



Office of the Town Manager
Stephanie Miller

Warrenton Town Council

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STAFF REPORT

Council Meeting Date:	January 13, 2026
Agenda Title:	Master Plan Needs Assessment
Requested Action:	Receive information and provide additional direction/guidance as needed
Department / Agency Lead:	Parks and Recreation
Staff Lead:	Kelly Koernig

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This memorandum, prepared and provided by Kimley Horn, outlines the needs assessment approach for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, using three coordinated components to evaluate the Town's park system and gather community input. The assessment includes: (1) park evaluations documenting current conditions and maintenance needs, (2) a Level of Service analysis comparing Warrenton's parkland, facilities, funding, and staffing to population needs and peer communities, and (3) public engagement through stakeholder interviews, focus groups, and a community survey to understand resident priorities. Together, these components provide both data-driven analysis and direct public input to inform future recommendations. A summary of key findings is included, along with a dedicated section evaluating the Warrenton Aquatic and Recreation Facility (WARF) based on user feedback, benchmarking, pricing review, and lifecycle considerations to identify current performance and emerging challenges.

BACKGROUND

Park Evaluations

Park evaluations were conducted across all Town parks to document current conditions, amenities, and how well each park meets community expectations. These assessments were based on professional observation and comparison to similar communities, recognizing that conditions reflect a single point in time. The findings help establish a baseline understanding of system performance and inform future capital and maintenance planning.

Academy Hill Park - Neighborhood Park



167 Academy Hill Road
Warrenton, VA 20186



4.6 acres



70 | *Design & Construction*

60 | *Effectiveness*

75 | *Condition*

60 | *Comfort & Image*

60 | *Access & Linkage*

51 | *Sustainability*



Depot Park / Dog Park - Neighborhood Park

South 4th Street
Warrenton, VA 20186



0.3 acres

Average Score
78.4

83 Design & Construction	80 Comfort & Image
77 Effectiveness	77 Access & Linkage
95 Condition	64 Sustainability

**Eva Walker Park - Neighborhood Park**

Alexandria Pike and North Street
Warrenton, VA 20186



5.6 acres

Average Score
74.0

73 Design & Construction	80 Comfort & Image
73 Effectiveness	73 Access & Linkage
75 Condition	65 Sustainability

**Rady Park - Neighborhood Park**

540 Evans Avenue
Warrenton, VA 20186



6.9 acres

Average Score
81.6

80 Design & Construction	84 Comfort & Image
90 Effectiveness	67 Access & Linkage
90 Condition	75 Sustainability



Sam Tarr - Neighborhood Park

 Gold Cup Drive
Warrenton, VA 20186

 1.8 acres

Average Score
79.4

80 Design & Construction	80 Comfort & Image
67 Effectiveness	87 Access & Linkage
95 Condition	62 Sustainability



Warrenton Sports Complex - Sports Complex

 800 Waterloo Road
Warrenton, VA 20186

 65 acres

Average Score
76.0

80 Design & Construction	76 Comfort & Image
93 Effectiveness	73 Access & Linkage
95 Condition	73 Sustainability



Summary of key findings:

Most Town parks are generally performing at or above user expectations; however, Eva Walker Park and Academy Hill Park fall below this threshold, largely due to amenity condition, user comfort, and overall relevance to community needs. Academy Hill Park also scores lowest for accessibility, particularly because of limited safe pedestrian connections. Rady Park received the highest overall rating, reflecting strong conditions, recent upgrades, and its arboretum features.

Systemwide, sustainability measures received the lowest scores, especially related to environmental education and awareness. Opportunities exist to better communicate sustainable design and stewardship practices through interpretive signage and landscaping approaches.

Across the park system, areas for improvement include:

- Enhancing accessibility and safe connections (including sidewalks, bike access, and parking linkages), expanding amenities for all age groups
- Increasing available and comfortable seating, including shaded and group seating options
- Continuing to improve tree canopy, biodiversity, and sustainable planting practices.

Level of Service Analysis and Benchmarking

The Level of Service (LOS) analysis evaluates how well the Town's current park system meets resident needs. It measures park acreage, available facilities, accessibility, and funding/staffing levels to determine whether residents have equitable access to recreation opportunities. The LOS analysis notes that privately owned open spaces and trails are not included in Warrenton's calculations, even though they provide meaningful recreation value to residents.

Benchmark comparisons with peer communities provide additional context to evaluate Warrenton's current service levels and identify future needs. Peer communities that were used in this report include Town of Vienna, City of Manassas Park, Town of Herndon, Town of Purcellville and Town of Culpeper. It is important to acknowledge that the comparison of park systems is not apples to apples. Variations in the number of recreation amenities, influx of capital projects, addition of grants, are just a few conditions that influence the need and demands for FTE positions, annual revenues and capital expenditures, and individual agency cost recovery policies.

The analysis considers four primary LOS measures:

1. Acreage – amount of parkland per 1,000 residents

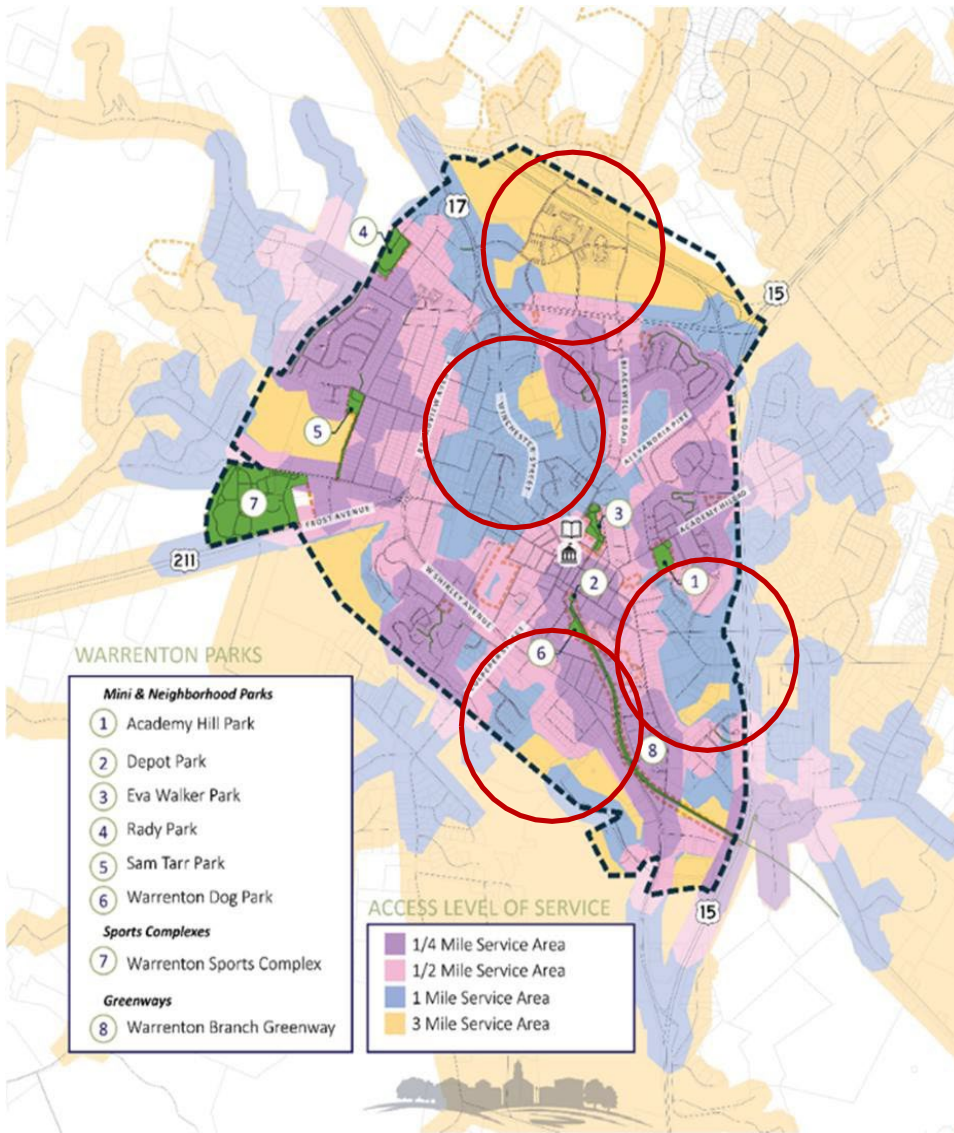
Recommendation: The best acreage LOS standard for Warrenton is ultimately based upon public input and what the community desires for parks. Establishment of a realistic measurement which protects the provision of park land while balancing the use and performance of parks is recommended for Warrenton.

2. Facilities – number and type of recreation amenities per capita

Recommendation: The following is what is needed by the year 2035 for the Town to maintain 2024 LOS levels: additional bench and picnic tables, additional playground, approximately 2,600 additional SF (square feet) of indoor recreation center space, approximately 865 additional LF (linear feet) of paved trails/paths.

3. Access – proximity of residents to parks based on walking, biking and driving distances

Recommendation: From a 10-minute walkability perspective, and in line with the 2040 Warrenton Plan recommendation for a park and recreation opportunity within 10-minutes of all residents, the addition of four (4) mini or neighborhood parks would increase access and bring the Town to almost full compliance. Red Circles on the following map indicate a 1/2 mile radius search area for potential mini or neighborhood park locations:



4. Funding and Staffing – financial investment and staffing levels in relation to service delivery

The Department's cost recovery, calculated as total revenue divided by total expenditure, is projected to be 40.0% for FY 2026. National average cost recovery for similar sized departments and populations served is 31.1%. Similarly, the peer community average cost recovery is significantly lower than Warrenton's at 32.1%. Warrenton's Parks and Recreation Department is operating efficiently with a strong cost recovery and above-average revenue per capita. However, staffing and capital funding lag national benchmarks.

Recommendation: As the Town continues to grow in population and may expand the parks, recreation and trail system, regular evaluation of funding and staffing should be completed to ensure the Town's ability to properly operate and maintain existing new parkland and facilities.

Public Engagement

Public engagement is central to the Town of Warrenton's Parks and Recreation Master Plan, ensuring the needs assessment reflected real community priorities and experiences. Using focus groups, stakeholder interviews, and a statistically valid survey, the planning team gathered both detailed feedback and broad input. Residents and stakeholders consistently emphasized the need to reinvest in existing parks, improve maintenance, expand amenities, strengthen equity and access, and enhance trail and park connectivity. Funding limitations, communication challenges, and uneven development across parks were also recurring concerns. Specific priorities included splash pads, shade, restrooms, gathering spaces, teen amenities, safety, and clearer wayfinding. Together, the engagement process identified both systemwide gaps and site-specific opportunities, creating a strong foundation for future investment and improvements.

Top Themes Identified by Focus Groups (ranked by frequency of mention):

- Park maintenance and upkeep deficiencies
- Funding and resource constraints
- Equity and accessibility of park facilities
- Desire for additional amenities (splash pad, shade, seating, restrooms)
- Lack of connectivity between parks, trails, and neighborhoods
- Partnerships and collaboration opportunities
- Underutilized or uneven park development
- Facilities and programs for teens and youth
- Communication and coordination challenges
- Need for event space and community gathering areas

Common Themes Identified Across Stakeholder Interviews:

- Strong desire to improve and reinvest in existing parks rather than focus primarily on new facilities
- High demand for specific amenities, including splash pads or cooling stations, pavilions, playground upgrades, and outdoor performance spaces
- Ongoing concerns about maintenance, upkeep, and deferred investment across multiple park sites
- Need for expanded and better-connected trails, sidewalks, and pedestrian links between parks and neighborhoods
- Funding and resource limitations, including the absence of dedicated or sustainable funding sources
- Importance of safety, security, and visible staffing presence in parks
- Interest in better utilization of underused parks, particularly Eva Walker Park
- Desire for more events, programming, and attractions to activate parks and increase visibility
- Challenges related to wayfinding, signage, and navigation, especially for visitors and nonlocal users
- Equity-related concerns, including uneven investment, accessibility barriers, and unequal distribution of amenities across neighborhoods

Online Survey

The online survey generated strong participation, with a total of 574 responses that included 236 residents of the Town of Warrenton, yielding statistically valid results with a margin of error of $\pm 6.3\%$, as well as a substantial number of responses from Fauquier County residents (518), which are also statistically valid with a margin of error of $\pm 4.3\%$. Collectively, this level of participation provides a reliable and comprehensive

understanding of both Town-specific priorities and broader regional demand for Warrenton's parks, recreation facilities, programs, and trails.

Park Usage and Participation

The Warrenton Aquatic and Recreation Facility (WARF) is the most heavily used facility, followed by Rady Park and the Warrenton Branch Greenway, underscoring the importance of both indoor recreation and walkable trail access.

Satisfaction with Facilities and Maintenance

Overall satisfaction is strong, particularly among Town residents with nearly 80% of Town respondents who are satisfied or very satisfied with park maintenance, WARF receiving the highest satisfaction ratings across facilities and restrooms and pavilions consistently score lower than other amenities, indicating targeted reinvestment needs. Despite generally positive ratings, open-ended responses frequently cite maintenance consistency, restroom cleanliness, and environmental practices as areas needing improvement.

Barriers to Participation

The most common barriers limiting use or participation include: lack of time and awareness of available programs, affordability and cost concerns, insufficient restrooms, shade, and lighting, trail connectivity gaps and wayfinding challenges.

Desired Amenities and Facility Priorities

When asked to identify their top five recreation needs, Town respondents most strongly prioritized:

- Paved walking and biking trails
- Splash pads or interactive water features
- Indoor fitness and aquatics facilities
- Nature enjoyment and observation areas
- Pickleball courts and unpaved hiking trails

These preferences align closely with Fauquier County respondents, indicating that regional users share similar expectations and demands, particularly for trails, aquatics, and flexible outdoor spaces.

Recreation Programs and Activities in Demand

The highest-demand activities among Town residents include:

- Walking and hiking
- Special events and festivals
- Group fitness and aquatics
- Swimming for fun and therapy
- Pickleball and playground use

Participation data shows that a majority of respondents attend multiple Town-hosted programs or events annually, reinforcing the role of parks and recreation as a core community service and social hub.

Key Takeaways

- Town-only results are statistically reliable and reflect strong local engagement, frequent use, and generally high satisfaction
- Fauquier County responses are also statistically valid, confirming Warrenton's role as a regional recreation destination
- Future priorities should focus on trail connectivity, aquatics, comfort amenities (shade, restrooms), maintenance consistency, and program awareness
- The survey reinforces the need to balance quality of existing assets with targeted expansion of high-demand amenities to meet both Town and regional needs

Overall Needs Assessment Summary

- The Needs Assessment demonstrates that Warrenton's park system is well-performing but approaching a critical transition point. Strategic reinvestment, policy clarity, and equitable expansion will be essential to meeting future needs while sustaining current service levels.
- The system is well-used, valued, and efficiently operated
- Growth and redevelopment will increase pressure on acreage, facilities, and maintenance
- Priority actions should focus on targeted reinvestment, access improvements, and equity
- Clear LOS and redevelopment policies are needed to guide future decisions
- Findings provide a strong foundation for goals, priorities, and implementation strategies in the PRMP

Additional information: WARF specific on pages 38-54 includes peer facilities comparison, pricing structure, public engagement findings relevant to the WARF, facility systems and capital risk, recommendations, pricing elasticity study, revenue scenario modeling, and final summary.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Receive the Parks and Recreation Master Plan Needs Assessment prepared by Kimley-Horn as this document is intended to serve as a foundational planning tool to guide future policy development, capital planning, funding strategies, and operational priorities as the full Master Plan is completed. No formal action or budget commitment is requested at this time beyond acknowledgment, continued support of the planning process and direction/guidance as needed.

Service Level/Collaborative Impact

The Needs Assessment confirms that the Town's parks and recreation system is well-used, generally well-maintained, and operating efficiently; however, it also identifies emerging service pressures related to maintenance needs, amenity expectations, staffing capacity, trail connectivity, and equitable access. Implementation of future Master Plan recommendations may positively impact service delivery by establishing clearer LOS standards, prioritizing reinvestment, and aligning resources with community demand. The assessment also highlights opportunities to strengthen partnerships with regional agencies, nonprofits, and user groups to expand programming, leverage funding, and improve connectivity. Continued cross-departmental coordination, particularly with Public Works, Community Development, Human Capital, and Finance will be important as policy and capital strategies are developed.

Policy Direction/Warrenton Plan 2040

CF-1.1: Foster high quality, equitable and accessible community facilities that meet the Town's service requirements and support a high quality of life for the community.

CF-1.3: Ensure that community facilities are accessible to persons in all stages of life and all abilities.

CF-1.4: Encourage and strengthen a sense of community and the character of Warrenton through the design and appearance of public facilities.

CF-1.5: Encourage the use of community facilities and grounds for community events and public functions.

CF-1.6: Provide efficient, right sized community facilities that meet identified levels of service.

CF-3: Green infrastructure and sustainability are incorporated into community facilities to promote energy efficiency and environmental protections.

CF-5.1: Implement robust maintenance schedules on community facilities to extend the life of investments.

P-1.2: Incorporate green infrastructure and low impact development into new open space and park development and improvements to existing open spaces.

P-2.1: Provide a dynamic system of safe, interconnected spaces for a variety of public uses that promote healthy, active, recreational activities in spaces throughout the Town. These spaces will reflect the culture, ecology, and natural environment of Warrenton.

P-2.2: Recognize that the visitor experience in open space parks is paramount, regardless of the size of the land. The Town will ensure equitable consideration will be given throughout the Town for passive and active amenities.

P-2.3: Build connectivity improvements for sidewalks, shared roadways, and trails, including improving access and use of the Greenway Trail.

P-3.1: Ensure a 10-minute walk to a green space, trail, park, parklet, or pedestrian trail from anywhere within the Town per Trust for Public Land and NPRA guidance.

P-3.2: Acquire additional park and recreation spaces throughout the Town in areas that currently do not have these resources within a 10-minute walk (half mile radius).

P-4.3: Develop a system Park Master Plan for the town to guide long term investments.

Fiscal Impact

There is no immediate fiscal impact associated with acceptance of the Needs Assessment document. However, the findings indicate that future investment will likely be required to sustain service levels as the community grows, address deferred maintenance, enhance access and connectivity, and respond to high-demand amenities such as trails, aquatics, shade, and restrooms. The report also notes that while Warrenton's cost recovery exceeds national and peer averages, staffing and capital funding levels are below benchmark levels. As priorities are refined through the Master Plan, staff anticipates needing review and approval for phased capital and operating recommendations, potential funding strategies, and lifecycle cost considerations.

Legal Impact

There is no direct legal impact associated with receipt of the Needs Assessment. The document is advisory in nature and does not establish policy, regulatory requirements, or financial commitments. Any future changes to Town policies, development standards, budget or CIP programs resulting from the Master Plan will be brought forward separately for Planning Commission and Council consideration in accordance with applicable legal and procurement requirements.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Needs Assessment Summary
2. Focus Group Interviews Summary
3. Stakeholder Interviews Summary
4. Online Survey Results-all responses

MEMORANDUM

To: Kelly Koernig, Director
Department of Parks and Recreation
Town of Warrenton

From: Keith Aimone, RLA
Nick Kuhn, PLA
Evan Schaum, PLA
Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.

Date: December 16, 2025

Subject: ***Warrenton PRMP Needs Assessment Summary***

This memorandum presents a three-part approach to evaluating the Town of Warrenton's park system and incorporating community input as part of the **needs assessment** for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan (PRMP). Together, these components are designed to provide both objective, data-driven analysis and direct insight from residents, stakeholders, and park users, ensuring that future recommendations are well-grounded, defensible, and responsive to community priorities.

The assessment framework includes: (**Section 1**) park evaluations, which document existing conditions, functionality, and maintenance needs across the Town's park system; (**Section 2**) a Level of Service (LOS) analysis, which examines parkland, facilities, funding, and staffing relative to population and peer benchmarks to identify gaps and pressures; and (**Section 3**) public engagement, which captures qualitative and quantitative input through focus groups, stakeholder interviews, and an online survey.

Collectively, these three components establish a clear understanding of how the park system is performing today, how it compares to community needs and growth expectations, and how residents and partners envision its future. An overall summary (**Section 4**) of key findings from all three parts is provided at the conclusion of this memorandum to highlight common themes, priorities, and implications for the PRMP.

Section 5 includes an evaluation of the Warrenton Aquatic and Recreation Facility (WARF) that combines user survey results, public and stakeholder input, peer facility comparisons, and a review of pricing and lifecycle risk to understand how the Town's primary indoor recreation facility is performing and where it faces near-term pressures.

1.0 Park Evaluations

Overview

Park evaluations were completed for each of the Town's existing parks to observe the condition of amenities and performance of the park space in meeting residents' expectations for a public park. This type of evaluation is an observation-based assessment that considers the type of park space, typical conditions of parks for communities of similar size and needs as Warrenton, and experience of the evaluation team. Observations are completed at a limited time; therefore, full usage of each park may not be included. This evaluation helps to orient the planning team to the conditions of each park as well as provides valuable information on the condition, inventory of amenities, and potential needs for capital improvements for future recommendations.

1.1 Background of Methodology

Many thoughtful and comprehensive methods or criteria have been developed in attempts, to varying degrees of achievement, to capture the level of success a public space or park provides. Some methods are deep in academic rigor such as the System for Observing Play and Recreation in Communities (SOPARC) developed by Dr. Thomas McKenzie at San Diego State University, while other techniques can be as simple as asking a user or group of users how they like a park as part of an intercept survey.

The basic approach of a suitable evaluation process is to understand how the information gathered will be used. For this evaluation, the information collected will be used to gauge the performance of each park in the Town of Warrenton, providing summaries of key successes and opportunities for enhancements, and to identify potential capital and/or operational improvements tied to documented needs and community priorities. The later information will be carried forward for further analysis during the development of recommendations, actions and specific projects as part of Phase 2 of the PRMP.

The methodology utilized by Kimley-Horn is one based on research and validation by the Project of Public Spaces (PPS). PPS' research has shown, through the evaluation of thousands of public spaces around the world, that there are common qualities shared universally among the public spaces and parks celebrated by users as successful. These qualities include addressing the following questions:

- Is the site accessible?
- Are people engaged in activities?
- Is the space comfortable?
- Does the site provide a good image or impression?
- Is the space a social one where people gather and meet one another?

PPS's methodology for evaluating public parks and spaces is derivative of the seminal works of William (Holly) Whyte who specialized in the study of human behavior in urban settings. During the late 1960s and early 1970s, Whyte studied pedestrian behavior and city dynamics for the New York City Planning Commission. At the core of Whyte's research titled 'Street Life Project,' was a notion of perseverance and sanctity of public spaces. Three (3) perspectives developed by Whyte would later influence the PPS's approach to evaluating public parks and spaces:

- Social life in public parks and spaces contribute fundamentally to the quality of life of individuals and society as a whole. Whyte felt there is a moral responsibility to create physical places that facilitate civic engagement and community interaction.
- Bottom-up place design as a new way of designing public spaces. Whyte believed that design should begin with a thorough understanding of the way people use space and how they want to use space. This belief emphasizes the power of providing comfortable space for users.
- Clear observation of parks and spaces without theoretical or aesthetic biases. Whyte felt that by looking hard at a space with a clear mind, sometimes more than once, an observer must believe what is seen and learn from the successes and failures.

Image from William Whyte's 'The Social Life of Small Urban Spaces' showing people gathered in the limited sunlight on steps used as



Since the development of Whyte's perspectives, additional emphasis has been placed on how a public park benefits not only the user but the environment while also contributing to the economics of society which is burdened with the costs of developing and maintaining the park. For these considerations, the criteria developed by PPS was expanded to include observations on how a park performs in sustainable development, including design and construction. Defined by the United Nation's World Commission on Environment and Development in 1987, sustainable development consists of 'meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs,' by striking a balance between economic and social development and environmental protection.

Combining the research of Whyte that led to PPS's definitive approach to evaluating public parks and spaces, with the principles of the UN's definition of sustainable development, creates a more comprehensive spectrum of observational fundamentals. Grouped into six (6) categories or topics,

specific measurements in the form of questions have been developed that are evaluated through observation of each space. Categories include:

Design and Construction: Includes observations of the quality of design, materials, use of standards and incorporation of current codes or requirements, and the durability of each space.

Effectiveness: Includes the observation of users or evidence of users of a space, range of offerings, balance of activities and contextual consistency. (See PPS's 'The Power of 10+')

Condition: Includes observations of the quality of upkeep of a space, evidence of pride in users and maintenance, and presence of deferred improvements.

Comfort and Image: Includes observation of a space's first impression, comfort of users, visual attractiveness, and perception of safety. (See Crime Prevention Through Environment Design – CPTED)

Access and Linkages: Includes observation of universal accessibility barriers, multi-modal connectivity, dominance of space by transportation use other than pedestrian and bicycles and ease of access from surrounding areas. (See Parks and Inclusive Play)

Sustainability: As a three-part category with observations focus on social interactions and connections to surrounding neighborhoods, environmental considerations and promotion that result in net positive contributions to water quality, biodiversity, awareness, and economic viability and contributions.

1.2 Park Performance Evaluation Criteria

Park evaluations are an extension of a quality Level of Service measurement. During an evaluation, each park's performance is rated across six categories and 40 measurements. The final product provides a weighted score between 0-100, with 100 representing the highest possible score. The criteria are intended to objectively

Project for Public Spaces - The Power of 10+: Applying Placemaking at Every Scale

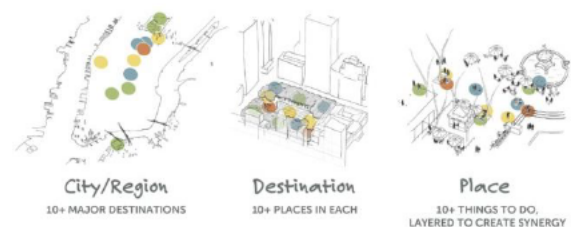


Born out of a simple question, 'How many separate focal points do you need to make [a place] successful?' The Project

for Public Spaces developed a challenging answer, ten. In essence, the answer was not about a fixation on an exact rule or measure, but instead, a general principle. Bent on preserving the spirit, the idea of the 'Power of 10' framework is intended to work at any scale; city-wide or a single place. The goal is to not have a single use dominate a particular place, instead, an array of activities providing opportunities for people to take pleasure in public life through variety and choice.

The concept of the Power of 10 focuses on human scale choices rather than physical scale domination. The Power of 10 can be applied to a region, city, neighborhood or a single place, all demonstrating unique place-making with options for activities. Whether sitting, playing, hearing music, eating food, learning about history, socializing, etc. these activities make for vibrant spaces.

To learn more about the Power of 10 visit: www.pps.org/reference/poweroften/



observe parks both individually and as a system. Only Town of Warrenton-owned and/or managed parks were included in the evaluations. Ratings are based on a scale of 1-5, with 1 representing the lowest and 5 representing the highest.

A rating of “n/a” was provided where specific measurements were not applicable and are not included in final ratings based upon the type of park and/or typical expectations for specific park types. For example, neighborhoods parks are not typically expected to contribute to the economic sustainability of a community through the development of permanent on-site jobs. By excluding measurements that are not typically expected of specific park classification types, the overall score for the park is not negatively impacted, however, if a park did include an unexpected element, a score was provided, and the overall park reflects the inclusion of the specific measurement.

All ratings are based on observations made during a limited time while on-site and are intended to provide information regarding trends for individual parks and across the park system only. Scores are illustrated via a matrix (see *Appendix B*) with individual park, single measurement, category and overall systemwide scores. Additional information regarding the performance scoring ranges include:

Exceeding Expectations (Park Scores 75-100)

Parks with scores in this range are defined as parks with new or recently enhanced facilities or features, readily accessible through multiple modes of transportation, typically exhibit multiple features that enhance the comfort and experience of park users and exhibit a maintenance quality that meets or exceeds typical expectations for public parks. Additional characteristics of parks that typically exceed expectations include:

- Functions above expectations and typically is well maintained, aesthetically pleasing, safe, and often demonstrates sustainable techniques.
- Accommodates a wide variety of uses and maintains a consistently high level of activity while still remaining flexible.
- Clear evidence of execution of design standards and embraces heritage resources (if applicable).
- Provision of multiple access points and methods for users to access the park including via mass transit, walking, and biking and contain universal accessibility routes and accommodations.
- Multi-purpose fields or lawn surfaces are well maintained and could be considered tournament/competition grade.
- Sports fields may contain premium amenities such as score boards, enclosed dugouts, bleachers, and lighting.

Meeting Expectations (Park Scores 50-74)

Parks with scores in this range are defined as parks with serviceable facilities or features providing functional recreational access for the public, accessed primarily by vehicle with some

connections to adjacent neighborhoods. These parks typically exhibit fewer features that enhance the comfort and experience of park users beyond a minimal recreational access capacity, and that exhibit a maintenance level sufficient for the uses in the park but would benefit from additional maintenance. Additional characteristics of parks that meet expectations include:

- From a programmatic level, these parks function as intended.
- Generally are well maintained and may be aesthetically pleasing.
- Accommodates several different activities and has a moderate level of activity.
- May or may not have a transit stop nearby and but includes reasonable sidewalk connectivity into the park space with minor issues for universal accessibility.
- Generally compatible with the surrounding land uses and provides users with a feeling of safety.
- Field surfaces are well maintained and playable but typically do not include the premium features that may be present in parks that “exceed expectations.”

Below Expectations (Park Scores 0-49)

Parks within this score range are generally defined as parks with facilities or features that have exceeded their functional life span and/or need enhancement or replacement to provide functional recreational access for the public, accessed primarily by vehicle and are disconnected from adjacent neighborhoods. These parks typically exhibit few, if any, features that enhance the comfort and experience of park users, and that exhibit a maintenance level insufficient to continue to provide the desired uses and recreational access. Additional characteristics of parks that are below meeting expectations include:

- Not currently performing as typically expected of public parks.
- Although the park may be well maintained and/or aesthetically pleasing, many typically are not.
- May have a consistently low level of activity; few accommodated uses and may not be compatible with the surrounding land uses.
- May not be perceived as safe by their users.
- May be difficult to access either by public transit, bicycle, or on foot with limited or no accommodations for universal accessibility.
- Field and/or court surfaces are not typically well maintained, or active recreation facilities may appear to be over-programmed or used, reducing the ability to maintain facility to typical standards.

1.3 Performance Scoring by Park

Park evaluations consisted of a team of landscape architects and park planners visiting parks across Warrenton between April-July 2025. A total of six (6) sites were visited with a performance evaluation

and inventory form completed (see *Appendix A*) for each. The following are summaries of evaluations for each park:

Academy Hill Park - Neighborhood Park



167 Academy Hill Road
Warrenton, VA 20186



4.6 acres

Average Score
63.9

70 Design & Construction	60 Comfort & Image
60 Effectiveness	60 Access & Linkage
75 Condition	51 Sustainability



Depot Park / Dog Park - Neighborhood Park



South 4th Street
Warrenton, VA 20186



0.3 acres

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Eva Walker Park - Neighborhood Park



Alexandria Pike and North Street
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5.6 acres

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Rady Park - Neighborhood Park



540 Evans Avenue
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6.9 acres

Average Score
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Sam Tarr - Neighborhood Park



Gold Cup Drive
Warrenton, VA 20186



1.8 acres

Average Score
79.4

80 | Design & Construction

80 | Comfort & Image

67 | Effectiveness

87 | Access & Linkage

95 | Condition

62 | Sustainability



Warrenton Sports Complex - Sports Complex



800 Waterloo Road
Warrenton, VA 20186



65 acres

Average Score
76.0

80 | Design & Construction

76 | Comfort & Image

93 | Effectiveness

73 | Access & Linkage

95 | Condition

73 | Sustainability



1.4 Park Performance Summary

Park evaluations across the Town of Warrenton indicate that all parks meet or exceed expectations for similar public spaces.



Additional key findings include:

- Eva Walker Park and Academy Hill Park are the only Town parks that do not exceed typical park user expectations, primarily due to lower scores for these parks' effectiveness in meeting users' general recreation interests and comforts, and relevance of amenities provided.
- Academy Hill Park is the lowest scoring park for access and linkages (60) due to the lack of safe pedestrian connectivity into the park from surrounding sidewalks.
- Eva Walker Park (74) and Academy Hill Park (64) are also the lowest scoring parks for their general condition; primarily due to the need for general improvements to equipment, signage, and/or surfacing materials.
- Overall, the sustainability category (64.8) is the lowest for all parks with a particular emphasis on environmental and economic sustainable measurements for each park.
- The Town's ability to highlight environmental awareness about sustainable and resilient design and/or management of public spaces is generally the lowest scoring measurement and can be improved by the addition of interpretive signage that educates park users on the importance of sustainability, biodiversity, water quality, stormwater management, wildlife, and best design practices.
- The highest scoring park in the Town of Warrenton is Rady Park (81.6), representing an average score that is within the exceeding expectations range. Specific elements of the park's high score include condition, recent improvements, and the biodiversity and educational signage of plant materials included in the arboretum.

- Many of the existing parks contribute positively to the surrounding area's property values by the presence of green or open space. Recognition of each park's role in stabilizing or increasing adjacent and nearby property values as well as contributing to re-development is important.
- Areas for improvement focus on the following for system-wide categories:
 - Improvements to accessibility; including parking, access routes, and choices of activities.
 - Provision of amenities/activity choices that meet the desires and needs of multiple age groups; children/youth, teens, adults, and seniors/active adults.
 - Options for seating; including for individuals and groups. The provision of safe, shaded and comfortable seating options is important for park users and should be highly considered to improve park usage. Group seating options should include more shelters which can be used for small and large group options. Trends include shelters that include movable tables for large groups as well as for genders based on religious or other needs.
 - Ensuring there are direct access points from on-site or nearby parking areas, inclusion of bike racks near primary entrance points, and direct sidewalk access into the park from surrounding connections.
 - Enhance plantings in each park through continued tree canopy plantings to ensure restore coverage, increase biodiversity, inclusion of pollinator friendly plantings, and where possible rain gardens and/or xeriscaping principles. Education of best practices, design or management principles, and other resiliency and sustainability focused best practices through on-site signage or programming is encouraged.

2.0 Level of Service Analysis & Benchmarking

The purpose of a Level of Service (LOS) Analysis is to quantify how well the existing parks system meets the needs of residents. The National Recreation and Park Association's (NRPA) definition of LOS analysis is "an allocation mechanism for the delivery of park land and basic recreation facilities throughout a community. By adoption of such a standard, a community in essence says that all citizens

, [...], will have an equal opportunity to share in the basic menu of services implicit in the standard and accompanying spatial distribution and allocation of policies."

The Town's Comprehensive Plan (*Plan Warrenton 2040*) includes one (1) policy which has an indirect impact on the LOS analysis:

P-3.2: Acquire additional park and recreation spaces throughout the Town in areas that currently do not have these resources within a 10-minute walk (half mile radius).

This policy is a form of Access or Distance LOS that measures time or distance residents must travel to access parkland and recreation opportunities. Other frequent LOS measurements that most municipalities have adopted are lacking in Warrenton such as an Acreage LOS (number of acres of parkland per 1,000 population) and Facilities LOS (number of recreation amenities/facilities per capita ratio). Towns such as Manassas Park and Culpeper include these types of LOS standards as well as Fauquier County.

Under the acreage Level of Service (LOS) analysis, the Town has historically excluded open space and trails that are owned and maintained by private developments, such as Menlough Highlands, North Rock, and the Ridges of Warrenton, whereas some peer jurisdictions include these amenities and receive LOS "credit." While there is no single correct approach, it is important to note that the Town's overall open space and trail availability is higher than reflected in this LOS due to the role of privately maintained park space and amenities.

In the order of analysis completed, the following LOS measurements have been included:

- 1) **Acreage** (Amount of Park Land): Amount of park land should be proportionate to the number of people using the park land.
- 2) **Facilities** (Number of Facilities): Every resident should have similar opportunities to use different types of recreation facilities.
- 3) **Access** (Distance or Travel Time): Every resident should be able to access specific park facilities within similar walking, bicycling, and/or driving distances.
- 4) **Funding and Staffing**: Every resident should enjoy a comparable level of funding spent on capital and operations for their park system.

