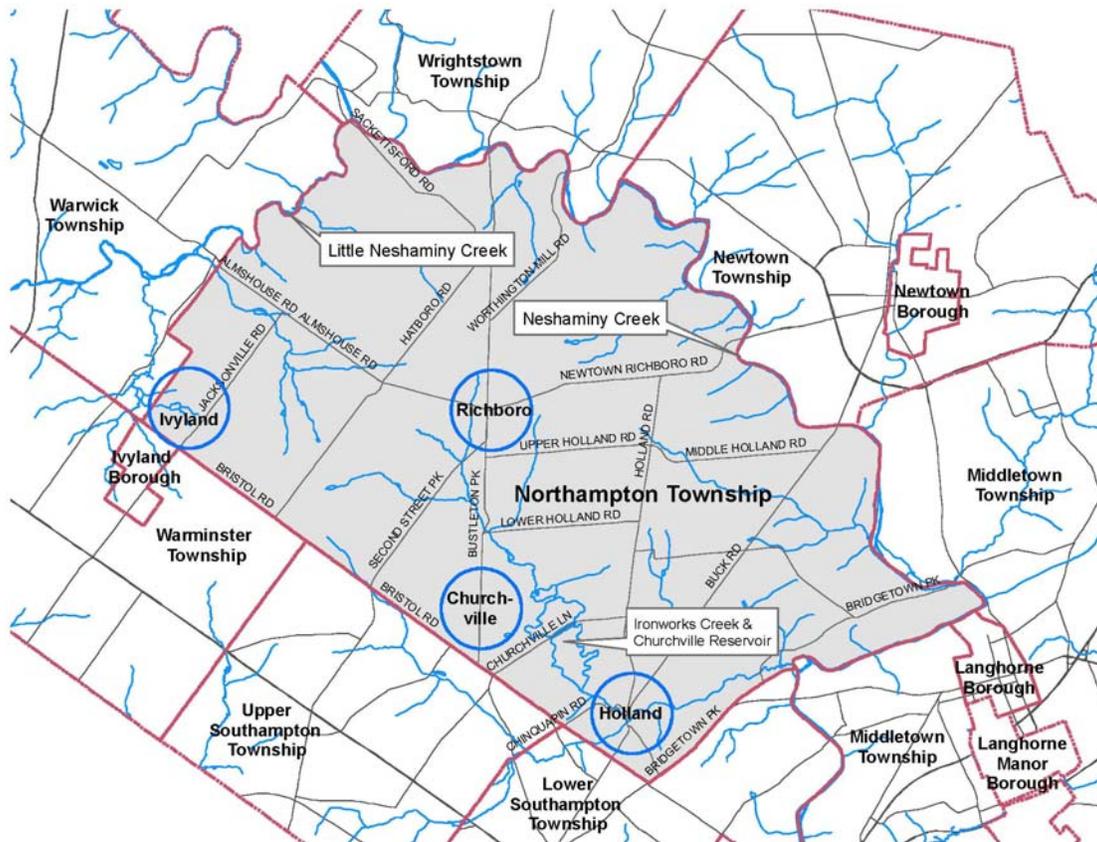
### Location

Northampton Township is located in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, approximately 12 miles northeast of Philadelphia. The Township is geographically defined to the west by the Little Neshaminy Creek and to the north and east by the Neshaminy Creek. It is bordered by Wrightstown, Newtown, Middletown, Warwick, Warminster, Upper Southampton, and Lower Southampton Townships, as well as Ivyland and Langhorne Boroughs. The Community is part of the Council Rock School District. (See **Map 1: Regional Location** and **Map 2: Township Location**)

## Map 1: Regional Location



## Map 2: Township Location



### Size

Northampton Township is one of the largest municipalities in Bucks County with a total area of 26.1 square miles, and a population density of approximately 1,522 people per square mile.

### History

Northampton Township was first settled by immigrants from England who arrived with William Penn. The Township received its name from Northamptonshire, a town outside of London. The municipality was officially organized in 1722, when a petition was filed with the court to form a township. Following the English, Dutch immigrants settled in Northampton Township. The village of Churchville was first settled by the Dutch and was named after the North and South Reformed Church, which was built in 1816.

Along with Churchville there were four other villages established within Northampton Township: Richboro, Addisville, Jacksonville, and Rocksville, which is now known as Holland.

The Township's economy was originally agriculturally based and was supplemented by a livestock industry. The suburbanization of the Township came along with railroads and other improvements to the transportation network, the development of jobs outside of Philadelphia, and post-World War II policies, which encouraged home ownership.

## The Modern Era

While some agricultural activity is still evident, the amount of land devoted to farming has decreased significantly. Northampton lies between areas of less intense land development in Central Bucks County and areas of more intense land development in Lower Bucks County. Traveling through the Township from Lower Bucks to Central Bucks, the character of the Township changes and becomes more dominated by agriculture. It is a transitional community in the Bucks County landscape.

## Government

*Type:* Township of the Second Class

### *Elected Officials*

The Township has a five member Board of Supervisors. As the legislative branch of government, the Supervisors are responsible for policy decisions and approval of the annual budget.

### *Chief Administrative Official*

The Township Manager is responsible for implementing the policies set forth by the Board of Supervisors and managing the daily operations of Northampton Township.

### *Departments*

The Township has departments responsible for specific functional areas. These include:

- Administration
- Code Enforcement
- Finance
- Fire Marshal's Office
- Library
- Parks and Recreation
- Police
- Public Works

### *Appointed Boards and Commissions*

The Board of Supervisors appoints members to volunteer for Township boards and commissions. Each Supervisor serves as a liaison with designated boards and commissions. The boards/commissions include the following:

- Building Code Board of Appeals
- Historical Commission
- Library Board
- Parks and Recreation Board
- Planning Commission
- Telecommunications Advisory Board
- Veteran's Advisory Committee
- Zoning Hearing Board

## Demographic Trends

The socio-economic characteristics of a community have a direct effect on its parks and recreation services. Age, income, education, and family relationships are associated with recreation preferences. By looking at these characteristics, one can begin to forecast the demand that will be placed on parks and recreation facilities and services in the future. The following information is a summary of the demographic trends of Northampton Township based on the 2010 Census.

### Population Trends

Nearly 40,000 people live within Northampton Township, which has experienced continued population growth over the past fifty years. The greatest surge was during the time span from 1950 to 1970 in which the population grew approximately 165 percent. However, since 1990, population growth has slowed significantly, with population growth between the years of 2000-2010 at less than one percent.

As seen in **Table 1**, population growth in Northampton Township from 2000-2010 is less than that of Bucks County as a whole. In previous years, the Township and County have grown at comparable rates. This drop in population growth can be attributed to the relative build-out of the Township and a significant downturn in the housing market and the economy.

**Table 1: Northampton Township, Bucks County,  
And Pennsylvania Population 1990 - 2010**

	1990	2000	2010	% Change 1990-2000	% Change 2000-2010
Northampton Township	35,406	39,384	39,726	11.24%	0.87%
Bucks County	541,224	597,635	625,249	10.40%	4.62%
Pennsylvania	11,881,643	12,281,054	12,702,379	3.4%	3.43%

*Source: U.S. Census, 1990; 2000; 2010.*

**Table 2** shows population projections for the Township and the County to the year 2040.

**Table 2: Northampton Township and Bucks County  
Population Projections 2010-2040**

	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	Absolute Change 2010-2040	% Change 2010-2040
Northampton Township	39,726	40,107	40,870	41,800	42,730	43,665	44,599	4,873	12.3%
Bucks County	625,249	634,879	654,140	673,290	692,440	709,795	727,150	101,901	16.3%

*Source: Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, January 2012*

It is projected that the Township will grow at a rate less than that of Bucks County until the year 2040, but will still see an overall growth in population of approximately 4,873 people in that time frame.

## Age

Age groups in a community are an important tool in the parks and recreation planning process. Interests, abilities, and activities change throughout a lifetime, and affect the recreational and lifestyle needs of the community. It is important to look at the percentage of individuals in a major age grouping in order to know how to target services. **Table 3** shows the population by major age group for not only Northampton Township but for Bucks County and Pennsylvania as well.

**Table 3: Percent of Population by Age Group**

Age Groups	Northampton Township %			Bucks County %			Pennsylvania %
	2000	2010	% Change	2000	2010	% Change	2010
Under 5	5.7	4.4	-1.3	6.4	5.5	-0.9	5.7
5-19	24.7	22.2	-2.5	21.4	19.8	-1.6	19.2
20-44	31.5	24.3	-7.2	35.3	29.3	-6	31.5
45-64	28.1	34.6	+6.5	24.3	30.8	+6.5	28.1
65+	10.0	14.6	+4.6	12.4	14.6	0.0	15.6
Median Age	38.9	44.4	+5.5	37.7	42.0	+4.3	40.1

*Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census 2010 Census*

As seen in **Table 3**, Northampton's largest population group is between the ages of 45-64 with over 34 percent of the population falling within this cohort, having increased 6.5 percentage points since 2000. Similar growth is seen in the 65 and older age group where the increase was 4.6 percentage points. The age groups under 44 all saw decreases from 2000 to 2010. The largest decrease was seen in the 20-44 year old age cohort which declined by 7.2 percentage points, from 31.5 percent to only 24.3 percent. This trend is exemplary of an aging community, as is the increase in the median age from 38.9 to 44.4 years. There is a significant need to plan for services to address this trend.

However, it should be noted that this trend is not isolated to Northampton Township. **Table 3** also details that the changes for all cohorts from 2000 to 2010 within Bucks County is similar – decreases in all groups under age 44 and increases most groups over age 45. Furthermore, the County saw an increase in the median age from 37.7 to 42. This is another indication of the need for age appropriate planning of services not only for the Township but for the surrounding areas of Bucks County as well.

## Population Target Groups

**Table 4** below provides a look at the raw numbers for a more specific breakdown of age groups. This can be helpful in planning specific recreational services. For example, another playground may be needed for children but based on the age groupings below and an assessment of existing facilities, it could be determined that a rock climbing wall for teens may be more appropriate versus an additional tot lot.

**Table 4: Northampton Township 2010 Population**

**Age Group Raw Numbers**

Age Group	Northampton Township	% of Total
Under 5	1,748	4.4
5-14	5,631	14.2
15-19	3,177	8.0
20-34	4,779	12.0
35-54	12,464	31.4
55-64	6,136	15.4
65-84	4,961	12.5
85 Years +	830	2.1

*Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census 2010 Census*

**Table 4** shows that the family-aged cohort, ages 35-54, makes up the largest number of persons in the Township by a significant margin. Additionally, with 5,631 persons aged 5-14, it is clear that family-oriented recreation should be a priority. However, with the aging trend as seen in **Table 3** and with nearly 12,000 people over 55, the Township should also focus on planning recreation for seniors.

Family Structure

Northampton Township consists primarily of family households, which make up 81.4% of total households. Husband and wife households consist of 71.9% of total households. Male head-of households make up 2.5% of households and female head-of households make up 7.0% of households. Non-family households make up 18.6 % of households with 16.2% of people living alone. The average family size is 3.20 people and the average household size is 2.84 people.

It should be noted that 37.5% of households in the Township have children under 18 and 28.5 % of households have individuals over 65 years of age. Again, these numbers are indicative of a Township that has large numbers of young families, and a steadily aging population.

Income

As seen in **Table 5** below, the household, family, and per-capita income of Northampton Township is greater than that of Bucks County or the State. However the percent increase from 2000-2010 is similar, with the Township having a slightly larger percentage of growth.

The percentage of individuals living in poverty in Northampton is significantly lower than that in the State and lower than that in Bucks County.

**Table 5: Median Per Capita Income 2010**

Area	Household	% Change 2000-2010	Family	Per-Capita	% Individuals in Poverty
Pennsylvania	\$50,398	25.7	\$63,364	\$27,049	12.4%
Bucks County	\$74,828	25.3	\$90,274	\$35,687	4.9
Northampton Township	\$105,148	27.2	\$116,135	\$43,253	2.3

*Source: United States Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2006-2010*

Education

Northampton Township is a highly educated community. **Table 6** provides the information related to educational attainment of those aged 25 and older. Bachelor’s degrees are held by 28.9% of residents 25 years or older, compared with 21.2% of people in Bucks County and 16.3% of people at the State level. Advanced or professional degrees are held by 18.3% of people in the Township aged 25 years or older. Overall, over 71% of those 25 years and older have at least a high school diploma.

**Table 6: Educational Attainment of People**

**25 Years and Older in 2010**

	High School Graduate + %	Bachelor's Degree %	Advanced or Professional Degree %
Pennsylvania	37.8	16.3	10.1
Bucks County	31.6	21.2	13.4
Northampton Township	24.2	28.9	18.3

*Source: United States Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2006-2010*

Race

Northampton is a primarily Caucasian community, with nearly 95 percent of the population identifying to the Census as White. People of Asian heritage make up 3.5 percent of the population, and people of Latino heritage make up 1.5 percent of the population. Persons of African Americans and American Indians heritage are cumulatively less than 1 percent of the population, with 0.6 percent and 0.1 percent respectively. **Table 7** shows the Racial Composition for the Township, County, and State. These numbers indicate an increasing rate of cultural diversity in the Northampton Township population.

**Table 7: Racial Composition by Percentage of Population**

	Northampton Township		Bucks County		Pennsylvania	
	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010
White	97.0	94.9	92.5	89.2	85.4	81.9
African American	0.4	0.6	3.3	3.6	10.0	10.8
Latino - any race	0.8	1.5	2.3	4.3	3.2	5.7
American Indian	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2
Asian	1.8	3.5	2.3	3.8	1.8	2.7

*Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census 2010 Census*

People with Special Needs

**Table 8** outlines the number and percentage of the population with a special need or disability. The Americans with Disabilities Act defines a disability as “a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities.” As seen from **Table 8**, 3,418 persons in the Township have a disability. This is less of a percentage (8.6%) of the entire population than when compared to the County (12.9%) or the State (10.0%). However, the Americans with Disabilities Act does require that recreational and other community activities and facilities are equally accessible to this population. Adequate planning for appropriate access and inclusion of this population should be ensured, especially in light of the continual aging and growth of the community as stated previously.

**Table 8: Disability Status of Civilian  
Non-Institutionalized Population in 2010**

	Northampton Township		Bucks County	Pennsylvania
	Number	Percent*	Percent	Percent*
Ages 5-17	236	2.9%	5.0%	7.2%
Ages 18-64	1,519	6.2%	7.5%	10.6%
Ages 65+	1,663	30.5%	32.0%	35.6%
Total*	3,418	8.6%	12.9%	10.0%

\*Percentage of the total population

*Source: 2009-2011 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates*

Housing

Housing, specifically owner-occupied housing, is generally an indicator of the stability and wealth of a community. The percentage of owner-occupied housing is significantly higher in Northampton Township than in either Bucks County or the State, as is the percentage of detached single-family homes, the median house value, and the median gross rent. Renter occupied housing is only 8.2% of the total housing stock in Northampton Township as compared with 22.9% within Bucks County and 30.4% in all of Pennsylvania. **Table 9** below provides information on housing data. This data is indicative of a relatively stable community.

**Table 9: Housing Information 2010**

	Northampton Township	Bucks County	Pennsylvania
Owner Occupied %	91.8	77.1	69.6
Renter Occupied %	8.2	22.9	30.4
Detached single family homes %	79.0	63.7	57.0
Median House Value	\$404,700	\$315,100	\$165,200
Median Gross Rent	\$1,249	\$1,078	\$783

*Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census 2010 Census and 2009-2011 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates*

## **Parks and Recreation Department Management**

Good management is the foundation of a high-quality parks and recreation system. The public participation process for this plan including the visioning meetings and the key interviews attests to the fact that the citizens have a high public regard for Northampton's parks and recreation system. The positive light in which the public perceives the Parks and Recreation Department is a result of the management team, which is highly responsive to the citizens.

There is an overall sense that the Department has an open working relationship with other providers in the community. The public participation process found that people in the community have high regard for the department, finding the staff most helpful and responsive.

The Parks and Recreation Board, appointed by the Board of Supervisors, is an active group of seven citizens who set policy, provide public opinion, serve as a sounding board, and support Township recreation initiatives. This Board is an integral piece of the management team setting policies for facility use and providing guidance when needed for management issues that may arise.

### Personnel

#### *Administration*

Management is primarily the responsibility of the Director of Parks and Recreation. The Director oversees and supervises all parks and recreation operations including daily operation of recreation facilities, programming, facility scheduling, computer software, and financial management. The Director also serves as the direct supervisor to the Senior Center Manager.

Since the addition to the Recreation Center, the construction of the Municipal Park, and implementation of the agreements with the Council Rock School District and the Northampton Valley Country Club an additional full time maintenance crew member was hired and four part time positions were made full time. The position of a full time Assistant Director was filled in 1999. The position was filled for 8 years and was highly effective but since the position was vacated in 2008 during the recession, it has not been refilled.

Current full time positions include the Director, Secretary, Program Manager, Program Supervisor, Recreation Specialist, Special Event Coordinator, Parks Foreman, and two Parks Maintenance Laborers.

The full-time secretary, a part time Program Coordinator, and two part-time clerks assist with customer service, computer data input and reporting, coordination of the discounted ticket sales program, accounts receivable and payable, purchasing, and other administrative tasks. The Program Coordinator also serves as pool manager during the summer season. The number of hours allocated to part time employees varies depending on their responsibilities.

#### *Programs and Services*

There are four full time employees assigned as program staff: a program manager, program supervisor, recreation specialist, and a special event coordinator. The program manager is responsible for the daily operation of the recreation center, planning, and implementing programs and camps. The program supervisor is responsible for the upkeep of the Recreation Center, the morning preschool programs, planning and implementing various programs, and assists the program manager with the development of the recreation newsletter. The recreation specialist is responsible for data input, the schedule of the recreation center and Maureen M. Welch gymnasium and the daily operation of the recreation center reception desk. The special event coordinator plans and implements all special events including the Summer Series, coordinates the involvement and maintenance of the Garden of Remembrance, the

sponsorship program, assists the camp staff with special events, and manages volunteers for all aspects of the recreation department.

Year round part time regular office staff includes three part time employees who assist with customer service, computer data input and reporting, coordination of the discounted ticket sales program, accounts receivable and payable, and purchasing. Of these three, one also serves as pool manager during the summer season. All employees, part and full time, deal directly with the public in a customer service capacity.

Part-time seasonal staff number over 135. The program manager, the program supervisor, and pool manager are responsible for selection of the part-time seasonal staff required for the programs. Seasonal staff includes summer employees such as camp counselors, lifeguards and other pool staff, and parks maintenance crew. Over 100 of these employees are hired to facilitate the camp programs.

Employing part-time summer employees in addition to the hiring of over part time instructors, contracted program instructors, and facility attendants year round involves a huge workload for the department. Hiring is an on-going function due to the nature of recreation programming and the four programming seasons offered by the Township. Interviewing, performing background checks and the collection of paperwork is performed by the parks and recreation staff. The Township Finance Department's staff assists with processing documents and payment to instructors and employees.

### *Parks*

Three full-time and currently five seasonal parks maintenance crew members are funded through Parks and Recreation. This includes a foreman who reports to the Director of Parks and Recreation and coordinates special projects with the Public Works Director. For summer maintenance, the Parks and Recreation Department hires five seasonal crew members who work a different number of hours based on the needs of the facilities and programs. The Director of Public Works assigns work crews as needed to assist the parks maintenance crew with special projects. Materials fees are paid for through the Parks and Recreation budget but the labor costs are absorbed through the Public Works budget.

### Employee Development and Training

The Department of Parks and Recreation has a line item budget reserved for annual meetings and conferences. If a special opportunity arises, the Township is flexible in accommodating the request for training. While training opportunities are available, there is no formal employee development program.

The Director has built up a large network of contacts that provides the Township with valuable resources in the form of maximum public service, cost savings, revenue sources, and sound investment advice for parks and recreation projects. This networking needs to continue.

Northampton is very successful in having seasonal staff return year after year. Evaluations are performed each year so only those deserving are offered continued employment. Despite the fact that many staff do return, annual training must take place so that all employees are privy to township policies and expectations. Training of seasonal staff is extremely important as we are faced with societal issues such as child custody, litigious clients, high customer demands, accountability, and security.

### Partnerships

Partnerships with other organizations in the community enhance public service at reduced costs. The Department has a strong history of collaboration, which is evident with the agreement with the Northampton Valley Country Club to use the swim club, the partnership created with the Northampton Business Professional Association to create and maintain the Garden of Remembrance, the Council

Rock School District for use of the Maureen M. Welch Elementary School, and others. These partnerships need to continue so that the Township is able to maintain its level of service that the community has learned to receive.

### Maintenance

Maintenance is the single largest recurring expenditure in any parks and recreation operation. Over the lifetime of a park, about 75 percent of its cost is in maintenance while only about 25 percent is in acquisition, development, design, and construction.

Generally, the parks have an attractive and clean appearance. However, basic level maintenance such as mowing and trimming is performed by the Township. Few areas are treated for weeds and no regular program for athletic field maintenance that deals with turf management such as soil testing, aeration, watering, seeding, fertilizing, and so on exists. To meet the needs of the community sports groups, both Township and school district owned athletic fields are used. Maintenance is performed by three different organizations: Northampton Township, Council Rock School District, and the sports groups, leading to some confusion among the public about who is responsible for what. Conditions vary by location. Where needed, fields should be evaluated and a program devised between the Township and sports groups to enhance the condition and continuity of the facilities.

Northampton's future actions in site improvements and facility rehabilitation, will add expense to the capital fund as well as the operating budget as ongoing maintenance demands increase. Because present recreation facilities are in need of repair, the renovations envisioned over the next five years will require substantially more maintenance resources. To plan for these changes, the Department should develop a maintenance impact statement for all capital improvements to insure that adequate resources are allocated to take care of the new responsibility. A maintenance impact statement provides an estimate of costs associated with new or expanded parks and recreation facilities including labor, materials, supplies, equipment, utilities, and other items.

Maintenance operations encompass the full range of maintenance activities including grass mowing, athletic field preparation, fertilization, tree maintenance, trash removal, snow removal, playground inspections and repairs, improvements and repairs to recreational facilities. While the Parks and Recreation budget supports a full-time three member crew and seasonal help, materials, and supplies, the Public Works budget supports labor for many special labor projects as well as outdoor maintenance at the Senior Center. These labor costs are not shown as a line item expense for park maintenance. In turn, Parks and Recreation maintenance crew perform indoor maintenance for the Senior Center, which is not expensed to the Senior Center budget and is absorbed in the Parks Salary line item.

At the present time, maintenance focuses on the care of developed recreation facilities. As the Township strives to protect natural resources, maintenance functions will need to expand to include natural resource protection as well.

## **The Public Participation Process**

This planning project included an integral four-pronged public participation process that included a Study Committee, Key Person Interviews, Community Visioning meetings, and a number of Public Meetings.

### Study Committee

The purpose of the Study Committee is to provide a wide range of community perspective, and to represent the interests of Northampton Township community members and parks and recreation facility and program users. The Study Committee worked in an advisory capacity throughout the planning process. Their role was to contribute guidance, voice ideas and concerns, challenge thinking, provide feedback, review the plan at various stages of completion, participate in public discussions about the plan, and identify community contacts to include in the process.

Committee members represented diverse community interests including members of the Parks and Recreation Board including the Chairman, a Planning Commission member, an adjoining municipal Parks and Recreation Director, a member of the Miracle League Board of Directors, a Past member of the Board of Directors for the community football program, a past member of the Board of Directors for the community lacrosse program, a past member of the Board of Directors for community Little League Baseball, a Council Rock School District employee in charge of scheduling facility use, two Friends of the Park Co-Founders, a Landscape Architecture student and a professional Landscape Architect, a Program Instructor, youth sports coaches, and citizens at large. Each person within the study committee brings multiple areas of experience and expertise to the table. The Study Committee met monthly throughout the planning process.

### Key Person Interviews

Interviews were conducted on January 10, 2013 with individuals from the following eleven organizations:

- Council Rock Basketball Association (CRBA)
- Council Rock Holland Baseball Association (CRHBA)
- Council Rock Lacrosse Association (CRLA)
- Council Rock Northampton Baseball Association (CRNBA)
- Council Rock United Soccer Association (CRUSA)
- Miracle League of Northampton Township
- Northampton Girls Softball Association (NGSA)
- Northampton Indians Football Association (NIFA)
- Northampton Township Board of Supervisors Members
- Northampton Township Police Department Quality of Life Team
- James E. Kinney Senior Center

Four questions were asked of the individuals from each organization:

1. Do the current parks and recreation facilities meet the organization's needs?
2. How does the organization perceive their relationship with the Township and the Park and Recreation Board?
3. What, if any, recommendations does the organization have for physical plant needs?
4. Does the organization anticipate any program changes or needs?

A summary of responses for each of the four questions asked is shown below:

1. Do the current parks and recreation facilities meet the organization's needs?
  - The Senior Center building is completely out of room and would need to be expanded if significant additional programs were to be added.
  - Council Rock United Soccer – not enough lighted fields.
  - Northampton Indians Football – main field is inadequate due to sharing with baseball.
  - Supervisors – Recreation Center Complex has major traffic concerns, and is in desperate need of bathrooms. Kids age 12-15 need a place to hang out.
2. How does the organization perceive their relationship with the Township and the Park and Recreation Board?
  - All organizations expressed satisfaction with their relationship with the Township and the Park and Rec. Board, most organizations seemed very happy with the Parks and Rec. Director and the responsiveness of the Parks and Rec. Department.
3. What, if any, recommendations does the organization have for physical plant needs?
  - Council Rock Lacrosse Association (CRLA) – outdoor synthetic turf field, rebound wall at Municipal Park, and use of a regulation size field from March 1 to June 15.
  - Senior Center – Need larger advertising budget, website, permanent sign that is better and easier to change, more afternoon member traffic, and intergenerational activities.
  - Police – recommend traffic calming for parks, including signage, pavement markings, and temporary speed bumps. Installation of signage indicating park hours and park and field usage regulations also recommended, as is general cleanup of park usage ordinances. At the Civic Center, the police recommend improving circulation, crosswalks, adding removable speed bumps on tennis road, and barriers to keep cars from parking on grass. At Hatboro Road (Municipal Park) traffic calming is recommended, specifically islands and breaks to slow traffic and surveillance cameras in high usage areas.
  - Council Rock Basketball Association (CRBA) – resurface Civic Center Courts and update equipment, add one more court to Civic Center, improve parking and clean up parking lot near courts at Civic Center. Add lights to courts at Municipal Park. Better salting and plowing at Maureen M. Welch Elementary.
  - Council Rock Northampton Baseball Association (CRNBA) – update ball field lights to modern system in whole park; build indoor facility at Civic Center for indoor hitting/pitching, meeting room, need adequate bathrooms for facility and eliminate port-a-potties. Problems with parking near Recreation Center building and along Tennis Road.

- Council Rock United Soccer Association (CRUSA) –3 more lighted fields, bathrooms at Civic Center 2, storage shed either at Municipal Park or Civic Center. Would like to get a turf field, indoor facility.
- Northampton Indians Football Association (NIFA) – would like own field dedicated to football, improved ADA compliant bathroom facilities. Better signage for parking and alternate parking, parking circulation and turning in-out of parking lot, speeding on Tennis Ave.
- Miracle League – possibly plant more trees, shade improvements, pool, and more indoor space.
- Council Rock Holland Baseball Association (CRHBA) – lights on all fields at Hampton Estates Park, permanent bathrooms at Big Meadow Park, stadium style seating at Hampton Estates Park.

4. Does the organization anticipate any program changes or needs?

- Council Rock Basketball Association (CRBA) – more indoor gym space would allow for expansion for younger kids.
- Northampton Girls Softball Association (NGSA) – would like to do more clinics – indoor space is hard to get, they would love to get more indoor space in the wintertime.
- Miracle League – need more volunteers or paid staff to work the programs.

For complete notes from each of the interviews, please refer to **Appendix A: Key Person Interviews**.

### Community Visioning Meetings

One method for garnering public involvement for the Parks and Recreation Plan was Community Visioning Sessions, two of which were held at the Northampton Township building on November 15, 2012 and February 21, 2013. The attendees were broken into groups, with each person in each group taking turns answering a series of questions:

- Currently, what do you like most about the parks and recreation programs and facilities within Northampton Township?
- Currently, what do you like least about the parks and recreation programs and facilities within Northampton Township?
- What would you want to preserve/maintain about/in the parks and recreation programs and facilities within Northampton Township for the future?
- What would you want to change about/in the parks and recreation programs and facilities within Northampton Township for the future?

Each person’s answer to each question was recorded on a large writing pad. Each person was then given four markers for each question to vote for the responses to each question that they felt they agreed with the most. The top three responses for each question for each group were then read aloud to all of the attendees of the visioning session by a person designated by each group. In the case of a tie for the third place vote getter, two responses would be read. If there were a tie for first or second place, only three responses would be read. For a list of the responses to each question and the number of votes received by each, please refer to **Appendices B and C: Community Visioning Data**. Some responses were received by email or by other means by those who were unable to attend the Visioning Meetings. These are included in **Appendix D: Community Visioning Data**.

### *November 15, 2012 Meeting*

The following paragraphs show the aggregate of the top three (3) responses for each of the visioning groups at the November 15, 2012 Visioning Session.

- Responses to question 1 (Currently, what do you like most about the parks and recreation programs and facilities within Northampton Township?) that received the most votes include (in no particular order): the Municipal Park Plan, the Recreation Center, a great Parks & Rec Director, the Summer Camps, the variety of programs available, the playground at Municipal Park, and the diversity of facilities.
- Responses to question 2 (Currently, what do you like least about the parks and recreation programs and facilities within Northampton Township?) that received the most votes include (in no particular order): not enough lighted facilities, not allowing alcohol at the Senior Center for rental events, the appropriation of fields in regards to user groups, not enough open space/fields for open play, a lack of parking at the Civic Center and a dangerous entrance/exit – all roads within and outside park should be addressed, too many adult programs geared to people who stay at home during the day, and a shortage of permanent bathroom facilities at Northampton Rec Center, Big Meadow, and other Township parks.
- Responses to question 3 (What would you want to preserve/maintain about/in the parks and recreation programs and facilities within Northampton Township for the future?) that received the most votes include (in no particular order): new and cutting edge program offerings, the Senior Center, the Miracle League programs and facilities, maintain all indoor and outdoor facilities that support parks and rec programs, the diversity and variety of programs offered, and at least maintain the number of athletic fields available.
- Responses to question 4 (What would you want to change about/in the parks and recreation programs and facilities within Northampton Township for the future?) that received the most votes include (in no particular order): add a dog park, the configuration and layout of the Civic Center, inclusive playgrounds – handicap/special needs, change parking and traffic patterns at the civic center and add a traffic light, change accessible parks to be inclusive so that all handicapped children can use the playgrounds, and redesign the Civic Center.

### *February 21, 2013 Meeting*

The following paragraphs show the aggregate of the top three (3) responses for each of the visioning groups at the February 21, 2013 Visioning Session.

- Responses to question 1 (Currently, what do you like most about the parks and recreation programs and facilities within Northampton Township?) that received the most votes include (in no particular order): Municipal Park trails; new Municipal Park playgrounds; and partnership with Northampton Valley Country Club – pool programs.
- Responses to question 2 (Currently, what do you like least about the parks and recreation programs and facilities within Northampton Township?) that received the most votes include (in no particular order): customer service regarding non-resident use; lack of connectivity to get to park – pedestrian and non – motorized trails, sidewalks; and lack of ecological restoration and preservation.

- Responses to question 3 (What would you want to preserve/maintain about/in the parks and recreation programs and facilities within Northampton Township for the future?) that received the most votes include (in no particular order): keep open space; keep diversity of programs and facilities; and children's programs.
- Responses to question 4 (What would you want to change about/in the parks and recreation programs and facilities within Northampton Township for the future?) that received the most votes include (in no particular order): bike friendly trails, roadways; rails to trails approval from Township; and more lighted facilities.

### Public Meetings

Two public meetings were held to review the draft plan. In addition to the two meetings the Parks and Recreation Board discussed the progress of the plan, solicited and provided feedback at the regular Parks and Recreation Board monthly meetings. During these meetings, the Sketch Plan of the Civic Center was also reviewed, discussions were held regarding facilities to be located or not located on the Civic Center I and II properties, and what improvements were to take place and during which phases. The Director of Parks and Recreation also took the opportunity to 'shop' the sketch at various stages to the various sports user groups to solicit their feedback regarding the location and layout of the different proposed sport fields.

### 1999 Community Recreation Survey

In 1999 as part of the preparation of the original Recreation, Park, and Open Space Plan, Northampton Township conducted a community-wide survey on recreation, parks, and open space. The Department of Parks and Recreation wanted to have the opinions and ideas of the citizens serve as a foundation for creating the park and recreation system of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. By knowing needs and interests of the general citizenry, the Township would be able to direct its resources for the benefit of the public most effectively. In the fourteen years since the implementation of the 1999 plan, some of the findings of that survey remain relevant:

- Most of the respondents expressed the opinion that open space is important. Most people want to see open space used for a mix of resource protection and recreational use as opposed to only conservation or only recreation.
- The most popular park is the Northampton Township Recreation Complex. Most respondents reported never using Township parks. This finding makes sense when one looks at the facilities that respondents most want to see developed: walking paths, bike paths, trees and shade, comfort facilities and picnic pavilions. The majority of the respondents reported using Tyler State Park and Churchville Nature Center.
- Most people would like to see a few parks developed in sections of the Township as opposed to large centralized parks. Location of parks seems to be important. Convenience is important in commuter communities, especially for families making many trips for youth activities.
- Indoor facilities are of most importance to families with children. The indoor facilities of most interest to the respondents were the fitness facilities, indoor track, and family aquatics centers.
- While the respondents stated that the level of service was about right for children and youth, working adults emerged at the top of the list for groups not getting enough service.
- The most preferred leisure activities include socializing with family and friends, enjoying nature and fitness. Activities that would interest people include special events and self-improvement programs.

## Summary

### Demographics

- Population projections indicate that Northampton Township is anticipated to grow at a rate of 12.3% from 2010-2040, increasing the Township population by approximately 4,873 to a total of 44,599. This is a significantly lower rate of growth than was seen in previous decades, and can be attributed to the relative build-out of the Township and the down-turn in the housing market and the economy. However, adequate recreation facilities and programming should be planned in anticipation of the projected population growth in addition to providing adequate facilities for the current Township population.
- Northampton Township's largest population age group is 45-64 with over 34 percent of the population falling within this cohort. This age group has increased 6.5 percentage points since 2000. Additionally, the 65 and older age group saw an increase of 4.6 percentage points between 2000 and 2010. Age groups under the age of 44 all saw decreases between the years 2000 to 2010, with the largest decrease in the 20-44 age group. The Township's median age increased from 38.9 years to 44.4 years over this 10-year period. This trend is exemplary of an aging community, and there is a significant need to ensure that parks and recreation facilities and services are in line to address this trend.
- Family-aged groups make up a large percentage of persons within the Township as well; with persons aged 35-54 totaling 12,464 or 31.4% of the Township population, and 7,379 persons under the age of 14 in the Township (18.6% of the Township population) it is clear that family-oriented recreation should be a priority. While these population groups are not currently increasing, it is important to ensure that adequate recreation facilities are provided for existing and predicted future populations.
- Approximately 3,418 people in Northampton Township are considered to have a special need or disability. This number can be expected to increase, given the aging population of the Township. Measures should be taken to ensure access, inclusion, ADA compliance, and comfort for residents with special needs to all recreation facilities.

### Parks and Recreation Department Management

- The Department of Parks and Recreation adheres to a strong professional approach to the management of parks and recreation and the delivery of public services. The management team is committed to both the citizens of Northampton Township and the advancement of the field of parks and recreation as an essential public service. The public participation process for this project brought to light that people in the community view the Parks and Recreation Department as responsive, well organized, and collaborative. The challenge for the Parks and Recreation Department is to position itself so that it can continue to deliver the expected level of service in the future, as the demands on the parks and facilities increase and the system ages.
- The Township should ensure that the Parks and Recreation Department is adequately staffed to provide the services required to meet the needs of the community. With the renovations proposed at the Recreation Complex and preventative maintenance that is needed throughout the park system, close attention should be given to the capabilities and needs of the parks maintenance crew. Employee development and training should be a priority to keep the department on the leading edge of recreation and service delivery and maintenance practices. It takes time and discussion to perfect any team.

- The Department of Parks and Recreation operates in a professional manner based upon a philosophy of providing public service that meets and anticipates community needs. The management team has built accountability to the taxpayers by making the best use of every dollar, exploring new opportunities to generate revenue, maximizing human resources, and collaborating with other providers. Parks and Recreation relies heavily on utilizing part time and seasonal staff. Effectively managing these employees can be challenging. In order to continue the success, ways to keep all staff informed and motivated while maintaining the level of service need to be investigated and implemented.

