

## **Chapter 2.2 Parks and Recreational Facilities**

### **2.2.1 INTRODUCTION**

Residents, workers, tourists, and other visitors to the Town of Urbana are served by a variety of parks and recreational facilities. The following analysis provides a Town-wide inventory of existing parks and recreational facilities and assesses the adequacy of existing facilities to serve the population.

The evaluation of Urbana's park and recreational facilities included the following elements:

- a summary of the type and quantity of existing parkland;
- a discussion of national park planning standards;
- an estimate of recreational demands;
- a summary of the condition of the facilities available to the community; and
- a general identification of deficiencies and possible enhancements to the park system.

#### **DEFINITION OF PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE OPEN SPACE**

"Public open space" is land that has been specifically dedicated or reserved for active or passive recreational use, or for conservation purposes. No such restrictions have been placed on "undeveloped" or "vacant" land, and it can be assumed that all or part of this land will eventually be developed for some other use.

Designated open space in Urbana falls into the following categories: Town and Village parks and recreational facilities, conservation/trail lands owned by a not-for-profit land trust, recreational facilities on school property, and land with limited public access owned or leased by other entities (e.g., the Fire Department). There are no state or county parks within the Town of Urbana, although there is a New York State fish hatchery.

#### **FUNCTIONS OF OPEN SPACE**

Open space serves many different purposes in the Town. It provides recreational opportunities for Town residents, protects wildlife habitat, preserves important scenic features and a visually pleasing landscape, and serves to maintain critical environmental resources, such as groundwater.

Recreational resources in Urbana include such active use facilities as ball fields, tennis courts, and playgrounds; and such passive use facilities as picnic and seating areas. Unlike other neighboring towns, the Town of Urbana does not contain larger regional open space areas such as Pinnacle State Park in Addison or Stony Brook State Park in Dansville, which provides a wide variety of recreational opportunities throughout the year. These regional facilities supplement the facilities available within the Town.

Open space is an integral component of maintaining the character of the Town of Urbana. Magnificent scenic vistas along Keuka Lake are important resources that contribute significantly to Town character, visual quality, and quality of life. As remaining undeveloped land becomes scarcer, it is important to assess the Town's current and future

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open space needs and plan now for the preservation and enhancement of essential open space areas.

### 2.2.2 INVENTORY OF EXISTING RESOURCES

An inventory of existing public and private recreational facilities within the Town was conducted. Existing facilities included:

- ☛ all parks and open spaces which are currently owned and operated by the Town;
- ☛ all parks and open spaces which are currently owned and operated by the Village;
- ☛ privately-owned open spaces maintained, leased or programmed for public use;
- ☛ publicly-owned facilities that are not owned or leased by the Town or Village but are used by residents either free of charge or on a fee basis.

Site visits were conducted by Allee King Rosen & Fleming, Inc. in May and June 2001. These field visits provided two types of information about the existing park system. First, the visits identified the current mix of community recreational facilities. Second, the visits provided insight to the overall physical condition and an understanding of the type and quantity of functional activities that occur at each recreational facility.

The locations of the recreational facilities are illustrated in Figure 2.2-1. A listing and description of the type of activity within each park facility and the acreage are presented in Table 2.2-1. A total of 14 different facilities are included in the inventory.

#### TOWN-OWNED FACILITIES

##### *DESIGNATED PARKLAND*

The Town has about 18 acres of municipally owned, developed parkland which provide a mix of passive and active recreational activities (see Figure 2.2-1). The Town's recreational facilities are concentrated along the Keuka Lake waterfront and include swimming beaches and docks, baseball fields, picnic areas, fishing spots, boat docks, and a boat launch. With the exception of the boat launch, which is open only to Town residents, all Town-owned parks are open to visitors from outside the Town of Urbana.