In addition to the Level of Service (LOS) measurements, Kimley-Horn completed a series of benchmark comparisons that are important during LOS analysis as each provides context to static

measurements. Having context to figures allows for a better understanding of how Warrenton measures against peers in providing acreage of park land, recreation amenities, and funds and staffs parks.

2.1 Level of Service: Acreage

The most common way to measure LOS for existing acreage is the number of park acres per 1,000 people in a community. The current LOS acreage for Warrenton is 8.12 acres of park land per 1,000 people. **Table 2.1.A** identifies the town's Acreage LOS for 2024 as well as projections for 2035 and comparisons to peer communities¹ and national averages².

Table 2.1.A: Acreage LOS for Town of Warrenton

	2024 acres	2024 LOS*	2035 LOS**	Acreage Needed to Retain 2024 Town LOS	Acreage Needed to Meet Peer LOS	Acreage Needed to Meet NRPA Avg.
Town park land	84.2	8.12	7.93	+2.0 ac	(9.9) ac	+49.6 ac
Others (public parkland)		0.0	0.0			
Total park land Acreage	84.2	8.12	7.93	+2.0 ac		

Notes: *Based upon the US Census 2024 estimated population for Warrenton of 10,374; **Based upon the year 2035 population projection of 10,826; National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Agency Performance Review 2025 median number of acres of parkland per 1,000 population is 12.9 acres. (#) = surplus

Additionally, Fauquier County does not own or manage any county parks within town limits and no other public providers of park land have been identified. As the sole provider of public park land within the town limits, the Acreage LOS currently exceeds peer community average but is approximately 63% the national average for jurisdictions that serve populations of 20,000 or less.

As the town continues to experience redevelopment, in-fill growth, increases in residential density levels and potential annexation, the population of the town is projected to conservatively grow to approximately 10,826³. The need for additional park land will also grow, by approximately 2.0 acres. If no additional park land acreage is added to the town's park system, the Acreage LOS will decrease to 7.93 acres per 1,000 population.

To provide context for this analysis, Table 2.1.A also includes comparison to peer community and national average Acreage LOS. In comparison to peer communities, Warrenton has a surplus of park land (+9.9 acres), see **Chart 2.1.B**.

¹ Peer communities include the Town of Vienna, City of Manassas Park, Town of Herndon, Town of Purcellville, Town of Culpeper

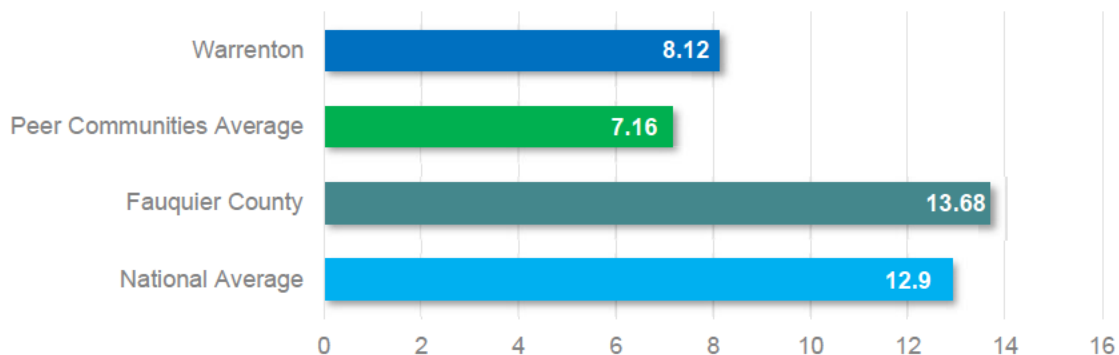
² National averages are from National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Agency Performance Review 2025.

³ 2035 population projection of 10,826. Projection may be impacted due to zoning changes and/or annexation.

Compared to national averages (NPRA) for jurisdictions serving populations below 20,000, the average community provides 12.9 acres per 1,000, more than 37% higher than Warrenton, representing a deficit of 49.6 acres.

The best acreage LOS standard for Warrenton is ultimately based upon public input and what the community desires for parks. Establishment of a realistic measurement which protects the provision of park land while balancing the use and performance of parks is recommended for Warrenton.

Chart 2.1.B: Town of Warrenton Acreage LOS vs. Peers and National Average



Guidance for Redevelopment-Driven Community Open Space

While the Town has historically excluded privately owned and HOA-maintained open space from LOS calculations, newer mixed-use developments (Waterloo Junction, Warrenton Village) are required to provide community open space intended to serve broader public objectives. The policy gap arises when:

- Open space is privately owned and maintained, but
- The intended function is public or community-serving, and
- Public access is unclear or inconsistently defined.

Guiding Principles: The Town could evaluate redevelopment-related open space using the following principles:

- **Intent Matters:** If open space is required by ordinance or the Comprehensive Plan to serve a community or civic function, it should not be treated the same as purely private neighborhood amenities.
- **Access Drives LOS Credit:** LOS recognition should be tied primarily to guaranteed public access, not ownership alone.

- **Clarity Upfront:** Ownership, maintenance, and access expectations should be clearly established during rezoning, site plan, or development agreement approval—not retroactively.
- **Flexibility with Accountability:** Multiple ownership/maintenance models can work, provided public access and long-term maintenance responsibilities are clearly secured.

To standardize treatment, the Town may consider classifying redevelopment open space into one of the following categories:

- **A. Public Open Space**
 - Owned and maintained by the Town or another public entity
 - Fully open to the general public
 - Eligible for full LOS credit
- **B. Privately Owned / Publicly Accessible Open Space**
 - Owned and maintained by an HOA or private entity
 - Public access guaranteed through recorded easements or agreements
 - Designed and programmed for community use (plazas, greens, trails)
 - Eligible for partial or full LOS credit, depending on size, function, and access
- **C. Private Residential Open Space**
 - Owned and maintained by an HOA
 - Intended primarily for residents
 - Limited or no public access
 - Not eligible for LOS credit

For each redevelopment project providing community open space, the Town should determine the following:

- Who owns the space? (Town, HOA, private entity)
- Who maintains the space? (Town, HOA, third party)
- Who is allowed to use the space? (General public vs. residents only)
- How is public access guaranteed? (Recorded easement, development agreement, ordinance condition)
- How should it be counted toward LOS, if at all?

Recommended Policy Tools: To resolve ambiguity and ensure consistency, the Town may consider:

- **Public Access Easements:** Require recorded easements for community open spaces intended for public use when ownership remains private.

- Development Agreement Language: Clearly state whether the space is intended to function as public open space and how access is enforced.
- LOS Credit Tiers: Establish LOS credit categories (full, partial, none) based on access and function rather than ownership alone.
- Signage & Design Standards: Require visible signage and design cues that clearly indicate whether a space is public or private to avoid confusion and perceived exclusion.

2.2 Level of Service: Facilities

Facility LOS analyzes the provision of facilities on a per capita basis. Existing parks provide a wide range of recreation facilities. Data collected through park evaluations and from Department staff populated an inventory of existing recreation facilities. **Table 2.2.A** compares the Town's existing facilities to national averages for 2025 and projected need for 2035 as the Town continues to grow. Additional facilities are needed (# = number of facilities needed, rounded up).

Extending Warrenton's projected 2024-2029 annual growth rate of 0.39% through the year 2035 (straight-line projection) allows for a projection of the number of facility per capita ratio to be estimated. The projected rate of annual population growth of 0.39% is higher than the Commonwealth of Virginia's annual rate of 0.37% and the projected national rate of 0.38%. Using this methodology is a conservative approach and should be viewed as a minimum baseline for future needs.

The Town's Comprehensive Plan presents a range of potential growth rates, adjusted downward in the most recent update due to post-Great Recession trends, though current development activity, including approximately 1,000 housing units in the pipeline, suggests that the low-end 0.39% growth scenario through 2035 may understate near-term growth despite the Town's historically cyclical boom-and-bust pattern.

The Town's population is estimated to grow to 10,826 by 2035, increasing demand on the Town's current inventory of recreation amenities. In essence, the number of facilities provided by the Town today will not provide the same level of service as the population increases demand for existing facilities. If population growth exceeds this projection, and/or the Town proceeds with annexation, the estimates included in this report will need to be updated.

2024-2035: Facility Needs from Growth: The following are the number of units needed by the year 2035 for the Town to maintain 2024 LOS levels:

- Additional bench and picnic tables are needed at parks to accommodate additional residents
- One (1) additional playground
- Approximately 2,600 additional SF (square feet) of indoor recreation center space
- Approximately 865 additional LF (linear feet) of paved trails/paths.

Table 2.2.A: Town of Warrenton Recreation Amenities/Facilities Level of Service Analysis

Recreation Amenity/Facility	Town of Warrenton Facilities or Amenities	Other Public Facilities or Amenities (Schools)	Total Facilities or Amenities	2024 Level of Service (LOS)	2035 Level of Service (LOS)	Units Needed to Meet 2024 LOS	2025 NRPA Benchmark Level of Service	Units Needed to Meet 2025 NRPA Average
Ballfields (baseball/softball)	2	4	6	1,729	1,804	0	1,958	(1)
Basketball courts	1	1	2	5,187	5,413	0	4,479	0
Benches	21		21	494	516	1	n/a	
Competitive Pool (Indoor)	1		1	10,374	10,826	0	10,224	0
Dog parks	1		1	10,374	10,826	0	10,188	0
Fitness Zones	2		2	5,187	5,413	0	8,274	(1)
Horseshoe Pits	2		2	5,187	5,413	0	n/a	
Leisure Pool (Indoor)	1		1	10,374	10,826	0	11,625	0
Multipurpose fields	7	4	11	943	984	0	2,578	(7)
Multiuse Courts (Indoor)			0	0	0	0	5,250	2
Pickleball courts	1		1	10,374	10,826	0	3,483	2
Picnic shelters	3		3	3,458	3,609	0	n/a	
Picnic tables	19		19	546	570	1	n/a	
Playgrounds	7	5	12	865	902	1	2,000	(7)
Rink (Skate)	1		1	10,374	10,826	0	8,338	0
Recreation Center	1		1	10,374	10,826	0	9,875	0
Running/Walking Track (Indoor)			0	0	0	0	11,625	1
Running/Walking Track (Outdoor)		2	2	5,187	5,413	0	6,129	0
Skate parks	1		1	10,374	10,826	0	10,776	0
Splash pads			0	0	0	0	13,391	1
Swimming pools (Outdoors)			0	0	0	0	9,745	1
Tennis courts		8	8	1,297	1,353	0	3,500	(5)
Therapeutic Pools (Indoor)							13,000	0
Volleyball courts	4		4	2,594	2,706	0	7,057	(3)
Indoor Facilities (square feet)	59,738			5.76*	5.76*	2,602	n/a	
Paved Trails (linear feet)	19,850			1,913**	1,913**	865	950.4	(886)

Notes: National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Agency Performance Review median number per facilities per population for jurisdictions with populations under 20,000. (#) = surplus; * Square Feet per capita; ** Linear Feet per 1,000 population

2025: Facility Needs to Meet NRPA National Averages: The following are the number of units needed in 2025 to meet national average, per the National Recreation and Parks Association's 2025 Agency Performance Review for jurisdictions that service populations of 20,000 or below:

- Two (2) additional pickleball courts
- Two (2) multiuse indoor sport courts
- One (1) splash pad
- One (1) outdoor swimming pool
- One (1) indoor running/walking track

In addition to identifying potential need for facilities as the Town grows or in comparison to national averages, this analysis can help to identify unique characteristics in recreation demand for the Town of Warrenton. Based upon comparison to national averages, Warrenton and other public providers have a surplus of ballfields (1), fitness zones (1), multipurpose fields (7), playgrounds (7), tennis courts (5), volleyball courts (3), and approximately 880+ LF of paved trails. These surpluses may represent a higher local demand for the facility types or represent opportunities to evaluate reductions if usage of facilities is minimal.

2.3 Level of Service: Access

Access LOS can be analyzed by using the Town's geographic information system (GIS) street network data to measure respective travel distances (½ mile, 1 mile, 3 miles, and/or 5 miles) from each park entrance. This creates each park's or recreation facility's service area, or the area in which someone could walk, bike, or drive a reasonable distance to access.

In the United States, most public park agencies employ typology-based classification systems to guide land acquisition, facility planning, programming, and long-range capital investment. These classifications emerged from early 20th-century planning frameworks, most notably the National Recreation and Park Association's (NRPA) park typologies, which continue to influence contemporary best practices. Many communities have adopted similar classification standards which commonly include acreage ranges, types of recreation amenities and/or types of uses (passive or active), and service areas, or the distance in which the park services the needs of a surrounding population.

Common Park Classifications:

- **Mini Parks / Pocket Parks:** <1-acre, high-density urban service footprint, hyper-local passive recreation and social gathering function with a **service area of 1/8-1/2-mile range** or a 2-10-minute walk.
- **Neighborhood Parks:** 1–15 acres, walkable access, core active/passive amenities (playgrounds, courts, open space) with a **service area of 1/2-mile** or a 10-minute walk.
- **Community Parks:** 15–50 acres, serve multiple neighborhoods, include sports complexes, shelters, trails, and parking infrastructure with a **service area of 2-miles** or a 10-minute bike ride.

- **Regional Parks or Sports Complexes:** 50+ acres, large-scale recreation, destination-level amenities (lakes, multi-use trails, sports hubs) with a **services area of 3-5-miles** or a 10-minute drive.
- **Greenways / Linear Parks:** Primarily trail-based systems emphasizing **connectivity**, multimodal access, flood mitigation, and ecological corridor functions with a **service area of 1/2-mile** or a 10-minute walk.

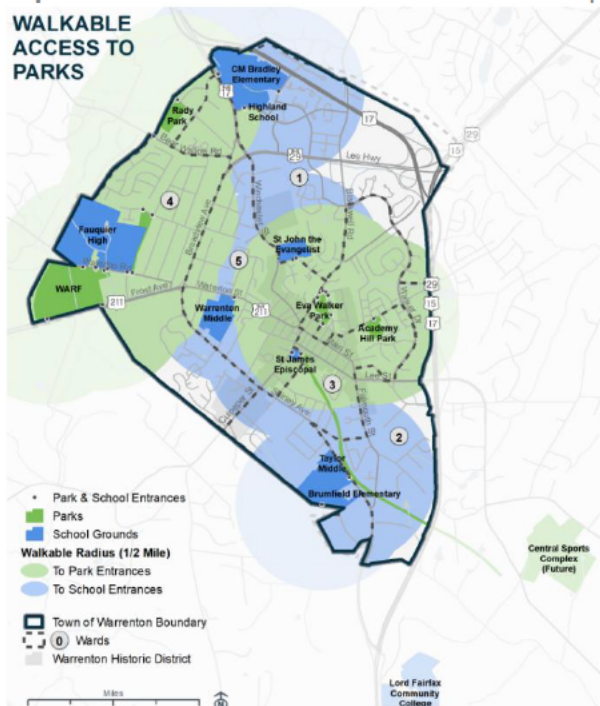
Park classifications typically serve as decision-making tools for:

- Level of Service (LOS) standards and benchmarking
- Equity mapping and gap analysis
- Maintenance and operations modeling
- Capital planning and zoning alignment

NRPA's 1996 *"Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Guidelines"* served as a national planning benchmark that standardized park typologies, level of service (LOS) metrics, and spatial distribution models for park agencies across the U.S. It shifted the focus of many public park agencies from purely recreational amenities to a comprehensive systems-based approach, emphasizing equitable access, connectivity, and multifunctional use. The guidelines institutionalized best practices in park classification, acreage per capita targets, and greenway integration, influencing master planning, land acquisition strategies, and funding prioritization. These frameworks continue to underpin GIS-based gap analyses, resiliency planning, and capital improvement programming for park systems nationwide.

Park agencies have increasingly adapted traditional models to meet 21st-century demands, including climate resilience, health equity, and multi-generational programming, while maintaining core classification hierarchies as foundational planning assets.

Map 2.3.A: 2040 Warrenton Plan Access LOS Map



Prior Access LOS Evaluations:

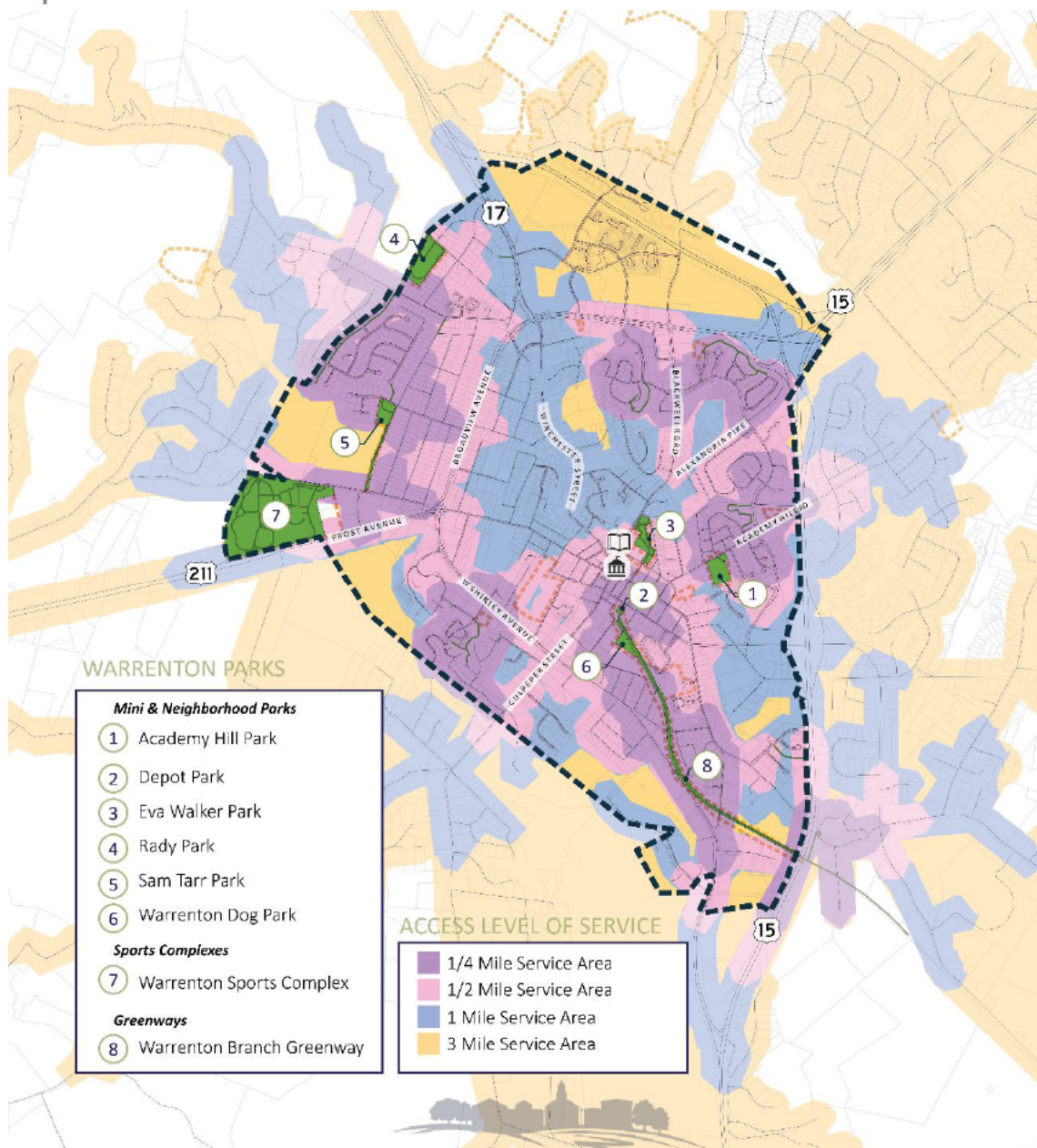
The 2040 Warrenton Plan (Comprehensive Plan) identified that approximately 75 percent of the Town is within a 10-minute walk or a half mile from a park space – which is a goal both the Trust for Public Land and the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) advocate. **Map 2.3.A** identifies general areas served by parks in the Town of Warrenton (green shading) and by public school sites within town limits (blue shading).

The analysis methodology used by Kimley-Horn advances this practice by using the street and trail network within Warrenton to assess actual walking, biking, and driving distances/times. Service area mapping is limited to the completeness of the GIS network data (streets, sidewalks, and trails). An assumption is that the Town's existing roadway network contains sidewalks, trails, bike facilities,

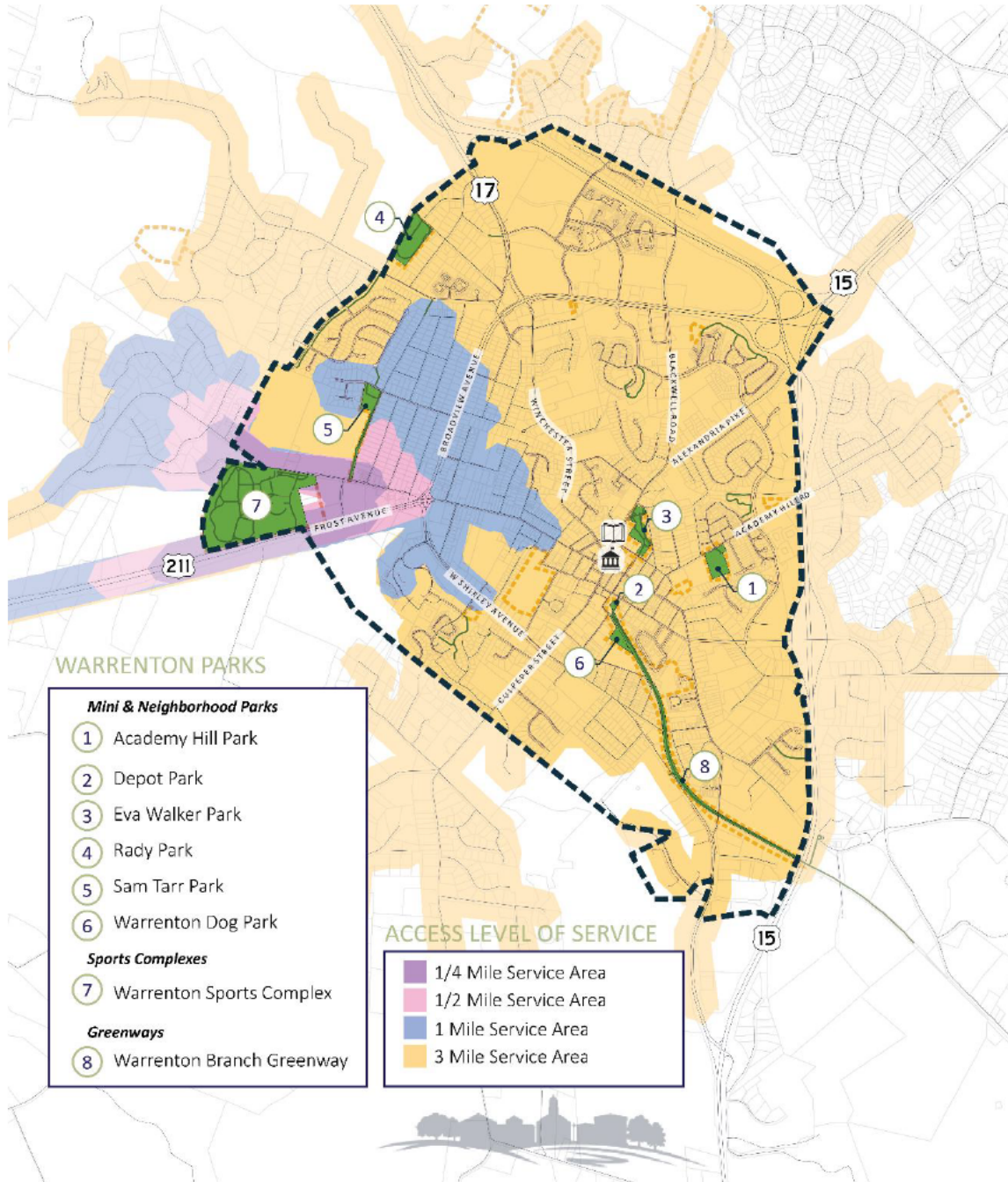
and/or are calm enough to utilize the street itself in neighborhoods to access parks. Significant gaps in the network indicate limitations to access due to physical barriers such as thoroughfares or major roadways, controlled access highways, water bodies or other nature or physical features. In most cases the existing street network responds to these existing barriers, but where these conditions are known to impede access to existing parks, barriers have been added to the network.

Access LOS maps on the following pages are organized by park classification or type. The service area of parks in Warrenton extends well outside existing Town limits as shown for Map 2.3.B.

Map 2.3.B: Town of Warrenton Access LOS – All Parks



Map 2.3.C: Town of Warrenton Access LOS – Sports Complex



Access Level of Service Takeaways:


- Existing Town parks provide a high level of access to residents:
 - Approximately 23.7% of the geographic area of the Town is within a 1/4-mile or 5-minute walk of a park.
 - 45.1% of the geographic area of the Town is within a 1/2-mile or 10-minute walk of a park.
 - 66.2% of the geographic area of the Town is within a 1-mile or 20-minute walk or 5-minute bike ride of a park.
 - All residents are within a 3-mile or 10–15-minute bike-ride or 5-minute car-ride of a park.
- Approximately 69.8% of the geographic area of the Town is beyond a 1-mile or 20-minute walk of the Warrenton Sports Complex.
- From a walkability standpoint, neighborhoods between Eva Walker Park and Broadview Ave. and neighborhoods south of Academy Hill Park and near East Lee Street generally lack access to a park within a 1/4-mile (5-min walk) and 1/2-mile (10-minute walk) range.
- Neighborhoods north of Oak Springs Drive and south of US-17 generally lack any access to parks under 1-mile in distance or a 20-minute walk, however, the proximity of CM Brandley Elementary School and its recreation amenities may help meet public needs.
- From a 10-minute walkability perspective, and in line with the 2040 Warrenton Plan recommendation for a park and recreation opportunity within 10-minutes of all residents, the addition of four (4) mini or neighborhood parks would increase access and bring the Town to almost full compliance.

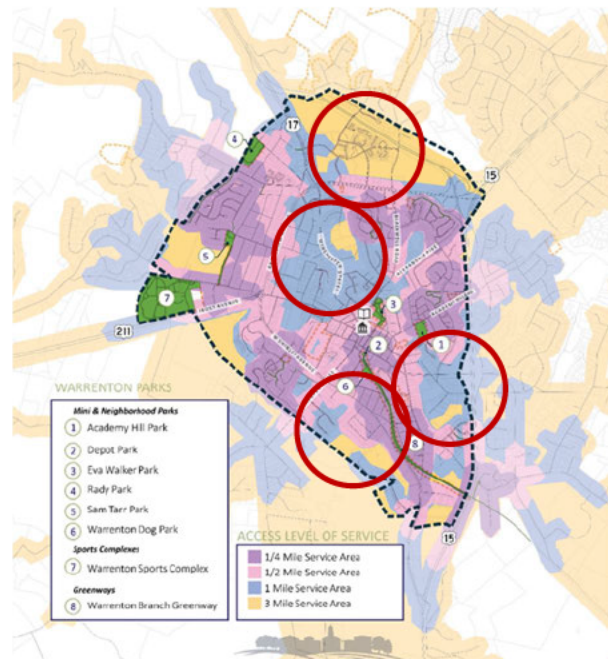
23.7%
of residents
within a 5-min
walk to a
park

45.1%
of residents
within a 10-
min walk to
a park

66.2%
of residents
within a 20-
min walk to
a park

Map 2.3.D: Town of Warrenton
Potential Park Search Areas

 **Red circle = 1/2-mile radius search area for potential mini or neighborhood park locations**



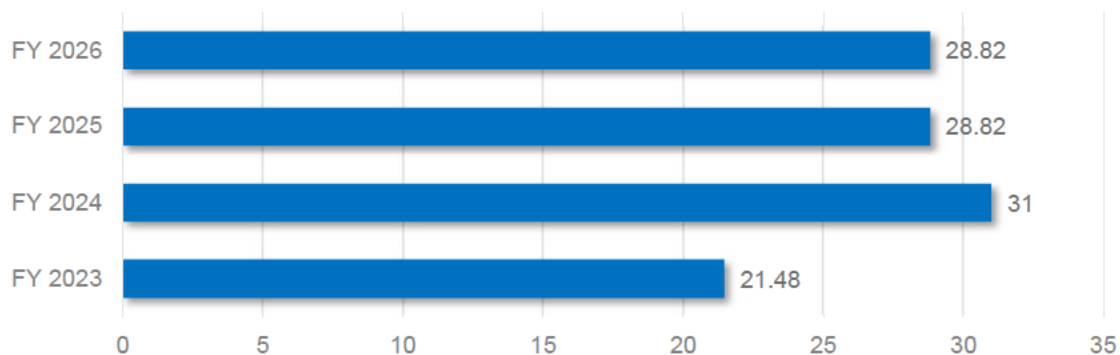
2.4 Level of Service: Funding & Staffing

The provision of parkland, recreation facilities, and trails are direct means to meet the community's needs for recreation. Indirectly, the Town's ability to operate and maintain park sites and facilities is important to evaluate to ensure the Town's capabilities to maintain the public investment in the parkland and facilities, while also planning needs and demands of the community as well as operations and maintenance of critical infrastructure and capital investment of the Town.

Staffing:

Since Fiscal Year (FY) 2023, the Department's FTE, or Full-Time Equivalent, positions have increased 34% to 28.82 FTEs proposed in the FY 2026 budget. This number of FTEs has held steady at 28.82 from FY 2025 with no changes in any department divisions, see **Chart 2.4.A**.

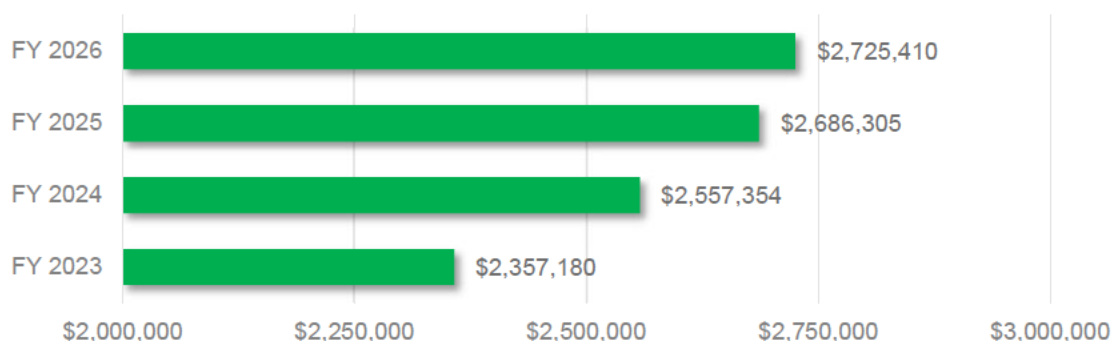
Chart 2.4.A: Town of Warrenton Park and Recreation Department FTE Positions FY2023-FY2026



Expenditures:

Equally, the Department's expenses have increased by over 15.6% from \$2,357,180 in FY 2023 to a proposed FY 2026 amount of \$2,725,410, see **Chart 2.4.B**.

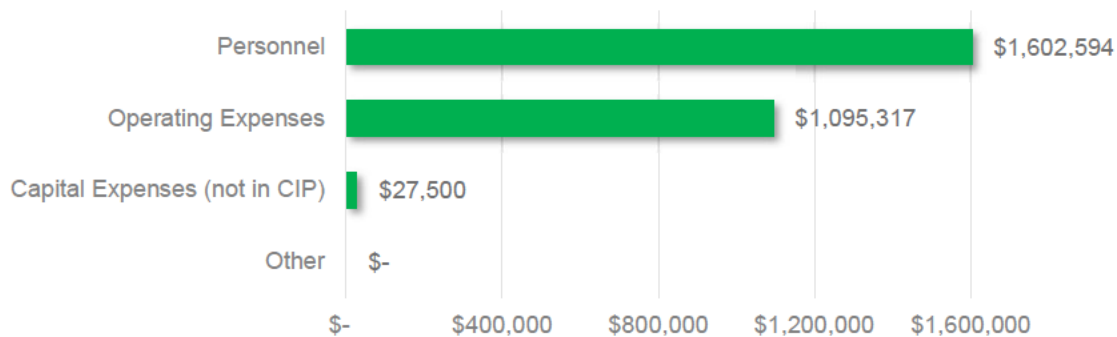
Chart 2.4.B: Town of Warrenton Park and Recreation Department Expenses FY2023-FY2026



Within department expenses for proposed FY 2026, \$1,602,594 is budgeted for personnel costs or 58%, see **Chart 2.4.C**. The national average (per NRPA Agency Performance Review Report 2025) is 55% of total expenses for personnel, indicating the department's personnel costs are nearly aligned with averages. Additionally, \$505,038 in expenses is budgeted for the department's administration division, which is approximately 18.5%, slightly below the national average of 19%. The national average for capital expenses, not included in CIPs, is 6% of a typical Department's budget, which for Warrenton would be approximately \$163,524 in annual capital expenses, nearly six (6) times what the Department has budgeted for FY 2026.

On a per capita ratio, Warrenton expenses \$262.72 annually for park and recreation services, programming, and facilities operations and maintenance compared to a national average of \$139.87 for agencies serving populations of 20,000 or less.

Chart 2.4.C: Town of Warrenton Park and Recreation Department Expenses by Type for FY2026



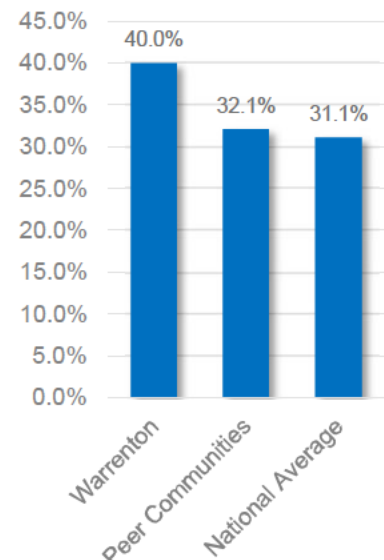
The Department has an FTE expense ratio of \$94,566 per FTE position, 14% below the national average of \$107,982 per FTE. If the Department were to receive the national average funding per FTE, that would increase Department funding by \$386,631 annually.

Revenues:

Warrenton Parks and Recreation Department is projecting revenue for FY 2026 of \$1,090,000, a slight 1% decrease from FY 2025, see **Chart 2.4.D**. Since FY 2023, the Department's revenues have increased 6.9%. The FY 2026 budget projection for revenues represents a per capita amount of \$105.07, which is 211% above the national average of \$49.67 per capita. Additionally, the Town of Warrenton is 46% above average peer community revenue of \$71.99 per capita.

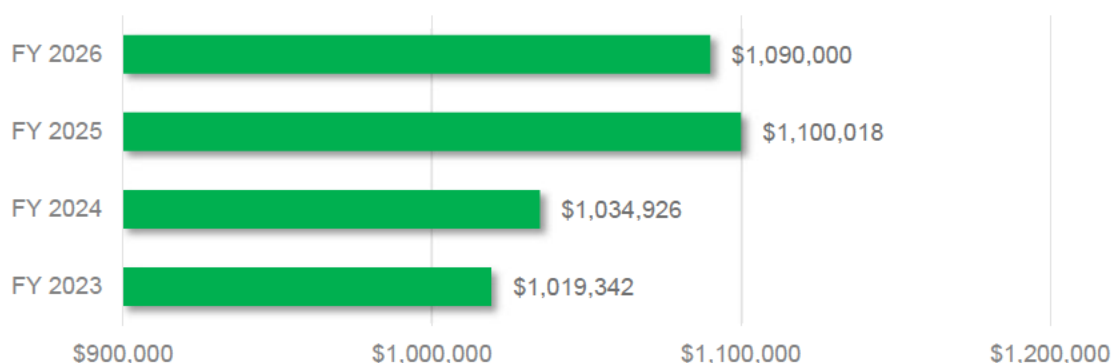
The Department's cost recovery, calculated as total revenue divided by total expenditure, is projected to be 40.0% for FY 2026, see **Chart 2.4.E**. National average cost recovery for similar sized

Chart 2.4.E: Town of Warrenton Parks and Recreation Department Cost Recovery Rate Comparison



departments and populations served is 31.1%. Similarly, the peer community average cost recovery is significantly lower than Warrenton's at 32.1%.

