

V. Inventory of Area and Facilities

Lufkin Parks and Recreation Facilities and Programs Master Plan

History

The City of Lufkin has developed an extensive inventory of parks in the last thirty years. The Parks and Recreation Department, created in 1971 now maintains 17 parks and recreation areas. Many of the areas are owned by the City, but several are leased from individuals or companies. There are several cooperative agreements with the school district.

Prior to 1971 the City parks were Chambers, Jones, Ellen Trout, Kiwanis (Civic Club), Morris Frank and Winston. In 1971 the first full time Parks and Recreational professional was hired to oversee the department. The parks were previously overseen by the Health Inspector and maintenance was performed by the Public Works Department. Brandon Park and the Downtown Recreation Center were acquired in the same year. In 1973, Gulf Park was leased and Kit McConnico was acquired through grants. Mantooth Park was leased in 1974.

The 1980's saw more parks come on line including Four Seasons and Herty Parks. During that timeframe many improvements were made to existing facilities. In 1993, the property for the City Park was donated and the parking lot developed.

Ward Street and Lufkin Land Parks were provided through an interlocal agreement with Lufkin ISD in 1994. Richardson Park was completed and opened in 1995. The Azalea Trail was completed and opened in 1997.

Parks and Recreation Facility Inventory

In order to understand what the park and recreation needs are, an accounting of existing parks is necessary. On the following pages are descriptions of the parks and an inventory the facilities currently contained in them.