Table 2.2 -1 Open Space Resources In and Around Urbana and Hammondsport			
Name/Ownership	Acreage	Type	Features
Town of Urbana			

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<i>Designated Parklands</i>			
1. Champlin Beach	16.0	Community	Lake swimming, baseball fields (2), picnic tables (10), grills (5), concession stand, bench (1), bleachers, creek, wetlands
2. Head of the Lake Park	1.9	Community	Boat docks (2), swimming dock (1), swimming beach, picnic tables (2), benches (6), historic railroad depot and caboose, restrooms, changing room
<u>3. Town Hall Park</u>	<u>0.3</u>	<u>Neighborhood</u>	<u>Playground</u>
<u>Subtotal</u>	<u>18.2</u>		
<i>Other Open Spaces<sup>1</sup></i>			
4. Firemen's Field	5.9	NA	Pavilion, rest rooms, grassy area
5. Lands behind Town barn	65.0	NA	Undeveloped wooded land
6. Hillside opposite Champlin Beach	60.5	NA	Undeveloped wooded land
7. Right-of-way—Wheeler Property	3.4	NA	Undeveloped, 0.6-mile-long linear parcel
<u>Subtotal</u>	<u>134.8</u>		
<b><u>Village of Hammondsport</u></b>			
<i>Designated Parklands</i>			
8. Champlin Beach	1.7	Community	Swimming beach, swimming dock, pavilion, picnic tables (11), grills (6), rest rooms
9. Pulteney Square Park	0.6	Community	Gazebo, benches (10), plantings
10. Grape Street Park	0.8	Neighborhood	Playground, basketball court, swings, benches (2), plantings
11. Liberty Park	0.5	Neighborhood	Decorative plantings
<u>Subtotal</u>	<u>3.6</u>		
<b><u>Not-for-Profit Land Trust<sup>2</sup></u></b>			
12. Finger Lakes Trail	NA	Regional	Two branches of 559-mile regional trail system traverse the Town.
<b><u>School Facilities-Limited Use by Residents Permitted<sup>2</sup></u></b>			
13. Hammondsport Central School District-High School	NA	NA	Tennis courts (4), running track, baseball fields (2), soccer field (1), multi-use field
14. Curtiss School	NA	NA	Playground, sledding hill
<b><u>Other<sup>2</sup></u></b>			
15. New York State Fish Hatchery	NA	Regional	Nature study, picnic area
16. Keuka Lake	N/A	Regional	Boating, fishing, swimming
<b><u>TOTAL DESIGNATED PARK</u></b>	<b><u>21.8</u></b>		
<b><u>TOTAL OPEN SPACE</u></b>	<b><u>155.8</u></b>		

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### Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Not included in totals for needs assessment because not designated parkland.

<sup>2</sup> Not included in totals for needs assessment because not Town- and Village-owned or controlled.

**Sources:** Town of Urbana Town Clerk; field surveys by Allee King Rosen & Fleming, Inc. June 2001.

The largest municipally-owned open space resource is Champlin Beach Park, a 16-acre area along the southern shoreline of Keuka Lake. The park offers opportunities for a variety of recreational activities. The park has two fields for baseball. In addition, the park offers spectator seating and a seasonal concession stand. The stand is owned and operated by the Little League and is open only during baseball season. The park also provides lake swimming, a dock, picnic tables, and grills. The baseball field and adjoining concession area is leased by the Town to the Little League for \$1.00 per year.

The Keuka Maid entranceway is located roughly in the middle of the Town park land. To the west of the Keuka Maid is a large area of undeveloped land, consisting of willow trees along the waterfront, a brushy area, and wetlands. The park frontage along Route 54 consists of a large, undefined gravel parking area. A small creek generally separates the Town and Village portions of the park.

To the east along the waterfront area, 1.9-acre Head of the Lake Park is a Town-owned park located in the center of the Village at the foot of Shethar Street. The park provides picnic areas, benches, and swimming. The boat launch off Water Street just south of the gulf stream ("the flume") provides boat access for Town and Village residents to Keuka Lake. The Town Boat Launch is heavily used in the summer.

Both Town-owned parks, because of their locations and unique facilities (i.e., swimming, boating) on the Keuka Lake waterfront, draw from the Town as a whole and are therefore considered community parks for purposes of the parks needs assessment.

The Town, the Parks and Recreation Committee, and the Hammondsport Central School offer a range of organized recreational activities during the summer at the public parks and school facilities. In the summer of 2001, the Town offered a swimming program at the Village-owned park at Champlin Beach and provided a lifeguard at Head of the Lake Park. The Parks and Recreation Committee and the school district run a recreational program which offers Little League, soccer, basketball, and arts and crafts activities. Finally, the Town maintains a small playground adjacent to Town/Village Hall.

### OTHER TOWN-OWNED OPEN SPACES

The Firemen's Carnival Grounds are adjacent to the Town park at Champlin Beach. This 5.9-acre property, owned by the Town and leased to the Hammondsport Fire Department, is not a designated public park, but is used by the community with Fire Department permission for special events.