### Public Participation

- One overwhelming consensus item among many who came to the visioning meeting and among many of the Key Person interviewees was the need for a redesign of the Civic Center. Many comments revolved around traffic concerns, including the exit to Newtown Richboro Road, cars parking on the grass, lack of parking areas, cars speeding on Tennis Road, poor circulation, a lack of restroom facilities, and the poor quality of the port-a-potties. Most people commented on the need for a redesign of circulation and parking; the Police recommended crosswalks, removable speed bumps on Tennis Road, and barriers to keep cars from parking on the grass. Signs to clarify parking, park hours, field usage, and other regulations were suggested. Permanent, ADA compliant restrooms were strongly recommended by other user groups. Most athletic user groups requested field improvements, additional fields, and/or lighting for their fields or courts. The Northampton Indians Football Association would like their own field dedicated to football, and the Council Rock Northampton Baseball Association discussed the construction of an indoor facility for hitting/pitching and a meeting room. Many user groups also discussed the need for storage facilities.
- Recommended improvements for other park facilities within the Township include traffic calming measures and better use regulation for all parks, as well as the provision of ADA accessible, permanent bathroom facilities, and accessible playground equipment in other Township parks.

# PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

## Township Parks

The five (5) Northampton Township Parks were visited and inventoried during November 2012 to assess the parks and recreation facilities as part of this planning project. A map of all existing Township Parks and Recreation facilities is found at the end of the chapter.

### Northampton Township Recreation Complex

This 61.8-acre park is located on Newtown-Richboro Road in Richboro. It is made up of what is commonly called Civic Center I and Civic Center II. The Recreation Center is also located at this complex.



*Features:* The Recreation Complex meets the widest range of interests of all the Township park sites. It is centrally located within the Township. Fields are utilized for seasonal use by Council Rock Baseball Association, Council Rock United Soccer Association, Northampton Girls Softball Association, the Northampton Indians Football and Cheerleading Association, and the Northampton Homeowners Softball League. The Recreation Center is active year round housing classes, leagues, summer camps, youth sport storage, and serves as the hub for the Parks and Recreation Department. Multiple athletic fields, batting cages, basketball, tennis courts, and a trail are on-site.

*Issues/  
Constraints*

- Portions of the site do not meet the current ADA regulations. No accessible routes to facilities from parking areas and between facilities and paved viewing areas exist.
- Playground does not provide age segregated play equipment.
- Visual appearance of telephone pole light standards is cluttered. Lights are old, not state-of-the-art, and produce excessive light spill. Parking lot and Tennis Road bisect the park creating vehicular/pedestrian conflicts.

- Placement of athletic fields present safety concerns with minimal field separation from adjacent fields, spectators, parking and roads.
- Use of the vacant home on the park grounds needs to be determined.
- Turning left onto Newtown Richboro Road from the park creates a traffic concern and should be evaluated.
- Basketball courts and tennis courts are in need of re-surfacing.
- Parking area near basketball courts needs to be cleaned up and striped properly to maximize parking use.
- Sharing of field by baseball and football does not provide a quality field for either organization.
- Limited permanent restroom and concession facilities at Civic Center 1. No permanent restroom facilities at Civic Center 2

*Opportunities:*

- Create a picnic area near the wetlands adjacent to Tyler State Park.
- Expand the playground to include tot equipment.
- Provide a trail link to Tyler State Park.
- Enhance the park through landscaping, new commercial standards for lights, signage, and site accessories.
- Improve softball field on Civic Center II to improve usage.
- Improve Traffic/vehicular circulation and parking
- Construct additional basketball court
- Improve tennis courts to enhance play for ages 10 and under
- Construct permanent restroom and concession facilities at Civic Center 2

Hampton Estates Park

This 16.4-acre park is located on St. Leonard Road in Holland.

*Features:* The site meets the needs of youth baseball (Council Rock Holland Baseball Association) with fields and a field house with storage, concessions, and a meeting room.

*Issues/  
Constraints:*

- Single use facility.
- Fields are too close together with no transitional grading areas creating erosion issues.
- No accessible routes and viewing areas.
- Limited spectator-viewing area for western field.
- Layout orientation good for western field but not preferred for other two fields.
- Dugouts are a teen hangout.

- Opportunities:*
- Add green space around concession area.
  - Add complementary facilities such as play equipment or basketball goals in the park.
  - Add landscaping and improve signage to enhance the visual image of the park.

### Big Meadow Park

This 31.9-acre park is located on Stoney Ford Road in Holland.

*Features:* This Park features one soccer field and two youth baseball fields, which are used by the Council Rock Holland Baseball Association and Council Rock United Soccer Association. This large open tract is situated within a natural setting along the Neshaminy Creek. The parking is separate from the recreation area.

- Issues/ Constraints:*
- Within flood plain, under water seasonally in spring.
  - Stream has high velocity
  - Areas of wetlands.
  - No accessible routes or viewing areas.
  - No permanent restroom facilities
  - Use limited to youth sports.
  - Vandalism due to isolation of site.
  - Access from parking area is typically very wet with poor drainage

- Opportunities:*
- Possible trailhead location within Neshaminy Greenway.
  - Nature study with vegetative cover along the stream, wetland, meadows, and floodplain.
  - Add complementary facilities such as play equipment
  - Add signage to enhance the visual image of the park.

### Pheasant Run Park

This 19.5-acre park is located off the intersection of Quail and Chapel Roads in Holland. It is tucked in a neighborhood and hard to find.

*Features:* This Park offers both active and passive recreation opportunities and is adjacent to lands owned by the Churchville Nature Center, Philadelphia Suburban Water Company (Aqua America PA), and Bucks County open space. A softball/multipurpose field and two basketball courts are available for individual use.

- Issues/ Concerns:*
- No accessible routes to facilities.
  - Basketball courts are overgrown with weeds
  - Athletic field needs improvement attention.

- Opportunities:*
- Park with limited or no organized sports scheduled.
  - Provide a trail connection to the Churchville Nature Center trail system.
  - Desirable place for a playground.

### Municipal Park

The main entrance to this 90+-acre Park is located on Hatboro Road in Churchville. Access to the park can be gained through Maureen M. Welch Elementary School parking lot off New Road. This is the newest park in the park system. A unique feature in this park is the Miracle League ball field and adjoining multi-purpose turf field.



*Features:* This community park offers a good mix of active and passive recreation opportunities. The Municipal Park meets a wider range of interests than all the Township parks. Facilities are provided for young children, youth, young adults, adults, and seniors. A playground, multiple athletic fields, basketball courts, hockey rink, sand volleyball courts, restrooms /concessions, and a trail system are on-site. A remembrance garden as well as an amphitheater is situated along the trail within the park. Two covered picnic pavilions and an additional picnic area are available for permitted use.

Adjacent to the park is the Maureen M. Welch Elementary School. Through a facility use agreement, the Township Parks and Recreation Department schedules use of the gymnasium in the evenings, weekends, and summer break.

- Issues/  
Concerns:*
- Playground is highly utilized year round and is rather small.
  - None of the existing fields or courts are lighted.
  - Vandalism to the restrooms and graffiti has been reported.
  - Wetzel Pavilion and Miracle League field areas are extremely windy.
  - Maintenance of Remembrance Garden is intense.
  - Open areas invite dog owners to exercise dogs off leash.

- Tree tending and maintenance of open space areas laborious.
- Opportunities:*
- Expand playground
  - Lease or staff playground concession to generate revenue and provide a convenience service.
  - Possibility for a wetland education area.

### 39 Acres

Situated across from the Municipal Park on Hatboro Road, this parkland was acquired through the Department of Interior Lands to Parks program. Approximately 39 acres is available to use as a park.

*Features:* The land is relatively flat and is primarily mown due to its past agricultural use. Its current state is a passive area with a circular mown trail.

- Issues/  
Concerns:*
- The parking lot is overgrown.
  - Little is provided for recreation use as the path is mowed.
  - Drainage issues affecting the neighboring golf course have been fixed but damage to the landscaping used in the rain garden by deer is evident.

- Opportunities:*
- Consider construction of athletic fields on remaining acreage.

**TABLE 10: PARK INVENTORY**

Parks	Acreage	Park Type	Neighborhood	Baseball Fields		Softball Fields	Football Fields	Soccer Fields	Tennis Courts	Basketball Courts	Field Hockey	Special Use
				60'	90'							
Northampton Township Recreation Complex	61.8	Athletic Complex	Richboro	2	2	2	1†	4 & 4 sml	4	2	-	-
Hampton Estates Park	16.4	Special Purpose	Holland	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Big Meadow Park	31.9	Special Purpose	Holland	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Pheasant Run Park	19.5	Neighborhood	Churchville	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-
Municipal Park	90	Community	Churchville	2	-	2	-	3	-	4	-	2
39-Acre Park (Hatboro Road)	40.8	Community	Ivyland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>260.4</b>			<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>		<b>2</b>
<b>Schools</b>												
Holland Elementary	16.7	School	Holland	-	-	3	-	-	-	1	-	-
Holland Middle School/Hillcrest Elementary School	68.2	School	Holland	2	1	1	1	1¥	-	2 half cts.	1	-
Rolling Hills Elementary	18.1	School	Richboro	-	-	2	-	2	-	2 half cts.	-	-
Richboro Elementary	33.6	School	Richboro	4	-	-	-	8 sml. & 4	-	2 half cts.	-	-
Richboro Middle School	38.6	School	Richboro	4	1	-	1	6	-	-	-	-
Council Rock High School South	144.28	School	Richboro	-	3	4	1	3	8	3	-	-
Churchville Elementary	19.6	School	Churchville	-	-	3	-	1	-	1	-	-
Maureen M. Welch Elementary School	32	School	Churchville	-	-	-	-	1 Multi-purpose (not counted towards total)	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>371.08</b>			<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	

Parks	Acreage	Park Type	Neighborhood	Baseball Fields		Softball Fields	Football Fields	Soccer Fields	Tennis Courts	Basketball Courts	Field Hockey	Special Use
				60'	90'							
<b>Other Protected Lands Parks</b>												
Tyler State Park	1,108**	State	Richboro	Hiking (4 miles of trails), Biking (10.5 miles of trails), Horseback Riding (9 miles of trails), Picnicking, Seven Picnic Groves, Fishing, Boating, Disc Golf, Environmental Education and Interpretation, Tyler Park Center for the Arts, Cultural Facilities, Cross-Country Skiing, Sledding, Ice Fishing, Skating. ADA Accommodations. <a href="http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/findapark/tyler">http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/findapark/tyler</a>								
Churchville Reservoir and Nature Center and County Parklands	637***	Bucks County	Churchville	Nature center with interpretive exhibits, Nature Preserve, cultural facilities including Lenape Indian Village, Memorial Wildlife Gardens, Environmental Programs and Environmental Education, trails (2 miles), hiking, bird watching, wildlife blind, campfire programs, children's clubs, outings and field trips. <a href="http://www.churchvillenaturecenter.org">http://www.churchvillenaturecenter.org</a>								
County Parklands	69.2	Bucks County Passive Open Space	Holland	Passive Space								
Total	1,814.2											

\*\*In Northampton Township

\*\*\*Includes protected lands of Bucks County, Aqua Pennsylvania and Northampton Township

†Seasonal use for football

‡Seasonal use for lacrosse

## **Township Recreation Facilities**

Recreation facilities should be provided within a community to meet the use demand of individuals, community groups, and organized leagues. Evaluation of existing facilities, input from user groups, consideration of municipal demographic trends, and exploration of recreation trends and leisure activities has been completed to define the appropriate number of park facilities a community should have. Following is a discussion of findings from the recreation facility analysis:

- Baseball* Eleven (11) baseball fields exist in the Township's four parks, Recreation Complex, Hampton Estates Park, Big Meadow Park, and Municipal Park. This consists of seven (7) 60' fields and four (4) 90' fields. There are two 60' (2) lit fields and one (1) 90' lit field. The school district has nine (9) 60' fields and five (5) 90' fields. There are two youth baseball leagues that serve Northampton. Both organizations feel their current needs are being met by the Township.
- Basketball* Eight (8) basketball courts exist in the Township, located in three parks; two at the Recreation Complex (which are lighted,) two at Pheasant Run Park, and four at Municipal Park. Six (6) half courts are available at the elementary schools and five (5) full size courts exist at the other schools including three (3) lit courts at CR South High School. An additional court should be considered for the Civic Center. Additional lighted basketball courts as well as community use of the lighted courts at the high school should be explored.
- Softball* Five (5) softball fields (one (1) lit) exist in the Township, and are located in three parks; Recreation Complex, Pheasant Run Park, and Municipal Park. Thirteen (13) fields are offered on school district property. The existing fields at the Civic Center need to be upgraded. The identified need for softball fields may be related more to the condition of the fields than to a field shortage. Renovations to the existing fields need to be investigated.
- Soccer* Eight (8) full size soccer fields (four of which are lighted) and four (4) small practice fields exist in the Township's three parks; Recreation Complex, Big Meadow Park, and Municipal Park. The school district offers twenty-five (25) fields (21 full size and 4 small). Synthetic turf which allows for maximized usage and multiple sports should be researched.
- Football* One (1) football field is located at the Recreation Complex, which is used for youth football, and is shared with the baseball association. The youth football organization is the one organization that does not feel its needs are being met within the Township. The sharing of the field with baseball is not an ideal situation. Consideration should be made to designate one field as a football only field. Football does require lights for evening practices. The school district offers three (3) football fields, which are not used by the community football program.
- Lacrosse* There are no regulation size lacrosse fields in the township park system. Lacrosse is played at Holland Middle School and on the small multi-purpose field located in the Municipal Park behind Maureen M. Welch Elementary. Lacrosse leagues are gaining in momentum in the Delaware Valley. The development of multipurpose fields that could accommodate this sport as well as other athletic interests should be explored.

*Tennis*

Four (4) lighted tennis courts are located at the Recreation Complex. There are eight (8) courts at Council Rock High School. A private tennis club is located adjacent to the Recreation Complex. The tennis courts are meeting the demand but the existing courts need to be maintained better. Northampton is one of the few municipalities in Bucks County that owns a tennis facility with four or more lighted courts. Grant money from the United States Tennis Association (USTA) is available for renovation and programs and availability needs to be investigated. Although Pickleball is an up and coming sport, the effect of adding pickleball lines on the tennis courts should be carefully considered before making such an alteration.



*Recreation Center*

The Recreation Complex provides residents of the Township with space for some indoor-programmed recreation activities at the existing complex. The recreation center serves as the hub for year round recreation activities in the Township. The center offers a full size gymnasium with multi-purpose flooring, dance room with hard flooring, two activity rooms, three preschool classrooms, and a carpeted multi-purpose room.

*Playgrounds*

Northampton Township has two park playgrounds, one at the Recreation Complex, and one at the Municipal Park. Consideration should be made to add playgrounds to other parks to promote more community use. The playgrounds should be designed to accommodate children in age-segregated areas for 2-5 year olds and 6-12 year olds as well as children with special needs. Playgrounds should be designed to stimulate imaginative play as well as physical activity. Playgrounds should be bright, stimulating environments that engage children while providing convenience facilities for adults such as benches and shade. Playgrounds must meet the CPSC guidelines for public playground safety and be developed with surfacing that meets safety criteria.



*Trails*

Trails should be provided in every park for recreation purposes and to meet the requirements of the ADA. The ADA requires an accessible route from parking areas and drop off to recreation facilities. Additionally, viewing areas for physically impaired spectators must be provided at sports fields and courts. In community parks, trails should be paved to provide multiple recreational opportunities such as bike riding, inline skating, jogging, and walking. Trails in passive parks may or may not be paved based on the facilities to be accessed, the recreation opportunity targeted, and the environmental resource protection strategy.

*Senior Center*

This facility is operated by the Council Rock Senior Citizens Association but the full time staff are part of the Township's Parks and Recreation Department. The Center offers an art room with kiln, two (2) outdoor covered bocce courts, café style lounge, catering kitchen, coffee counter, dart area, game room with three (3) pool tables & one (1) shuffleboard table, outdoor horseshoe pit, three (3) multi-purpose activity rooms one of which serves as the card room, patio, two (2) ping pong tables, and a TV lounge. Use is

limited to Senior activities yet opportunities exist to expand community programming in the evenings.

*Maureen M. Welch Elementary School* The township has a facility use agreement with the district for the gymnasium at the school. The township schedules gym use in the evenings and weekend throughout the year. Parks and Recreation holds camp in the summer.

*Northampton Country Club Swimming Pool* There are no public/municipal swimming pools in the township. The township has a lease agreement with the country club for **weekday** use of the pool during the summer season enabling the Parks and Recreation Department to offer swimming to their camp participants, swim lessons, a swim team, and a Monday through Friday membership

## **Amenities**

*Signage* Signage is lacking at all the parks other than the Municipal Park. Signs should be installed at each park and should be uniform throughout the whole park system.

*Security Cameras* Cameras are located at the playground and Wetzel Pavilion in the Municipal Park, inside and outside the Recreation Center, at the Civic Center shack and blockhouse, as well as Hampton Estates on the field house.

*Restrooms* There are permanent bathrooms at the Civic Center, Hampton Estates, and Municipal Park (two locations). Port a pots are used in the rear of the Civic Center as well as at Big Meadow Park.

## **Analysis of Parks and Recreation Facilities**

The purpose of this analysis of park areas and recreation facilities is to evaluate the recreation opportunities in terms of meeting community needs. The goal of the analysis is to determine if current recreation needs are being met and to project how the system should change to meet the future recreation needs. The Township's existing public park areas and recreation facilities have been assessed to determine how they could be improved or expanded, and what changes must be made to comply with safety and accessibility standards.

The analysis of park areas and recreation facilities was conducted by:

- Conducting site visits
- Evaluating park areas and recreation facilities
- Considering the results of key person interviews
- Exploring trends and community needs in recreation facilities by gathering information through the public participation process

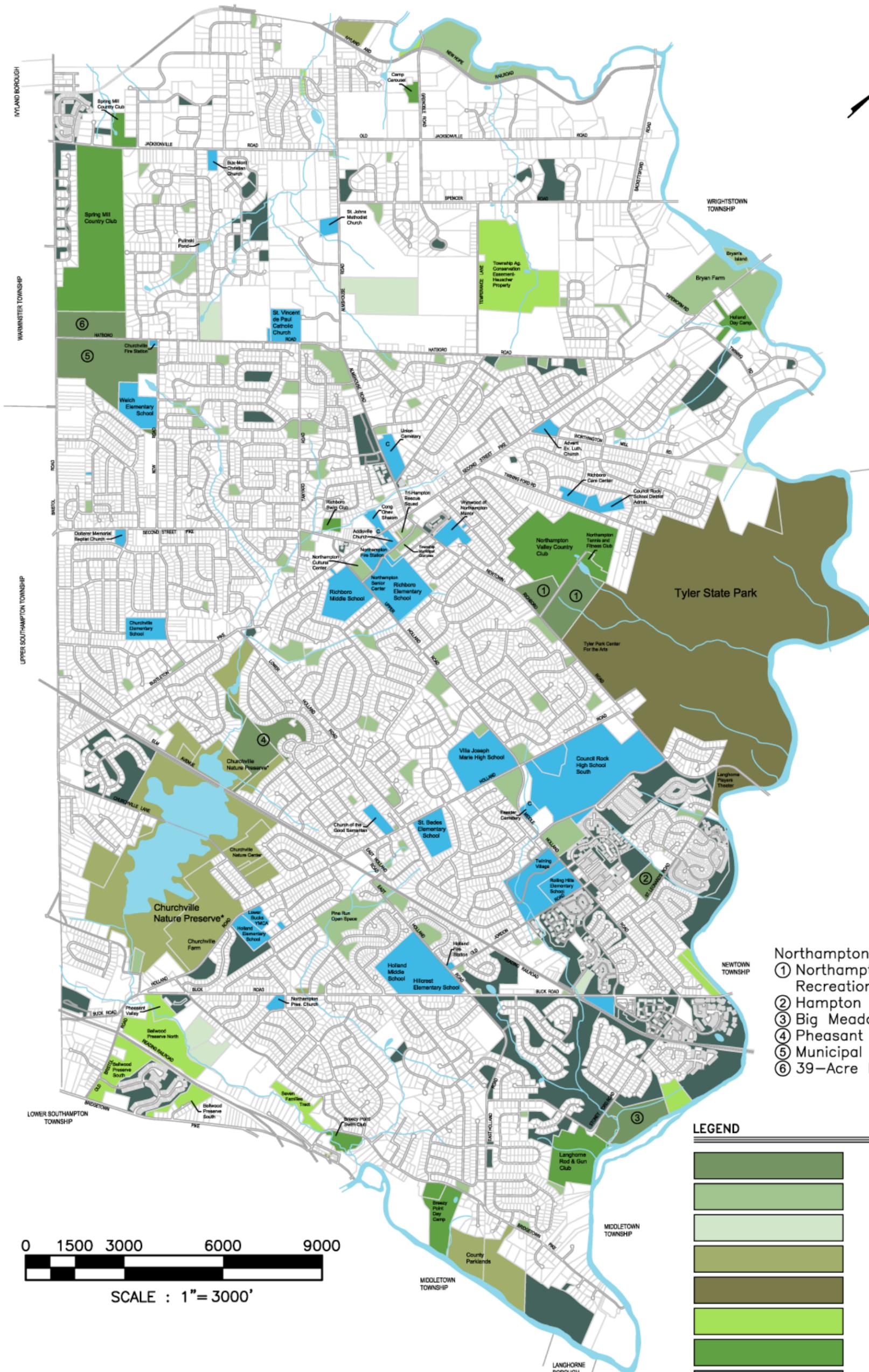
Amount of Parkland – For the past 30 years, the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) has recommended 10 acres per 1,000 residents as the **minimum** standard for parkland for active recreation in communities. However, in 1996, NRPA moved away from solely “the acre per population” standard to advocate that communities set their own standard based upon their actual needs and conditions. The 10-acre standard was devised before the establishment of year round sports, the increased popularity of soccer, field hockey, and lacrosse, the recent trend toward higher levels of female participation in organized sports, and the national epidemic of obesity with its associated health risks.

Due to the sports organizations and the township utilizing the school district fields/gymnasiums to their maximum capability, those acreage numbers were included in the standards analysis.

**Table 11: Park Acreage/Standards Analysis**

	Required acres/2010 population (39,726)	2010 Deficit (-) Excess (+)	Required acres/2020 population (40,870)	2020 Deficit (-) Excess (+)
Township Park Acreage 260.4 School District 50% 185.54	397.26	+48.68	408.70	+37.24
<b>Total acreage 445.94</b>				

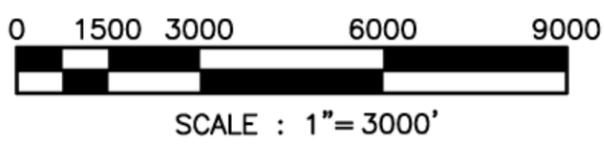




- Northampton Township Parks**
- ① Northampton Township Recreational Complex
  - ② Hampton Estates Park
  - ③ Big Meadow Park
  - ④ Pheasant Run Park
  - ⑤ Municipal Park
  - ⑥ 39-Acre Park

**LEGEND**

	TOWNSHIP PARKS
	OTHER TOWNSHIP RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE LANDS
	DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS ACQUIRED BY TOWNSHIP
	COUNTY RECREATION LAND
	STATE PARKLAND
	CONSERVATION EASEMENT OR CONSERVANCY OWNED PROPERTY
	PRIVATE RECREATION LAND
	PRIVATE OPEN SPACE
	INSTITUTIONAL RECREATION LAND ('C' = Cemetery)



\*Includes protected lands of Bucks County, Aqua Pennsylvania and Northampton Township

P:\2012\125492\dwg\Parks and Rec Mapping\Final Dwgs\Parks and Recreation.dwg | Tabname :Layout1 | Oct. 25, 2013 - 2:31pm | VJpgett

**PROJECT :**  
**NORTHAMPTON COMP. PARKS & REC. PLAN**  
 NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP  
 BUCKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

**APPLICANT :**  
**NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP**  
 55 TOWNSHIP ROAD  
 RICHBORO, PA 18954

**JOB NO.:**  
 215492

**DRAWN BY:**  
 VLL

**CHECKED BY:**  
 JSG

**SCALE:**  
 1" = 3000'

**PLAN STATUS:**  
 STUDY

**TITLE :**  
**PARKS AND RECREATION LANDS**

**Boucher & James, Inc.**  
 CONSULTING ENGINEERS

DOYLESTOWN • STROUDSBURG • MORGANTOWN

CORP. HQ: 1456 FERRY RD, BUILDING 500, DOYLESTOWN, PA. 18901  
 VOICE: (215) 345-9400 FAX: (215) 345-9401

**PROJECT NAME :**  
**COMPREHENSIVE PARKS & REC. PLAN**

**SHEET**  
 1 OF 1

**DATE:**  
 FEBRUARY 20, 2013

# PROGRAMS AND RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

## Recreation Trends

For program planning, it is important to monitor national and local trends in leisure interests. By anticipating demand, the Township will be in the position to plan future services, facilities, and management requirements.

### Public Recreation: Important Tool for Social Change

- According to the 2012 Participation Report conducted by the Physical Activity Council, 217 million Americans actively participate in at least one of the sports or activities measured by the report on a regular basis. However, 68.1 million Americans, or close to 24% of the population, are considered to be totally inactive.
- Today, public recreation is viewed by major organizations at the regional, state, and federal level as a means to achieve important public policy objectives. These organizations include but are not limited to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, state tourism and economic development agencies, crime prevention agencies, and environmental organizations.
- Programs and activities that directly affect the health of the residents of the community, and the support required to maintain those services, is becoming a principle mission of public Parks and Recreation agencies. The focus of public parks and recreation is becoming directed towards life and health services, not only community vitality and enrichment.

### National and Statewide Participation Trends

- Nationally, Pennsylvania has been ranked as the Ninth (9<sup>th</sup>) most “Inactive” state, with 26.2% of the population not participating in any high calorie-burning activities.<sup>1</sup>
- According to the White House Task Force on Childhood Obesity Report to the President titled “Solving the Problem of Childhood Obesity Within a Generation,” one in every three children (31.7%) within the United States is overweight or obese, raising the issue of obesity to the level of a national health crisis. It is estimated that obesity causes 112,000 deaths per year in the United States, and one third of all children born in the year 2000 can be expected to develop diabetes within their lifetime. The report indicates that the current generation may even be on track to have a shorter life expectancy than their parents.
- Obesity imposes significant economic costs. Each year, obese adults incur approximately \$1,429 more in medical expenses than normal-weight peers. Additionally, medical spending on adults that could be attributed to obesity related issues exceeded \$40 billion by 1998, and by 2008 was approximately \$147 billion. Obesity is costly during childhood as well, and is estimated at around \$3 billion per year in direct medical costs.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> 2012 Participation Report. Physical Activity Council

<sup>2</sup> 2010, Report to the President: Solving the Problem of Childhood Obesity Within a Generation: White House Task Force on Childhood Obesity

- While the number of inactive persons increased by 1.1 million people from 2010 to 2011, the growth in inactivity is modest compared to past years. Most US states have an inactivity rate of over 18.8 percent, while Pennsylvania has an inactivity rate of 26.2%.<sup>3</sup>
- Inactivity rates have increased in almost all age groups from 2008 to 2012, particularly in the younger age groups (6-12 and 13-17) and the “time crunched” middle ages 45 to 64. Both of the younger age groups show the highest level of inactivity in the six years covered.<sup>4</sup>
- The time spent in physical education classes is decreasing in both the number of classes and time spent within classes. In 2011, 52% of high school students (68% of 9<sup>th</sup> grade students but only 38% of 12<sup>th</sup> grade students) attended physical education classes in an average week. 41% of 9<sup>th</sup> grade students but only 24% of 12<sup>th</sup> grade students reported attending physical education class daily.<sup>5</sup>
- The importance of after-school programs for children and youth is becoming increasingly emphasized. Let’s Move!, the comprehensive initiative launched in 2010 by First Lady Michelle Obama to combat childhood obesity, emphasizes the use of intramural and after school programs to provide a range of developmentally appropriate physical activity that is attractive to all young people.
- Sports have become seasonless, creating a year-round demand on playing fields and a high demand for indoor facilities and lighted outdoor recreation facilities, as well as the increased demand for turf playing fields.
- During the 1971-1972 school year, just prior to the passage of Title IX legislation, just 300,000 or 7% of all high school athletes were girls. In the 2010-2011 school year, that number has climbed to nearly 3.2 million, or 41% of all high school athletes.<sup>6</sup>
- Senior adults are living longer, healthier lives. Rather than just one generation of senior adults, there are now multiple generations of seniors just as there are different age cohorts among children and youth. Seniors can be categorized according to characteristics rather than age alone. The stereotype of a Senior Citizen is outdated. Targeting the over-50 crowd is a relatively new market for all providers in both the public and commercial leisure service industries. Offering interesting programs at convenient times may be the key to the future rather than stand alone senior centers. The challenge will be to look into the future to determine the market interests of the coming generations of older people. In the future the over-50 participants should be segmented into generations as suggested by gerontologists: preretirement (53-64); young old age (65-74, beginning loss of spouse); middle old age (75 to 84, re-establish social network/physical decline beginning), and old age (85+). Improved health, higher education levels, and financial security among these age groups show that chronological age is not an indicator of vigor, ability, and interest.
- Overall participation in sports, fitness and related physical activities remained relatively steady from 2011 to 2012. Fitness sports had the largest increase of two percent, retaining the previous year’s 1% loss. Racquet sports followed with a 1% increase but still remains

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<sup>3</sup> 2012 Participation Report. Physical Activity Council

<sup>4</sup> 2013 Sports, Fitness and Leisure Activities Topline Participation Report

<sup>5</sup> 2012, Physical Activity Facts, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

<sup>6</sup> 2012, Title IX: working to Ensure Gender Equity in Education, National Coalition for Women and Girls in Education

below the 2008 peak rate of 14%. Both team and water sports slightly increased where individual and winter sports slightly decreased.<sup>7</sup>

- Gen Y/Millennial (1980-1999) participation is particularly pronounced when compared to other generations when looking at team sports, where they have close to 20 million more active participants than the other two generations measured. This generation dominates when it comes to participation in all sports with 30 million active participants, while only 10.6 Gen Xers (1965-1979) and 5.4 million Boomers (1945-1964) are active. Gen X comes in second in all other sports except for outdoor sports where Boomers exceed them by close to 5 million participants.<sup>8</sup>
- When considering lifetime participation in recreation, age demographics play an important role. Team sports activity tends to drop off after the age of 12. Fitness participation tends to increase around that same time, peaking around the age of 34, and holds steady throughout the lifetime. In contrast, most other activities such as individual sports, racquet sports, team, outdoor, winter sports, and water sports, show a downward inclination as people age. Outdoor sports tend to peak at the age of 38, while snow sports peak much earlier at the age of 16 and then peak again at the age of 30.<sup>9</sup>
- The top ten high school boy's sports in Pennsylvania during the 2011-2012 school year as determined by the number of participants are (in descending order): football (26,370), outdoor track and field (24,840), basketball (22,080), baseball (21,632), soccer (20,440), cross country (11,240), wrestling (9,920), swimming and diving (9,690), lacrosse (5,600), and golf (5,410). Additional sports included (in descending order) are tennis (4,824), volleyball (3,582), indoor track and field (2,745), bowling (1,410), riflery (480), and water polo (345).<sup>10</sup>
- The top ten high school girl's sports in Pennsylvania during the 2011-2012 school year as determined by the number of participants are (in descending order): outdoor track and field (24,840), fast-pitch softball (19,710), basketball (21,630), soccer (18,935), cross country (11,220), volleyball (10,512), field hockey (10,185), swimming and diving (9,870), lacrosse (5,728), and tennis (4,896).<sup>11</sup> Additional sports included (in descending order) are: golf (3,460), indoor track and field (2,790), bowling (1,410), competitive spirit squads (1,080), and gymnastics (210).
- Other popular competitive high school sports for boys and girls within Pennsylvania include indoor track and field, bowling, and competitive spirit squads.<sup>12</sup>
- Swimming for fitness is the most popular "aspirational" sport among almost all age groups. Besides swimming, most interest lies in outdoor activities. Children ages 6 to 12 have an increased interest in camping, where more young adults ages 18-24 are becoming more

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<sup>7</sup> 2013 Sports, Fitness and Leisure Activities Topline Participation Report

<sup>8</sup> 2012 Participation Report. Physical Activity Council

<sup>9</sup> 2012 Participation Report. Physical Activity Council

<sup>10</sup> 2011-2012 High School Athletics Participation Survey, The National Federation of State High School Associations

<sup>11</sup> 2011-2012 High School Athletics Participation Survey, The National Federation of State High School Associations

<sup>12</sup> 2011-2012 High School Athletics Participation Survey, The National Federation of State High School Associations

interested in running and jogging. Bicycling is also becoming more attractive to adults ages 25 to 54.

- The following chart shows the top “aspirational interests” determined for age groups of inactive children and adults. These represent opportunities to engage inactive populations<sup>13</sup>:

**Table 12: Aspirational Interests for Inactive Populations**

↑ Interest Level	<b>Ages 6-12</b> Swimming Bicycling Camping Basketball Soccer Fishing Martial Arts Running/Jogging Football Hiking	<b>Ages 13-17</b> Working out w/ weights Working out w/ machines Running/Jogging Swimming Camping Bicycling Hiking Shooting Fitness Classes Fishing	<b>Ages 18-24</b> Working out w/ weights Working out w/ machines Swimming Running/Jogging Bicycling Hiking Camping Fitness Classes Trail Running Canoeing	<b>Ages 25-34</b> Working out w/ weights Working out w/ machines Running/Jogging Swimming Bicycling Camping Hiking Fitness Classes Trail Running Fishing
	↑ Interest Level	<b>Ages 35-44</b> Working out w/ weights Working out w/ machines Bicycling Swimming Hiking Running/Jogging Camping Fitness Classes Trail Running Canoeing	<b>Ages 45-54</b> Swimming Bicycling Working out w/ weights Working out w/ machines Hiking Camping Fitness Classes Running/Jogging Bird/Wildlife watching Fishing	<b>Ages 55-64</b> Bicycling Swimming Working out w/ machines Fitness Classes Working out w/ weights Hiking Camping Bird/Wildlife watching Fishing Running/Jogging

<sup>13</sup> 2012 Participation Report. Physical Activity Council

## Community Programs and Recreation Opportunities in Northampton Township

- Northampton Township offers programs in a wealth of areas. The Department offered approximately 373 different programs during the 2011 to 2012 program year, including summer camps, fitness classes, youth sports, informational, art, parent/child, preschool, theater and music, physical therapy classes, trips and tickets to special events, and swim club memberships. Programs offered multiple times throughout the year were counted once for each season they were offered.
- Paid program participation totaled over 6,000 registrations, where one person registering for one program equals one registration. When including estimated attendance for free special events including Halloween Happening, Northampton's Got Talent, and the Sights and Sounds Concert Series, total program participation exceeds 9,500 for the 2011-2012 programming year. In addition, these numbers do not include spectator attendance (except for the special events listed here). When one begins to factor in the multiple visits (where a person registered for a program attends multiple times) and spectators, the volume of service and real attendance numbers become very large.



- Parks and recreation programs provide an important public service in Northampton Township, and costs are offset by user fees.
- In addition to providing services directly through these programs, the Parks and Recreation Department facilitates the provision of these and other services by other groups such as organized sports groups and the Senior Center.

### Parks and Recreation Municipal Program Inventory

**Appendix E: Program Inventory** presents the inventory of public recreation programs and services offered by the Northampton Township Parks and Recreation Department. Because of the large number of programs offered, the inventory is presented in tabular format and organized around eight elements: program, age, gender, class format, season, fee, dates/attendance, and program location.

*Age Group* - The Township targets and advertises their programs according to age group in an attempt to meet the needs of their clients. Listing programs in this fashion in the promotional brochure helps potential customers find programs appropriate for their age group.

*Gender* - While the majority of programs serve both males and females, some programs are geared specifically toward one gender or the other.

*Class Format* - Provides a more detailed description of the nature of the programs by coding activity into a system that is easily understood. It serves as a guide in measuring the balance and variety within the total services of the agency, and expresses the idea of what form the leisure experience takes. Program formats are tools for offering a variety of experiences within activities. Formats include but are not limited to: self-improvement, competitive sports, social, fitness, trips, and arts and crafts.

*Season* - Four programming schedules are prepared by the Parks and Recreation Department according to the seasons of the year. Seasons are indicated according to which one the particular program or special event falls within.

*Fee* - The amount charged for participation in the program or special event.

*Dates/Attendance* - The dates a particular program or special event was offered and the attendance within those particular dates, or the overall attendance within the 2011-2012 season.

*Location* - The location where the program or special event took place.

### Chart Highlights

*Variety* - Traditionally, municipal recreation departments focus on sports. The table clearly shows that Northampton Township offers diverse programming. This enables a broad spectrum of people to participate.

*Service to Clients.* - Almost all of the programs are targeted to both males and females. A small portion of the programs are oriented to the traditional gender-related programs such as Women's Self Defense and Girl Scout and Boy Scout programs. While programming for Seniors is minimal, this is supplemented extensively by large amounts of programming offered at the James E. Kinney Senior Center. Service to children, youth, and young families is excellent.

*Location* - The Parks and Recreation Department uses schools to the maximum. Gyms are especially at a premium. Over the years, the Department of Parks and Recreation has given up prime gym time in school gyms for adult programs because of growing youth participation in league sports. This resulted in the Township creating a partnership with the School District at Maureen M. Welsh Elementary School in 2000, and building the gymnasium at the Recreation Center in 2001.

## Other Leisure Service Providers

In addition to the many Township services offered, Northampton Township residents are very fortunate to have a number of leisure service providers in the area. These providers include but are not limited to schools, sports organizations and teams, the Northampton Public Library, the Senior Center, and the Tri-Hampton YMCA. Both the Churchville Nature Center and Tyler State Park offer programs and self-directed opportunities.

