

## 6. PUBLIC FACILITIES

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### INTRODUCTION

The economic and population growth of Culpeper County over the last decade has required a significantly increased level of public services. More population means demand for more schools and for more recreational facilities. Economic growth requires expanded utilities, improved fire and rescue protection and coordination with the business community. In these areas, economies of scale are sometimes outweighed by new standards and higher expectations. The purpose of the Public Facilities Plan is to assess the current and future public service and facility needs and provide a general plan for addressing these needs in an efficient and cost effective manner.

The County's public facilities must be carefully coordinated with land use and transportation plans to integrate the provision of services with anticipated growth, revenues, and available funding. The principal goals of the adopted Comprehensive Plan regarding the provision of public facilities and utilities are to:

- Provide community facilities to serve existing and new development in an efficient and cost effective manner;
- Provide emergency services and law enforcement facilities to protect citizens and allow them to enjoy a safe and secure environment;
- Promote an integrated public information system for the County, supporting the education and enrichment of all of its citizens;
- Serve the recreational needs of the community through a comprehensive system of recreational facilities; and
- Provide facilities for a system of high quality educational opportunities that meet the future educational needs of all citizens.

It must be recognized that levels of service within different areas of the County will vary. Wherever possible, current and future needs should be addressed through existing facilities. Where this is not possible, new facilities can be constructed. By identifying where public schools, water and sewer lines, fire and rescue stations, and other improvements should be constructed, the County can encourage development in appropriate areas and discourage development in inappropriate areas. "Appropriate" in this instance means consistent with adopted policies, and fiscal goals. Coordination of County land use, transportation and public facilities development is critical in providing equitable, efficient, and cost effective government services for current and future County residents.

Created through coordination with other County departments, the *Public Facilities Plan* recommends the general timing and location of future County facilities based on desired service levels. The Plan is designed to function as a needs assessment supporting the establishment of specific project priorities through the annual Capital Improvement Program. A comprehensive approach integrates facility needs, siting criteria, and design issues with adopted land use plans and other planning concerns. The Plan will guide the acquisition of public facility sites through the rezoning process and advance purchase or optioning. The Public Facilities Plan does not address funding availability, debt capacity, or other financial concerns; nor does it address facility components, equipment, building design, and numerous other factors best left to the expertise of the operating departments. In addition, the location recommendations are general and should not be interpreted as site specific.

This plan is one element of the Culpeper County Comprehensive Plan. As with all components of the Comprehensive Plan, it is intended to function as a guide for decision-makers; flexibility is required when fundamental conditions change or analysis based on new data reaches differing conclusions. The Comprehensive Plan and each of its components should be reviewed and, if necessary, updated periodically based on new data and analysis.

### **Relationships to the Comprehensive Plan and County Growth Management Strategy:**

The adoption of the Public Facilities Plan as a component of the County's Comprehensive Plan will provide an important implementation tool for the County's overall growth management strategy. Articulated through the recommendations of the Comprehensive Plan, this strategy encourages sustainable and orderly growth in designated areas of the county while supporting the overall needs and reasonable aspirations of the community.

A key aspect of this growth management strategy involves the appropriate timing and location of future land development. Map 6.1 divides the county into distinct analysis zones, identifies an estimated mid-2008 population in each zone, and highlights areas planned for residential development. The Town and County population totals are based upon estimates from the Weldon Cooper Center, while the analysis zones are based upon staff estimates using the total number of addresses in each zone.

The highlighted development areas encompass identified growth areas that are detailed in other chapters of the Comprehensive Plan. These areas usually define the area within which water and sewer services will be provided, either by the County, the Town or by the development community. Outside of these areas, the County will encourage more efficient use of the land while preserving the rural character, with limited investment in public services and infrastructure.

### **Relationship to the Capital Improvements Program:**

The County's annual Capital Improvement Program (CIP) addresses short-term facility planning. The CIP proposes a specific schedule for acquisition, development, enhancement or replacement of public facilities, over a five (5) year period. It shows the arrangement of selected projects in priority order, and establishes cost estimates and anticipated funding sources. The Public Facilities Plan is far more general in nature.

## Organization

The Public Facilities Plan is organized into four sections: 1) Public Schools; 2) Parks and Recreation; 3) Fire and Rescue Services; and 4) Other Public Facility Needs.

In preparing the Public Facilities Plan, each of the above categories is addressed here in terms of existing conditions, evaluation criteria, future expectations and future plans. In this way the Plan will provide a baseline for future planning, evaluating existing development policies and creating new policies where appropriate. These categories reflect areas of major investment and/or primary importance, although clearly there are other public facilities required. Water and sewer, for example, are addressed in Chapter 6B of this Comprehensive Plan; and in the Master Water and Sewer Plan which has been adopted independently. Other smaller facilities are addressed in Chapter 13, Capital Improvements.

## General Evaluation Criteria

An evaluation of existing public facilities and a determination of needs for future facilities should involve several related criteria. These criteria cannot be absolute or static because particular needs and existing conditions vary greatly throughout the County, and may change over time.

### **1) Location**

Location must be considered in relation to various elements of the Comprehensive Plan, such as existing and future population distribution, zoning, major transportation arteries, topography, and utilities. A centralized location is required for facilities that provide services to intermittent visitors where a time and distance factor is not critical. Decentralized locations are desirable for facilities that serve day-to-day needs of citizens and where a time and distance factor becomes more important.

### **2) Accessibility**

Sites should be accessible to major transportation routes providing the best possible access to the greatest number of citizens expected to use the facility.

### **3) Proximity to Related and Supporting Facilities**

There are advantages to the grouping of related facilities within one complex or area. Convenience to the public is thereby enhanced, operational economy is achieved, and less land is required to provide shared facilities such as parking. Some facilities are also more effective when located adjacent to a business district or shopping center, thereby assuring the greatest convenience to the largest number of people. Public facilities should not be located in the very heart of the retail core, but preferably near the periphery of the commercial concentrations.

### **4) Condition and Obsolescence Assessment**

The present state of repair for particular facilities needs to be considered. Existing building space arrangements and special mechanical equipment requirements to meet the functional needs of the facility must be considered. The operational efficiency of the facility and its possible adaptation to change or enlargement are factors that must be reviewed to determine the relative obsolescence of the building plan. Poor condition and high levels of obsolescence may indicate a need for replacement.

**5) Capacity in Relation to Present and Future Utilization**

The current level of performance of any particular service or function must be related to optimum present and future utilization. Increased demands for services will typically require increased staff and equipment resources with a corresponding need for additional space and expansion potential.

**6) Site Adequacy**

The site for each building should be adequate to provide for: (a) the space needs of the building and any probable future additions, (b) parking space for vehicles of both visitors and employees, and (c) sufficient landscaped open space for a satisfactory and pleasing appearance, and for appropriate environmental protection.

**7) Architectural Quality**

A measure of usefulness is also contained in the building's ability, by its appearance and arrangement, to inspire higher civic achievement in those who see it or in those who work within its confines. An architecturally attractive building is a reflection of cultural pride and a credit to the County citizens.

**8) Environmental Sensitivity**

Public facilities should incorporate green building techniques in both site development and building design. LEED Certification should be sought for any public project where it is feasible (see Chapter 4).

**9) Support of Adopted Planning Policies**

Proposed projects should support adopted County policies and plans. Without reference to an overall framework for development of the County, projects can be inconsistent and counterproductive. If a project appears justified, even though it is not consistent with adopted policies, then a change in policy may be warranted, and should be proposed and reviewed through the planning process.

**10) Cost Efficiency**

New projects should be shown to be cost effective in technical design and/or justified by the public benefits outweighing the public costs. This allows the maximum use of existing capacity or services, with potential expansion when justified by the costs as well as need.

**Public Facilities Plan Map**

Proposed facilities which form an integral part of the County's future land use pattern are shown on various Public Facilities Plan Maps. These include schools, parks and recreation facilities, and fire and rescue station sites needed to provide adequate services. Only general locations are indicated on the maps. The locations of other public services, such as water and sewer systems, are identified within the Water and Sewer Master Plan or elsewhere within the Comprehensive Plan.

## Key Objectives of the Public Facilities Plan

The Public Facilities Plan should serve as the foundation for future decisions concerning the location and expansion of public facilities. In making these decisions, the following objectives should be considered:

- Locate new facilities in order to provide convenient service to the greatest number of residents consistent with contiguous land uses.
- Construct or expand facilities in accordance with established level of service standards.
- Support future growth by coordinating the location of public facilities with recommendations in the Culpeper County Comprehensive Plan.
- Use the plan as a general guide for the County's Capital Improvements Program.
- Ensure equitable distribution of public facilities between established and newly developing areas of Culpeper County. Consider existing facility maintenance or replacement needs in already developed areas of the county.
- Mitigate the impact of public facilities on adjacent planned and existing land uses.
- Acquire sites for future public facilities as soon as possible, ideally obtaining property for facilities many years before there is a need to build.
- Use the recommendations of the Plan, where feasible, to develop multiple use locations e.g., joint park / school sites.
- Use the recommendations of this Plan to determine whether proposed public facilities are substantially in accordance with the Comprehensive Plan, as required by state law.

## Methodology

Detailed demographic information provides the basis for the demand analysis included in the Public Facilities Plan. Key building blocks include countywide population projections to the year 2030 as well as school enrollment projections. These projections were derived from a detailed analysis of numerous factors affecting development potential in the County, including adopted land use plans, approved zoning, environmental constraints, and subdivision activity.

**Through demographic analysis, this Plan provides insight to these questions:**

- What growth will occur in the County during the next 20 years?
- How will the future population be distributed?
- What new public facilities will be needed and where should they be located?

