

## **Section V Program Needs**

### **Section Overview**

This section includes recommendations for programs that could be used at Rocky Face Park. The section is broken down into the following:

Background

Recommendations

## **V. Program Needs**

### **Background**

Rocky Face Park will be unique in that it will be the first totally passive park in Alexander County. As a result, there are no existing passive recreation activities in the County. The park will focus on educating visitors about the unique and fragile ecosystem of the mountain and the rich history of the area. In addition to local residents using the park, it will also be used by people outside Alexander County. The main activity in the park will be hiking along with picnic shelters, restrooms, informational signage and an outdoor stage.

### **Recommendations**

1. Develop the following programs and activities at Rocky Face Park over the next ten years.
  - Work with area rock climbing clubs and organizations to allow them to use the Park for climbing and to also offer demonstrations for the public.
  - With the development of the quarry overlook site, an excellent area for star-gazing would be established. Working with groups such as Catawba Valley Astronomy Club, classes and viewing could be made available for the public.
  - The County should work with CVCC, Alexander County School System and the Reese Institute at Lenoir-Rhyne University to establish environmental programs at the park. These could cover a variety of topics such as geology, wildlife and vegetation and environmental stewardship.
2. Strive to serve all age groups including, children, teens, adults, senior and individuals with disabilities.
3. With the completion of the ADA trail, provide opportunities for fitness and exercise.
4. Where feasible try to find programs or activities for senior.
5. Offer special events.

6. Work with local history groups to have programs on the history of the area. This could include programs on the railroad, the old prison camp and the operation of the quarry.