

8 Recreation and Open Space**Recreation and Open Space Supporting Data**

The purpose of the Recreation and Open Space Element is to ensure adequate and accessible recreation facilities and open space to meet the future needs of the University.

1. Inventory and Analysis of Existing Conditions

An important part of university life is the availability of choices for leisure time activities. The individual should enjoy a well-rounded lifestyle with appropriate time allotted to active and passive recreation. The host community offers these opportunities, as does the university itself, both on the Main Campus and on satellite properties. Future needs to be met by the university must be defined and incorporated into the final master plan, both as active recreation facilities and open spaces between buildings.

1.a. Existing Recreational Facilities in Context Area (non-University owned)

Refer to **Figure 8.1** and **Table 8.1** for location and listing of City of Tallahassee parks and recreation facilities within city limits, convenient to the main campus. Regional facilities (national and state recreation areas) are listed in **Table 8.2**.

TABLE 8.1 City of Tallahassee Parks and Recreation Facilities

NAME	SIZE & TYPE	LOCATION	AMENITIES, PROGRAMS
Adams St. Commons/Kleman Plaza	5.6 acre park	Downtown	benches, drinking fountain
A.J. Henry Park	71.4 acre park	Northeast of downtown on Whitney Drive	picnic, playground, nature trails, boating lake, open grass area
Bloxham Park (Park Avenue)	.5 acre park	Downtown	benches, drinking fountain
Boulevard Park & Doug Burnette Park	1.5 acre park	Downtown	benches, open grass area
Brinkley-Glenn Park	8.2 acre park	N. Meridian & Lothian Dr.	benches, stream, nature trails
Brokaw-McDougall House	2.2 acre park	329 N. Meridian St.	benches, meeting/classrooms

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NAME	SIZE & TYPE	LOCATION	AMENITIES, PROGRAMS
Campbell Pond	25.8 acre park	South of Four Points	24 acre pond, playground, picnic areas
Capital Park	20 acre park	Old Tram Rd. south of campus	athletic fields, playground, picnic areas
Carter-Howell-Strong Park	11.4 acre park	Copeland & Dewey Streets; north of Tennessee St.	fitness trails, lake, picnic
Chapman Pond (Sylvan Lake)	5.5 acre park	Circle Dr, Merritt Dr., & Old Fort Dr.	passive park, pond, benches
Chittenden Park	1.5 acre park	Sycamore St, Spruce St & Chouteau Ave	benches, open grass area
Coal Chute Park	1.3 acre park	Cleveland St. & McDonnell Dr.	playground, benches, open grass area
Country Club Park	4.1 acre park	Magnolia Avenue and Golf Terrace Dr.	3 softball fields, drinking fountain
Dorothy B. Oven Park	7.5 acre park & specialty center	3205 Thomasville Road, northeast of campus	Camellia Garden Park along with historic house, seminars, pond, trails, picnic, social events
E. Peck Greene Park (Park Avenue)	.6 acre	Park Ave, Bronough St. & Duval St.	benches, drinking fountain
Elinor Klapp Phipps Park	656.1 acre park	4000 N. Meridian Rd	athletic fields, lake, trails, picnic, clubhouse, meetings/classroom
Forestmeadows Park and Athletic Center	22.9 acre park & multi-purpose center	4750 N. Meridian Rd. , north of campus	tennis, racquetball, hand ball, swimming, playground, picnic, trails, weight room, spa, meeting/classrooms, pro shop
Fourth Avenue Center/Lee Park	6.6 acre park and multi-purpose community center	Brevard St. at Macomb St. north of campus	athletic fields, basketball, cultural, crafts, after school programs, playground, tennis
Genevieve Randolph Park (Park Avenue)	.6 acre park	110 Park Ave. East	benches