In addition, the Town owns an approximately 60.5-acre hillside parcel on the south side of Route 54 opposite Champlin Beach which is currently undeveloped. The steeply-sloped, heavily wooded land has no formal trail network, but provides wildlife habitat and the opportunity for linkages to other publicly accessible open spaces in the future.

In addition, roughly 65 acres of undeveloped wooded land owned by the Town is located behind the Town barns at the intersection of Route 54 and Back Valley Road. This land is not as steeply sloped as the nearby Town-owned hillside property, and offers the potential for future trail development and linkages to other open spaces.

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A roughly 3,000-foot-long, 50-foot-wide easement is owned by the Town through the Wheeler property west of Winding Stair Road. This easement runs on an old logging road which links the Town-owned land behind the Town barns, described above, with Winding Stair Road. The Finger Lakes Trail crosses Winding Stair Road in close proximity to the Wheeler property.

### VILLAGE-OWNED FACILITIES

The Village has about 3.6 acres of municipally owned, developed parkland which provide a mix of passive and active recreational activities (see Figure 2.2-2). Village-owned parks include Pulteney Square Park, a 0.6-acre green in the center of the Village. The park, the center of Village festivals and other activities, contains a decorative gazebo, benches, shade trees, and plantings. The Village-owned Champlin Beach Park is immediately south of the Town park at Champlin beach. The 1.7-acre park has a swimming beach and dock, a pavilion, and picnic facilities. Both Pulteney Square and Champlin Beach, because of their respective unique roles as Village center and waterfront resource, are considered to be community parks for purposes of the parks needs assessment.

There are also two Village-owned neighborhood parks. Grape Street Park is a 0.8-acre park with a playground, a basketball court, swings, and benches which predominantly serves residents in the southern part of the Village. A proposal has been made to the Village by a group of residents to use part of Grape Street Park as a private/membership skate park. Liberty Park is a ½-acre park which primarily serves as a visual amenity. The park has decorative plantings, but no benches, tables, or other amenities inviting public use.

### FINGER LAKES TRAIL

The scenic Finger Lakes Trail is a linear park that provides hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, and other active recreational opportunities for residents and visitors. Two forks of the Finger Lakes Trail run through the Town of Urbana. The main segment of the trail runs in a northeasterly direction from the Hornell area to the southwest through the Village of Hammondsport and continues along the hillsides east of Keuka Lake before turning south and then continuing further east. The Bristol Hills Branch of the trail splits off from the main trail in Village to run north along the west side of the lake. An approximately 12-mile segment of the main trail and about 10½ miles of the Bristol Hills branch traverse the Town. The trail is unpaved for its length in the Town. The trail is a multi-purpose facility which provides active recreation and serves as an inter-connecting link between recreation areas and points of interest.

### SCHOOL DISTRICT FACILITIES

School outdoor recreational facilities such as ball fields and the running track at the high school and the playground and sledding hill at the Curtiss School are also utilized by Town residents on a limited basis when not in use for school activities. As described above, the school district co-sponsors summer sports programs for children, including soccer and basketball (inside the high school gym). It is important to note that although the school district facilities are relied on for Town and Village recreational programs, these facilities are not controlled by the Town or Village and are available only on a limited basis. As a result, they are not included in the municipal parkland acreage utilized in the needs assessment.

### OTHER PUBLICLY-ACCESSIBLE RECREATIONAL/OPEN SPACE AREAS IN THE TOWN

Keuka Lake and the Keuka Lake Inlet provide boating, fishing, birding, and other nature study opportunities to residents and visitors to Urbana. The privately-operated Keuka Maid offers cruises up and down the lake. The company leases land from the Town at Champlin Beach. Keuka Lake Inlet (also known as Cold Brook Stream) used to be a top trout fishing stream attracting many fishermen. In recent years, the numbers of trout have dwindled because of very low water levels and because the State has not stocked or maintained the stream. Lack of maintenance has resulted in the stream changing courses and the lack of adequate pools for the trout to spawn in. The New York State Fish Hatchery, located on Fish Hatchery Road in the south central section of Town, is a unique facility that provides opportunities for nature study and picnicking.

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The Town's open lands provide many hunting opportunities. Hunting is a popular sport in Steuben County, which has the largest deer harvest in the State. Popular hunting areas include Huckleberry Bog and New York State forest lands on Reservoir Road just south of the Town of Pulteney. Landowners in the area generally allow hunting on their lands by permit only.