Chart 2.4.D: Town of Warrenton Park and Recreation Department Revenues FY2023-FY2026



Warrenton's Parks and Recreation Department is operating efficiently with a strong cost recovery and above-average revenue per capita. However, staffing and capital funding lag national benchmarks.

The Town's 2024 Fiscal Impact Model identifies the Department's incremental operating costs to be \$35.09 per capita, based on adopted FY2024 expenditures, CIP assumptions, and the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report, and adjusted to reflect residential demand and operational efficiencies.

The analysis allocates costs primarily to residential development (with no commercial share), applying efficiency adjustments that range from approximately 17% to nearly 40% across service components, and results in \$354,800 in residential incremental expenditures attributable to population growth. Within the Parks & Recreation program, the largest cost drivers are parks maintenance, administration, and aquatic center operations, indicating that ongoing staffing and maintenance, not capital construction, are the primary contributors to per-capita impacts.

This per-capita figure provides a locally grounded benchmark that can be used to assess consistency, reasonableness, and alignment between modeled service needs and the Town's most recent fiscal assumptions.

Key findings include:

- The Department's per-FTE expense is \$94,566, 14% below the national average (\$107,982), suggesting underfunding relative to staffing norms.
- Capital spending (outside CIPs) is significantly below national benchmarks—Warrenton's allocation is only ~1/6 of the 6% norm.

- Per capita revenue is \$105.07, 211% above the national average (\$49.67) and 46% above peer communities (\$71.99).
- Cost recovery is projected at 40.0%, significantly exceeding national (31.1%) and peer (32.1%) averages.

As the Town continues to grow in population and may expand the parks, recreation and trail system, regular evaluation of funding and staffing should be completed to ensure the Town's ability to properly operate and maintain existing new parkland and facilities.

2.5 Level of Service: Peer Comparison/ Benchmark

Evaluating LOS measurements is a useful means to assess how a community is progressing in meeting adopted standards or guidelines. As mentioned in the introduction, LOS measurements are not intended to be a tool to compare performance between communities as methodology can vary. However, periodically evaluating one's existing LOS standards or guidelines in the context of meeting the community's needs and vision can help ensure measurements are current. One common method for this evaluation is comparison of peer communities to identify lessons learned and to provide periodical context.

It is important to acknowledge that the comparison of park systems is not apples to apples. Variations in the number of recreation amenities, influx of capital projects, addition of grants, are just a few conditions that influence the need and demands for FTE positions, annual revenues and capital expenditures, and individual agency cost recovery policies.

For this purpose, Town staff provided input on communities that had similar characteristics to Warrenton. Additionally, the consultant team reviewed guiding documents for similar comparison exercises and reviewed other communities, leading to the following five (5) peers:

- Town of Vienna
- City of Manassas Park
- Town of Herndon
- Town of Culpeper
- Town of Purcellville

In order to provide even further context to comparisons, National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) 2025 agency performance benchmarks were included as well as Fauquier County figures, see **Table 2.5.A**.

Chart 2.5.A: Town of Warrenton Park and Recreation Peer Community Comparison

	Pop (2024)	# of Parks	Acreage	Acres per 1k pop.	Trails (mil)	Total Expenditures	Per Capita	Per Acre of Parkland	Total Revenue (per Capita)	Staff (FTE)	Acres per FTE	FTE per 10k Pop
Warrenton	10,374	6	84.2	8.12	3.76	\$ 2,725,410	\$ 262.72	\$ 32,368	\$ 105.07	25.09	3.36	24.2
Vienna	16,473	12	103.5	6.28	3.00	\$ 5,750,160	\$ 349.07	\$ 55,579	\$ 100.77	26.00	3.98	15.8
Manassas Park	17,219	9	168.85	9.81	4.25	\$ 8,136,790	\$ 472.55	\$ 48,189	\$ 79.59	18.00	9.38	10.5
Herndon	24,655	11	145	5.88	7.25	\$ 4,702,930	\$ 190.75	\$ 32,434	\$ 94.27	25.38	5.71	10.3
Purcellville	9,232	7	67.00	7.26	6.50	\$ 801,087	\$ 86.77	\$ 11,957	\$ 83.74	2.00	33.50	2.2
Culpeper	21,464	9	153.0	7.13	5.28	\$ 462,461	\$ 21.55	\$ 3,023	\$ 1.56	4.00	38.25	1.9
Peer Average	17,809	10	127.5	7.16	5.26	\$ 3,970,686	\$ 224.14	\$ 30,236	\$ 71.99	15.08	18.16	8.1
Fauquier County	75,865	16	1,038.0	13.68	28.00							
NRPA Avg.	<20k pop.			12.90			\$ 139.87		\$ 49.67	13.8		13.7

Notes: Based upon US Census 2024 estimated population for Warrenton of 10,374; National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Agency Performance Review 2025 median number of acres of parkland per 1,000 population is 12.9 acres. Expenditures and revenue figures for peers are 2025 proposed budget. FTE = Full-Time Equivalent where applicable based upon 2025 approved staffing per 2025 proposed budgets.

Key findings include:

- **Higher Per Capita Spending:** Warrenton spends \$262.72 per capita on parks and recreation, 17% above both the peer average (\$224.14) and 87% above NRPA average (\$139.87), indicating a strong commitment by the Town in investing in the park system relative to its population size.
- **Low Acreage but High Efficiency:** Warrenton has 84.2 acres of parkland, the second smallest total acreage among peers, yet it provides 8.12 acres per 1,000 residents, which exceeds the peer average (7.16 acres per 1,000 population). The Town, however, is below the NRPA average of 12.9 acres per 1,000 population adjusted for <20k population.
- **Second Highest Park Density:** With 6 parks, Warrenton offers a high parks-to-population ratio, particularly for its small size, outperforming Culpeper and Purcellville.
- **Higher Operating Cost per Acre:** Warrenton's expenditure per acre of parkland is \$32,368, which is slightly above the peer average (\$30,236), suggesting higher operations and maintenance spending per acre.

- **Strong Revenue Generation:** Warrenton generates \$105.07 per capita in revenue, significantly above the peer average (\$71.99) and more than double the NRPA average (\$49.67), indicating effective cost recovery.
- **Efficient Staffing:** Warrenton has 25.09 FTE staff and 3.36 acres of parkland per FTE, aligning closely with the NRPA average (3.8 acres per FTE), but with 24.2 FTEs per 10,000 residents, the Town exceeds the peer average (8.1 FTE per 10k population), highlighting a strong staffing commitment.

2.6 Level of Service Analysis and Benchmark Comparison Summary

Methodology Summary:

The Level of Service (LOS) and benchmarking analysis for the Town of Warrenton was conducted to evaluate how effectively the current park system serves residents and to guide future planning. Using National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) definitions and best practices, the LOS study assessed four core dimensions:

- **Acreage LOS** – amount of parkland per 1,000 residents.
- **Facilities LOS** – number and types of recreation amenities per capita.
- **Access LOS** – proximity of residents to parks based on walking, biking, and driving distances.
- **Funding & Staffing LOS** – financial investment and staffing levels in relation to service delivery.

This analysis was supported by peer benchmarking, comparing Warrenton to similar-sized Virginia communities (e.g., Vienna, Herndon, Manassas Park, Purcellville, and Culpeper) and NRPA national averages for communities under 20,000 in population. GIS mapping and projected population growth were also used to estimate future needs through 2035.

Key Findings from the LOS and Benchmarking Analysis:

- Warrenton's parkland provision (8.12 acres/1,000 residents) exceeds peer average (7.16) but falls 37% short of the NRPA standard (12.9 acres/1,000), indicating a 49.6-acre deficit to meet national benchmarks.
- The Town is projected to need at least two (2) additional acres of parkland by 2035 to maintain current service levels with anticipated population growth.
- Facility gaps are emerging, with projected needs by 2035 including:
 - 1 additional playground
 - 1,865 linear feet of paved trails
 - 2,600 sq. ft. of indoor recreation space
 - Additional benches and picnic tables
- To meet NRPA national facility benchmarks, Warrenton would need:

- 2 additional pickleball courts
- 2 multi-use indoor courts
- 1 splash pad, outdoor pool, and indoor walking track
- Access to parks is relatively high, with:
 - 45.1% of the Town within a 10-minute walk
 - 66.2% within a 20-minute walk
 - 100% within a 3-mile drive or 15-minute bike rideHowever, four (4) underserved areas were identified that would benefit from new mini or neighborhood parks.
- Warrenton's per capita park spending (\$262.72) is 17% higher than peer average and 87% higher than the NRPA national average, indicating strong investment in park operations and services.
- Park revenue generation is strong, at \$105.07 per capita, more than twice the NRPA average and 46% above peer communities, supporting a cost recovery rate of 40%, well above national and peer benchmarks.
- Staffing levels are robust, with 24.2 FTEs per 10,000 residents, tripling the peer average (8.1), and exceeding the NRPA benchmark (13.7), reflecting a well-resourced team relative to the town's population.
- Capital funding is a weak point, with only 1/6th of the national average capital investment, indicating potential risk in maintaining and upgrading infrastructure over time.
- The Town's existing network data and GIS analysis revealed that barriers to access (e.g., roads, thoroughfares) impact park connectivity in some areas, warranting attention in future planning.

3.0 Public Engagement

Public engagement served as a cornerstone of the needs assessment process for the Town of Warrenton Parks and Recreation Master Plan, ensuring that recommendations are grounded in community priorities, lived experience, and local context. A multi-layered engagement approach was intentionally designed to capture both depth and breadth of input, combining targeted qualitative methods with broad, statistically valid quantitative outreach. Together, focus groups, stakeholder interviews, and an online survey provided complementary perspectives—allowing the planning team to understand not only what needs exist, but why they matter, who they affect, and how the parks and recreation system is experienced across different user groups.

This engagement framework enabled meaningful participation from residents, regional users, and key community partners, while also identifying recurring themes related to maintenance, equity, access, connectivity, amenities, and funding. By integrating detailed stakeholder insights with community-wide survey results, the process ensured that both systemwide trends and site-specific opportunities were reflected in the needs assessment. Collectively, these engagement methods form a robust foundation for evaluating current conditions, identifying gaps, and shaping responsive, implementable strategies for the future of Warrenton's parks, recreation facilities, programs, and trails.

3.1 Focus Groups

Eight (8) virtual focus groups were conducted over a two-month in the Fall of 2025 to gather targeted input on parks, recreation, and trails needs in Warrenton, with feedback revealing strong alignment across participants on both challenges and opportunities. Overall, the discussions emphasized the need to reinvest in existing assets, improve connectivity and comfort, address equity and access gaps, and strengthen funding, partnerships, and programming to better meet evolving community needs.

Top Themes Identified by Focus Groups (ranked by frequency of mention):

- Park maintenance and upkeep deficiencies
- Funding and resource constraints
- Equity and accessibility of park facilities
- Desire for additional amenities (splash pad, shade, seating, restrooms)
- Lack of connectivity between parks, trails, and neighborhoods
- Partnerships and collaboration opportunities
- Underutilized or uneven park development
- Facilities and programs for teens and youth
- Communication and coordination challenges
- Need for event space and community gathering areas

Participants consistently noted that increasing park use—especially since COVID—has heightened expectations for quality, comfort, and inclusivity, while also underscoring the importance of parks as community gathering spaces and civic assets.

3.2 Stakeholder Interviews:

The stakeholder interviews, conducted with four stakeholder groups across three virtual sessions, highlight a strong emphasis on improving and better utilizing existing parks, expanding specific high-demand amenities, and addressing maintenance, funding, and trail connectivity challenges as central priorities for the Town's parks and recreation system. Stakeholders consistently pointed to deferred maintenance, staffing capacity, and limited dedicated funding as constraints, while also identifying opportunities to enhance safety, wayfinding, and community understanding of park assets through clearer strategy and education.

Feedback emphasized particular interest in Rady Park and Eva Walker Park as key opportunity sites, noting Rady Park's high usage and versatility alongside drainage and pavilion needs, and Eva Walker Park's untapped potential due to access, parking, and perception issues. Desired amenities included splash pads or cooling stations, pavilions, outdoor performance spaces, playground upgrades, and improved trail connections, reflecting a balance between active and passive recreation needs. Equity and access emerged as recurring themes, with stakeholders citing uneven investment across parks, incomplete trail networks, wayfinding barriers, and disparities in amenities that limit use by certain neighborhoods and age groups, underscoring the need for a more coordinated, systemwide approach to reinvestment and access.

Common Themes Identified Across Stakeholder Interviews:

- Strong desire to improve and reinvest in existing parks rather than focus primarily on new facilities
- High demand for specific amenities, including splash pads or cooling stations, pavilions, playground upgrades, and outdoor performance spaces
- Ongoing concerns about maintenance, upkeep, and deferred investment across multiple park sites
- Need for expanded and better-connected trails, sidewalks, and pedestrian links between parks and neighborhoods
- Funding and resource limitations, including the absence of dedicated or sustainable funding sources
- Importance of safety, security, and visible staffing presence in parks
- Interest in better utilization of underused parks, particularly Eva Walker Park
- Desire for more events, programming, and attractions to activate parks and increase visibility
- Challenges related to wayfinding, signage, and navigation, especially for visitors and non-local users
- Equity-related concerns, including uneven investment, accessibility barriers, and unequal distribution of amenities across neighborhoods

3.3 Online Survey

The online survey generated strong participation, with a total of 574 responses that included 236 residents of the Town of Warrenton, yielding statistically valid results with a margin of error of $\pm 6.3\%$, as well as a substantial number of responses from Fauquier County residents (518), which are also statistically valid with a margin of error of $\pm 4.3\%$. Collectively, this level of participation provides a reliable and comprehensive understanding of both Town-specific priorities and broader regional demand for Warrenton's parks, recreation facilities, programs, and trails.

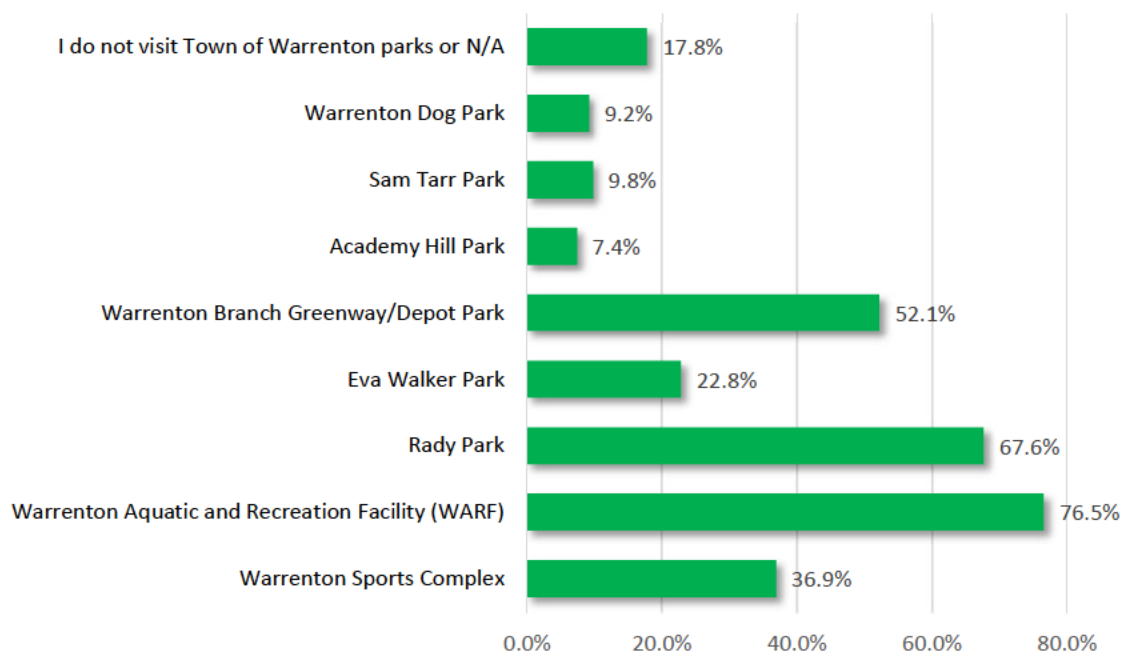
Park Use Patterns and Participation

Park usage is high and frequent, particularly among Town residents:

- Over 54% of Town respondents visit parks weekly or multiple times per week
- Town of Warrenton parks and facilities are the most frequently used, followed by Fauquier County, State, and Federal parks
- Parks are most commonly visited with family, followed by visits with friends or pets

The Warrenton Aquatic and Recreation Facility (WARF) is the most heavily used facility, followed by Rady Park and the Warrenton Branch Greenway, underscoring the importance of both indoor recreation and walkable trail access.

Chart 3.3.A: Town of Warrenton Most Visited Parks (Town Residents Responses Only)



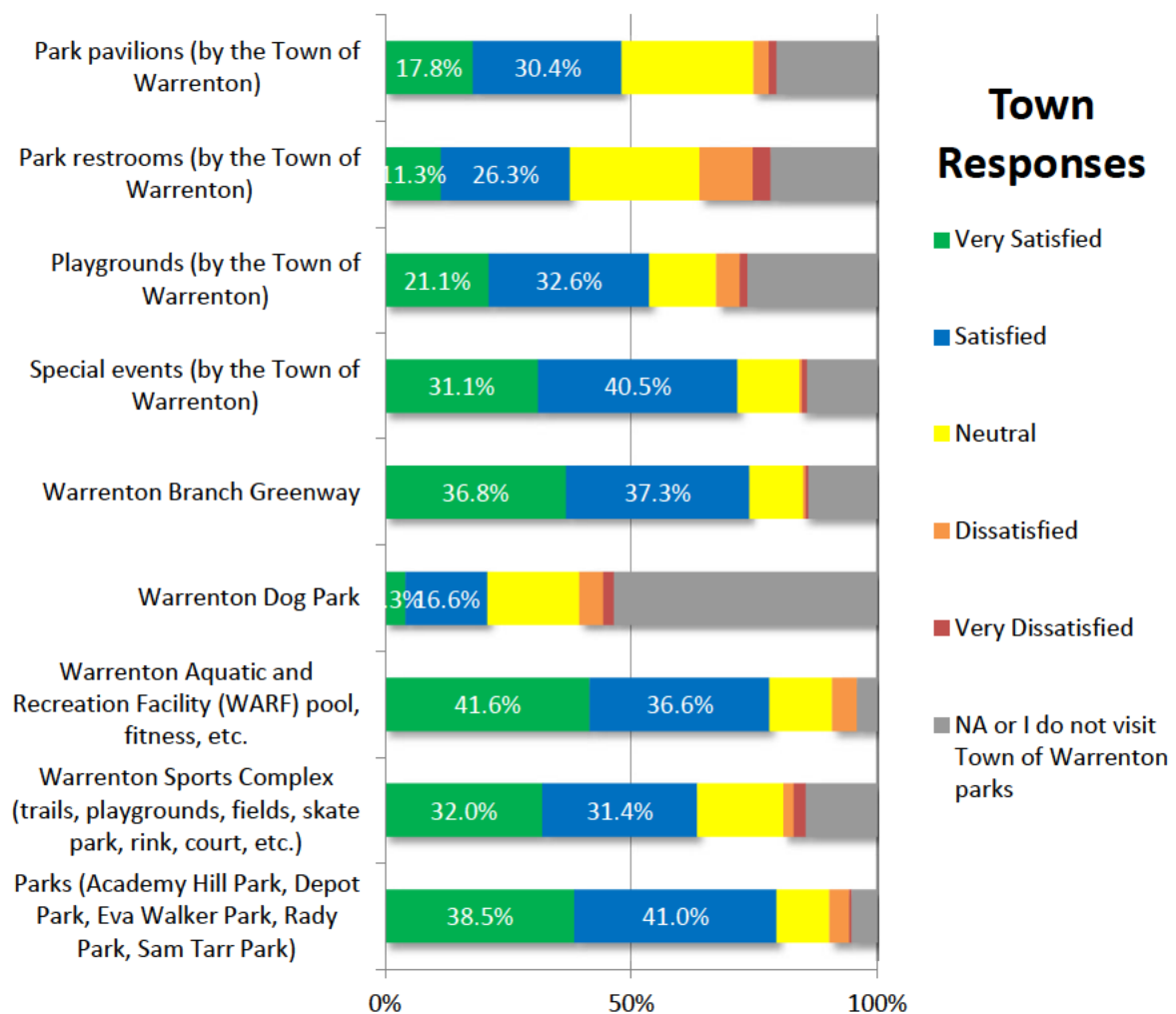
Satisfaction with Facilities and Maintenance

Overall satisfaction is strong, particularly among Town residents:

- Nearly 80% of Town respondents are satisfied or very satisfied with park maintenance
- WARF receives the highest satisfaction ratings across facilities
- Restrooms and pavilions consistently score lower than other amenities, indicating targeted reinvestment needs

Despite generally positive ratings, open-ended responses frequently cite maintenance consistency, restroom cleanliness, and environmental practices as areas needing improvement.

Chart 3.3.B: Town of Warrenton Satisfaction with Facilities and Maintenance (Town Residents Only)



Barriers to Participation

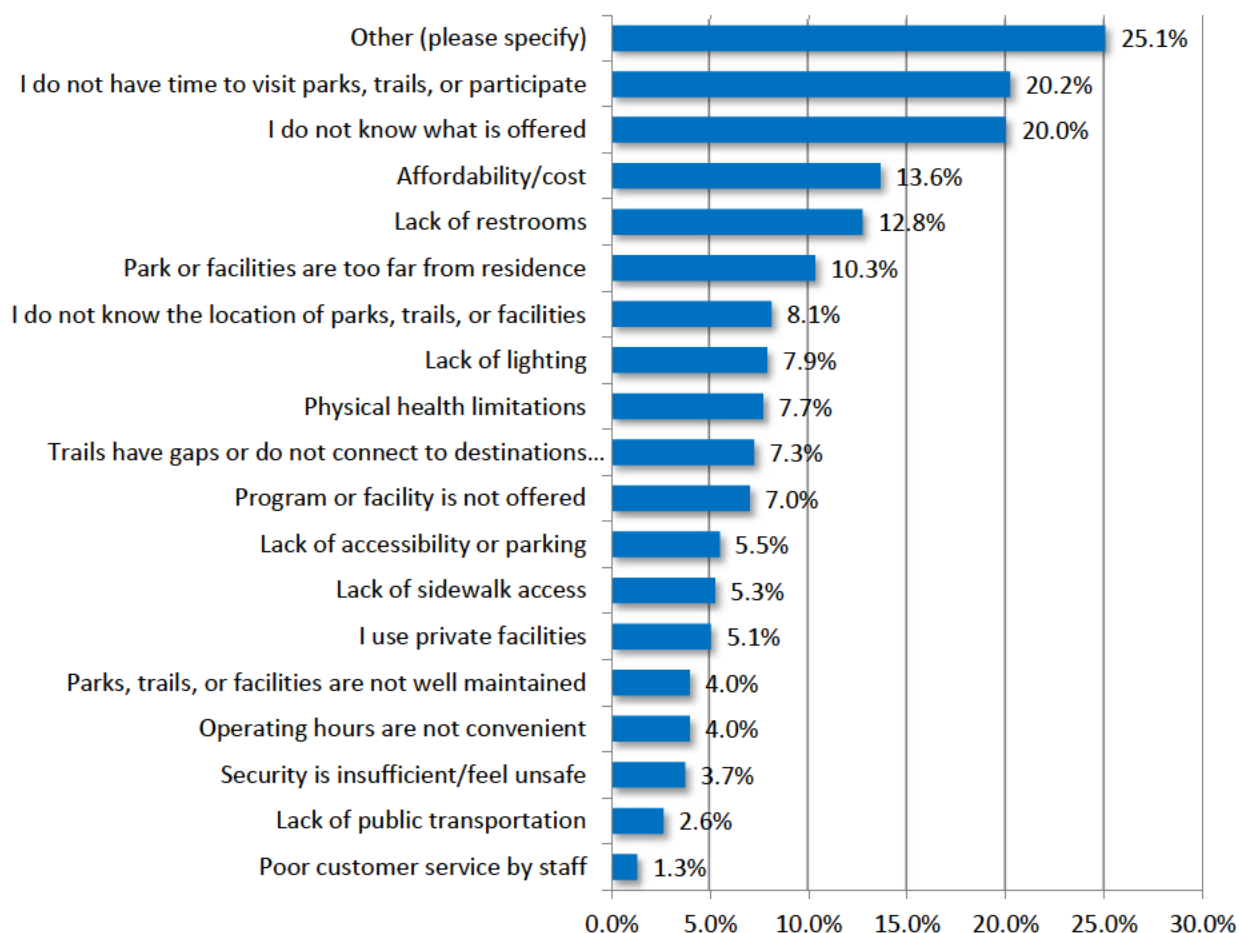
The most common barriers limiting use or participation include:

- Lack of time and awareness of available programs
- Affordability and cost concerns
- Insufficient restrooms, shade, and lighting
- Trail connectivity gaps and wayfinding challenges

Environmental concerns, particularly related to pesticide and herbicide use were repeatedly raised in written comments, reflecting heightened community awareness around health and sustainability.

Reasons that prevent you or other members of your household from visiting parks, trails, recreation facilities, or participating in programs or events by the Town of Warrenton.

Chart 3.3.C: Town of Warrenton Reasons That Prevent Visits to Parks (All Respondents)



Desired Amenities and Facility Priorities

When asked to identify their top five recreation needs, Town respondents most strongly prioritized:

- Paved walking and biking trails
- Splash pads or interactive water features
- Indoor fitness and aquatics facilities
- Nature enjoyment and observation areas
- Pickleball courts and unpaved hiking trails

These preferences align closely with Fauquier County respondents, indicating that regional users share similar expectations and demands, particularly for trails, aquatics, and flexible outdoor spaces.

Recreation Programs and Activities in Demand

The highest-demand activities among Town residents include:

- Walking and hiking
- Special events and festivals
- Group fitness and aquatics
- Swimming for fun and therapy
- Pickleball and playground use

Participation data shows that a majority of respondents attend multiple Town-hosted programs or events annually, reinforcing the role of parks and recreation as a core community service and social hub.

Key Takeaways

- Town-only results are statistically reliable and reflect strong local engagement, frequent use, and generally high satisfaction
- Fauquier County responses are also statistically valid, confirming Warrenton's role as a regional recreation destination
- Future priorities should focus on trail connectivity, aquatics, comfort amenities (shade, restrooms), maintenance consistency, and program awareness
- The survey reinforces the need to balance quality of existing assets with targeted expansion of high-demand amenities to meet both Town and regional needs

4.0 Needs Assessment Summary

The following summary synthesizes key findings from the park evaluations, level of service analysis, benchmarking, and public engagement to highlight how Warrenton's parks and recreation system is performing today and where strategic improvements are needed to meet future community needs.

Park System Performance and Conditions

Park evaluations indicate that Warrenton's existing park system is generally performing well and meeting community expectations, with most parks functioning as intended and providing quality recreational experiences. However, differences in performance between parks highlight opportunities to improve comfort, access, sustainability, and alignment with evolving user needs, particularly at select sites.

- All Town-owned parks meet or exceed expectations for comparable communities
- Rady Park is the highest-performing park, reflecting recent reinvestment, strong condition, and educational/ecological features
- Eva Walker Park and Academy Hill Park score lower in effectiveness, access, and condition, indicating targeted improvement needs
- Sustainability is the lowest-scoring category systemwide, especially environmental education and resilience
- Opportunities exist to improve comfort amenities, accessibility, and interpretive signage across the system

Parkland and Acreage Level of Service

The acreage LOS analysis shows that Warrenton provides a competitive level of parkland relative to peer communities but falls short of national benchmarks, indicating long-term pressure as the Town continues to grow and redevelop. Policy decisions regarding redevelopment-driven open space will play an important role in future LOS determinations.

- Current provision is 8.12 acres per 1,000 residents, exceeding peer averages
- Acreage LOS is 37% below the NRPA national benchmark, representing a long-term deficit of approximately 50 acres
- Approximately 2 additional acres are needed by 2035 to maintain current service levels
- Privately owned, HOA-maintained open space is not credited toward LOS, potentially understating available open space
- Future LOS standards should balance community expectations, redevelopment patterns, and long-term land availability

Facilities and Recreation Amenities

Warrenton offers a diverse and generally well-supplied mix of recreation facilities, though population growth and changing recreation preferences are expected to strain certain facility types over time. The analysis identifies both emerging gaps and potential surpluses that should be evaluated through usage and programming trends.

- Surpluses exist in ballfields, multipurpose fields, playgrounds, tennis courts, and volleyball courts
- By 2035, growth will require:
 - 1 additional playground
 - 2,600+/- SF of indoor recreation space
 - 865+/- LF of paved trails
 - Additional benches and picnic tables
- To meet NRPA averages, additional needs include pickleball courts, multiuse indoor courts, splash pad, outdoor pool, and indoor walking track
- Identified surpluses may reflect local preferences or opportunities for rebalancing

Access and Walkability

Access to parks is relatively strong across Warrenton, though gaps remain in walkable access for certain neighborhoods. Improving walkability and filling localized service gaps represent some of the most impactful opportunities for improving equity and LOS.

- 45.1% of the Town is within a 10-minute walk of a park
- 66.2% is within a 20-minute walk, and all residents are within a short bike ride or drive
- Walkability gaps exist near Eva Walker Park, Academy Hill Park, and areas near major corridors
- Adding four mini or neighborhood parks could achieve near-universal 10-minute access
- Connectivity barriers include road crossings, missing sidewalks, and trail gaps

Funding, Staffing, and Financial Sustainability

Warrenton demonstrates a strong operational commitment to parks and recreation, with high per-capita spending, strong cost recovery, and robust staffing. However, limited capital reinvestment presents long-term risks to system sustainability.

- Per-capita spending (\$262.72) exceeds both peer and national averages
- Revenue per capita (\$105.07) supports a 40% cost recovery rate, well above benchmarks
- Staffing levels are strong, with 24.2 FTEs per 10,000 residents
- Capital spending lags national norms, increasing lifecycle replacement risk
- Incremental operating costs are estimated at \$35.09 per capita, driven by maintenance and aquatics

Community Priorities and Public Input

Public engagement confirms broad support for reinvesting in existing parks, improving access and comfort, and expanding high-demand amenities. Equity, maintenance, and connectivity emerged as consistent themes across all engagement methods.

- Strong preference for maintaining and improving existing parks first
- High demand for trails, aquatics, splash pads, pickleball, and gathering spaces
- Comfort amenities—shade, seating, lighting, restrooms—are recurring priorities
- Equity concerns focus on uneven investment and access gaps
- Parks are viewed as essential civic and community spaces, with heightened expectations since COVID

Overall Implications for the Master Plan

The Needs Assessment demonstrates that Warrenton's park system is well-performing but approaching a critical transition point. Strategic reinvestment, policy clarity, and equitable expansion will be essential to meeting future needs while sustaining current service levels.

- The system is well-used, valued, and efficiently operated
- Growth and redevelopment will increase pressure on acreage, facilities, and maintenance
- Priority actions should focus on targeted reinvestment, access improvements, and equity
- Clear LOS and redevelopment policies are needed to guide future decisions
- Findings provide a strong foundation for goals, priorities, and implementation strategies in the PRMP

5.0 Warrenton Aquatic and Recreation Facility (WARF) Evaluation

Overall Facility Role and Performance

The WARF functions as the anchor recreation facility for the Town of Warrenton and is the most heavily used and highly valued component of the park system. Survey results consistently rank the WARF as the most visited Town facility, with strong participation in aquatics, fitness, and group programming, reinforcing its role as both a community hub and a regional draw. Compared to peer community centers in Northern Virginia, WARF is appropriately scaled for the Town's population, offers a competitive mix of aquatics and fitness amenities, and demonstrates strong operational performance, though it is entering a phase where aging building systems and program pressure will drive reinvestment needs.

Key Findings:

- WARF is the #1 most visited facility among Town residents, far exceeding other parks and facilities.
- Over 78% of Town respondents are satisfied or very satisfied with WARF facilities and experiences.
- Aquatics, swim lessons, open swim, and group fitness are among the highest-participation programs Town-wide.
- WARF compares favorably in size and program mix to peer facilities (Manassas Park, Leesburg, Herndon), though peers are actively reinvesting or expanding.

5.1 Peer Facilities Comparison

The following peer facility comparison provides regional context for the WARF by highlighting how similarly sized community recreation and aquatics centers are scaled, programmed, staffed, and reinvested to meet growing demand and long-term operational needs.

- Manassas Park Community Center (City of Manassas Park)
 - 77,000 SF full-service community center
 - Eight-lane 25-yard pool with zero-entry and spa
 - Full-size gymnasium and extensive multi-purpose/meeting space
 - High staffing levels (~50 FTEs) and significant reliance on part-time staff
 - Active CIP investments focused on facility upgrades and efficiency improvements
- Herndon Community Center (Town of Herndon)
 - 56,000 SF community recreation facility
 - 25-yard pool with spa and sauna
 - Full-size gym and approximately 7,000 SF of meeting/community space
 - WebTrac registration system
 - Recently completed or planned expansion projects to improve instructional and multipurpose space

- Ida Lee Recreation Center – Aquatics (Town of Leesburg)
 - 66,000 SF recreation and aquatics-focused facility
 - Two indoor pools (lap/competition and warm-water auxiliary pool) plus whirlpool spa
 - Full-size gymnasium and multiple meeting/banquet spaces
 - Strong cost recovery model supported by diverse revenue-generating programs
 - Identified constraints in locker rooms and warm-water pool size despite overall success
- Freedom Aquatic and Fitness Center (City of Manassas)
 - 110,000 SF large-scale aquatics and fitness facility
 - Multiple indoor pools and whirlpool
 - Full-size gym and community/party room
 - Online registration with account-based access
 - Serves as a regional destination facility with higher operational complexity
- Overall Peer Context
 - Facilities range from mid-sized to large regional centers (56,000–110,000 SF)
 - All include indoor aquatics and full-size gymnasiums as core amenities
 - Peers demonstrate a trend toward ongoing reinvestment, targeted expansions, and revenue-focused enhancements rather than entirely new facilities
 - Common challenges include aging systems, staffing pressures, locker room constraints, and balancing resident vs. non-resident demand

Peer Facility Comparison – Key Takeaways

Peer community recreation centers in Northern Virginia demonstrate similar operational models but highlight emerging trends that are relevant for WARF's future.

Comparison Highlights

- Peer facilities range from 56,000–110,000 SF, placing WARF in the mid-range.
- All peers emphasize multi-pool aquatics, full-size gyms, and flexible community/meeting spaces.
- Several peers report space constraints in warm-water pools, locker rooms, and gyms, mirroring WARF user feedback.
- Peer agencies increasingly rely on targeted capital upgrades rather than full expansions, due to staffing and operating cost implications.
- Facilities that added revenue-generating features (tennis bubbles, specialty fitness spaces) report strong cost recovery benefits.

Lessons Learned from Peer Facilities

Peer facilities across Northern Virginia provide several consistent and relevant lessons for WARF's future planning:

- Deferred reinvestment compounds operational risk, often resulting in higher emergency repair costs and service interruptions.
- Warm-water and therapeutic pools are universally undersized once facilities reach maturity, especially as populations age.
- Locker rooms and changing areas frequently become functional constraints, even when overall square footage appears adequate.
- Revenue performance improves when facilities invest in program-specific, high-demand amenities rather than broad expansions.
- Additional entrances, expansions, or extended hours significantly increase staffing and operational costs, often outweighing benefits.
- Cost recovery metrics can be misleading if facility-based revenues and department-wide expenses are not clearly separated.
- Facilities that clearly differentiate resident vs. non-resident access and pricing are better positioned to manage regional demand.
- Flexible space and scheduling policies provide greater long-term value than highly specialized rooms.

5.2 Pricing Structure

The WARF offers annual memberships, monthly memberships, 25-visit passes, and one-day passes, with tiered pricing for Town, Fauquier County, and Non-Resident users. Key inclusion/exclusion that affects value perception:

- One-day passes do not include group fitness classes.
- Group fitness classes are included with monthly and annual memberships; non-members pay \$10/class (or can buy a 15-class pass for \$150).