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NAME	SIZE & TYPE	LOCATION	AMENITIES, PROGRAMS
Glendale Playground	.4 acre park	E. Forest Dr. & Glendale Ct	playground, picnic
Guyte P. McCord Park	21.2 acre park	Thomasville Rd, Armistead Rd, & Trescott Dr.	trails, pond, picnic; open grass area
Harriman Circle Park	8.0 acre park	Harriman Circle	benches, pond, open grass area, picnic
Hilaman Park Municipal Golf Course	121.9 acre golf facility	2737 Blairstone Rd. southeast of campus	18-hole golf course, club house, pro shop, pond, handball, fitness center, racquet ball, pool, tennis courts, meeting/classrooms
Indian Head Acre Park	28.1 acre park	1355 Indian Head Dr., southeast of campus	streams, trails
Jack L. McLean, Jr. Park	52.1 acre park & multi-purpose facility	700 Paul Russell Rd, southeast of campus	athletic fields, trails, community center, gymnasium, picnic, playground, volleyball, swimming, tennis
Jake Gaither Center & Golf Course	118.9 acre multi-purpose community center & golf course	801 Bragg Dr, south of campus	9-hole golf course, cultural crafts, meetings, athletic fields, pond, basketball, gymnasium, stream, picnic, playground, pro shop, tennis
James Messer Fields	55.6 acre park & athletic center	Jackson Bluff Rd., west of campus	athletic fields, benches, picnic
John G. Riley Park	4.8 acre park	Indiana St. & Alabama St.	trails, stream, picnic, drinking fountain
Koucky Park	2.7 acre park	Chocksacka Nene	playground, picnic, open grass area, stream
Lawrence-Gregory Center & Robinson Trueblood Pool	3.6 acre park & community center	1115 Dade St., north of campus	gymnasium, swimming, playground, meeting/classrooms

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NAME	SIZE & TYPE	LOCATION	AMENITIES, PROGRAMS
Fred O. Drake at Lake Ella Park	18.8 acre park	645 Lake Ella Dr. & N. Monroe St.	walking/jogging trail, picnic facilities
Levy Park	park	Tharpe St. & Gibbs Dr., north of campus	pool, baseball, playground, picnic facilities
Sue Herndon McCollum Community Center	20.8 acre park & community center	Cheery St. at Ingleside Dr., northeast of campus	tennis, playground, trails, picnic, arts & crafts, gymnasium, stream, athletic field, open grass area, meeting/classroom
Mabry Park	21.5 acre park	Mabry St., McArthur St., & McElroy St.	stream, open grass area
Macon Community Neighborhood Park	12.9 acre park	Henderson Rd, I-10 Interstate, & Grady Rd.	stream, basketball, trails playground, picnic
McCarty Park (Park Avenue)	.5 acre park	Downtown	drinking fountain, bike trails
Myers Park & Wade Wehunt Pool	42 acre park	Lafayette St. and Myers Park Dr., southeast of campus	playground, trails, picnic, tennis courts, pool, stream, swimming, athletic field, basketball
Ninth & Terrace Park	2.0 acre park	E. Ninth Ave. & Terrace St.	picnic, playground, basketball, trails, athletic field
Old Fort Park	1.1 acre park	Old Fort Dr., Santa Rosa Dr, & Maple Dr.	historic civil war earthen fort; benches, open grass area
Optimist Park	4.3 acre park	1355 Indian Head Dr., southeast of campus	playground, picnic, basketball, volleyball, open grass area, athletic fields
Palmer Munroe Center & Park	2 acre park & multi-purpose community center	1900 Jackson Bluff Rd., west of campus	gymnasium, cultural, crafts, after-school programs, picnic, playground, basketball

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NAME	SIZE & TYPE	LOCATION	AMENITIES, PROGRAMS
Pearlie Mae Butler Playground	.5 acre park	Cypress Lake St. & Kennedy Dr.	playground, picnic
Ponce de Leon Park (Park Avenue)	.6 acre park	Park Ave. E., Monroe St. & Adams St.	benches, drinking fountain
Ruthenia Park	3.1 acre park	Off Capital Circle SW on Ruthenia Rd	athletic fields, open grass area
San Luis Mission Park	69.1 acre park	1313 San Luis Rd., northwest of campus	picnic, trails, boardwalk around Lake Esther, playground, off-leash dog park
Springsax Park	35.4 acre park	Springsax Rd. , south of campus	athletic fields, picnic, open grass area, drinking fountain
Tom Brown Park	297.3 acre park & multi-purpose complex	off of Capital Circle NE on Easterwood Drive.	picnic, playground, athletic fields, disc golf course, tennis, racquet ball, handball, trails, lake, open grass area, off-leash dog park
Trousdell Gymnastics & Aquatic Centers	18.9 acre community center	326 John Knox Road	swimming, bathhouse, gymnasium, picnic, benches
Walker/Ford Community Center & Pool	12.4 acre multi-purpose community center	2301 Pasco St. south of campus	athletic fields, basketball, gymnasium, meeting/classrooms, playground, open grass area, swimming, tennis
Waverly Pond	7.5 acre park	Waverly Rd. , southeast of campus	pond, picnic, open grass area, benches
Winthrop Park	14.4 acre park	1623 Mitchell Ave. at Betton Rd	athletic fields, tennis, handball, playground, picnic, racquetball, open grass area
Lafayette Heritage Trail (Piney Z) Park	795.1 acre park	49000 Heritage Park Blvd.	lake, trails, picnic, playground, open grass area