Commercial recreation providers, such as the Richboro Swim Club, the Spring Mill Country Club, Northampton Valley Country Club, and the Northampton Tennis and Fitness Club, provide numerous additional opportunities for physical fitness. Volunteer organizations orchestrate various community events, such as Northampton Days.



The role of the Township is to work in cooperation with the other providers and to facilitate their programming whenever possible. The Department of Parks and Recreation disseminates information, responds to public requests, coordinates scheduling, and provides facilities. The Department's philosophy is that collaboration is mutually beneficial and results in good public service at less cost. The strong working relationship with community organizations has enabled the Department of Park and Recreation

to develop a strong sense of mission in service delivery. The Department rigorously avoids duplication of efforts to focus on market niches such as programs beyond sports, special programs, such as Summer Quest and Teen Summit, special events, and facilitation of services provided by others.

The following pages are a detailed listing of many of the current recreation and leisure providers in the Township and surrounding area that cater to the needs of Township residents.

### Organized Youth Sports

Northampton Township has many organizations for youth sports. The opportunities range from casual / instructional to highly competitive. The Township works through its Parks and Recreation Department and through the Council Rock School District to coordinate the usage of fields and facilities.

### ***Council Rock Northampton Baseball Association (CRNBA)***

Information: P.O. Box 461  
Richboro, PA 18954  
215-407-7411  
E-Mail: [baseball@crnorthampton.com](mailto:baseball@crnorthampton.com)  
<http://www.crnorthampton.com>

Northampton Baseball offers baseball to boys and girls ages 5-18, as well as adult baseball through the PennDel League. Players under the age of twelve must live north of Bristol Road, west of Holland Road, and west of Neshaminy Creek in Northampton Township. Players over thirteen must live in Northampton Township. Different levels of play are offered for different ages.

- T-Ball League (Age 5)
- Bambino League (Age 6)
- Rookie League (Age 7)
- "A" (Age 8)
- "AA" (Age 9)
- Majors (Ages 9,10,11,12)
- American League (Ages 11 & 12 ONLY)
- National League (Ages 9-12)
- Continental League (Ages 9-12):
- InterTownship League (Ages 13-14)
- Sr. Little League (Ages 14-16)
- Senior Babe Ruth (Ages 17-18)
- Suburban Travel (Ages 8-15):
- Prep Legion (Age 13)
- Junior Legion (Ages 14 - 15)
- American Legion (Ages 16 - 18)
- Fall Ball (Ages 8-15)
- Pendel League (Adult)

Games and practices are held on the fields and facilities at the Civic Center, Richboro Middle School, Richboro Elementary, and Municipal Park.

### ***Council Rock Holland Baseball Association (CRHBA)***

Information: P.O. Box 104  
Richboro, PA 18954  
215-860-2153  
E-mail (President): [jklaus@crhll.com](mailto:jklaus@crhll.com)  
<http://www.crhll.com>

The Holland Baseball League offers play for boys and girls aged 4-18, who live east of Holland Road. Different levels of play are offered for the different ages:

- T-Ball League (Age 4&5)
- Rookie League (Age 6&7)
- "AA" (Age 8)
- "AAA" (Age 9)
- American League (Ages 10-12)
- National League (Ages 10-12)
- Junior Little League PREP (Ages 13-14)
- Sr. Little League (Ages 14-16)
- Senior Babe Ruth (Ages 17-18)
- Suburban Travel (Ages 7-15)
- Fall Ball (Ages 8-15)
- Junior Legion (Ages 13-15) and American Legion (Ages 16-18) are offered through the Northampton Baseball League.

The League utilizes fields at the St. Leonard's Road complex, Big Meadow Fields, and Holland Middle School.

## ***The Miracle League of Northampton Township, PA***

Information: PO Box 453  
Richboro, PA 18954-0453  
484-386-6115  
<http://www.miracleleaguenhpa.org>

The Miracle League provides an opportunity for children and young adults with physical and mental disabilities to play baseball. All players are paired with “buddies” to assist them at bat and in the field. Players need not be from Northampton Township to participate. The season runs from April through June and play takes place at the Township Municipal Park Miracle League Field as well as the other baseball and softball fields at the Municipal Park. The following levels of play are available:



- Minors: Ages 5-8
- Majors: Ages 9-12
- Juniors: Ages 13-16
- Seniors: Ages 17 & Up
- Wheelchair/Walker: All age

## ***Northampton Girls Softball Association (NGSA)***

Information: P.O. Box 661  
Richboro, PA 18954  
(215)364-2344  
E-Mail: [admin@ngsa-pa.com](mailto:admin@ngsa-pa.com)  
<http://www.ngsa-pa.com>

The Northampton Girls Softball League is open to all girls within the Council Rock School district aged 5 through 18. They offer different levels of intramural play for different age groups as follows:

- Intramural - T-Ball (Ages 5-6), 8u, 10u
- Inter-Township – 12u, 14u, 18u
- Sunday Select – 12u, 14u, 18u
- Travel League – 12 u

Practice and games are held at a variety of facilities. The league uses two fields at Municipal Park, two fields at the Township Civic Center, four Fields at Churchville Elementary (for the U8 and U10), and the Council Rock South High School JV and Varsity fields.

### ***Council Rock Basketball Association (CRBA)***

Information: P.O. Box 550  
Richboro, PA 18954  
E-Mail: [crba\\_hoops@hotmail.com](mailto:crba_hoops@hotmail.com)  
<http://www.councilrockbasketball.org>

Council Rock Basketball is open to all students in Grades 2 through 12 in the Council Rock School District. Intramural and travel program are offered. The programs run approximately from November through March. Games are held in the school gyms through the school district, including the gym at Maureen M. Welch Elementary. As a volunteer organization, they strive to build self-confidence and self-esteem through organized basketball leagues. CRBA also offers a summer league, which runs from late June through early August, three nights a week at the Civic Center outdoor basketball courts.

### ***Northampton Indians Football Association (NIFA)***

Information: 892 Second Street Pike  
Richboro, PA 18954  
215-322-4055  
<http://www.northamptonindians.org>

The Northampton Indians provide youth football and cheerleading for children aged 5 through 15. The League is affiliated with the Pop Warner football organization, and as such competes with teams throughout the area. Home games and practices are held at the Civic Center fields. Various levels of play are included for different ages and there is also an in-house instructional tackle program for children under six.



<u>Team</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Weight</u>
Instructional	5 & 6	65 lbs	Junior Pee Wee	8 to 10 11 (O/L)	105 lbs 85lbs
Tiny Mite	6 & 7	70 lbs	Pee Wee	9 to 11 12 (O/L)	120 lbs 100 lbs
Junior Mitey Mite	7 & 8	80 lbs	Junior Midget	10 to 12 13 (O/L)	145 lbs 120 lbs
Mitey Mite	8 & 9	90 lbs	Midget	12 to 14 15 (O/L)	170 lbs 140 lbs

*\* Weight is for football only. Girls cheer according to age.*

### ***Council Rock Lacrosse Association (CRLA)***

Information: P.O. Box 221  
Richboro, PA 18954  
267-918-4881  
[crlax@comcast.net](mailto:crlax@comcast.net)  
<http://www.councilrocklacrosse.org>

Council Rock Lacrosse offers opportunities for both boys and girls in grades K through 8<sup>th</sup> to play lacrosse. The league serves Council Rock School District as well as Newtown Township, Newtown Borough, Northampton Township, Upper Makefield Township, and Wrightstown Township, as well as Centennial School District and New Hope-Solebury School District. The organization utilizes fields throughout the region, including Council Rock High School North, Council Rock High School South, Holland Middle School, Newtown Middle School, Newtown Elementary School, the outfield of Pheasant Run Park, and the multipurpose field at Municipal Park.

### ***Council Rock United Soccer Association (CRUSA)***

Information: P.O. Box 839  
Richboro, PA 18954  
267-988-4053  
E-Mail: [admin@crusa.net](mailto:admin@crusa.net)  
<http://www.crusa.net>

The Council Rock United Soccer Association offers many different levels of play for both boys and girls, men and women, aged 4 through adult. Intramural Leagues are offered for all ages in both the fall and spring with one practice and one game per week. An Academy program is offered for U7 and U8 who would like a higher level of playing and a longer time commitment rather than a spring or fall season. Travel Soccer is offered through a try-out process to those U9 through U19, also with a longer (10-month) play season, tournaments, and club trainer. Elite Teams and FC Bucks Premier Teams are also offered for a much higher level of playing with a professional coaching staff. The league serves all of the Council Rock School District.

Play takes place at a number of fields throughout the Township and surrounding area. These include fields at Big Meadow, Council Rock High School North, Council Rock High School South, the Township Civic Center, Holland Middle School, Holland Elementary (YMCA Fields), Municipal Park, Newtown Elementary School, Newtown Middle School, Rolling Hills Elementary, Richboro Elementary School, and Richboro Middle School.

### ***Council Rock Wrestling Association***

Information: P.O.Box 433  
Richboro, PA 18954  
[crwa.wrestling.club@gmail.com](mailto:crwa.wrestling.club@gmail.com)  
<http://www.councilrockwrestling.com>

Council Rock Wrestling offers wrestling and cheerleading opportunities for children in grades kindergarten through eighth. The program has over 200 participants on eight different teams. Practice and home meets take place at Council Rock North High School, Council Rock South High School, Newtown Middle School, and Richboro Middle School.

## Public Recreation Providers

County, State, and other local funding support many of the recreational facilities throughout Northampton and Bucks County. These facilities provide a wide variety of opportunities for active and passive recreation for all ages.

### ***Free Library of Northampton Township***

Information: 25 Upper Holland Road  
Richboro, PA 18954  
215-357-3050  
<http://www.buckslib.org/libraries/northampton/>

The Free Library of Northampton Township is a member library of the Bucks County Library Network. The Library moved to its current location in 1985 and had shared the space with the Senior Center. However, the Senior Center relocated in 2004 and the library expanded, tripling its size by 2006. Outside of the typical books, magazines, CDs, e-books, and DVD's, the library also has computers with internet access and word processing, computerized databases, and access to all libraries' holdings in the Library Network. The library sponsors many programs for all ages from toddlers and preschoolers through senior citizens. Story hours, informational seminars, and computer classes are examples of the offerings.

### ***James E. Kinney Senior Citizen Center***

Information: 165 Township Road  
Richboro, PA 18951  
215-357-8199

The 10,000 square foot Senior Center is open from 9 am to 3:30 pm Monday through Friday and Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM. The center has between 925 and 950 dues-paying members and offers an abundant number of activities, classes, and events, such as dinners, art classes, fitness, and bingo. The facility includes an art room, multi-purpose rooms, a card room, a catering kitchen, a coffee counter, a conference room, darts, horseshoes, pool and shuffleboard tables, ping-pong, a TV Lounge, and two outdoor bocce courts.



A Senior Center Manager and full time Program Coordinator manage the facility and its programs. The James E. Kinney Senior Citizen Association Board of Directors oversees operations of the facility, which are shared by both the Council Rock Senior Citizen Association and Northampton Township. Part time staff and volunteers assist the manager in the daily staffing of the front desk. Funding is provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Aging, the Bucks County Area Agency on Aging and Northampton Township. There are two full-time and a number of part-time staff as well as a number of volunteers who run the facility. The multi-purpose rooms are available for rent.

### ***Council Rock School District***

Information: 30 N. Chancellor Street  
Newtown, PA 18940  
215-944-1000  
<http://www.crsd.org>

The Council Rock School district offers a variety of programming for its students. However, due to yearly changes in the budget and staffing, programming may vary from year to year. Sports are offered at the high school level, grades 10-12. Intramural sports and after-school programs are offered in some the elementary and middle schools. The school PTO's also offer additional activities for students and families. The School District allows its fields and gymnasium to be utilized for community sports programs when not in use by its own athletic department.

### ***Churchville Nature Center***

Information: 501 Churchville Lane  
Churchville, PA 18966  
215-357-4005

The Churchville Nature Center is owned and operated by the Bucks County Department of Parks and Recreation. It provides educational experiences as well as access to many environments such as meadow, marsh, woodlands, wetlands, pond and lake, a wildlife blind, as well as cultural exhibits including the Lenape Indian Village and Memorial Wildlife Gardens. The Nature Center offers classes for both adults and children (such as campfire programs, children's clubs, outings and field trips) as well as a variety of activities such as bird watching.



## ***Tyler State Park***

Information: 101 Swamp Road  
Newtown, PA 18940  
215-968-2021

Tyler State Park contains approximately 1,700 acres of roads, trails, and facilities, owned and operated in the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. The park has many amenities, including playgrounds, fishing and boating areas, disc golf, equestrian trails, ice-skating areas, sledding picnic areas, pavilions, environmental education and interpretation, a theater, a ball field, a volleyball court, and water fountains. Neshaminy Creek runs throughout the park. Tyler Park Center for the Arts is located adjacent to the Northampton Township Recreational Complex, and offers art programs and “coffeehouse” events. Canoe rental is available and educational classes are held in the spring and summer months. ADA Accommodations are provided.



## **Non-Profit Providers**

A variety of non-profit, not-for-profit, and service organizations provide both passive and active recreation or leisure services for the population of Northampton. The following are a list of providers and clubs utilized by Township residents:

### ***Lower Branch (Tri-Hampton) YMCA***

Information: Chandler Hall  
190 S. Sycamore Street,  
Newtown, PA 18940  
215-579-6200  
<http://www.lbfymca.org>

The Tri-Hampton Y is operated by the Lower Bucks Family YMCA, which also has additional facilities in Fairless Hills and Morrisville. The Tri-Hampton YMCA, located in Newtown has a pool, strength equipment, treadmills, bikes, rowers, cross-trainers, an exercise studio, and locker rooms. It offers classes and programs for youth and adults. Examples include aquatics classes and lessons, fitness classes, art classes, sports, personal training, and a swim team. The YMCA also has their Outdoor Center adjacent to Holland Elementary School. This 8-acre camp facility includes a swimming pool as well as athletic fields, covered pavilions, and a playground. Pool party rentals are available at this location as well.

### ***Lion's Club***

Information: <http://e-clubhouse.org/sites/northamptontownship14apa>

The Lion's Club of Northampton Township is part of the Lions Club International, a volunteer, service organization. The local chapter meets at Dom's Lounge in the Richboro Shopping Center on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm. The Lions sponsor a golf outing, a vendor and flea market, and a theater night. The Lions also sponsor and run the snack concessions at the Summer Concert Series for Northampton Township.

## Commercial / Private Recreation Providers

### ***Spring Mill Country Club***

Information: 80 Jacksonville Road  
Ivyland, PA 18974  
215-675-6000  
[http:// www.springhillcountryclub.com](http://www.springhillcountryclub.com)

Spring Mill Country Club, located in Ivyland, offers membership opportunities to its private facility. The Club has an 18-hole golf course, a clubhouse, an athletic facility, a swimming pool, a banquet hall, an 18-hole pitch and putt course, a mini-golf course, and a lighted practice green. The facility has opportunities for catering and event hosting. The Northampton Township Parks and Recreation Department offers golf lessons in cooperation with Spring Mill Country Club.

### ***Northampton Valley Country Club***

Information: 299 Newtown-Richboro Road  
P.O. Box 703  
Richboro, PA 18954  
215-809-2997  
<http://www.nvgc.com>



The Northampton Valley Country Club is a semi-private golf course and country club facility. The 18-hole golf course is over 127 acres and offers a clubhouse / banquet facility with two ballrooms for catering and event hosting. Other recreation options at the Club include a swim club, driving range, and an outdoor lounge area. The Northampton Valley Country Club has a partnership with Northampton Township in which the Parks and Recreation Department operates the Swim Club Monday through Friday. Weekend swimming is not available as the Northampton Valley Country Club offers pool rentals to others at this time.

### ***Richboro Swim Club***

Information: 750 Second Street Pike  
Richboro, PA 18954  
215-357-9567  
<http://www.richboroswimclub.com>

The Richboro Swim Club is a private swim club. Established in 1957, the facility offers four pools: a heated fun pool with a 20' slide and water basketball; a spray pool with water jets, an umbrella waterfall and other water play features; a competitive swim and diving pool with lane lines, high and low diving boards, and a kiddie pool with playhouse and water sprays. Other recreational opportunities provided include a game pavilion, picnic area, Red Cross Swim School, two swim teams, diving team, and two playgrounds. A snack stand is also provided.

### ***Breezy Point Swim Club***

Information: 890 Bridgetown Pike  
Holland, PA 18966  
215-752-1987  
[http://www.breezypoints.com/breezy\\_points\\_swim\\_club.htm](http://www.breezypoints.com/breezy_points_swim_club.htm)

Breezy Point is a private swim club located on 12 acres at the intersection of Rocksville Road and Bridgetown Pike in Holland. The club offers: a swim team for members between the ages of 6 and 18, swimming lessons, a snack bar, tennis, beach volleyball, basketball, family games, and a triple loop waterslide.

### ***Northampton Tennis and Fitness Club***

Information: 405 Newtown-Richboro Road  
Richboro, PA 18954  
215-357-6300

The Tennis and Fitness Club is located adjacent to the Township Recreation Complex and offers seven indoor courts that are available for rent to the public. The fitness center is only open for members and includes a lounge, kitchen, lockers, child care, as well as weight training and cardio machines. One-on-one training and tennis lessons are available at extra cost.

### ***Sommerfield Stables, Inc.***

Information: 374 Worthington Mill Road  
Richboro, PA 18964  
215-968-8841  
<http://www.somerfieldstables.net>

Somerfield Stables is located in Richboro and offers riding lessons, boarding, and training. Private and group instruction is available for all levels of riders from beginner through advance.

### ***Elite Dance Academy***

Information: 130 Almshouse Road  
Richboro, PA 18954  
215-322-9175  
<http://www.elitedanceacademy.com>

Founded in 1978, Elite Dance Academy is a private dance studio offering jazz, tap, ballet, pointe, lyrical, hip-hop, song and dance, pre-school, and competition. Classes are for ages two and a half through eighteen.

### ***East West Karate***

Information: 1085 Second Street Pike  
Richboro, PA  
215-396-1818  
<http://www.eastwestkarateandfitness.com>

East West Karate offers martial art, self-defense, and fitness training to all ages and fitness levels. Preschool level classes, children's classes, teen and adult classes are provided.

### ***FitLife***

Information: 157 Railroad Drive  
Ivyland, PA 18974  
215-322-1499  
<http://www.onlinefitlife.com>

Fit Life is a fitness center focused on personal training and group exercise. FitLife has a partnership with many of the schools, athletic organizations, sports teams, and the Township. Some classes offered by Northampton Township are held by FitLife.

### ***BucksFit***

Information: 100 Almshouse Road  
Richboro, PA 18954  
215-357-2000  
<http://www.bucksfit.com>

BucksFit is a personal training center focused on athletic development. It also provides medical weight-loss services and fitness training. Group exercise classes, such as Kickboxing and Zumba are offered as well as aquatic training. BucksFit has a partnership with many of the surrounding schools, sports teams, and the Township. Some fitness classes offered by the Township are hosted at BucksFit.

### ***The Rink at Warwick***

Information: 1621 Mearns Road  
Warwick, PA 18974  
215-441-5004  
<http://www.warwickice.com>

The Rink at Warwick is a private ice skating center, which offers open skate, private sessions, private and group lessons, and hockey. The Rink works in partnership with the Township offering classes to residents as well as the school district, and hosting the Council Rock High School hockey games.

### **Public Events**

#### ***Northampton Days***

Information: <http://www.northamptondays.org>

Northampton Days is a large, annual community festival, started in 1996 to celebrate the history and heritage of Northampton Township. It is organized and run entirely by volunteers and is paid for through donations and sponsorships. The event is held in September at the Richboro Middle School. The day includes numerous activities, including a parade, car show, talent show, vendor booths, petting zoo, rides, and a blood drive.

## **Summary**

### Recreation Trends

- While obesity and inactivity are serious and alarming trends, the growth in inactivity is modest in comparison to past years (1.1 million people from 2010 to 2011.) However, Pennsylvania still has a very high inactivity rate of 26.2%. It is important to encourage participation in a range of developmentally appropriate physical activity for all age groups in order to counteract the negative effects of obesity and inactivity in these groups. Popular and aspirational interests are key areas to focus in on.
- At the same time that the rate of inactivity increases among one segment of the population, greater and greater demands are being placed on sports and fitness facilities by already active participants. While Generation Y/Millennial participation can be expected to drop off as they age, the sheer volume of active participation means (currently 30 million active participants) that this larger bubble of participation will continue as the generation ages, placing more demand on recreational facilities.

### Community Programs and Recreation

- The Parks and Recreation Department has used the schools to the maximum, and gym space especially is at a premium. Over the years, the Parks and Recreation department has given up prime gym time for adult programs because of growing youth participation in league sports. This has resulted in cutting back adult programs for which there is a high demand. It will be very important to find a way to replace this lost indoor recreation area in the near future.
- Areas where programming service could be expanded include programming for adults who need to work during the daytime, and services to teens.
- Northampton Township provides a variety of diverse programming, which enables people of all ages and all walks of life to select from and participate in large number of enriching activities.

## FINANCING

The financing of parks and recreation has evolved throughout the United States. Funding once was completely supported by government through compulsory taxes. Over the past several decades, funding has shifted to a mix of public support and revenues generated through fees and charges, donations, partnerships, and sponsorships. Northampton Township finances its Parks and Recreation Department through a combination of local taxes, user fees, and contractual receipts. This plan can assist Township officials in making decisions about how to use this money for the maximum public benefit.

Three major areas that are commonly considered in financing are capital improvements, operations, and maintenance. An additional category that must be considered when planning for parks and recreation within Northampton Township is the large programming portion of the Parks and Recreation Department.

The Northampton Township Budget currently separates operating and capital fund budgets. The Parks and Recreation Fund is separate from the Recreation Capital Reserve Fund, which are separate from the Northampton Township General Fund Budget. The Parks and Recreation Fund provides for the day-to-day support of the Parks and Recreation Department. The Capital Reserve Fund is set aside for improvement projects or purchases such as vehicles and equipment, land acquisition, or improvements such as park and recreation facility development. Inter-fund transfers to the Recreation Capital Reserve Fund from the Parks and Recreation Fund provide the funding for proposed capital purchases and improvements. This eliminates variations in government operating appropriations from year to year that can be caused by large or one-time capital expenses.

### Revenue

**Table 13** presents the source and quantity of current municipal tax revenues within the Parks and Recreation Fund. **Chart 1** graphically displays the estimated revenues for the Parks and Recreation Fund from 2012.

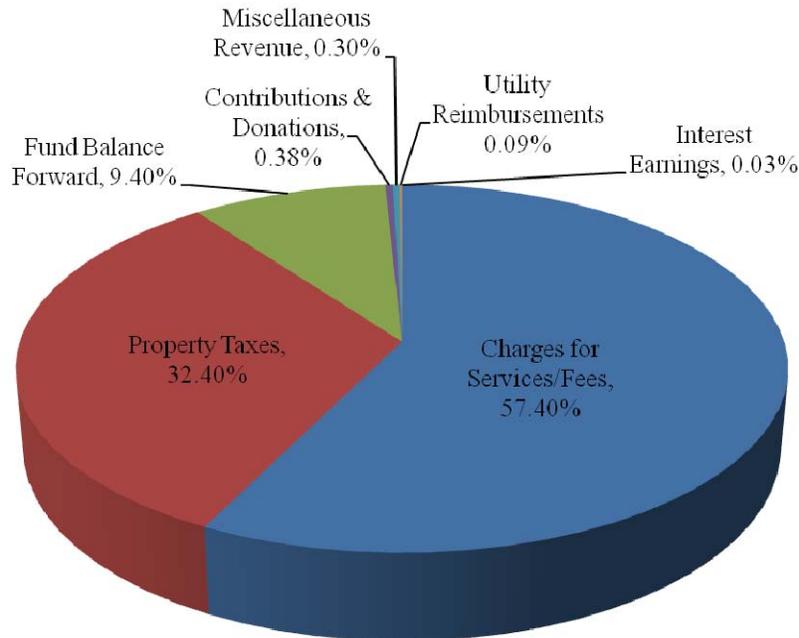
**Table 13: 2009-2013 Parks and Recreation Fund Budget - Revenues<sup>1</sup>**

Description	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual <sup>2</sup>	2013 Budget
Fund Balance Forward	\$(137,092.00)	\$133,937.00	\$279,560.00	\$248,296.00	\$251,536.00
Property Taxes	\$875,292.00	\$869,125.00	\$858,142.00	\$855,394.31	\$856,500.00
Interest Earnings	\$1,013.00	\$1,934.00	\$1,434.00	\$740.00	\$1,000.00
State Operating Grants	\$666.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$180.00	\$7,924.96	\$0.00
Contributions & Donations	\$6,140.00	\$13,060.00	\$10,350.00	\$9,916.00	\$10,000.00
Utility Reimbursements	\$11,129.00	\$2,272.00	\$2,669.00	\$2,503.72	\$5,000.00
<b>Charges for Services/Fees:</b>					
Swimming Pool Fees	\$39,463.00	\$49,316.00	\$61,612.00	\$59,186.60	\$62,500.00
Concession Fees	\$7,687.00	\$8,201.00	\$10,631.00	\$12,023.91	\$14,000.00
Facility Rent/Lease	\$16,587.00	\$33,282.00	\$37,605.00	\$35,365.00	\$38,000.00
Program Fees	\$545,311.00	\$458,725.00	\$501,473.00	\$514,818.38	\$525,000.00
Summer Camp Fees	\$651,891.00	\$671,912.00	\$616,362.00	\$686,386.09	\$710,000.00
Ticket Sales	\$97,134.00	\$140,605.00	\$146,064.00	\$137,144.75	\$135,000.00
Special Event Fees	\$20,591.00	\$26,074.00	\$21,544.00	\$23,570.50	\$20,000.00
Sports Group User Fees	\$0.00	\$19,700.00	\$26,480.00	\$34,170.00	\$30,000.00
Banner Sales	\$8,466.00	\$20,515.00	\$12,545.00	\$13,045.00	\$15,000.00
	<b>\$1,387,130.00</b>	<b>\$1,428,330.00</b>	<b>\$1,434,316.00</b>	<b>\$1,515,710.23</b>	<b>\$1,549,500.00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,144,278.00</b>	<b>\$2,448,658.00</b>	<b>\$2,586,651.00</b>	<b>\$2,640,485.22</b>	<b>\$2,673,536.00</b>

<sup>1</sup> Northampton Township 2013 Budget

<sup>2</sup> 12/31/2012 General Ledger Budget Report

**Chart 1: 2012 Parks and Recreation Fund –Revenues<sup>3</sup>**



Following in **Table 14** are the source and quantity of revenues within the Recreation Capital Reserve Fund. **Chart 2** graphically displays the estimated revenues for the Capital Reserve Fund from 2012.

**Table 14: 2009-2013 Recreation Capital Reserve Fund - Revenues<sup>4</sup>**

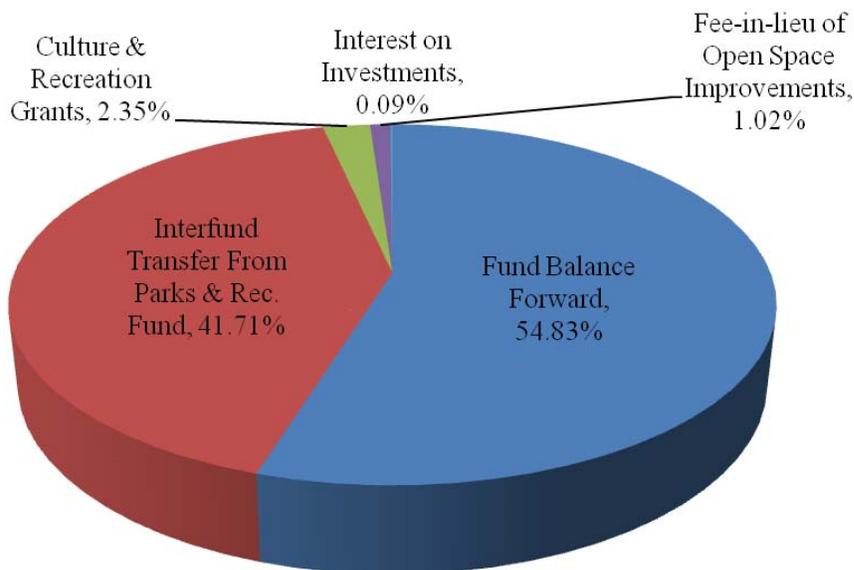
	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual <sup>5</sup>	2013 Budget
<b>Revenues</b>					
Fund Balance Forward	\$726.00	\$23,411.00	\$119,444.00	\$262,932.17	\$282,932.00
Interest on Investments	\$73.00	\$364.00	\$528.00	\$432.00	\$500.00
Culture & Recreation Grants	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$11,240.00	\$11,500.00
<u>Fees in Lieu-of-Improvements</u>					
Open Space	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,899.76	\$0.00
Sidewalks	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,982.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<u>Interfund Transfers</u>					
From General Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
From Parks & Rec. Fund	\$0.00	\$110,000.00	\$170,000.00	\$200,000.00	\$150,000.00
From Capital Reserve Fund	\$33,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$35,299.00</b>	<b>\$133,775.00</b>	<b>\$296,954.00</b>	<b>\$479,513.93</b>	<b>\$444,932.00</b>

<sup>3</sup> 12/31/2012 General Ledger Budget Report

<sup>4</sup> Northampton Township 2013 Budget

<sup>5</sup> 12/31/12 Recreation Capital Fund Budget Report

**Chart 2: 2012 Recreation Capital Reserve Fund – Revenues<sup>6</sup>**



Revenues shown within **Tables 13 and 14** and **Charts 1 and 2** come from a number of different sources. Following are descriptions of the current revenue sources for the Parks and Recreation Fund and the Recreation Capital Reserve Fund:

*Fund Balance Forward:* This represents the balance within each of the funds carried forward from the previous year.

*Real Property Taxes:* In accordance with the Local Tax Enabling Act, Real Estate Tax of up to 14 mills may be collected within Townships of the Second Class. The current tax millage rate within Northampton Township is 11.1425 mills. 1.5 mills of the Real Estate Tax is allocated to the Parks and Recreation Fund. Other portions of the Real Estate Tax are allocated to the General Fund, the Fire Fund, the Rescue Squad Fund, the Library Fund, the Debt Fund, and the Road Equipment Fund. This is one of the primary revenue sources for the Parks and Recreation Fund, and as shown in **Chart 1** represents 32.4% of the estimated revenue for the 2012 budget year.

*Interest Earnings:* Earned on investments, these provide a very minor source of revenue for both the Parks and Recreation Fund Budget and the Recreation Capital Reserve Fund.

*Grants, Contributions and Donations:* The Township is able to pursue funding for improvements and community activities from a variety of sources, including federal, state, and other grant sources as well as public and private donors. These gifts and grants tend to be more of a focus for the Capital Reserve Fund, where they are used for capital projects or for the acquisition of equipment or vehicles. Donations from local business support special events, and businesses support publication of the Parks and Recreation Department newsletter and web page. In return for their support, businesses are able to place ads in the newsletter or on the Parks and Recreation web site.

*Charges for Services/Fees:* This is the primary source of revenue for the Parks and Recreation Fund and includes revenue generated by ticket sales, program and special event fees, summer camp fees, swim club membership, banner sales, facility rentals, and sports group non-resident fees.

<sup>6</sup> 12/31/12 Recreation Capital Fund Budget Report

In the 2012 budget year, charges for services and fees accounted for 57.4% of the estimated revenue for the Parks and Recreation operating budget.

*Facility Utility Reimbursement:* Sport User Groups reimburse the Township for some utilities that are directly expensed to the Township such as sprinkler systems and lights. While this represents a minor portion of the revenue budget for Parks and Recreation, these funds help to offset utility costs associated with use of the facilities.

*Fees in Lieu-of-Improvements:* Another minor source of funding for the Capital Reserve Fund is revenue generated from fees in lieu of open space dedication. As Northampton Township is mostly built out, this represents only a small portion of parks and recreation funding.

*Interfund Transfer from Park and Rec. Fund:* This represents a source of funding for the Capital Reserve Fund and is an expenditure for the Parks and Recreation Fund. It is a transfer made annually between the two funds in order to fund capital projects and purchases within the Parks and Recreation Department.

*Land Transfers and In-Kind Donations:* What these charts do not show are large or other capital improvements that were supported by volunteer and private partners. For example, approximately 125 Acres of land was transferred to Northampton Township from the Federal Park Service at the closing of the Naval Air and Warfare Center in Warminster Township in 1999, 89.8 acres of which were developed into a municipal park. Many athletic field improvements are financed and provided for at the expense of sports user groups. The Miracle League is solely funded by the Miracle League of Northampton Township, PA. Some park maintenance projects in Municipal Park are supported by, and implemented by, the Friends of the Park.

#### Additional Potential Revenue Sources

Pennsylvania's Local Tax Enabling Act (24 P.S. 30232 of the Act) enables school districts to levy a tax for Parks and Playgrounds under the category of Special Purpose Taxes at two mills. This could enable a collaborative effort between the School District and the Parks and Recreation Department if a regional approach is desired by the School District.