### **NEARBY REGIONAL PARKS**

Regional facilities offer many recreational opportunities to Town residents and supplement the facilities available in the Town. Keuka Lake State Park in Branchport, Watkins Glen State Park, Sugar Hill State Park, and Birdseye Hollow County Park in Watkins Glen, Finger Lakes National Forest in Trumansburg, Pinnacle State Park in Addison, and Stony Brook State Park in Dansville are all within an easy drive of Urbana. These state parks provide a particularly wide range of active and passive recreational opportunities, such as hiking and nature study, cross-country skiing, boating, camping, and picnicking. In addition, fishing (e.g., walleyes, pickerel, bass, and muskie) is available at nearby state and county parks. These facilities are neither controlled by nor located in the Village, and are considered supplemental facilities for the purposes of the recreational needs analysis.

### **2.2.3 PARK PLANNING STANDARDS**

Planning organizations have formulated open space standards to guide decision-makers in determining how much open space is needed or desirable in an area. The standards are based on the type of open space provided (i.e., community or neighborhood, active or passive), the size of the population to be served, and distance from the open space. A standard measure of access to open space is provided by the ratio of available open space acreage per 1,000 residents. As discussed above, open space serves many different purposes. These standards apply to the amount of open space for recreational purposes. Passive open space or preservation of site-specific features or natural resources cannot be similarly quantified and these decisions must be based on a site-specific evaluation. In order to evaluate the existing park and recreational facilities, national standards were used to project the probable demand for park facilities. For the purposes of this study, the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) general parkland acreage standards were used. This study addresses the adequacy of neighborhood parks and community parks.

The factors provided by NRPA which help to define each type of parkland and include typical site criteria for each type of parkland are listed below. This information was used to help examine the adequacy of the supply of Urbana's public recreational facilities. In addition, the study used NRPA population-based standards to determine the amount of neighborhood and community parkland potentially required in Urbana.

### **GENERAL PARKLAND CRITERIA**

#### **NEIGHBORHOOD PARK**

- Generally 2-20 acres in size.
- Serves people most desirably within a one-half mile radius, with 1.7 acres minimum available per 1,000 persons.
- Preferably located near an elementary school or near the center of a population concentration.
- Usual facilities are for unsupervised sports, play equipment, multi-use playing areas, turf area, tree plantings, some passive area, and minimal allocations for auto parking. With a summer playground program, a small shelter is desirable.
- May include the following types of facilities:

#### **Ballfields**

- Examples include softball or little league field only; bleachers, team benches, backstop and fences.

#### **Tot Lots**

- Generally less than one acre in size.
- Usual facilities include play apparatus for small children only; benches, sand area, small wading or spray pool, landscaped areas, and shaded areas for supervising parents.

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- May include alternate facilities such as quiet game areas, multipurpose court, or other features.

### School Recreational Facilities

- May be considered a neighborhood park, yet serves most of the people within the community through normal school activities.
- Usual facilities include children's playground areas, multi-purpose courts, school athletic playing fields, off street parking and related uses.

### *COMMUNITY PARK*

- Generally 50-100 acres, or more, in size. May be considerably smaller if the park contains a unique attribute (e.g., lake waterfront location).
- Serves the whole community, but most desirably located within a three mile radius, with seven acres minimum available per 1,000 persons.
- Location depends on availability of appropriate sites. However, community parks should be located as close to the population centers as possible.
- Usual facilities include active athletic areas similar to playing fields, with at least half of the area left more natural in character, with picnicking, hiking, camping, archery, golf, fishing, boating, ice skating and water sports, if appropriate, included.
- Interior roadways with area parking are required.
- Shelters, swimming pools and quiet areas are desirable.