Source: City of Tallahassee Parks & Recreation Department, November 2006

There are 27 state parks within 100 miles of Tallahassee. There are 56 national recreation areas and 4 national forests in the state of Florida. **Table 8.2** represents a sampling of these resources.

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TABLE 8.2 National and State Recreation Areas and National Forests

NAME	SIZE & TYPE	LOCATION	AMENITIES, PROGRAMS
Apalachicola National Forest	564,000 acres	US 319, 15 miles south	boating, camping, hiking, fishing, swimming picnic facilities, hunting
Falling Waters State Recreational Area	171 acres	77S, 84 miles west	fishing, swimming, lake, nature trails, camping, picnic facilities, 73 foot waterfall, 100 foot sink
Alfred B. Maclay Gardens State Park	307 acres	SR 61, 6 miles north	playground, picnic facilities, garden tours, fishing, swimming, bicycling, canoeing, kayaking, nature trails; -
St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge	68,931 acres	SR 363, 24 miles south	boating, bicycling, fishing, nature trails, tent camping; hiking, environmental education, hunting, -crabbing
Three Rivers State Recreation Area	687 acres at junction of Apalachicola, Flint, and Chattahoochee Rivers, and Lake Seminole	SR 271, 52 miles west	boating, canoeing, fishing, cabins, playground, nature trails, camping, picnic facilities, lake, bicycling, kayaking, hiking
Lake Seminole	37,500 acres of water 18,000 acres of land	US 90, 41 miles west	boating, swimming fishing, picnic facilities, playground, hunting, camping

Source: www.dep.state.fl.us/parks; www.recreation.gov; www.fs.fed.us/r8/florida

1.b. Existing University-Owned Recreation Site and Open Spaces

Florida State University has been assigned and manages three sites off campus in Tallahassee/Leon, which are specifically designated for recreation purposes. They are:

- Seminole Golf Course - located at the “Farm” tract, this 18-hole golf course on approximately 113 acres is used as a practice field by the University’s NCAA Division I golf team. It is also open to the general public at specified times for a nominal fee. Data is unavailable on frequency of usage by the general public.
- FSU Reservation - located approximately four miles southwest of the main campus, this 59.5-acre site contains nine buildings totaling 15,592 square feet, used principally for student recreation purposes. The site is on the shore of Lake Bradford, and a large rectangular dock defines a protected area for swimmers. Dock has recently been condemned as unsafe and unusable.

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TABLE 8.3 Reservation Attendance Figures Calendar Year 2005

	FSU STUDENTS	OTHERS	TOTALS
Waterfront- including Gate	20,386	4,832	25,218
Facility Rentals- including Conference, Cabin & Picnic Shelter	2,550	1,339	3,889
FSU Challenge Course	1,598	724	2,322
Outdoor Pursuits Program	3,298	0	3,298
Summer Camp	0	6,694	6,694
Special Events	2,270	388	2,658
Total # of Reservation Users/Participants	30,102	13,977	44,079

Total for Reservation facility for 2005 at the Reservation was 44,079.

Total student participation is 30,102 (68%).

Source: FSU Campus Recreation Department

- The Cascade Lake Tract, although undeveloped, has the potential of becoming a location for passive recreation and fishing.

1.c. Level of Service Standards Established by Comprehensive Plan

As seen in **Table 8.4**, the Tallahassee-Leon County Comprehensive Plan establishes the following minimum level of service acreage standards:

TABLE 8.4 Minimum Park Acreage Per 1,000 Population

RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT	COUNTYWIDE PARKS	AREA PARKS	LOCAL PARKS
City	1.22	2.00	2.00
County	0.18	-	-
Federal/State	3.60	-	-
Total	5.00	2.00	2.00

Source: Tallahassee-Leon County Comprehensive Plan, July 1990

City of Tallahassee parks will be based on urban service area population, located within city limits so as to equitably serve the urban service area population. Leon County government will be responsible now for operation and maintenance of boat

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landings and water-related park at a standard of 0.18-acres/1,000 population.