- Grants (*For additional information on grant opportunities, please see **Appendix F: Funding Source Information.***)
- Bond Issues
- Revenues from Special Events
- General Fund Raising
- Private Fund Raising

## Expenditures

**Table 15: 2009-2013 Parks and Recreation Fund Budget - Expenditures<sup>7</sup>**

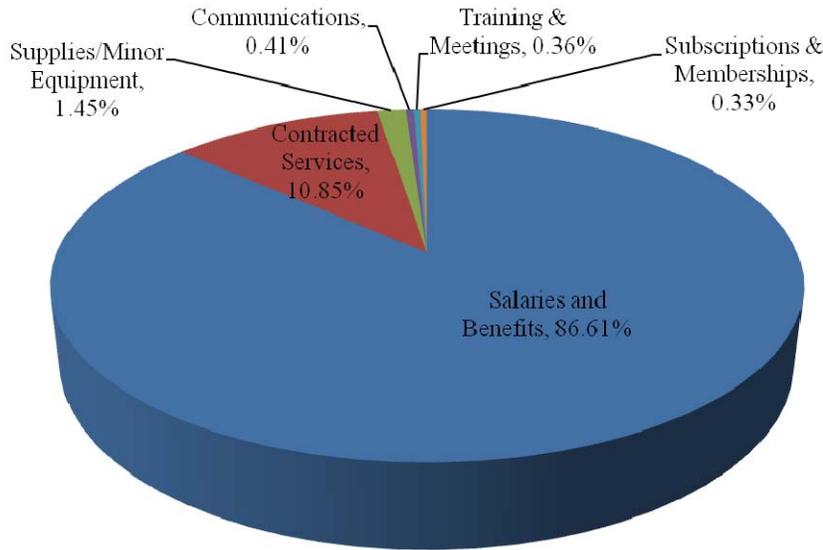
Description	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual <sup>8</sup>	2013 Budget
<u>Tax Coll. - Commission</u>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5440.89	\$5,000.00
<u>Recreation Administration</u>					
Salaries & Wages	\$148,812.00	\$153,980.00	\$158,661.00	\$163,427.08	\$183,000.00
Overtime Salaries	\$335.00	\$562.00	\$596.00	\$627.99	\$1,000.00
Fica/Medicare	\$11,835.00	\$11,681.00	\$11,947.00	\$12,497.05	\$15,000.00
Medical Insurance	\$30,406.00	\$32,051.00	\$33,203.00	\$29,294.50	\$39,000.00
Disability Insurance	\$4,786.00	\$2,786.00	\$749.00	\$896.00	\$500.00
Group Life Insurance	\$574.00	\$453.00	\$648.00	\$813.00	\$500.00
Office Supplies	\$838.00	\$384.00	\$149.00	\$879.45	\$1,000.00
Operating Supplies	\$581.00	\$607.00	\$654.00	\$997.93	\$1,000.00
Minor Equipment	\$324.00	\$307.00	\$90.00	\$1,595.97	\$1,500.00
Communication	\$807.00	\$923.00	\$705.00	\$975.75	\$1,000.00
Subscripts & Membership	\$1,073.00	\$895.00	\$1,004.00	\$797.69	\$1,500.00
Contracted Services	\$32,650.00	\$31,783.00	\$22,999.00	\$26,002.48	\$32,000.00
Training & Meetings	\$1,691.00	\$661.00	\$180.00	\$854.88	\$2,000.00
	<b>\$234,712.00</b>	<b>\$237,073.00</b>	<b>\$231,585.00</b>	<b>\$239,649.77</b>	<b>\$279,000.00</b>
<u>Participant Recreation</u>					
Salaries & Wages	\$273,110.00	\$309,972.00	\$316,456.00	\$338,977.60	\$233,000.00
Seasonal Salaries	\$250,943.00	\$214,545.00	\$227,108.00	\$247,685.88	\$351,000.00
Overtime Salaries	\$13,436.00	\$12,475.00	\$12,960.00	\$11,784.55	\$12,000.00
Fica/Medicare	\$38,099.00	\$40,587.00	\$39,656.00	\$41,973.26	\$46,000.00
Medical Insurance	\$56,565.00	\$57,006.00	\$59,060.00	\$81,858.36	\$80,000.00
Disability Insurance	\$1,436.00	\$974.00	\$429.00	\$451.00	\$1,500.00
Group Life Insurance	\$1,436.00	\$959.00	\$371.00	\$409.00	\$1,000.00
Postage	\$7,769.00	\$8,198.00	\$8,236.00	\$8,699.28	\$8,500.00
Program Supplies	\$30,040.00	\$29,103.00	\$33,127.00	\$40,869.86	\$40,000.00
Camp Supplies	\$26,049.00	\$26,493.00	\$22,315.00	\$21,275.32	\$22,000.00
Special Event Supplies	\$23,187.00	\$22,089.00	\$19,161.00	\$19,565.97	\$22,000.00
Minor Equipment	\$522.00	\$2,297.00	\$4,431.00	\$4,265.28	\$4,000.00
Program Instructor Fees	\$233,715.00	\$242,019.00	\$249,868.00	\$262,898.79	\$260,000.00
Summer Camp Instructors	\$17,150.00	\$16,240.00	\$15,081.00	\$14,405.00	\$14,000.00
Credit Card Services	\$22,872.00	\$31,538.00	\$23,233.00	\$26,162.83	\$26,000.00
Ticket Purchases	\$92,720.00	\$127,971.00	\$153,526.00	\$128,340.28	\$122,000.00
Communications	\$1,905.00	\$1,390.00	\$2,081.00	\$1,136.32	\$2,000.00
Travel Expense	\$1,776.00	\$1,550.00	\$446.00	\$1,420.54	\$1,000.00
Advertising & Printing	\$43,901.00	\$51,867.00	\$52,370.00	\$41,854.38	\$40,000.00
Equipment Leasing	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$500.00
Camp Contracted Svcs.	\$163,341.00	\$135,216.00	\$140,686.00	\$188,725.98	\$186,000.00
Program Refunds	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$71,474.97	\$0.00
Facility Leases (Pool)	\$59,543.00	\$61,831.00	\$61,091.00	\$0.00	\$75,000.00
	<b>\$1,359,515.00</b>	<b>\$1,394,320.00</b>	<b>\$1,441,692.00</b>	<b>\$1,554,334.45</b>	<b>\$1,547,500.00</b>
<u>Parks Maintenance</u>					
Salaries & Wages	\$158,629.00	\$166,642.00	\$164,247.00	\$171,968.69	\$185,000.00
Overtime Salaries	\$1,672.00	\$1,400.00	\$7,283.00	\$4,940.96	\$5,000.00
Fica/Medicare	\$12,858.00	\$12,892.00	\$15,364.00	\$16,094.01	\$15,000.00
Medical Insurance	\$45,222.00	\$47,681.00	\$49,373.00	\$55,254.91	\$57,000.00
Disability Insurance	\$957.00	\$690.00	\$448.00	\$470.00	\$1,000.00
Group Life Insurance	\$766.00	\$675.00	\$387.00	\$428.00	\$1,000.00
Office Supplies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$110.00	\$140.89	\$500.00
Operating Supplies	\$10,594.00	\$16,446.00	\$11,111.00	\$15,602.31	\$14,000.00
Uniforms	\$820.00	\$1,809.00	\$1,279.00	\$1,391.29	\$2,000.00
Minor Equipment	\$1,776.00	\$5,372.00	\$5,699.00	\$1,697.22	\$3,000.00
Communications	\$438.00	\$375.00	\$714.00	\$1,766.99	\$2,500.00

<sup>7</sup> Northampton Township 2013 Budget

<sup>8</sup> 12/31/2012 General Ledger Budget Report

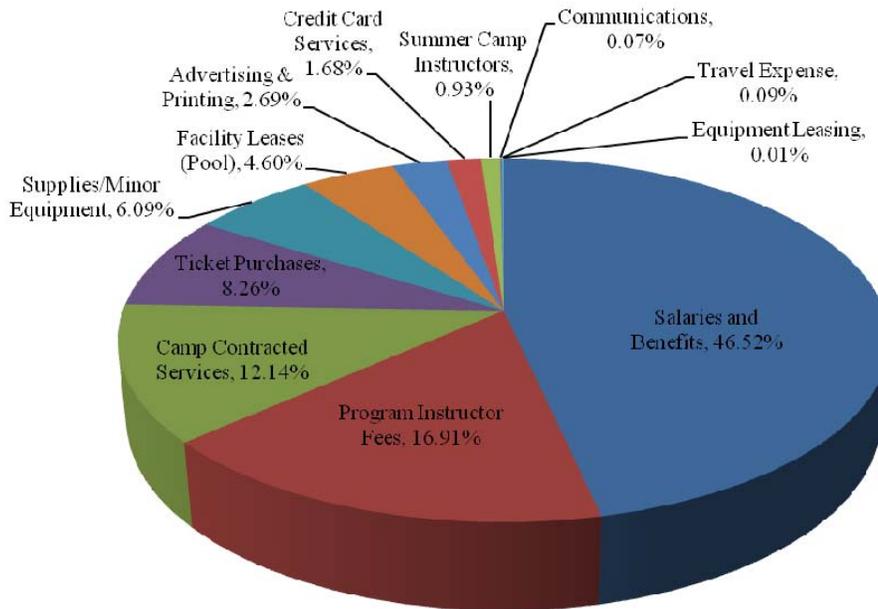
Description	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual <sup>8</sup>	2013 Budget
Utilities	\$78,765.00	\$76,742.00	\$69,495.00	\$68,010.85	\$68,000.00
Repairs & Maintenance	\$27,725.00	\$45,262.00	\$30,208.00	\$47,974.37	\$48,000.00
Equipment Maintenance	\$5,537.00	\$30.00	\$16,462.00	\$6,208.15	\$8,000.00
Equipment Leasing	\$238.00	\$0.00	\$739.00	\$329.20	\$1,000.00
Contracted Services	\$2,280.00	\$2,600.00	\$2,715.00	\$3,018.70	\$4,000.00
Training & Meetings	\$60.00	\$355.00	\$170.00	\$10.00	\$500.00
	<b>\$348,337.00</b>	<b>\$378,971.00</b>	<b>\$375,804.00</b>	<b>\$395,306.54</b>	<b>\$415,500.00</b>
<b>Employer Paid Benefits</b>					
Unemployment Comp.	\$853.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,559.41	\$0.00
Worker's Compensation	\$25,511.00	\$20,390.00	\$28,892.00	\$34,572.00	\$41,000.00
Deferred Comp. Plan	\$1,763.00	\$4,017.00	\$5,113.00	\$0.00	\$6,500.00
	<b>\$28,127.00</b>	<b>\$24,407.00</b>	<b>\$34,005.00</b>	<b>\$44,131.41</b>	<b>\$47,500.00</b>
Insurance	\$28,733.00	\$20,832.00	\$4,364.00	\$22,217.00	\$27,000.00
Program Refunds	\$10,917.00	\$3,499.00	\$7,164.00	\$4,848.70	\$5,500.00
<b>Interfund Transfers -</b>					
To Rec. Capital Fund	\$0.00	\$110,000.00	\$170,000.00	\$200,000.00	\$150,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,010,341.00</b>	<b>\$2,169,102.00</b>	<b>\$2,264,614.00</b>	<b>\$2,465,928.76</b>	<b>\$2,477,000.00</b>

**Chart 3: 2012 Parks and Recreation Fund – Recreation Administration Expenditures<sup>9</sup>**

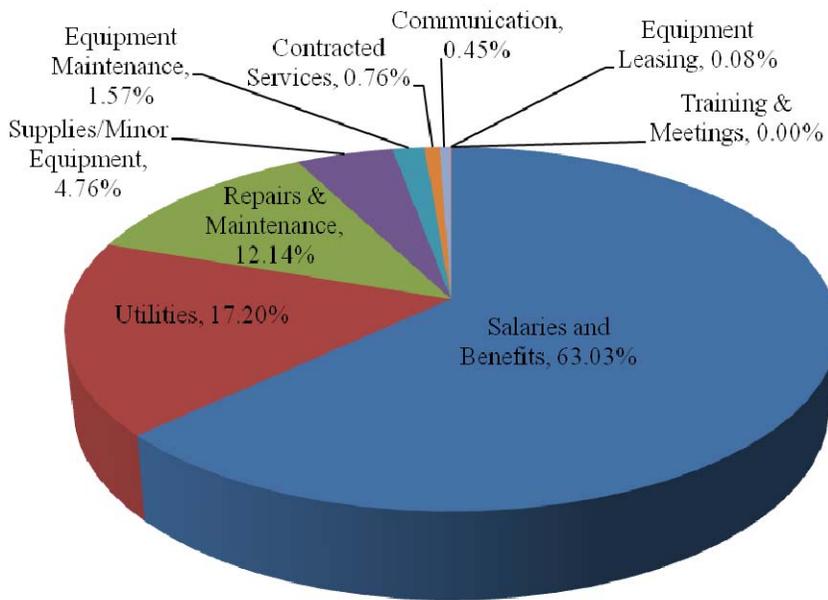


<sup>9</sup> 12/31/2012 General Ledger Budget Report

**Chart 4: 2012 Parks and Recreation Fund – Participant Recreation Expenditures<sup>10</sup>**



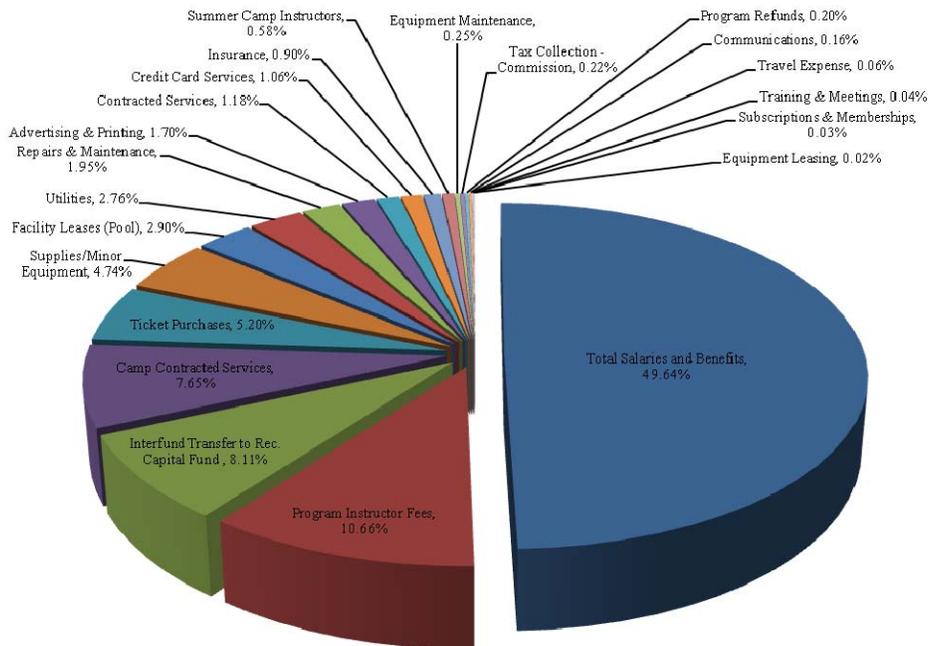
**Chart 5: 2012 Parks and Recreation Fund – Parks Maintenance Expenditures<sup>11</sup>**



<sup>10</sup> 12/31/2012 General Ledger Budget Report

<sup>11</sup> 12/31/2012 General Ledger Budget Report

**Chart 6: 2012 Parks and Recreation Fund – Total Expenditures<sup>12</sup>**



**Charts 3, 4, and 5** show a comparison of expenditures within each of the major sections of the Parks and Recreation Department – Recreation Administration, Participant Recreation, and Parks Maintenance. As opposed to in the 1999 Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan, the Parks Maintenance department is now separate from the Township Public Works Department. In addition, the Senior Center has its own budget fund and is not operated or funded through the Parks and Recreation Department, though the interests of the two departments may at times overlap. **Chart 6** shows an overall summary of the expenditures within the entire Parks and Recreation Department by spending category. Following are descriptions of the various expenditures for the Parks and Recreation Fund:

*Salaries and Benefits:* This includes salaries, wages, overtime salaries, FICA/Medicare, insurance coverages, unemployment, worker’s, and deferred compensation plans. As can be expected, this makes up the largest portion of expenses (at 49.64% of overall expenditures) for the Parks and Recreation Department by far.

*Program Instructor Fees:* This item is within the Participant Recreation section only, and covers fees for program instructors and summer camp instructors. This makes up the second largest expense within the Parks and Recreation Department at 10.66% of overall expenditures.

*Interfund Transfer to Recreation Capital Fund:* This is the annual fund transfer to the Recreation Capital Fund.

*Ticket Purchases:* Ticket purchases for special events.

*Utilities:* Covers utility services at the Recreation Center and Recreation Complex, Hatboro Road Maintenance, New Road Park, Municipal Park, and Park and Recreation Fields.

<sup>12</sup> 12/31/2012 General Ledger Budget Report

*Equipment Leasing & Contracted Services:* Includes office copier maintenance and lease, cleaning services, phone maintenance, software contracts, minor equipment rentals, and portable restrooms.

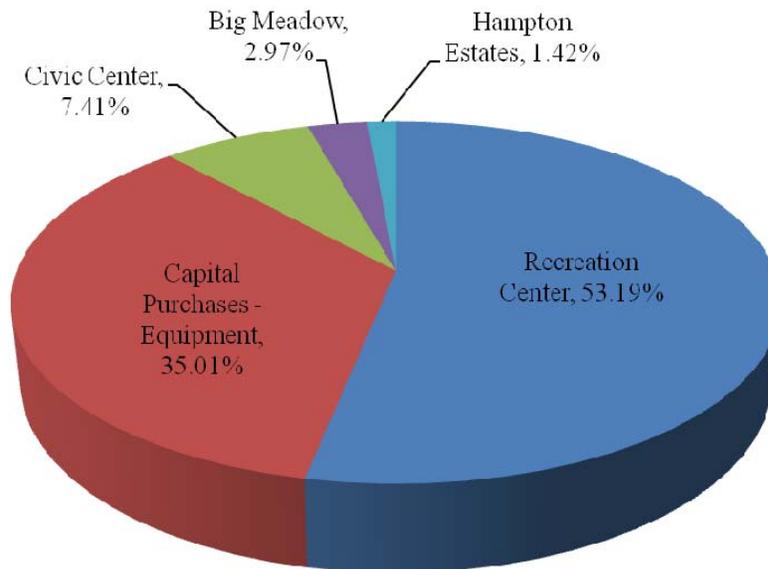
*Insurance:* Property and Liability Insurance for the Parks and Recreation Department.

*Communications:* Mobile Communications Expenses.

**Table 16: 2009-2013 Recreation Capital Reserve Fund - Expenditures<sup>13</sup>**

	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual <sup>14</sup>	2013 Budget
<b>Expenditures</b>					
<b>Park Improvements</b>					
Recreation Center	\$6,957.00	\$0.00	\$5,390.00	\$108,655.08	\$22,000.00
Civic Center	\$0.00	\$5,610.00	\$0.00	\$15,134.14	\$99,500.00
Hampton Estates	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,907.50	\$3,000.00
Big Meadow	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,067.50	\$0.00
Pheasant Run	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Municipal Park	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$51,000.00
NAWC 39 Acres	\$4,932.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,000.00
	<b>\$11,889.00</b>	<b>\$5,610.00</b>	<b>\$5,390.00</b>	<b>\$132,764.22</b>	<b>\$182,500.00</b>
Engineering/Prof. Services	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Capital Purchases - Equipment	\$0.00	\$8,720.00	\$28,633.00	\$71,521.05	\$46,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$11,889.00</b>	<b>\$14,330.00</b>	<b>\$34,023.00</b>	<b>\$204,285.27</b>	<b>\$228,500.00</b>

**Chart 7: 2012 Recreation Capital Reserve Fund –Expenditures<sup>15</sup>**



<sup>13</sup> Northampton Township 2013 Budget

<sup>14</sup> 12/31/12 Recreation Capital Fund Budget Report

<sup>15</sup> 12/31/12 Recreation Capital Fund Budget Report

## Capital Improvement Program

The Parks and Recreation Department presents a capital improvement program every year within the overall Northampton Township Budget.

Long-term planning helps with strategic decision-making rather than reactionary decisions frequently generated by emergency situations. **Table 16** presents the Township's capital improvement budget expenditures for 2009 through 2013. **Chart 7** shows the estimated expenditures for the year 2012.

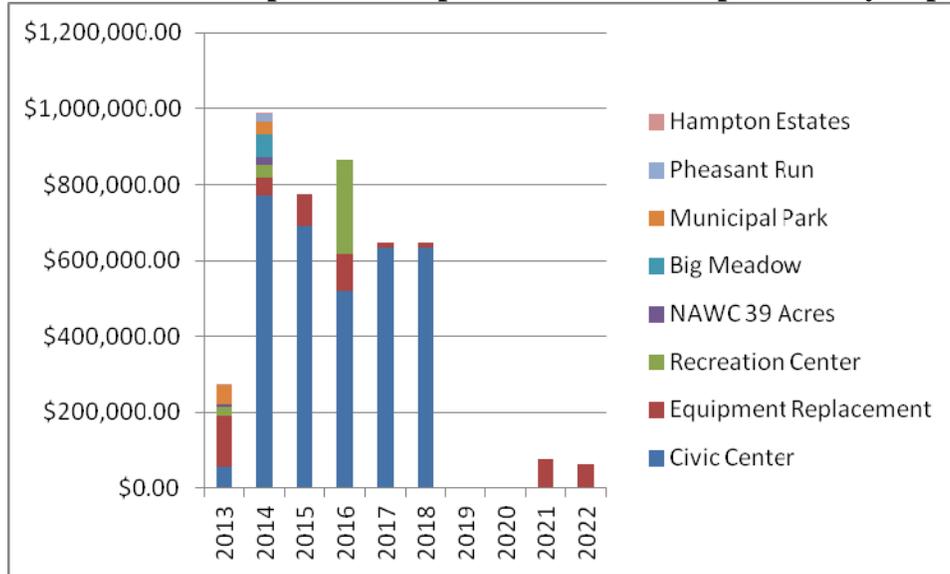
**Table 17** shows anticipated recreation capital outlay expenses for the years 2013 through 2022. However, this table has been modified from the original 2013 approved budget to account for costs proposed to be incurred through improvements to the Northampton Township Recreational Complex, or Civic Center 1 and Civic Center 2. This site drawing and improvement recommendations were prepared in conjunction with feedback from the Steering Committee in order to better serve the community's recreation needs, address ADA concerns, meet stormwater management and BMP requirements, and meet the requirements of the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. These expenses have been divided up over several years in order to make them more manageable. It is anticipated that these improvements may be implemented in conjunction with DCNR Community Conservation Partnerships Program (C2P2) or other grants at a 50/50 match. For a Survey Plan of the Civic Center I site, a Conceptual Site Plan of the Northampton Township Recreational Complex, and a detailed breakdown of anticipated expenses for Civic Center 1 and Civic Center 2, please see **Appendices G, H, and I**.

Other potential improvements and expenses are discussed in **Chapter 8: Recommendations/Action Plan**. The expenses discussed in **Chapter 8** are rough costs only, and therefore have not been included in **Table 17**. As those additional improvements are further explored by the Parks and Recreation Director and the Board of Supervisors and the costs are further fleshed out, those expenses can be added to the Capital Budget in a time frame that is appropriate in consideration of the overall Capital Reserve Fund Budget.

**Chart 8** shows the comparative breakdown of those overall adjusted expenses over the years shown in the capital improvement plan. It is important to note that while items may be approved in a particular budget year, the capital improvements do not always take place within the fiscal year shown and can be re-programmed but must be re-approved for the following or even later years.

Again, this Update to the Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan, which includes the tables and charts herein, is to be used only as a guide for future development of the Township park and recreation facilities and programs and that any and all future funding of these expenditures as outlined in the Plan must have prior approval of the Northampton Township Board of Supervisors.

**Chart 8: 2013-2022 Compared Anticipated Recreation Capital Outlay Expenses<sup>16</sup>**



<sup>16</sup> Northampton Township 2013 Budget

**Table 17: 2013-2022 Anticipated Recreation Capital Outlay Expenses<sup>17</sup>**

Anticipated Expenditure by Fund	2013 Budget	2013 Item Cost	2014 Item Cost	2015 Item Cost	2016 Item Cost	2017 Item Cost	2018 Item Cost	2019 Item Cost	2020 Item Cost	2021 Item Cost	2022 Item Cost
<b>Recreation Center</b>											
Fans for Gymnasium	\$0	\$0	\$15,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Concrete Install & Repair Sidewalk	\$9,200	\$9,200	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Replace Sign with Message Board	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Replace Lock System	\$0	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Replace Floors	\$0	\$0.00	\$20,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Addition for offices and storage	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$250,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Replace Gym Floor	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	<b>\$21,700</b>	<b>\$21,700</b>	<b>\$35,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$250,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Civic Center</b>											
Security Cameras	\$3,500	\$3,560	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Update Comprehensive Plan (DCNR Matching Grant)	\$45,000	\$45,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Site Survey	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Replace Bleachers	\$0	\$0	\$0.00	\$0	\$10,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Civic Center I Site Improvements (Partial Matching Grants Anticipated)	\$0	\$0	\$771,100	\$357,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Civic Center I Lighting Fixtures (Partial Matching Grants Anticipated)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$80,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Civic Center II Site Improvements (Partial Matching Grants Anticipated)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$254,100	\$508,200	\$635,250	\$635,250	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	<b>\$58,500</b>	<b>\$58,560</b>	<b>\$771,100</b>	<b>\$691,600</b>	<b>\$518,200</b>	<b>\$635,250</b>	<b>\$635,250</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Hampton Estates</b>											
Replace Bleachers	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Replace Parking Barriers	\$0	\$0	\$4,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	<b>\$3,000</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>	<b>\$4,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Pheasant Run</b>											
Resurface Parking Lot	\$0	\$0	\$20,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Municipal Park</b>											
Replace Sign/Add Message Board	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Storage Barn	\$38,000	\$38,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Repaint Hockey Courts	\$0	\$0	\$15,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

<sup>17</sup> Northampton Township 2013 Budget

Anticipated Expenditure by Fund	2013 Budget	2013 Item Cost	2014 Item Cost	2015 Item Cost	2016 Item Cost	2017 Item Cost	2018 Item Cost	2019 Item Cost	2020 Item Cost	2021 Item Cost	2022 Item Cost
Resurface Hockey Courts	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Repaint Basketball Courts	\$0	\$0	\$20,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	<b>\$50,500.00</b>	<b>\$50,500</b>	<b>\$35,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Big Meadow											
Construct Restrooms	\$0	\$0	\$60,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
NAWC 39 Acres											
Native Gardens	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Install Pedestrian Crosswalk	\$0	\$0	\$15,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Site Furnishings	\$0	\$0	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	<b>\$7,000</b>	<b>\$7,000</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Equipment Replacement											
Replace 2000 GMC Jimmy S15	\$4,675	\$30,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Replace 2011 Ford F-550 Dump	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$78,375	\$0
Replace 2011 Ford F-350 Dump	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$63,000
Replace 1996 Int'l Low Profile	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$76,125	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Replace 2012 Mower 1	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Replace 1995 Mower #2	\$20,351	\$96,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Replace 2004 Mower 3	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$97,920	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Replace 1988 Tractor	\$0	\$0	\$30,300	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Replace 2005 Gator	\$0	\$0	\$15,150	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Replace 2010 Zero Turn Mower	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$12,300	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Replace 2011 Zero Turn Mower	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$12,360	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Replace 1986 Trailer 1	\$1,247	\$8,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Replace 1999 Trailer 2	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$8,120	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2011 Lease/Purchase Payment	\$10,766	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2010 Lease/Purchase Payment	\$8,720	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	<b>\$45,759</b>	<b>\$134,000</b>	<b>\$45,450</b>	<b>\$84,245</b>	<b>\$97,920</b>	<b>\$12,300</b>	<b>\$12,360</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$78,375</b>	<b>\$63,000</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$186,459</b>	<b>\$274,760</b>	<b>\$990,550</b>	<b>\$775,845</b>	<b>\$866,120</b>	<b>\$647,550</b>	<b>\$647,610</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$78,375</b>	<b>\$63,000</b>

## Summary

- The 2013 Parks Maintenance Budget of \$415,500 is equivalent to an investment of \$1,595.62 per acre of Township parkland. This is within the typical investment range of \$1,500 to \$3,000 per acre that is typical for suburban park maintenance in this area. Turf management and field preparations performed by the sports organizations reduce the costs to the Township. Over the years, the Northampton Township Parks and Recreation Board has worked hard to develop this reciprocal and positive relationship with the Youth Sports Groups. However, as new facilities are developed or new parkland is added to the Township park system, additional funds will likely be needed for park maintenance.
- Between the 2011 and 2012 budget years, growth in Charges for Services increased from 0.4% to 2%. This may represent an improvement in the economy, with people having more disposable income to spend on leisure services. Regardless, it indicates that the Township will need to anticipate an increased demand for parks and recreation services.
- Charges for Services and Fees recover approximately 61.5% of the total Parks and Recreation Fund Budget expenditures. This is a much higher than average recovery rate. A typical recovery rate would be around 25 to 35% of expenditures. However, as park maintenance expands along with facilities, the recovery rate will go down because park maintenance requires funding without revenue generation. This is where implementing Best Management practices that will reduce maintenance costs will be helpful.
- The Township first entered into a lease agreement with the Northampton Valley Country Club to operate the Swim Club in 2001. The lease has since been renewed several times with the latest renewal being for the current five-year agreement beginning in 2012 and ending in 2016. The lease amount remains the same at \$57,000.00 for each year. Fees from memberships, swim teams, lessons, parties, and other agencies using the pool are collected to cover the cost of the lease. In 2012, actual revenue generated amounted to \$59,187.00. Additional expenses, particularly staff, are not covered by the revenues collected. However, it must be taken into account that the Township camps also utilize the pool on a daily basis, and camp fees help offset total operating expenses as well. This should be taken into account as well when planning the budget and fees.
- In 2010, the Parks and Recreation Board implemented facility use fees so that residents have priority use of the facilities and so that actual users share in the upkeep of the facilities. Fees are now charged to file a Facility Use Application to obtain a permit for the use of picnic pavilions, athletic fields, the recreation center, gyms, or other facilities requiring a permit. For an example of a Facility Use letter and the Facility Use Application, please see **Appendix J: Facility Use Letter and Application**. In addition to the usage fees, the assessment of the non-resident fees was adopted. Sports groups which use the facilities are now assessed fees for the participants that do not reside within Northampton Township. The fees reflect use by Northampton residents, residents that reside within Council Rock School District, and those residents that reside outside of Council Rock boundaries. Fees are collected twice a year: during the spring/summer season and the fall/winter season. Non-resident fees collected in 2011 were \$26,480.00 and in 2012, the amount was \$34,170.00. These fees have allowed the Parks and Recreation Board to allocate funds for capital improvements.

## **BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES**

Best Management Practices (BMPs) are generally recognized as mitigation measures that promote environmental sustainability, preservation, and awareness. BMPs are used in all facets of land development, from oil drilling to park planning.

Pennsylvania's Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) provides many guidelines for the development and implementation of BMPs. Specifically, DCNR has developed "Greening Park and Sustainable Practices" to help communities include these philosophies into their designs for parks. A top ten list of "Green/Sustainable" practices has been developed and is included below as an overview to the types of actions recommended for use in Northampton Township. By following these practices, DCNR states that the Township will be able to "develop sustainable sites that are practical, conserve resources, and have a positive impact on the environment."

### DCNR's Top 10 Best Green/Sustainable Practices for Recreation and Conservation Sites:

1. Minimize impacts or changes to the natural landscape; protecting steep slopes, hillsides, forests and tree cover, rock outcroppings, native vegetation, and soil structure
2. Promote groundwater infiltration; manage stormwater naturally by installing rain gardens, bioswales, naturalized basins, permeable surfacing, etc.
3. Protect and/or enhance riparian buffers to improve flood control and water quality, stabilize soils, control erosion, and provide wildlife corridors and habitat
4. Plant trees wherever possible
5. Manage invasive plants on the site; landscape with native plants to promote biodiversity
6. Use regional materials during construction and select products made from recycled-content when possible
7. Provide opportunities for passive recreation and interaction with nature (meadow trails, viewing areas, sensory gardens, spaces for relaxation where noise level is minimized, etc.)
8. Connect the site to key places in the community by safe and accessible walkways, bikeways, or greenways
9. Include interpretive signage and/or programming to educate site visitors on various sustainable practices taking place within the park and build a sense of environmental stewardship to protect the site's natural resources
10. Reduce the amount of energy used on the site (use renewable sources of energy at gateways to sites and along pathways, use energy efficient fixtures and equipment, etc.)

# Landscaping and Environmental Resources

## Use Native Vegetation

A native plant can be defined as a plant that occurs naturally in an area not having been introduced by man; indigenous. These are plants that have originated from this regional area. Native plants possess certain traits that make them uniquely adapted to local conditions, and they often surpass non-native species in ruggedness and resistance to drought, insect damage, and disease, therefore requiring less water, maintenance, and fewer pesticides, which can often mean a substantial cost savings when it comes to maintenance funds. They also provide excellent habitat and food sources for local wildlife. Other key considerations for the use of native vegetation include:

- Restoration of hardy vegetation to sensitive areas – re-forest wherever possible
- Increase plant and animal species diversity
- Create and connect wildlife habitat corridors
- Re-forest and create woodland and riparian buffers
- Provide food and cover for important wildlife species
- Improve habitat health
- Provide erosion control and ground cover
- Increase park beauty and provide shade and cover for playgrounds, spectators, and park-goers
- Reduce maintenance and watering costs

Important aspects to consider in the planting of native species are the location and placement of the plant in relation to soil, slope, light conditions, and climate/wind. Planting times are also of importance in the survival and hardiness of the plant.

Additional information on landscaping with native plants in Pennsylvania can be found at:

- <http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/forestry/plants/nativeplants/index.htm>
- <http://www.bhwp.org/resources/Gardening-with-Natives.htm>
- <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-67973/5.6.3%20BMP%20Re-Vegetate%20and%20Re-Forest%20Disturbed%20Areas%20Using%20Native%20Species.pdf>
- <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-68009/6.7.2%20BMP%20Landscape%20Restoration.pdf>
- <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-76385/363-0300-002%20Appendix%20B.pdf>
- <http://www.epa.gov/reg3esd1/garden/plants.htm>
- <http://www.iconservepa.org/plantsmart/nativeplants/index.htm>
- <http://www.nativerevegetation.org/>
- <http://www.paflora.org/>
- <http://www.pawildflower.org>

## Warm-Season Meadows vs. Turfgrass

Cool season (turf) grasses are typical of lawns seen throughout the area. Stormwater infiltration and biodiversity, as well as food and cover for wildlife, can be increased by replacing turf areas with warm season grass meadows in low traffic areas. This method also helps to reduce maintenance and watering/irrigation costs. Turfgrass has a higher stormwater run-off rate than native warm-season meadows, especially on steep slopes. Warm season grasses have a higher rate of water absorption and can provide a buffer and filter to water sources. They also provide natural habitat for wildlife, due to their tall, tuft-like growing pattern. Further, in replacing turf with warm season grasses and other native vegetation, a cost savings may be seen from reduced maintenance in the number of times that the meadow must be mown each season, and elimination of pesticides that must be applied in order to maintain the lawn.

- <http://pubs.cas.psu.edu/freepubs/pdfs/uh158.pdf>
- [http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/ucmprd2/groups/public/documents/document/dcnr\\_007939.pdf](http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/ucmprd2/groups/public/documents/document/dcnr_007939.pdf)
- <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-68009/6.7.2%20BMP%20Landscape%20Restoration.pdf>

## Riparian Buffers, Floodplain, and Wetlands Protection, Enhancement and Restoration

Floodplain, wetlands, and riparian buffers play a crucial role in the protection of our water sources. These areas are critical for the health of aquatic ecosystems, provision of natural flood control, removal of nitrates and other pollutants, prevention of erosion, and the recharging of ground water.

- Improve the interaction of groundwater, stream base flow, and vegetative root systems; increase groundwater recharge, enhance habitat, stormwater infiltration, and treat stormwater runoff by restoring and protecting important hydrologic features, including floodplains, wetlands, and critical recharge areas. Protect 100-year floodplain areas through stabilization, reforestation, and other protection and management techniques in order to protect surrounding areas and to reduce instances of flooding. Floodplain areas are historically designated and preserved to cleanse both surface and groundwater, replenish groundwater supplies, store water from high flows, and sustain viable native plant and animal populations. The designated floodplain should be protected against development and removal of native species, root systems, and natural soils. Wetlands are those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater continually or seasonally, and are able to support vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas. Wetlands are critical to the health of many ecosystems, both aquatic and terrestrial. They areas act as a natural flood control by slowing down storm water, trapping sediment, and recharging ground water. Wetlands should be protected along with floodplains and riparian buffers so as to maintain the integrity of the groundwater infiltration. Where trails or pathways must cross wetlands or floodplains, boardwalks should be used so as to create as little impact as possible on wetlands, streams, floodplains, and riparian areas in general.

- <http://pubs.cas.psu.edu/FreePubs/pdfs/uh086.pdf>
- <http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/topogeo/groundwater/index.htm>
- [http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/ucmprd2/groups/public/documents/document/d\\_001043.pdf](http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/ucmprd2/groups/public/documents/document/d_001043.pdf)
- <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-68011/6.7.4%20BMP%20Floodplain%20Restoration.pdf>

- <http://www.epa.gov/bioindicators/>
- <http://www.epa.gov/owow/restore/>
- <http://www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/restore/finalinfo.html>
- <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detailfull/national/water/manage/?&cid=stelprdb1043244>
- [http://www.newpa.com/webfm\\_send/1510](http://www.newpa.com/webfm_send/1510)
- Protect, Conserve, and Enhance riparian areas through the use of the three zone Riparian Buffer System and riparian buffer preservation and restoration in order to improve water quality, increase stormwater infiltration, improve wildlife habitat, and treat stormwater runoff. Riparian buffers, the areas of vegetation along streams or other bodies of water, slow run-off, allowing more time for absorption into the soil. The vegetation within riparian buffers filters out sediment and pollution and sediment prior to stormwater entering streams or other water bodies. Forested areas adjacent to streams help to regulate stream temperatures by providing shade, and trees and woody debris provide food and habitat for aquatic life. Buffers should be restored if damaged or destroyed, and should consist of grass filter strips, “managed” native forest area, and undisturbed native forest area.
  - [http://www.chesapeakebay.net/content/publications/cbp\\_12999.pdf](http://www.chesapeakebay.net/content/publications/cbp_12999.pdf)
  - [http://www.chesapeakebay.net/content/publications/cbp\\_13019.pdf](http://www.chesapeakebay.net/content/publications/cbp_13019.pdf)
  - <http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/watermgt/wc/subjects/streamreleaf/default.htm>
  - <http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/watermgt/wc/subjects/streamreleaf/Docs/1506bufferpreserve.pdf>
  - <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-67987/5.4.2%20BMP%20Protect%20Conserve%20Enhance%20Riparian%20Areas.pdf>
  - <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-68008/6.7.1%20BMP%20Riparian%20Buffer%20Restoration.pdf>
  - <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-82308/394-5600-001.pdf>

### Soil Amendments and Restoration

Maintain high quality soils. Implement soil amendments and restoration to improve disturbed soils and low organic soils by restoring soil porosity and/or adding compost for the purpose of reestablishing soils’ long-term capacity for infiltration, pollutant removal, and plant growth support.

- <http://chesapeakestormwater.net/2012/03/design-specification-no-4-soil-compost-amendment/>
- <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-68010/6.7.3%20BMP%20Soil%20Amendment%20and%20Restoration.pdf>
- [http://www.lid-stormwater.net/soilamend\\_home.htm](http://www.lid-stormwater.net/soilamend_home.htm)

## Stormwater Management

### Rain Gardens and Bioretention Areas

Increase stormwater capture and stormwater infiltration into the groundwater supply, reduce runoff speed, and treat stormwater runoff through the use of rain gardens and bioretention areas planted with native vegetation. Rain gardens are shallow depressions in the ground filled with sandy soil and planted with deep-rooted native vegetation.<sup>1</sup> Rain gardens can play a simple but important role in the control of stormwater. When placed near sources of run-off, such as parking lots and sidewalks, the gardens can catch the water, absorb it for plant use, or allow it to naturally infiltrate into the ground. These gardens can become habitats for butterflies, birds, and other small animals. For larger areas of run-off, such as roads and driveways, the planting of trees can serve a similar purpose, in that the root systems can absorb much of the storm water.

- <http://chesapeakestormwater.net/2012/03/design-specification-no-9-bioretention/>
- <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-67993/6.4.5%20BMP%20Rain%20Garden%20Bioretention.pdf>
- [http://www.lid-stormwater.net/bio\\_benefits.htm](http://www.lid-stormwater.net/bio_benefits.htm)
- [http://www.lowimpactdevelopment.org/raingarden\\_design/](http://www.lowimpactdevelopment.org/raingarden_design/)
- <http://www.raingardennetwork.com/>

### Naturalized Basins

Increase stormwater infiltration and evapotranspiration, treat stormwater runoff and provide temporary stormwater storage, attenuate stormwater runoff peaks and expand wildlife habitat through the use of naturalized infiltration basins, wet ponds/retention basins, and dry extended detention basins. The planting of warm season grasses and wildflowers create an attractive landscape feature with low maintenance requirements.

