

Section VIII Park Management

Section Overview

There are several areas of park management that will be critical to the success of the park. This section addresses park management needs and includes recommendations

Background

Staffing

Rocky Face Park Committee

Policies and Procedures

Operation and Maintenance

Funding

VIII. Park Management

Background

Alexander County has a Parks and Recreation Department that maintains many parks throughout the county. Rocky Face Park will be unique since it will be the first passive park in the county and will not have ballfields. The park will initially require for staff to open and close the facilities during operating hours and maintain the restrooms. The picnic shelter and trail should not involve much maintenance during the first years of the park.

Staffing

Recommendations:

1. As demand warrants, hire seasonal part-time staff to maintain the park. Someone will need to open and close the park during operating hours and maintain facilities such as restrooms.

Rocky Face Park Committee

Recommendations:

1. The existing Rocky Face Park Committee could provide oversight and guidance to the County during the development of Rocky Face Park. The committee's main focus should be on implementing the Rocky Face Park Master Plan.

Policies and Procedures

Recommendations:

1. Develop and adopt park rules and regulations. These policies and procedures should be posted at the park through signage and in addition to standard rules and regulations should address concerns about smoking and alcohol use in the park, fire concerns and four-wheeler damage.
2. Develop a working relationship with Rocky Face Baptist Church to share parking when needed. The County could also make the picnic shelter available to the church.

3. Develop a policy for use of the outdoor stage.

Operations and Maintenance

Recommendations:

1. Meet with DOT to determine how traffic on and near the park can be improved.
2. During the engineering/design for trail development, determine if multi-purpose trails (horse, biking) are feasible near the base of the Rocky Face Mountain.
3. Work with Alexander County Emergency Services to develop a procedure for emergencies at the park.
4. Purchase and maintain adequate and efficient maintenance equipment for the park as needed.

Funding

Recommendations:

1. Establish or seek more of a variety of funding and revenue sources for providing park services.
2. Seek grants that are available for park development.
3. The county should seek donations and volunteer assistance for the park.
4. Develop a program where citizens can donate for a bench or other park fixture in honor or memorial of an individual.
5. Identify programs where a fee could be justified.