

City of Clearwater Parkland Inventory

The various types of Park Land available in the City of Clearwater have been identified in the Master Plan Update of 2013. This update evaluated the existing conditions in order to ascertain where gaps and/or surpluses existed. In order to determine if the number and type of parks within the current system was adequate we used State and Federal guidelines to help define the type of park, size, and recommended population served, especially in regards to the number of facilities needed.

Using these guidelines, the following classifications were defined and used for the City of Clearwater.

- 1. Community Parks:** Community parks offer amenities that cater to an entire community. These parks are typically large in geographic area, include amenities found in a neighborhood park but also include a staffed recreation center. They may include swimming pools and facilities for cultural activities. These parks are intended to serve a geographic area within a three-mile radius.
- 2. Neighborhood Parks:** These parks have a design that may include playgrounds, outdoor courts, picnic areas, open space, and landscaping. Neighborhood parks are intended to serve a geographic area of a one-mile radius.
- 3. Environmental Parks:** Environmental parks are important because they provide a balance of ecological diversity and wildlife. These parks support nature, cultural and history programs, and nature watching. Typically trails, educational programs, and facilities are included. Environmental Parks are intended to serve the entire community.
- 4. Open Space Parks:** Spaces that are generally open land with natural or aesthetic landscaping and no amenities. Open spaces are often designed to help mitigate water runoff and provide a visual and psychological relief from urban development. These spaces serve the residents of the entire city.
- 5. Special Use Facilities:** These facilities provide large scale user-oriented recreational activities such as sports complexes, tennis complexes, golf courses, docks, stadiums, beaches, and performing arts venues.

Based on these classifications we have the following number of parks and park acres.

7 Community Parks	142.53 acres
24 Neighborhood Parks	118.79 acres
29 Environmental Parks	891.35 acres
23 Open Space Parks	47.26 acres
27 Special Use Facilities	<u>646.49 acres</u>
Total	1863.88 acres

It should be noted that the following parcels included in the master plan are not owned by the city. However, with the exception of Sand Key Park, they are in fact maintained by the City.

• Sand Key County Park	104.29 acres
• Memorial Causeway	24.60 acres
• Courtney Campbell Causeway Beach	46.61 acres
• Martin Luther King Jr. Park	<u>1.00 acre</u>
Total	176.50

If these properties are removed from the inventory, there would be a total of 1,698.34 acres.

Attached, find the updated list of Parks and Recreation land inventory based on the classifications already described in this white paper (Attachment A) along with a corresponding map showing the various park types by districts of the City. The breakout of districts allows residents to see park land that is closest to their neighborhood.