## Review

The Public Facilities Plan will be reviewed periodically by the Office of Planning and Zoning to determine if changes in annual population projections or other factors warrant revision of the recommendations.

**Table 6.1**

2008 CULPEPER COUNTY POPULATION			
	County only	Town	Total
<b>Weldon Cooper Center</b>	33,540	13,977	47,517

CULPEPER COUNTY POPULATION PROJECTIONS				
SOURCE	2010	2015	2020	2030
<b>Geometric Mean*</b>	50,532	57,592	65,639	85,261
<b>VEC**</b>	49,543	54,995	61,047	75,223
<b>Staff***</b>	48,164	53,438	60,460	77,394

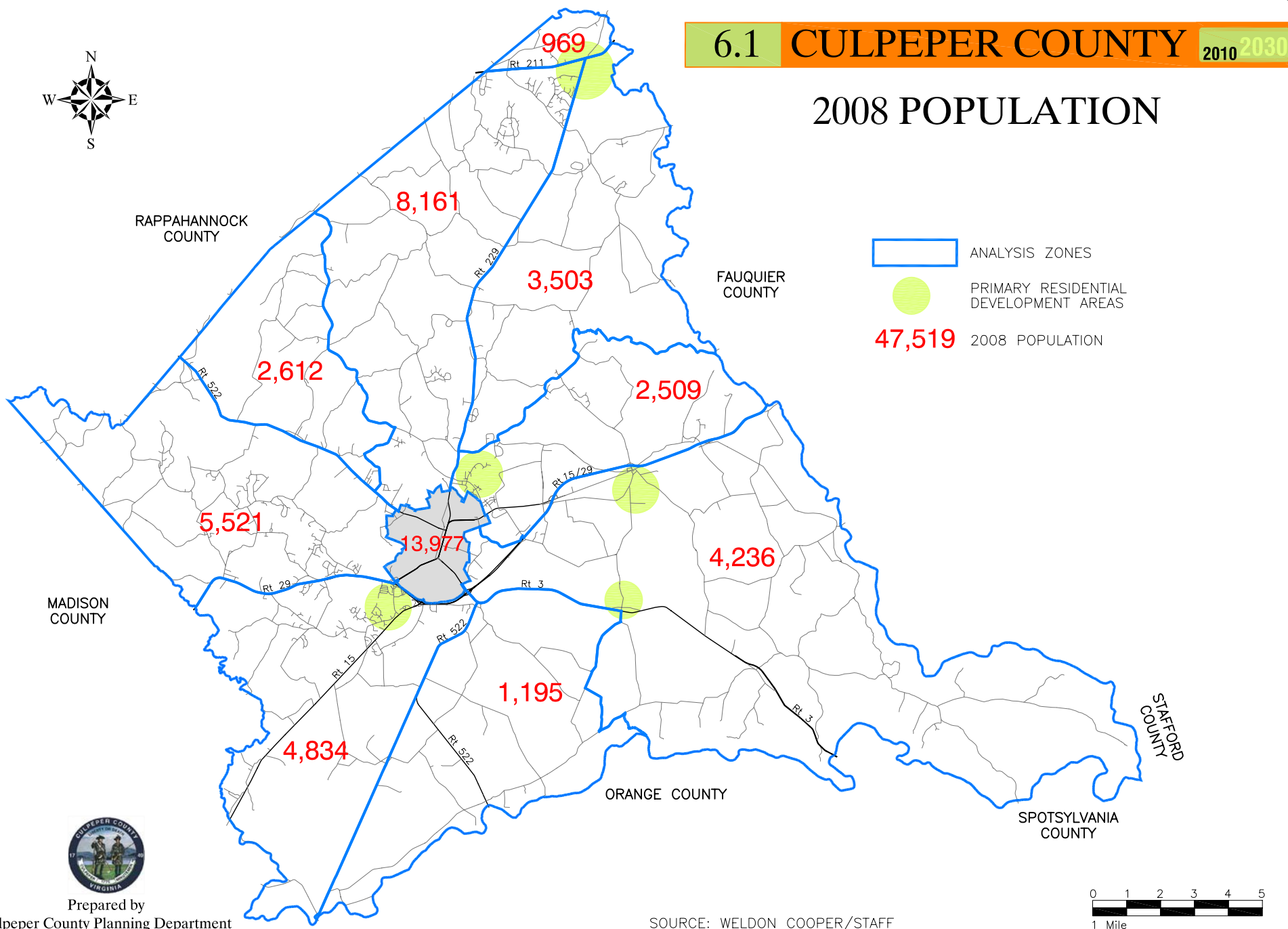
\*Average growth rate since 1970, 2.65% per year

\*\* Projects an annual growth rate of 2.1% per year

\*\*\* Starting from the U.S. Census Bureau 2008 population estimate of 46,203, projects an annual growth rate of 2.1% through the year 2015 and 2.5% from 2015-2030

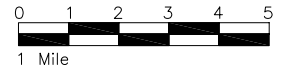
# 6.1 CULPEPER COUNTY 2010 2030

## 2008 POPULATION



Prepared by  
Culpeper County Planning Department

SOURCE: WELDON COOPER/STAFF







## PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### Introduction

The Culpeper County Public School System offers a comprehensive program for grades pre-K-12. The instructional program offers a range of fine arts, career and technical programs. English as a second language, special education and alternative education programs also serve the diverse population of students. The school system receives funds through Federal Budget Program Titles I A and D, and Workforce (Carl Perkins), II A and D, III, IV A and B, and VI B. These funds are used in accordance with guidelines of each Title Program.

The Culpeper County Public School System has six elementary schools, grades pre-K-5; two middle schools, grades 6-8; and two high schools, grades 9-12. During the 2008-09 school year, there were 117 preschoolers, 3,504 elementary students, 1,578 middle school students and 2,169 high school students were enrolled in the school system. These 7,368 students were accommodated entirely within the ten facilities cited above. Figures for the 2008-09 school year as of March 31, 2009 are shown in Table 6.2, below (Preschoolers are not included in the count).

The following charts display the design capacities of the existing County schools, and the projected enrollment. While these charts show design capacity, it is important to note that the design capacity and the program capacity of our schools are different parameters and yield two different numbers. Special programs such as Title I and special education allow for fewer students in a classroom than other programs. Computer labs, art rooms, career and technical education rooms and fine art rooms are examples of spaces that are designed for the success of specific programs. It is typical for the program capacity of a school to be significantly less than the design capacity, particularly in the higher grades.

**Table 6.2**

#### 2008-2009 SCHOOL ENROLLMENT AS OF MARCH 31, 2009

School	2008-2009 Enrollment	Capacity	Theoretical Availability
A.G. Richardson	544	650	106
Emerald Hill	848	800	(48)
Farmington	426	450	24
Pearl Sample	556	650	94
Sycamore Park	561	650	89
Yowell	569	650	81
<b>Sub –Total Elementary</b>	<b>3,504</b>	<b>3,850</b>	<b>346</b>
Floyd T. Binns	693	800	107
Culpeper Middle	885	1,100	215
Culpeper High	1,019	1,500	480
Eastern View High	1,150	1,500	350
<b>Sub-Total Secondary</b>	<b>3,747</b>	<b>4,900</b>	<b>1,153</b>
<b>Total All Schools</b>	<b>7,251*</b>	<b>8,750</b>	<b>1,499</b>

\*This number does not include 117 preschoolers who were enrolled, which would increase total enrollment to 7,368

Table 6.3

2009-2010 PROJECTED SCHOOL ENROLLMENT			
School	2009-2010 Enrollment	Capacity	Theoretical Availability
A.G. Richardson	539	650	111
Emerald Hill	816	800	(16)
Farmington	449	450	1
Pearl Sample	542	650	108
Sycamore Park	560	650	90
Yowell	580	650	70
<b>Sub –Total Elementary</b>	<b>3,486</b>	<b>3,850</b>	<b>364</b>
Floyd T. Binns	728	800	72
Culpeper Middle	946	1,100	154
Culpeper High	1,070	1,500	430
Eastern View High	1,138	1,500	362
<b>Sub-Total Secondary</b>	<b>3,882</b>	<b>4,900</b>	<b>1,018</b>
<b>Total All Schools</b>	<b>7,368*</b>	<b>8,750</b>	<b>1,382</b>

\*This count does not include preschoolers projected to reach approximately 180 for 2010, which would increase enrollment to **7,548**.

## Summary

- During the first part of the decade (2000 – 2010), enrollment in Culpeper County Schools increased by approximately 3.4 percent per year; the latter part of the decade saw enrollments stabilize.
- The projections included in this Plan have been provided by the Culpeper County Schools. The figures reflect a substantial reduction from projections prepared by VMDO Architects which were included in the previous Comprehensive Plan (2005). The reduction simply reflects the precipitous drop-off in population growth which has occurred since approximately 2007.

## Future Expectations

The value of long-range planning must not be overlooked in the effort to keep pace with the immediate needs in an expanding system. While an overall population estimate and distribution pattern may prove to be accurate in the long-term, the actual timing of development in a given area may be difficult to predict. Because of this and the limits of funding, school administrators tend to avoid acquiring new school sites until actual residential development is underway. However, using a long-range plan as a guide to site acquisition in advance of development would likely not result in a significant fiscal loss to the public since the property can almost always be sold at a profit or utilized for an alternate use. Acquiring strategically located sites for facilities as far in advance as possible is advisable. Projected enrollments broken down into elementary, middle and high school levels are listed in Table 6.4 and were prepared by the Culpeper County School Administration.