- <http://chesapeakestormwater.net/2012/03/design-specification-no-14-wet-pond/>
- <http://chesapeakestormwater.net/2012/03/design-specification-no-15-extended-detention-pond/>
- <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-67990/6.4.2%20BMP%20Infiltration%20Basin.pdf>
- <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-68004/6.6.2%20BMP%20Wet%20Pond%20Retention%20Basin.pdf>
- <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-68005/6.6.3%20BMP%20Dry%20Extended%20Detention%20Basin.pdf>
- [http://www.perkiomenwatershed.org/Stormwater/stormwater\\_management\\_improvement.aspx](http://www.perkiomenwatershed.org/Stormwater/stormwater_management_improvement.aspx)

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<sup>1</sup> Creating Sustainable Parks and Landscapes, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, March 2010

## Vegetated Swales

Reduce stormwater velocity, reduce pollution and sediment levels, and increase stormwater infiltration through the use of vegetated swales lined with native plantings.

- <http://chesapeakestormwater.net/2012/03/design-specification-no-11-wet-swale/>
- <http://chesapeakestormwater.net/2012/03/design-specification-no-10-dry-swales/>
- <http://chesapeakestormwater.net/2012/03/design-specification-no-3-grass-channels/>
- <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-67996/6.4.8%20BMP%20Vegetated%20Swale.pdf>
- <http://www.stormwaterpa.org/vegetated-swales.html>



Vegetated Swales – Lower Saucon Township, PA

## Constructed Filters and Constructed Wetlands

Reduce pollutant levels in stormwater and increase stormwater infiltration through the use of constructed filters and constructed wetlands planted with native vegetation.

- <http://chesapeakestormwater.net/2012/03/design-specification-no-13-constructed-wetlands/>
- <http://chesapeakestormwater.net/2012/03/design-specification-no-12-filtering-practices/>
- <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-67995/6.4.7%20BMP%20Constructed%20Filter.pdf>
- <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-68003/6.6.1%20BMP%20Constructed%20Wetland.pdf>



Constructed Wetlands – Central Park, Doylestown, PA

### Vegetated Filter Strips

Vegetated filter strips planted with native vegetation should be located between nonpoint sources of pollution and receiving water bodies in order to mitigate the effects of those pollutants, such as nutrients, pesticides, sediments, and suspended solids. They help in reducing the velocity of storm water runoff and thus reduce the amount of pollution and sediment entering the waterway. Furthermore, vegetated strips can be used as a landscaping technique to shield views of maintenance areas (rather than fencing), protect valuable viewsheds, and separate pedestrian areas from vehicular areas.

- [http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater/menuofbmps/index.cfm?action=factsheet\\_results&view=specific&bmp=76](http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater/menuofbmps/index.cfm?action=factsheet_results&view=specific&bmp=76)
- <http://chesapeakestormwater.net/2012/03/design-specification-no-2-sheet-flow-to-a-vegetated-filter-space-or-conserved-open-space/>
- <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-67997/6.4.9%20BMP%20Vegetated%20Filter%20Strip.pdf>

### Infiltration Berms

Increase stormwater infiltration on gently sloping sites or along trails through the use of infiltration berms.

- <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-67998/6.4.10%20BMP%20Infiltration%20Berm%20and%20Retentive%20Grading.pdf>

## Pervious Pavement, Pervious Concrete, and Porous Structural Pavers

Increase stormwater storage and infiltration through the use of pervious pavement, pervious concrete, or porous structural pavers with subsurface storage and infiltration beds. Porous or pervious materials are those that allow the flow of water through them. Non-porous or impervious surfaces, such as cement or concrete, parking lots, sidewalks, and bike paths, do not allow the infiltration of precipitation and therefore can create a sheet flow of water off their surface, creating the potential for erosion, flooding, and water pollution. By replacing these typical non-porous surfaces with porous surfaces, such as porous pavement or porous pavers, the environment can benefit through ground water recharge, reduction of run-off, and a potential reduction in cost due to the reduced need for a stand-alone stormwater management system. Pervious pavement consists of a permeable upper pavement covering a graded stone bed, which allows for the temporary storage of stormwater runoff underground in a subsurface infiltration bed. This type of use is ideal in large open areas, such as for parking lots or large patio areas. The use of pervious paving on basketball or other sport courts muffles the sounds of balls and other noises.

- <http://chesapeakestormwater.net/2012/03/design-specification-no-7-permeable-pavement/>
- <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-68019/6.4.1%20BMP%20Pervious%20Pavement%20with%20Infiltration%20Bed.pdf>
- [http://www.lid-stormwater.net/permpavers\\_benefits.htm](http://www.lid-stormwater.net/permpavers_benefits.htm)

## Subsurface Infiltration Beds

Provide temporary stormwater storage, increased stormwater infiltration, and reduce stormwater runoff through the use of subsurface infiltration beds in a vegetated bed or beneath recreational fields or open space.

- <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-67991/6.4.3%20BMP%20Subsurface%20Infiltration%20Bed.pdf>
- <http://www.malvern.org/htms/documents/Infilbed.pdf>

## Infiltration Trenches

Increase stormwater infiltration through the use of infiltration trenches.

- <http://chesapeakestormwater.net/2012/03/design-specification-no-8-infiltration-practice/>
- <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-67992/6.4.4%20BMP%20Infiltration%20Trench.pdf>
- <http://www.werf.org/liveablecommunities/toolbox/infiltration.htm>

## Vegetated Roof

Increase stormwater retention and evapotranspiration; improve water quality in combination with ground infiltration measures, and increase energy conservation and air quality through use of a vegetated roof. A vegetated roof is an alternative type of roof surface typically consisting of waterproofing and drainage materials and covered with an engineered growing media that is designed to support the growth of specific lightweight plants such as sedum. A portion of the stormwater captured within the growth media is conveyed to the roof drainage system and then to the storm drain system, and a portion evaporates or is used up by the plants on the roof, which helps to reduce the overall runoff volume for the site as well as peak runoff rates and pollutant loads. Vegetated roofs can be placed atop recreation centers, pavilions, sporting complexes and even kiosks.



Kiosk with Vegetated Roof  
Hellertown, PA

- <http://chesapeakestormwater.net/2012/03/design-specification-no-5-vegetated-roof/>
- <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-68000/6.5.1%20BMP%20Vegetated%20Roof.pdf>
- <http://www.epa.gov/heatisld/mitigation/index.htm>
- <http://www.greenroofs.org/>
- [http://www.lid-stormwater.net/greenroofs\\_home.htm](http://www.lid-stormwater.net/greenroofs_home.htm)

## Runoff Capture and Reuse

Reduce watering and maintenance costs, increase stormwater infiltration, and improve landscape health and vibrancy through implementation of a water budget and the capture and reuse of stormwater with cisterns, rain barrels, vertical storage, and storage beneath structures. Water storage as a way to “capture” rainwater varies in size depending on water budget needs from small rain barrels to large underground holding tanks. Storage collection units are placed near the downspouts of buildings, pavilions, or recreation facilities. The “grey” water can then be re-used to irrigate gardens and water plants.

- <http://chesapeakestormwater.net/2012/03/design-specification-no-6-rainwater-harvesting/>
- <http://extension.psu.edu/water/conservation>
- <http://waterbudget.sustainable-sources.com/>
- <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-68001/6.5.2%20BMP%20Runoff%20Capture%20and%20Reuse.pdf>
- <http://www.epa.gov/region03/p2/what-is-rainbarrel.pdf>
- [http://www.lid-stormwater.net/raincist\\_home.htm](http://www.lid-stormwater.net/raincist_home.htm)

### Disconnect form Storm Sewers

Reduce stormwater volume by disconnecting roof leaders and downspouts and directing rooftop runoff to vegetated infiltration areas, and disconnecting impervious roads and driveways from storm sewers and directing runoff to grassed swales or bioretention areas to infiltrate stormwater.

- <http://chesapeakestormwater.net/2012/03/design-specification-no-1-rooftop-disconnection/>
- <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-67978/5.8.1%20BMP%20Rooftop%20Disconnection.pdf>
- <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-67979/5.8.2%20BMP%20Disconnection%20from%20Storm%20Sewers.pdf>

### Dry Well or Seepage Pit

Temporarily store and infiltrate rooftop runoff through the use of a dry well or seepage pit.

- <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-67994/6.4.6%20BMP%20Dry%20Well%20Seepage%20Pit.pdf>

### Water Quality Filters and Hydrodynamic Devices

Remove particulate contaminants including coarse sediment, oil and grease, litter and debris, through the use of water quality filters and hydrodynamic devices.

- <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-68006/6.6.4%20BMP%20Water%20Quality%20Filters%20and%20Hydrodynamic%20Devices.pdf>

## **Minimize Site Impacts**

### Protect Sensitive and Special Value Features

Minimize stormwater and other disturbance impacts by identifying and protecting sensitive and special value features on the site such as floodplains, woodlands, wetlands, rock outcroppings, steep slopes, riparian areas, etc.

- <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-67986/5.4.1%20BMP%20Protect%20Sensitive%20and%20Special%20Value%20Features.pdf>
- [http://www.epa.gov/dced/pdf/sg\\_stormwater\\_BMP.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/dced/pdf/sg_stormwater_BMP.pdf)
- <http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us/HomePage.aspx>
- <http://www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov/>
- <http://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/blitz.html>
- [http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/cs/groups/public/documents/document/dcnr\\_002285.pdf](http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/cs/groups/public/documents/document/dcnr_002285.pdf)

### Protect Interior Forest Areas

Preserve and manage interior forest areas in order to enhance wildlife habitat and to provide food and cover for a variety of wildlife species.

- [http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/ucmprd1/groups/public/documents/document/dcnr\\_005472.pdf](http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/ucmprd1/groups/public/documents/document/dcnr_005472.pdf)
- <http://sfp.cas.psu.edu/fragmentation/Forest%20Fragmentation.pdf>
- <http://www.belmontnh.org/docs/Learn-Safe/C-BirdFriendlyMgmt.pdf>
- [http://ohioline.osu.edu/b915/part\\_one.html](http://ohioline.osu.edu/b915/part_one.html)

### Utilize Natural Drainage Features

Minimize stormwater impacts by identifying, protecting, and utilizing the site's natural drainage features as part of the overall stormwater management system.

- <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-67988/5.4.3%20BMP%20Protect%20Utilize%20Natural%20Flow%20Pathways%20in%20Overall%20Stormwater%20Planning%20and%20Design.pdf>

### Minimize Site Disturbance

Minimize overall site disturbance by minimizing grading, soil compaction, and vegetation disturbance.

- <http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater/menuofbmps/index.cfm?action=browse&Rbutton=detail&bmp=34>
- <http://greenmanual.rutgers.edu/newresidential/strategies/sitedisturbance.pdf>
- <http://pubs.cas.psu.edu/FreePubs/pdfs/uh122.pdf>
- <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-67971/5.6.1%20BMP%20Minimize%20Total%20Disturbed%20Area%20-%20Grading.pdf>
- <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-67972/5.6.2%20BMP%20Minimize%20Soil%20Compaction%20in%20Disturbed%20Areas.pdf>

## Reduce Impervious Cover

Reduce impervious cover and runoff by minimizing hard, non-porous surfaces and turfgrass areas.

- [http://ag.udel.edu/udbg/sl/vegetation/Turf\\_Grass\\_Madness.pdf](http://ag.udel.edu/udbg/sl/vegetation/Turf_Grass_Madness.pdf)
- <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-67975/5.7.1%20BMP%20Reduce%20Street%20Imperviousness.pdf>
- <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-67976/5.7.2%20BMP%20Reduce%20Parking%20Imperviousness.pdf>
- <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-68009/6.7.2%20BMP%20Landscape%20Restoration.pdf>

## **Wildlife Management**

### Protect, Manage and Attract Wildlife, Pollinator, Bird and Bat Species

Attract and retain wildlife by providing food, water, cover, and space for native wildlife species to thrive and manage wildlife habitat in a sustainable manner. Provide native host and food plants and shelter for bees, butterflies, moths, beetles, flies, birds, and bat pollinator species to help ensure the continued health of these important species and of the plants that they pollinate. Provide specific plant species, habitat features, and shelter to attract important bird species and Pennsylvania bat species, which can remove insect pests and pollinate plant species.

The attraction and retention of wildlife to a park area should be an important aspect in its design. Not only do these creatures provide for the natural circle of life as well as pollination of a variety of plants and vegetation, but they also provide many new recreational and educational opportunities, such as bird watching and wildlife viewing.

There are four basic needs of all wildlife: food, water, cover, and space.<sup>2</sup> Park spaces can be designed or retrofitted to encourage a variety of wildlife, such as birds, bats, and pollinators (butterflies, bumblebees, moths, beetles, etc). It is important to realize that the simple supply of native vegetation and water features within a setting already provides for half of wildlife needs.

Food (seed, nuts, berries, fruit, acorns, nectar) can be provided by fruit trees and shrubs, oak trees, and wildflowers. Water features provide an entire habitat for water wildlife species. If a natural body of water is not present, the addition of a man-made water feature or a birdbath could easily provide this necessity as well. Cover is necessary for animals to hide, raise young, and find shelter from weather and predators. Downed trees and brush provide much of this for native species and therefore should not necessarily be removed from the landscape unless hazardous to human safety. Nest boxes, strategically placed throughout a park system, can also provide much needed shelter for bats and birds when caves or other cavities are not available. Space can be provided by leaving as much of a park in its natural state as possible. The more natural a space provided, the more wildlife will be attracted to the area. Wildlife corridors and bridges are important to help wildlife species to travel without for the purposes of migration and breeding without human interaction.

- <http://pawr.com/>
- <http://pubs.cas.psu.edu/FreePubs/pdfs/agrs104.pdf>
- <http://pubs.cas.psu.edu/FreePubs/pdfs/uh078.pdf>
- <http://pubs.cas.psu.edu/FreePubs/pdfs/uh104.pdf>
- <http://pubs.cas.psu.edu/FreePubs/pdfs/uh106.pdf>
- <http://pubs.cas.psu.edu/freepubs/pdfs/uh107.pdf>
- <http://pubs.cas.psu.edu/FreePubs/pdfs/UH128.pdf>
- <http://pubs.cas.psu.edu/FreePubs/pdfs/uh161.pdf>
- <http://pubs.cas.psu.edu/freepubs/pdfs/XH0030.pdf>
- <http://www.nwf.org>
- <http://www.nwf.org/Get-Outside/Outdoor-Activities/Garden-for-Wildlife.aspx>

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<sup>2</sup> Creating Sustainable Parks and Landscapes, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, March 2010

- <http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/deer/11949>
- [http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/habitat\\_management/19107](http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/habitat_management/19107)
- <http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt?open=514&objID=622397&mode=2>
- <http://pubs.cas.psu.edu/FreePubs/pdfs/uh139.pdf>
- <http://www.butterfliesandmoths.org/>
- <http://www.pollinator.org/guides.htm>
- <http://www.xerces.org/>
- <http://athome.audubon.org/>
- <http://pa.audubon.org/>
- <http://pubs.cas.psu.edu/FreePubs/pdfs/uh108.pdf>
- <http://pubs.cas.psu.edu/FreePubs/pdfs/uh123.pdf>
- <http://pubs.cas.psu.edu/freepubs/pdfs/UH159.pdf>
- <http://www.audubon.org>
- <http://pubs.cas.psu.edu/freepubs/pdfs/uh081.pdf>
- <http://www.batmanagement.com/Batcentral/batspecs.html>
- [http://www.conservewildlifenj.org/downloads/cwnj\\_93.pdf](http://www.conservewildlifenj.org/downloads/cwnj_93.pdf)
- <http://www.nwf.org/Get-Outside/Outdoor-Activities/Garden-for-Wildlife/Gardening-Tips/Build-a-Bat-House.aspx>

## Site Design

### Use Sustainable Products and Low Impact Design

Encourage the use of locally-sourced, sustainable products and materials and ‘green’ building products and techniques, construction practices and services. Through the use of recycled and sustainable materials, parks can take best management practices to a higher level. Park benches, picnic tables, playground equipment, garbage receptacles, kiosks, and signage can all be made from recycled plastics or sustainable lumber. Recycled tires can be shredded and used as a protective surface under play yards. Recycled asphalt can be used as a surface for parking lots. Recycled rubber or plastic can be utilized as a running surface. Wooden beams from demolished structures and large rocks from excavation areas within the park can be reused along trails as path markers or steps. Solar powered lighting can be used throughout the park for pathways and parking lots. Composting toilets can be used rather than installing costly sewage facilities or using temporary facilities. The use of locally-sourced sustainable products reduces transportation emissions and sustains the local economy.

Further, “green” building design for new infrastructure can also help to improve the environment. LEED (Leadership and Excellence in Energy and Design) certification insures that buildings are constructed or renovated with sustainable practices, such as energy-efficient lighting, alternative heating or energy sources, and water conservation methods. Low Impact Development (LID) also helps preserve open space, conserve water, and minimize impact by considering the environmental impact on any given design through the use of narrow streets and driveways, clustering, rain gardens, etc.

- <http://www.epa.gov/greenbuilding/>
- <http://www.usgbc.org/>
- <http://www.americantrails.org/resources/structures/Composttoilet.html>
- [www.lowimpactdevelopment.org](http://www.lowimpactdevelopment.org)

### Accessibility

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires all public spaces be accessible to all individuals, including park spaces. Best management practices can be applied to the design of accessible park and recreation places. Items such as slope, pavement selection, edge treatments, and stormwater run-off need to be considered. Drinking fountains, parking lots, trails, signage, and picnic tables all need to be designed with universal accessibility in mind. Through the use of sustainable materials and creative design, parks can be enjoyed by all for many generations.

- <http://www.access-board.gov/>
- <http://www.ncaonline.org/>

### Connectivity

Connect parks, schools, and areas throughout the community with safe and accessible walkways, bikeways, and greenways.

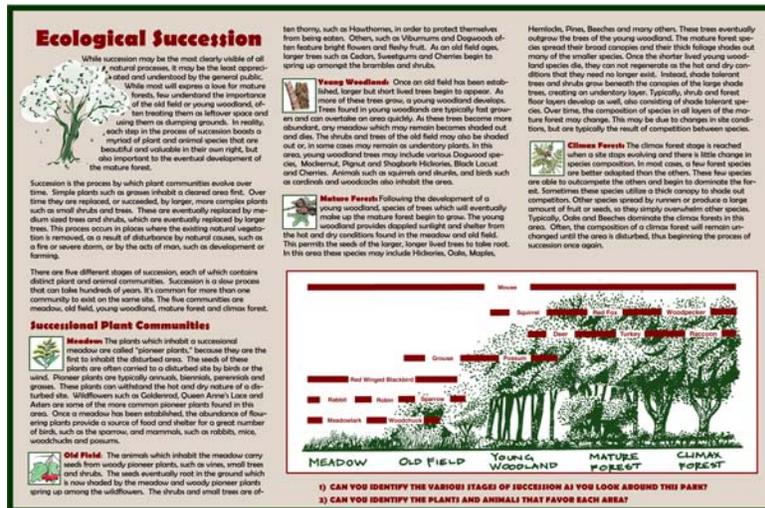
- <http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/saferoutes/>
- <http://www.americantrails.org/resources/index.html>
- [http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle\\_pedestrian/index.cfm](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle_pedestrian/index.cfm)
- <http://www.pedbikeinfo.org/>

## Education and Site Programming

Best Management Practices may be a unique and difficult concept in some communities. Through education and outreach, citizens can be made aware of the subtle changes in a park design that actually work to improve the environment, the overall aesthetics, and functionality of the park and in the long run, help to reduce maintenance costs. A public relations program, educating the general public to “green” practices would be ideal in implementing BMP’s into a park plan.

### Programs, Materials, and Signage

Brochures, flyers, newspaper advertisements, newsletters, public meetings, and fact sheets will all be helpful tools in educating the general public about the benefits of going “green” and implementing the changes to the parks and recreation system. Classes, workshops, and hands-on tours for different age groups may generate an interest in the environment and sustainability and introduce people to recreational opportunities that may otherwise not have known existed. Interpretive displays throughout the park, especially at a new, sustainable feature, will assist the public in understanding why changes have been made and how these changes will not only benefit them but the community as a whole. Displays should be bold, easy to read and understand, accessible, and educational.



### Ecological Succession Signage – Central Park, Doylestown, PA

### Green and Sustainable Park Activities

There are many recreation opportunities with green and sustainable components to them that can get the community involved and can provide fun, educational opportunities to park goers. These include natural play areas, educational areas, community gardens, tree houses/tree canopy walks, activity trails, bird watching areas/bird blinds, nature and walking trails, outdoor game areas, passive recreational areas, sensory gardens, viewing areas, picnic groves, and outdoor classrooms, among other activities.

- o <http://www.bornlearning.org/default.aspx?id=268>
- o [http://www.business-services.upenn.edu/arboretum/gardens\\_treadventure.shtml](http://www.business-services.upenn.edu/arboretum/gardens_treadventure.shtml)
- o <http://www.nayaugpark.org/>
- o <http://www.communitygarden.org/>

## Site Management

### Composting and Recycling

Composting and recycling are two very simple management tools that have already been implemented within the Township. However, it is unclear if these programs are being used to their full efficiency. It is recommended that periodic monitoring of parks and special events be scheduled to determine whether placement of additional recycling receptacles is needed. Special events, such as concerts and tournaments, also have potential for producing a large amount of trash, most of which may be recyclable.

Composting leaves and other garden scraps from the Township's parks could ensure that compost would be available to utilize as a fertilizer in future plantings. Small scale composting bins or receptacles can be installed in maintenance areas of parks and monitored throughout the year. Additionally, where composting does not occur, mulching leaves in place, rather than collecting and bagging them, allows the nutrient to enter back into the soil.

- <http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/composting/14063>
- [http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/airwaste/wm/recycle/compost\\_sum/home.htm](http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/airwaste/wm/recycle/compost_sum/home.htm)

### Sustainable Landscape Management Practices

Implement sustainable landscaping and management practices, properly install and care for trees, shrubs and other plants, reduce the use of chemicals such as in pressure-treated lumber, cleaning supplies, paints, etc. Traditional mowed turfgrass fields (lawns) are expensive to maintain. Traditional maintenance activities for these areas, such as gas-powered mowers, fertilizers, pesticides, and watering are all damaging to the environment.

- Turf grass should be mowed high during early morning hours with the clippings left on the grass. This will help the roots grow longer, prevent erosion, and ensure continued growth.
- Grass should not be mown right up to the edge of a body of water (see Vegetated buffer / planting strips).
- A mowing maintenance schedule is required for warm season grasses in order to manage the area appropriately for mammals, nesting birds, and desired insects.
- In areas where composting is not available and mowing is occurring, leaves should be mulched and left in place.
- Use of sports fields should be rotated where possible to allow fields to recuperate from heavy use and to allow for required maintenance.
  - <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/organics/landscaping/>
  - [http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/ucmprd1/groups/public/documents/document/d\\_000620.pdf](http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/ucmprd1/groups/public/documents/document/d_000620.pdf)
  - <http://www.epa.gov/heatisd/mitigation/index.htm>
  - <http://www.epa.gov/oem/docs/chem/spalert.pdf>
  - <http://www.epa.gov/oppad001/reregistration/cca/>
  - <http://www.ifmafoundation.org/research/how-to-guides.htm>
  - <http://www.isa-arbor.org>
  - <http://www.natlands.org/publications/publications/?did=55>

- <http://www.nrel.gov/docs/legosti/old/16632.pdf>
- <http://www.pennsylvaniahorticulturalsociety.org/phlgreen/index.html>
- <http://www.sustland.umn.edu/index.html>
- <http://www.treevitalize.net/TreeCare.aspx>

### Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

Integrated Pest Management is an environmentally sensitive approach to the management of pests, such as beetles and other insects, as well as white-tailed deer. The method relies on pest monitoring and the most economical and least hazardous combination of cultural, physical, biological, and/or chemical controls to prevent unacceptable levels of pest activity and damage.

When used in conjunction with proper planting techniques, including the selection of pest resistant vegetation, and the introduction of predator insects into the environment, the methods can be quite effective. These techniques typically save money and reduce the amount of harmful chemicals used in the environment. Some methods of IPM include: the use of organic products such as corn gluten meal to prevent weeds, vinegar as a chemical edging tool around trees and fences, and orange oil as an insecticide.

- <http://extension.psu.edu/ipm>
- <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/factsheets/ipm.htm>
- <http://www.lowersaucontownship.org/pdf/pestmp.pdf>

### Management of Invasive Species

An invasive species can be defined as a species that is not native to the ecosystem under consideration, and its establishment causes or is likely to cause economic, environmental, or human harm. Invasive species arrive or are introduced into the ecosystem in a variety of ways, such as through travelers, products shipped from overseas, unwanted pets, birds or other wildlife, or simply wind. It is important to realize that not all non-native species are invasive. Parks should be routinely monitored for invasive plant, animal, and insect species. When an invasive plant species is discovered, it should be promptly removed and replaced with native plant species. When an invasive insect or animal (such as the Emerald Ash Borer) is discovered, it should be reported to the proper authorities. It is important to educate the public about invasive plant, animal, and insect species.

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/forestry/insectsdisease/index.htm>

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/forestry/plants/invasiveplants/index.htm>

- [http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/ucmprd1/groups/public/documents/document/dcnr\\_002854.pdf](http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/ucmprd1/groups/public/documents/document/dcnr_002854.pdf)
- <http://www.emeraldashborer.info/>
- <http://www.fishandboat.com/ais.htm>
- <http://www.fs.fed.us/invasivespecies/index.shtml>
- <http://www.iconservepa.org/plantsmart/invasives/index.htm>
- <http://www.invasive.org>
- <http://www.invasiveplantatlas.org/index.html>

<http://www.protectyourwaters.net>

## GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The **Goals** shown herein are general statements, which are meant to set the tone for decisions to be made in terms of the community's desire to improve its quality of life. Goals are stable and long ranging; they are not measurable actions, and may take years to achieve.

The **Objectives** under each Goal are statements indicating the achievements necessary to meet an overall Goal. Objectives have measurable results, and may range drastically in the length of time required for completion. This chapter lists objectives without assigning responsibility to any specific item. A more thorough breakdown of Action Items and responsibilities is provided within **Chapter 8: Recommendations/Action Plan**. Goals and Objectives listed within this chapter have not been listed or numbered in any significant order.

These Tools and Recommendations are to be used only as a guide for potential future development of the Township parks, recreation facilities and programs. Any and all future funding of goals, objectives and projects outlined in the Plan must have the prior approval of the Northampton Township Board of Supervisors. It is understood that before any action is implemented it should be further investigated to reflect changing circumstances as well as feasibility and affordability.

Goal 1: Continue to provide open space, parks, recreation facilities, and programming throughout Northampton Township to meet the needs of residents.

### *Objectives:*

- Continue to provide open space and review opportunities to obtain open space in accordance with the Northampton Township Open Space Plan.
- Continue to provide a wide variety of programming activities to meet the needs of the various demographic groups within the Township.
- Provide for accessible, permanent, bathroom facilities wherever possible at Township park facilities.
- Provide for the safety and security of parks and recreation facilities throughout the Township.
- Consider implementation of Green and Sustainable Park Principles and Best Management Practices in parks throughout the Township.
- Meet ADA guidelines for access throughout Township parks and recreation facilities.
- Continue to provide athletic facilities and fields to meet the needs of Township residents.
- Provide passive open space and unprogrammed recreation areas for Township residents.
- Continue to review and make recommendations and, if necessary, to update local ordinances and regulations regarding park and recreation facilities throughout the Township.

Goal 2: Establish safe and accessible pedestrian and bicycle routes within a PennDOT Smart Transportation Guidelines framework to enhance the ability to travel throughout the Township and/or to promote healthy lifestyles without the use of a motor vehicle.

*Objectives:*

- Plan for safe and accessible pedestrian and bicycle routes between schools, parks, and other community nodes.
- Plan for the continued maintenance of pedestrian and bicycle routes throughout the Township.
- Encourage alternative modes of transportation throughout the Township.
- Update local planning documents to reflect existing and proposed sidewalks and shared use path locations.
- Establish ordinance/design standards for pedestrian/bicycle pathways in accordance with the PennDOT Smart Transportation Guidelines.

Goal 3: Continue to manage Northampton Township's parks and recreation system in a professional manner that conveys the greatest possible benefit to the public.

*Objectives:*

- Implement a systematic method of allocating fields and facilities to user groups and moderating between sports user groups and other user groups and Township residents when conflicts arise.
- Continue to adjust the administration and management of recreation, participant recreation, and parks maintenance as the parks and recreation system continues to evolve.
- Continue to periodically assess and update technology used within the Parks and Recreation Department to ensure that it is up-to-date, practical, economical, and usable.
- Improve and periodically assess marketing practices to ensure that parks and recreation offerings are being promoted.

Goal 4: Continue to invest in parks, recreation, and their associated facilities to sustain and enhance the quality of life in Northampton Township.

*Objectives:*

- Encourage community involvement with parks and recreation programs through volunteering and community activism.
- Work and collaborate with user groups to improve the infrastructure of parks and recreation facilities for the benefit of all.
- Create a comprehensive facility naming rights policy and protocol for establishing memorials to people within the park system.
- Work with a group of concerned citizens to form a non-profit (5013c) Friends of Northampton Parks organization, which would accept tax-deductible donations on behalf of Parks and Recreation to help offset costs for park improvements.
- Enhance the sponsorship programs to include the donation of facility amenities such as park benches, trees, and picnic tables in honor of people and events.
- Work to establish a comprehensive maintenance schedule for parks and recreation facilities throughout the Township.
- Encourage the establishment of “Friends of” park groups and work with them for the betterment of the community parks.
- Continue to enhance and improve existing parks and park and recreation facilities.
- Continue to apply for grants and other support funding to assist with financial backing for large capital projects.
- Maintain and periodically assess revenue sources for both the Parks and Recreation Fund and Recreation Capital Reserve Fund.



## RECOMMENDATIONS/ACTION PLAN

The Action Plan serves as recommendations for a course of action for Northampton Township to consider over the next five to ten years and beyond. Not everything can or should be done at once.

Nothing listed herein is a requirement. The recommendations can be viewed as a road map for the Township to consider and consult on the path to achieving its goals. The Township can follow the map at its own pace determining where to follow the path exactly and where to take detours to seize opportunities or meet emerging needs.

The actions recommended should be viewed like the pieces of a puzzle rather than a list of things to do. Just as a puzzle is completed by piecing together many parts, Northampton Township will achieve community goals by undertaking parts of the Action Plan simultaneously. The action plan provides a basis for additional planning necessary for projects such as bikeway and pedestrian pathway development, parks infrastructure improvement, and other capital improvements. The plan is intended to be a flexible, living document that may be used as a tool to assist the Township as it analyzes future options and makes decisions regarding Parks and Recreation. Goals, Objectives, and Action Items listed within this chapter have not been listed or numbered in any significant order.

This Action Plan is to be used only as a guide for potential future development of the Township parks, recreation facilities, programs and policies. Any and all future funding must have the prior approval of the Northampton Township Board of Supervisors. It is understood that before any action is implemented it should be further investigated to reflect changing circumstances as well as feasibility and affordability.

The **Goals** shown herein are general statements, which are meant to set the tone for decisions to be made in terms of the community's desire to improve its quality of life. Goals are stable and long ranging; they are not measurable actions, and may take years to achieve.

The **Objectives** under each Goal are statements indicating the achievements necessary to meet an overall Goal. Objectives have measurable results, and may range drastically in the length of time required for completion.

**Action Items** – provide a further breakdown of tasks to be performed in order to meet overarching Goals and Objectives.

**Responsible Party/Costs** – provides an approximation of cost for each Action Item (where available) and the party responsible for completion of the task.

**Priority** – indicates approximate length of time for completion of the Action Item, or when the Action Item is to be completed. Immediate Priority is to be completed within the next year, medium Priority is to be completed within the next two to five years, and Long Term is to be completed between five to ten years after plan adoption.

Priorities may be changed based on the following: the overall feasibility and the value the initiative adds to the community weighted against the resources needed (financial and otherwise ) to accomplish the goal. Before implementation, due diligence will be conducted as appropriate which may include strategic planning, public meetings surveys, studies, etc.

# GOAL 1

## Continue to provide open space, parks, recreation facilities, and programming throughout Northampton Township to meet the needs of residents.

Objective	Action Item	Responsible Party/Costs	Priority <sup>1</sup>
Continue to provide open space and review opportunities to obtain open space in accordance with the Northampton Township Open Space Plan	When new developments are presented, assess the opportunity to acquire open space or implement the fee in lieu of open space fee.	BOS/Township Staff	Immediate-Long Term
	Review available properties that meet the goals and objectives of the Township Open Space Plan and evaluate feasibility and affordability of each.	BOS/Township Staff	Immediate-Long Term
	Acquire open space that meets the needs and desires of the community	BOS/Township Staff	Immediate-Long Term
Continue to provide a wide variety of programming activities to meet the needs of the various demographic groups within the Township.	Perform an analysis of programming attendance and cancellation each year to streamline programs in order to maximize the provision of programming that is truly desired and explore new programming offerings/times.	Township Staff/ Staff Time	Medium – Long Term
	Periodically assess among people who participate in the Township’s programming offerings: what they like most about the current programming offerings, what they like least, what they would like to see change, and what offerings they would most like to see provided.	Township Staff/ Staff Time	Medium
	Consider expanding evening programming offerings to enable greater attendance by people who work or go to school during the day.	Township Staff/ Staff Time	Immediate - Long Term
	Consider using an online survey vehicle to determine future programming demands and desires.	Township Staff/ Staff Time	Immediate - Long Term
Provide for accessible, permanent bathroom facilities wherever possible at Township park facilities.	Review existing restroom facilities and on-site conditions at each park to determine the best way to provide adequate ADA compliant facilities at each park within the Township.	Township Staff/ Manufacturer Rep. Time	Immediate
	Install ADA compliant restrooms at all park facilities, where possible. Consider installation of ADA compliant composting restroom facilities in some locations in order to eliminate the need for frequent maintenance.	Contractor Parks Maintenance	Medium

<sup>1</sup> Immediate Priority is to be completed within the next year, Medium Priority is to be completed within the next two to five years, and Long Term is to be completed between five to ten years after plan adoption.

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Action Item</b>	<b>Responsible Party/Costs</b>	<b>Priority<sup>1</sup></b>
Provide for the safety and security of parks and recreation facilities throughout the Township.	Install security cameras where needed/appropriate.	Township Police	Immediate-Medium
	Install traffic calming improvements at Township parks including signs, pavement markings, and temporary speed bumps where appropriate.	Traffic Eng., Parks Maint	Immediate-Medium
	Install signs at each park clearly indicating park hours, park usage rules and field usage rules, and no parking signs where needed.	Parks Maintenance	Immediate-Medium
Consider the implementation of Green and Sustainable Park Principles and Best Management Practices in parks throughout the Township.	Use native plant material to landscape, enhance, and restore riparian buffers, floodplain, and wetlands areas.	Parks Maintenance	Medium-Long Term
	Implement Best Management Practices for Stormwater Management.	Consultants, Parks Maintenance	Immediate-Long Term
	Minimize site impacts during construction and new development.	Supervisors/ Staff and Board Time	Immediate - Long Term
	Protect, manage and attract wildlife, pollinator, bird and bat species.	Parks Maintenance, "Friends of" groups/ Staff and volunteer time	Immediate - Long Term
	Use Best Management site design principles such as sustainable products and low impact design, connect parks, schools, and community nodes with safe and accessible pathways.	Consultants	Medium - Long Term
	Implement various methods for educating the public about BMP methods such as educational programming, materials, and interpretive signage, and installing green and sustainable park activities such as natural play areas, community gardens, activity trails, sensory groves, and outdoor classrooms.	Consultants, Township Staff	Medium - Long Term
	Implement sustainable site management principles such as on-site composting and recycling, sustainable landscape management practices, integrated pest management, and invasive species management.	Parks Maintenance, volunteer groups/ Staff and volunteer time	Medium - Long Term

<sup>1</sup> Immediate Priority is to be completed within the next year, Medium Priority is to be completed within the next two to five years, and Long Term is to be completed between five to ten years after plan adoption.

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Action Item</b>	<b>Responsible Party/Costs</b>	<b>Priority<sup>1</sup></b>
Meet ADA guidelines for access throughout Township park and recreation facilities.	Evaluate and upgrade playground safety surfacing as required to meet ADA access and ASTM F1291 impact requirements. Install only new playground equipment that meets or exceeds ADA accessibility requirements.	Contractor, Township Staff	Medium
	Upgrade access among athletic fields, restrooms walkways, parking lots, playgrounds, buildings, and other features to meet ADA accessibility requirements.	Consultants, Township Staff	Immediate - Long Term
Continue to provide athletic facilities and fields to meet the needs of Township residents.	Hire a turfgrass scientist to prepare a field maintenance plan for the athletic fields throughout the Township.	Consultant	Medium
	Implement a field maintenance plan for the athletic fields throughout the Township.	Parks Maintenance, Athletic user groups	Medium
	Ensure adequate scheduling for games for user groups and schedule rest periods for athletic fields in order to maintain a playable, safe surface for all users.	Township Staff	Immediate
Provide passive open space and unprogrammed recreation areas for Township residents.	Set aside substantial, specific areas in various parks that are not to be used as athletic fields for sports user groups and are not to be scheduled for programmed play.	Township Staff/ Staff Time	Immediate
Continue to review and make recommendations and, if necessary, to update local ordinances and regulations regarding park and recreation facilities throughout the Township.	Review Northampton Township park usage ordinances. If necessary, adopt new ordinances regarding enforcement and posting of park regulations (i.e., fields for permit use only, park hours at park entrances).	Township Staff/ Staff Time	Immediate

<sup>1</sup> Immediate Priority is to be completed within the next year, Medium Priority is to be completed within the next two to five years, and Long Term is to be completed between five to ten years after plan adoption.