WARF Adult Rates:

- Town Resident: \$6 day / \$130 (25-visit) / \$60 monthly / \$425 annual
- Fauquier Resident: \$8 day / \$170 (25-visit) / \$70 monthly / \$535 annual
- Non-Resident: \$9 day / \$210 (25-visit) / \$85 monthly / \$645 annual

Visits-per-month thresholds (Adult)

Town Resident (Adult)

- Monthly vs Day Pass: $\$60 \div \$6 = 10$ visits/month (monthly becomes better at 10+ visits)
- 25-Visit Pass effective cost: $\$130 \div 25 = \$5.20/\text{visit}$
- Annual vs Day Pass: $\$425 \div \$6 = 71$ visits/year (1.4 visits/week)
- Annual vs Monthly: $\$425 \div \$60 = 7.1$ months (annual is better if you'll maintain membership 8+ months/year)

Fauquier Resident (Adult)

- Monthly vs Day Pass: $\$70 \div \$8 = 9$ visits/month
- Annual vs Day Pass: $\$535 \div \$8 = 67$ visits/year

Non-Resident (Adult)

- Monthly vs Day Pass: $\$85 \div \$9 = 10$ visits/month
- Annual vs Day Pass: $\$645 \div \$9 = 72$ visits/year

What this means:

- Casual users (1–4 visits/month): Day pass is rational; a 25-visit pass can work if use is steady and predictable (and you won't lose visits to schedule changes).
- Regular users (5–9 visits/month): In the "swing zone," with 25-visit pass may outperform day passes, but monthly becomes competitive as you approach 9–10 visits/month.
- Heavy users (10+ visits/month): Monthly (or annual) is usually the best value—plus it avoids per-class group fitness fees if you attend classes.

Affordability & willingness to pay more

- When asked what added percentage increase they would be willing to pay in WARF membership/daily rates, 42.7% of all respondents (and 39.9% of Town respondents) indicated they are not willing/able to pay more.
- Among those willing to pay more, the most common tolerance is +5–9% (32.0% of all responses; 33.3% of Town responses).

Preferred funding approach (From Public Input)

Respondents show a clear preference for partner funding / non-fee strategies over broad price hikes:

- "Seek additional funding partners and keep current rates/fees" receives the strongest support (Town: 43.3% very supportive and 38.2% supportive).
- "Increase all user fees" has much weaker support (Town: only 12.3% very supportive and 19.0% supportive, with notable opposition).

Implication: The survey supports targeted, value-based adjustments (non-resident differentials, add-on services, optional upgrades) more than across-the-board increases.

Peer Pricing Structures:

Below are adult daily and pass benchmarks from available sources. (Note: These are not perfect apples-to-apples; facilities vary in amenities, indoor/outdoor components, and what admission includes.)

Adult daily admission (Peer Facilities)

- Ida Lee Rec Center (Leesburg): Adult daily \$5.50 town / \$7.50 non-res
- Herndon Community Center: Adult daily \$7 resident / \$8 non-res
- Manassas Park Community Center: Adult daily \$5 resident / \$9 non-res
- Freedom Aquatic & Fitness Center: Adult daily \$10

30-day / monthly-type options (where available)

- Ida Lee (Leesburg): Single adult 30-day \$52 town / \$69 non-res; Annual \$429 town / \$571 non-res

- Manassas Park: Single adult membership priced monthly with longer-term structure: \$35/month resident (annual cost \$420) and \$45.50/month non-res (annual cost \$546)
- Freedom Center: Adult membership \$55/month (\$660/year)

25-visit pass comparisons (where available)

- WARF (Town Adult): \$130 for 25 (\$5.20/visit)
- Ida Lee: Adult 25-admission pass \$121 town / \$160 non-res

Peer Pricing Takeaways:

- Peers commonly use (a) resident/non-resident tiers, and (b) multiple “commitment levels” (daily vs multi-visit vs monthly/annual) to serve different user types, WARF is aligned with that standard structure.
- WARF’s Town adult day pass (\$6) sits in the same general band as Ida Lee and Manassas Park residents, while non-resident day pass (\$9) is comparable to Manassas Park’s non-res adult day rate (\$9).
- WARF’s monthly Town adult (\$60) is higher than some municipal resident monthly prices (Manassas Park \$35/month; Freedom \$55/month), but WARF’s value proposition changes depending on pool access, schedules, and what is bundled (notably, classes are included for members, while day passes exclude group fitness).

5.3 Public Engagement Findings Relevant to the WARF

Focus Group Input: Focus group discussions emphasized the WARF’s value while highlighting operational and programmatic pressures associated with high use.

- The WARF is viewed as a cornerstone facility that supports fitness, aquatics, youth programs, and senior wellness.
- Participants noted crowding and scheduling conflicts, particularly during peak evening hours and swim team seasons.
- Strong interest was expressed in expanded aquatics options, especially warm-water or therapeutic uses.
- Focus groups identified a need for continued reinvestment in aging infrastructure to maintain service quality.
- Affordability and access were recurring themes, with sensitivity to potential fee increases.

Stakeholder Interview Input: Stakeholders reinforced many of the focus group themes and provided additional operational context.

- The WARF is considered a high-performing facility that maximizes use of its available space.
- Stakeholders highlighted mechanical system aging and capital reinvestment risks as a near-term concern.
- Aquatics programming was identified as both a strength and a constraint, with limited flexibility due to space and staffing demands.

- There was support for incremental operational improvements rather than immediate facility expansion.
- Stakeholders emphasized the importance of maintaining reliable accessibility, including elevators and ADA features.

WARF-Specific Online Survey Findings

Facility Use and Importance: The WARF clearly functions as the Town's primary recreation facility, with usage levels far exceeding all other parks and facilities.

- 80.8% of all respondents and 76.5% of Town respondents identify WARF as one of their most visited facilities.
- WARF ranks #1 overall among Town facilities, well ahead of Rady Park and the Warrenton Branch Greenway.
- Over 44% of Town residents visit WARF weekly or more often, demonstrating sustained, high-frequency use.
- Fewer than 4% of Town respondents have never visited WARF, confirming broad awareness and reach

Satisfaction with WARF Experience and Value

User satisfaction with WARF is strong and consistent across both Town and all respondents.

- 78.5% of all respondents and 80.9% of Town respondents report being satisfied or very satisfied with WARF.
- Less than 6% of Town respondents report dissatisfaction.
- Satisfaction levels for WARF exceed those for most other Town recreation assets, reinforcing its status as a high-performing facility

Barriers to Increased Use

While many respondents report no barriers, recurring themes identify operational constraints rather than lack of interest.

- Fees and affordability are the most common barrier cited (14.7% all respondents; 11.5% Town).
- Scheduling and time constraints are the top write-in theme.
- Overcrowding and lane availability during peak hours and swim team seasons are frequent concerns.
- Operating hours and limited class times restrict participation for working adults.
- Childcare limitations repeatedly emerge as a barrier for parents and caregivers

Programming and Facility Enhancement Preferences

Respondents express strong support for expanding and enhancing WARF offerings, particularly aquatics and fitness.

- 57.0% of Town respondents support adding an outdoor pool.
- 41.2% support expanding the fitness area; 34.6% support enhancing the indoor pool.
- Additional support exists for youth programming space, classrooms, and meeting rooms.
- Write-in responses frequently request:
 - More fitness equipment and free weights
 - Sauna or wellness amenities
 - Indoor gym/court space (basketball, pickleball, volleyball)
 - Expanded aquatics options and warmer water temperatures

Childcare and Family-Support Services

Survey responses show **clear latent demand for childcare or child-watch services.**

- Childcare emerged as a top barrier and top enhancement request in write-in responses.
- Parents cite inability to participate in fitness or aquatics without short-term childcare.
- Multiple respondents explicitly requested on-site childcare during workouts or classes, similar to YMCA-style models

Ownership, Operations, and Funding Preferences

Respondents strongly support continued Town ownership with exploration of supplemental funding strategies.

- 67.8% of Town respondents support the Town continuing to own and operate WARF.
- 23.5% support exploring partnerships or non-profits to help support operations.
- Very little support exists for leasing WARF to a private operator (<2%).
- Strong opposition exists to reducing hours or programming (over 70% not supportive)

Pricing and Willingness to Pay

Survey results indicate limited tolerance for fee increases, particularly among residents.

- 42.7% of all respondents and 39.9% of Town respondents are not willing or able to pay higher rates.
- Among those willing to pay more:
 - The majority would accept only a 5–9% increase.
- Respondents show greater acceptance of non-resident rate increases than resident increases.
- The most supported strategy is to seek additional funding partners while keeping current rates

5.4 Facility Systems and Capital Risk (3–5 Year Outlook)

WARF is entering a critical lifecycle phase where mechanical and electrical systems pose increasing risk. While not all failures are expected to occur, planning-level budgeting is prudent. Identified risk areas include:

- Variable frequency drives (VFDs) and electrical components approaching failure risk.
- Original pumps and actuators with increasing likelihood of replacement.
- Aging recovery chiller using R-22 refrigerant, creating both cost and regulatory exposure.
- High-maintenance boiler system requiring ongoing repairs and parts replacement.

Planning-Level Capital Outlook

- Potential cumulative repair exposure over 3–5 years: moderate to high, depending on failure timing.
- Emphasis should be on proactive replacement and redundancy, rather than reactive repairs.

5.5 Recommendations for the Warrenton Aquatic and Recreation Facility (WARF)

- 1) Programming Schedule Optimization (Short-Term: 1–3 Years):** As the Town's most heavily used facility, WARF experiences consistent scheduling pressure, particularly within aquatics, where competing demands for swim lessons, lap swim, team use, and open swim reduce flexibility and perceived availability. Adjusting how time is allocated, rather than expanding space in the near term, represents the most cost-effective strategy.

Recommended Actions

- Conduct a peak-use scheduling audit to document hourly demand by program type (lessons, lap swim, teams, water fitness, open swim).
- Establish protected "open use" windows during peak evening and weekend hours to ensure equitable access for general users.
- Rebalance lesson scheduling by shifting some youth lessons to mid-day, early afternoon, or weekend blocks where feasible.
- Formalize seasonal allocation policies for swim teams and rentals, including caps on prime-time hours during peak seasons.
- Pilot flexible programming blocks (rotating lap lanes or split-pool configurations) to better accommodate simultaneous uses.
- Clearly communicate schedules and policies to users to reduce frustration and increase transparency.

Expected Outcomes

- Improved user satisfaction without immediate capital expansion
- More predictable access for casual users
- Better alignment of staff coverage with peak demand

- 2) Pricing and Pass Structure Review (Short-Term: 1–3 Years):** Survey results show high satisfaction with WARF but also sensitivity to affordability, particularly among frequent users and families. A targeted review of pricing, rather than across-the-board increases, can improve cost recovery while maintaining accessibility.

Peer Pricing Context

- Peer facilities such as Leesburg's Ida Lee Recreation Center and Manassas Park Community Center maintain:
 - Clear resident vs. non-resident pricing differentials
 - Tiered daily, multi-visit, and annual pass options
 - Higher non-resident rates that reflect regional demand and facility quality
- Leesburg's aquatics and recreation pricing demonstrates that non-resident premiums of 25–35% are common and accepted when paired with strong amenities and programming.

Recommended Actions

- Conduct a comprehensive rate benchmarking analysis comparing WARF fees to peer facilities (daily admission, annual passes, family passes, aquatics programs).
- Adjust non-resident pricing first, preserving affordability for Town residents while capturing regional demand.
- Introduce or refine multi-visit pass options to encourage repeat use and upfront revenue.
- Evaluate off-peak or senior pricing incentives to better distribute demand throughout the day.
- Review how WARF revenues are reported to ensure all revenue-generating programs housed in the facility (aquatics, fitness, classes) are reflected in cost recovery discussions.

Expected Outcomes

- Improved financial sustainability without limiting access
- Better alignment with regional market conditions
- Clearer understanding of true facility cost recovery

- 3) **Childcare / Child-Watch and Support Services (Short-Term: 1–3 Years):** Survey input and peer experience suggest latent demand for short-duration childcare or child-watch services, particularly among parents seeking to use fitness, aquatics, or group exercise programs.

Survey-Informed Observations

- Households with children are among the most frequent WARF users.
- Time constraints are a commonly cited barrier to participation.
- Peer facilities offering child-watch services report increased fitness participation among parents and caregivers.

Recommended Actions

- Conduct a feasibility and demand assessment for limited child-watch services (e.g., 1–2 hour maximum).

- Pilot a part-time, reservation-based model during peak fitness hours rather than full-day childcare.
- Explore partnerships with licensed providers or shared staffing models to limit liability and overhead.
- Evaluate available space that could be repurposed with minimal renovation.
- Set pricing to fully cover staffing costs while remaining affordable.

Expected Outcomes

- Increased participation in fitness and aquatics programs
- Enhanced appeal to working families
- Improved overall facility utilization during peak hours

- 4) **Capital Reliability and Asset Management (3-7 Years):** Given the age of WARF's mechanical systems, proactive planning is essential to avoid service disruptions and unplanned closures.

Recommended Actions

- Develop a 3–5 year capital reinvestment plan prioritizing high-risk systems (drives, pumps, actuators, boilers, recovery chiller).
- Identify redundancy opportunities for critical systems to reduce downtime.
- Explore phased replacement strategies to spread costs and minimize service disruption.
- Coordinate capital planning with program scheduling adjustments to allow maintenance during lower-use periods.

5.6 WARF Pricing Elasticity Study

Purpose and Approach

This elasticity analysis evaluates how sensitive WARF users are to changes in daily admission rates and pass/membership pricing, using three primary inputs:

- Online survey results related to affordability and willingness to pay,
- Observed usage frequency patterns (daily, weekly, monthly users), and
- Peer facility pricing benchmarks to assess substitution risk.

Elasticity is assessed qualitatively and semi-quantitatively to inform **pricing strategy**, not to predict exact revenue outcomes.

User Segments and Price Sensitivity

WARF users fall into three primary demand segments, each with distinct elasticity characteristics.

1) Casual Users (Daily Pass / Occasional Use)

Typical behavior:

- Visit a few times per year to once per month
- Often non-residents, families, or infrequent swimmers

Elasticity: High (elastic demand)

- Survey data shows fees and affordability are the most common barrier preventing more frequent visits.
- These users have many substitutes (private gyms, seasonal pools, other municipal centers).
- Even modest increases in daily rates can lead to disproportionate drops in visits.

Implication:

- Daily admission rates are highly price-sensitive.
- Increasing daily rates is likely to reduce total visits and discourage trial use, especially among families and non-residents.

2) Regular Users (Monthly Pass Holders)
Typical behavior:

- Visit 1–3 times per week
- Often fitness and aquatics users with work/life schedule constraints

Elasticity: Moderate (semi-elastic demand)

- Monthly users are sensitive to price and to perceived value (schedule availability, crowding).
- Survey results indicate that 42.7% of respondents are not willing or able to pay higher rates, but among those willing, tolerance clusters at +5–9%.
- If programming access declines (crowding, cancellations), elasticity increases sharply.

Implication:

- Small, incremental increases ($\leq 5\text{--}9\%$) may be absorbed only if paired with service improvements.
- Price increases without operational improvements risk membership churn.

3) Core Users (Annual Membership Holders)
Typical behavior:

- Visit multiple times per week
- Include lap swimmers, fitness regulars, families enrolled in programs

Elasticity: Low to Moderate (relatively inelastic)

- These users demonstrate habitual use and higher switching costs.
- However, even this group shows resistance to large increases, survey results show little tolerance beyond 10–14%.
- Value erosion (loss of lanes, reduced hours) increases elasticity over time.

Implication:

- Annual memberships can tolerate modest, infrequent increases, but large or frequent increases will drive attrition.
- Retention is strongly tied to reliability and access, not just price.

Elasticity Summary:

The WARF pricing demand is elastic beyond low single-digit increases, especially for daily and monthly products.

Survey responses provide a clear elasticity signal:

- 43% of all respondents are not willing or able to pay any increase
- Among those willing to pay more:
 - The dominant acceptable range is +5–9%
 - Acceptance drops sharply beyond +10–14%
- Stronger support exists for non-resident increases than resident increases
- The most supported alternative to fee increases is seeking funding partners while keeping current rates

Elasticity Summary:

Pricing Product	Elasticity Rating	Key Driver
Daily Admission	High (Elastic)	Substitutes, affordability, trial behavior
25-Visit Pass	Moderate	Commitment risk + schedule uncertainty
Monthly Pass	Moderate	Value perception, schedule reliability
Annual Membership	Low–Moderate	Habitual use, switching costs

Cross-Elasticity: Peer facility analysis indicates moderate cross-elasticity:

- Nearby facilities (Leesburg, Manassas Park, private gyms) provide alternatives at similar or lower monthly prices.
- Users dissatisfied with pricing often cite schedule or crowding, suggesting non-price factors amplify price sensitivity.
- WARF does not operate in a captive market therefore price increases can push users toward substitutes if value declines.

What the WARF Should Avoid:

- Across-the-board increases to daily rates
- Large (>10%) increases in resident memberships
- Raising prices without improving scheduling, capacity, or reliability

What WARF Can Do Strategically:

- Target non-resident pricing first, where elasticity is lower and substitution is less politically sensitive
- Use small, infrequent increases ($\leq 5\text{--}9\%$) tied to visible service improvements
- Expand value-added options (child-watch, improved scheduling, off-peak programming) rather than relying on price alone
- Preserve daily passes as an entry point, not a revenue maximizer

Key Elasticity Takeaways:

- WARF demand is price-sensitive, particularly for daily and monthly users
- The facility operates near the upper bound of acceptable pricing for many households
- Revenue growth is more likely to come from utilization, programming optimization, and targeted services than from broad fee increases
- Elasticity increases sharply when access, scheduling, or reliability declines

5.7 WARF Revenue Scenario Modeling

Baseline Structure (Assumptions for Modeling): To reflect typical municipal rec center demand and WARF survey results, the following conservative baseline mix is assumed:

- Daily admissions: 20% of WARF access revenue
- Monthly passes: 30% of WARF access revenue
- Annual memberships: 50% of WARF access revenue

Elasticity Assumptions (derived from survey + peer behavior):

- Daily admissions: High elasticity (-0.8 to -1.2)
- Monthly passes: Moderate elasticity (-0.4 to -0.7)
- Annual memberships: Low-moderate elasticity (-0.2 to -0.4)

Interpretation: A 10% price increase could reduce daily visits by approximately 8–12%, monthly memberships by 4–7%, and annual memberships by 2–4%, absent service improvements.

Scenario A: +5% Price Increase (Low-Risk Threshold)

Survey context: This is the most acceptable range for users willing to pay more.

Expected behavioral response:

- Daily admissions: -3% to -5% volume
- Monthly passes: -1% to -2% volume
- Annual memberships: -0% to -1% volume

Modeled net revenue effect:

- Daily: +0% to +2% (price gain largely offset by volume loss)
- Monthly: +3% to +4%
- Annual: +4% to +5%

Estimated systemwide impact:

- Net WARF access revenue: +2.5% to +4.0%

Risk profile:

- Low political risk
- Low churn risk
- Minimal equity impact if resident pricing is protected

Conclusion: A +5% increase is likely financially positive and behaviorally sustainable, especially if paired with visible service improvements (scheduling reliability, lane access, class availability).

Scenario B: +8% Price Increase (Upper Acceptable Range)

Survey context: Still within tolerance for some users, but resistance increases sharply.

Expected behavioral response:

- Daily admissions: -6% to -9%
- Monthly passes: -3% to -5%
- Annual memberships: -2% to -3%

Modeled net revenue effect:

- Daily: -1% to +1% (highly sensitive)
- Monthly: +1% to +3%
- Annual: +3% to +4%

Estimated systemwide impact:

- Net WARF access revenue: +1.5% to +3.0%

Risk profile:

- Moderate churn risk among monthly users
- Noticeable dissatisfaction without service gains
- Higher substitution risk to private gyms / nearby facilities

Conclusion: A +8% increase can still generate revenue, but likely only if accompanied by operational improvements and targeted to non-resident or optional products first.

Scenario C: +10% Price Increase (Elasticity Breakpoint)

Survey context: Exceeds preferred range for most respondents; strong opposition emerges.

Expected behavioral response

- Daily admissions: -10% to -15%
- Monthly passes: -6% to -9%
- Annual memberships: -3% to -5%

Modeled net revenue effect

- Daily: –5% to –10%
- Monthly: –1% to +1%
- Annual: +1% to +3%

Estimated systemwide impact

- Net WARF access revenue: –1.0% to +1.5% (high uncertainty)

Risk profile

- High churn risk for monthly users
- Regressive equity impacts
- Likely increase in complaints and negative sentiment
- Potential long-term revenue erosion

Conclusion: A +10% increase is likely high-risk and not recommended without significant new amenities or capacity expansion.

Scenario Summary

Scenario (Rate Increase)	Net Revenue Effect	Churn Risk	Recommendation
+5%	+2.5% to +4.0%	Low	Recommended
+8%	+1.5% to +3.0%	Moderate	Conditional
+10%	–1.0% to +1.5%	High	Avoid

5.8 WARF Final Summary

The Warrenton Aquatic and Recreation Facility (WARF) is the Town’s flagship recreation asset and primary indoor recreation hub, consistently ranking as the most visited and highest-performing facility in the park system. Public engagement, peer comparisons, and financial analysis confirm that WARF is appropriately scaled for Warrenton, offers a competitive mix of aquatics and fitness amenities, and delivers high user satisfaction. At the same time, intense demand, aging building systems, scheduling constraints, and limited pricing elasticity indicate that the next phase of WARF’s lifecycle should prioritize operational optimization, targeted reinvestment, and value-based revenue strategies rather than major near-term expansion.

Key Findings

Facility Role & Performance

- WARF is the #1 most visited Town facility, with over 44% of Town residents using it weekly or more.
- 78–81% of users report satisfaction or very high satisfaction, exceeding satisfaction levels for other Town facilities.

- Aquatics, swim lessons, open swim, and group fitness are the highest-participation programs systemwide.
- WARF compares favorably to peer facilities in Leesburg, Manassas Park, Herndon, and Manassas in size, amenities, and usage.

Peer Facility Lessons

- Peer facilities emphasize ongoing reinvestment and targeted upgrades, not wholesale expansion.
- Warm-water pools, locker rooms, and fitness space often become constraints as facilities mature.
- Deferred reinvestment increases emergency repair risk and service disruption.
- Clear resident vs. non-resident pricing differentiation is critical for managing regional demand.
- Revenue performance improves when investments are tied to high-demand, program-specific amenities.

Pricing & Affordability

- WARF's pricing structure aligns with peers, but Town monthly rates are higher than some municipal competitors, increasing sensitivity to value and access.
- 43% of respondents are not willing or able to pay higher fees.
- Among those willing to pay more, the acceptable range is 5–9%, with sharp resistance beyond 10%.
- Strong public preference exists for partnerships and non-fee revenue strategies over across-the-board fee increases.

Elasticity & Revenue Modeling

- Daily admissions are highly price-sensitive; monthly passes show moderate elasticity; annual memberships are least elastic but still sensitive to service quality.
- Revenue modeling indicates:
 - +5% increase: Low risk, most defensible, likely net positive revenue.
 - +8% increase: Conditional, only viable with service improvements and non-resident targeting.
 - +10% increase: High risk, likely to increase churn and dissatisfaction.

Operational & Capital Risk

- WARF is entering a critical lifecycle phase, with rising risk tied to mechanical, HVAC, and electrical systems.
- Proactive reinvestment is needed to avoid unplanned closures, cost escalation, and service disruptions.

Public Engagement Signals

- Strong support for continued Town ownership and operation.
- Clear demand for:
 - Improved aquatics access and scheduling
 - Warm-water/therapeutic pool options (long-term)

- Expanded fitness amenities
- Child-watch / childcare services as a participation enabler
- Strong opposition to reducing hours or programs.

Recommended Priority Action Items for the WARF

Short-Term (1–3 Years)

- Optimize programming schedules:
 - Conduct a peak-use audit and rebalance aquatics time between lessons, lap swim, teams, and open swim.
 - Establish protected public access windows during peak hours.
- Implement a targeted pricing strategy:
 - Limit adjustments to 5%, focusing first on non-resident rates.
 - Avoid broad resident fee increases.
- Pilot child-watch services:
 - Launch a limited, reservation-based model during peak fitness hours.
 - Fully cost-recover staffing through fees or add-on pricing.
- Improve transparency and communication:
 - Clearly communicate schedules, class access, and pass inclusions/exclusions.
- Begin capital planning:
 - Develop a 3–5 year capital reinvestment plan for high-risk systems.

Mid-Term (3–7 Years)

- Phase critical system replacements (HVAC, pumps, actuators, boilers) to reduce downtime risk.
- Evaluate targeted amenity enhancements such as fitness expansion, warm-water programming feasibility, outdoor aquatics, spray park, or wellness amenities.

Long-Term

- Position WARF as Warrenton’s long-term indoor wellness and aquatics hub, aligned with aging population needs, regional demand, and financial sustainability.
- Reassess expansion only after operational efficiencies, pricing strategies, and reinvestment outcomes are fully realized.

INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Town of Warrenton

Parks and Recreation Master Plan: Focus Group Interviews

Subject: Summary Memorandum of Focus Group Interviews

Date: November 4th, 2025

The following is a summary of feedback provided by 8 focus groups in 8 virtual interviews that took place over the course of 2 months. Responses have been kept anonymous.

Top 10 Themes from Focus Group Interviews

(Ranked by number of mentions)

1. Park Maintenance and Upkeep Deficiencies (8 mentions - all)
2. Lack of Connectivity Between Parks and Neighborhoods (3 mentions)
3. Equity and Accessibility of Park Facilities (4 mentions)
4. Funding and Resource Constraints (8 mentions - all)
5. Desire for Additional Amenities (Splash Pad, Shade, Seating, Restrooms) (4 mentions)
6. Underutilized or Uneven Park Development (3 mentions)
7. Facilities and Programs for Teens/Youth (3 mentions)
8. Communication and Coordination Issues (3 mentions)
9. Partnerships and Collaboration Opportunities (5 mentions)
10. Event Space and Community Gathering Needs (3 mentions)

Top 5 Themes by Key Question

1. Challenges and Opportunities: *What do you see are the primary challenges for parks, recreation, and trails within Warrenton? What are any key opportunities you see for improvements?*
 - a. Deferred maintenance and aging infrastructure
 - b. Parking and access constraints
 - c. Uneven investment across parks
 - d. Funding limitations and resource gaps
 - e. Lack of teen/youth amenities
2. Changing Needs: *How have the needs or desires for park space or recreation opportunities changed in Warrenton over the last few years? What has the Town done well and less well in addressing these changes?*
 - a. Increased use and demand for outdoor spaces, specifically from COVID-19
 - b. Greater demand for family-oriented and passive recreation
 - c. Growing youth and senior needs
 - d. Rising expectations for quality and maintenance
 - e. Desire for broader events and community programming
3. Town's Role: *What do you see is the Town's role in meeting parks, recreation facilities, and trails needs in the future?*
 - a. Leadership in coordination and long-term planning
 - b. Partnership builder and facilitator

- c. Advocate for equity and accessibility
 - d. Transparent steward of funding
 - e. Community convener and promoter
- 4. Implementation Tools: *What do you see as some potential key implementation tools the Town can use to continue to make progress on top parks and recreation needs for the community?*
 - a. Strengthen partnerships and public-private collaboration
 - b. Increase community events and programming
 - c. Improve maintenance management and staffing models
 - d. Invest in infrastructure and comfort amenities
 - e. Revamp fee structures and funding mechanisms
- 5. Voluntary Concerns: *Is there anything else you'd like to share about park and recreation needs in Warrenton?*
 - a. Desire for a splash pad and outdoor pool
 - b. Need for equity and consistency across parks
 - c. Community identity and pride
 - d. Expanded event spaces and social gathering areas
 - e. Broader access to facilities through partnerships

Top 5 Opportunities from Question 1

"What do you see are the primary challenges for parks, recreation, and trails within Warrenton? What are any key opportunities you see for improvements?"

- 1. Develop a splash pad or outdoor water feature
 - a. Something more inclusive and family-friendly
 - b. Increase access to recreation for children who cannot swim
- 2. Improve connectivity between parks, trails and neighborhoods
 - a. Bike/pedestrian-friendly infrastructure
 - b. Using trail markings and signage
- 3. Create more shade, seating and comfort amenities
 - a. Shade structures and canopy trees, benches, restrooms
 - b. Shade trees have been removed or lost over time
- 4. Strengthen partnerships and collaboration
 - a. Collaborate with County on sports fields, maintenance and joint events
 - b. Potential for a non-profit to fundraise for park improvements
- 5. Expand community events and park-based programming
 - a. Events are key to visibility, usage and community pride
 - b. Concerts, markets, family festivals
 - c. Parks are currently viewed as "untapped gathering spaces"

Top 10 Most Common Improvements Mentioned

- 1. Improve park maintenance and facility upkeep (8 mentions)
- 2. Add a splash pad/family water play area (8 mentions)
- 3. Increase shade, seating and comfort amenities (8 mentions)
- 4. Enhance connectivity between parks and trails (6 mentions)

5. Strengthen Town-County-School partnerships (5 mentions)
6. Expand event infrastructure and programming (5 mentions)
7. Add facilities and programs for teens and middle-schoolers (4 mentions)
8. Improve parking and accessibility (4 mentions)
9. Modernize the WARF and expand aquatic/indoor options (4 mentions)
10. Balance investment across all parks (3 mentions)

Recurring Themes Relating to Equity and/or Access

1. Uneven quality and investment across parks
2. Physical and mobility barriers to access
3. Economic accessibility and affordability
4. Age and demographic inclusivity
5. Accessibility for community use and programming
6. Need for partnerships to broaden access
7. Geographic accessibility and parking
8. Facilities that encourage free and inclusive use

INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Town of Warrenton

Parks and Recreation Master Plan: Stakeholder Interviews

Subject: Summary Memorandum of Stakeholder Interviews

Date: November 4th, 2025

The following is a summary of feedback provided by 4 stakeholder groups in 3 virtual interviews that took place over the course of 3 weeks. Responses have been kept anonymous.

Top 10 Themes from Stakeholder Interviews

(Ranked by number of mentions)

1. Specific Amenities (Desired/Needed) (19 mentions)
2. Existing Parks (Improvement/Focus) (19 mentions)
3. Trails (Development & Issues) (15 mentions)
4. Maintenance & Upkeep (14 mentions)
5. Funding & Resources (12 mentions)
6. Safety & Security (9 mentions)
7. Community Engagement & Education (9 mentions)
8. Staffing (7 mentions)
9. Amenities (General Improvement/Expansion) (5 mentions)
10. Town's Role & Strategy (5 mentions)

Top 5 Themes by Key Question

1. Challenges and Opportunities: *What do you see are the primary challenges for parks, recreation, and trails within Warrenton? What are any key opportunities you see for improvements?*
 - a. Funding & Investment (10 mentions)
 - b. Maintenance & Upkeep (7 mentions)
 - c. Staffing & Police Presence (5 mentions)
 - d. Trail System Development & Issues (5 mentions)
 - e. Specific Park Site Challenges/Opportunities (5 mentions)
2. Changing Needs: *How have the needs or desires for park space or recreation opportunities changed in Warrenton over the last few years? What has the Town done well and less well in addressing these changes?*
 - a. Recognition of Passive Spaces/Outdoor Performance (3 mentions)
 - b. Desired Amenities (Splashpads/Amphitheaters) (3 mentions)
 - c. Playgrounds (2 mentions)
 - d. WARF (Warrenton Aquatic and Recreation Facility) (2 mentions)
 - e. Basketball/Pickleball Courts (2 mentions)
3. Town's Role: *What do you see is the Town's role in meeting parks, recreation facilities, and trails needs in the future?*
 - a. Funding & Commitment (4 mentions)
 - b. Maintaining Existing Facilities (2 mentions)

- c. Strategic Planning & Balance (2 mentions)
- d. Infrastructure vs. Quality of Life (1 mention)
- e. Wayfinding System (1 mention)
- 4. Implementation Tools: *What do you see as some potential key implementation tools the Town can use to continue to make progress on top parks and recreation needs for the community?*
 - a. Education & Data for Decision-Makers (3 mentions)
 - b. Investment in Existing Parks (1 mention)
 - c. Dedicated Staff/Clear Responsibilities (1 mention)
 - d. Community Feedback Mechanisms (1 mention)
 - e. Serving a Broad Range of Ages (1 mention)
- 5. Voluntary Concerns: *Is there anything else you'd like to share about park and recreation needs in Warrenton?*
 - a. Community Desire vs. Town Action (2 mentions)
 - b. Eva Walker Park Potential (1 mention)
 - c. Feelings of Neighbor Intrusion at Eva Walker Park (1 mention)
 - d. Decision-Makers Need Full Picture (1 mention)
 - e. Positive Staff Recognition (1 mention)

Top 5 Opportunities from Question 1

"What do you see are the primary challenges for parks, recreation, and trails within Warrenton? What are any key opportunities you see for improvements?"

- 1. Rady Park Improvements/Potential
 - a. Rady Park experiences high usage from early morning to evening, indicating its popularity and potential.
 - b. The park offers significant versatility in uses.
 - c. Despite drainage issues, the park's relatively flat terrain presents a "huge opportunity" for improvements
 - d. Recent good maintenance has already made the park feel more accessible, open, and safe.
 - e. There is a suggestion that Rady Park could benefit from an additional pavilion.
- 2. Splashpads/Cooling Stations
 - a. A "cooling station/splashpad" is seen as a potential key implementation tool for the community.
 - b. Some residents currently travel to Haymarket for splashpad access, indicating local demand.
 - c. The idea of a splash pad has been repeatedly brought up by the community, though it is not currently planned for Eva Walker Park.
- 3. Eva Walker Park Potential/Improvements
 - a. Eva Walker Park is considered to have the "most potential" among the parks and is currently the "most underutilized".
 - b. There's an opportunity to address the "landing at top of Eva Walker Park's steps" which used to feature granite curbing on the main street.

- c. The park's low traffic might be due to parking issues, suggesting an opportunity to improve accessibility.
 - d. Addressing the perception that visitors are "intruding on neighbors" could enhance the park's welcoming atmosphere.
- 4. Events & Attractions (including Pavilions)
 - a. There has been a strong push to host more events and find ways to draw attention to the amenities the Town provides.
 - b. "Pavilions" are specifically mentioned as a type of attraction that could be beneficial.
 - c. An additional pavilion at Rady Park is suggested as an improvement.
- 5. Recognizing Passive Spaces
 - a. The Town has been successful in "recognizing the importance of passive spaces".
 - b. Stakeholders emphasize that the importance of passive spaces is as significant as active spaces, aligning with current trends.

Top 10 Most Common Improvements Mentioned

1. Increased maintenance and upkeep of existing parks and facilities (4 mentions)
2. Improved trail connectivity and width / sidewalk links (4 mentions)
3. Funding constraints / need for dedicated funding sources (4 mentions)
4. Better park staffing and oversight (maintenance & safety presence) (3 mentions)
5. Better utilization and improvements at Eva Walker Park (3 mentions)
6. Wayfinding system and signage improvements (2 mentions)
7. Addition of splash pad or cooling station (2 mentions)
8. Amphitheater / outdoor performance space (2 mentions)
9. Playground updates (especially for older children) (2 mentions)
10. Improved pavilions and seating areas (2 mentions)

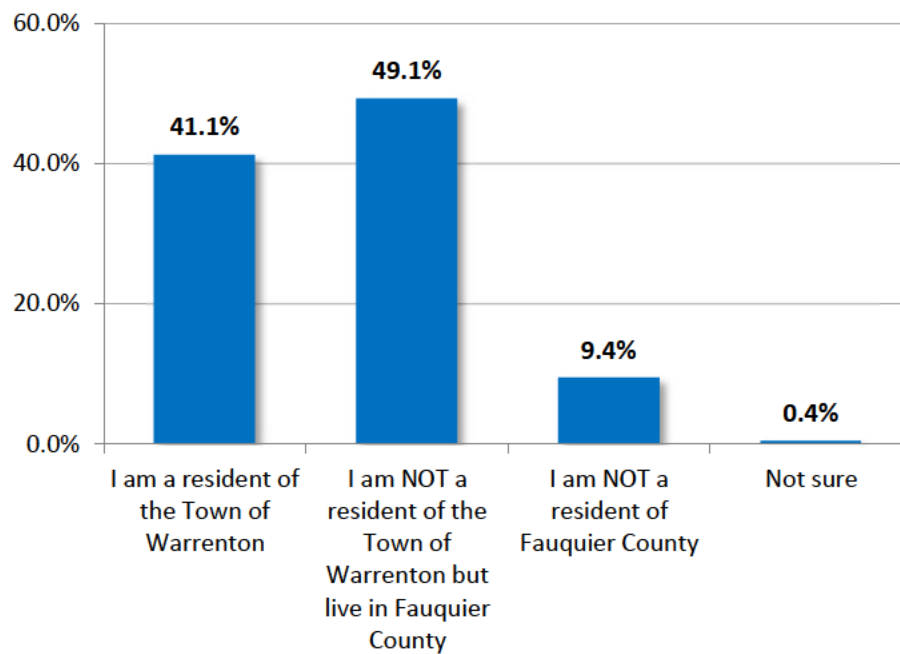
Recurring Themes Relating to Equity and/or Access

1. Uneven maintenance and investment across parks
 - a. Parks such as WARF and Rady Park seem to receive more attention, funding and use while others remain underfunded and underutilized
2. Poor connectivity between parks, trails and neighborhoods
 - a. Incomplete trail networks disproportionately impact residents in less connected areas and limit access for pedestrians, cyclists and people with mobility challenges
3. Funding inequities and political barriers to implementation
 - a. Wealthier or more visible facilities receive ongoing investment, while other parks deteriorate
4. Limited accessibility and wayfinding challenges
 - a. This was mentioned in every stakeholder group
 - b. There is a lack of clear wayfinding which excludes non-local visitors and residents unfamiliar with the area, reducing equitable use of the full park system
5. Inadequate amenities in underserved neighborhoods
 - a. There were comments that there is an unequal distribution of amenities which limits the range of experiences available to certain residents and age groups.

Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

Which option best describes you?

Answer Choices	Responses	
I am a resident of the Town of Warrenton	41.1%	236
I am NOT a resident of the Town of Warrenton but live in Fauquier County	49.1%	282
I am NOT a resident of Fauquier County	9.4%	54
Not sure	0.4%	2
Answered		574
Skipped		0



Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

What zip code do you live in?

Answered 569

Skipped 5

20186 (Warrenton) overwhelmingly dominates — 53% of all entries.

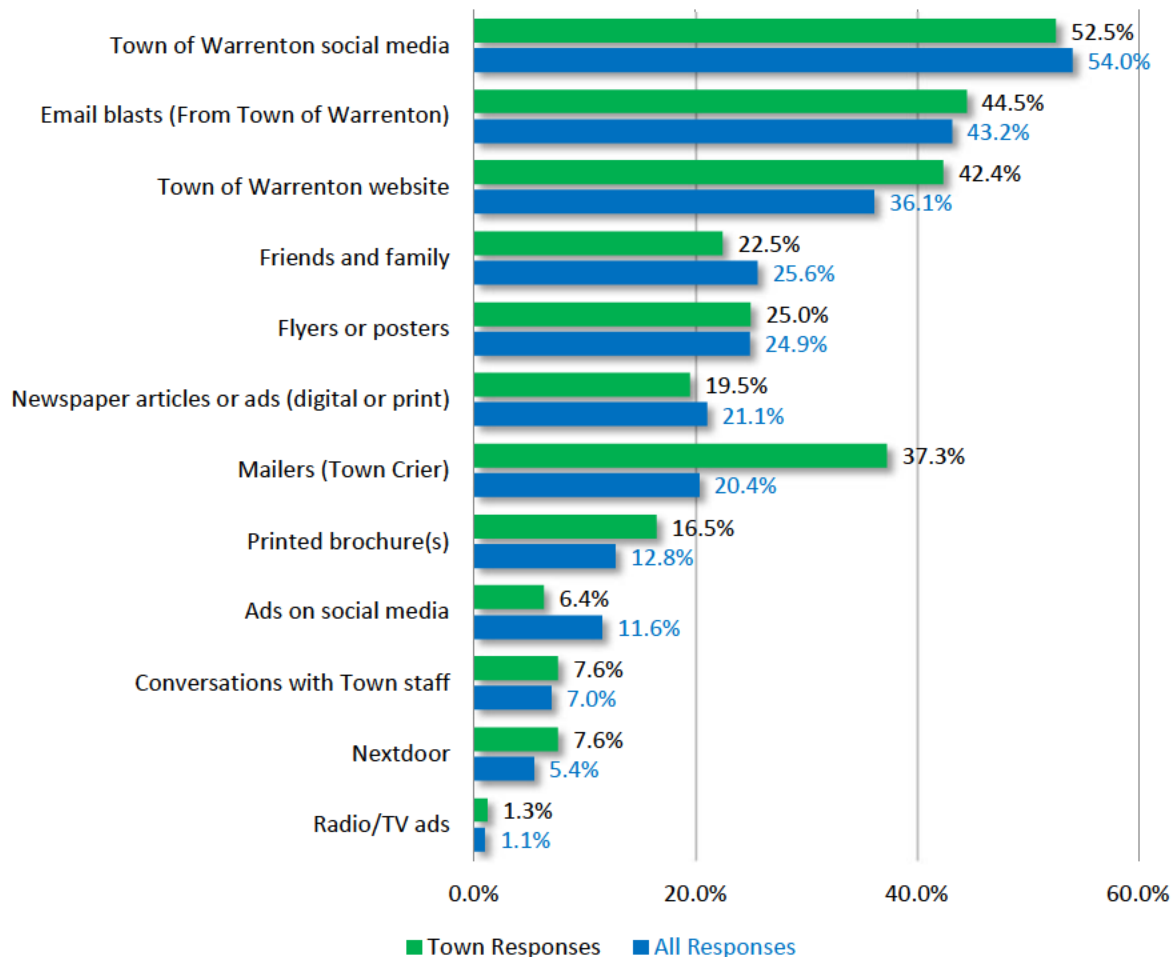
20187 (also Warrenton area) is the next largest share — 28%.

ZIP Code	Frequency
20186	307
20187	161
20115	34
22712	21
20106	20
20137	17
20119	11
22724	10
22728	10
22701	9
22737	8
20144	6
22639	4
22642	3
20181	3
20198	3
22734	3
22406	2
20816	2
49301	1
20116	1
20817	1
22556	1
22627	1
22630	1
22643	1
22720	1
22740	1
22742	1
22747	1
23220	1
33435	1
54751	1

Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

How do you like to learn about recreation programs, events, or classes provided by the Town of Warrenton?

Answer Choices	All Responses		Town Responses	
Radio/TV ads	1.1%	6	1.3%	3
Nextdoor	5.4%	31	7.6%	18
Conversations with Town staff	7.0%	40	7.6%	18
Ads on social media	11.6%	66	6.4%	15
Printed brochure(s)	12.8%	73	16.5%	39
Mailers (Town Crier)	20.4%	116	37.3%	88
Newspaper articles or ads (digital or print)	21.1%	120	19.5%	46
Flyers or posters	24.9%	142	25.0%	59
Friends and family	25.6%	146	22.5%	53
Town of Warrenton website	36.1%	206	42.4%	100
Email blasts (From Town of Warrenton)	43.2%	246	44.5%	105
Town of Warrenton social media	54.0%	308	52.5%	124
	Answered	570		236
	Skipped	4		0

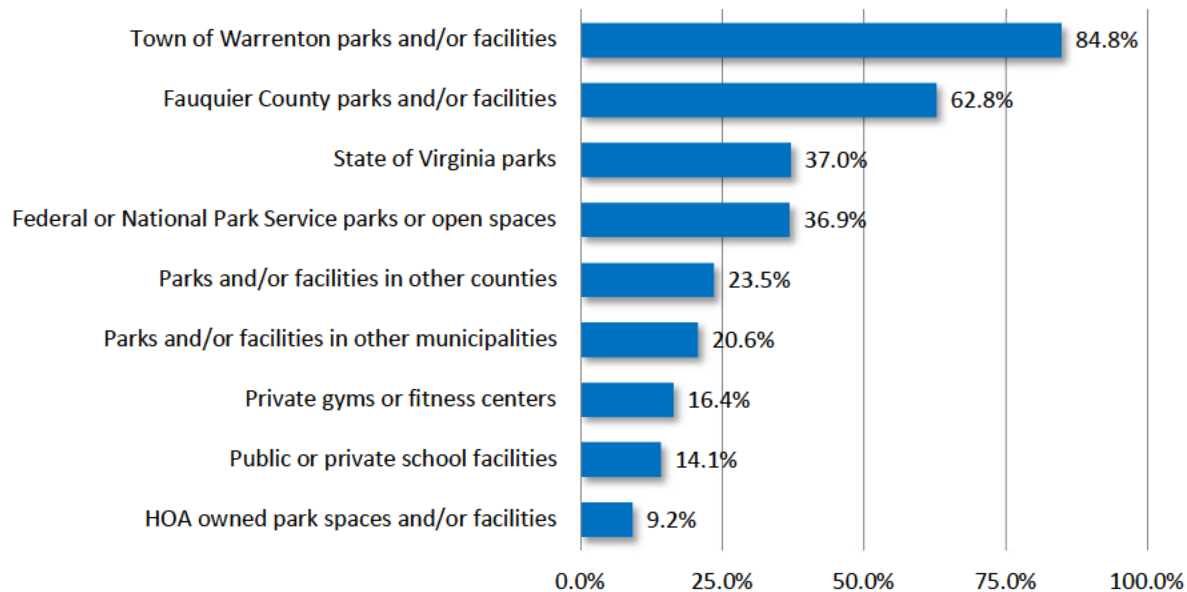


Other (please specify)
e mails
Please stop spraying all the parks with fertilizer and pesticides. It's harming the environment, the kids and the pets that walk there.
go to Town Council meetings
I live near the Warf
Betty Compton
Drove by it everyday
Year round swim
Lauren Kruck keeps me informed
Discover paper
Betty Compton's Community Alerts
WARF
When first built - FAST - Vint Hill
Posters at VHCC
Fauquier life style magazine, town events like first Fridays
Text message
Text
e notices from WARF
I teach at Wakefield school in The Plains and we use the WARF
Monthly bulletin sheets at wharf
We own a condo in Leeds Square as a 2nd home
Work at the WARF
Fauquier Newspaper
Live across street been using pool for years
Pamphlets at the Wharf
Used the WARF from the beginning...
We are members of the WARF and go there regularly. We see information posted on flyers there.
FauquierNow

Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

Where do you typically go to recreate?

Answer Choices	All Responses		Town Responses	
HOA owned park spaces and/or facilities	9.2%	52	3.9%	9
Public or private school facilities	14.1%	80	19.3%	45
Private gyms or fitness centers	16.4%	93	17.2%	40
Parks and/or facilities in other municipalities	20.6%	117	21.0%	49
Parks and/or facilities in other counties	23.5%	133	21.9%	51
Federal or National Park Service parks or open spaces	36.9%	209	42.1%	98
State of Virginia parks	37.0%	210	41.6%	97
Fauquier County parks and/or facilities	62.8%	356	61.4%	143
Town of Warrenton parks and/or facilities	84.8%	481	91.4%	213
	Answered	567		233
	Skipped	7		3



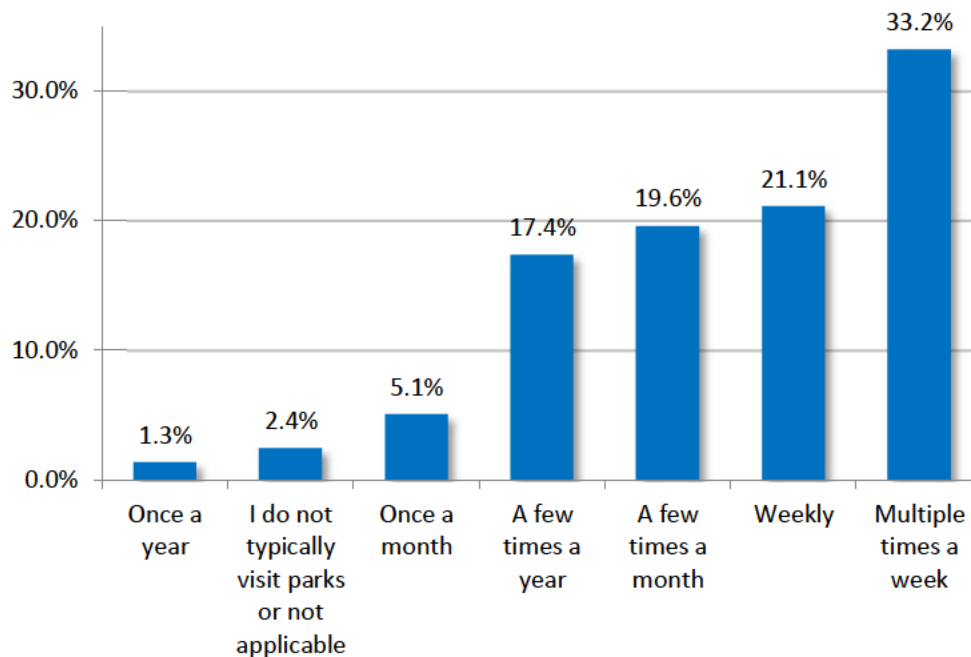
Other (please specify)
all of the above
Walk around town
Please stop spraying all the parks with fertilizer and pesticides. It's harming the environment, the kids and the pets that play there.
none of the above
Walk the Town or play golf
Cycling trails
Privately owned farm land
No where
The Greenway
Home
home, no HOA
walking in my neighborhood

Home gym
Vint hill pickleball
I only swim 1-2x a week at WARF. I am otherwise in Chantilly, Culpeper,
Pilates at Warrenton Pilates OTEC
other
My property
WARF
Neighborhood
Rady park walking trail
home gym
Pilates center
Walking along neighborhood paths
Pickleball Court
Vint hill
D

Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

What frequency do you generally visit parks? (any type of park)

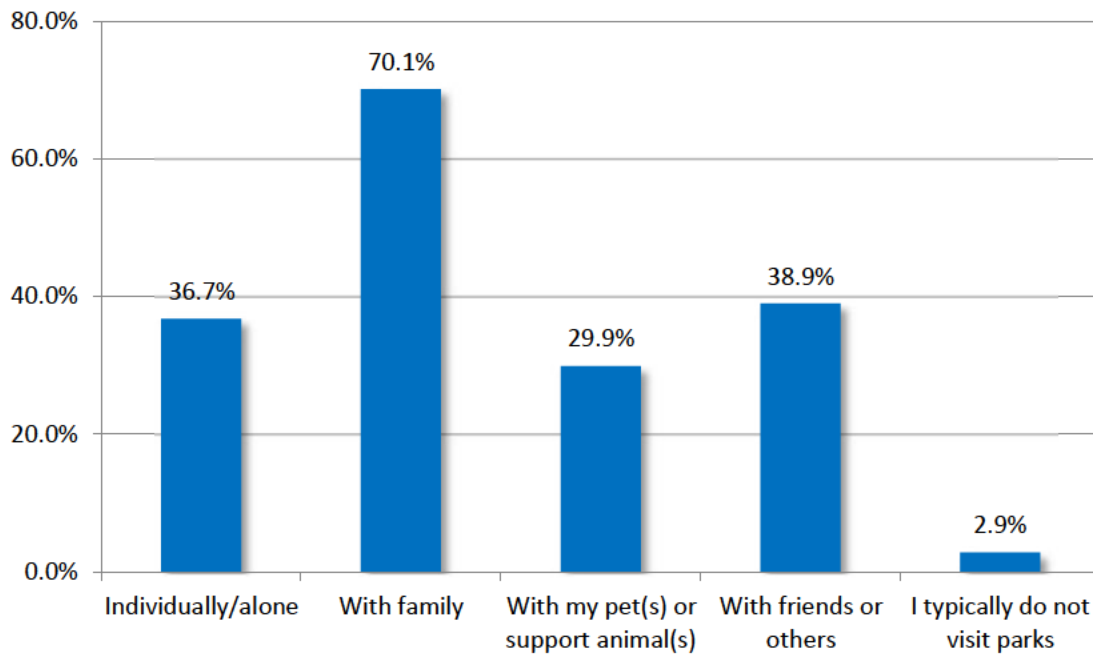
Answer Choices	All Responses		Town Responses	
Once a year	1.3%	6	1.0%	2
I do not typically visit parks or not applicable	2.4%	11	2.0%	4
Once a month	5.1%	23	5.5%	11
A few times a year	17.4%	79	16.1%	32
A few times a month	19.6%	89	18.1%	36
Weekly	21.1%	96	24.6%	49
Multiple times a week	33.2%	151	32.7%	65
	Answered	455		199
	Skipped	119		37



Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

How do you typically like to visit parks?

Answer Choices	All Responses		Town Responses	
Individually/alone	36.7%	166	36.9%	73
With family	70.1%	317	71.2%	141
With my pet(s) or support animal(s)	29.9%	135	35.9%	71
With friends or others	38.9%	176	34.9%	69
I typically do not visit parks	2.9%	13	2.0%	4
	Answered	452		198
	Skipped	122		38

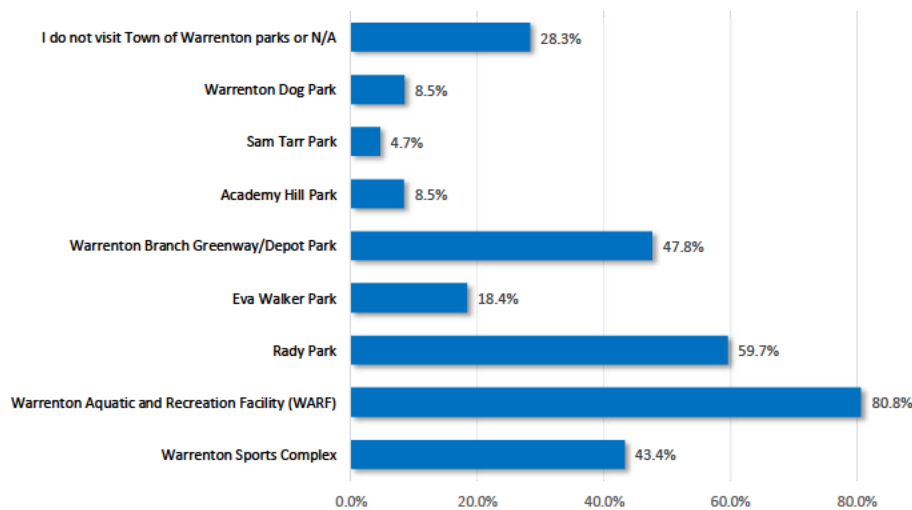


Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

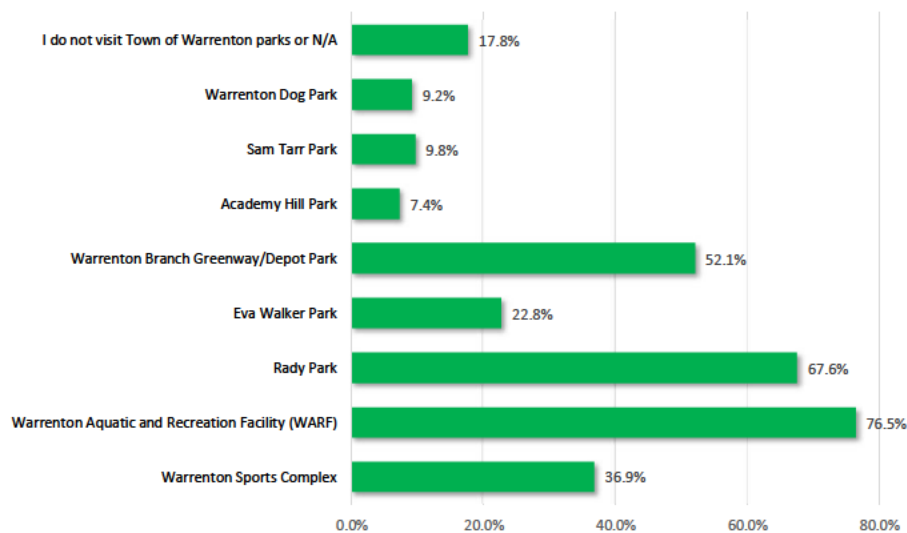
Which Town of Warrenton parks or recreation facilities do you like to visit most often?

Park or Facility	All Responses				Town Responses			
	Most Visited	2nd Most Visited	3rd Most Visited	Total	Most Visited	2nd Most Visited	3rd Most Visited	Total
Warrenton Sports Complex	11.9%	17.2%	14.2%	43.4%	10.1%	11.2%	15.6%	36.9%
Warrenton Aquatic and Recreation Facility (WARF)	51.5%	19.7%	9.6%	80.8%	42.7%	23.0%	10.8%	76.5%
Rady Park	16.1%	27.9%	15.7%	59.7%	18.1%	31.6%	18.0%	67.6%
Eva Walker Park	2.4%	3.6%	12.4%	18.4%	3.5%	4.3%	15.0%	22.8%
Warrenton Branch Greenway/Depot Park	9.9%	17.0%	20.9%	47.8%	14.1%	17.1%	21.0%	52.1%
Academy Hill Park	2.7%	1.9%	3.9%	8.5%	3.5%	2.7%	1.2%	7.4%
Sam Tarr Park	1.5%	1.2%	1.9%	4.7%	3.5%	2.7%	3.6%	9.8%
Warrenton Dog Park	1.5%	3.4%	3.6%	8.5%	3.0%	3.2%	3.0%	9.2%
I do not visit Town of Warrenton parks or N/A	2.2%	8.0%	18.1%	28.3%	1.5%	4.3%	12.0%	17.8%

Most Visited (All Responses)



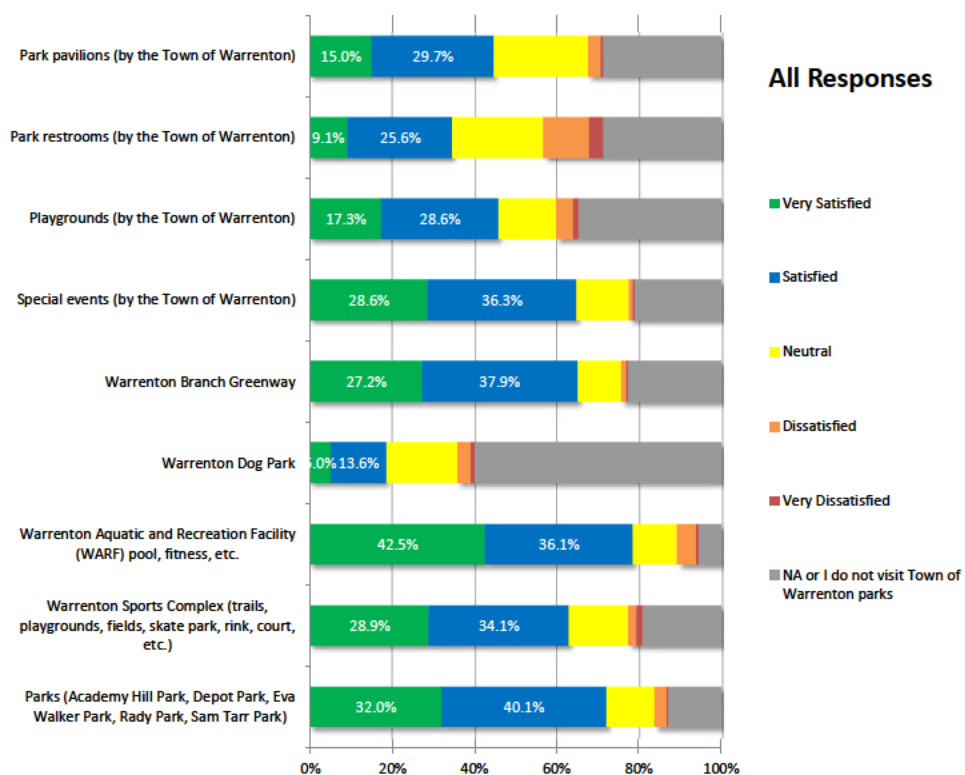
Most Visited (Town Responses)



Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

Overall, how satisfied are you with the condition and/or experience received from the following Town of Warrenton recreation facilities?

	All Responses												
	Very Satisfied		Satisfied		Neutral		Dissatisfied		Very Dissatisfied		NA or I do not visit Town of Warrenton parks		Total
Parks (Academy Hill Park, Depot Park, Eva Walker Park, Rady Park, Sam Tarr Park)	32.0%	141	40.1%	177	11.8%	52	3.0%	13	0.5%	2	12.7%	56	441
Warrenton Sports Complex (trails, playgrounds, fields, skate park, rink, court, etc.)	28.9%	127	34.1%	150	14.6%	64	2.1%	9	1.4%	6	19.1%	84	440
Warrenton Aquatic and Recreation Facility (WARF) pool, fitness, etc.	42.5%	191	36.1%	162	10.7%	48	4.7%	21	0.7%	3	5.4%	24	449
Warrenton Dog Park	5.0%	21	13.6%	57	17.2%	72	3.3%	14	1.0%	4	59.9%	251	419
Warrenton Branch Greenway	27.2%	117	37.9%	163	10.7%	46	1.2%	5	0.5%	2	22.6%	97	430
Special events (by the Town of Warrenton)	28.6%	123	36.3%	156	12.8%	55	0.9%	4	0.5%	2	20.9%	90	430
Playgrounds (by the Town of Warrenton)	17.3%	73	28.6%	121	14.0%	59	4.3%	18	1.2%	5	34.8%	147	423
Park restrooms (by the Town of Warrenton)	9.1%	39	25.6%	110	22.1%	95	11.2%	48	3.5%	15	28.6%	123	430
Park pavilions (by the Town of Warrenton)	15.0%	64	29.7%	127	23.0%	98	3.0%	13	0.7%	3	28.6%	122	427
												Answered	455
												Skipped	119



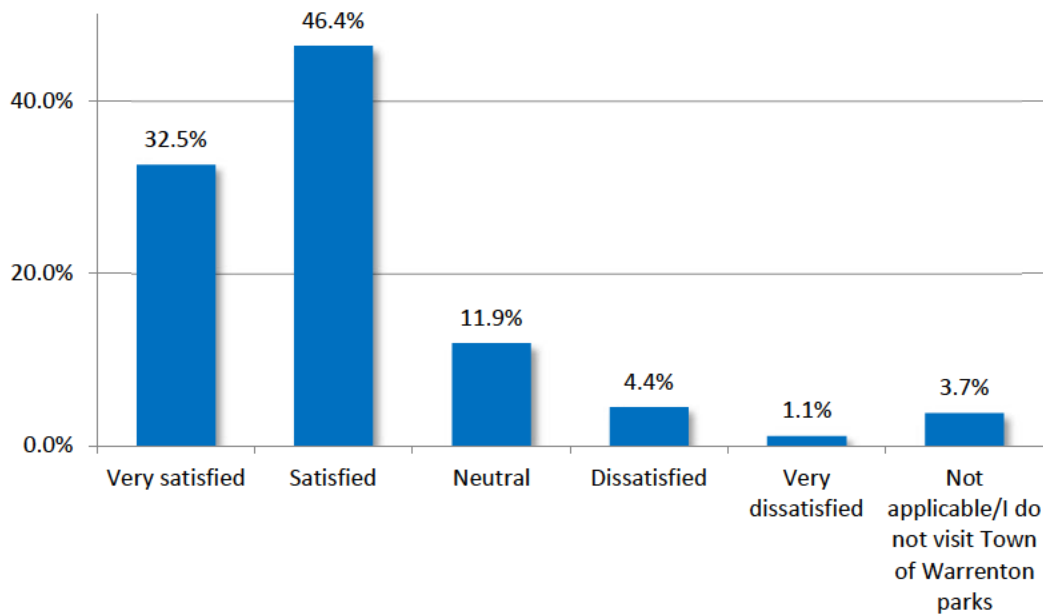
	Town Responses													Total
	Very Satisfied		Satisfied		Neutral		Dissatisfied		Very Dissatisfied		NA or I do not visit Town of Warrenton parks			
Parks (Academy Hill Park, Depot Park, Eva Walker Park, Rady Park, Sam Tarr Park)	38.5%	75	41.0%	80	10.8%	21	4.1%	8	0.5%	1	5.1%	10	195	
Warrenton Sports Complex (trails, playgrounds, fields, skate park, rink, court, etc.)	32.0%	62	31.4%	61	17.5%	34	2.1%	4	2.6%	5	14.4%	28	194	
Warrenton Aquatic and Recreation Facility (WARF) pool, fitness, etc.	41.6%	82	36.6%	72	12.7%	25	5.1%	10	0.0%	0	4.1%	8	197	
Warrenton Dog Park	4.3%	8	16.6%	31	18.7%	35	4.8%	9	2.1%	4	53.5%	100	187	
Warrenton Branch Greenway	36.8%	71	37.3%	72	10.9%	21	0.5%	1	0.5%	1	14.0%	27	193	
Special events (by the Town of Warrenton)	31.1%	59	40.5%	77	12.6%	24	0.5%	1	1.1%	2	14.2%	27	190	
Playgrounds (by the Town of Warrenton)	21.1%	40	32.6%	62	13.7%	26	4.7%	9	1.6%	3	26.3%	50	190	
Park restrooms (by the Town of Warrenton)	11.3%	22	26.3%	51	26.3%	51	10.8%	21	3.6%	7	21.7%	42	194	
Park pavilions (by the Town of Warrenton)	17.8%	34	30.4%	58	26.7%	51	3.1%	6	1.6%	3	20.4%	39	191	
												Answered	199	
												Skipped	37	



Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

How satisfied are you with the quality of maintenance of parks, recreation facilities, athletic fields and courts, and trails?

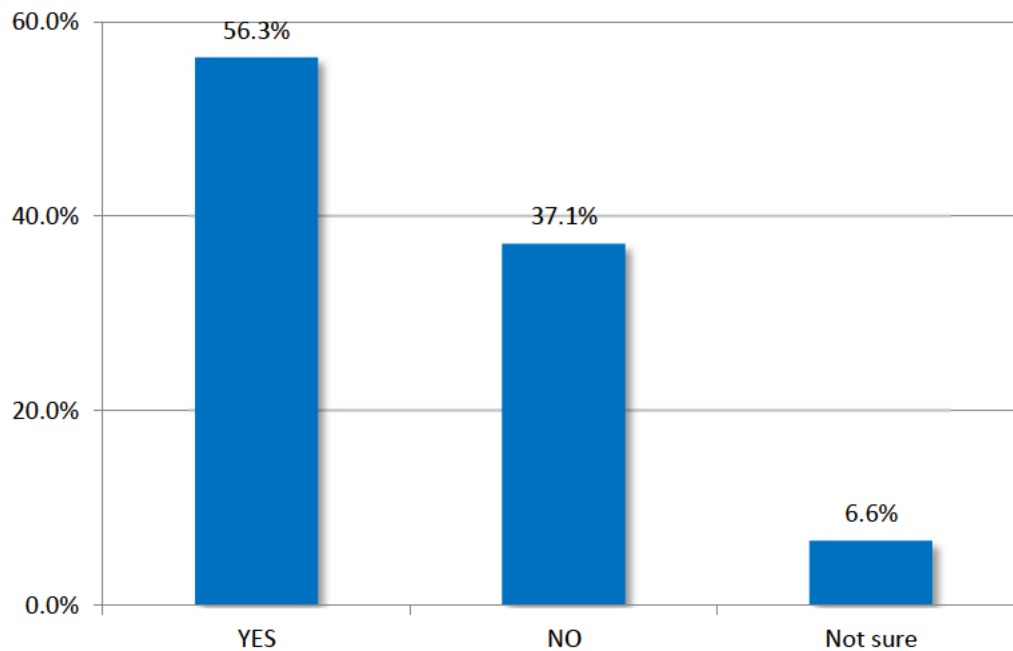
Answer Choices	All Responses		Town Responses	
Very satisfied	32.5%	148	36.2%	72
Satisfied	46.4%	211	44.2%	88
Neutral	11.9%	54	13.1%	26
Dissatisfied	4.4%	20	4.5%	9
Very dissatisfied	1.1%	5	1.5%	3
Not applicable/I do not visit Town of Warrenton parks	3.7%	17	0.5%	1
	Answered	455		199
	Skipped	119		37



Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

Have you or members of your household participated in an event or recreation program (aquatics, fitness, recreation, educational, etc.) offered by the Town of Warrenton during the last 12 months?

Answer Choices	All Responses		Town Responses	
YES	56.3%	256	60.3%	120
NO	37.1%	169	35.2%	70
Not sure	6.6%	30	4.5%	9
	Answered	455		199
	Skipped	119		37



Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

If you have participated in a Town of Warrenton event or recreation program in the last 12 months, which ones have you attended/participated?

Answered

242

Skipped

332

Rank	Program / Activity	# of Mentions (All Responses)	Notes / Common Variations Included
1	Swim Lessons / Swimming at the WARF	58	Includes "swim class," "swimming lessons," "swim lessons at WARF," "aquatics classes," and "open swim."
2	First Friday	25	Includes "First Fridays," "Friday night out," and similar event phrasing.
3	Town Limits Festival / Warrenton Town Limits	23	Includes "Town Limits," "Town Limits Festival," and "Warrenton Town Limits."
4	Fitness / Exercise / Group Classes at WARF	20	Includes "fitness classes," "exercise classes," "group fitness," "group exercise," "pump," "cardio," etc.
5	4th of July / Independence Day Celebration	18	Includes "4th of July," "July 4," "Independence Day," and fireworks events linked to this date.
6	Parades (Christmas, Memorial Day, etc.)	15	Includes "Christmas parade," "Memorial Day parade," "parades," etc.
7	Trunk or Treat / Halloween / Flashlight Candy Hunts	13	Includes "Trunk or Treat," "Flashlight Egg Hunt," "Halloween Parade," "Candy Hunt," etc.
8	WARF Aquatics / Aqua Fitness / Water Aerobics	12	Includes "Aqua Tabata," "deep water aerobics," "Aqua Yoga," "water walking," etc.
9	Farmers Market	8	Includes "Farmers Market," "Friday on Main Street," and "Main Street Events."
10	Yoga	7	Includes "Yoga at WARF," "Wind Down Yoga," "Align Breathe Control," "Slow Flow Yoga," etc.