Table 6.4

<b>CULPEPER COUNTY PROJECTED SCHOOL ENROLLEMENT</b>							
<b>School Year</b>	<b>08-09</b>	<b>09-10</b>	<b>10-11</b>	<b>11-12</b>	<b>12-13</b>	<b>13-14</b>	<b>14-15</b>
<b>ELEMENTARY (K-5)</b>	3,504	3,486	3,520	3,512	3,557	3,593	3,651
<b>MIDDLE (6-8)</b>	1,578	1,674	1,725	1,790	1,813	1,817	1,781
<b>HIGH (9-12)</b>	2,169	2,208	2,264	2,232	2,165	2,269	2,339
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,251</b>	<b>7,368</b>	<b>7,509</b>	<b>7,534</b>	<b>7,535</b>	<b>7,679</b>	<b>7,771</b>

## FACILITY DESIGN AND LOCATION STANDARDS

### Location Criteria

The goal of the school system is to provide the highest quality education possible for students in the County, in the most cost-effective manner. The following objectives should be considered when locating future schools:

- Provide new facilities to adequately and equitably serve all areas of the County. Schedule school construction to relieve overcrowding and respond to new growth when it occurs.
- Provide up-to-date learning facilities including advanced computers and related technology improvements commensurate with at least the state-wide averages.
- Coordinate school site planning and development as well as the use of existing facilities with the Parks and Recreation Department in order to provide for coordinated community recreational facilities.
- Obtain optimal locations and minimize costs through the advance acquisition of suitable sites.
- Provide locations for new schools that minimize travel distance for current as well as future students.
- Elementary and middle schools should be located within residential neighborhoods; site design should minimize impacts of the recreational areas on adjacent residences. These schools should be located in the community in areas of concentrated growth.
- High Schools should not be located within residential neighborhoods. They should be located along collector roads and streets, avoiding access through residential neighborhoods. Where adjacent to neighborhoods, active recreational areas and parking lots should be oriented away from the neighborhoods, toward more intense uses. Sports facilities and their parking areas should be buffered from existing nearby homes. High schools should generally be centralized near the Town of Culpeper in close enough proximity to each other to allow for some sharing of faculty and facilities.
- Pursue acquisition of school sites in projected growth areas of the County as jointly identified by County's Comprehensive Plan.

## Design Criteria

The following are recommended design criteria, acreage, and facility standards to provide a consistent, equitable and cost effective countywide public school system. These standards are general and should be considered optimal. Smaller site sizes will be adequate in some instances.

### Elementary Schools

- Sites should average in size from 20-35 acres depending on programmed educational needs, desired community recreation needs, as well as all engineering, zoning and other requirements established or desired by the School Board and/or the Culpeper County Board of Supervisors.
- Buildings should be a minimum of 80,000 square feet accommodating 700-800 students, with a desirable class size limit of 22 students.
- A multi-use/gymnasium facility should be provided at each school, sized to accommodate a regulation basketball court, bleachers or other seating arrangements, restroom facilities, and storage rooms.
- Outdoor facilities should include the following community use facilities:
  1. One (1) Little League / Softball Field with a 200 foot playing area with fences for a backstop and dugouts
  2. One (1) Soccer / Football Field with minimum dimensions of 65 yards x 120 yards
  3. Restroom access
  4. Public Access Playground
  5. Parking adjacent to facilities

### Middle Schools

- Sites should range in size from 50-80 acres depending on the educational needs, desired community recreation needs, as well as all engineering, zoning and other requirements established or desired by the School Board and/ or the Culpeper County Board of Supervisors.
- Buildings should be a minimum of 120,000 square feet accommodating 800-850 students with a desirable class size limit of 25 students.
- A multi-purpose room/gymnasium should be provided at each school sized to accommodate a regulation basketball court, bleachers, restroom facilities, storage room, and locker rooms.
- Outdoor facilities should include the following community use facilities:

1. Two (2) Little League / Softball Fields with a 200-foot playing area with fences for a backstop and dugouts
2. Two (2) Soccer / Football Fields with a minimum dimension of 70 yards x 130 yards; one (1) with lights
3. Access to restrooms
4. Tennis Courts / Basketball Courts
5. A Public Access Track
6. Parking adjacent to facilities

### High Schools

- Sites should range in size from 80-120 acres depending on programmed educational needs, desired community recreation needs, as well as engineering, zoning and other requirements established or desired by the School Board and/ or the Culpeper County Board of Supervisors.
- Buildings should be a minimum of 260,000 square feet accommodating 1,500-1,800 students with a desirable class size limit of 25 students.
- In addition to the main gymnasium, a second gym (auxiliary) should be provided at each high school sized to accommodate a regulation basketball court, bleachers, restroom facilities, storage room and locker rooms.
- Outdoor facilities should include the following community use facilities:
  1. Two (2) Regulation Baseball Fields (one lighted) with fully enclosed playing area
  2. Two (2) Softball Fields (one lighted) with fully enclosed playing area
  3. Access to restrooms
  4. Tennis Courts / Basketball Courts
  5. A Public Access Track
  6. Parking adjacent to facilities
  7. One (1) Regulation Football/Soccer Field with stadium
  8. Three (3) Multi-Purpose Football/Soccer Fields with minimum dimensions of 70 yards x 130 yards

Based on student population projections and given the existing design capacities of schools, the following are considerations for elementary, middle and high school facilities. These projects will meet the needs of the school division into the future as far as 2014 – 2015. However, additional analysis of alternatives will be needed to meet the projected needs beyond FY 2015.

### Short-Term Needs: 2010-2015

<b>Elementary Schools</b>	<b>Renovation of Sycamore Park Elementary School</b>
<b>Middle Schools</b>	<b>Begin studying renovation needs at Culpeper Middle School</b>
<b>High Schools</b>	<b>Renovation of Culpeper County High School (Planning is currently underway)</b>

### Long-Term Needs: Beyond 2015

School enrollment projections to the year 2014-15 have been made for the Culpeper County School Board. Their projections are displayed in the following chart:

**Table 6.5**

<b>Culpeper County School Enrollment Projections</b>	
<b>School Year</b>	<b>Projected Student Enrollment*</b>
<b>2009-2010</b>	<b>7,368</b>
<b>2010-2011</b>	<b>7,509</b>
<b>2011-2012</b>	<b>7,534</b>
<b>2012-2013</b>	<b>7,535</b>
<b>2013-2014</b>	<b>7,679</b>
<b>2014-2015</b>	<b>7,771</b>

\*Excluding pre-school

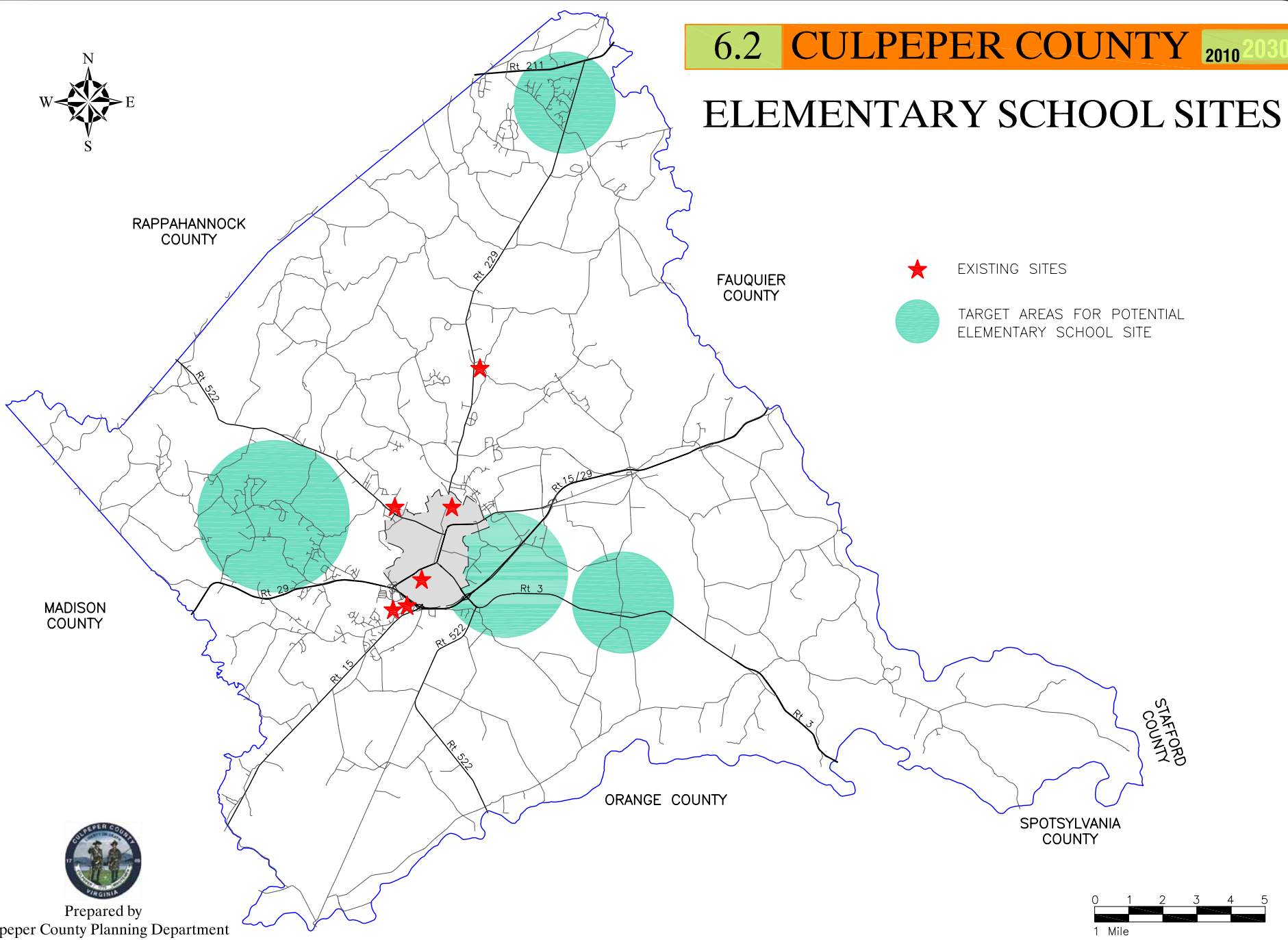
Based upon these projections, new school construction should not be necessary until beyond 2015. Elementary and middle school sites are available at the northern tip of the County in the Clevenger's Corner area, and these should be considered as priority sites for future construction.