## Goal 2

**Establish safe and accessible pedestrian and bicycle routes within a PennDOT Smart Transportation Guidelines framework to enhance the ability to travel throughout the Township and/or promote healthy lifestyles without the use of a motor vehicle.**

Objective	Action Item	Responsible Party/Costs	Priority <sup>1</sup>
Plan for safe and accessible pedestrian and bicycle routes between schools, parks, and other community nodes.	Plan for safe and accessible pedestrian/bicycle routes between schools, parks and other community nodes, such as between the Civic Center, Tyler State Park, and Council Rock High School South.	Township Staff/ Staff Time	Immediate-Medium
	Plan for a trail(s) system throughout the Township.	Township Staff/ Staff Time	Immediate-Medium
	Plan for safe and accessible connections to shopping centers, libraries, museums and cultural centers, as well as transportation centers such as bus stops and large neighborhoods.	Township Staff/ Staff Time	Immediate-Medium
Plan for the continued maintenance of pedestrian and bicycle routes throughout the Township.	Implement a continuing maintenance plan within the Parks Maintenance Department for maintenance of paths and trails.	Township Staff, Parks Maintenance Staff/ Staff Time	Immediate-Medium
	Encourage the formation of a “Friends of the Paths” to assist with cleanup, maintenance, publicity, and other community activism surrounding the routes.	Township Staff/ Staff Time	Immediate-Medium
Encourage alternative modes of transportation throughout the Township.	In schools where the routes connect, do in-school information days on walking, biking, and alternative modes of transportation between school/home/park, etc.	Township Staff/ Staff Time	Immediate-Medium
	Post the existing/proposed multi-use paths map online on the Parks and Recreation website for all to use.	Township Staff/ Staff Time	Immediate-Medium
	Hold/plan programs to promote exercise and alternative modes of transportation as well as pathways in the Township.	Township Staff/ Staff Time	Immediate-Medium

<sup>1</sup> Immediate Priority is to be completed within the next year, Medium Priority is to be completed within the next two to five years, and Long Term is to be completed between five to ten years after plan adoption.

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Action Item</b>	<b>Responsible Party/Costs</b>	<b>Priority<sup>1</sup></b>
Update local planning documents to reflect existing and proposed sidewalks and shared use path locations.	Map existing sidewalks, pathways, and shared use paths throughout the Township.	Township Staff Consultant/ Staff Time	Immediate-Medium
	Map locations for proposed shared-use paths throughout the Township.	Township Staff Consultant/ Staff Time	Immediate-Medium
	Add the compiled map to local planning documents.	Township Staff/ Staff Time	Immediate-Medium
Establish ordinance/design standards for pedestrian/bicycle pathways in accordance with the PennDOT Smart Transportation Guidelines.	Prepare an ordinance based on the PennDOT Smart Transportation Guidelines including design standards for pedestrian/bicycle pathways within Northampton Township.	Township Staff/ Staff Time	Immediate
	Present the pedestrian/bicycle pathways ordinance to the Board of Supervisors for review and adoption.	Township Staff, BOS/ Staff, BOS Time	Immediate

<sup>1</sup> Immediate Priority is to be completed within the next year, Medium Priority is to be completed within the next two to five years, and Long Term is to be completed between five to ten years after plan adoption.

### Goal 3

**Continue to manage Northampton Township’s parks and recreation system in a professional manner that conveys the greatest possible benefit to the public.**

Objective	Action Item	Responsible Party/Costs	Priority <sup>1</sup>
Implement a systematic method of allocating fields and facilities to user groups and moderating between sports user groups and other user groups and Township residents when conflicts arise.	Implement a schedule for field allocation for each season of play with an adequate time period between games. Notification to Township residents should be provided in the Parks and Recreation newsletter at the time of field scheduling that field use may now be scheduled. Consideration should be given for ‘rest periods’ for turf regrowth.	Township Staff/ Staff Time	Immediate
	Install signage at each park where updated schedules for use for each field can be located and information for how to sign up for time on the fields can be posted. Post signs showing field use designations, where the field use schedule can be found, and that the field is for scheduled play only at a prominent location by each field.	Parks Maintenance	Immediate
Continue to adjust the administration and management of recreation, participant recreation, and parks maintenance as the parks and recreation system continues to evolve.	Periodically assess workload and scheduling to ensure that no one person becomes overloaded or overscheduled. Readjust workload and scheduling as necessary to ensure an equitable distribution of the workload. Adjust staffing if necessary.	Township Staff/ Staff Time	Immediate-Long Term
	As park improvements are made and facilities expand, consider hiring additional parks maintenance staff (full-time, seasonal, or part-time staff).	Township Staff/ Staff Time, Additional Benefits	Immediate-Long Term
	Implement a training program that will outline the development program for all staff over the next five years.	Township Staff/ Staff Time/ Varies	Immediate/ Medium
Continue to periodically assess and update technology used within the Parks and Recreation Department to ensure that it is up-to-date, practical, economical, and usable.	Continue to monitor and keep current with internet, website, and social media technology to ensure that the Parks and Recreation Department is conveying the message and information desired, and is connecting to as many residents as possible in a positive way.	Township Staff/ Township Time	Immediate
	Conduct periodic assessments of computers and software within the Parks and Recreation Department to determine if current hardware and software is meeting departmental needs. Replace, upgrade, or downgrade equipment when necessary.	Township Staff/ Varies	Medium

<sup>1</sup> Immediate Priority is to be completed within the next year, Medium Priority is to be completed within the next two to five years, and Long Term is to be completed between five to ten years after plan adoption.

Objective	Action Item	Responsible Party/Costs	Priority <sup>1</sup>
Improve and periodically assess marketing practices to ensure that parks and recreation offerings are being promoted.	Advertise for the Parks and Recreation website, facebook and twitter accounts on 'snail mail,' business cards, and other items.	Township Staff/ Township Time	Immediate
	Include the Northampton Parks and Recreation Logo and website address on new park signage, as well as banners hung at events and fundraisers.	Township Staff/ Township Time	Immediate
	Assess and possibly increase number of locations of park signage, electronic park signage, and park signs whose lettering can be easily changed so that activities and events can be easily promoted.	Township Staff/ Township Time	Immediate-Medium
	Periodically review Parks and Recreation literature, the web page, and social media for content, presentation, etc. and provide unbiased feedback to the Township.	Township Staff, possible consultant	Immediate-Medium

<sup>1</sup> Immediate Priority is to be completed within the next year, Medium Priority is to be completed within the next two to five years, and Long Term is to be completed between five to ten years after plan adoption.

## Goal 4

**Continue to invest in parks, recreation, and their associated facilities to sustain and enhance the quality of life in Northampton Township.**

Objective	Action Item	Responsible Party/Costs	Priority <sup>1</sup>
Encourage community involvement with parks and recreation programs through volunteering and community activism.	Organize community days for activities such as community park cleanup, tree planting through Tree Tenders <a href="http://phsonline.org/greening/tree-tenders">http://phsonline.org/greening/tree-tenders</a> , invasive species removal, or streambank restoration.	Township Staff, Volunteers/ Staff and Volunteer Time	Medium
	Collaborate with community volunteer groups to obtain volunteer assistance for larger events.	Township Staff/ Staff Time	Immediate
	Encourage continued involvement through the year of Teen Summit CIT volunteers in other volunteer activities with the Township such as Friends of the Park groups or volunteering through the Parks and Recreation Department office.	Township Staff/ Staff Time	Immediate
Work and collaborate with user groups to improve the infrastructure of parks and recreation facilities for the benefit of all.	Review proposed improvements and changes to maintenance plans for athletic fields and park structures with athletic user groups prior to implementation.	Township Staff/ Staff Time	Immediate-Long Term
	Request detailed documentation of improvements made by athletic user groups – both financial and plan/specifications, for reference should any issues arise.	Township Staff/ Staff Time	Immediate-Long Term
	Maintain an open dialog and on-going communication with athletic user groups regarding park infrastructure and create a system to resolve issues as they arise.	Township Staff/ Staff Time	Immediate-Long Term
Create a comprehensive facility naming rights policy and protocol for establishing memorials to people within the park system.		Township Staff, BOS/ Staff, BOS Time	Medium
Work with a group of concerned citizens to form a non-profit (5013c) Friends of Northampton Parks organization, which would accept tax-deductible donations on behalf of Parks and Recreation to help offset costs for park improvements.		Township Staff/ Volunteers Staff Time Volunteer Time	Immediate-Long Term
Enhance the sponsorship programs to include the donation of facility amenities such as park benches, trees, and picnic tables in honor of people and events.		Township Staff/ Volunteers	Immediate-Long Term

<sup>1</sup> Immediate Priority is to be completed within the next year, Medium Priority is to be completed within the next two to five years, and Long Term is to be completed between five to ten years after plan adoption.

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Action Item</b>	<b>Responsible Party/Costs</b>	<b>Priority<sup>1</sup></b>
Work to establish a comprehensive maintenance schedule for parks and recreation facilities throughout the Township.	Assess existing maintenance schedule for Parks Maintenance Department and streamline where needed. Break down by park/open space areas/other areas that make sense.	Parks Maintenance/ Staff Time	Immediate
	Assess Best Management Practices that can be implemented within the Maintenance Department.	Parks Maintenance/ Staff Time	Immediate
	Incorporate streamlined maintenance schedule and Best Management Practices into a comprehensive maintenance schedule.	Parks Maintenance/ Staff Time	Immediate
	Develop a Maintenance Impact Statement for new or expanded park facilities (all proposed capital improvements)	Township Staff/ Consultants,	
Encourage the establishment of “Friends of” park groups and work with them for the betterment of the community parks.	Work with the Friends of the Municipal Park to encourage the establishment of “Friends of” groups for other Township parks.	Township Staff/ Staff Time	Immediate
	Kick off and celebrate the establishment of each group with an activity at the park.	Township Staff and Volunteers/ Staff and Volunteer Time	Immediate - Long Term
	Add website components for each “Friends of” group on the Township Parks and Recreation website.	Township Staff/ Staff Time	Immediate-Medium
Continue to enhance and improve existing parks and park and recreation facilities.	Monitor existing park and recreation facilities for signs of wear, maltreatment, and damage, and address their repair, replacement, or removal. Prepare for the replacement of park facilities and amenities at the end of their useful life expectancy.	Township Staff, Park Maintenance/ Staff Time	Immediate-Long Term
	When installing new park features, provide ADA compliant accessways, native landscaping and shade trees, seating, and ensure adequate parking.	Township Staff, Park Maintenance/ Staff Time	Immediate-Long Term
	Work with “Friends of” park groups to select new park projects to implement each season.	Township Staff, Park Maintenance/ Staff Time	Immediate-Long Term

<sup>1</sup> Immediate Priority is to be completed within the next year, Medium Priority is to be completed within the next two to five years, and Long Term is to be completed between five to ten years after plan adoption.

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Action Item</b>	<b>Responsible Party/Costs</b>	<b>Priority<sup>1</sup></b>
Continue to apply for grants and other support funding to assist with financial backing for large capital projects.	Assess funding source information within Appendix F and determine where each grant opportunity may be applicable within the Township Parks and Recreation Program. Determine timelines and apply for funding as appropriate.	Township Staff/ Staff Time	Immediate-Long Term
	Research and apply for additional grant opportunities or other minor or major financial assistance programs.	Township Staff, BOS/ Staff Time, BOS Time	Immediate-Long Term
	Research and apply for other non-financial assistance programs such as bags to benches, tree tenders, or other programs that provide material or training assistance.	Township Staff/ Staff Time	Immediate-Long Term
Maintain and periodically assess revenue sources for both the Parks and Recreation Fund and Recreation Capital Reserve Fund.	Periodically, perform an 'audit' of fees charged for services to ensure that rates charged are appropriate, and that costs accrued by programs are in balance with fees charged.	Township Staff/ Staff Time	Immediate-Long Term
	Assess private donations to determine if additional methods of garnering private support could be implemented.	Township Staff/ Staff Time	Immediate-Long Term
	Periodically have utility meters at athletic fields checked to ensure accurate measurement of utility charges for athletic user groups.	Township Staff/ Staff Time	Immediate-Long Term
	Research opportunities and apply for state operating grants.	Township Staff/ Staff Time	Immediate-Long Term
	Continue annual assessment of interfund transfer from Parks and Recreation Fund.	Township Staff/ Staff Time	Immediate-Long Term

<sup>1</sup> Immediate Priority is to be completed within the next year, Medium Priority is to be completed within the next two to five years, and Long Term is to be completed between five to ten years after plan adoption.

<sup>1</sup> Immediate Priority is to be completed within the next year, Medium Priority is to be completed within the next two to five years, and Long Term is to be completed between five to ten years after plan adoption.

## **APPENDIX A: KEY PERSON INTERVIEWS**

### **Organization: Council Rock Lacrosse Association (CRLA)**

Name: Brian Walstrum

Time: 3:00 pm

Interviewed by: Dan Sharapan

Council Rock Lacrosse Association (CRLA) serves the whole Council Rock School District, and the communities of Newtown Township, Newtown Borough, Northampton Township, Upper Makefield Township, and Wrightstown Township. Programs offered for both girls and boys grades K-8.

CRLA also serves neighbors that are without youth lacrosse programs: Centennial School District and New Hope-Solebury School District.

Organization currently uses the small multipurpose field behind Maureen M. Welch Elementary School and the outfield of Pheasant Run Park.

1. At this time, the needs are being met for field use.
2. Very good relationship with the Township. Tremendous track record that started with Roberta Butler. President is fairly new (1.5 year).
3. #1 wish list item would be an outdoor, synthetic turf field.
  - #2 wish list item would be to have a rebound wall, made of block, 30'x15', installed at the multipurpose field at Maureen M. Welch Elementary.
  - #3 wish list item would be the use of a regulation size field from March 1 to June 15.
4. Would like to explore possible adult leagues but it would all be dependent on more fields.

## **Organization: James E. Kinney Senior Center**

Name: Sheila Jobs

Time: 3:00 pm

Interviewed by: Judith Stern Goldstein

Two brochures and a newsletter were provided.

According to the brochure provided, “The Northampton Township Senior Center is a state-of-the-art facility dedicated to promoting aging as a positive and rewarding life experience. The center is funded, in part, under a contract with the Pennsylvania Department of Aging and the Bucks County Area Agency on Aging. The facility has been constructed, and is maintained and supported by Northampton Township.”

The Senior Center currently has consistently between 925 and 950 dues paying members, 85% of which are over 62 years of age. The building currently has 10,000 SF plus 2 outdoor bocce courts and 2 horseshoe pits. Hours are 9 am to 3:30 pm. The Center is also open on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5:30 to 8:30 pm. This Senior Center currently has the highest usage rate in the County, with two full-time Township staff and two part-time receptionists paid by the Senior Center. Volunteers work at the front desk in the afternoons. Membership Meetings are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month. The personality of the center is described as “vital,” “active,” and “upbeat.”

1. Current facilities - every inch is used; the current facility has been outgrown.
  - This limits uses and what programs can be offered
  - Would like more space, but not complaining
  - Want to expand programs and special events
2. Relationship with the Township is perceived as “Excellent,” feel as if they’re on the right track with what they do; are passionate, and that spills over to the members.
3. Not reaching all seniors – i.e. in retirement centers.
  - No real advertising budget – get \$10,404 from the state. Budget is \$307,041 (July 1 to June 30)
  - No website – but would like one – lack the financial resources to do so
  - Would like the community to know they’re out there
  - Need better/easier to change signage
  - Heavy use in AM, light use in afternoon (10 am – 3 pm) because of transportation issues.
4. Future Needs/Program Changes
  - Macadam walking trail. Currently proposed in the CDBG program.

## **Organization: Northampton Township Police Department – Quality of Life Team**

Name: Officer Stephen Kingsdorf and Sergeant Steven Lecompte

Time: 3:40 pm

Interviewed by: Judith Stern Goldstein

Accident statistics for Newtown Richboro Road were provided, as well as aerial photographs of the Northampton Township Recreation Center Complex and Northampton Municipal Park.

According to the officers interviewed, there is currently excellent communication between the Parks and Recreation department and the Police, and with the Director of Parks and Recreation. In their experience, parks and recreation users are generally aware of the Township, although it is good to have a representative from the Parks and Recreation Department go out when there are problems (i.e. field usage/permission issues. They would like to have a “good” contact person that would be available to call, having schedule information would help, and suggest that user packages should have information about parking and site regulations.

1. Safety concerns/issues – some issues already being addressed
  - Vandalism – rash at Hatboro Road facility (Municipal Park)
  - Prior years – burglaries at snack buildings at Civic Center
  - Buildings and facilities are generally safe and parks are perceived to be safe – i.e. no ‘smash & grab’
  - Police have deterrent runs – officers patrol through on all 3 shifts
2. Recommended improvements to improve safety
  - Traffic calming – signs, pavement markings, and temporary speed bumps
  - Signs are also needed indicating park hours, park usage and field usage
    - Field usage – i.e. the field schedules should be posted in order to avert problems between teams and residents having pick-up games.
  - Need to clean up park usage ordinances – review them and maybe adopt new regulations for enforcement and posting of regulations.
    - Post fields “for permit use only.”
    - Park hours need to be posted at park entrances.
      - Ex: Hatboro Road (Municipal Park) sign – too far from entrance and too small to read – hard to enforce.
    - Recreation usage times and schedules need to be more staggered.
  - Civic Center recommended improvements
    - Entryway – Create an internal driveway to tennis road back from the road to get enough stacking – one way in, one way out.
    - Crosswalks, marked removable speed bumps on Tennis Road.
    - Cars are parking on the grass – This causes problems on Tennis Road. “No Parking” signs are needed, and physical barriers may be needed on vegetation.
  - Hatboro Road (Municipal Park) – long driveway
    - Add traffic calming and islands or breaks to slow traffic

- Would like surveillance in high usage areas – restrooms and snack bars, possibly pavilions, and at the Miracle League complex, have piped right to police station (both Municipal Park and Civic Center.)
- Predominantly late-night vandalism
- 40 Acre Park
  - Recommend tunnel between 40 acre park and Municipal Park
  - Police don't think tunnel would be a danger
  - Hatboro Road not 35 mph, but traffic goes that fast.
  - If no tunnel, then a mid-block crossing, but would need flashing lights with a center sign (removable).

## **Organization: Council Rock Basketball Association (CRBA)**

Name: Larry Leonard & David Teitelman

Time: 4:20 pm

Interviewed by: Dan Sharapan

CRBA is a non-profit organization made up of members of the community. As a volunteer organization, they strive to build self-confidence and self-esteem through organized basketball leagues for boys and girls in 2nd through 12th grades. Programs include travel and intramural programs. Coaches are instructed to place the physical and emotional well-being of the players ahead of any personal desire to win.

Organization currently uses Maureen M. Welch Elementary School (through NTPR) during the school year, the courts at the Civic Center for summer use, and all of the school gymnasiums.

1. At this time, the needs are being met for court use BUT the courts at the Civic Center are very unsafe and unkempt.
2. Excellent relationship with the Township. Appreciative that the Parks Board creates forum for the user groups to gather information at the Park Board meetings. They know of no other township that allows for this type of monthly interaction.
3. #1 wish list item would be to completely resurface the Civic Center courts.
  - #2 wish list item would be to update the equipment at the Civic Center courts (backboards, rims, player benches).
  - #3 wish list item would be to add 1 more court to the Civic Center to allow for public use during summer when they are on the court.
  - #4 wish list item would be to improve the parking and clean up the parking lot near the courts at the Civic Center. Stressed that it is dirty, unsafe and has been that way for years.
  - #5 wish list item would be to look into adding lights to the courts at the Municipal Park.
4. More gym space would allow expansion for younger kids.

Notes:

- Examine the backboard and rims at the Municipal Park. Although they look nice and will probably withstand many, many years of use, they are not friendly for basketball use (stated that they are very rigid and just are not conducive for good game play)
- Wanted to mention that the salting and plowing at the Maureen M. Welch School is a major issue. Steps leading to gym entrance are never salted and parking area seems to be forgotten about. Stressed that this is a major safety issue.
- Adjustable rims/backboards should be installed in any future indoor gyms to allow for younger age group use.
- Requested that the Parks Board consult with the organization before any improvements to basketball specific facilities are made.

## **Organization: Northampton Girls Softball Association (NGSA)**

Name: Chris Mallon

Time: 4:20 pm

Interviewed by: Judith Stern Goldstein

A 2012 Player Roster, and schedules for the 2012 10 and Under, T-Ball, 8 and under, and Inter-Township League were provided.

Number of girls has remained steady - 425 girls last year 5-18 years old (96%+/- township girls)  
Intramural - T-Ball, 8u, 10u,  
Inter-Township – 12u, 14u, 18u  
(Northampton Township hosts Inter-Township 18 and under tournaments in May and June).  
Sunday Select – 12u, 14u, 18u  
Travel – 12u

Use of Township Fields – 2 at Municipal Park, 2 at Civic Center, 4 School Fields at Churchville Elementary (8u and 10u) and CR South H.S. (JV and Varsity)

1. Current facilities do not meet needs
  - Maier Tract (Civic Center II)
    - Can only use as a practice field
    - Sits on a slant - all water drains to the 3<sup>rd</sup> base area
    - Takes days for standing water to go away
2. Relationship with Township Park & Rec
  - “Fantastic,” “Great Relationship”
  - No scheduling problems
  - Only issue is Friday nights – off limits, men’s league is scheduled then
3. Wish list
  - Fix Maier Tract field and light it
  - Fix Maier Tract to use for games
  - Second lit field is needed like Civic Center field
  - Civic Center – keep equipment in small room adjacent to snack building
    - More room would be good (not a separate shed)
    - Need to keep the tractor storage – hard to maintain other fields
4. Program change needs
  - Steady growth – might be more travel teams but won’t affect field usage
  - More clinics – indoor space is hard to get
  - Would love more indoor space in wintertime

**Organization: Council Rock Northampton Baseball Association (CRNBA)**

Name: Bill Gannon

Time: 5:00 pm

Interviewed by: Dan Sharapan

CRNBA offers baseball to boys and girls for ages 5 through 18 as well as adult baseball through the PennDel League.

Organization currently uses all the baseball fields at the Civic Center and the baseball fields at the Municipal Park.

1. At this time, the needs are being met for field use.
2. Real good relationship with the Township. Trusted. President has been around for 17 years and has been the President 7 out of the last 8 years.
3. #1 wish list item would be to update all the ball field lights to a modern system in the whole park.
  - #2 wish list item would be to build an indoor facility on the Civic Center, similar to the Township's pole barn, for indoor hitting/pitching, meeting room, bathrooms – CRNBA would help with funding.
  - #3 wish list item would be to have adequate bathrooms throughout the WHOLE facility and eliminate port a pots.
  - Expressed issue with the parking near the Recreation Center building.
  - Expressed issue with parking that is happening along Tennis Road, which creates a safety issue as people move from one side of the park to the other.
4. Foresees no changes coming.

Notes:

- Strong partnership exists with Township in regards to previous projects that CRNBA funded (field lights, dugouts, bathrooms, etc.)

## **Organization: Council Rock United Soccer Association (CRUSA)**

Name: Mark Reilly and Lew Spiewak

Time: 5:00 pm

Interviewed by: Judith Stern Goldstein

CRUSA currently offers four levels of soccer competition including intramural soccer for boys and girls in the age groups u4-u18 in the spring and fall, travel soccer for boys and girls from u9 through u18, developmental travel teams for boys and girls in the u7 and u8 age groups, and premier level soccer in the FC Bucks division.

Information provided: Fall 2012 travel tryout schedule, Fall 2012 rosters, Fall 2012 travel rosters, Fall 2012 IM rosters, Fall 2012 travel game schedules, Fall 2012 practice schedule, Spring 2012 practice schedule, and the Spring 2012 travel game schedule.

1. Do current fields meet your needs
  - Fields yes, but not enough lighted fields
2. Relationship perception
  - “they work well,” Township “answers questions,”
  - Frustrated that no money has come back to the leagues to maintain fields
  - All maintenance expenses fall back to leagues
  - User fee money doesn’t go back to the programs
    - Still some bad feelings
    - Perceptions that Township “took the money”
    - Since 2010 – generated over \$67k in income to Twp.
    - Perception of inequalities in some of the users
    - \$ should go back to the user groups
  - Park and Rec people have always been very respectful
    - Good staff, Good people on park and rec board – “they work really hard”
3. Physical Plant needs
  - #1 priority – 3 more lighted fields (Fall - 160 teams looking for lighted practices)
  - #2 priority – need bathrooms at Civic Center 2
  - #3 priority – need storage shed either at Municipal Park or Civic Center
  - Parking is a problem – but they deal with it w/ scheduling
  - Wish list
    - Turf field – currently spend \$46-50 K/year on turf for FC Bucks. Joint venture would be great. Works well at North.
    - Indoor training programs – indoor space is at a premium. Currently rent space and teams pay for it. Would love an indoor facility in Township. Cooperation with other groups would be ideal.
4. Program changes
  - Nothing that would affect Township
  - TOPS Soccer – special needs soccer program – will use turf field at Miracle League

Notes:

- Comments from Mark: User fees in 2010 – initiated after tryouts for the season – but it was still put in play. Had to pay 14K in club money that didn't come from players/parents, came from General Fund.

## **Organization: Northampton Indians Football Association (NIFA)**

Name: Bill Sifer & Jason Berghaier

Time: 5:40 pm

Interviewed by: Dan Sharapan

The Northampton Indians Football Association has served the community for the past 30 years, offering both football and cheerleading programs for ages 5-15. Coaching staffs are dedicated to teaching the fundamentals of quality youth football & cheerleading with emphasis on conditioning and sportsmanship, and special attention to those techniques designed to prevent injury. Practices begin the first week in August. The season kicks off in early September, and culminates with playoffs in November. Northampton Indians Football & Cheerleading is a 100% volunteer, non-profit organization.

Organization currently uses two fields in the Civic Center.

1. Needs are not being met. Main field is inadequate due to the sharing with baseball.
2. Said there is good communication with the Township and that the Township does try to work with the organization as cooperatively as possible.
3. #1 wish list item would be to have their own field dedicated only to football.
  - #2 wish list item would be to improve the bathroom facilities. Stressed that they are woefully inadequate and embarrassing for visiting organizations. Questioned ADA compliance, would like bathrooms that meet ADA requirements.
  - Expressed that better signage be installed for parking and alternate parking.
  - Expressed concern with parking lot near Recreation Center building – need to alleviate parking logjam that accumulates after games, when there are multiple activities going on.
  - Expressed concern with trying to make a left hand turn onto Newtown Richboro Road and asked about installing a traffic light.
  - Expressed concern with the speeding on Tennis Avenue and asked about possibly installing speed bumps or some other form of traffic calming device.
4. Looking into maintaining the bridge to high school football by offering older kids the opportunity to play football due to the 9<sup>th</sup> grade football program becoming a club sport at the school district.

Notes:

- Stressed that the field is a safety hazard and they do their best every season to make the transition from a baseball field to a football field.
- If they had their own field, would like the blockhouse building to become Football only and they would fix it up and organize it better.
- Admitted that there is tension due to facility overlapping with baseball but it's not intended or mean spirited.

## **Organization: Miracle League of Northampton Township**

Name: Debbi Katz

Time: 5:40 pm

Interviewed by: Judith Stern Goldstein

1. Current facilities meet their needs – no parking or bathroom problems.
2. “Excellent” relationship with Township – incredibly supportive
3. Physical Plant Needs
  - Wind Problems – maybe more trees
  - Possibly look at shade for future improvements
  - Trying to develop more programs for use of the turf field
  - Community pool would be nice
  - Not enough indoor space for recreation programming
4. No program changes that would need more facilities
  - Need more volunteers or paid staff to work the programs
    - In order to develop more programs, need more manpower and funds
    - Volunteers are hard to get – perception is that parents would rather pay than volunteer

Notes:

- Deb’s opinion is:
  - Overall “Excellent” programs offered by the Township
  - Run/bike/play tennis – use municipal facilities

## **Organization: Council Rock Holland Baseball Association (CRHBA)**

Name: Jeff Klaus

Time: 6:20 pm

Interviewed by: Dan Sharapan

CRHBA offers baseball to boys and girls for ages 4 through 18.

Organization currently uses all the baseball fields at Hampton Estates Park and the baseball fields at Big Meadow Park.

1. At this time, the needs are being met for field use.
2. Real good relationship with the Township. They love Nancy. They do not have a lot of interaction with the Township but stressed that that's not a bad thing.
3. #1 wish list item would be to install lights on all the fields at Hampton Estates Park.
  - #2 wish list item would be to have permanent bathrooms at Big Meadow Park.
  - Expressed that stadium style seating would be a nice touch at the fields at Hampton Estates Park.
4. They are pretty set at their current status.

Notes:

- Has a good relationship with CRNBA in regards to sharing of fields, which didn't always exist between neighboring organizations offering similar programs.

## Organization: Northampton Township Board of Supervisors Members

Name: Eileen Silver and Kimberly Rose

Time: 6:20 pm

Interviewed by: Judith Stern Goldstein

### 1. Current Facilities

- Civic Center – needs a lot of work done to it
  - #1 Priority Traffic concerns – - taking life in hands when exiting
    - Would like to see Board address this in the next 4-5 years or Before
    - Possibly flashing yellow lights – but doesn't work
    - No left turn?
    - Redesign in/out – traffic light at Tennis Rd. (Like Police suggestion)
    - Parking problem at Community Building
  - #2 Priority In desperate need of bathrooms
    - Maybe in the old Maier Tract house/storage shed & bathrooms
    - Maybe a pavilion with bathrooms out near soccer
  - Tennis Road – traffic calming
    - Cross walks
    - Temporary speed bumps
- Senior Center bursting at the seams
  - Great, diverse programs
  - Consider expanding Sr. Center in future
- Municipal Park – is “a gem” – more potential
  - Needs more PR to spread the word
  - No one knows where the amphitheater is
  - Kim - No lights at basketball on Hatboro Rd.
    - consider lights
    - Needs to be part of a big plan – can't ‘just happen’
    - Maybe provide lights for football and soccer to take the pressure off Civic Center
    - Eileen - There are places that are far enough away from houses
- 39 Acre Park
  - Trails and native plants
  - No fields now – maybe 15 years from now
  - Eileen – likes the open space
- All Facilities – need defibrillator at every field
- Kim - Kids age 12-15 – “no place to hang out”
  - Need something for the kids to do, both facilities and programs
  - Eileen - Maybe a skate park in the industrial park

2. Comments about relationship perceptions:
  - Nancy is cutting edge
    - “Eagle’s Nest” – little pavilion built by eagle scouts
    - Friends of the Park at Municipal Park
    - Historical Society – Tree planting
  - Eileen/Kim - Lucky – Township and user groups worked well to improve the parks/facilities
    - Make it easier for user groups to work with the Township – look at changing policy
      - I.e. skate park with corporate sponsorship ok with ads on scoreboards, etc.
      - need to consider changing policy to permit signage for public private partnerships
      - “Nothing should hold us back when it comes to our kids”
3. Future Needs
  - Eileen - Shade on playground equipment at Municipal Park
  - Temporary shade/more shade in parks
  - Eileen – Consider buying a swim club

## APPENDIX B: COMMUNITY VISIONING DATA

### Community Visioning Responses – November 15, 2012 Meeting

<b>Question #1: Currently, what do you like most about the parks and recreation programs and facilities within Northampton Township?</b>		
<b>Group A Responses</b>		<b># of Votes<sup>1</sup></b>
1	Abundance of programs	0
<b>2</b>	<b>Municipal Park Plan</b>	<b>7*</b>
3	Municipal Park	1
4	Programs for all levels	1
<b>5</b>	<b>Recreation Center</b>	<b>14*</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Great P&amp;R director</b>	<b>5*</b>
7	School district relationship	1
<b>8</b>	<b>Summer camps</b>	<b>5*</b>
9	Partner with private ind.	3
<b>Group B Responses</b>		<b># of Votes<sup>2</sup></b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Variety of programs available</b>	<b>8*</b>
2	User groups working closely with the Township	1
3	Extended daycamp programs	4
4	Accessibility of programs to residents	1
5	Diversity of programs	3
<b>6</b>	<b>Playground at Municipal Park</b>	<b>6*</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Diversity of facilities</b>	<b>5*</b>
8	Family oriented programs	3

<sup>1</sup> \*Top three responses, except in the case of a tie for 3<sup>rd</sup> place, in which case the top four responses are shown.

<sup>2</sup> \*Top three responses, except in the case of a tie for 3<sup>rd</sup> place, in which case the top four responses are shown.

<b>Question #2: Currently, what do you like least about the parks and recreation programs and facilities within Northampton Township?</b>		
<b>Group A Responses</b>		<b># of Votes<sup>3</sup></b>
1	Not enough bathrooms/outdoor facilities	4
2	Parking at Recreation Center (police ticketing)	2
3	Lack of knowledge of facilities	2
4	Marketing of facilities	2
<b>5</b>	<b>Not enough lighted facilities</b>	<b>13*</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Not allowing alcohol at Senior Center</b>	<b>11*</b>
7	Lack of speed bumps in Civic Center parking lot	1
8	Civic Center layout (outdated)- physical plant	3
<b>9</b>	<b>Appropriation of fields in regards to user groups</b>	<b>5*</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Not enough open space/fields for open play</b>	<b>5*</b>
11	Lack of seating at facilities (bleachers)	2
12	Too much trash	1
13	Private vs. public offerings (govt shouldn't compete with taxpayer facilities)	0
14	Private instruction on Township facilities	0
15	Lack of recycling containers	2
16	House on Civic Center park	0
<b>Group B Responses</b>		<b># of Votes<sup>4</sup></b>
1	Lack of pedestrians bike mobility	2
<b>2</b>	<b>Civic Center lack of parking- entrance/exit dangerous, all roads within and outside park should be addressed</b>	<b>10*</b>
3	Lack of lighted sport court facilities	1
4	Condition of the shack at the Civic Center	1
<b>5</b>	<b>Too many adult programs geared to people who stay at home during the day</b>	<b>5*</b>
6	Too many activities at the Civic Center- indoors and out	1
7	Lack and poor quality of tennis courts	3
8	Not enough Township/user group money used for upkeep of Civic Center	1
<b>9</b>	<b>Shortage of bathroom facilities (permanent) at Northampton Rec Center/Big Meadow and other Township parks</b>	<b>7*</b>
10	Parks not to ADA Standards	2
11	Inadequate lighting at Civic Center	1

<sup>3</sup> \*Top three responses, except in the case of a tie for 3<sup>rd</sup> place, in which case the top four responses are shown.

<sup>4</sup> \*Top three responses, except in the case of a tie for 3<sup>rd</sup> place, in which case the top four responses are shown.

<b>Question #3: What would you want to preserve/maintain about/in the parks and recreation programs and facilities within Northampton Township for the future?</b>		
<b>Group A Responses</b>		<b># of Votes<sup>5</sup></b>
1	Swimming pool agreement	1
2	<b>New and cutting edge program offerings</b>	<b>6*</b>
3	Township summer camp quality and affordable	2
4	Pre school program	3
5	Municipal Park	2
6	Open space beauty around Municipal Park	3
7	<b>Senior Center</b>	<b>9*</b>
8	Age specific programming	6
9	<b>Miracle League- programs/facilities</b>	<b>10*</b>
<b>Group B Responses</b>		<b># of Votes<sup>6</sup></b>
1	Excellent staff and leadership	4
2	<b>Maintain all indoor and outdoor facilities that support parks &amp; rec programs</b>	<b>8*</b>
3	Balance between athletic fields and passive recreation	4
4	<b>Diversity/variety of programs offered</b>	<b>6*</b>
5	Maintain seasonality of sports programs	4
6	Maintain all facilities at Municipal Park	0
7	Maintain breadth of age groups in programming	1
8	<b>At least maintain number of athletic fields available</b>	<b>10*</b>
9	Preserve responsible development	5
10	Maintain a progressive staff	2

<sup>5</sup> \*Top three responses, except in the case of a tie for 3<sup>rd</sup> place, in which case the top four responses are shown.

<sup>6</sup> \*Top three responses, except in the case of a tie for 3<sup>rd</sup> place, in which case the top four responses are shown.

<b>Question #4: What would you want to change about/in the parks and recreation programs and facilities within Northampton Township for the future?</b>		
<b>Group A Responses</b>		<b># of Votes<sup>7</sup></b>
1	Synthetic fields	2
2	<b>Add dog park</b>	<b>4*</b>
3	<b>Configuration &amp; layout of Civic Center</b>	<b>7*</b>
4	Shack at Civic Center	1
5	Skate/roller facility	0
6	Change field allocations to include non-organized	1
7	Small playground at sports fields	2
8	<b>Inclusive playgrounds- handicap/special needs</b>	<b>4*</b>
9	Community garden	1
10	Shared fields	3
11	Adult exercise trail (mix in kids equip.)	2
12	Year round sports (conflicting with other sports)	1
13	Better coordination with Newtown & CRSD, SD & TWP (field allocations and fees)	0
<b>Group B Responses</b>		<b># of Votes<sup>8</sup></b>
1	Change the perception that the P&R Dept. is there to serve the sport user groups with all Township tax money	3
2	Refurbish tennis courts, add kid size courts and lighting free	3
3	<b>Change parking and traffic patterns at Civic Center and add traffic light</b>	<b>9*</b>
4	Add more evening hour programs	1
5	Create safe pedestrian and bike access to all facilities (i.e. crosswalks into parks)	5
6	<b>Change accessible parks to be inclusive so that all handicapped children can use the playgrounds</b>	<b>6*</b>
7	Complete ADA study/analysis of P&R facilities within Township	4
8	Create a volunteer corps to help maintain P&R facilities - valuable opportunities for children and adults	5
9	<b>Redesign the Civic Center</b>	<b>6*</b>
10	Pedestrian connectivity throughout Township	1
11	Promote safe active transportation (pedestrian and bike) around schools and parks	3

<sup>7</sup> \*Top three responses, except in the case of a tie for 3<sup>rd</sup> place, in which case the top four responses are shown.