### *FACILITY PLANNING STANDARDS*

In addition to the general parklands acreage standards, the NRPA, the New York Statewide Comprehensive Recreation Plan (SCRP) standards, and specific sport federation standards were

Table 2.2 - 2			
Facility/Activity Planning Standards			
Facility	NRPA Standard/1,000	NYS Comprehensive Recreation Plan/1,000	Average/1,000
Tennis	.5 courts	.5 courts	.5 courts
Volleyball	.2 courts		.2 courts
Basketball	.2 courts	1 court	.2 courts
Baseball	.2 fields		.2 field
Softball	.2 fields		.2 field
Football	.05 fields	3 acre	.05 field
Soccer	.1 fields		.1 field
Ice Skating/Hockey	.01 rink	.4 rink	.05 rink
Field Hockey	.05 field		.05 field
400 Meter Track	.05 track		.05 track

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Swimming Pool	.05 pool		.05 pool
Trails (bike, walk, x-country, horse)	.25-.5 mile		.4 mile
Picnic Shelters	.5 shelters		.5 shelters
Picnic Tables	8 tables		8 tables
Rollerblading/skating	.05 rink		.05 rink
Toddler Playground	.1 acres	1.0 acre	.5 acre
<b>Source:</b> National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA), the New York State of Environmental Conservation.			

used to establish the number of units of functional activity (i.e., baseball fields and tennis courts), which on average, should be provided within the combined park systems of the Town and Village.

The types of activities include a broad range of outdoor facility types, including baseball, softball, volleyball, skiing, nature trails, areas for picnicking, tennis courts, playground equipment, ice skating, swimming pools, fishing, basketball, football, soccer fields, archery, golf, and horseshoes. The recommended standards for each activity are listed in Table 2.2-2. The planning standard identified in the column "Average /1,000" represents the average ratio per 1,000 Town residents (including the Village); these ratios were selected as the basis for this analysis.

It is noted that the Town and school district provide summer sports and recreational activities for residents throughout Urbana. They also provide busing to summer recreational programs for children from the Towns of Wayne and Pulteney. Children from other townships are also welcome to attend. As a result, Table 2.2-2, above, provides a conservatively low estimate of recreational needs by facility.

### 2.2.4 ADEQUACY OF OPEN SPACE RESOURCES

#### QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS

##### GENERAL PARKLAND CRITERIA

This section addresses the adequacy of general types of parkland—neighborhood parks and community parks. Including Town and Village-owned designated parks, there are approximately 20 acres of existing community parkland and 1.6 acres of existing neighborhood parks within the Town. This total acreage includes only Town- and Village-owned, exterior recreational facilities. The extent of these facilities is shown in Table 2.2-1, above. All of the Town's parks are used frequently by residents and are a key part of the Town's character.

##### Total Acreage

Year-Round Population. In 2000, the permanent, year-round population of the Town of Urbana (including the Village of Hammondsport) was 2,546 persons. According to the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) standards, the Town of Urbana (including the Village) should have between 16.5 and 25.5 acres of total park land based on its population in the year 2000. Based on the NRPA standards, the Town (including the Village) should have about 17.8 acres of community parkland and about 4.3 acres of neighborhood (see Table 2.2-3). Application of the standards indicates that the Town has adequate acreage of community parkland and insufficient neighborhood parkland to serve the combined year-round residential population of the Village and Town.

The Town has 1.6 acres of existing neighborhood parks, compared to 4.3 acres recommended by the national standards, a 2.7-acre shortfall based on the year-round population. Neighborhood parks draw predominantly from their immediate areas. They are defined as being 20 acres or less in size and as typically offering the active-use facilities in or near residential neighborhoods such as playgrounds and basketball courts, which are heavily used by children. Included in the inventory of neighborhood parks were Grape Street and Liberty Parks. Liberty Park also does not provide a playground or other active recreational facilities, nor does it provide benches for passive recreation.

Table 2.2 - 3



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Recommended Acres of Parkland, Year - Round Population Town of Urbana			
Park Type	National Standard (Acres/1,000 Persons)*	National Standard Applied to Town Population in 2000**	Existing in Town
Neighborhood Park or Playground	1.7	4.3	0.8
Community Park	7.0	17.8	20.2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6.5-10.0</b>	<b>16.5-25.5</b>	<b>21.0</b>
<b>Notes:</b>  * National Recreation and Parks Association standards.  ** U.S. Department of Commerce, 2000 Census of Population. Combined Village/Town population.			

It is important to note that the waterfront parks, despite their relatively small size, really serve a community park function because of their location on Keuka Lake and the special waterfront facilities they offer, including swimming. Pulteney Park also serves a central role in the community as a whole and is widely utilized by residents throughout the Town as well as visitors.

Based on the NRPA standards, the Town has adequate community parkland in terms of total acreage to serve its year-round population. The recommended standard for community parkland applied to the town suggests approximately 17.8 acres, and the Town and Village possess about 20.2 acres.