1.d. University-Owned Recreational Facilities Incorporated in Comprehensive Plan Recreation and Open Space Element

Not applicable to Florida State University.

2. Future Needs/Requirements

2.a. Analysis of the Projected Needs for Recreation and Open Space Facilities

Recreation and open spaces are an important part of campus life and spirit. It is these spaces that make the campus residential in character. It is important not to lose existing recreation/open spaces and to plan for such spaces in future development.

There are two methodologies that can be used in analyzing the projected needs for recreation/open space. **Table 8.5** projects space needs by ascertaining the existing open space today and calculates future needs by assuming requirements will increase proportionately. **Table 8.6** uses the Level of Service requirements as set forth in the Tallahassee-Leon County Comprehensive Plan.

TABLE 8.5 Open Space/Intramurals/Athletic Fields-Existing Main/Southwest Campuses Measured in Acres

		OPEN SPACE	INTRAMURAL FIELDS/COURT	ATHLETIC FIELDS/COURTS	TOTAL RECREATION/OPEN SPACE
Existing Campus	Main	48.1	14 *	28.9	91
	Southwest	377.1	N.A.	28.9	406
10 Year Growth	Main	48.1	13.6	29.3	91
	Southwest	274.1**	103	30.2	407.3

Source: FSU, December 2006

*Includes fields & Hull Dr. Recreational Courts

**Includes golf course that serves public, golf team, and student

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	POPULATION	TOTAL RECREATION/OPEN SPACE (2 ACRES/1000 POPULATION)*
Existing Campus	37,178**	74.4 acres
10 Year Growth	40,948**	81.9 acres

*Source: City of Tallahassee-Leon County Comprehensive Plan, June 2000

**Source: Main & Southwest Campuses, Office of Institutional Research, December 2006

2.b. Assessment of the Adequacy of the Existing Recreational Facilities and Open Spaces to meet the Future Needs of the University

The Land Use Element section of this report analyzes the ratios between buildings and land. It has been determined that the Historic Zone of campus has the desired combination to create a comfortable environment. The use of these Ground Floor Ratios for future projects as depicted in **Table 4.12** will assure that land will be available for open space.

Existing municipal off-campus recreation/open space areas available for student, faculty, and staff use are spread throughout the city as documented in the Inventory and Analysis section. Refer to **Figure 8.1**. These facilities satisfy some needs for students living off-campus, but do not adequately serve the students living near or on-campus, or for students who commute and are on campus all day.

2.c. Opportunities for Alternative Future Sitting in Order to Conserve the Supply and Character of Campus Open Space

As discussed in the Urban Design and Land Use Element sections of this document the use of courtyards/quadrangles that are incorporated into future projects will contribute to the conservation and character of open space areas. On the existing Main Campus where open spaces should be preserved, new building projects should be located such that they do not destroy the open space character or disrupt natural pedestrian/bicycle linkages. **Figures 5.2, 6.3 and 8.2** located future building and open spaces that will preserve the desired open space character.

2.d. Planned Future Recreation and Open Space Facilities Adopted in Comprehensive Plan

The Tallahassee-Leon County Comprehensive Plan does not identify specific future recreation and open space facilities, but it does give guidelines as to acquisition and development. Priority shall be given to the preservation of natural vegetation and land features, consistent with the functional purpose of the proposed park. An average of

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50% of the natural features must remain undeveloped except for inclusion of passive features (i.e., hiking trails and picnicking facilities).

As seen in **Table 8.7**, accessibility to recreation areas by the population shall be determined according to the locational criteria shown below:

TABLE 8.7 City/County Park Location Criteria

PARK CATEGORY	LOCATION CRITERIA
Countywide	“Build-out” population of 100,000 within 30 minute driving radius
Area	“Build-out” population of 25,000 within 3 mile radius
Local	“Build-out” population of 5,000 within 0.5 mile radius

Source: Tallahassee-Leon County Comprehensive Plan, June 2000

“Build-out” population refers to the projected population within the service radius of the park once the area is developed. When new parks are being considered for acquisition, this policy shall be applied as one measure to determine appropriate park location.

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