All Responses
Parks & Rec Day in April
NA
First Friday
Flashlight Halloween, Easter egg and the warf, we try to be at most warrenton events.
Fireworks at the WARF. First Fridays. Gumdrops Square. Some parades.
Facility rentals
Painting in the Park
Sports Youth Programs
Puzzle Wars, Book festival, fall festival, first Friday, Warrenton after hours, book walk
4th of July
yoga/ water classes
member of WARF, swim and fitness
Swim class
Swim lessons
I attend most of the events that close down Main Street. Festivals. First Fridays. Etc.
Warf gym, Pool, 4th of July
Swim class, Easter egg hunt, kite flying, Halloween parade
Flashlight Easter egg hunt
July 4, First Fridays, fall festival
Fitness at warf
Parades
Swim lessons, preschool level & youth
Children swim lessons at WARF
Water aerobics
Fall Festival and First Fridays
Halloween trick or treat
Aquatics
WARF, Greenway, Eva walker
Multicultural day
Swim lessons
Memorial Day parade; Christmas parade
None
At the WARF
swimming lessons
First Fridays
Town limits, Christmas parade
Trunk or Treat, National Night Out, Town Limits, various WARF activities
0
Trunk or treat, Easter egg hunt, warrenton town limits
Fitness classes, Greenway, Friday Nights, Marshall Park
Fall fest, first Friday, parades
Volley Ball at the WARF
Quite a few
Please stop spraying all the parks with fertilizer and pesticides. It's harming the environment, the kids and the pets that play there. Also the park bathrooms are disgusting. Rady is a mess - and at best, a worker absolutely soaks it with a hose but no real cleaning. Very
Most of them
Multiple events
Aquatic. Fitness class.
exercise classes
Sculpt class and deep water aerobics classes
Warrenton town limits
Swim classes
fitness class
Touch a truck, national night out, first Fridays, parades, farmers market, town limits festival
Town Limits
Farmers market, swim lessons at the WARF, other town festivals
Group fitness classes, story book walk greenway and train depot open house
Events in Old Town, Main street
n/a
July 4

Christmas Parade, Warrenton Town Limits
Town limits festival
First Friday
4th July
Flashlight egg and candy hunts
Personal training at the WARF, last fall's Your Town Academy
N/A - recently moved here
Town Limits festival
Summer nite in town
Swim
Swimming lessons at WARF
WARF swim lessons
they showed a moving in the park
Sculpt with Ray, Mid week mashup with Sam
Heritage festival
Rady Park Egg hunt / WARF Egg hunt
Yoga, First Friday Street Fairs, Farmers Market
Fitness
Water aerobics
Town limits
National Night Out, Town Limits, drive in, first friday
Town Limits
deep water cardio, spin at WARF
Swim lessons at WARF, exercise pump classes at WARF, warf soccer fields, touch a truck event, swim with Santa event
Town Limits; Easter Egg Hunt; Treat or Treat at WARF; Flashing Light Candy Hunt at Rady Park, etc.
WARF: Spin, Aquatics, Sculpt,
Fitness classes
1st Friday
Swim Lessons
None
Swimming lessons at the warf
4th of July parade; fireworks at WARF; WARF classes
Pound Fitness, Step Fitness
Yoga classes
First Friday, various parades, Friday night out
First Friday
Vint Hill Facility
Sculpt, spin, rise and shine yoga, align breathe control, ride and roll, pilates, cardio splash, wind down yoga, cycle, gentle yoga, slow flow yoga
Homeschool PE, are at Community centers in Warrenton and Vent Hill
Puzzle wars, parades
National Night Out
Swim class
Swim class
yes town day
Swim
Swimming lessons at WARF
Swim lessons
Town Limits
Aquatics - class
Town limits
WARF Group Classes
4 of July, National Night Out
WARF classes, July 4th
Touch a truck, 4th of July celebration
Fireworks
WARF classes
WARF morning classes
WARF AQUATIC Classes
Fitness, aquatic
1st Friday

Social and political evens
Christmas parade, 4th of july
Boat Races, Warrenton Town Limits, Painting in the Park
Town Limits
Parades
WARF Aqua Yoga and PowerTalk with Kaoury.
aquatics, fitness, recreation
yoga
Multiple warf events
Sculpt, cardio Aquatics and tabata
WARF swim classes, parades, Master Gardener at Rady Park
July fireworks town celebration
Swimming lessons
Yoga at the WARF
Swim lessons at the WARF, Soccer
swim class at the WARF
fitness classes
WARF Aquatics
Fall Festival, if that counts
swim lessons at WARF for child
WARF gym
First Fridays Juneteenth and other festivals
All major festivals, Easter warf events, first fridays, town limits festival, Christmas parade, gumdrop square
fitness
Swim Lessons
WTL
swim lessons at the WARF
WARF aquatics
City limits fesitival
Pickleball
AQUATICS
n/a
Aquatic, fitness
Rady Park 25th anniversary celebration
Workout programs at the WARF.
I've attended a recreation class and my son attended swim class
rec soccer, fitness at warf
Open lane swim @ WARF
4th of july, Warrenton PD event, International event at warf, 1st Fridays, sporting events,
Parent & Me 1 Swim Class
Easter Egg Hunt, Touch a Truck
Fitness
Swim lessons
Aquatic
Swim lessons
Swim Class, Juneteenth, First Fridays, Memorial Day Parade
Flashlight candy hunt, cultural heritage festival
juneteenth, warf
Trunk or treat, national night out, classes at warf
Old town events , parades
Fall Festival, Cultural Festival, parades, etc
Juneteenth, 4th of July, 1st Friday
Warf
First Fridays (is that y'all?), a WARF fitness class, possibly other things I'm forgetting
Fireworks
wind down yoga
Warf
Fireworks
Weekly summer swim lessons the past two summers
Fitness classes
Fitness classes

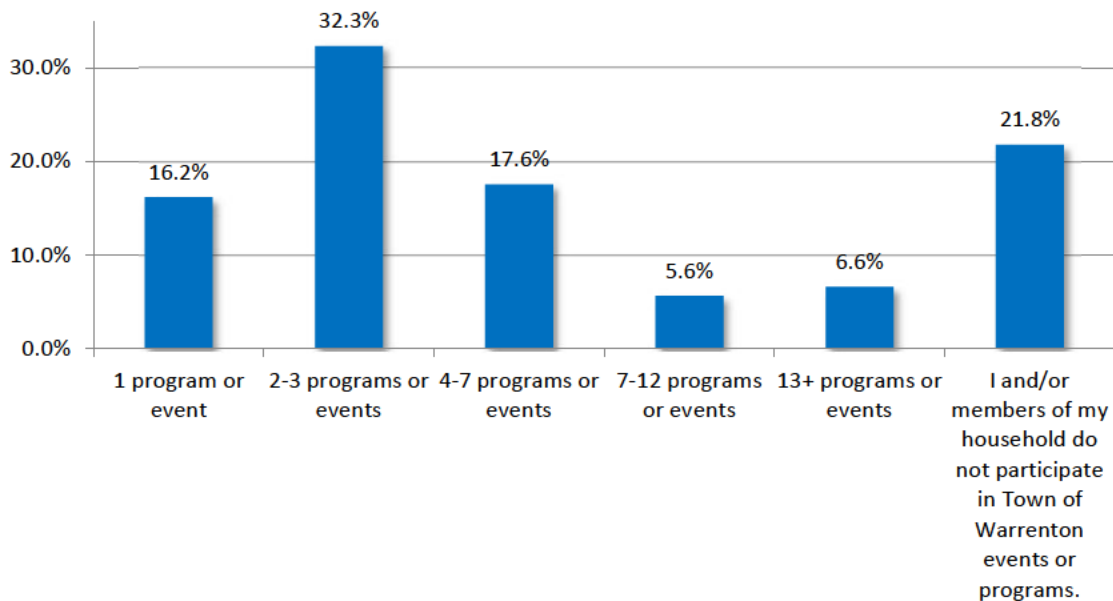
Kids library programs, events at the Warf
aquatics classes
Swim
Fitness
Swim lessons
Swim Lessons, National Night Out, Town Festival With Fireworks
Open swim
Town limits
Christmas parade
Swim lessons
Group exercise and water exercises
WARF and I walk the greenway for exercise
Warf
Yoga, Zumba, water classes
Swimming, family town events
Classes at WARF
Home schools and library activities
Tuesday water walking
Aquafit/Halloween/Veterans Day/Thanksgiving/Gundrop Square/Christmas Parade/St.Patrick's Day Parade/Movie At The Park
Water Tabata
Swimming
Main Street events and farmers markets
First friday
Swim lessons
WARF classes
Cycling classes at the WARF
Classes at WARF
WARF
Boat race
Aquatic
Puzzle Wars if that counts.
Movie night
national night out and more
Swimming at the WARF
First Friday
Pickleball
In the WARF parking lot. The international culture.
Swimming
Fun run, 4th of July, soccer field
Aquatic and land classes
WARF
Fitness classes at the WARF
Parades, fitness class. Fireworks
Not in last 12 months, but have previously taken fitness classes at WARF
Swimming Lessons
Touch the trucks
Parade
Farmers Market and Friday on Main Street
Ward swimming classes
Aqua Tabata
exercise classes and personal training
volleyball and soccer for kids
Puzzle Wars
Fitness
Memorial day parade
WARF aquatic classes
Fitness, outside gatherings at parks
Fitness classes and pool
aquatic
Town Limites, Parades

swim lessons, holiday celebrations
Puzzle wars

Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

Approximately how many different events or programs offered by the Town of Warrenton have you or members of your household participated in over the past 12 months?

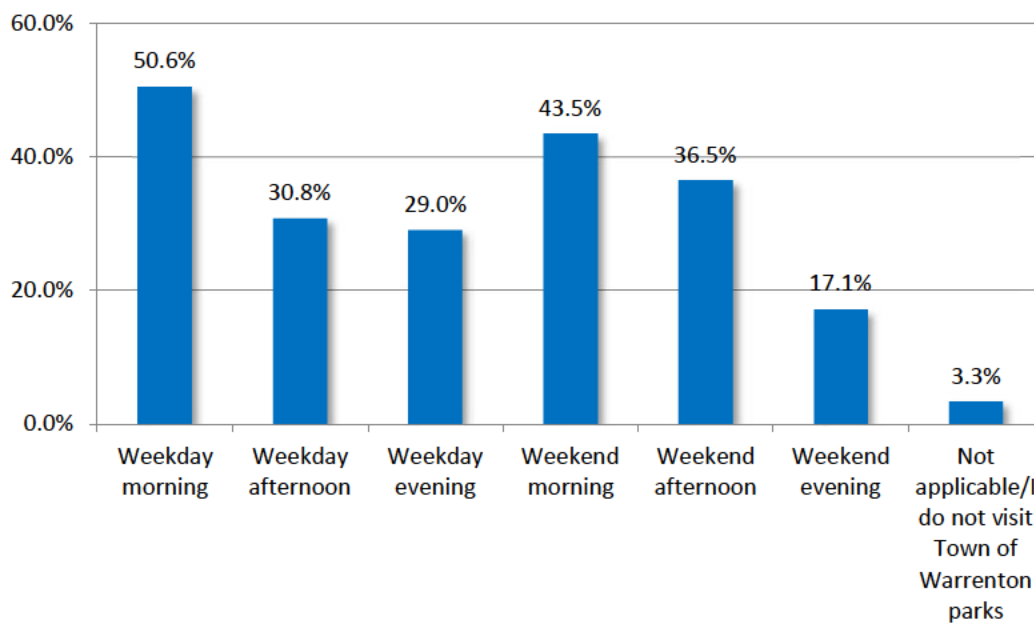
Answer Choices	All Responses		Town Responses	
1 program or event	16.2%	69	16.0%	30
2-3 programs or events	32.3%	138	33.2%	62
4-7 programs or events	17.6%	75	18.7%	35
7-12 programs or events	5.6%	24	4.8%	9
13+ programs or events	6.6%	28	5.9%	11
I and/or members of my household do not participate in Town of Warrenton events or programs.	21.8%	93	21.4%	40
	Answered	427		187
	Skipped	147		49



Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

What days and times do you most frequently participate or visit parks?

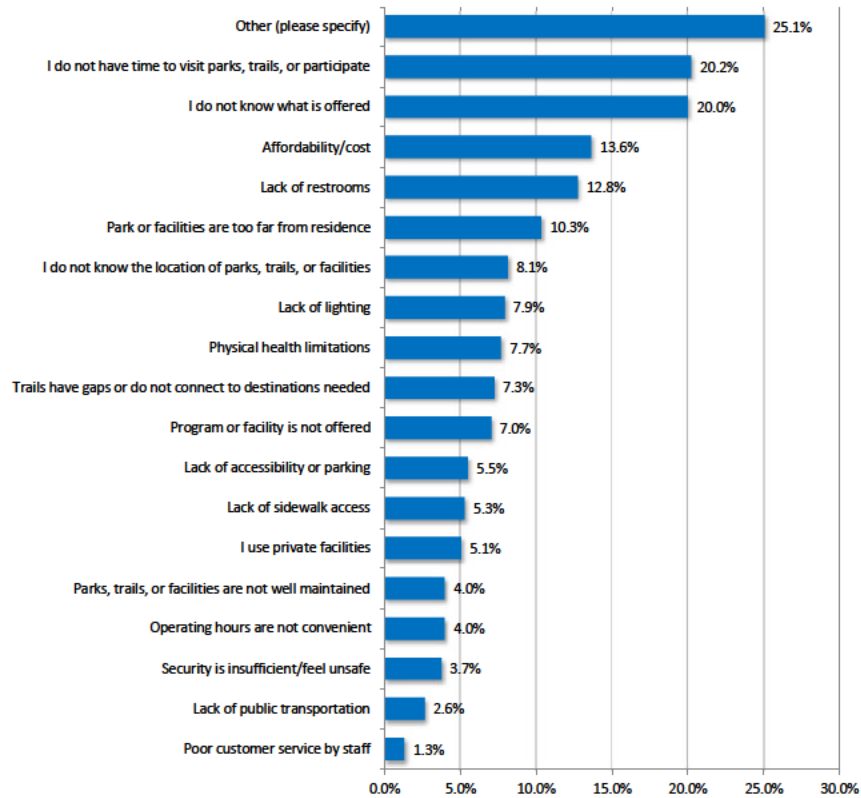
Answer Choices	All Responses		Town Responses	
Weekday morning	50.6%	230	45.7%	91
Weekday afternoon	30.8%	140	28.1%	56
Weekday evening	29.0%	132	35.2%	70
Weekend morning	43.5%	198	47.2%	94
Weekend afternoon	36.5%	166	41.2%	82
Weekend evening	17.1%	78	18.6%	37
Not applicable/I do not visit Town of Warrenton parks	3.3%	15	2.5%	5
	Answered	455		199
	Skipped	119		37



Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

CHECK ALL the reasons that prevent you or other members of your household from visiting parks, trails, recreation facilities, or participating in programs or events by the Town of Warrenton.

Answer Choices	All Responses	Town Responses
Poor customer service by staff	1.3% 6	0.5% 1
Lack of public transportation	2.6% 12	1.5% 3
Security is insufficient/feel unsafe	3.7% 17	3.5% 7
Operating hours are not convenient	4.0% 18	3.5% 7
Parks, trails, or facilities are not well maintained	4.0% 18	6.0% 12
I use private facilities	5.1% 23	5.0% 10
Lack of sidewalk access	5.3% 24	6.5% 13
Lack of accessibility or parking	5.5% 25	5.5% 11
Program or facility is not offered	7.0% 32	5.0% 10
Trails have gaps or do not connect to destinations needed	7.3% 33	9.1% 18
Physical health limitations	7.7% 35	8.5% 17
Lack of lighting	7.9% 36	10.6% 21
I do not know the location of parks, trails, or facilities	8.1% 37	6.5% 13
Park or facilities are too far from residence	10.3% 47	4.0% 8
Lack of restrooms	12.8% 58	10.6% 21
Affordability/cost	13.6% 62	12.1% 24
I do not know what is offered	20.0% 91	18.1% 36
I do not have time to visit parks, trails, or participate	20.2% 92	17.6% 35
Other (please specify)	25.1% 114	28.6% 57
Answered	455	199
Skipped	119	37



Other (please specify)
Soccer fields have no lights for the kids to practice.
Too many kids and not enough square footage of playground
Our own personal work schedules
I work in town but live out of county; I visit local parks at lunch time or after work; as a Fauquier county employee it would be appreciated to offer a discount for use of the WARF; I would use it at least 2x a week if that were the case.
Not that interested
When I am not in Warrenton
Swim lessons fill up fast. The times are not convenient
I fo visit every day.
Lack of seating space and shade for adults and lack of shade for children on play structures
our family's lack of time!
Not enough nature trails in general Warrenton locale
Busy schedule
Busy with activities outside of Warenton
everyone does not get up their pets waste
Would like more information on each park and trails
Nothing really
We are newcomers to Warrenton, and older. We would welcome a newcomers club of some kind.
Please stop spraying all the parks with fertilizer and pesticides. It's harming the environment, the kids and the pets that play there. Also the park bathrooms are disgusting. Rady is a mess - and at best, a worker absolutely soaks it with a hose but no real cleaning. Very disappointing
Herbicide usage at all parks. Very concerned about how much herbicide is being used where children play. Especially at rady park walking trail. Also bathrooms are often very dirty and unusable. Other than that it is a wonderful park! Herbicide usage at all parks is a huge concern for the health of people pets and especially children. It isn't necessary.
Out of town/on vacation/scheduling conflict
WARF does not have sauna so sometimes we make the drive to Freedom Aquatic. More facilities available for indoor activities such as basketball.
Lack of restrooms on the Greenway
Would visit Greenway if there were actual bathrooms and not just porta-potties.
lack of shade at playgrounds
NA
Age
N/A
lack of connectivity between parks, poorly marked bike routes between parks
N/a
Eva Walker Park is not that great. Kids don't want to play there.
Nothing really prevents me. We go when we want
Lack of walking and cycling trails
Don't like to leave puppy behind when I go to WARF
Greenway do not feel safe
None
too many people spoil any chance to enjoy nature, birdwatching, etc
N/A
N/a
Sometimes doesn't fit my schedule
I do visit
Na
None
Lack of shade

Rank	Barrier Theme	# of Mentions	Examples
1	Lack of Shade / Heat Concerns	12	"Lack of shade," "too hot," "lack of shade at playgrounds," "heat (lack of shade)," "need more shade on playgrounds."
2	Scheduling / Timing Conflicts (Work, Busy, Program Times)	11	"Work schedules," "busy schedule," "time of programs," "not convenient times," "my schedule," "construction makes it hard to get to WARF."
3	Lack of Amenities / Facility Limitations (Bathrooms, Seating, Childcare, Pickleball, etc.)	10	"Lack of restrooms," "no sauna," "not enough pickleball courts," "no fenced-in parks," "lack of seating," "WARF elevator not operating," "need more indoor activities."
4	Environmental / Maintenance Concerns	8	"Herbicide usage," "bathrooms dirty," "grass too high," "spraying pesticides," "equipment damaged."
5	Lack of Connectivity / Safety on Greenway / Awareness Issues	6	"Greenway does not feel safe," "don't feel safe on Greenway," "poorly marked bike routes," "don't kno

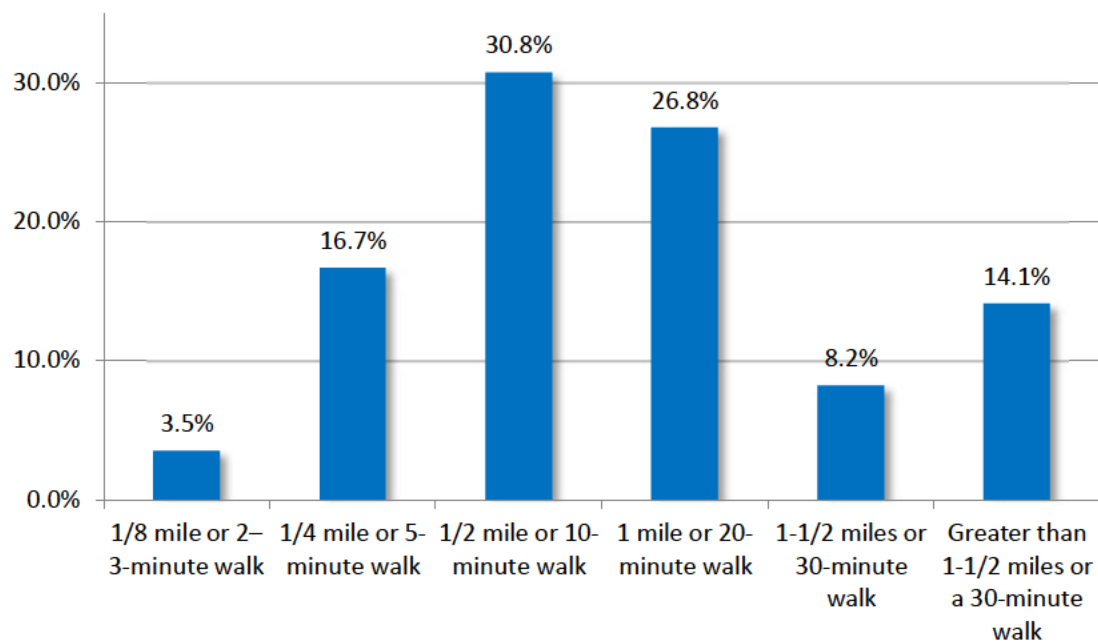
Nothing prevents
I do visit them
Warf doesn't have things for youth sports inside only swimming.
Park equipment is damaged on playgrounds or unsafe downtown park with protesters or others harassing or limiting access to park.
Na
Definitely the time of programs (need more evening and weekends)
I do visit
Lack of shade at playgrounds
Lack of shade during summer
NA - I do use WARF facilities
Lack of advertising
I do use facilities...cannot answer no to any of these questions.
I am not prevented from visiting.
I visit
I don't feel welcome when I went to work out at the Warf. Also would like aerobics. Not zumba.
I have no reason other than laziness
We specifically use the WARF
other than WARF, the other facilities are not a priority
I am a homebody
If playgrounds aren't accessible for my kids
NA
my schedule
WARF elevator is not operating half the time, limiting handicapped access. Also, some other locations have rough terrain and no walker/wheelchair access.
Too hot, more shade on playgrounds is needed
Not interested
no reason
I had a surgery that made driving and walking difficult this year. But I will resume more activities this year.
Not enough pickleball courts
Construction on business 29 makes it hard to get to WARF
n/a
Don't feel safe on Greenway
Do not know where trails are
Recreation classes that I am interested in are not at a convenient time for me, also no racquetball court
Parking- this especially pertains the the Greenway trails
lack of interest
There are none
Would love if the WARF offered childcare
No fenced in parks
None really apply
I do wish that we had some longer hike n bike trails. The Warrenton Greenway is a great start!
During swim team season, there are not enough lanes available during my available time.
I am not prevented from going to parks
n/a, nothing prevents me
I visit
N/A
NA
WARF is the only one of interest to me
Heat (lack of shade), bugs
I do visit. That wasn't an option.
Grass too high
Not applicable above
Not applicable
would like more water classes possibly an evening class for those that work.
Work
Weather
I go when I'm able to
I go to the WARF three days/week
None
I am new to Fauquier in the last 3 years.
Probably was not aware of a particular event
I use them so none of the above apply
Not enough pickleball courts
The greenway, warf and dog park offer all that I need
N a
N/A I visit the parks
I have no issues with not attending
Lack of interest
N/a

My family all has memberships to the WARF and we visit parks regularly.
Rude people
No longer have the pet that I used to take to parks. Also, no programming is offered that I've been interested in attending.
the fitness classes not offered at times for people who work

Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

How would you define 'walking distance'?

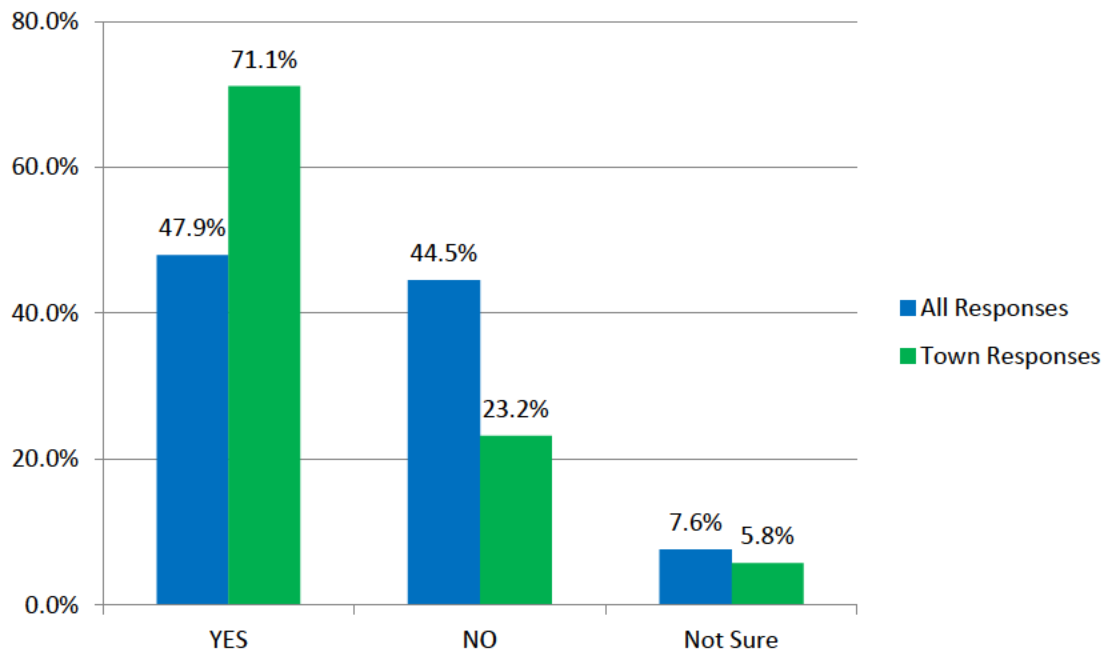
Answer Choices	All Responses		Town Responses	
1/8 mile or 2–3-minute walk	3.5%	15	2.1%	4
1/4 mile or 5-minute walk	16.7%	71	12.2%	23
1/2 mile or 10-minute walk	30.8%	131	30.7%	58
1 mile or 20-minute walk	26.8%	114	29.6%	56
1-1/2 miles or 30-minute walk	8.2%	35	12.2%	23
Greater than 1-1/2 miles or a 30-minute walk	14.1%	60	13.2%	25
	Answered	426		189
	Skipped	148		47



Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

Do you feel there is sufficient parks and/or publicly accessible open space within walking distance of your residence?

Answer Choices	All Responses		Town Responses	
YES	47.9%	209	71.1%	135
NO	44.5%	194	23.2%	44
Not Sure	7.6%	33	5.8%	11
	Answered	436		190
	Skipped	138		46

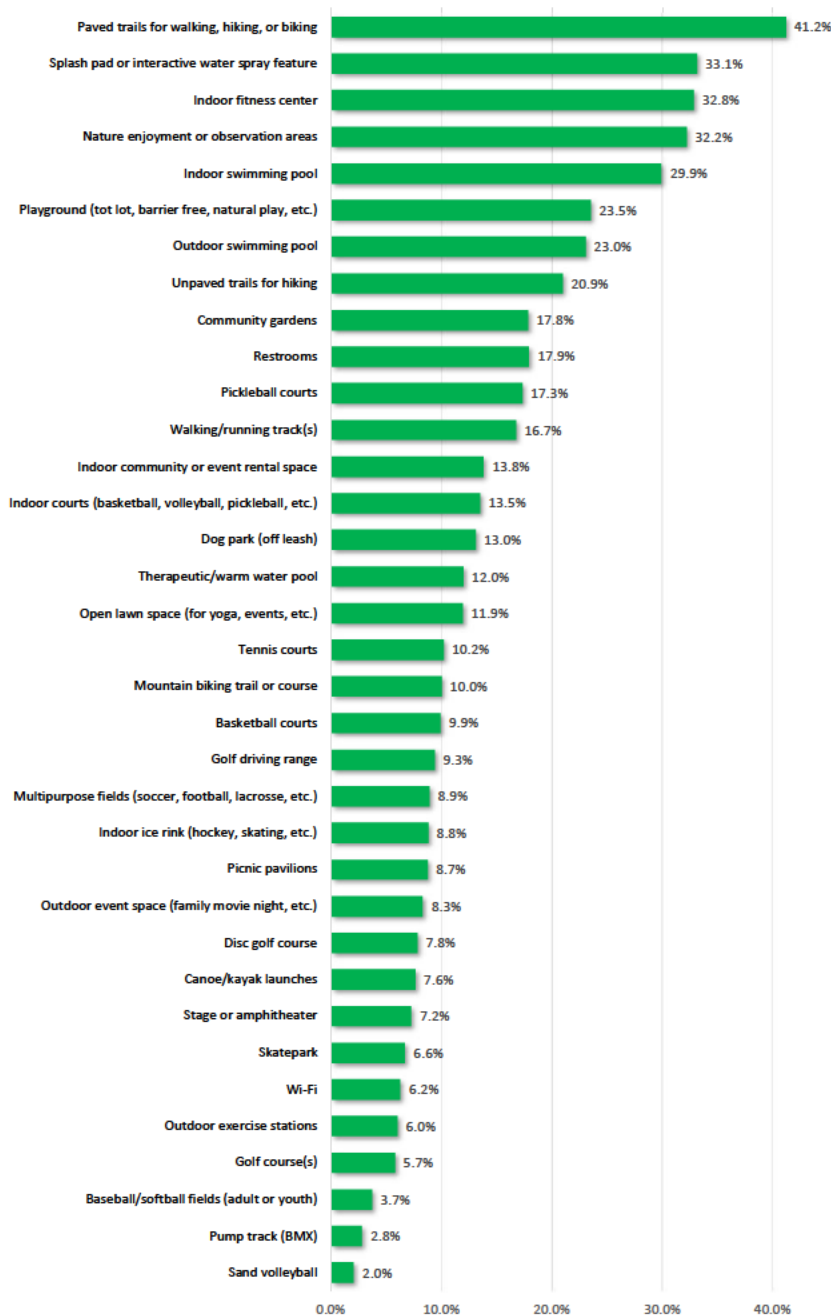


Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

What are your FIVE (5) most important recreation amenities or facilities you have a need for today?

Recreation Facilities/Amenities	All Responses						Town Response
	Most Needed:	2nd Most Needed:	3rd Most Needed:	4th Most Needed:	5th Most Needed:	Total	Total
Sand volleyball	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.9%	0.7%	1.8%	2.0%
Pump track (BMX)	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	0.9%	1.3%	2.8%	2.8%
Baseball/softball fields (adult or youth)	1.0%	0.8%	0.0%	1.2%	1.3%	4.3%	3.7%
Golf course(s)	1.2%	1.3%	1.1%	0.9%	1.3%	5.8%	5.7%
Outdoor exercise stations	0.0%	0.5%	2.5%	1.5%	1.6%	6.1%	6.0%
Wi-Fi	1.5%	0.8%	0.8%	0.9%	2.6%	6.6%	6.2%
Skatepark	1.2%	1.0%	1.9%	0.9%	0.3%	5.4%	6.6%
Stage or amphitheater	0.5%	1.5%	0.3%	2.4%	3.0%	7.7%	7.2%
Canoe/kayak launches	1.2%	1.8%	1.9%	2.4%	2.6%	9.9%	7.6%
Disc golf course	0.7%	2.5%	1.1%	2.1%	0.3%	6.8%	7.8%
Outdoor event space (family movie night, etc.)	1.0%	1.0%	3.0%	3.0%	2.3%	10.3%	8.3%
Picnic pavilions	0.2%	1.0%	1.4%	3.9%	2.6%	9.2%	8.7%
Indoor ice rink (hockey, skating, etc.)	1.0%	1.0%	2.5%	2.1%	2.0%	8.5%	8.8%
Multipurpose fields (soccer, football, lacrosse, etc.)	1.5%	1.8%	1.1%	1.2%	2.6%	8.2%	8.9%
Golf driving range	0.7%	2.0%	2.5%	2.7%	1.3%	9.3%	9.3%
Basketball courts	2.4%	1.3%	0.8%	1.8%	1.6%	8.0%	9.9%
Mountain biking trail or course	1.0%	1.5%	1.9%	2.1%	2.0%	8.5%	10.0%
Tennis courts	1.0%	0.5%	1.6%	1.8%	2.0%	6.9%	10.2%
Open lawn space (for yoga, events, etc.)	0.5%	0.5%	2.5%	2.7%	3.6%	9.8%	11.9%
Therapeutic/warm water pool	1.2%	1.5%	2.5%	2.7%	4.3%	12.2%	12.0%
Dog park (off leash)	1.7%	1.5%	2.5%	2.7%	2.0%	10.4%	13.0%
Indoor courts (basketball, volleyball, pickleball, etc.)	3.4%	4.6%	3.8%	2.7%	1.6%	16.1%	13.5%
Indoor community or event rental space	0.7%	3.1%	3.8%	1.5%	3.0%	12.0%	13.8%
Walking/running track(s)	2.2%	2.8%	4.1%	4.2%	4.3%	17.6%	16.7%
Pickleball courts	6.1%	4.3%	4.1%	4.5%	3.9%	22.9%	17.3%
Restrooms	2.4%	3.3%	5.4%	5.1%	4.9%	21.2%	17.9%
Community gardens	2.4%	3.3%	1.6%	2.4%	3.6%	13.4%	17.8%
Unpaved trails for hiking	3.2%	3.3%	6.3%	4.5%	6.6%	23.8%	20.9%
Outdoor swimming pool	5.8%	5.3%	4.4%	3.6%	4.3%	23.4%	23.0%
Playground (tot lot, barrier free, natural play, etc.)	5.3%	5.9%	3.5%	4.8%	1.3%	20.9%	23.5%
Indoor swimming pool	16.0%	9.9%	2.7%	3.6%	1.6%	33.9%	29.9%
Nature enjoyment or observation areas	2.4%	5.1%	7.3%	6.0%	8.9%	29.7%	32.2%
Indoor fitness center	14.5%	10.9%	5.4%	3.0%	2.6%	36.5%	32.8%
Splash pad or interactive water spray feature	7.8%	6.4%	4.6%	6.3%	4.6%	29.7%	33.1%
Paved trails for walking, hiking, or biking	8.5%	7.9%	10.6%	6.3%	7.5%	40.8%	41.2%
Answered						413	180
Skipped						161	56