### Target Areas for Potential Future School Sites

The following Maps, 6.1 and 6.2, designate target areas for future school sites. These are general in nature. They are based upon the location of proffered sites, road access, proximity to projected growth areas, and the location of existing schools. The site location of future schools should be undertaken on a case-by-case basis using the target areas and the recommendations of this Plan as a guideline. Location of a new school outside of the target areas shall not be precluded by this Plan.

# 6.2 CULPEPER COUNTY 2010 2030

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SITES



Prepared by  
Culpeper County Planning Department

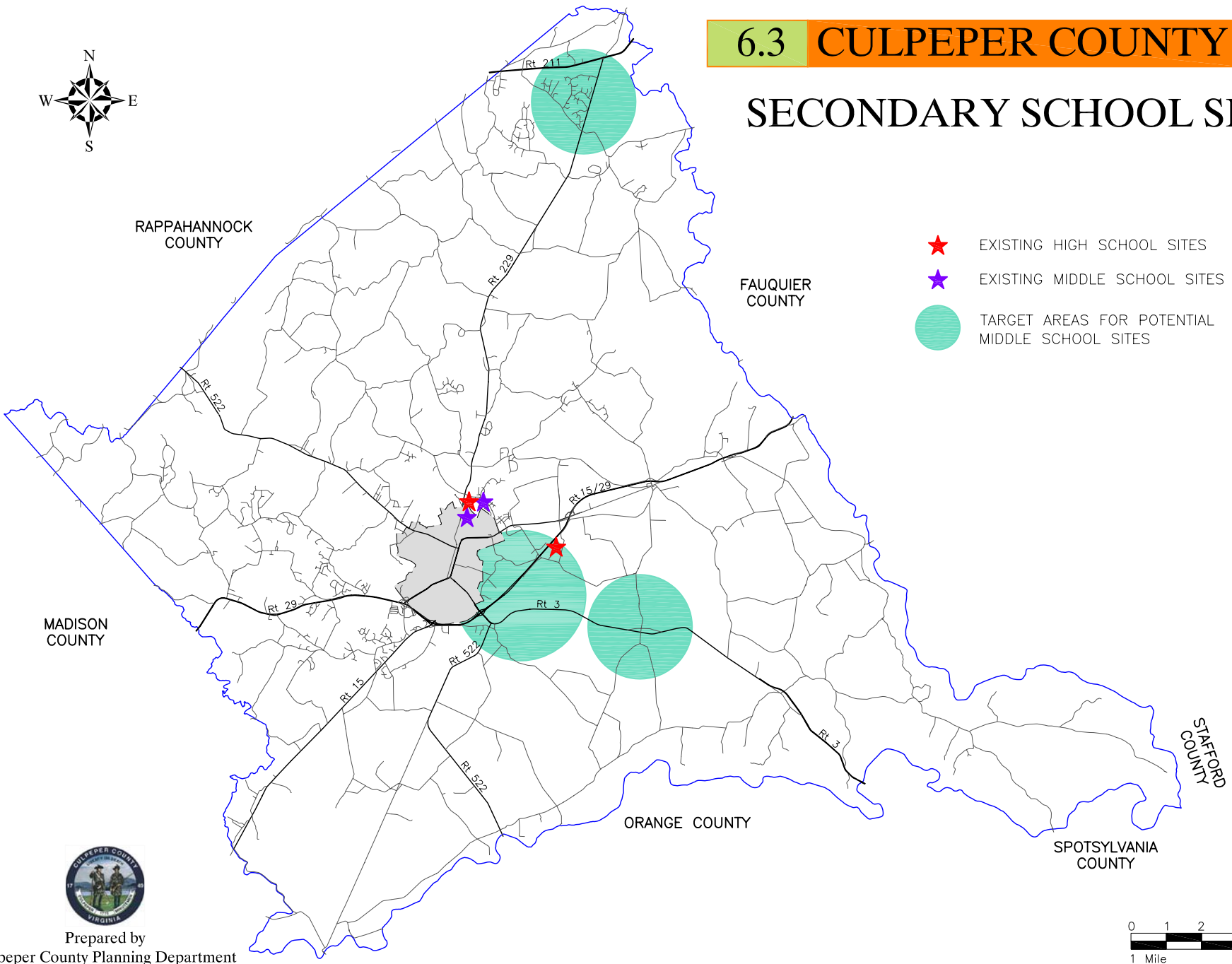




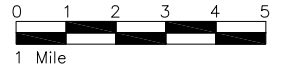
# 6.3 CULPEPER COUNTY 2010-2030

## SECONDARY SCHOOL SITES

- ★ EXISTING HIGH SCHOOL SITES
- ★ EXISTING MIDDLE SCHOOL SITES
- TARGET AREAS FOR POTENTIAL MIDDLE SCHOOL SITES



Prepared by  
Culpeper County Planning Department





## PARKS AND RECREATION

### Introduction

This plan combines leisure and recreational objectives with the suitable locations necessary to provide a broad-based recreation and open space program. Parks and recreation facilities provide visual relief from concrete and pavement, make surroundings more habitable, and preserve and protect natural and historical resources. These facilities provide varying recreational opportunities for people of all ages, income levels, cultural groups and physical abilities. As Culpeper County continues to grow, the significance of parks and recreation planning, acquisition and development increases. This chapter provides detailed standards, criteria and policies for providing recreational facilities.

The County's Department of Parks and Recreation is responsible for operating and maintaining all County parks and recreation programs. The Department supports a number of organized activities including baseball, softball, soccer, lacrosse and football teams, cheerleading squads, and a variety of classes and programs. Due to the popularity of organized sports teams, a need has been identified for additional playing and practice fields. Future park development in the County will be aimed at meeting these needs when possible.

Culpeper County is fortunate to have the Phelps Wildlife Management Area which encompasses 343 acres within the County to serve some of the passive recreation needs. The Town of Culpeper owns and operates two major park facilities – Yowell Meadow Park and Mountain Run Lake Park. Mountain Run Lake and Lake Pelham serve as valuable recreational resources. Boating and fishing are popular in these lakes as well as in the Rappahannock and Rapidan Rivers. These two rivers combine to make up over 80 miles of Culpeper County's borders. The Cedar Mountain and Brandy Station Battlefields are privately owned, however they are accessible to the public; and trails as well as interpretive historic markers can be found at both sites.

### Mission Statements

The following mission statements have been established for specific entities that are essential in providing recreational opportunities for the citizens of Culpeper County.

#### **The Board of Supervisors of Culpeper County**

The Board shall endeavor to provide appropriate resources to facilitate the creation and development of quality and innovative recreational facilities and programs, parks and open spaces, leisure opportunities, and cultural and historical preservation and programming. By pursuing this Mission, the Board intends to enhance the quality of life and the individual and family wellbeing of the citizens of Culpeper County, and to foster community pride.

## **The Culpeper County Department of Parks and Recreation**

The Department of Parks and Recreation is dedicated to the enhancement of the quality of life in Culpeper County, assuring a sense of community, and providing leisure services to County citizens of all ages. The Department shall establish and maintain the highest level of professional standards and continuity of services for the development of parks, recreational facilities, and programs. The Department shall also endeavor to preserve cultural, historical, and environmental resources. By providing effective leadership and planning, the Department shall create partnerships with citizens, other governmental entities, and private organizations, to accomplish mutually desired goals and objectives.

## **The Culpeper County Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee**

The mission of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee is to serve as the primary body of advisors to the Board of Supervisors and the Director of Parks and Recreation on matters of recreational and facilities planning, operations and capital budget planning, parks acquisition and development, comprehensive out-year planning, and to act as a liaison with County citizens for receiving and disseminating information.

## **Spatial Park Analysis**

Presently, the County owns: Spilman Park, a community park in the Jefferson District; Galbreath-Marshall, a neighborhood park in the East Fairfax District; Laurel Valley Park, a special use park with existing mountain bike trails and horse trails under development in the Catalpa District; Lenn Park, a property in the Stevensburg District that will serve as the site of a new special use park; Duncan-Luttrell, a property in the Catalpa District; and the Culpeper Sports Complex, a district park featuring a variety of sports fields. Each park varies in size and also provides different levels of service and amenities.

As is the case throughout the Commonwealth, walking for pleasure is one of the most popular recreational pastimes in the area. Residents and local officials cite a need for increased hiking and walking opportunities. A comprehensive trail system is viewed as one potential solution to this problem. If developed with multiple uses in mind, such a system could link small communities and specific destinations, thus providing exercise options, tourism opportunities and transportation alternatives in addition to traditional neighborhood integration. Currently, safe cycling opportunities are limited, but they might also be expanded through accommodation within a well-designed trail system.

## **Recreational Facilities**

### **Neighborhood Parks**

Neighborhood parks (5-20 acres) provide for limited recreational activities convenient to subdivisions and rural areas. These parks are family oriented and generally include features such as playgrounds, courts, trails, and open space. The service area for neighborhood parks is approximately 1-3 miles.

## Community Parks

Community Parks are larger recreation areas (20-50 acres) that provide a wide range of activities; e.g., sport fields, tennis courts, multi-use courts, open play fields, picnic areas, shelters, playgrounds, trail systems, restrooms and parking. Community parks serve a greater geographic area than neighborhood parks. The service area of community parks is approximately 3-7 miles depending upon the degree of suburbanization or rural character of the community it serves. When possible, community parks should be located near village center areas, with convenient transportation access.

