

PARK FACILITY STANDARDS MANUAL



DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION, PARKS AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES
CITY OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

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INTRODUCTION

The City of Alexandria Park System is comprised of 566 acres of City owned public parkland. The City's Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities is responsible for the System's planning, management and maintenance. The park system provides a variety of active and passive facilities including athletic fields, playgrounds, recreation courts, trails, picnic areas, marina, pools, natural areas and dog exercise areas.

The Park Facility Standards Manual (Standards) establishes minimum design, construction and performance expectations for the City's park features. The intent of the Standards is to inform and guide park and open space planning, capital improvements and capital maintenance and to sustain life-cycle resource investments in public space. The Standards are a reference instrument for selection of materials, fixtures, and systems and integrate City criteria with industry standards and applicable Federal/State/City requirements into a primary-single source document. Anticipated benchmarks for performance/function, safety, environmental impact, and anticipated maintenance/life-cycle resource needs are established by each Standard.

Although established in Summer, 2012, the Park Facility Standards Manual is a living document that is updated and re-evaluated coincident with advancements in industry, changes in the City's park and open space system, and recreational needs.

This manual supplements industry standards, and federal/state/local requirements, while identifying City of Alexandria Park Facilities requirements. Information in this manual is not intended to replace or function as specifications, construction documents, or contract documents.

The standards are organized according to nine categories: Site Furnishings, Fences and Walls, Surfacing, Park Structures, Playgrounds, Ball Courts and Athletic Fields, Utility Systems, Signs and Marina Facilities.

The following expectations apply to each Standard:

PRINCIPLE LIFE CYCLE EXPECTATIONS

Materials shall be procured in compliance with City of Alexandria Procurement procedures.

Materials and products shall be recyclable or its components shall have the potential for re-use at the end of an item's useful life.

Products and replacement parts shall be proven reliable. Products subject to continual re-design as a result of product or material failure, or outdated design shall not be used.

Replacement parts, if applicable, shall be readily available throughout the life cycle of the product.

Materials and products shall be selected and installed in a manner that is sensitive to context and to the City of Alexandria Maintenance Standards.

PRINCIPLE IMPLEMENTATION EXPECTATIONS

Installation of products and materials identified in the following pages shall be performed consistent with regulatory requirements including permits, permissions, etc.

Installation of products and materials shall comply with manufacturer's recommendations unless otherwise identified.

SECTION TEMPLATE

DATA

Each Standard sheet is organized consistent with a template on the following pages. Standards will begin on the right hand page and continue on a second page if necessary. All requirements of the Standard shall be addressed.

Information is arranged under the headings of purpose, general information, site considerations, materials and finish, features, installation and life cycle expectations as needed for each specific Standard.

IMAGERY

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SECTION TEMPLATE

CHAPTER 01: INTRODUCTION

01

PURPOSE

Scope and Function of Each Facility or Component

GENERAL INFORMATION

Local/State/Federal Requirements

Special Conditions/Considerations

Preferred Manufacturer/Make/Model and Contact Information, if Applicable

Related Sections, if Applicable

Design Criteria, if Applicable

MATERIALS AND FINISH

Material/Treatment

Fabrication Requirements

Color Requirements

FEATURES

Components

Extras/Options

INSTALLATION

Method/Type

Specific/Seasonal/Site Requirements

LIFE CYCLE EXPECTATIONS

Warranty Requirements

Specific/Seasonal/Site Requirements

IMAGE FOOTNOTES

Source Data as Needed

SECTION TEMPLATE



Image caption (Footnote)

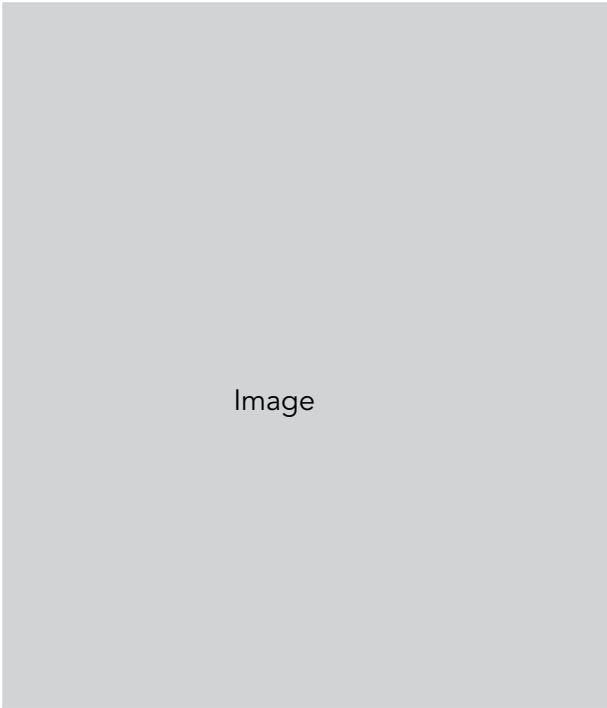


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STANDARDS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Standards shall comply with the most current and up-to-date standards, guidelines, and governing organizations cited in this document. If referenced standards conflict, the final determination of precedence shall be made by the Director of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities.

City Charter and Code. City of Alexandria, Virginia.

Design Guidelines for the Old and Historic Alexandria and the Parker-Gray District. City of Alexandria, Virginia.

Four Mile Run Design Guidelines. City of Alexandria, Virginia, Arlington County, Virginia and Northern Virginia Regional Commission.

Landscape Guidelines. City of Alexandria, Virginia.

Zoning Ordinance of the City of Alexandria, Virginia. City of Alexandria, Virginia.

ADA Standards for Accessible Design. As published by the Department of Justice; Washington D.C.

American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO).

American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE).

American Society of Testing and Materials (ASTM). As published by ASTM International; West Conshohocken, PA.

Architectural Barriers Act.

Code of Virginia. Commonwealth of Virginia.

Commonwealth of Virginia Sanitary Regulations for Marinas and Boat Moorings. Commonwealth of Virginia.

Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC).

National Federation of State High Schools (NFSHS).

National Collegiate Athletic Association.

Virginia Clean Marina Guidelines. Commonwealth of Virginia.

Virginia Department of Health. Commonwealth of Virginia.

Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code (USBC).

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