Town Response Totals

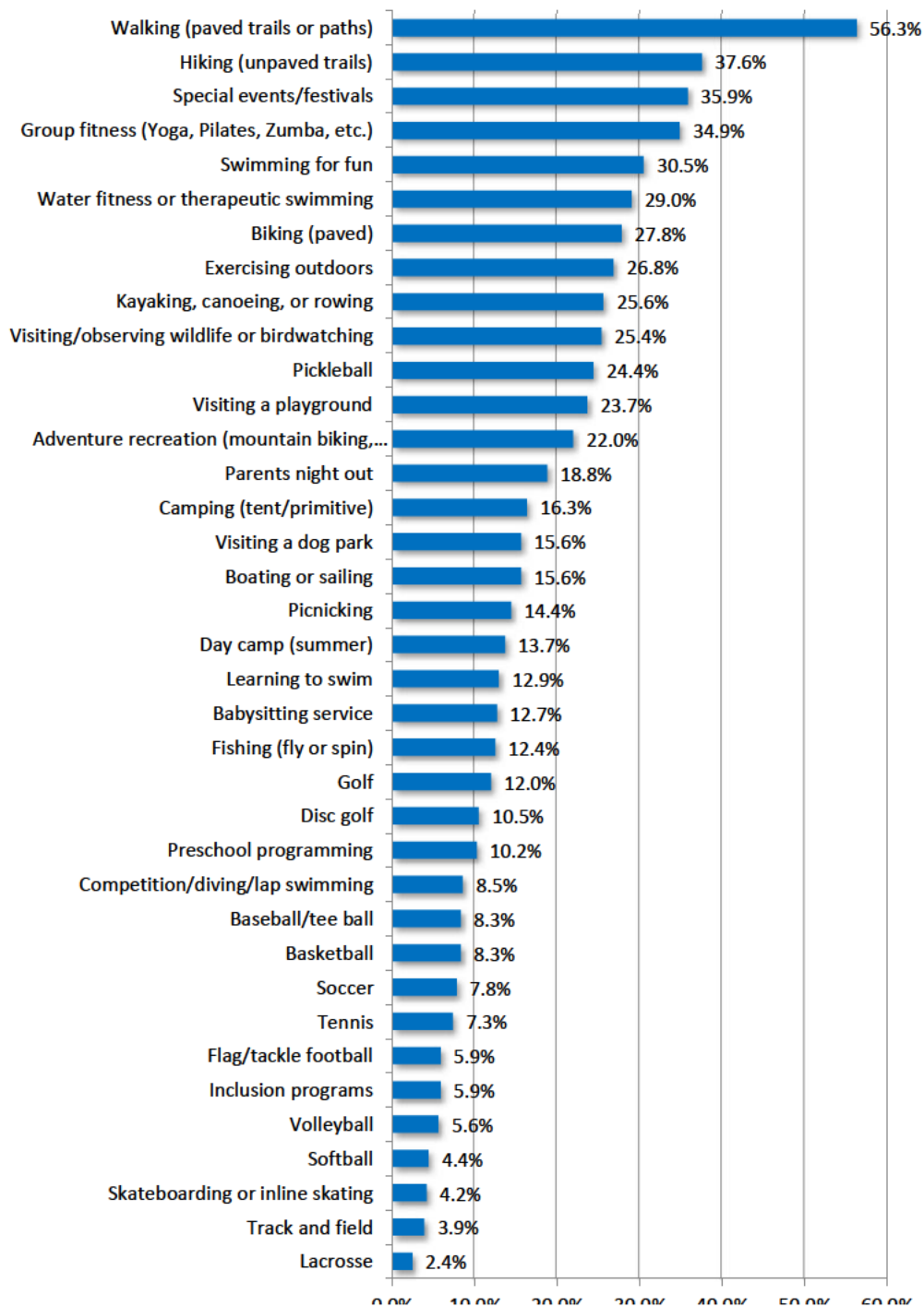


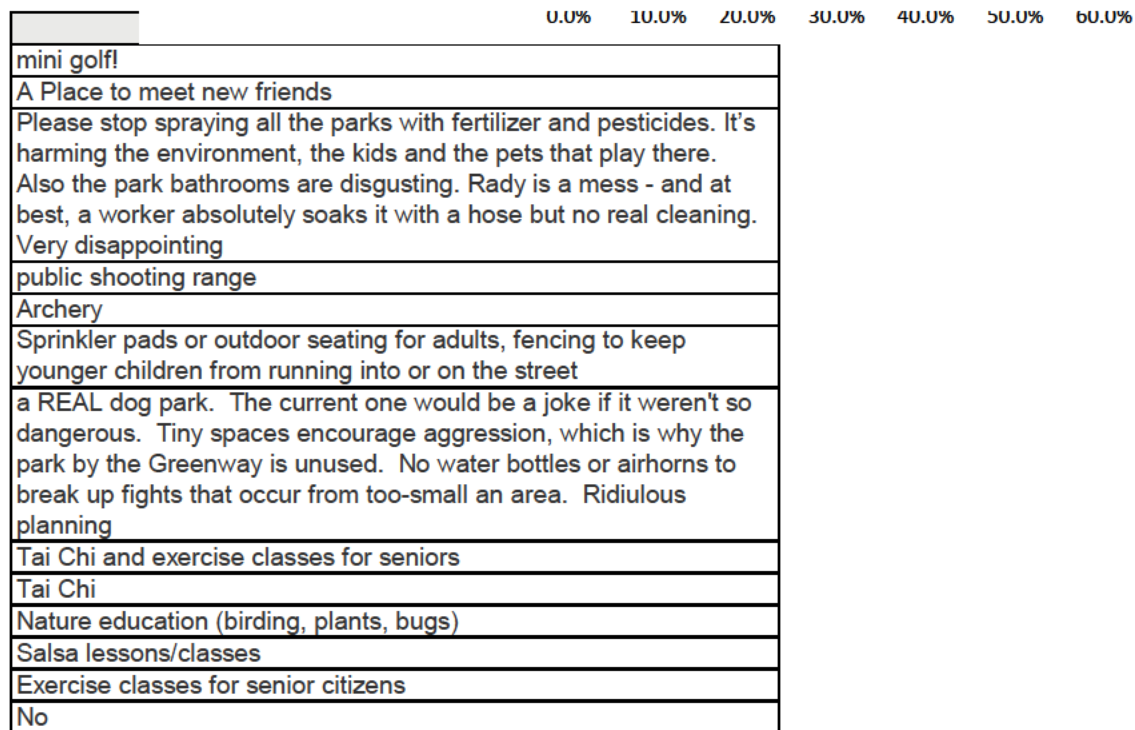
Other (please specify)
Facilities that meet the needs of our senior residents
Equestrian trails
outdoor tai chi classes with permanent scheduling (not occasionally)
More swings at Rady and the WARF, and replace broken swings
mini golf!
Fishing
Indoor play areas for young kids
A Newcomers club
Please stop spraying all the parks with fertilizer and pesticides. It's harming the environment, the kids and the pets that play there. Also the park bathrooms are disgusting. Rady is a mess - and at best, a worker absolutely soaks it with a hose but no real cleaning. Very disappointing
Need more areas where herbicides are not used and kids can play in nature
Walking trails
public shooting range
Archery range
Pet sitter at WARF
Equestrian trails
Ninja Course - Obstacle Courses for Kids & Adults
Indoor soccer facility for winter
Pickpeball
Larger fitness room at Warf and childcare provided.
More playground for different age range of kids including older kids not just littles
Nature center
Well connected, maintained sidewalks
Fishing
Not answering
I live in Warrenton Lakes.
Indoor rollerskating rink, SALT WATER POOL for lap swimming
Trails or lanes for bicycling that is separated from cars
Shaded playgrounds and water fountains
Competition pool main priority
Trail system connecting towns together.
Racquetball court
Activities for young toddlers
fenced in and shaded playgrounds
Fenced in park
SHADE!!!!
Restrooms nearby
Exercise classes for senior citizens
I'm happy with what the WARF has to offer.
For the community gardens, my wish is that you at least plots for people who want to have vegetable gardens. I know you have outdoor exercise station at the wharf, but what I'd like to see are various chinning bars, it wouldn't take much to put them in
Better biking lanes between parks

Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

Do you have a desire to participate in ANY of the following activities or would like more access to the activity? (select all that apply)

Answer Choices	All Responses		Town Responses	
Lacrosse	2.4%	10	1.7%	3
Track and field	3.9%	16	4.4%	8
Skateboarding or inline skating	4.2%	17	2.8%	5
Softball	4.4%	18	5.5%	10
Volleyball	5.6%	23	6.6%	12
Inclusion programs	5.9%	24	6.6%	12
Flag/tackle football	5.9%	24	7.7%	14
Tennis	7.3%	30	8.3%	15
Soccer	7.8%	32	5.5%	10
Basketball	8.3%	34	8.8%	16
Baseball/tee ball	8.3%	34	10.5%	19
Competition/diving/lap swimming	8.5%	35	5.5%	10
Preschool programming	10.2%	42	13.8%	25
Disc golf	10.5%	43	7.7%	14
Golf	12.0%	49	13.3%	24
Fishing (fly or spin)	12.4%	51	13.3%	24
Babysitting service	12.7%	52	14.4%	26
Learning to swim	12.9%	53	14.4%	26
Day camp (summer)	13.7%	56	18.8%	34
Picnicking	14.4%	59	14.4%	26
Boating or sailing	15.6%	64	14.4%	26
Visiting a dog park	15.6%	64	18.8%	34
Camping (tent/primitive)	16.3%	67	14.9%	27
Parents night out	18.8%	77	22.7%	41
Adventure recreation (mountain biking, climbing, trail running)	22.0%	90	23.8%	43
Visiting a playground	23.7%	97	24.3%	44
Pickleball	24.4%	100	22.7%	41
Visiting/observing wildlife or birdwatching	25.4%	104	24.3%	44
Kayaking, canoeing, or rowing	25.6%	105	24.3%	44
Exercising outdoors	26.8%	110	24.9%	45
Biking (paved)	27.8%	114	26.5%	48
Water fitness or therapeutic swimming	29.0%	119	25.4%	46
Swimming for fun	30.5%	125	27.1%	49
Group fitness (Yoga, Pilates, Zumba, etc.)	34.9%	143	30.4%	55
Special events/festivals	35.9%	147	40.9%	74
Hiking (unpaved trails)	37.6%	154	33.2%	60
Walking (paved trails or paths)	56.3%	231	57.5%	104
	Answered	410		181
	Skipped	164		55

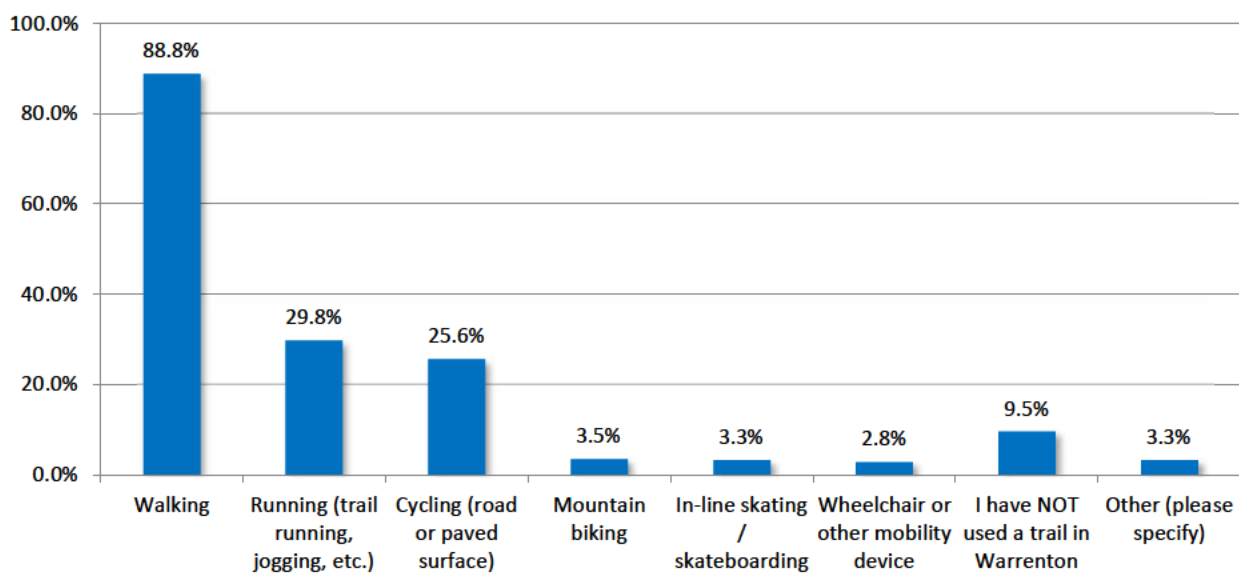




Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

Which of the following ways have you used a trail in Warrenton?

Answer Choices	All Responses		Town Responses	
Walking	88.8%	382	93.0%	173
Running (trail running, jogging, etc.)	29.8%	128	33.9%	63
Cycling (road or paved surface)	25.6%	110	30.1%	56
Mountain biking	3.5%	15	2.7%	5
In-line skating / skateboarding	3.3%	14	2.7%	5
Wheelchair or other mobility device	2.8%	12	2.2%	4
I have NOT used a trail in Warrenton	9.5%	41	6.5%	12
Other (please specify)	3.3%	14	0.5%	1
	Answered	430		186
	Skipped	144		50

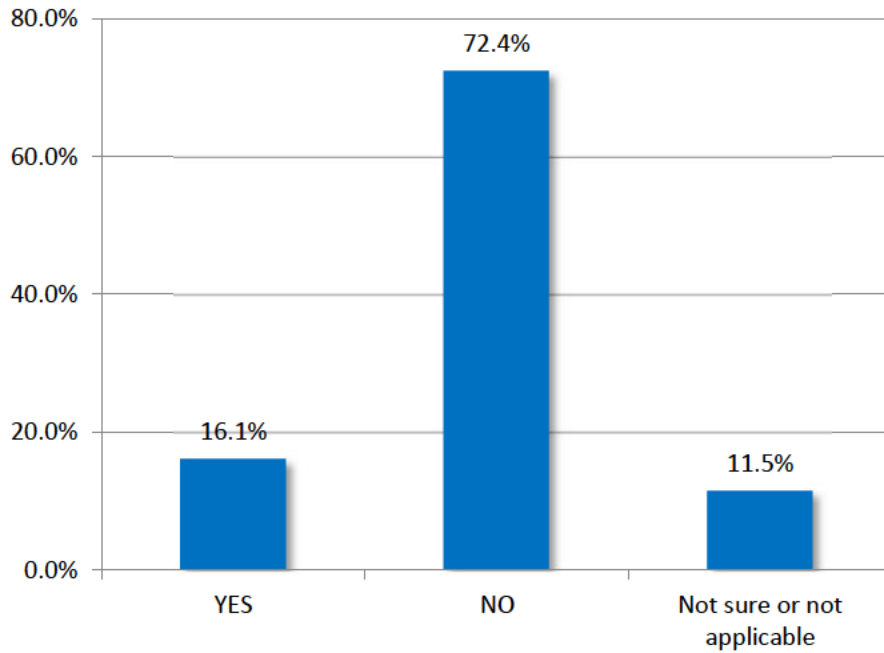


Other (please specify)
Please stop spraying all the parks with fertilizer and pesticides. It's harming the environment,
Scooter
strolling with stroller
Stroller and scooters
Scooters
My husband uses mountain biking trails
Stroller pushing
Walk dogs
Stroller
Stroller
A trail from Warrenton Lakes to Giant would be nice
Baby stroller
Horse back riding
Stroller

Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

Have you ever felt unsafe while using a trail in Warrenton?

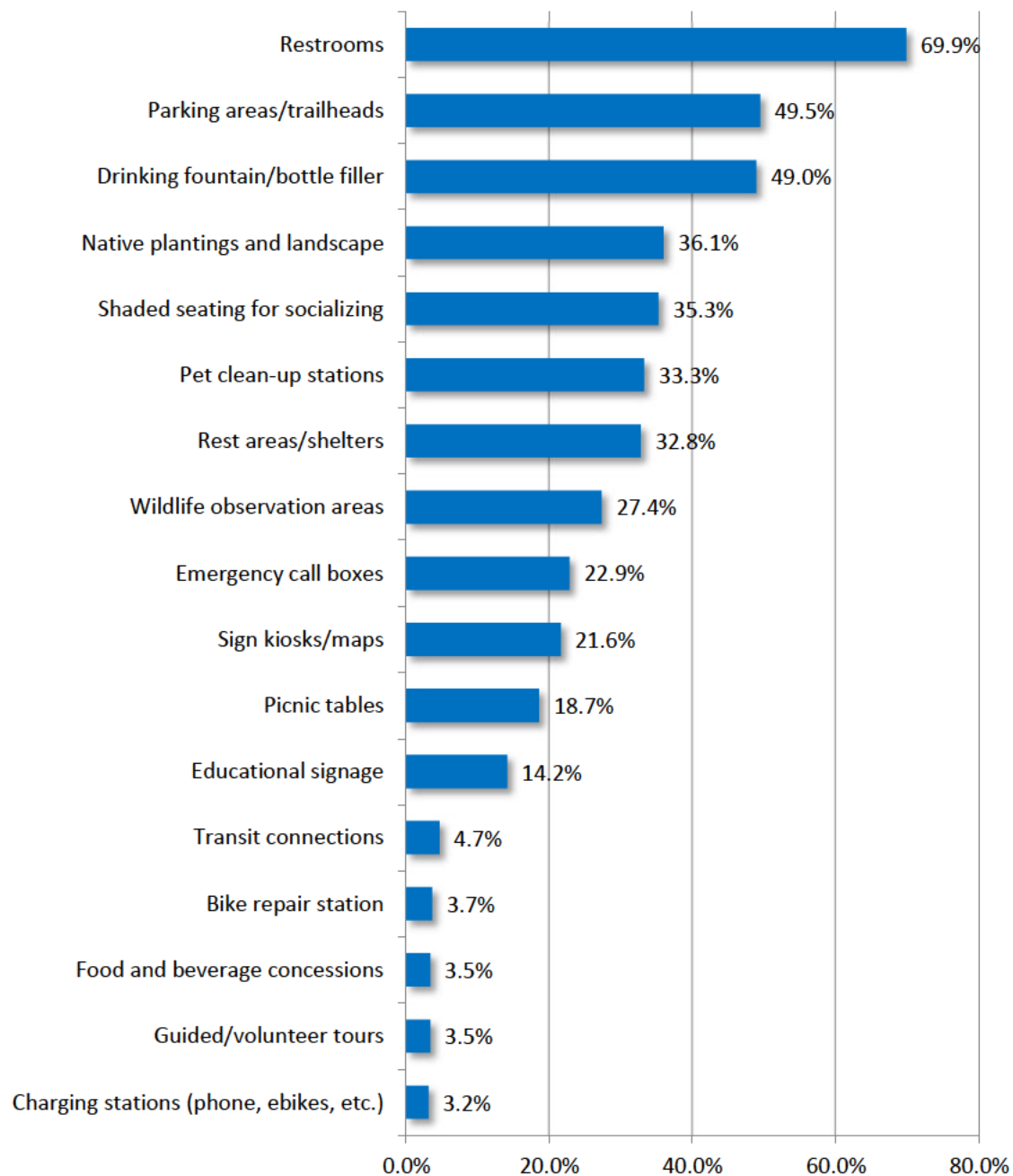
Answer Choices	All Responses		Town Responses	
YES	16.1%	69	18.8%	35
NO	72.4%	310	72.6%	135
Not sure or not applicable	11.5%	49	8.6%	16
	Answered	428		186
	Skipped	146		50



Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

What amenities do you desire most along trails? (select all that apply)

Answer Choices	All Responses		Town Responses	
Bicycle/skate rental	2.0%	8	1.7%	3
Charging stations (phone, ebikes, etc.)	3.2%	13	3.3%	6
Guided/volunteer tours	3.5%	14	2.8%	5
Food and beverage concessions	3.5%	14	3.9%	7
Bike repair station	3.7%	15	3.9%	7
Transit connections	4.7%	19	4.4%	8
Educational signage	14.2%	57	13.3%	24
Picnic tables	18.7%	75	18.9%	34
Sign kiosks/maps	21.6%	87	18.9%	34
Emergency call boxes	22.9%	92	25.6%	46
Wildlife observation areas	27.4%	110	26.1%	47
Rest areas/shelters	32.8%	132	33.3%	60
Pet clean-up stations	33.3%	134	39.4%	71
Shaded seating for socializing	35.3%	142	37.8%	68
Native plantings and landscape	36.1%	145	37.8%	68
Drinking fountain/bottle filler	49.0%	197	51.7%	93
Parking areas/trailheads	49.5%	199	45.6%	82
Restrooms	69.9%	281	64.4%	116
	Answered	402		180
	Skipped	172		56

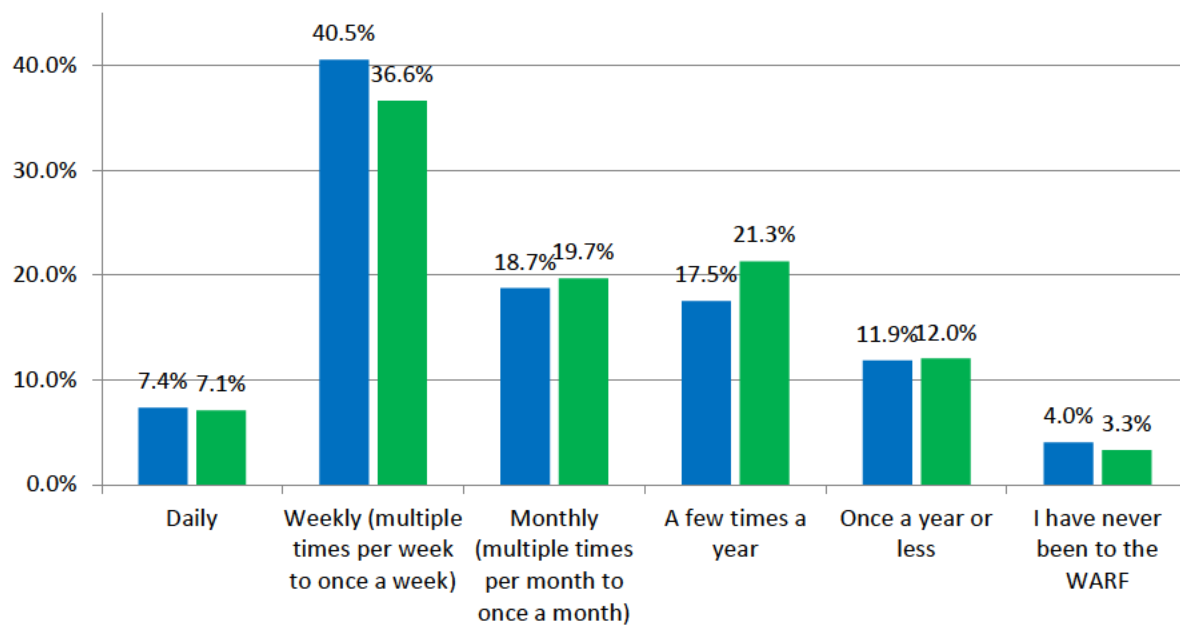


Other (please specify)
shaded hiking/walking trails
Cameras for increased safety.
Please stop spraying all the parks with fertilizer and pesticides. It's harming the environment, the kids and the pets that play there. Also the park bathrooms are disgusting. Rady is a mess - and at best, a worker absolutely soaks it with a hose but no real cleaning. Very disappointing
Trees
NA
Lighting! Even in daylight some areas can get kinda dark in the shade
Safer crosswalks with lighted signage for drivers (Falmouth St crossing on Greenway)
Trails that connect to other trails and dedicated pedestrian paths; many trails don't connect or dead end.
Fall/winter lighting until maybe 8pm same for dog park.
Complete connectivity between trails throughout Warrenton and adjacent areas
Shaded trail/path
Connection to larger trail systems
Distance markers (e.g. 10th of mile or 1/4 mile or 1/2 kilometer markers)
Access from multiple points on the trail
Increased police presence
None
Lights
Limit crowd. WARF swimming lanes are all full most of the time. Take away the basketball hoop. There are almost always rude people boking balls on other people in other lanes and they also get in other people's lanes. It is dangerous especially for people swimming in the lanes who are old and/or have health needs.
Lighting

Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

How often do you visit the Warrenton Aquatic and Recreation Facility (WARF)?

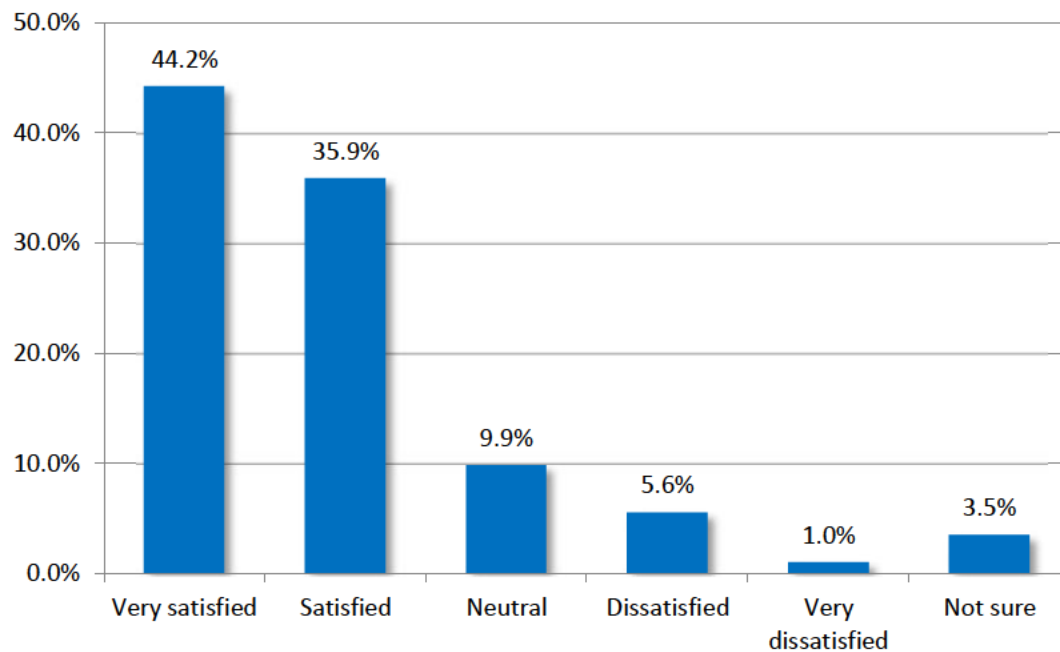
Answer Choices	All Responses		Town Responses	
Daily	7.4%	31	7.1%	13
Weekly (multiple times per week to once a week)	40.5%	171	36.6%	67
Monthly (multiple times per month to once a month)	18.7%	79	19.7%	36
A few times a year	17.5%	74	21.3%	39
Once a year or less	11.9%	50	12.0%	22
I have never been to the WARF	4.0%	17	3.3%	6
	Answered	422		183
	Skipped	152		53



Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

If you have visited the WARF within the last 12-months, how satisfied are you with the value received and/or experience you had at the facility and/or with staff.

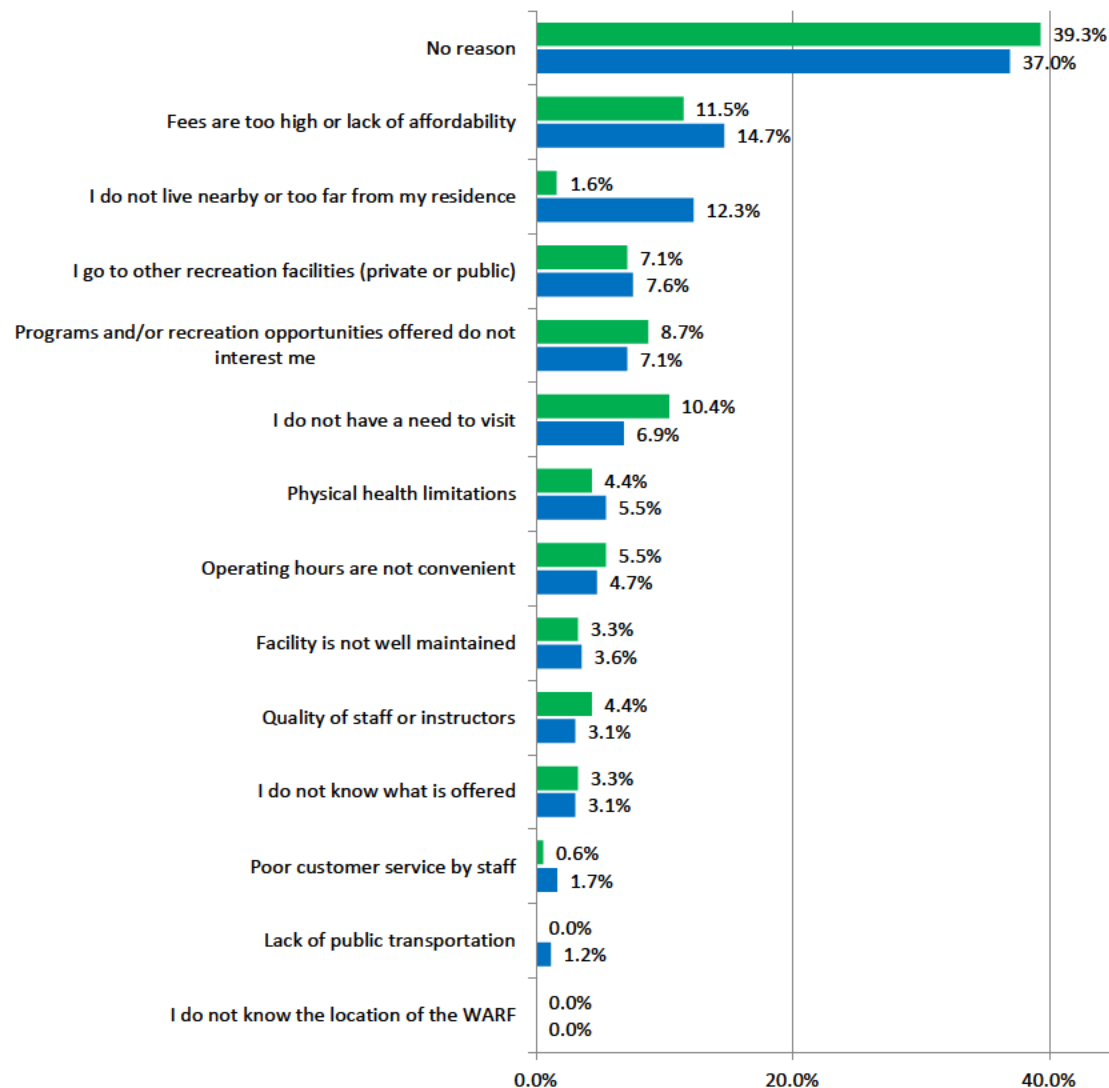
Answer Choices	All Responses		Town Responses	
Very satisfied	44.2%	175	41.9%	72
Satisfied	35.9%	142	39.0%	67
Neutral	9.9%	39	9.9%	17
Dissatisfied	5.6%	22	5.2%	9
Very dissatisfied	1.0%	4	0.6%	1
Not sure	3.5%	14	3.5%	6
	Answered	396		172
	Skipped	178		64



Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

Which reasons prevent you from visiting the WARF more often?

Answer Choices	All Responses		Town Responses	
I do not know the location of the WARF	0.0%	0	0.0%	0
Lack of public transportation	1.2%	5	0.0%	0
Poor customer service by staff	1.7%	7	0.6%	1
I do not know what is offered	3.1%	13	3.3%	6
Quality of staff or instructors	3.1%	13	4.4%	8
Facility is not well maintained	3.6%	15	3.3%	6
Operating hours are not convenient	4.7%	20	5.5%	10
Physical health limitations	5.5%	23	4.4%	8
I do not have a need to visit	6.9%	29	10.4%	19
Programs and/or recreation opportunities offered do not interest me	7.1%	30	8.7%	16
I go to other recreation facilities (private or public)	7.6%	32	7.1%	13
I do not live nearby or too far from my residence	12.3%	52	1.6%	3
Fees are too high or lack of affordability	14.7%	62	11.5%	21
No reason	37.0%	156	39.3%	72
	Answered	422		183
	Skipped	152		53



Summary Table of Write-Ins

Barrier Themes from All Write-Ins	Mentions	Rank
Time constraints & scheduling	42	1
Overcrowding & lane/space issues	33	2
Limited class times & offerings	28	3
Childcare limitations	10	4
Facility/equipment/maintenance issues	10	5

Other (please specify) (All Write-Ins)
Lack of time.
Our own work schedules and sometimes water temperatures
Group classes are either over crowded so I can't get in, scheduled at inconvenient times, gym is really crowded with equipment/people
Water exercise classes do not fit my work schedule
Old exercise equipment
Need more swim lesson times for all levels. Classes fill up fast
Lack of shaded seating for adults at the playground, lack of shade for children using playground, swings are often broken
my child often comes down with a bug a few days after going
Children
Limited swim classes prevent admissions
Pool too crowded during mornings
Our swim instructors were pretty bad. Other moms agreed (we were in a preschool class) and the instructor had kids jumping in all at once and almost caused injuries
Money
I
Everyone does not wear proper swim attire as posted
Too many blocked out lanes for organizations/non-members
I would love to do more classes, but they are mostly offered during work hours
I visit it often !
Time constraints
Please stop spraying all the parks with fertilizer and pesticides. It's harming the environment, the kids and the pets that play there. Also the park bathrooms are disgusting. Rady is a mess - and at best, a worker absolutely soaks it with a hose but no real cleaning. Very disappointing
Out of town/vacation/scheduling conflict
Comp pool too cold
Group exercise classes I'm interested in not offered when I am free to go to them
would prefer fitness classes at more off-hour times
No Interest
Need more class offerings at multiple times
Lack of weights and lifting machines
Don't like to leave puppy home
Don't enjoy taking small children
Group fitness schedule is limited and/or too crowded to participate at the times I can attend
I don't swim much and the gym is sub par.
Time
The playground needs updated badly
Walking distance of Rady Park
More fitness classes needed

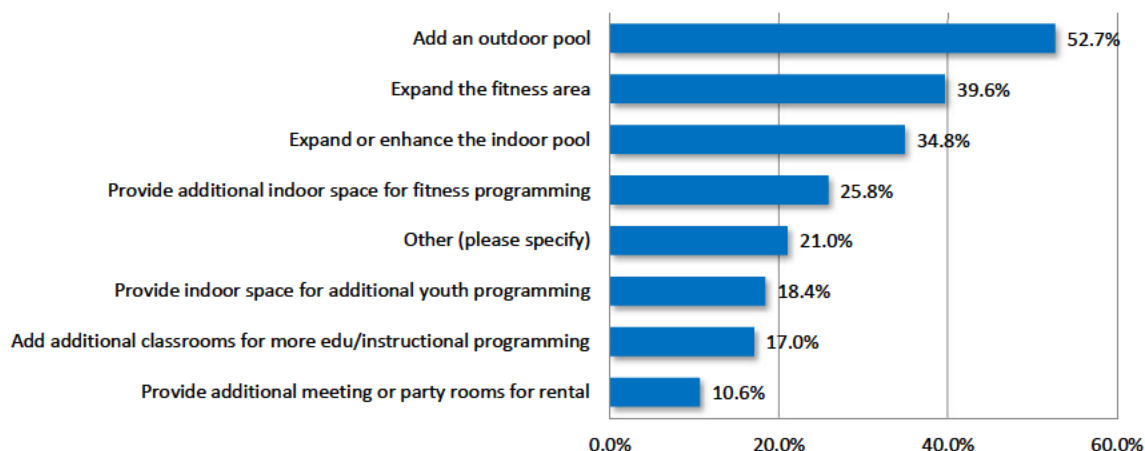
Na
Because we are not in Warrenton city but still have Warrenton as our address at zip 20187 we are not considered local so we drive in only to pay more even though our address says Warrenton.
The time of services/programs
Broken Changing rooms, Broken diaper changing stations, showers always freezing cold
Pool crowded
Lack of childcare
Would like more fitness classes for seniors - chair yoga
I have small children and don't have childcare. It'd be nice if there was a daycare on site so parents could workout.
class times and offerings
concerns regarding consistent availability/reliability of elevator
An accident.
Lack of time
Time, which I need to make time now.
Don't always have the time to visit more, but would like to.
I am at WARF 4-6 times a week.
I would like Low Impact Arobics.
They no longer offer Body Pump classes, Chlorine in pool is too much
Sometimes chlorine is too strong
Too many other scheduled commitments
Sometimes difficult to find a lane to use.
Pool is very crowded when public schools use the facility for their practices
Construction work, if errands work better with a different park
Child care
my own schedule
Elevator is often out of service. Classes are way too early in the am for aquatic exercises. I would go every day for late morning or afternoon classes
I would love to visit more, but I'm in busy time of life temporarily
Classes cancelled too often, fitness classes beyond capability of seniors
Competing for lanes with the swim clubs
Surgery has led to temporary physical limitations
crowded
Used to attend yoga, but post CoVid scheduling was inconvenient
Two young kids = no time
lack of childcare
Aquatic Classes not offered before / after work
Former member. Loved it. Life changed/problems, lost a year's \$\$\$
As said before, swim team season prevents more usage due to lane unavailability
Wish there was an outdoor lap pool and some other classes (dance!!) And held during more hours, maybe a few more evening programs like 6PM
Club and school swim teams take up too many lanes in mornings and evenings during swim season
My schedule hasn't allowed me to visit as much as I would like. If it were a little closer to my house, that would help.
Childcare hours
medical appointments for self or wife
The water in the family showers downstairs is too cold!

price is ok but don't want to see it go up
No classes geared to senior citizens
More cycling classes mid to late morning. My early morning are busy with other things that need to get done e.
Would like earlier opening hours on weekends
Very happy with WARF and instructors/trainers
Too many out of control children
elevator was not working and I have trouble getting in the vechile used for shuttle
Lack of time due to other responsibilities during normal hours
Need more room
Recovery period
Often too crowded to have access to swimming lane
Work tends to get in the way of working out more often .
Rude people and overcrowded. Please get rid of the basketball goal because it almost always have rude people there who bonk ball on other people in other lanes and they also get in other lanes which is dangerous for swimmers who are old and/or have health concerns.
I wish there were afternoon classes, especially yoga
The fitness room is too small and not enough fitness equipment. Other private gyms in town are much bigger. Also, there is no indoor gym space for indoor sports (i.e. volleyball, basketball, etc.).
earlier hours on weekends would be great

Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

Would you support any of the following actions the Town could take to enhance the WARF facility.

