

Table 1: SPATIAL STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL AREAS

Type of Area	Age Group	Type of Use	Radius of Influence	Facilities	Size Standard	Minimum Site Size	Locational Factors	Remarks
Neighborhood-Oriented Walk-To Facilities								
Playground	Primarily 5-18; also includes young adults	Active	1/4 to 1/2 mile	Paved and turf areas for play apparatus; softball; landscaped periphery; may include totlot	1.25 acres per 1,000 people in service area	3 acres	Near center of neighborhood; no heavily traveled streets to cross; preferably contiguous to elementary school	Paved portion of playground should total at least 100 sq. adjoining school
Neighborhood Park	All ages	Passive but usually includes active	1/2 to 1 mile	Shaded, landscaped area; picnic facilities; semi-active game area (horseshoes e.g.); fieldhouse, wading pool; usually includes totlot, playground	1 acre per 1,000 people in service area	8 acres	Near center of neighborhood	When school playground and park are contiguous, less land area may be required
Neighborhood / Community-Oriented Facilities (Parking Desirable)								
Playfield	15 and older	Active	1/2 to 1 mile	Organized sports (hardball, football, e.g.); tennis; may include spectator facilities; landscaped periphery; fieldhouse or shelter	1.25 acres per 1,000 people in service area	10 acres	Near center of area served	Some playfields are metropolitan in nature (Wick Field e.g.) because they are sports complexes intended for organized league sports
Community Park	All ages	Passive and active	1 to 2 miles	Facilities of community significance; selection of items found in regional parks; usually includes neighborhood park, playfield	1 acre per 1,000 people in service area	30 acres	Near center of area served, preferably adjacent to high school	

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Larger Facilities (Parking Provided)								
Metropolitan Park	All ages	Passive and active	3 to 4 miles (primary use)	Facilities found in smaller areas and selection of items found in regional parks	5.5 acres per 1,000 people in service area	100 acres	Any accessible area that meets needs	Metropolitan parks serve the entire county and total need is based on the county population
Regional Park	All ages	Passive and active	Southeastern Wis. Region	May include wooded area, open lawn and meadow, natural features, hiking or nature trails, swimming pool or beach, golf, skating rink, winter sports facilities, conservatory, boat launching	Provides additional community or metro park space	250 acres	Within a one hour drive of home	
Special Facilities								
Totlot	12 and under	Active	1/4 to 1/2 mile	Play apparatus; landscaping and benches for parents	None	2,500 sq. ft.	Preferably isolated portion of larger facility; provided in neighborhoods where private rear yard space is lacking, the ratio of young children to total population is considerably higher than average, and/or there is neighborhood demand for such a facility	

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Special Facilities (cont.)								
Playlot	5-12 years	Active	1/4 to 1/2 mile	Turf area for self-directed play	None	No minimum	Where vacant public areas are available	Covered by playground standard, since relieves playground space or locational deficiencies
Greenspaces, parkways, boulevards, bluffs, nature centers	All ages	Passive and active	Varies by type of facility	Primarily natural features	None	No minimum		These can meet some needs for other recreational areas if they are of sufficient size and have the necessary facilities