A multitude of activities can be provided by this type of recreational facility. A community center is often the focal point of the park. Organized activities and supervised play are administered from this point. Other activities are grouped in the surrounding area. Their location depends on the natural terrain, need for control and vehicular access. Existing natural qualities, topography, water features, trees, etc., should be preserved as natural buffers between activity areas, as well as to protect the recreational environment from surrounding incompatible influences. These natural elements also should be used to provide a space for more passive forms of recreation such as nature walks, picnics and fishing.

In a rural setting, community parks often take the place of the neighborhood park. They can serve a widely dispersed population better than two or three smaller sites. Community parks, along with neighborhood parks, should meet the majority of the recreational needs of the community.

## School-Community Use Parks

School-community use parks are similar to community parks in that they are larger recreation areas that provide sports fields, playgrounds, multi-purpose courts, multi-purpose rooms, restrooms and parking as basic elements of the schools. They may have been increased in size expressly to allow for passive as well as expanded active recreation facilities. They are designed to be jointly operated by the school system and parks and recreation department. The service areas and facility designs are generally comparable to community parks.

While the Culpeper County School Board's primary mission is to provide for the education of Culpeper school children, an inherent part of the education system is physical fitness. To this end, the School Board provides multi-purpose rooms, gymnasiums, playgrounds, sport fields, tennis courts, etc. on school grounds, and, allowing for the use of its lands and facilities by the community through the Parks and Recreation Department, affords County residents necessary park and recreation opportunities. School-community use park areas range in size from 1-10 acres at elementary schools, 5-40 acres at middle schools, and 15-100 acres at high schools.

## District Parks

District Parks are large (usually 50-150 acres) parks that serve a wide geographic area of the County and provide a diverse mix of facilities such as swimming pools and recreation centers (to which people are more willing to travel a longer distance) as well as the multiple facilities found within community or school-community use parks. The service area of district parks is within up to a 15-mile radius, depending on the level of suburbanization or rural character.

District parks should be located near the center of their service area. They should be on or near a major collector street providing good access to the facility. The site should also be accessible by pedestrians and bicycles.

### **Special Use Parks**

Special use parks are highly specialized recreation areas that serve the entire county. Generally, they provide for unique activities such as skateboarding, golf, etc. They may include amphitheaters, or other facilities generally not offered by the other park categories. These may exist independently or may be developed in combination with other parks.

### **Greenways**

Greenways are established to protect, preserve, and maintain existing natural and cultural corridors; to link population centers with recreational, educational and business areas and other populations centers; and to provide recreational and non-motorized transportation opportunities along these corridors by using natural features (ridge lines, steep slopes), utility rights-of-way, abandoned railroad rights-of-way, and watercourses (streams, rivers, canals, etc.). Depending on the location, greenways can range from rugged terrain with scenic views and extensive vegetation to open, level meadows. The greenway can be a separate entity or a portion of any of the other park categories. Greenways can be any length, preferably longer than one mile, typically 75-100 feet or wider.

## **Standards**

### **Parkland Per Capita**

Utilizing a standard of acres of parkland per 1,000 population helps to balance site size with the population in the service area. This generally insures adequate and equal service across the County regardless of varying population densities within suburban and rural areas.

It is also necessary to distinguish active and/or developable park areas from passive and/or less developable park areas. This Plan encourages both active and passive areas within each park for the overall enjoyment of the citizens. In addition, passive areas within County owned parks help to manage critical open space and environmentally sensitive lands throughout the County.

### **Parkland Acquisition Standards**

The following depicts the five basic park categories in Culpeper County and their associated open space standards.

Table 6.6

CULPEPER COUNTY PARK STANDARDS			
Type	Acres/1,000 Population	Size (Acres)	Service Area
Neighborhood*	3 Total (1.5 Active/1.5 Passive)	5-20 Acres	1 - 3 Miles
Community	3 Total (2 Active/1 Passive)	20-50 Acres	3 - 7 Miles
School-Community Use	4 Total (3 Active/1 Passive)	Variable Acres **	3 - 7 Miles
District	4 Total (2 Active/2 Passive)	50-150 Acres	5 - 15 Miles
Special Use	Unspecified	Unspecified	County Wide

\*The Neighborhood Park Standard is intended to serve as a guide for new residential developments or for determining Community and/or School-Community Use park needs.

\*\*School-Community Use acres are only those acres on school sites designated for recreational use. In addition, acreage and facilities should be in proportion to the school age population they serve.

### Recreation Facilities Planning Standards

The following table sets forth standards for current and future needs for specific recreational amenities. Current needs are based upon a population of 47,517; 2020 needs are based upon a projected population of 60,460. The National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) is a widely respected source.

Table 6.7

RECREATION FACILITIES PLANNING STANDARDS AND INVENTORY/ NEEDS ANALYSIS (Per 1000 Population)						
Amenities	NRPA	State	Culpeper	Inventory* (Town/County)	Current Needs	2020
Baseball (Youth)	1: 5,000	1: 6,000	1: 4,000	1 / 4	+7	+3
Baseball (Teen)	1: 5,000	1: 6,000	1: 4,000	0 / 1	+9	+4
Softball	1: 5,000	1: 3,000	1: 4,000	1 / 2	+9	+4
Football	1: 20,000	1: 10,000	1: 10,000	0 / 3	+1	+2
Soccer	1: 10,000	1: 10,000	1: 8,000	1 / 6	+0	+1
Basketball	1: 5,000	1: 5,000	1: 5,000	2 / 1	+6	+9
Swimming Pool**	1: 20,000	1: 20,000	1: 20,000	0 / 0	+2	+1
Trails	-	2mi: 1,000	2mi: 1,000	1mi / 2mi	+92 mi	+25 mi
Tennis	1: 2,000	1: 2,000	1: 2,000	2 / 0	+20	+10
Skateboard Park	-	-	1: 30,000	1 / 0	+1	+1
Playgrounds***	-	-	1: 5,000	7 / 1	+1	+3
Shelters	-	-	1: 8,000	4 / 1	+1	+2

\* Inventory = Town & County

\*\* Olympic size pool

\*\*\* Includes playgrounds at schools, other facilities do not include schools

## Inventory of Existing Recreation Facilities

**Galbreath-Marshall Park** – (one multi-purpose field, one basketball court)

**Spilman Park** – (preschool play structure, trail/garden path, one multi-purpose field, one picnic pavilion, and historic display)

>Future needs include expanded walking trails, one youth playground, expanded parking area, one youth baseball field, a maintenance shed, and one picnic pavilion with tables.

**Culpeper Sports Complex** – (Six soccer fields, four little league baseball fields, one senior and two girls and adult co-ed softball fields, three football fields, a 2,777 linear foot multi-use trail, and an ADA five senses raised bed garden)

>Future needs are two restroom/concession/storage buildings, completion of a 6,031 linear foot multi-use trail system, an environmental study area, playgrounds, water fountains, horse shoe pits, a maintenance building, and picnic pavilions with tables.

**Laurel Valley Park** – (mountain bike trail)

>Future needs are an equestrian trail, concrete skate board park, dog park, rehabilitation and conversion of the former animal shelter building into a maintenance shed/picnic shelter.

**Lenn Park** – (One radio controlled model airplane landing strip, a one-mile natural walking trail leading to a civil war historic site)

>Future needs include four adult softball fields, an amphitheatre, picnic pavilions, the reconstruction of the original trail into a multi-use ADA compatible system to include a trail linking the softball fields and historic identification markers.

**Duncan-Luttrell Park** – (Includes Hazel River frontage, undeveloped )

>Future needs include hiking trails, picnic shelters, a boat launch area and preschool and youth playgrounds.



## Implementation Goals and Strategies

### Priorities

- A. Continually assess community needs and satisfaction
  - B. Enhance facilities to meet community needs
  - C. Grow and diversify resources
  - D. Strengthen and expand inventory of classes and programs
  - E. Increase use of technology
  - F. Provide training
  - G. Provide therapeutic opportunities to individuals with disabilities
  - H. Increase partnerships
  - I. Expand marketing, promotion and outreach
  - J. Expand free community programming
  - K. Identify open space and design parks in each County district according to present and future population statistics and opportunity
  - L. Design and implement recreational programs and facilities which will increase tourism
- Culpeper County Parks will be developed for the enjoyment and benefit of all County residents. Facilities will be built to be accessible to all populations.
  - All facilities will be built to established construction standards, as designated by building codes and recreation facility standards.
  - Culpeper County will identify environmentally sensitive and historic heritage areas and develop strategies for their protection and preservation as a critical part of green infrastructure management and historic preservation plans.
  - Culpeper County will continue to promote the protection and preservation of open space through land acquisition, conservation easements, stewardship agreements, and the development of agricultural and forestal districts.

- Over the past ten years, the Department of Parks and Recreation has provided Culpeper citizens with classes and programs which entail adult leisure learning, youth and teen activities, trips, senior activities, teen and adult sports, a teen summer camp, a teen after school club and numerous community programs. All classes and programs are designed to be self-sufficient and revenue positive. The Department also fosters partnerships with a variety of governmental agencies and organizations in order to reduce duplication of services.

### Public water access in Culpeper County

Access to Virginia's rivers in the region should be expanded to meet water-related recreational demands. Suggested for consideration are the following:

- Additional access is needed on the Rappahannock River. Private landowners control access in most instances, and their rights and concerns must be respected. Efforts should be made to develop access sites with facilities for canoes and kayaks. Canoe-in camping, picnicking and shuttle services might be offered.
- Recreational opportunities could also be pursued in the following locations:
  1. The Rapidan River from its headwaters to its confluence with the Rappahannock River.
  2. The Hazel River from its headwaters in Rappahannock County to its confluence with the Rappahannock River in Culpeper County.
  3. The Thornton River from Sperryville to its confluence with the Hazel River.