*Year-Round and Seasonal Population.* It is important to note that seasonal residents and other visitors not included in these ratios place substantial additional demands on the Town's open space facilities. This is particularly true in Urbana, which is located in the heart of the Finger Lakes tourist region, and which makes all of its facilities (except the boat launch) open to the larger public. The additional demand is apparent particularly in the summer months and most markedly at the waterfront parks.

The seasonal population of the Town of Urbana (including the Village of Hammondsport) in 2000 is estimated at 3,261 persons. This includes 2,546 year-round residents plus an estimated 715 seasonal residents (based on 334 seasonal units times the average household size for renters). In contrast to casual tourists—who may stop at the waterfront parks but are unlikely to use ball fields and courts—seasonal residents are expected to place similar demands on active recreational facilities as do permanent residents.

Applying the NRPA standards to the combined seasonal and year-round population indicates that the Town lacks sufficient neighborhood parkland and just meets the low end of the recommended range for community parkland (see Table 2.2-4). The summer months, when the seasonal population is in residence, is also the time of the most intensive use of many parks, particularly those on the waterfront.

Table 2.2 - 4 Recommended Acres of Parkland, Year - Round and Seasonal Population Town of Urbana			
Park Type	National Standard (Acres/1,000 Persons)*	National Standard Applied to Town Population in 2000**	Existing in Town
Neighborhood Park or Playground	1.7	5.5	0.8
Community Park	7.0	22.8	20.2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6.5-10.0</b>	<b>21.2-32.6</b>	<b>21.0</b>

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### Notes:

\* National Recreation and Parks Association standards.

\*\* U.S. Department of Commerce, 2000 Census of Population. Combined Village/Town population. Seasonal population based on number of seasonal housing units times the average household size of renter-occupied units.

### Park Distribution

The distribution of the Town's park system (including the Village) is another major planning consideration. The locations of the Town and Village facilities were examined to determine whether there are areas of the Town that are not adequately served by the existing neighborhood parklands or playgrounds. The NRPA recommends that each neighborhood park serve a surrounding area of approximately 0.5 mile radius in a village or urban setting. For purposes of this study, given the generally low density and higher auto ownership rates of the Town compared to many more urbanized areas included in the national standards, the recommended service area for neighborhood parks was extended to a 1.0 mile radius.

The Grape Street playground serves residents in the southern portion of the Village. Although located centrally in the heart of the Village, Pulteney Square Park contains no playground or other active recreational facilities. This is also true of Liberty Street Park. Additional neighborhood parkland with active facilities such as playgrounds, multi-purpose courts, ring toss, or game tables is needed in the northern half of the Village. These needs are addressed in Chapter 4.0, "Action Plan".

### Facility Standards

Year-Round Population. Table 2.2-5, below, compares the facilities recommended by the park planning standards (based on year-round Town population (including the Village) and the standards described in Section 2.2.3, above) and the actual facilities currently provided by the Town and Village. As the table indicates, based solely on the year-round population and the quantitative park standards, Urbana and Hammondsport have sufficient recreational resources in some areas and lack certain other facilities typically provided by municipalities.

Table 2.2 - 5		
Facility Needs Assessment Based on Year-Round Population Town of Urbana and Village of Hammondsport		
Activity	Existing Town or Village-Owned Facilities	Facilities Needed
Tennis	0 Courts (4 Owned by School District)	1.3 Courts
Volleyball	0 Courts	0.5 Court
Basketball (Outdoor)	2 Half Courts	0.5 Court
Baseball (Little League, T-ball, Minor League)	2 Fields (Plus 2 School Fields)	0.5 Field
Softball	Girls' Softball Field (1)	Less than One Field (0.5)
Soccer	1 School Field	Less than One Field (0.5)
Football	0 Field	Less than One Field (0.1)
Ice Skating Rink	0 Rinks (Lake and Boat Launch Area)	Less than One Rink (0.1)

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Field Hockey	0 Fields (School Multi-use Field is Used)	Less than One Field (0.1)
400 Meter Running Track	0 Tracks (1 School)	Less than One Track (0.1)
Swimming Pool	0 Pools (Seasonal Swimming in Keuka Lake)	Less than One Pool (0.1)
Trails (Biking, Walking, X-country Skiing, Etc.)	Approximately 22.5 Miles	0.6-1.3 Miles
Rollerblading/In line Skating	0 Rinks	Less than One Rink (0.1)
Toddler Playground	2 Playgrounds (0.5 acres)	3 Playgrounds (1.3 acres)
Picnic Shelters	1 Shelter/Pavilion	1.5 Shelters
Picnic Tables	23 Tables	20 Tables
Fishing	Lake, Outlet	No Applicable Standard
Boating	1 Boat Launch, 2 Boat Docks	No Applicable Standard