<sup>8</sup> \*Top three responses, except in the case of a tie for 3<sup>rd</sup> place, in which case the top four responses are shown.

## APPENDIX C: COMMUNITY VISIONING DATA

### Community Visioning Responses – February 21, 2013 Meeting

<b>Question #1: Currently, what do you like most about the parks and recreation programs and facilities within Northampton Township?</b>		
<b>Responses</b>		<b># of Votes<sup>1</sup></b>
1	Provides opportunity for involvement for kids	0
<b>2</b>	<b>Municipal Park Trails</b>	<b>15*</b>
3	Camps	4
<b>4</b>	<b>New Municipal Park playgrounds</b>	<b>9*</b>
5	Bus trips	6
6	Partnerships with sports groups	3
7	Variety of programming – new & exciting	8
<b>8</b>	<b>Partnership with Northampton Valley Country Club – pool programs</b>	<b>9*</b>
9	Library	8
10	Senior Center	3
11	Recreation facilities	6
12	Keep tennis courts	0

<b>Question #2: Currently, what do you like least about the parks and recreation programs and facilities within Northampton Township?</b>		
<b>Responses</b>		<b># of Votes<sup>2</sup></b>
1	Township does not have own pool – hard to upkeep due to age of facility and upkeep of pool	5
2	Lack of facilities for Seniors	2
3	Maintaining facilities – playground	4
4	Lack of accountability of volunteers running programs	6
5	Perceived unequal allocation of facilities to sports groups	2
<b>6</b>	<b>Customer service regarding non-resident use</b>	<b>8*</b>
7	Municipal Park – dogs in playground	4
8	Lack of playground equipment for older kids	6
9	Flooding of Big Meadow fields	4
<b>10</b>	<b>Lack of connectivity to get to park-pedestrian and non-motorized trails, sidewalks</b>	<b>12*</b>
11	Quality of restrooms at parks	0
<b>12</b>	<b>Lack of ecological restoration and preservation</b>	<b>9*</b>

<sup>1</sup> \*Top three responses, except in the case of a tie for 3<sup>rd</sup> place, in which case the top four responses are shown.

<sup>2</sup> \*Top three responses, except in the case of a tie for 3<sup>rd</sup> place, in which case the top four responses are shown.

<b>Question #3: What would you want to preserve/maintain about/in the parks and recreation programs and facilities within Northampton Township for the future?</b>		
<b>Responses</b>		<b># of Votes<sup>3</sup></b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Keep open space</b>	<b>17*</b>
2	Keep soccer fields	0
3	Garden of Remembrance	7
4	Focus on Seniors	6
<b>5</b>	<b>Keep diversity of programs and facilities</b>	<b>11*</b>
6	Summer concert series	4
<b>7</b>	<b>Children's programs</b>	<b>8*</b>
8	Municipal Park	7
9	Upkeep ponds	2

<b>Question #4: What would you want to change about/in the parks and recreation programs and facilities within Northampton Township for the future?</b>		
<b>Responses</b>		<b># of Votes<sup>4</sup></b>
1	Code of conduct for users of facilities and programs	6
2	Residents should have preferential registration	5
3	Upgrading of playground to accommodate older children	5
4	Dog Park	1
<b>5</b>	<b>Bike friendly trails, roadways</b>	<b>11*</b>
6	Shade at playground	5
7	Better communication	1
8	Educational kiosks	1
<b>9</b>	<b>Rails to trails approval from Township</b>	<b>18*</b>
10	On-site supervisor at playgrounds and park	1
11	Weekend hours at pool	1
12	Negotiate with Council Rock School District (South) for an aquatic facility	4
13	Turf field at 39 acres	2
14	Ability to enforce non-smoking policy at parks	1
<b>15</b>	<b>More lighted facilities</b>	<b>7*</b>
16	Enhance safety at entrance and exits	2
17	Procedure and enforcement of parking	0
18	Football needs own field	1
19	Utilize open space for (open) recreational use. Identify and designate areas for non-programmed play	1
7	Emergency phones	0

<sup>3</sup> \*Top three responses, except in the case of a tie for 3<sup>rd</sup> place, in which case the top four responses are shown.

<sup>4</sup> \*Top three responses, except in the case of a tie for 3<sup>rd</sup> place, in which case the top four responses are shown.

## APPENDIX D: COMMUNITY VISIONING DATA

### Community Visioning Responses – Other Responses

<b>Additional Comments:</b>
Develop 39 acres with user group partnership.
Develop other Township open ground for community open playing fields, not to be allocated to user groups.
Outdoor sand volleyball courts in the town are not well designed or maintained. Horsham and Upper Dublin's courts have better sand and proper borders.
Algae/Duckweed issues at Pulinski Pond should be addressed so that people can enjoy fishing at the pond.
Resurfacing/upgrading of tennis facilities is needed.
Convert Fox Chase line to bike/hike trail.
Improvements needed to baseball fields at Big Meadow and St. Leonard's.
Township should continue to provide Ice Hockey Programs and possibly expand to include a similar less competitive/stressful Ice Hockey program for kids 12 to 15.
St. Leonard baseball fields need a pedestrian cross walk or flashing light to access park.
Open gym time needed for residents during winter months.
Pedestrian and bike access needed to Tyler Park from Council Rock South and surrounding neighborhoods.



## APPENDIX E: PROGRAM INVENTORY

<b>Key to Northampton Program Inventory</b>					
<b>Class Format</b>		<b>Gender</b>		<b>Season</b>	
A	Arts & Crafts	F	Female	F	Fall
C	Cooking	M	Male	W	Winter
CS	Competitive Sports			Sp	Spring
D	Dance			S	Summer
Dr	Drama				
E	Environmental				
F	Fitness				
I	Intramural Sports				
M	Mental				
Mu	Music				
S	Self Improvement				
So	Social				
Sw	Swimming				
T	Trips				
V	Volunteer				

### 2011-2012 Northampton Program Inventory

Program	Age	Gender	Class Format	Season	Fee	Dates / Attendance	Location
<b>Summer Camps</b>							
Day Camp (Extended Hours)	1 <sup>st</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup>	M/F	A, I, M, So, Sw, T	S	\$1,995	6/25-8/17 128	Recreation Center
Playground Program	1 <sup>st</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup>	M/F	A, I, T, So	S	\$365	6/25-8/10 176	Churchville, Hillcrest Richboro Elementary
Playground Program (Extended Hours)	1 <sup>st</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup>	M/F	A, I, T, So, Sw, T	S	\$865	6/25-8/10 55	Richboro Elementary
Camp for Me	3-5y	M/F	A, M, Mu, So	S	3 day/\$295 5 day/\$460	6/26-8/2 6/25-8/3 41 34	Churchville, Hillcrest, Richboro Elementary
Summer Quest	7 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	M/F	A, D, I, M, So, T	S	5 wk/\$860 6 wk/\$895	6/25-8/2 102	Holland Middle School or Maureen M. Welch Elementary
Summer Quest (Extended Hours)	7 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	M/F	A, D, I, M, T, So, Sw	S	6 wk/\$1,550	6/25-8/3 40	Maureen M. Welch Elementary
Teen Summit – Option 1 Just Trips	Teen	M/F	So, Sw, T	S	\$825+ \$125 for swimming	6/26-8/2 57	Richboro Middle School
Teen Summit – Option 2 CIT & Trips	Teen	M/F	So, T, V	S	\$1,350+ \$195 for swimming	6/25-8/3 18	Varies
Wacky Chemistry Camp	4-11	M/F	M, So	S	\$151	8/20-8/24 9	Recreation Center
Create Your Own Video Game	8-11	M/F	M, So	S	\$170	8/13-8/17 11	Rolling Hills Elementary
Creativity and Fun with the iPad	4-7	M/F	M, So	S	\$150	8/6-8/10 4	Rolling Hills Elementary
APP Inventor for Kids	9-12	M/F	M, So	S	\$170	CANCELLED Rolling Hills Elementary	Rolling Hills Elementary
Make It and Take it Home	6-11	M/F	M, A, So	S	\$173	8/13-8/17 11	Rolling Hills Elementary
Follow Me Robot	7-12	M/F	M, So	S	\$173	8/20-8/24 9	Recreation Center
Lego Robotics Camp	9-14	M/F	M, So	S	\$125	6/25-6/29 8	Rolling Hills Elementary
Summer Studio with Ms. Sibyl	6-17	M/F	A, M, So	S	\$120 ½ day \$225 full day	8/6-8/10 11	Rolling Hills Elementary
A Stitch in Time Sewing Camp	10-18	M/F	A, So	S	\$70 + \$20 Material Fee	8/20-8/24 4	Recreation Center
Cooking with Books Camp	5-8	M/F	C, A, M	S	\$72	6/25-6/29 10	Rolling Hills Elementary
Dance Camp	4-6 7-10	M/F	D, F, So	S	\$110	6/25-6/29 7	Carriage House in Tamanend Park
Musical Theater Camp	7-14	M/F	Dr, M, So	S	\$275	6/25-6/29 14	Rolling Hills Elementary
Glee! Camp	8-11	M/F	Dr, M, So	S	\$204	7/23-7/27 14	Rolling Hills Elementary
Cheerleading Camp	1 <sup>st</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup>	M/F	D, F, So	S	\$165	CANCELLED Recreation Center	Recreation Center
The Wright Basketball Camp	7-16	M/F	I, So	S	\$175	Council Rock North	Council Rock North
SMG SportsPlex Mini Sport Camp	6-12	M/F	CS, F, So	S	\$220 ½ day \$290 Full Day	6/18-6/22 6/18-6/22 2 3	Municipal Park
Tennis Camp by Susan Bowman Tennis Academy	7-14	M/F	Cs, F, So	S	\$165	6/25-8/23 44	Recreation Center Outdoor Tennis Courts
Team Trottie Basketball Camp	5-7 7-13	M/F	Cs, F, So	S	\$125 ½ Day \$225 full day	8/27-8/31 8/27-8/31 14 CANCELLED	Recreation Center
Soccer Bugs Camp	4-6	M/F	Cs, F, So	S	\$175	8/20-8/24 7	Outside fields at Rec. Center

### 2011-2012 Northampton Program Inventory

Program	Age	Gender	Class Format	Season	Fee	Dates / Attendance	Location
<b>Informational Classes</b>							
Introduction to Microsoft Excel	Adult	M/F	M, S	F, W, S	\$95	10/13-10/27 1/12-1/26 7/11-7/25	11 9 12 Northampton Library
Advanced Excel	Adult	M/F	M, S	Sp	\$95	3/6-3/20	5 Northampton Library
Computer Operations	Adult	M/F	M, S	F, W, Sp	\$95	EARLY FALL 11/2-11/16 1/11-1/25 SPRING	CANCELLED 3 CANCELLED CANCELLED Northampton Library
Introduction to Microsoft Word	Adult	M/F	M, S	F,W,Sp	\$95	9/14-10/5 12/1-12/15 2/9-2/23 SPRING	3 4 CANCELLED CANCELLED Northampton Library
Introduction to Windows	Adult	M/F	M, S	F, W	\$95	FALL 2/8-2/22	CANCELLED CANCELLED Northampton Library
Introduction to Power Point	Adult	M/F	M, S	Sp	\$95	3/8-3/22	7 Northampton Library
Take Charge of Your Money	Adult	F	M,S	F	\$5	10/15	CANCELLED Northampton Library
The WILL to live with Peace of Mind	Adult	F	M,S	F, Sp	\$5	3/26	17 Northampton Library
Navigating the Senior Living Maze	Adult	F	M, S	F	\$5	10/29	CANCELLED Northampton Library
Separate and Apart	Adult	F	M, S	Sp	\$5	3/5	CANCELLED Northampton Library
Climb out of your Financial Hole	Adult	F	M, S	Sp	\$5	3/12	CANCELLED Northampton Library
Caregiving for a Parent and Yourself	Adult	F	M, S	Sp	\$5	3/19	21 Northampton Library
<b>Special Interests</b>							
Kids in the Kitchen –							
Ghostly Gourmet	4-10	M/F	C	F	\$22 +\$5 for materials	10/23	4 Recreation Center
Friendship Feast	4-10	M/F	C	F	\$22 +\$5 for materials	11/17	4 Recreation Center
Holiday Magic	4-10	M/F	C	W	\$22 +\$5 for materials	12/11	8 Recreation Center
Winter Warmers	4-10	M/F	C	W	\$22 +\$5 for materials	1/21	8 Recreation Center
Valentine Flavors	4-10	M/F	C	W	\$22 +\$5 for materials	2/14	8 Recreation Center
Spring Cooking	4-10	M/F	C	Sp	\$22 +\$5 for materials	3/17	5 Recreation Center
Mother Earth's Home Cooking	4-10	M/F	C	Sp	\$22 +\$5 for materials	4/17	3 Recreation Center
Cinco de Mayo Fiesta	4-10	M/F	C	Sp	\$22 +\$5 for materials	5/5	CANCELLED Recreation Center
Beach Picnic	4-10	M/F	C	S	\$22 +\$5 for materials	6/5	8 Recreation Center
Sweet Treats by Debra							
Spooky Treats	K-6	M/F	C	F	\$35 per class	10/25	6 Recreation Center
Sprit of the Season	K-6	M/F	C	W	\$35 per class	12/13	5 Recreation Center
Be Mine	K-6	M/F	C	W	\$35 per class	2/9	6 Recreation Center

**2011-2012 Northampton Program Inventory**

Program	Age	Gender	Class Format	Season	Fee	Dates / Attendance	Location
Spring Chocolate Fever (3/29)	K-6	M/F	C	Sp	\$35 per class	3/29 3	Recreation Center
Spring Chocolate Fever (4/12)	K-6	M/F	C	Sp	\$35 per class	4/12 CANCELLED	Recreation Center
Mother's Love	K-6	M/F	C	Sp	\$35 per class	5/3 CANCELLED	Recreation Center
Dad's Favorites	K-6	M/F	C	S	\$35 per class	6/7 CANCELLED	Recreation Center
Fancy Nancy Soiree	5-9	F	So	W	\$22	12/7 7	Recreation Center
Engino Building	7-12	M/F	M, So	W	\$165	12/27-12/29 CANCELLED	Recreation Center
Cub Scouts Scientist Badge		M	M, So	W, F	\$22	1/27 CANCELLED	Recreation Center
Junior Girl Scouts Scientist Discovery Badge		F	M, So	W, Sp	\$18	4/13 CANCELLED	Recreation Center
Jr. Girl Scouts Science Sleuth Badge		F	M, So	Sp	\$18	3/9 CANCELLED	Recreation Center
Babysitting Workshop	12-16	M/F	M, S	F, W, Sp	\$60	10/15 11/18 1/13 2/11 3/10 4/14 5/19 5 12 11 8 12 6 CANCELLED	Recreation Center
Drivers Education	15-18	M/F	M, S	F, W, Sp, S	\$82	9/19-11/21 1/9-3/26 4/11-5/13 6/25-7/30 7/10-8/9 29 32 22 14 6	Council Rock HS South
CPR / First Aid	12 and over	M/F	M, S	F, W	\$78	10/15 1/21 2/25 7 CANCELLED 5	Recreation Center
Flowers By Marie –							
Fragrant Pine and Berry Basket	Adult	M/F	A	W	\$49	12/6 8	Recreation Center
Framed Flower Arrangement	Adult	M/F	A	W	\$35	1/23 CANCELLED	Recreation Center
Bridge for Beginners	Adult	M/F	S, So	Sp	\$70	4/10-5/29 CANCELLED	Recreation Center
Adult Sewing	Adult	M/F	A	W	\$82	11/15-12/13 1/10-2/7 2 CANCELLED	Recreation Center
Women's Self Defense	Adult	F	F, S, So	W	\$110	1/12-2/2 2/16-3/8 CANCELLED CANCELLED	Recreation Center

### 2011-2012 Northampton Program Inventory

Program	Age	Gender	Class Format	Season	Fee	Dates / Attendance	Location	
<b>Parent/Child Classes for Wee Ones</b>								
Boppin' Babies	0-1, Adult	M/F	D, Mu	F,W,Sp,S	\$96 / \$85 (S)	9/17-11/19 12/2-2/11 2/25-4/21 5/4-6/15 6/30-8/11	4 CANCELLED 6 6 CANCELLED	Recreation Center Rolling Hills Elementary (S)
Lil' Leapin Lions	1.5-2.5 Adult	M/F	F,So	F,W,Sp	\$72	9/27-11/1 11/15-12/20 1/10-2/14 2/28-4/10	5 6 10 13	Recreation Center
Mommy & Me; Vamonos!	1-4, Adult	M/F	A, M, So	F,W	\$110	9/25-10/16 10/23-11/27 12/4-1/8/13	6 3 4	Recreation Center
Mommy and Me Downward Puppy Yoga	2-5, adult	M/F	F,So	W	\$57	FALL 12/2-1/20 2/3-3/16	CANCELLED CANCELLED CANCELLED	Recreation Center
Musical Munchkins	1-3, Adult	M/F	D, Mu	F,W,Sp,S	\$96 / \$85 (S)	9/16-11/19 12/3-2/18 2/5-4/21 5/4-6/15 6/29-8/10	18 14 18 10 7	Recreation Center Rolling Hills Elementary (S)
My First Art Class	2.5-3.5	M/F	A	F,W,Sp	\$72	9/21-10/26 11/9-12/21 1/11-2/15 2/29-4/11	4 8 CANCELLED 6	Recreation Center
<b>Preschool</b>								
Art Is Fun & I Can Do It	3.5-5.5	M/F	A	Sp	\$72	3/19-4/30	CANCELLED	Recreation Center
Ballet & Tap Combo	5-7	M/F	D	F,W,Sp,S	\$64 / \$46 (S)	10/6-11/17 12/8-2/2 6/28-8/9	7 7 8	Recreation Center
Ballet for Tots	3-5	M/F	D	F,W, Sp,S	\$64 / \$46 (S)	10/6-11/17 12/8-2/2 4/26-6/14 6/28-8/9	7 15 8 11	Recreation Center
Compu Child: Number Adventure Workshop	3-5	M/F	M	Sp	\$92	1/2-2/9	2	Recreation Center
Cooking with Books	3-6	M/F	C,M	F,W,Sp	\$86	9/23-11/11 1/27-3/9 3/23-5/4	8 8 9	Recreation Center
Cooking With Books	3-6	M/F	C, A	W, Sp	\$17	11/18 12/2 12/9 5/11 5/18	7 7 6 8 8	Recreation Center

**2011-2012 Northampton Program Inventory**

Program	Age	Gender	Class Format	Season	Fee	Dates / Attendance	Location
Digital Art and Crafts	3-6	M/F	A	W	\$92	10/6-11/3 1/12-2/8	3 2 Recreation Center
Games Galore	3-6	M/F	F,So	F,W, Sp	\$66	10/6-11/10 11/21-1/2 12/1-1/12 1/23-3/5 3/15-4/26 5/3-5/31	32 8 18 32 47 20 Recreation Center
Hip Hoppin Hippos	3-4	M/F	F,M,So	F, Sp	\$72	9/27-11/1 4/17-5/29	8 CANCELLED Recreation Center
Little Stars Dance	3-6	M/F	D	F,W, Sp	\$55	FALL 11/15-12/20 11/21-1/2 1/10-2/14 2/28-4/10 3/19-4/30 5/1-6/5	CANCELLED 4 3 4 4 13 CANCELLED Recreation Center
Preschool Potpourri	3 4 5 K	M/F M/F M/F M/F	M/So M/So M/So M/So	F,W,Sp	\$120 per mo \$158 per mo \$255 per mo \$305 per mo	9/11-6/6/13 9/10-6/7/13 9/10-6/7/13 9/10-6/6/13	10 13 17 7 Recreation Center
Robotics	3-6	M/F	M	W	\$79	11/10-12/15 2/23-3/22	5 5 Recreation Center
Tiny Tigers Karate	3-6	M/F	F,So	F,W, Sp	\$69	9/28-11/2 11/16-1/4 1/18-2/22 3/7-4/18 5/2-6/6	15 7 7 13 5 Recreation Center
Tiny Tot Floor Hockey	4-6	M/F	F,I,So	F,W, Sp	\$115	9/28-11/16 1/11-2/9 3/14-5/9	3 11 11 Recreation Center
Tiny Tot Soccer	4-6	M/F	F, I, So	F,W, Sp	\$115	9/27-11/15 1/10-2/28 3/13 - 5/15	4 8 10 Recreation Center
Young Rembrandts	3-6	M/F	A	W	\$105	12/7-2/1 2/15-4/11	CANCELLED CANCELLED Recreation Center
Zig Zaggin Zebras	4-5	M/F	F,So	F,W, Sp	\$72	10/7-11/11 12/2-1/20 2/3-3/16 3/30-5/11	13 11 8 5 Recreation Center

### 2011-2012 Northampton Program Inventory

Program	Age	Gender	Class Format	Season	Fee	Dates / Attendance	Location
<b>Theater and Music</b>							
Acting Naturally: Teen Glee	13-18	M/F	M, Dr	F, W	\$250	9/9	CANCELLED Recreation Center
Acting Naturally: Musical Theatre	8-18	M/F	M, Dr	F, W	\$275	9/11-11/13 1/8-3/18	13 13 Recreation Center
Dance to the Music	8-13	M/F	M, D	F, W, Sp	\$70	9/22-11/17 WINTER 2/9-3/29	6 CANCELLED CANCELLED Recreation Center
Dance to the Music	10-14	M/F	M,D	S	\$53	6/28-8/9	7 Recreation Center
Sing Sing Sing	8-13	M/F	M	F, W, Sp	\$70	9/22-11/17 11/21-1/2 2/9-3/29	8 5 8 Recreation Center
Sing Sing Sing	8-17	M/F	M	S	\$53	6/28-8/9 2/9-3/29	7 8 Recreation Center
Teen Vocal Project	14-18	M/F	M	F, W	\$70	9/27-11/15	CANCELLED Recreation Center
Walnut Street Theater: Storytime Adventures FUNdamentals of Acting	3-6 Grades 2-5	M/F	Dr	W	\$99 \$154	1/24-2/28 1/24-3/13	CANCELLED CANCELLED Recreation Center
<b>Art</b>							
Art is Fun	3.5-5.5	M/F	A	F,W	\$72	9/26-11/7 1/23-3/5 3/19-4/30	7 5 3 Recreation Center
Beginner Adult Art	Adult	M/F	A	F	\$196		CANCELLED Recreation Center
Beginning & Intermediate Drawing	8&up	M/F	A	Sp	\$72	9/19-11/7 11/21-1/2	7 10 Recreation Center
Beginning Drawing	8 & up	M/F	A	F,W	\$72	1/23-3/5	5 Recreation Center
My Mighty Masterpieces	5-7	M/F	A	F,W,Sp	\$72	9/26-11/7 1/10-1/14 2/28-4/10 3/19-4/30	14 CANCELLED 4 CANCELLED Recreation Center
<b>Soccer Bugs (New as of Jan, 2012)</b>							
Ants	18-24m. Adult	M/F	F, So	W,Sp	\$143	1/26-3/15 3/29-5/17	CANCELLED 3 Recreation Center /Municipal Park
Beetles	2-3, Adult	M/F	F,So	F,W,Sp	\$143	1/18-3/15 3/29-3/15	CANCELLED CANCELLED Recreation Center/Municipal Park
Bumblebees	3.5-4.5	M/F	F, So	F,W	\$143	9/20	CANCELLED Recreation Center/Municipal Park
Caterpillars	2-3 Adult	M/F	F, So	F,W,Sp	\$143	1/16-3/12 3/29-5/17	10 6 Recreation Center/Municipal Park
Crickets	2.5-3.5 Adult	M/F	F, So	F,W,Sp	\$143	1/27-3/12 3/26-5/14	4 9 Recreation Center/Municipal Park
Dragonflies	4.5-5.5	M/F	F, So	F,W	\$143	9/21	CANCELLED Recreation Center/Municipal Park
Fireflies	4-5	M/F	F, So	F,W	\$143	9/24	CANCELLED Recreation Center /Municipal Park
Grasshoppers	3-4	M/F	F, So	F,W,Sp	\$143	1/26-3/15 3/29-5/17	7 6 Recreation Center/Municipal Park
Yellow Jackets	5-6	M/F	F, So, Cs	F,W	\$143	9/24	CANCELLED Recreation Center/Municipal Park

### 2011-2012 Northampton Program Inventory

Program	Age	Gender	Class Format	Season	Fee	Dates / Attendance	Location
<b>Youth Sports</b>							
Basketball for Beginners	6-8	M/F	F	F,W,Sp	\$57	11/16-1/4 1/18-2/22 3/7-4/18 5/2-6/6	14 21 13 11 Recreation Center
Basketball for Beginners II	8-10	M/F	F	F,W,Sp	\$57	11/28-1/9/13	CANCELLED Recreation Center
Beginner Gymnastics by Airborne	3-12	M/F	F	F,W,Sp,S	\$115	9/19-11/21 12/5-2/27 3/12-5/21 6/11-8/20	42 42 46 28 Airborne Gymnastics
Flag Football	5-13	M/F	F, I	S	\$110	7/9-7/12	CANCELLED Newtown Middle School
Hot Shotz Ice Hockey	15 & under	M/F	I	W, SP	\$195	1/12-3/8 4/14-6/2	37 72 Rink at Warwick
Indoor Jr. Soccer League	4-5 6-7	M/F	F,I	W	\$105	1/8-4/1	35 42 Recreation Center
Karate	5&up	M/F	F	F,W, Sp,S	\$74 / \$57 (S)	9/20-11/16 11/22-1/25 1/26-3/28 3/27-5/30 6/5-7/24 7/30-8/28	23 20 23 22 17 9 Recreation Center
Little Slugger Baseball	4-6	M/F	F	F		9/25-12/4	20
Mini Ice Hockey		M/F	F	S		6/26-7/24	30 Rink at Warwick
Sandlot Baseball League	13 and Under	M/F	I	S	\$125	6/21-8/23	120 Municipal Park
SNAG Pee Wee Golf	4-9	M/F	F	Sp	\$75	9/23-10/28 1/20-2/10 3/2-3/23 4/13-5/4	9 CANCELLED CANCELLED Municipal Park/Recreation Center
Soccer Bugs	3-4	M/F	F	F	\$143	9/26-11/15	4 Recreation Center / Municipal Park
Start Smart	3-5	M/F	F	Sp	\$60	9/28-11/2 11/16-1/4 1/18-3/7 3/21-5/2	12 10 CANCELLED 9 Recreation Center
WBC Players Only Skills Clinic	11-16	M/F	F,CS	Sp,S	\$75	6/26-6/28 7/31-8/2	Council Rock North
Youth Floor Hockey	5-8/ 8-11 /12-16	M/F	F, I	F,W	\$115	9/10-12/17 1/7-4/21	38/54/22 Total:114 90/91/22 Total: 203 Recreation Center
Youth Roller Hockey	15 & under	M/F				9/22-12/1	15 Recreation Center

**2011-2012 Northampton Program Inventory**

Program	Age	Gender	Class Format	Season	Fee	Dates / Attendance	Location
<b>Sports for All Ages</b>							
Adult Basketball	Adult	M/F	F	W	\$90	3/4-5/6 11	Recreation Center
Adult Coed Volleyball	Adult	M/F	F, CS/I	F,W,Sp,S	\$50	3/20-12/20 169	Recreation Center
Adult Floor Hockey	Adult	M/F	F, I	F,W,S	\$120 + \$20 for jersey	9/15-12/8 1/12-3/22 6/7-8/16 49 61 64	Recreation Center
It's Tee Time / Golf at Spring Mill CC	Junior	M/F	F	F,Sp,S	\$130	9/13-10/11 4/10-5/15 5/22-6/19 7/10-8/7 8 4 9 6	Spring Mill Country Club
	Adult	Coed	F	F,Sp,S	\$130	9/13-10/11 4/10-5/15 5/22-6/19 7/10-8/7 4 2 11 4	Spring Mill Country Club
	Adult	F	F	F,Sp,S	\$130	FALL SPRING 5/23-6/20 7/10-8/7 CANCELLED CANCELLED CANCELLED CANCELLED	Spring Mill Country Club
Over 30 Basketball League / 28 and Over Basketball League	Adult	M/F	F, I	F, W	\$99 + \$25 for jersey, \$31 per team per game ref fee	9/13-12/14 1/17-4/11 78 76	Maureen M. Welch Elementary
Recreational Volleyball	Adult	M/F	F	S	\$46	4/10-6/12 7	Recreation Center
Warwick Ice Arena: Learn to Skate	3-Adult	M/F	F	F,W,Sp	\$125	9/13-10/23 10/25-12/18 1/3-2/12 2/21-4/1 10 4 19 8	Rink at Warwick
<b>Susan Bownman Tennis School</b>							
Tennis School: USA Tennis		M/F	F, Cs	F, Sp,S			Outdoor Tennis Courts at Recreation Center
Pee-Wee	4-6				\$128	9/19-11/21 4/23-6/18 11 14	Outdoor Tennis Courts at Recreation Center
Junior Tennis	7&up				\$128	9/19-11/21 4/23-6/18 6/25-8/22 21 24 30	Outdoor Tennis Courts at Recreation Center
Adult Tennis	Adult				\$180	9/21-11/16 4/25-6/13 6/27-8/22 5 9 6	Outdoor Tennis Courts at Recreation Center
Tennis School: Indoor Winter League	4-6 / 7-16	M/F	F, Cs	W	\$128	12/7-2/10 2/24-4/20 3/5-5/15 CANCELLED	Recreation Center

**2011-2012 Northampton Program Inventory**

Program	Age	Gender	Class Format	Season	Fee	Dates / Attendance	Location	
<b>Fitness &amp; Well Being</b>								
Action – HIIT	Adult	M/F	F	Sp,S	Varies	6/4-6/29 7/2-7/27 8/6-8/31	10 5 CANCELLED	Playground Pavilion
Action Boot Camp	Adult	M/F	F	Sp	\$196	9/12-10/21 10/31-12/9 12/9-12/30 1/9-2/17 2/27-4/6 4/16-5/25	14 9 6 2 4 9	Municipal Park
BOKWA Fitness	Adult	M/F	F, D	Sp,S	\$57	1/10-2/14 5/1-6/5 6/19-7/24	9 CANCELLED CANCELLED	Recreation Center
Friday Morning Fitness	Adult	M/F	F	F,W,Sp	\$58	12/2-2/3 2/24-4/20 4/27-6/15	6 7 9	Recreation Center
Instructional Zumba	Adult	M/F	F, D	Sp,S	\$57	9/19-11/7 11/17-1/5 1/23-3/5 3/19-4/30 5/7-6/18 6/25-7/30	14 6 4 8 9 8	Recreation Center
Outdoor Fit	Adult	M/F	F	F	\$60	9/25-10/25	CANCELLED	Wetzel Pavilion
Pilates	Adult	M/F	F	F,W,Sp,S	Varies	9/19-11/7 11/21-1/2 1/23-3/5 3/19-4/30 5/7-6/18	24 18 7 16 10	Recreation Center
Piloxing	Adult	M/F	F	Sp	\$149	9/13-11/15 11/1-12/8 1/10-2/16 4/16-5/25	4 5 5 13	Recreation Center
Tai Chi	Adult	M/F	F	F,W,Sp,S	\$77 (S) / \$138	9/20-11/17 11/29-1/26 2/7-3/29 4/10-5/31 6/19-8/9	17 26 25 21 16	Recreation Center Wetzel Pavilion, Municipal Park (S)
Total Body Fitness AM	Adult	M/F	F	F,W,Sp	\$94/ 2 days \$52 / 1 day	9/18-11/14 11/28-1/30 2/13-4/16 4/23-6/18 6/27-8/24	28 17 20 18 5	Recreation Center

**2011-2012 Northampton Program Inventory**

Program	Age	Gender	Class Format	Season	Fee	Dates / Attendance	Location	
Total Body Fitness PM	Adult	M/F	F	F,W,Sp,S	Varies	9/19-11/21 12/5-2/6 2/16-4/23 4/26-6/14 5/7-7/2	11 16 10 14 8	Recreation Center
Yoga & Meditation	Adult	M/F	F	F,W,Sp,S	Varies	9/19-11/21 12/5-2/6 2/27-4/23 4/26-6/18	22 19 11 20	Recreation Center
Yoga for Beginners	Adult	M/F	F	F,W,Sp,S	Varies	9/21-11/17 12/7-2/1 2/15-4/11 4/25-6/13	22 19 30 28	Recreation Center
Zumba	Adult	M/F	F, D	F,W,Sp,S	\$57	9/22-11/3 11/15-1/5 1/10-2/23 2/28-4/10 4/17-5/29 6/5-7/18	32 15 19 10 9 5	Recreation Center
Zumba Toning	Adult	M/F	F	F,W,Sp,S	\$57 + \$20 for toning sticks	9/21-11/2 11/16-1/4 1/18-2/22 3/7-4/18 4/25-5/30 6/6-7/18	19 11 6 10 5 4	Maureen M. Welch Elementary
Zumbatomics	9-14	M/F	F, D	Sp	\$57	11/16-1/4	7	Recreation Center
ZumbaXtreme	Adult	M/F	F, D	F,W,Sp,S	\$85	9/24-11/5 11/19-1/28 2/4-3/17 3/31-5/12 5/19-6/30 7/7-8/11	19 12 6 2 2 1	Maureen M. Welch Elementary

**2011-2012 Northampton Program Inventory**

Program	Age	Gender	Class Format	Season	Fee	Dates / Attendance	Location	
<b>Bucks Physical Therapy</b>								
HydroTone	Adult	M/F	F	F, W,Sp,S	\$72/\$77	9/12-10/28 11/1-12/23 1/20-3/2 2/28-4/10 3/16-4/27 4/16-5/24 5/4-6/8 7/16-8/25	20 7 1 1 4 3 5 2	Bucks Physical Therapy
Gentle Water Workout	Adult	M/F	F	F,W,Sp,S	\$120/\$130	9/13-10/25 11/15-1/10 1/24-3/1 3/13-5/1 5/8-6/14 6/19-7/26	2 1 3 2 0 1	Bucks Physical Therapy
Shark Attack	Adult	M/F	F	F, W,Sp,S	\$120/\$130	10/31-12/12 1/9-2/22 3/5-4/18 4/23-6/4 6/11-7/23	8 7 6 7 1	Bucks Physical Therapy
<b>FITLIFE Performance Training</b>								
Cardio Kickboxing	Adult	M/F	F	W	\$72	9/21-10/26 11/19-12/21	2 1	FitLife Fitness Studio
Functional Personal Training	Adult	M/F	F	Sp	\$132	3/27-5/22	CANCELLED	FitLife Fitness Studio
Pilates: Abs, Back, and Butt	Adult	M/F	F	Sp,S	\$72	9/23-11/4 11/18-1/6 5/4-6/8 7/27-8/31	3 1 1 2	FitLife Fitness Studio
Step	Adult	M/F	F	F,W	\$72	9/22-11/3 11/17-1/5	2 2	FitLife Fitness Studio
SuperFIT Cross Train	Adult	M/F	F	W	\$72	1/1-2/15 2/29-4/11	1 1	FitLife Fitness Studio
Tough Mudder Spartan Race Training	Adult	M/F	F	Sp	\$132	3/24-5/19	2	FitLife Fitness Studio
Ultimate Fat Burner	Adult	M/F	F	Sp,S	\$72	1/8-2/27 4/30-6/25	CANCELLED CANCELLED	FitLife Fitness Studio
Yoga	Adult	M/F	F	Sp,S	\$72	3/17-4/28 6/6-7/18	1 2	FitLife Fitness Studio
Yoga for Athletes	Adult	M/F	F	F	\$72	9/15-9/23	1	FitLife Fitness Studio