### Trails and Greenways

Efforts should be made to integrate existing and proposed trails and greenways into a network designed to provide access to County resources while conserving and maximizing open space opportunities. In developing trails as transportation alternatives, the County will work with developers and other entities to design trails that link users with destinations and not simply provide walking loops within neighborhoods.

Trail / Greenway proposals include:

- Initiate a partnership with Kelly's Ford and Brandy Station battlefield parks to develop hiking trails through Cedar Mountain.
- Implementing a county-wide bike / trail system. The Culpeper County Bicycle Study is hereby incorporated by reference.

## Funding Strategies

### Virginia Department of Transportation

VDOT will consider financially participating in construction of a bicycle facility when certain conditions are satisfied. The most important of these conditions is that:

- The proposed facility is designed to meet current VDOT guidelines and will not impair the safety of either bicyclists, motorists or pedestrians and;
- The proposed facility is a significant link identified in a comprehensive bicycle plan that has been adopted by the local jurisdiction.

VDOT also administers the Transportation Enhancement Grant Program which provides matching grants to fund activities or improvements that increase the value of a transportation project or make it more aesthetically pleasing. To be eligible, these projects must relate to the intermodal transportation system in function, proximity or impact.

### Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation

#### Virginia Recreational Trails Fund Program

The Virginia Trails Fund Program is a grant program established for the purpose of providing and maintaining recreational trails and trail-related facilities.

Examples of permitted projects:

- a. Urban trail linkages near homes and workplaces.
- b. Restoration of recreational trails and back country terrain damaged by usage.
- c. Provision of features that facilitate the access and use of trails by persons with disabilities.

#### Virginia Outdoors Foundation Grant Program

The Department of Conservation and Recreation administers a grant-in-aid program for the acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities. Grants are for public bodies only. Towns, cities, counties, regional park authorities, and state agencies may apply for 50% matching fund assistance from the Virginia Outdoors Foundation (VOF). This is a reimbursement program, meaning that the sponsoring agency should be capable of financing the project while requesting periodic reimbursement.

Examples of eligible projects:

- a. Ball fields
- b. Swimming areas / facilities
- c. Boating facilities
- d. Playgrounds
- e. Trails
- f. Comfort stations

#### **Culpeper Recreation Foundation, Inc.**

Established in 2002 under the authority of the Culpeper County Board of Supervisors, the Culpeper Recreation Foundation, Inc. is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization which promotes and encourages the advancement of parks and recreation opportunities in Culpeper County. Fundraising and providing a means for interested citizens to make donations in support of recreational development is its main function. Presently, the Foundation raises revenue through various private means and applies those funds towards much needed recreational projects in the Culpeper community.

### **TOWN / COUNTY AND SCHOOLS COORDINATION**

In the past, little cooperation between the Town of Culpeper and the County existed in the realm of recreation planning and development other than a County representative attending Town Parks and Recreation Committee meetings. Recently, the County and Town completed coordinated bicycle plans to enhance tourism, recreational and alternative transportation needs. Both the County and Town should consider pooling resources for closely related projects that will service both localities, prioritize them and implement them accordingly.

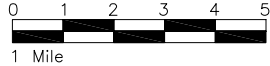
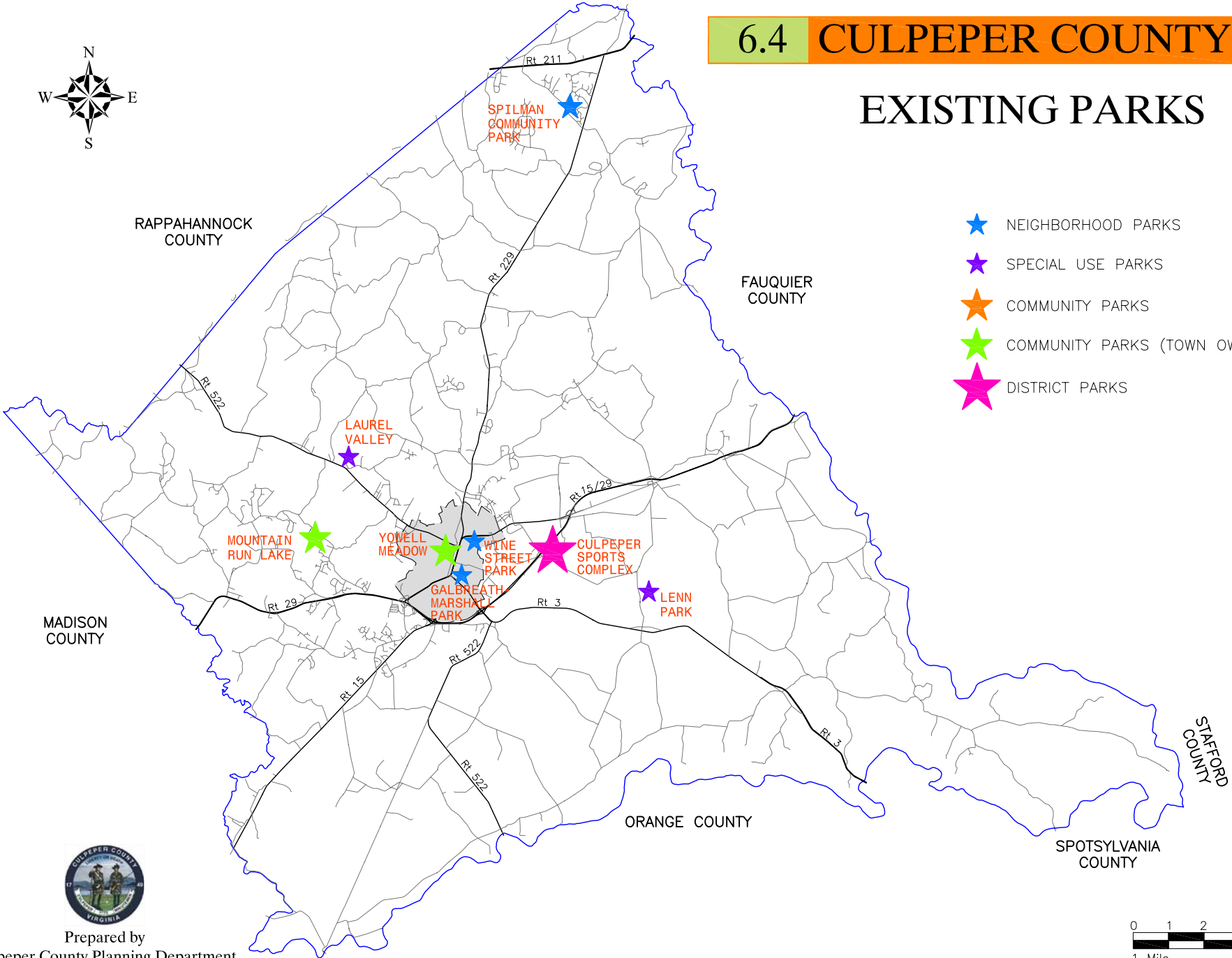
Future discussions should focus on the construction of a full-service community center such as the one identified in the Virginia Outdoor Plan. The facility should include a family swimming pool, competition pool, activity rooms, and gymnasium along with other amenities to benefit the entire County of Culpeper.

The County Parks and Recreation Department should continue to strengthen its cooperative relationship with the school system in the design, development, use and maintenance of school recreational facilities. This relationship is critical in the overall delivery of parks and recreation services and facilities countywide. Elementary, middle and high schools provide recreation space for after school and weekend community use. The availability of schools for recreational use should be looked at closely and on an ongoing basis for additional community-use opportunities. Schools represent a significant portion of publicly owned available acres and indoor recreational facilities.