*Year-Round and Seasonal Population.* Table 2.2-6 presents the recreational facility needs assessment for the Town and Village including both seasonal and year-round residents. Comparing Tables 2.2-5 and 2.2.6 shows the additional demand on the Town's recreational facilities when seasonal use is factored in. However, even adding in seasonal demand, the standards alone do not show a need for major facilities such as a swimming pool, a track, or an in-line skating rink. These facilities may be warranted if a larger regional population serving neighboring towns is contemplated.

<p style="text-align: right;"><b>Table 2.2 - 6</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Facility Needs Assessment Based on Year-Round and Seasonal Population</b> <b>Town of Urbana and Village of Hammondsport</b></p>		
Activity	Existing Town or Village - Owned Facilities	Facilities Needed
Tennis	0 Courts (4 Owned by School District)	1.6 Courts
Volleyball	0 Courts	0.7 Court
Basketball (Outdoor)	2 Half Courts	0.7 Court
Baseball (Little League, T-ball, Minor League)	2 Fields (Plus 2 School Fields)	0.7 Field
Softball	Girls' Softball Field (1)	Less than One Field (0.7)
Soccer	1 School Field	Less than One Field (0.7)
Football	0 Field	Less than One Field (0.2)
Ice Skating Rink	0 Rinks (Lake and Boat Launch Area)	Less than One Rink (0.2)
Field Hockey	0 Fields (School Multi-use Field is Used)	Less than One Field (0.2)
400 Meter Running Track	0 Tracks (1 School)	Less than One Track (0.2)
Swimming Pool	0 Pools (Seasonal Swimming in Keuka Lake)	Less than One Pool (0.2)

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Trails (Biking, Walking, X-country Skiing, Etc.)	Approximately 22.5 Miles	0.8-1.6 Miles
Rollerblading/In line Skating	0 Rinks	Less than One Rink (0.2)
Toddler Playground	2 Playgrounds (0.5 acres)	3-4 Playgrounds (1.6 acres)
Picnic Shelters	1 Shelter/Pavilion	1.6 Shelters
Picnic Tables	23 Tables	26 Tables
Fishing	Lake, Outlet	No Applicable Standard
Boating	1 Boat Launch, 2 Boat Docks	No Applicable Standard

### QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS

#### ADEQUACY BY TYPE OF ACTIVITY

The Town and Village provide a number of recreational facilities that include baseball fields, swimming beaches, a boat launch and boat docks, picnic facilities, and a playground. However, there are some deficiencies in how the existing recreation facilities meet needs for specific sports activities. The analysis below was prepared with information gathered from site investigations. An analysis by facility follows:

*Tennis:* Courts are available at all times they are not in use by school district. School district courts closely meet demand indicated by standards. With the summer tourist influx, the Town or Village could consider developing tennis courts.

*Volleyball:* Standards indicate some demand, but residential population alone does not justify a court. With the seasonal population, adding a volleyball court is recommended. The Town or Village could consider providing one informal grass volleyball court in one of the waterfront parks.

*Basketball:* There are currently two half outdoor courts. While the standards alone do not support a need for a court, perhaps this could be developed in conjunction with a neighborhood playground (see below).

*Baseball:* There are two Town-owned fields and two school fields, which easily exceed the demand indicated by the standard without or with the seasonal population.

*Football:* There is no football field in the Town. Standards applied to the Town population indicate only minimal demand for a dedicated field.

*Soccer:* The school district has a soccer field used by residents for school sports and available in off-hours for general use by residents. The standards indicate that the Town population alone does not require one. Summer soccer programs for children are accommodated at the high school field. A field could be warranted if it served a broader population base (including one or more townships).

*Ice Rink:* The Town does not have a formal ice skating rink, either indoor or outdoor. The Town population alone indicates very minimal demand for such a facility; a regional rink would be more appropriate.

*Field Hockey:* Based on the standards applied to the Town population only, there is very little unmet demand for a formal field hockey field. A field could be warranted if it served a broader population base. Field hockey can be accommodated at the high school multi-use field.