### 2011-2012 Northampton Program Inventory

Program	Age	Gender	Class Format	Season	Fee	Dates / Attendance	Location
<b>Trips and Tickets / Special Events</b>							
After Dark Teen Dance Party (2)	6-8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	M/F	So	W,Sp	\$10	2/10, 5/16 200	Recreation Center
American Girl Tea Party	5-Adult	M/F	So	Sp	\$10	5/5 64	Northampton Library
Book and Bedtime with Mrs. Claus	2-12	M/F	So	W	\$8	12/10 12/11 46 45	Library
Breakfast with the Bunny	All	M/F	So	Sp	\$14/person	3/13 61	Maureen M. Welch Elementary
Bucks Fit 5K Run / 1K Fun Walk	K-Adult	M/F	CS	Sp	\$10/\$18	4/29 150	Municipal Park
Disney on Ice	All	M/F	T	W	\$30 (ticket only)	12/28 12/29 12/31 42 20 26	Wells Fargo Center
Dr. Seuss' Birthday BINGO Bash	Family	M/F	So	W	\$5/person or 15/family	CANCELLED	Recreation Center Gym
DuPont-Nemours Mansion & Gardens	All	M/F	T	F	\$44	11/27 44	Depart Township Bldg.
Halloween Happening	All	M/F	So	F	Free	10/27 400	Recreation Center
Harlem Globetrotter	All	M/F	So	W	\$28 (ticket only)	3/11 CANCELLED	Wells Fargo Center
Kids All American Fishing Derby	16 & Under	M/F	So	Sp	\$6 / child \$16 / family	6/2 109	Tyler State Park Dam
Minute to Win It	Family	M/F	So	W	\$5/person or 15/family	2/12 CANCELLED	Recreation Center Gym
Northampton's Got Talent	7-17	M/F	So,	S	FREE	7/19 15 contestants 225 spec.	Municipal Park Amphitheater
NYC Bus Trip (transportation only)	All	M/F	So	Sp	\$39	CANCELLED	Depart Township Bldg
Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Circus	All	M/F	So	W	\$28 (ticket only)	2/25 2/26 18 3	Wells Fargo Center
Sights and Sounds (4 concerts, 2 theater presentations)	All	M/F	So	Sp,S	FREE	Estimated total 2,500	Municipal Park
The Hype	6-8 Grade	M/F	So	F	\$15	10/19 CANCELLED	Recreation Center
The Rockettes	All	M/F	T	W	\$129	12/9 47	Depart Township Bldg.
Trenton Thunder vs. Reading Phillies	All	M/F	So	S	\$11	8/7 181	Trenton Thunder Stadium
US Military Academy at West Point and Hudson River Cruise	All	M/F	So	Sp	\$76	6/19 42	Depart Township Bldg.
US Naval Academy	All	M/F	T	F	\$78	10/18 CANCELLED	Depart Township Bldg.
<b>Swim Club</b>							
Membership	All	M/F	So	S	Varies	5/25-8/31 188	Swim Club
Swim Team	5-18	M/F	CS, So, F	S	Varies	5/25-8/31 140	Swim Club
Swim Lessons	Child	M/F	F	S	\$45 / \$55	5/25-8/31 121	Swim Club

### 2011-2012 Northampton Program Inventory

Program	Age	Gender	Class Format	Season	Fee	Dates / Attendance	Location
<b>New Programs – Fall 2012 through Winter 2013</b>							
<b>(as of 1/31/2013)</b>							
Winter Classic	5-8				\$40 – 1 kid	12/16	24
Kids vs Parents Floor Hockey	8-12	M/F	CS	W	\$50 – 2 kids	12/16	15
	12-18				\$60 – 3 kids	12/16	0
Benefits of Plant Based Nutrition	Adult	M/F	F, M	F	\$17	10/15	11
ScottCer	8-12	M/F	F.Cs	F	\$105	9/23	CANCELLED
Creative Sparks Art Class (Special Needs)	5-13	M/F	A	F,W	\$72	9/23-10/28 11/3-12/15	CANCELLED CANCELLED
Technology Olympics I	3-6	M/F	M	F	\$71	10/4-11/1	CANCELLED
Technology Olympics II	3-6	M/F	M	W	\$71		CANCELLED
Delicious Dishes	8-13	M/F	A	F	\$105	10/3-11/7	CANCELLED
Explore Science with Mary Crum							
Electricity Explorers	4-11	M/F	M	W	\$32	1/26/13	CANCELLED
Animal Kingdom Explorers	4-11	M/F	M, A	W	\$32	4/13/13	3
Playing with Food Explorers	4-11	M/F	M, C	W	\$32	3/9/13	5
Geology Explorers	4-11	M/F	M	W	\$32	5/4/13	4
Flowers By Marie –							
Witches Night Out	Adult	M/F	A	F	\$55	10/25	CANCELLED
Frightful Pumpkin	Adult/ Child	F	A	F	\$60	10/29	CANCELLED
Fall Deluxe Floral	Adult	M/F	A	F	\$60	11/19	6
Wood Birdhouse	Adult	M/F	A	W	\$62	12/3	CANCELLED
Winter Wood Birdhouse	Adult	M/F	A	W	\$62	1/28/13	3
Think Spring	Adult	M/F	A	W	\$59	3/21/13	CANCELLED
Clay House Number Plaque	Adult	M/F	A	W	\$57	1/22/13	CANCELLED
Margarita Glasses for Two	Adult	M/F	A	W	\$57	3/14/13	CANCELLED
Creative Memories: Fused Glass Picture Frame	Adult	M/F	A	W	\$44	2/6/13	CANCELLED
¡Vamonos!	3-5	M/F	A, M, So	W, Sp	\$135	3/7-4/18/13	
Sign, Say, Play	6 mo-2.5 Adult	M/F	M, So	W, Sp	\$120	1/11-2/22/13 3/8-4/19/13	CANCELLED
Robots 2	3-6	M/F	M	F	\$71	6/25-6/29/13	CANCELLED
Storybook Creations	4.5 – 6.5, Adult	M/F	A	F,W	\$99	10/3-11/7 11/14-1/2/13	CANCELLED CANCELLED
BucksFit: Aqua Zumba	Adult	M/F	F	W	\$52	1/12-2/16/13	2
BucksFit:Zumba Gold	Adult	M/F	F	W	\$52	1/11-2/15/13	2

## APPENDIX F: FUNDING SOURCE INFORMATION

### Community Conservation Partnerships Program (C2P2)

Project Limit:	None Indicated. Most projects require a 50% match, which can include a combination of cash and/or non-cash values.
Eligible Projects:	Development, Land Acquisition, Partnerships, and Planning projects. For “recreation, park, trail, and conservation projects. These include planning for feasibility studies, conservation plans, master site development plans, and comprehensive recreation, park and open space and greenway plans; land acquisition for active or passive parks, trails and conservation purposes; and new development and rehabilitation of parks, trails and recreation facilities.” This grant is funded by The Keystone Recreation, Park and Conservation Fund Act (Key 93), the Recreational Trails Program, the Land and Water Conservation Fund, and funds from Growing Greener 1.
Project Timing:	Application Period Closes early April of each year – check the website.
How to Apply:	<a href="http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/brc/grants/c2p2programguidance/index.htm">http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/brc/grants/c2p2programguidance/index.htm</a>
Contact:	PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Bureau of Recreation and Conservation Southeast – Philadelphia Office Suite 207, State Office Building 1400 West Spring Garden Street Philadelphia, PA 19130-4007 Drew Gilchrist: <a href="mailto:agilchrist@pa.gov">agilchrist@pa.gov</a> 215-560-1183

### Pennsylvania Recreational Trails Program (C2P2)

Project Limit:	None Indicated. Grants require a minimum 20% match, which can include a combination of cash and/or non-cash values.
Eligible Projects:	“Construction, renovation and maintenance of trails and trail related facilities for both motorized and non-motorized recreational trail use, the purchase or lease of equipment for trail maintenance and construction and the development of educational materials and programs.”
Project Timing:	Application Period Closes early April of each year – check the website.
How to Apply:	<a href="http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/brc/grants/c2p2programguidance/index.htm">http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/brc/grants/c2p2programguidance/index.htm</a>
Contact:	PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Bureau of Recreation and Conservation Southeast – Philadelphia Office Suite 207, State Office Building 1400 West Spring Garden Street Philadelphia, PA 19130-4007 Drew Gilchrist: <a href="mailto:agilchrist@pa.gov">agilchrist@pa.gov</a> 215-560-1183

## **Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program (GTRP)**

**Project Limit:** \$250,000.00, 50% cash or non-cash match required.

**Eligible Projects:** Rehabilitation and development or acquisition of public parks and recreation areas, renovation, development and land acquisition for greenways and trails, and rivers conservation projects.

**Project Timing:** The application deadline for the program is July 31, 2013 for consideration at the November 13, 2013 Commonwealth Financing Authority Board meeting.

**How to Apply:** DCED Single Application for Assistance

**Contact:** PA Department of Community and Economic Development  
Center for Business Financing – Site Development Division  
Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program  
400 North Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Commonwealth Keystone Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0225  
P (717)787-6245  
F (717)772-3581  
[Ra-dcedcbf@state.pa.us](mailto:Ra-dcedcbf@state.pa.us)  
<http://www.newpa.com/find-and-apply-for-funding/funding-and-program-finder/greenways-trails-and-recreation-program-gtrp>

## **Growing Greener II**

**Project Limit:** No minimum or maximum; averages between \$250,000 and \$500,000. No required match level, but matching should be demonstrated.

**Eligible Projects:** “Main Street and Downtown redevelopment grants for municipalities to help redevelopment efforts, focusing on the improvement of sites and buildings. Eligible projects may include approaches that assist in business in business development and/or public improvements in core communities.”

**How to Apply:** DCED Single Application for Assistance

**Contact:** PA Department of Community and Economic Development  
Customer Service Center  
400 North Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Commonwealth Keystone Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0225  
P 1(866)466-3972  
[Ra-dcedccs@state.pa.us](mailto:Ra-dcedccs@state.pa.us)  
<http://www.newpa.com/find-and-apply-for-funding/funding-and-program-finder/growing-greener-ii>

## **Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)**

The TAP is a small part of law P.L. 112-141, or the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Act (MAP-21), which was signed into law on July 6, 2012 and is the first long-term highway authorization enacted since 2005. The TAP replaces funding from pre-MAP-21 programs including Transportation Enhancements, Recreational Trails, Safe Routes to School, and several other discretionary programs, encompassing them into one source. TAP funds in Pennsylvania are administered by PennDOT. TAP funds equal 2% of the “total amount authorized from the Highway Account of the Highway Trust Fund for Federal-aid highways each fiscal year.”

### *Eligible Project Sponsors*

Under 23 USC 213(c)(4)(B), entities eligible to receive TAP funds include: local governments; regional transportation authority's; transit agencies; natural resource or public land agencies; school districts, local education agencies, or schools; tribal governments; and any other local or regional governmental entity with responsibility for oversight of transportation or recreational trails (other than a metropolitan planning organization or a State agency) that the State determines to be eligible, consistent with the goals of subsection (c) of section 213 of title 23.

### *Eligible Activities*

Funds may be used for projects and/or activities related to surface transportation as described in the definition of “Transportation Alternatives” [23USC 101(a)(29)] such as:

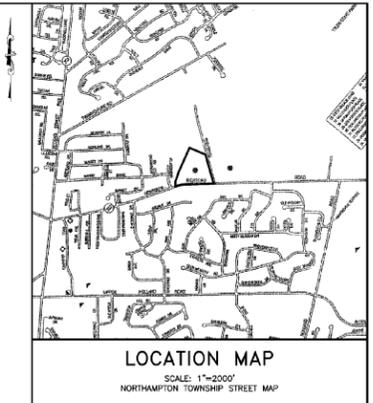
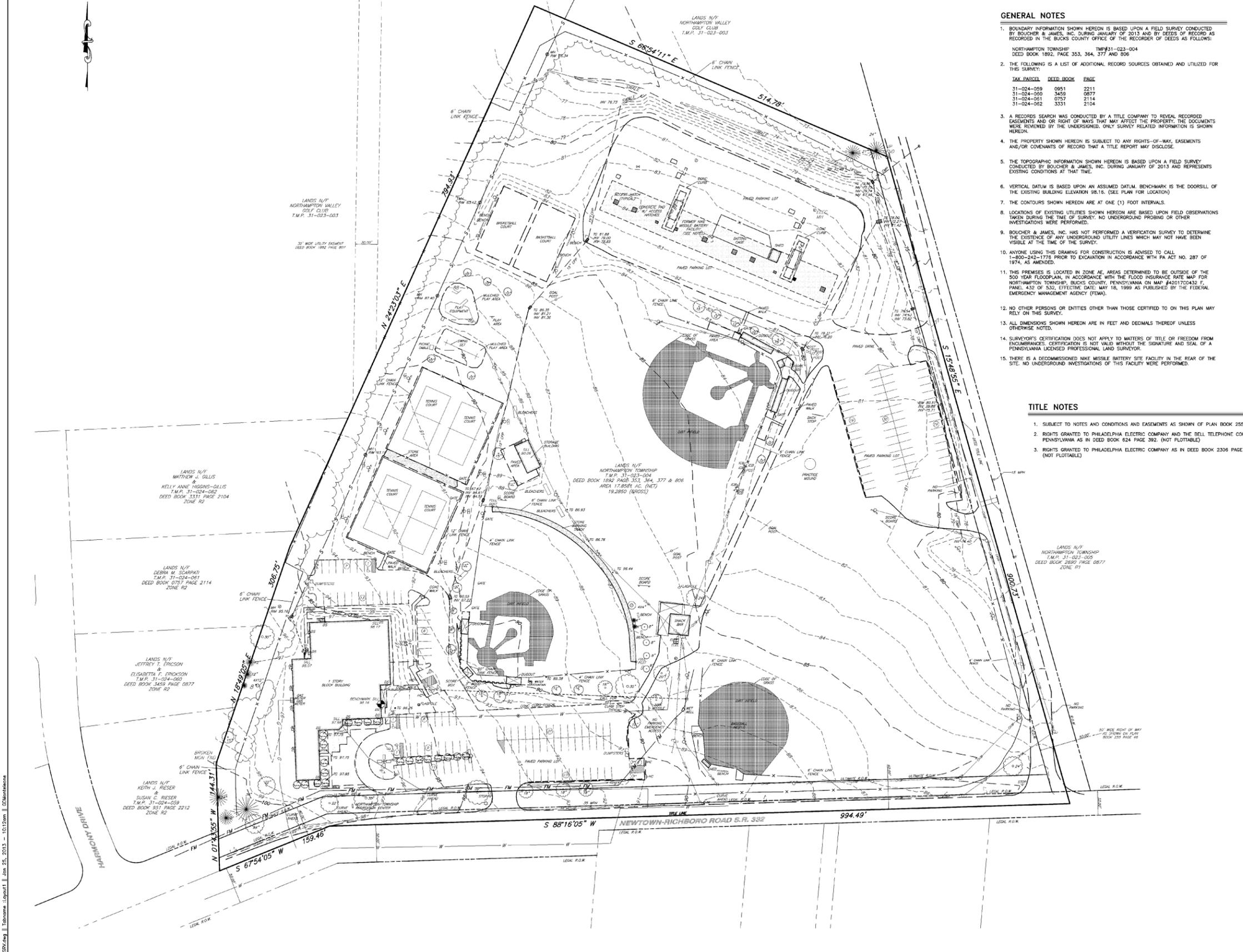
- Construction, planning, and design of on-road and off-road trail facilities for pedestrians, bicyclists, and other nonmotorized forms of transportation.
- Construction, planning, and design of infrastructure-related projects and systems that will provide safe routes for non-drivers, including children, older adults, and individuals with disabilities to access daily needs.
- Conversion and use of abandoned railroad corridors for trails for pedestrians, bicyclists, or other nonmotorized transportation users.
- Construction of turnouts, overlooks, and viewing areas.
- Community improvement activities, including –
  - Inventory, control, or removal of outdoor advertising;
  - Historic preservation and rehabilitation of historic transportation facilities;
  - Vegetation management practices in transportation rights-of-way to improve roadway safety, prevent against invasive species, and provide erosion control;
  - Archaeological activities relating to impacts from implementation of transportation projects eligible under 23 USC.
- Any environmental mitigation activity, including pollution prevention and pollution abatement activities and mitigation to-
  - Address stormwater management, control, and water pollution prevention or abatement related to highway construction or due to highway runoff; or
  - Reduce vehicle-caused wildlife mortality or to restore and maintain connectivity among terrestrial or aquatic habitats.

*Recreational Trails Program*

To provide for the continuation of recreational trails projects, MAP-21 requires each state to set aside a portion of its TAP funds for projects relating to recreational trails under 23 USC 206 [23-  
USC 213(f)-(g)]

## **APPENDIX G: PLAN OF SURVEY**





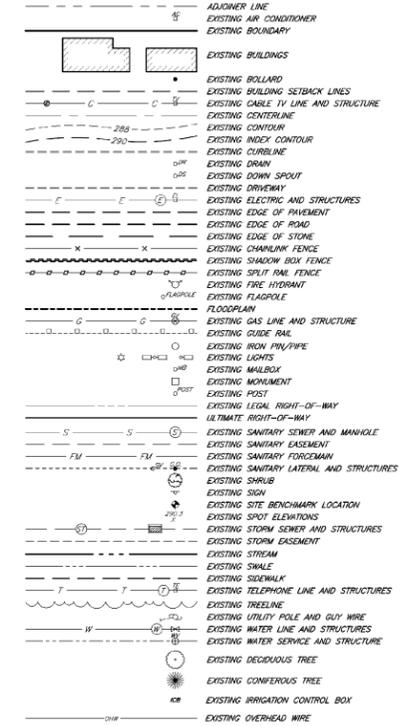
**GENERAL NOTES**

- BOUNDARY INFORMATION SHOWN HEREON IS BASED UPON A FIELD SURVEY CONDUCTED BY BOUCHER & JAMES, INC. DURING JANUARY OF 2013 AND BY DEEDS OF RECORD AS RECORDED IN THE BUTTS COUNTY OFFICE OF THE RECORDER OF DEEDS AS FOLLOWS:  
NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP T.M.P.#31-023-004 DEED BOOK 1892, PAGE 353, 364, 377 AND 806
- THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF ADDITIONAL RECORD SOURCES OBTAINED AND UTILIZED FOR THIS SURVEY:  
TAX PARCEL DEED BOOK PAGE  
31-024-059 0951 2211  
31-024-060 3459 0877  
31-024-061 0757 2114  
31-024-062 3331 2104
- A RECORDS SEARCH WAS CONDUCTED BY A TITLE COMPANY TO REVEAL RECORDED EASEMENTS AND OR RIGHT OF WAYS THAT MAY AFFECT THE PROPERTY. THE DOCUMENTS WERE REVIEWED BY THE UNDERSIGNED. ONLY SURVEY RELATED INFORMATION IS SHOWN HEREON.
- THE PROPERTY SHOWN HEREON IS SUBJECT TO ANY RIGHTS-OF-WAY, EASEMENTS AND/OR COVENANTS OF RECORD THAT A TITLE REPORT MAY DISCLOSE.
- THE TOPOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SHOWN HEREON IS BASED UPON A FIELD SURVEY CONDUCTED BY BOUCHER & JAMES, INC. DURING JANUARY OF 2013 AND REPRESENTS EXISTING CONDITIONS AT THAT TIME.
- VERTICAL DATUM IS BASED UPON AN ASSUMED DATUM. BENCHMARK IS THE DOORSILL OF THE EXISTING BUILDING ELEVATION 98.16. (SEE PLAN FOR LOCATION)
- THE CONTOURS SHOWN HEREON ARE AT ONE (1) FOOT INTERVALS.
- LOCATIONS OF EXISTING UTILITIES SHOWN HEREON ARE BASED UPON FIELD OBSERVATIONS TAKEN DURING THE TIME OF SURVEY. NO UNDERGROUND PROBING OR OTHER INVESTIGATIONS WERE PERFORMED.
- BOUCHER & JAMES, INC. HAS NOT PERFORMED A VERIFICATION SURVEY TO DETERMINE THE EXISTENCE OF ANY UNDERGROUND UTILITY LINES WHICH MAY NOT HAVE BEEN VISIBLE AT THE TIME OF THE SURVEY.
- ANYONE USING THIS DRAWING FOR CONSTRUCTION IS ADVISED TO CALL 1-800-242-1778 PRIOR TO EXCAVATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH PA ACT NO. 287 OF 1978, AS AMENDED.
- THIS PREMISES IS LOCATED IN ZONE AE, AREAS DETERMINED TO BE OUTSIDE OF THE 500 YEAR FLOODPLAIN, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP FOR NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP, BUTTS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA ON MAP #42017C0432.F, PANEL 432 OF 632, EFFECTIVE DATE: MAY 18, 1999 AS PUBLISHED BY THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA).
- NO OTHER PERSONS OR ENTITIES OTHER THAN THOSE CERTIFIED TO ON THIS PLAN MAY RELY ON THIS SURVEY.
- ALL DIMENSIONS SHOWN HEREON ARE IN FEET AND DECIMALS THEREOF UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.
- SURVEYOR'S CERTIFICATION DOES NOT APPLY TO MATTERS OF TITLE OR FREEDOM FROM ENCUMBRANCES. CERTIFICATION IS NOT VALID WITHOUT THE SIGNATURE AND SEAL OF A PENNSYLVANIA LICENSED PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYOR.
- THERE IS A DECOMMISSIONED NIKE MISSILE BATTERY SITE FACILITY IN THE REAR OF THE SITE. NO UNDERGROUND INVESTIGATIONS OF THIS FACILITY WERE PERFORMED.

**TITLE NOTES**

- SUBJECT TO NOTES AND CONDITIONS AND EASEMENTS AS SHOWN ON PLAN BOOK 255 PAGE 46.
- RIGHTS GRANTED TO PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY AND THE BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY OF PENNSYLVANIA AS IN DEED BOOK 624 PAGE 392. (NOT PLOTTABLE)
- RIGHTS GRANTED TO PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY AS IN DEED BOOK 2306 PAGE 158. (NOT PLOTTABLE)

**LEGEND**



**AREA LOT SUMMARY**

OWNER OF RECORD: NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP	GROSS AREA TO TITLE LINES	NET AREA TO ULTIMATE RIGHT-OF-WAY
T.M.P. #31-023-004	19,2850 ACRES. (840,055 SF)	17,9581 ACRES. (777,901 SF)

**SURVEYOR'S CERTIFICATION**

I, GLENN D. MONTELEONE, A REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYOR LICENSED TO PRACTICE IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, LICENSE NO. SU-056447-E, DO HEREBY CERTIFY TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, THE BOUNDARY METES & BOUNDS AND THE EXISTING FEATURES SHOWN HEREON HAVE BEEN FIELD SURVEYED UNDER MY SUPERVISION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MINIMUM STANDARDS OF PRACTICE FOR PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA AS ADOPTED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA SOCIETY OF LAND SURVEYORS (PSLS) IN JULY OF 1996 (OR AS SUBSEQUENTLY ADOPTED). I HEREBY FURTHER STATE THAT ALL MONUMENTS AND/OR IRON PINS SHOWN HEREON WERE FOUND OR SET AS INDICATED AND THAT ALL DIMENSIONS AND GEODETIC DETAILS ARE CORRECT.

GLENN D. MONTELEONE, PLS  
PA LIC. # SU-056447-E

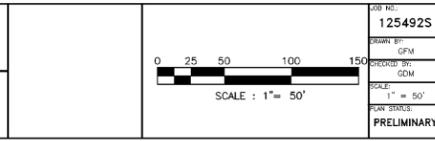
DATE

Written dimensions shall have priority over scaled dimensions. All dimensions, elevations, locations, and conditions shall be verified by the contractor prior to construction, and the Owner and Boucher & James, Inc. shall be notified of any discrepancies with the information shown on this plan.  
Only those areas surrounding the subject or red ink professional seal shall be considered official and relied upon. All ideas, designs and arrangements presented heretofore were developed for use on, and in connection with, the specified project being prepared for the Owner. These ideas may not be appropriate or relevant without the agreement written information shown on this plan represents professional services necessary ideas and designs developed, owned and copyrighted by Boucher & James, Inc. Reproduction of this plan without written approval of Boucher & James, Inc. is not permitted. Unauthorised reproduction of a copy of this plan for any purpose will be considered a violation of the copyright law and a liability of copyright infringement. Invalidation of any violation will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of current statutes.

REVISIONS		REVISIONS	
DATE	DESCRIPTION	DATE	DESCRIPTION

**NORTHAMPTON MUNICIPAL COMPLEX**  
345 NEWTOWN RICHBORO ROAD  
RICHBORO, PA 18954

**NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP**  
55 TOWNSHIP ROAD  
RICHBORO, PA 18954



JOB NO.: 125492S  
DRAWN BY: GJM  
CHECKED BY: GJM  
SCALE: 1"=50'  
DATE: PRELIMINARY

**PLAN OF SURVEY - T.M.P. 31-23-4**  
**Boucher & James, Inc.**  
CONSULTING ENGINEERS  
DOYLESTOWN • STROUDSBURG • MORAGANTOWN  
CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS: 1456 FERRY ROAD, BUILDING 500, DOYLESTOWN, PA 18001  
VOICE: (215) 345-9400 FAX: (215) 345-9401

**NORTHAMPTON MUNICIPAL COMPLEX**

SHEET 1 OF 1  
DATE: JANUARY 23, 2013

# **APPENDIX H: CONCEPTUAL SITE PLAN**





## **APPENDIX I: OPINION OF PROBABLE COST**



**Appendix I**

**OPINION OF PROBABLE COST  
NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP RECREATIONAL COMPLEX  
PROJECT NO. 125492  
NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP, BUCKS COUNTY, PA**

March 21, 2013

**CIVIC CENTER 1 (PHASE 1)**

ITEM	QUANTITY	UNIT	COST	TOTAL COST
<b>I. MOBILIZATION / DEMOBILIZATION / MISC</b>	1	LS	\$5,000.00	<b>\$5,000.00</b>
<b>II. MAINTENANCE &amp; PROTECTION OF TRAFFIC</b>	1	LS	\$5,000.00	<b>\$5,000.00</b>
<b>III. EROSION CONTROL &amp; STORMWATER MANAGEMENT</b>				
Erosion Control Measures	1	LS	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00
Stormwater Management, Rain Garden & Vegetated Swales	1	LS	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
<b>SUBTOTAL ITEM III</b>				<b>\$27,000.00</b>
<b>IV. CLEARING &amp; DEMOLITION</b>				
Close/Modify Nike Missile Battery & Parking Lot Demolition	1	LS	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
Clearing & Grubbing	1	LS	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
<b>SUBTOTAL ITEM IV</b>				<b>\$29,500.00</b>
<b>V. PARKING LOT, WALKING PATHS &amp; SITE AMENITIES</b>				
Construct Bituminous Parking Areas & New Access Driveways (280 Spaces)	1	LS	\$175,000.00	\$175,000.00
Restripe & Reconfigure Existing Bituminous Parking Lot (75 Spaces)	1	LS	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00
Parking Lot Lighting	1	LS	\$125,000.00	\$125,000.00
Construct Bituminous Walking Paths (8' Wide)	1	LS	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
Refurbish Concession, Storage & Restroom Building	1	LS	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Refurbish Playground	1	LS	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00
Relocated Batting Cage	2	EA	\$5,000.00	\$10,000.00
Construct Crosswalks & Speed Bumps	2	EA	\$5,000.00	\$10,000.00
<b>SUBTOTAL ITEM V</b>				<b>\$402,000.00</b>
<b>VI. SPORTS FIELDS</b>				
Relocated Softball Field & Proposed Netting	2	EA	\$50,000.00	\$100,000.00
Resurfaced Basketball Court	2	EA	\$15,000.00	\$30,000.00
Construct New Basketball Court	1	LS	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
Upgraded Tennis Courts	1	LS	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00
Softball Field Lighting	1	LS	\$130,000.00	\$130,000.00
<b>SUBTOTAL ITEM VI</b>				<b>\$330,000.00</b>
<b>VII. MISCELLANEOUS</b>				
Construction Stakeout	1	LS	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Signage	1	LS	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Sod/Lawn Restoration & Seeding	1	LS	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Landscaping	1	LS	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
<b>SUBTOTAL ITEM VII</b>				<b>\$27,500.00</b>
<b>VIII. TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENTS</b>				
New Traffic Signal & Roadway Improvements	1	LS	\$200,000.00	\$200,000.00
<b>SUBTOTAL ITEM VIII</b>				<b>\$200,000.00</b>
<b>OVERALL SUBTOTAL ITEMS I-VIII:</b>				<b>\$1,026,000.00</b>
10% Contingency				<b>\$102,600.00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$1,128,600.00</b>
<b>OPTIONAL IMPROVEMENTS</b>				
<b>A. UPGRADE EXISTING LIGHTING FIXTURES (Budget)</b>				
Upgrade Ex. Lighting Fixtures at Relocated Softball Field/Football Practice Field	1	LS	\$80,000.00	\$80,000.00
<b>SUBTOTAL ITEM A</b>				<b>\$80,000.00</b>

Costs contained herein are preliminary and approximate and are subject to change due to site conditions, material costs, or unforeseen conditions

**OPINION OF PROBABLE COST  
NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP RECREATIONAL COMPLEX  
PROJECT NO. 125492  
NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP, BUCKS COUNTY, PA**

March 21, 2013

**CIVIC CENTER 2 (PHASE 2)  
ITEM**

	QUANTITY	UNIT	COST	TOTAL COST
<b>I. MOBILIZATION / DEMOBILIZATION / MISC</b>	1	LS	\$5,000.00	<b>\$5,000.00</b>
<b>II. MAINTENANCE &amp; PROTECTION OF TRAFFIC</b>	1	LS	\$3,000.00	<b>\$3,000.00</b>
<b>III. EROSION CONTROL &amp; STORMWATER MANAGEMENT</b>				
Erosion Control Measures	1	LS	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
Stormwater Management, Rain Garden & Vegetated Swales	1	LS	\$40,000.00	<u>\$40,000.00</u>
<b>SUBTOTAL ITEM III</b>				<b><u>\$55,000.00</u></b>
<b>IV. CLEARING &amp; DEMOLITION</b>				
Demolition of Existing Band Shell	1	LS	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00
Clearing & Grubbing	1	LS	\$10,000.00	<u>\$10,000.00</u>
<b>SUBTOTAL ITEM IV</b>				<b><u>\$17,000.00</u></b>
<b>V. PARKING LOT, WALKING PATHS &amp; SITE AMENITIES</b>				
Construct Bituminous Parking Areas & New Access Driveways (350 Spaces)	1	LS	\$300,000.00	\$300,000.00
Parking Lot Lighting	1	LS	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00
Pedestrian Bridge	2	EA	\$5,000.00	\$10,000.00
Construct Bituminous Walking Paths (8' Wide)	1	LS	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00
Renovate Existing House for Storage & Restrooms	1	LS	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
Construct Farm Theme Tot Lot	1	LS	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
Construct Announcers Booth & Concessions	1	LS	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00
Construct Pavilion & Restrooms	1	LS	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00
Construct Crosswalks & Speed Bumps	4	EA	\$5,000.00	<u>\$20,000.00</u>
<b>SUBTOTAL ITEM V</b>				<b><u>\$645,000.00</u></b>
<b>VI. SPORTS FIELDS</b>				
Relocated Baseball Field & Proposed Netting	1	EA	\$60,000.00	\$60,000.00
Regraded Soccer Fields	1	LS	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
Construct Football Field	1	LS	\$60,000.00	\$60,000.00
Construct 210' x 330' Soccer Field	1	LS	\$65,000.00	\$65,000.00
Construct 150' x 240' Soccer Field	1	LS	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00
Construct Practice Football Field	1	LS	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00
Field Lighting for Proposed Sports Fields (Baseball, Football, 210'x330' & 150'x240' Soccer)	1	LS	\$750,000.00	<u>\$750,000.00</u>
<b>SUBTOTAL ITEM VI</b>				<b><u>\$1,035,000.00</u></b>
<b>VII. MISCELLANEOUS</b>				
Construction Stakeout	1	LS	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Signage	1	LS	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Sod/Lawn Restoration & Seeding	1	LS	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
Buffering and Landscaping	1	LS	\$15,000.00	<u>\$15,000.00</u>
<b>SUBTOTAL ITEM VII</b>				<b><u>\$38,000.00</u></b>
<b>VIII. TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENTS</b>				
New Vehicular Entrance & Roadway Improvements	1	LS	\$50,000.00	<u>\$50,000.00</u>
<b>SUBTOTAL ITEM VIII</b>				<b><u>\$50,000.00</u></b>
<b>OVERALL SUBTOTAL ITEMS I-VIII:</b>				<b>\$1,848,000.00</b>
10% Contingency				<b>\$184,800.00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b><u>\$2,032,800.00</u></b>

Costs contained herein are preliminary and approximate and are subject to change due to site conditions, material costs, or unforeseen conditions

## **APPENDIX J: FACILITY USE LETTER AND APPLICATION**





# Township of Northampton

NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP COMPLEX • 55 Township Road, Richboro, Pennsylvania 18954-1592  
Township Administration – (215) 357-6800 • Fax: (215) 357-1251

DATE

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

RE:

Dear:

As requested, attached is a copy of Northampton Township Parks and Recreation:

- Fee Schedule – Park Facility Use
- Facility Use Application Procedures
- Facility Use Application
- Rental Rules and Regulations
- Site Map of Municipal Park

After reviewing the fee schedule and facility use application procedures, complete and sign the Facility Use Application and return it along with the non-refundable application fee(s), including rain date fee, if applicable.

Certificate of insurance, all fees, and separate refundable security deposit are due no later than 21 calendar days prior to use. Final permit will not be issued until all fees are paid and all requirements are met. If an additional application for the same date is received prior to receipt of full payment, consideration will be given to the subsequent application.

After reviewing your request and approval has been granted, a signed copy of your completed Facility Use Application will be returned to you to serve as your "Permit." This "Permit" must be with you the day of your rental.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call my office at 215-357-6800.

Sincerely,

Nancy Opalka, Director  
Northampton Township Parks & Recreation

Attachments



NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION
MUNICIPAL PARK-- FACILITY USE APPLICATION

281 Hatboro Road, Churchville, PA 18966

Return completed application to: Northampton Township Parks & Recreation
55 Township Road, Richboro, PA 18954

GENERAL INFORMATION

Organization/League/Team (if group use)

Applicant's Name

(Applicant is the contact person responsible for the requested facility and who will be present during use. If this person is different than the person who will be on site during use or who needs to be notified in the event of any changes or concerns once approval is granted please provide contact information below.)

Street Address City

State Zip E-mail address

Phone# (Home) (Work) (Cell)

Contact Person (person who will be on-site) Phone#

AREA REQUESTED (If unsure please discuss with Parks & Rec Representative)

- Picnic Pavilion #1 Picnic Pavilion #2 Playground Picnic Area (Does not include exclusive use of playground.)
Sand Volleyball Court Roller Hockey Rink Basketball Court #
Baseball/Softball Field (Does not include Miracle League Fields # Other (specify)

PROPOSED USE FOR FACILITY/FIELD BEING REQUESTED

Estimated number of people attending: (Maximum number for each picnic pavilion is 48; for playground picnic area is 24)

DAY, DATE, TIME REQUESTED

Day: Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday

Date: Rain date: Time: From: To: (includes set up/clean up)

The applicant/group agrees to abide by all Northampton Township Parks & Recreation rules and regulations. The applicant/group further agrees to leave the site in a clean and orderly condition after use. Full responsibility for any damage to property or persons is assumed by the undersigned as an agent for the sponsor of the event or use. The Township of Northampton, its officials, employees, agents, and volunteers shall be saved harmless from any claim and/or liability hereby arising out of, or in connection with the function activities and uses of requested premises. I have read and received the Northampton Township Parks and Recreation Field and Facility Use Policy and the Rules and Regulations relating to the use of its facilities and equipment and accept the responsibility for meeting the requirements stated therein.

Signature of Applicant Date

REQUIRED FINAL PERMIT WILL NOT BE ISSUED UNTIL ALL FEES ARE PAID

- 1. Insurance: Homeowners Insurance Declaration Page or Certificate of Insurance naming Northampton Township as additional insured and certificate holder
2. Non-Refundable Facility Use Application Fee: Payable by Cash, Check or Credit Card \$
3. Fees: payable by Cash, Check or Credit Card Use Fee \$ Rain Date Fee \$
Equipment Rental Fee \$ Tent Authorization Fee \$ Parks and Rec Staff Fee \$
Special Field Prep Fee \$ Other Township Staff Fee \$
4. A Separate Refundable Security Deposit: Payable by check only.
Facility Security Deposit \$ Equipment Usage Security Deposit \$

TO BE COMPLETED BY Parks & Rec Date Application Received

Approved Approved with changes
Not Approved/Reason

Parks & Rec Signature

PERMIT: [Yellow box]

Municipal Park Single Use Only

**TO BE COMPLETED BY Parks & Rec**

**AREA REQUESTED:**

- Picnic Pavilion #1    Picnic Pavilion #2    Playground Picnic Area *(Does not include exclusive use of playground.)*
- Sand Volleyball Court    Roller Hockey Rink    Basketball Court # \_\_\_\_\_    Trails
- Baseball/Softball Field *(Does not include Miracle League Fields)* # \_\_\_\_\_    Horseshoe # \_\_\_\_\_
- Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**INSURANCE: *DUE NO LATER THAN 21 CALENDAR DAYS PRIOR TO USE***

- Certificate of Insurance naming Northampton Township as an additional insured and certificate holder
- Current Homeowners Policy Declaration Page

**FEES: (Cash, Check or Credit Card)**

- Non Refundable Application Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_ *DUE WITH APPLICATION*
- Facility Use Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_ *DUE NO LATER THAN 21 CALENDAR DAYS PRIOR TO USE*

**ADDITIONAL FEES: (Cash, Check or Credit Card) *DUE NO LATER THAN 21 CALENDAR DAYS PRIOR TO USE***

- Rain Date Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Light Usage Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Electric Usage Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Equipment Rental Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Private Tent Authorization Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Special Field Prep Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Parks & Rec Staff Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Other Staff Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**SECURITY DEPOSITS: (Check Only) *DUE NO LATER THAN 21 CALENDAR DAYS PRIOR TO USE***

- Facility Security Deposit Fee: \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Equipment Security Deposit Fee: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Received By \_\_\_\_\_

Receipt # \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_