# 6.4 CULPEPER COUNTY 2010-2030

## EXISTING PARKS

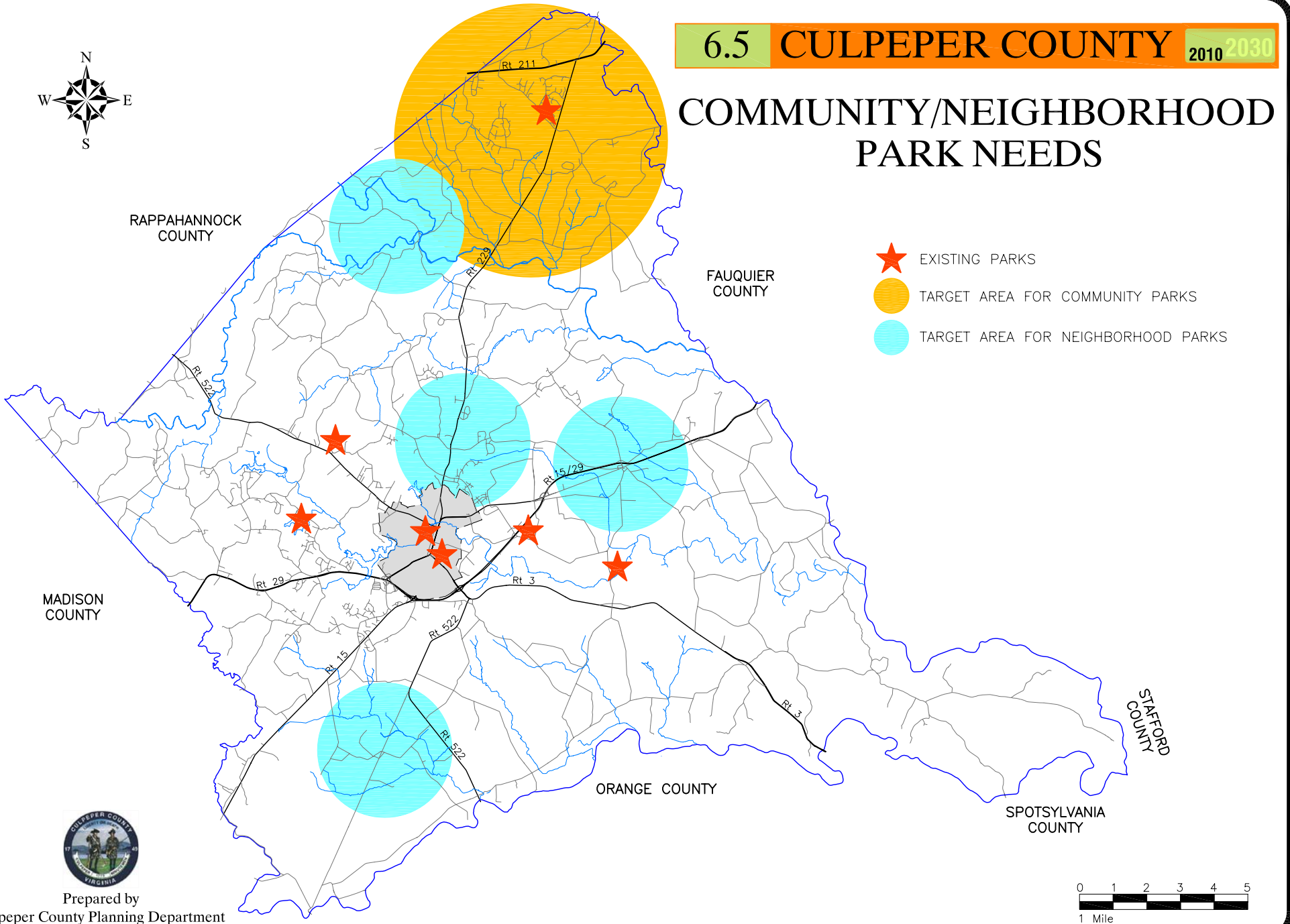
- ★ NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS
- ★ SPECIAL USE PARKS
- ★ COMMUNITY PARKS
- ★ COMMUNITY PARKS (TOWN OWNED)
- ★ DISTRICT PARKS



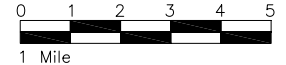


6.5 CULPEPER COUNTY 2010-2030

# COMMUNITY/NEIGHBORHOOD PARK NEEDS



Prepared by  
Culpeper County Planning Department







## FIRE AND RESCUE

### Introduction

Fire protection and emergency medical services are indispensable services for every County resident. This element of the Public Facilities Plan is primarily concerned with the planning of fire/rescue stations in order to provide effective and efficient fire protection and emergency medical response. Most of the elements of the 2005 Comprehensive Plan, Public Facilities, Fire and Rescue segment remain valid today. Following adoption of the 1999 Comprehensive Plan, many of its recommendations were implemented, including two stations which provide a 10-minute response time to all area residents from the time the unit is 'in service' to the arrival at the scene. New stations were completed in 1994 Jeffersonton/Rixeyville area, (Little Fork Fire & Rescue), and in 1997 the Reva area (Reva Fire and Rescue). The 1999 plan also recommended the need to expand rescue services in the Town of Culpeper area to support the Culpeper Rescue Squad, and this has been addressed. This section of the Public Facilities Plan integrates planning for fire and rescue services with the comprehensive planning of all public facilities throughout the County. The Public Facilities Plan will be, in part, the basis for the Capital Improvements Plan adopted each year by the County Board of Supervisors.

Fire and Rescue Services are provided to the residents of Culpeper County through a system comprised of both volunteer and career personnel. There are eight volunteer organizations providing services to the County; the Culpeper County Volunteer Fire Department, the Brandy Station Volunteer Fire Department, the Richardsville Volunteer Fire and Rescue Company, the Salem Volunteer Fire and Rescue Company, the Little Fork Volunteer Fire and Rescue Company, the Rapidan Volunteer Fire and Rescue Company, the Culpeper Volunteer Rescue Squad and the Reva Volunteer Fire and Rescue Company. Amissville in Rappahannock County and Remington in Fauquier County, also provide coverage in Culpeper. There are approximately 300 volunteer members spread among these agencies, of which approximately 110 are active operational volunteers. Each of these agencies has its own officers to oversee the operations of each respective organization. The volunteers are the primary providers of fire and rescue coverage. The majority of the members work regular full-time jobs resulting in limited availability of volunteers for weekday coverage.

### Existing Facilities

Currently, there are 9 Fire and Rescue Companies operating throughout the County. The response area for each station varies in size due to location within the County. The specific stations are listed in the table below. It should be noted that Amissville (Rappahannock County) and Remington (Fauquier County) also handle first due areas in Culpeper County.

**Table 6.8**

<b>CULPEPER COUNTY EXISTING FACILITIES</b>	
<b>Facility</b>	<b>Type</b>
Culpeper- Company 1	Fire
Brandy Station- Company 2	Fire
Richardsville- Company 6	Fire & Rescue
Salem- Company 8	Fire & Rescue
Little Fork- Company 9	Fire & Rescue
Rapidan – Company 10	Fire & Rescue
Culpeper- Company 11	Rescue
Culpeper EMS 12	Rescue
Reva- Company 16	Fire & Rescue
Amissville	Fire & Rescue
Remington	Fire & Rescue

Culpeper County maintains mutual aid agreements with the Counties of Fauquier, Madison, Orange and Rappahannock. The Department of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services also seeks to reduce demand for fire and rescue services through a proactive fire prevention and safety program. The program includes numerous public education activities as well as a fire safety inspection program. Inspections are provided for the public school system as well as for commercial and industrial businesses.

**Table 6.9**

<b>Facility</b>	<b>NUMBER OF DISPATCHED CALLS BY COMPANY 2003-2008</b>					
	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>
Culpeper	2,696	2,852	3,000	3,033	3,126	3,299
Brandy Station	388	382	348	389	373	435
Amissville	130	99	105	149	149	120
Richardsville	252	269	196	201	211	161
Salem	354	435	443	527	516	480
Little Fork	320	314	379	346	358	324
Rapidan	844	571	338	324	289	224
Reva	297	267	239	214	289	266
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,281</b>	<b>5,189</b>	<b>5,048</b>	<b>5,183</b>	<b>5,311</b>	<b>5,309</b>

As shown in Table 6.9, the total number of emergency response calls in 2008 was 5,309. Over the last six years, the number of calls has averaged 5,220 per year county-wide.

Table 6.10

FIRE AND RESCUE CALL PROJECTIONS		2008-2030		
Year	2008	2010	2020	2030
Total Calls	5,309	6,020	8,464	11,283
Population	47,517	48,164	60,460	75,221
Calls Per 1,000 Persons	112	125	140	150

The total number of emergency response calls is expected to continue to increase. This is based primarily on population increases continuing throughout the period. This increase may require additional stations and manpower in order to maintain or improve the current level of service. The Board of Supervisors has approved the hiring of twenty career personnel and one training coordinator to staff the Culpeper Rescue Squad twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, every day of the year in order to supplement the volunteer EMS response. It is projected that by 2010, a total of 40 field providers will be needed for full coverage.

The primary indicator of level of service in regard to fire protection is response time. Currently, no empirical data is available for Culpeper County in terms of average response time. The current level of service is measured by distance from the various stations whether the station is fire or rescue only or a joint use location through 2020.

### Location Criteria

The following criteria should be utilized in determining appropriate sites for additional stations to provide a consistent level of service across the County:

- Locate stations at points with fast, easy access to a major arterial. Possible sites should be located near two major arterials that offer both east-west and north-south travel.
- Locate new fire/rescue stations near village centers where possible based upon key site planning considerations such as access, safety and response time.
- Reduce response areas to a 3-mile radius for facilities within the areas of highest population density.
- Response areas in less populated areas should be a 5-mile radius.

## Design Criteria

The following design criteria should be considered when developing a new site for emergency response stations:

- Co-locate fire and rescue facilities for maximum efficiency. Consider co-locating with other public facilities as well.
- Acquire sites of at least four acres in size to provide for co-location of public facilities and future expansion.
- Consider including a community meeting room for 50-100 persons in the design of new fire/rescue facilities unless there is already a similar public facility available for the surrounding community.

## General

- Develop separate response time standards for village centers and rural portions of the County.
- Reduce land costs for new facilities through advance acquisition.
- Develop minimum levels of service; particularly response time standards.
- Construct new stations to provide coverage for those areas currently outside the preferred five-mile service radius and to meet newly created response time standards.
- Establish a site for, and construct a fire and rescue training center.

## Short Term 2008 - 2015

- Begin to plan for, and acquire land for the proposed Batna/Raccoon Ford Station.
- Continue to evaluate the need for career personnel and increase existing staff as needed.
- Begin developing plans for a fire and rescue training center.