*Track:* Quantitative standards indicate minimal demand for a competitive running track. Runners are accommodated by the school track and sections of the Finger Lakes Trail.

*Swimming:* Application of the quantitative standards indicates that the Town population base, even when accounting for seasonal residents, is too small to warrant development of an indoor swimming pool. For such a facility to be well utilized, it should be county or inter-municipal facility serving a broader population base. Swimming at the two lakefront parks meets some swimming demand in the summer (including lessons). Demand for lap swimming and swimming facilities in the remaining nine months of the year is not accommodated.

## Chapter 2.2: Parks and Recreational Facilities

- Trails:* The Finger Lakes Trail extends approximately 22.5 miles in length through the Town. The trail more than meets the minimum quantitative standards for trail ways.
- Playgrounds:* There are two playgrounds in the Town, at Grape Street Park. Quantitative standards indicate the demand for 1.3 to 1.6 acres of parkland for playgrounds (equivalent to about 3-4 playgrounds). One additional playground should be developed in the north section of the Village. In addition, the Town should consider providing one or two playgrounds elsewhere in the township, with the location determined by neighborhood demand.
- Shelters:* Based on the standards, there is a need for 1.5 shelters compared to the one available shelter at Champlin Beach. Given the large influx of summer visitors, the actual demand is likely to be much greater. The Town or Village should consider adding a shelter or two at one of the waterfront parks. In addition, there is a pavilion at Firemen's Carnival Grounds, with limited availability to the general public.
- Picnic Tables:* Picnic tables (23) exist at many of the Town and Village parks, an adequate number to serve the year-round and seasonal resident population. Replacement of old, worn-out picnic tables should occur on an as-needed basis. New tables should be added if tourist demand indicates a need.
- Boat Access:* Public boat access to the Lake is available to residents at the Town Boat Launch. The facility is heavily utilized by residents in the summer months. Two boat docks are available at Head of the Lake Park.

### CONDITION OF PARKS

#### *Champlin Beach*

The facility is in generally fair to good condition. The older cyclone fencing in the Town portion of the park is rusting and bent in places. Large, unlandscaped gravel parking areas at the Town and Village entrances detract from the appearance of the park. Most other equipment and structures are in good to very good condition. As a result of its location on the opposite side of the inlet, the park is physically separated from the remainder of the Village and is not readily accessible by pedestrians from the Village center, Head of the Lake Park, or residential neighborhoods.

#### *Head of the Lake Park*

The park is in good condition. There is a limited amount of graffiti on some of the picnic tables and benches. The unoccupied warehouse building is located in the center of the park and blocks views of Keuka Lake looking north from Lake Street.

#### *Town Boat Launch*

The boat launch is in fair condition, with partially rusted and bent fencing, old and worn signage, graffiti, and a rutted gravel boat staging area. There is also a shortage of parking at the Boat Launch in the summer.

#### *Town/Village Hall Playground*

The playground equipment is well maintained.

#### *Pulteney Square Park*

The Village Green of Hammondsport is very well maintained and in excellent condition.

#### *Grape Street Playground*

The playground equipment is in very good condition. The only negative feature is the unattractive and unnecessary (because of available on-street parking space) parking area. The landscaping could be improved in portions of the park.

#### *Liberty Park*

## **Town of Urbana/Village of Hammondsport Joint Comprehensive Plan**

As previously discussed above, the park functions as a visual amenity and has no facilities of any kind. The plantings are in excellent condition.

### *LINEAR PARKS*

Linear parks or greenways are a popular form of parkland. The Finger Lakes Trail is a major regional recreational resource which goes through the center of Hammondsport, with some 22½ miles of trails branching off to the north and the east through the Town of Urbana. Although there is not a specific NRPA standard for total acreage for this type of parkland, it serves many important functions in the Town by providing a trail way for walking, biking, cross-country skiing, and other activities; and offering linkages to the other sites in the Finger Lakes. The trail supplements the Town's other park resources and provides for alternate forms of recreation. Another supplementary open space resource in the Town is the New York State Fish Hatchery.

### *PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE WATERFRONT*

In total, residents of Urbana currently enjoy public access to about 0.2-linear-mile of the Keuka Lake waterfront, only about 7 percent of the approximately 9 total linear miles of shoreline within the Town's jurisdiction.