## Long Term 2015 and beyond

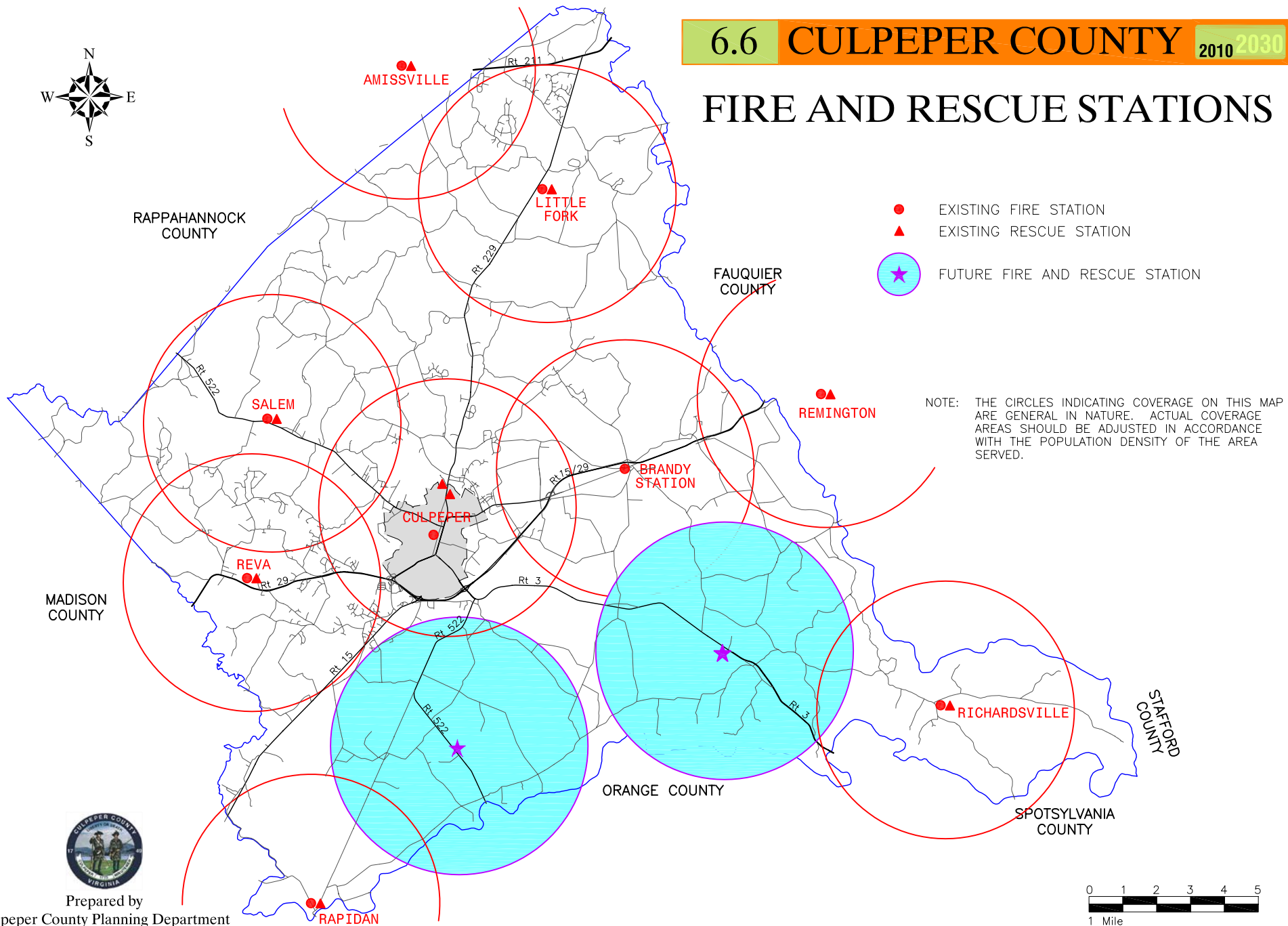
- Reduce coverage areas to a 3-mile radius in village centers.
- Add new fire and rescue facilities as needed to accommodate smaller area coverage requirements and to keep the number of calls at each facility within a reasonable capacity.

# 6.6 CULPEPER COUNTY 2010 2030

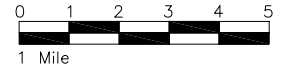
## FIRE AND RESCUE STATIONS

- EXISTING FIRE STATION
- ▲ EXISTING RESCUE STATION
- ★ FUTURE FIRE AND RESCUE STATION

NOTE: THE CIRCLES INDICATING COVERAGE ON THIS MAP ARE GENERAL IN NATURE. ACTUAL COVERAGE AREAS SHOULD BE ADJUSTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POPULATION DENSITY OF THE AREA SERVED.



Prepared by  
Culpeper County Planning Department





## OTHER PUBLIC FACILITY NEEDS

### New County Government Offices

Culpeper County is currently facing a shortage of space for many of the necessary governmental functions. Space requirements for future administrative offices and courts will have to be addressed.

### Regional Jail

A major capital cost facing the County will be the need for a new jail facility. With rising population, problems such as increased crime and the attended need for more jail space are inevitable.

### Libraries

Culpeper County's thriving regional library needs expansion. It is also likely that the community could support one or more branch libraries in the future. Library activity is summarized in Table 6.11 below.

**Table 6.11**

CULPEPER COUNTY LIBRARY STATISTICS						2000-2009				
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
<b>Circulation</b>	207,452	219,303	242,242	270,963	310,699	352,228	389,664	426,734	463,121	484,923
<b>Program Attendance</b>	4,799	6,162	5,855	8,037	8,556	10,743	10,542	8,747	8,288	8,280
<b>Patrons</b>	167,485	163,278	174,996	179,449	187,239	204,081	227,834	233,711	246,815	258,375
<b>Registration</b>	13,989	17,573	20,247	18,231	18,555	19,140	19,940	20,666	20,792	21,423
<b>Volunteer Hours</b>	4,233	3,369	3,989	3,780	4,267	5,352	5,602	5,695	4,279	3,861
<b>Meeting &amp; Conference Room Use</b>	726	694	738	794	788	811	875	1,011	1,002	1,078

## GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

### Education

#### **GOAL: PLAN FOR EDUCATIONAL BUILDING SPACE NEEDS.**

##### **OBJECTIVES:**

1. Plan for growth of student population. In reviewing development proposals, take into account projected capacity of the schools. Plan for new and renovated facilities to adequately address future needs.
2. Replace or upgrade obsolete or inadequate facilities.

#### **GOAL: PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT OF COUNTY RESIDENTS.**

##### **OBJECTIVES:**

1. Expand the multipurpose use of public school facilities to support a variety of community interests.
2. Support efforts to assist the disadvantaged citizens of the County.
3. Support the Town and County Public Library.
4. Attract post-secondary institutions to locate within the County of Culpeper.
5. Support work force development by existing employers.
6. Promote technical and trade schools as education options.

### Parks and Recreation

#### **GOAL: EXPAND LEISURE OPPORTUNITIES AND FACILITIES FOR ALL CITIZENS OF ALL AGES, INCLUDING THOSE THAT FALL UNDER THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) GUIDELINES.**

##### **OBJECTIVES:**

1. Create and plan a wide range of quality classes and programs for residents of all ages and abilities.
2. Make reasonable efforts to provide persons with disabilities accessibility to parks, open space and facilities for leisure opportunities.



3. Foster partnerships with internal County departments, social and civic organizations, and other local, county and state governments in providing recreational opportunities.

**GOAL: GATHER DATA TO UPDATE AND IMPROVE COMPREHENSIVE RECREATIONAL PLANS, PROGRAMS AND CLASSES.**

**OBJECTIVES:**

1. Hold focus group work sessions every three to five years in each County district.
2. Periodically conduct class participant evaluations.

**GOAL: IDENTIFY PROSPECTIVE SITES IN THE COUNTY FOR FUTURE RECREATION FACILITIES, TO INCLUDE NEW LAND, EITHER BY COUNTY ACQUISITION OR OFFERED AS PART OF A DEVELOPMENT APPROVAL AND EXISTING ALLIED INSTITUTIONS.**

**OBJECTIVES:**

1. Establish a mechanism to hold and maintain public recreation lands.
2. Engage the public in developing a plan identifying prospective sites in the county through public hearings and workshops.
3. Protect and enhance open space corridors in residential areas.
4. Ensure that new facilities include multi-use capabilities to serve the community.
5. Design and sequentially implement a plan for the ultimate conversion of the landfill site to recreational use.

**GOAL: ESTABLISH RIVER AND BIKE TRAILS RECOMMENDED BY THE 2007 VIRGINIA OUTDOOR PLAN, AND EXPAND TRAIL SYSTEMS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY.**

**OBJECTIVES:**

1. Encourage and enhance the use of scenic road segments where appropriate in support of the Commonwealth of Virginia's Scenic Trails/Roads Program.
2. Provide comprehensive trail guides, signage, public outreach and creative classes for the public.
3. Manage rivers in the County as water trails with public access.
4. Expand water-related opportunities in County rivers.
5. Include bicycle and pedestrian facilities in road improvement projects.

## Fire and Rescue

**GOAL: MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE PUBLIC SAFETY THROUGH EMERGENCY SERVICES COUNTY-WIDE.**

**OBJECTIVES:**

1. Achieve a maximum ten-minute emergency response time to all parts of the County.
2. Upgrade all existing and future stations to include Advanced Life Support rescue capability and equipment.
3. Update intra-county and Mutual Aid Agreements to ensure close coordination of services in the County and surrounding areas and to avoid unnecessary duplication of services.
4. Reinforce the County commitment to volunteerism through coordination with the public schools, formal recognition of volunteer efforts in the community, establishment of a program of community education about volunteer services, and provision of incentives for volunteers.
5. Increase professional EMS staff to ensure adequate emergency response.
6. Coordinate future facilities and services with planned growth.

## Law Enforcement

**GOAL: ENSURE THE PROTECTION OF THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF THOSE RESIDING IN, WORKING IN, OR VISITING CULPEPER COUNTY.**

**OBJECTIVES:**

1. Expand the capabilities and improve the responsiveness of civil defense in providing overall coordination of emergency services in disaster situations.
2. Improve and consolidate the communication capabilities of police, fire and rescue services in and around Culpeper County.
3. Provide adequate facilities for incarceration as required by the Virginia Department of Corrections.