Answer Choices	All Responses		Town Responses	
Provide additional meeting or party rooms for rental	10.6%	40	9.7%	16
Add additional classrooms for more edu/instructional programming	17.0%	64	18.2%	30
Provide indoor space for additional youth programming	18.4%	69	17.0%	28
Other (please specify)	21.0%	79	18.2%	30
Provide additional indoor space for fitness programming	25.8%	97	23.6%	39
Expand or enhance the indoor pool	34.8%	131	34.6%	57
Expand the fitness area	39.6%	149	41.2%	68
Add an outdoor pool	52.7%	198	57.0%	94
	Answered	376		165
	Skipped	198		71



Summary Table

Theme	Mentions	Rank
Additional or improved facilities	44	1
Childcare needs	10	2
Facility maintenance & upkeep	10	3
Class & program improvements	9	4
Customer service / staff concerns	4	5

Other (please specify) (All Write-Ins)
Have more free weights & squat racks in the fitness area.
Free weights
WARF is a liability - A leach on our community.
Indoor basketball court
Update the old equipment
Sauna
Indoor courts
classes and personal training for kids/teens with special needs; shade trees around playground and walk ways; splash pad?
Sauna , red light equipment
Indoor basketball/volleyball courts
Basketball court
add more tables and chairs in the lobby for socializing before and after class
Please stop spraying all the parks with fertilizer and pesticides. It's harming the environment, the kids and the pets that play there. Also the park bathrooms are disgusting. Rady is a mess - and at best, a worker absolutely soaks it with a hose but no real cleaning. Very disappointing
Heat large pool or create a pool for swimming, not just swim team.
Close WARf and use money for needed sewer upgrades
Childcare
I would not recommend any expansion, it seems to be under utilized as is.
The town NEEDS an outdoor pool.
More trendy rec activities like e-sports
Indoor soccer facility and indoor basketball space.
Must find creative ways to generate revenue before adding any new feature(s). Town Council Finance Committee needs to provide Council with solution or seek public help. Everyone including Town Employees pay user fee (no free passes).
Replace outdoor lighting that was removed when entrance was renovated. Major safety issue!
Safe bike paths from Vint Hill/New Baltimore areas to town. Long bike for exercise that is 10+miles.
Open the indoor pool to the outdoors in summer as originally planned
some people at front desk need to be better trained in customer service
Childcare
Continue to offer professional development to instructors so they stay excellent
Add indoor basketball

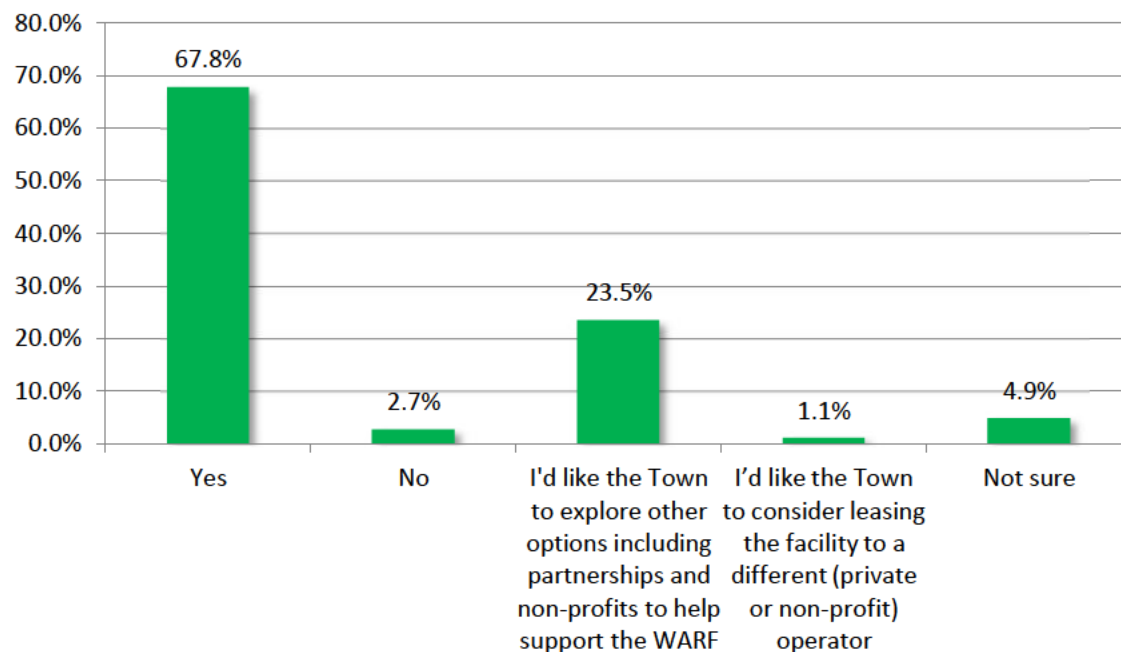
Current staff one older lady specifically seems to dislike children or even people inquiring about the facility. First time in we asked what programs to they have for kids looking for basketball or even a gym for toddler or older kids to climb or use gym equipment like free gym time. Laughed and said no. Then proceeded to tell us we don't get benefits because we don't live in Warrenton even though our address has Warrenton. Was annoyed by the presence of our children. Only been in twice because of how staff especially the older lady treats people like your not welcome and scoffs at kids and people who are just looking for information. other local moms and dads about the classes. Not a welcoming place for a family to go to. Need more programs for children and families more like the YMCA. No programs for child care or even events for children other then swimming. And if there are any never found out because of how unwanted the staff made us feel. Also stoped going to playground because despite trails being beautiful park was a mess needed tlc. Just overall feeling of we don't care for families. So we go to Randy park instead but wnt more walking trails as well.
Please add an outdoor pool
Adding childcare
Better use of the fields
Fitness classes for seniors
Add a pool that families can swim in together, so it should be 2.5 feet to 5 feet deep, and open!
Childcare while working out.
Take better care of the playground
No additions
Discount membership
The rowing machine is gone. It was very helpful and easy to use.
Provide more swim lessons opportunities
Raise the wages paid to instructors
Offer Body Pump classes, switch to salt water in pool
add pickleball courts
Provide more shower stalls and clean them more regularly.
its fine
Schedule aquatic fitness classes, yoga, etc later in the day. Have a non-Shirley class on Wed. (she is good but the class is too strenuous)
Focus fixing what you already have before spending money on more things that don't work
separate locker room upstairs for fitness rooms
Tennis Courts
Lap swim lane's available more times
Build a fence around the playground to be sure that kids are going to be safe
Before expanding find ways to lower the cost
raquetball court
Add childcare
Warm up the indoor pool when swim teams are not using it.
Install pickle ball courts and disc golf course on site
Expand the playground
add childcare
Fence in playground
Outdoor pool with slides and waterpark features

Cleaning the play ground sun shades / add more
I would love to improve my swimming skills and swim regularly. However, the water in the competition pool is too cold for me. I have tried repeatedly to swim but just can't handle the cold temperature. is kept so cold tha
Add indoor basketball and racquet ball courts
Add some dance classes like Zumba, Salsa. More water classes at later times. More yoga.
Add a splash pad outdoors similar to Chessie's Big Backyard in Alexandria.
Exercise classes for senior citizens
Childcare
No music playing in facility. We all have our own we are trying to listen to
No
ROCK WALLS!!!!!! There is NOTHING for indoor climbing in FAUQUIER!
Extend the operating hours
Pickleball courts
Better short usage cost options for in town
Na
Maintain elevators
All good
Would not support any
Add a gym space.
more fitness class options at times that fit for people who work

Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

Do you support the Town of Warrenton continuing to own and operate the WARF with Town resources?

Answer Choices	All Responses		Town Responses	
Yes	66.4%	280	67.8%	124
No	1.9%	8	2.7%	5
I'd like the Town to explore other options including partnerships and non-profits to help support the WARF	18.0%	76	23.5%	43
I'd like the Town to consider leasing the facility to a different (private or non-profit) operator	1.2%	5	1.1%	2
Not sure	12.6%	53	4.9%	9
	Answered	422		183
	Skipped	152		53

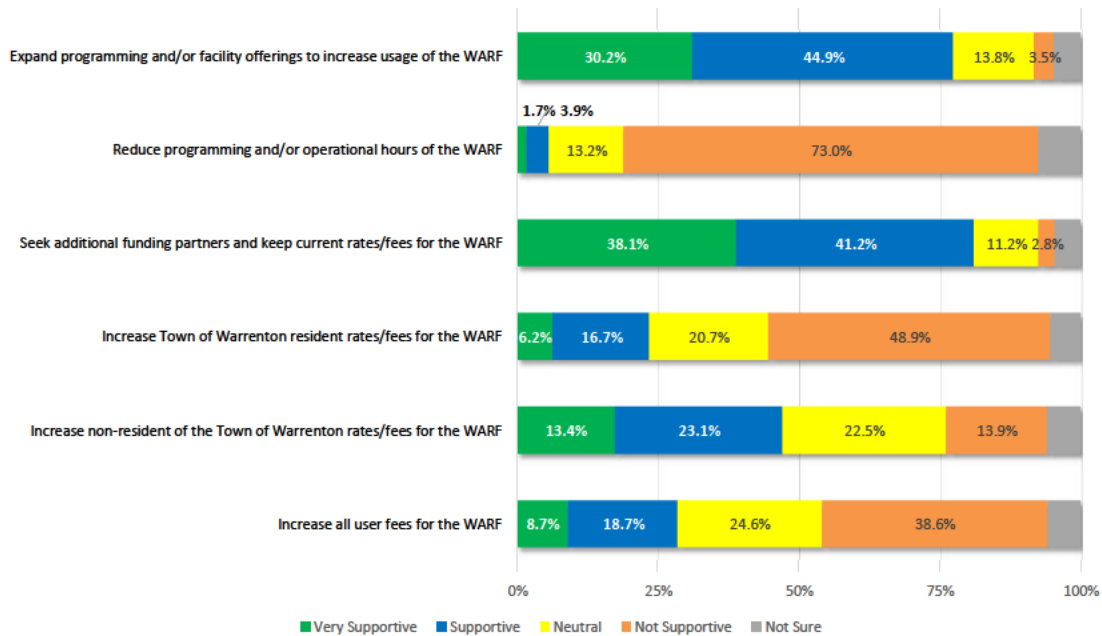


Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

Indicate your level of support for the following options.

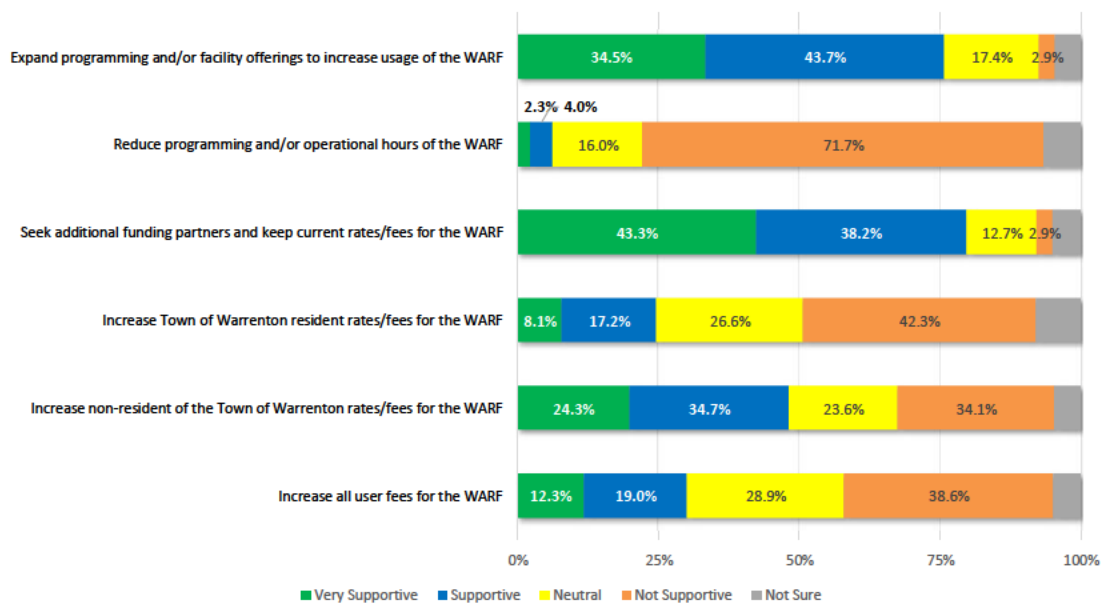
	All Responses										Total
	Very Supportive		Supportive		Neutral		Not Supportive		Not Sure		
Increase all user fees for the WARF	8.7%	36	18.7%	77	28.9%	119	38.6%	159	5.1%	21	412
Increase non-resident of the Town of Warrenton rates/fees for the WARF	13.4%	54	23.1%	93	23.6%	95	34.1%	137	5.7%	23	402
Increase Town of Warrenton resident rates/fees for the WARF	6.2%	25	16.7%	67	26.6%	107	42.3%	170	8.2%	33	402
Seek additional funding partners and keep current rates/fees for the WARF	38.1%	156	41.2%	169	12.7%	52	2.9%	12	5.1%	21	410
Reduce programming and/or operational hours of the WARF	1.7%	7	3.9%	16	16.0%	65	71.7%	291	6.7%	27	406
Expand programming and/or facility offerings to increase usage of the WARF	30.2%	123	44.9%	183	17.4%	71	2.9%	12	4.7%	19	408
										Answers	422
										Skipped	152

All Responses



	Town Responses										Total
	Very Supportive		Supportive		Neutral		Not Supportive		Not Sure		
Increase all user fees for the WARF	12.3%	22	19.0%	34	24.6%	44	38.6%	69	5.6%	10	173
Increase non-resident of the Town of Warrenton rates/fees for the WARF	24.3%	42	34.7%	60	22.5%	39	13.9%	24	4.6%	8	173
Increase Town of Warrenton resident rates/fees for the WARF	8.1%	14	17.2%	30	20.7%	36	48.9%	85	5.2%	9	174
Seek additional funding partners and keep current rates/fees for the WARF	43.3%	77	38.2%	68	11.2%	20	2.8%	5	4.5%	8	178
Reduce programming and/or operational hours of the WARF	2.3%	4	4.0%	7	13.2%	23	73.0%	127	7.5%	13	174
Expand programming and/or facility offerings to increase usage of the WARF	34.5%	60	43.7%	76	13.8%	24	3.5%	6	4.6%	8	174
										Answers	183
										Skipped	53

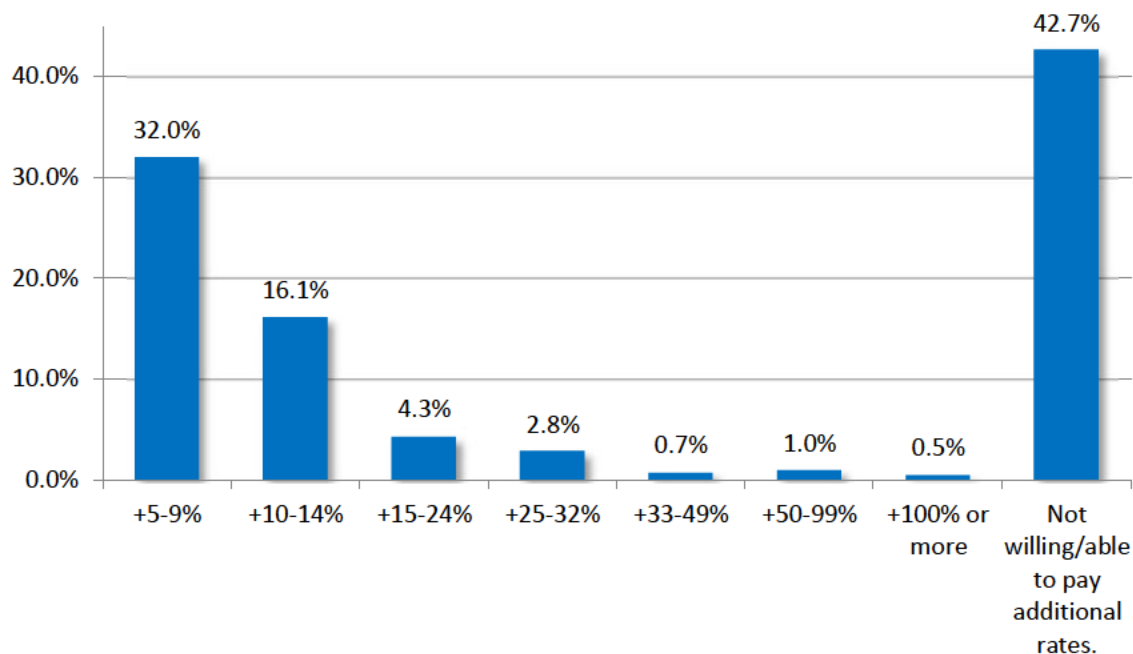
Town Responses



Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

Please check the additional percentage in membership/daily rates per person you would be willing to pay for use of the WARF.

Answer Choices	All Responses		Town Responses	
+5-9%	32.0%	135	33.3%	61
+10-14%	16.1%	68	16.4%	30
+15-24%	4.3%	18	3.8%	7
+25-32%	2.8%	12	3.8%	7
+33-49%	0.7%	3	1.6%	3
+50-99%	1.0%	4	1.1%	2
+100% or more	0.5%	2	0.0%	0
Not willing/able to pay additional rates.	42.7%	180	39.9%	73
	Answered	422		183
	Skipped	152		53

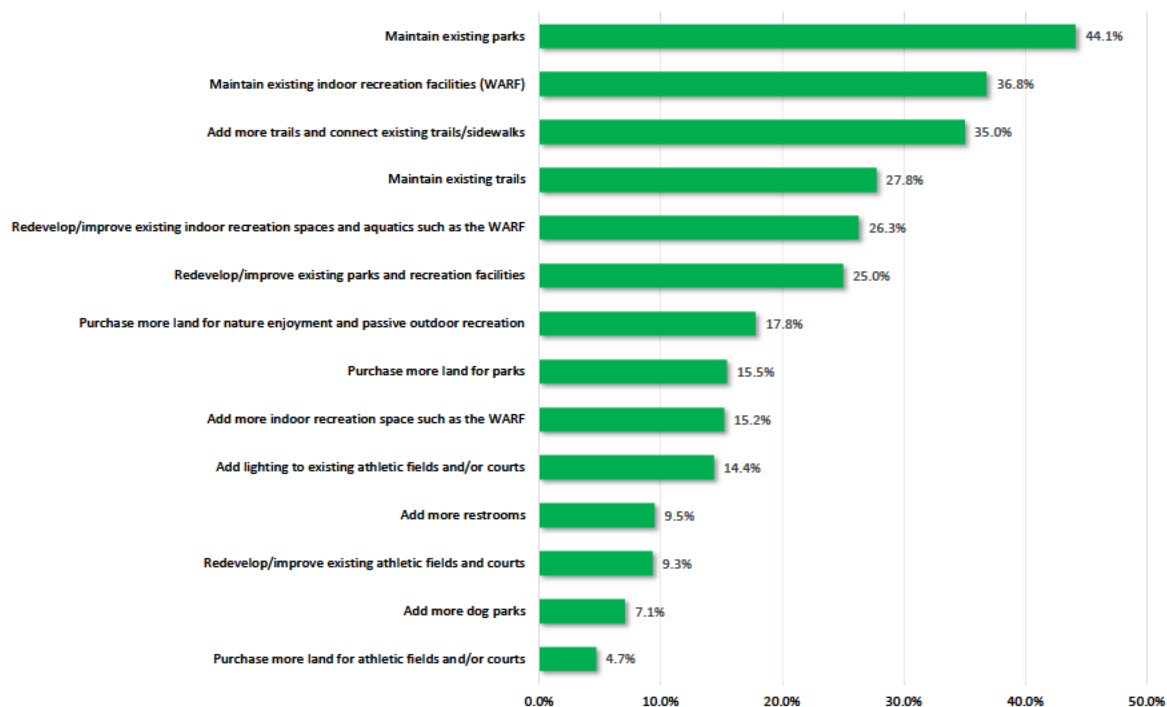


Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

The following are actions that the Town of Warrenton could take to improve parks, recreation, and trails. Select up to THREE actions you would support with your tax dollars.

	All Responses				Town Responses				
Actions	Most Important	2nd Most Important	3rd Most Important	Total	Most Important	2nd Most Important	3rd Most Important	Total	
Purchase more land for athletic fields and/or courts	1.9%	2.8%	2.2%	7.0%	1.1%	2.3%	1.2%	4.7%	
Add more dog parks	1.2%	1.0%	2.5%	4.7%	2.2%	1.2%	3.7%	7.1%	
Redevelop/improve existing athletic fields and courts	2.9%	2.3%	4.7%	9.9%	3.4%	2.9%	3.1%	9.3%	
Add more restrooms	2.4%	3.3%	7.5%	13.3%	1.7%	2.9%	4.9%	9.5%	
Add lighting to existing athletic fields and/or courts	3.4%	5.1%	3.3%	11.9%	3.9%	5.6%	4.9%	14.4%	
Add more indoor recreation space such as the WARF	3.4%	5.9%	6.7%	16.0%	3.4%	7.6%	4.3%	15.2%	
Purchase more land for parks	1.7%	4.6%	5.3%	11.6%	2.2%	4.7%	8.5%	15.5%	
Purchase more land for nature enjoyment and passive outdoor recreation	3.4%	4.9%	8.1%	16.3%	3.4%	4.1%	10.4%	17.8%	
Redevelop/improve existing parks and recreation facilities	8.2%	9.0%	6.9%	24.2%	9.5%	8.2%	7.3%	25.0%	
Redevelop/improve existing indoor recreation spaces and aquatics such as the WARF	9.4%	9.5%	6.4%	25.3%	7.8%	10.5%	7.9%	26.3%	
Maintain existing trails	2.9%	15.2%	11.7%	29.8%	2.2%	16.4%	9.2%	27.8%	
Add more trails and connect existing trails/sidewalks	12.1%	11.1%	7.8%	30.9%	17.2%	12.3%	5.5%	35.0%	
Maintain existing indoor recreation facilities (WARF)	27.9%	7.7%	8.6%	44.2%	21.2%	6.4%	9.2%	36.8%	
Maintain existing parks	16.2%	13.9%	11.4%	41.5%	18.4%	12.3%	13.4%	44.1%	
			Answered	413				Answered	179
			Skipped	161				Skipped	57

Town Responses (Top 3rd Most Important Actions Selections)

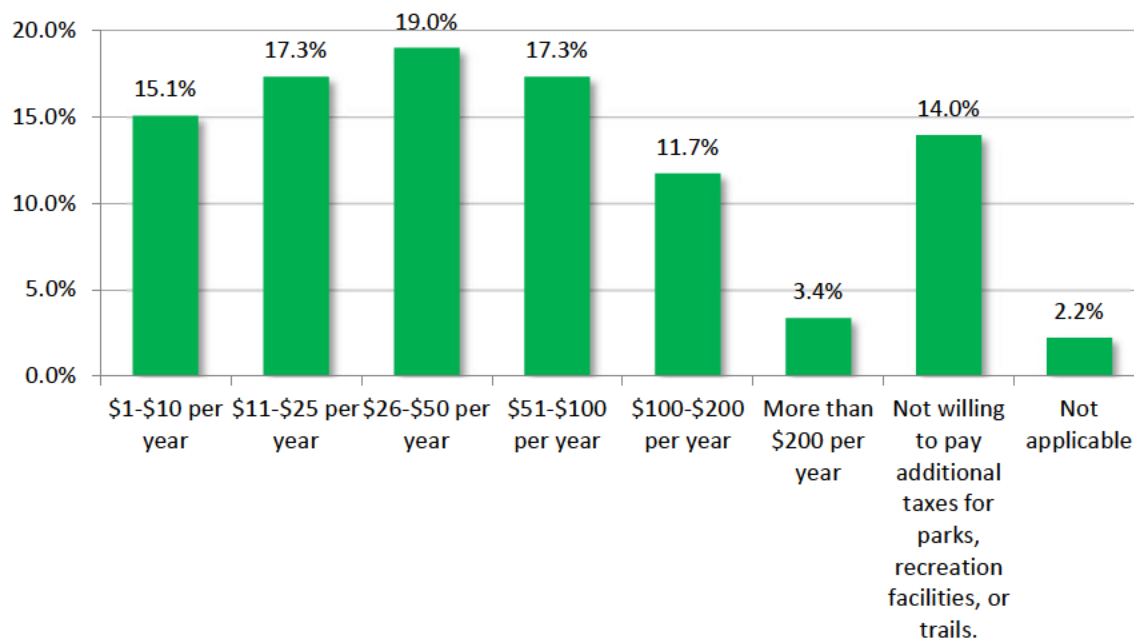


Other (please specify)
Advertise more about the Town of Warrenton's existing recreational facilities.
Facilities that serve the needs of our senior residents.
consider programs/amenities that support people of all abilities
This was a hard choice as all of the choices were important.
Please stop spraying all the parks with fertilizer and pesticides. It's harming the environment, the kids and the pets that play there. Also the park bathrooms are disgusting. Rady is a mess - and at best, a worker absolutely soaks it with a hose but no real cleaning. Very disappointing
Make a safe park for young kids with no herbicides/lawn treatments anywhere on property
Outside music (weekend only) - spring and fall: Jazz in the Park; Classical in the Park (Eva Walker)
Archery range needed
The pool and restroom inside and out are marginally clean. Thank you for the new dog clean-up stations.
I don't live in Town but these are my opinions
Invasive plant control (e.g. cut english Ivy off trees at Rady Park, kill tree of heaven - it attracts lanternflies)
Remove speed bumps in neighborhoods which are uncomfortable to bike over
Put shade over playground at the WARF
Add an outdoor pool
Stop catering to old folks and start offering things teens can do to stay out of trouble
Redo the skatepark and provide lighting
Additional Pavilions and repairs to Rady Pavilion
Maintaining the existing parks and trails is top priority including restrooms.
No opinion
Add more indoor recreation for kids of all ages to do more sports or fun physical activities and family classes
Add an outdoor pool water park
Maintain/improve existing dog park
All good
More sidewalks Bealeton is roached, we don't even have sidewalks and crossing guards it's bizarre
Implement plan for Eva Walker Park, add water play area
More pickleball courts
I think maintaining what we have is the highest priority for current tax dollars. If there is a surplus, then we should consider adding or improving what we have.
YOU just raised our rates! Now you want to do that AGAIN?????
splashpad/water feature for children
The town needs a splash pad. High priority. This would get heavy use by tons of residents.
Develop more pickleball court
add more water fountains that work consistently
Not a Fauquier County resident
Cleaning or upgrading equipment on playgrounds
Why is the WARF "managed" by the town? I live 5 miles away down 211 but I'm considered a "non resident"??
The weight and aerobic exercise room at the Warf is way too small. If I miss a cycling classes I usually try to go to the weight and aerobic room. g
I'm a single, older woman who appreciates the WARF.
Four item number one I've heard that some crazy lady went to the town and asked them to cut down the persimmon trees because their kids were walking in the persimmons. That's the craziest thing I ever heard, those persimmons deserve to be there more than the woman and her children do, she can take them and walk them inside of a shopping mall if that's the kind of place they want to be, I want the native plants to stay there, if you work for the native plants humans wouldn't be here today keep that in mind. In regarding rady too many of the plants put in there are not native they are cultivated varieties, if you're going to plant any demonstration gardens, plant natives! True native species, not cultivated varieties, not human bred hybrids!For item number two, I want to suggest a sign or signage on the high school trail, take care when walking on Windy days, you could easily get it on the head or killed by falling limbs from the humongous trees on that trail, don't get rid of the trees that's nature, but people need to be made aware of the potential.Most important category, the rady Park restrooms are awful, they remind me of old gas station restrooms, very dark inside, fairly dirty and from the slow flush of the toilets seems like there might be some sewer equipment problems present or down the road.
Add a rock wall
Add Barre fitness class. More family fun rubs
More Pickleball Courts
Do no pay taxes in Fauquier County
Trim administrative staff. I believe you could cut staff by 50% and run the facility more efficiently.
Discount seniors

Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

From the following list, please check the additional amount you would be willing to pay to fund the actions you selected as most important.

Answer Choices	All Responses		Town Responses	
\$1-\$10 per year	17.0%	70	15.1%	27
\$11-\$25 per year	15.5%	64	17.3%	31
\$26-\$50 per year	17.0%	70	19.0%	34
\$51-\$100 per year	17.0%	70	17.3%	31
\$100-\$200 per year	8.2%	34	11.7%	21
More than \$200 per year	4.1%	17	3.4%	6
Not willing to pay additional taxes for parks, recreation facilities, or trails.	13.1%	54	14.0%	25
Not applicable	8.2%	34	2.2%	4
	Answered	413		179
	Skipped	161		57



Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

Any additional comments you would like to share about parks, recreation facilities, recreation programs or special events, trails, or open space in the Town of Warrenton? Be as specific as possible.

Answered
Skipped

128
446

Examples:	Theme	Mentions
Resident vs. non-resident rates, increases, "too many lifeguards," need for better marketing/publicity/efficiency	Fees, pricing, ops/marketing/staffing	83
Dirty/broken bathrooms & locker rooms, leaking roof, equipment/playground repair, general upkeep (WARF & parks)	Maintenance & cleanliness	66
Extend Greenway, link bike routes, safer crossings, more sidewalks	Trails/Greenway/sidewalk connectivity	54
More kid/teen programs, family recreation near Main St, playground fencing & shade, safety at parks	Youth & family programming / childcare & safety	47
New/updated playgrounds, shade structures, benches/tables, dog-park entrance fix	Playgrounds, shade & site amenities	43
Pickleball, tennis, basketball/volleyball, rock wall, skatepark redesign	Courts & sport facilities	35
Splash pad, outdoor pool, warmer water, more access to water play	Water features & aquatics expansion	17
Senior classes (chair yoga, wellness), senior pricing considerations	Senior-focused options	8
Unwelcoming/front-desk issues, need for staff training, responsiveness to issues	Customer service & responsiveness	7
Elevator reliability, water stations, seating, small ADA/comfort fixes	Accessibility & basic comforts	6

Responses
Always discussing a small park for kids off the Warrenton Greenway. There seem to be some good spots for that. Would also like to see some continued development of the exercise areas there too.
Eva Walker is nice to have near town but would like to see it developed more since walking distance from there to town/residences is most convenient.
Doing great, but I think we need a longer bike trail, probably by extending the Greenway
I really value the park and garden space in this community and would love to see additional park/nature conservation/community gardens spaces within Warrenton town limits. I would love to see the undeveloped space, if the intent is to develop, on Walker Drive and Academy Hill become trail/park space.
I would love to see another water station at the end of the Greenway. When walking my dog, if I go all the way to the end, I have to come back before there's any water for him.
I have 4 children, and sometimes it is so hot here during the summer. My water bill is always over 400 in those months due to lack of ways to keep cool and having to use my own sprinkler or kiddie pool. Warrenton needs a splash pad. However, it would need to be supervised as it will attract parents who don't watch their children. Just take them places.
Support proceeding on current planned upgrades to EWalker Park. Pavilion and picnic tables at Rady Park need replacing. Strengthen focus and goals for senior recreation and wellness.
Maintaining existing parks works very well
I would support and actively work to develop/fund a mini golf course.
There is a high need for a splash pad, water feature or outdoor pool option for community members and their families.
WE NEED MORE PLAYGROUNDS. the majority of this area is families. The WARF needs new equipment and it isn't getting it. New paving isn't enough. We need a splash pad. Check the warrenton moms fb group. It's all the moms talk about. Recreation will make this town great. We have to compete and have things for families to do. Playgrounds, parks, splash pad, tennis courts, pickleball will make this place awesome!!!
Generally very happy with parks and recreation. Age (75) limits my ability to use some facilities like hiking and walking. WARF is most important facility to me. Do whatever it takes to keep and maintain it.
Make out of town people pay more the ones of us that live in town alrwyd get raped with double taxes of eveyting else. If my fee goes up i wont be going thats for sure its alrwyd expensive to bring the whole family as it is
With all development of new neighborhoods within the town limits and building of new homes more people will be paying taxes and using facilities so fees should not be raised for town residents
I notice that the NewComers club has been discontinued. It looked like a really good place to have fun and meet people. In Culpeper there is a group for Senior Citizens. Is there a similar group here in Warrenton? I think it is a need.
I love the Special Events!

<p>Please stop spraying all the parks with fertilizer and pesticides. It's harming the environment, the kids and the pets that play there. How can we pretend to call ourselves a BeeCity USA, hold monthly meetings, post signs and wear the t-shirts - and have the landscape crews show up and heavily spray pesticides and herbicides on the fields and trails. Manually maintain the sidewalks and asphalt trails - not take the lazy and harmful way of just spraying chemical treatment. Please - do a little research.</p> <p>Also the park bathrooms are disgusting. Rady is a mess - and at best, a worker absolutely soaks it with a hose but no real cleaning. Very disappointing</p> <p>Eva Walker bathrooms are disgusting and the doors barely lock</p> <p>WARF bathrooms are disgusting</p> <p><u>An option along the greenway would be wonderful</u></p>
<p>Please stop using herbicides or any lawn chemicals at places with playgrounds or where children visit. It costs you more money and harms the children. Personally I have spoken to many concerned parents about the herbicide and/or pesticide, fertilizer usage and all have agreed they would rather see weeds and big than the long term harm these treatments are doing. You would also save money not doing them and simply mowing/weed walking the grass and weeds. Fauquier also says they are now bee friendly and this usage does not correlate to that. Please even pick one park to not use any herbicides or treatment and make that public knowledge so parents can have an informed decision and safe space for young Children.</p>
<p>The WARF is an exceptional facility! Absolutely love the Warrenton Branch Greenway! Wonderful parks!</p>
<p>I'd like to see the town partner with more community organizations to put together more community events on town-grounds. I'd also like to see the WARF be more creative in their fundraising rather than charging town/county residents more, as they'll certainly see a stepwise decline in resident usage. Charging a higher nonresident fee in addition to accepting private/nonprofit partnership would be a great start.</p>
<p>Town should close WARF and cut costs where ever possible</p>
<p>The WARF is a cost effective investment in the physical & social health of our community & I value it highly. Please keep it going!</p>
<p>The Greenway is fantastic.</p>
<p>I stopped using the locker room at the WARF because it has been consistently in need of cleaning.</p>
<p>We need indoor gym space for basketball at least 4 courts</p>
<p>It would be nice to have bike routes like the one on Walker Drive to connect to another bike route that would eventually connect to Rady Park, The WARF, The Greenway, and the Community College.</p>
<p>More or better marketing for activities at the WARF.</p>
<p>I believe the Parks and Rec. Dept does a great job of providing and maintaining a diverse group of activities for Town residents. The WARF is a great facility. Such facilities are not normally revenue generating so the Town needs to look at ways to make the facility manageable from a financial standpoint.</p>
<p>Make Eva Walker Park playground better. You added/redid Rady and WARF playgrounds, why not the one close to the heart of town??</p>
<p>I love our town resources and the recent park improvements! Please keep a focus on affordability so that ALL of our residents can enjoy the spaces/events. Maybe team up with FCPR to do a splash pad :)</p>
<p>I love our Town parks, especially Rady. The WARF playground was very important to me when my kids were younger. It is important to me as a taxpayer that our existing parks are maintained and also that more miles of walking/biking trails are constructed. Better connectivity between trails would be great. I would love to see better invasive plant control. English ivy is choking the trees all over Eva Walker Park and other parts of town. The greenway is also surrounded by invasives on either side. More native pollinator gardens in sunny spots in our parks with benches would be nice.</p>
<p>My willingness to pay more in taxes depends on how the money is spent.</p>
<p>There have been no improvements to SamTarrPark since it was built however, improvements have been made to RADY, EVA WALKER & the WARF. It is in dire need of new mulch, which is required. The equipment is worn and it's in substandard shape. Promises were made in 2024 that Sam Tarr Park would be redone. Money was diverted elsewhere. However, two picnic tables were placed randomly at this park. It's like they were literally taken off the truck and dumped. There is inadequate seating, inadequate equipment, and inadequate shade. The upkeep on SAM TARR Park is an embarrassment to the Town.</p>
<p>Since my neighbors keep voting for people who actively drive away businesses here it is up to the gov to increase it's activities. Can't have movie theater, have outdoor areas to watch movies. We need more sidewalks. You can't walk anywhere in this town, it's cars only I guess. What are you doing about the arts? Museum for local artists to showcase. Seems like any tourism is about shopping or nostalgia for the civil war...YAWN. Make Warrenton a hip place for young folks and artists. Public transportation. Free public wifi. We need less events that show off how cool fire trucks are or celebrate cops (ICK) and more fun stuff that is FREE</p>
<p>Outside bathrooms at the WARF are disgusting. It's only one step above an outhouse. Disgusting bugs and spiders everywhere. Trees along walkways aren't being trimmed. Dig poop everywhere. This is basic maintenance and should not cost more money. How about making the employees you have do their jobs correctly? County residents should not have to pay more than town residents, especially since the county gave them the land.</p>

Access to indoor and outdoor volleyball courts
We need tennis courts!
The skatepark is old, neglected and in need of repair. It is hazardous to use with the holes in it. There is no lightning even though there is lightning for the hokey rink. It is too close to the hokey rink. Parents watching hokey let small children run and play all over the skateboard ramps and make it unusable.
The skatepark is heavily used by youth but is dangerous based on current maintenance and causes injuries. Parents avoid using because of the maintenance issue. It requires materials that are weather resistant and dont require as much ongoing maintenance, such as concrete. the leesburg skatepark is the closest alternative for a park like this for scootering, inline skating, skateboarding, etc.
Would love to see expand ion of the greenway in either direction, prefer to see extension along meetze road all the way to 28 if possible. My family uses this trail often
I think great improvements have been recently made. With that said I think park bathrooms lack in cleanliness and repairs need to be made to existing and or repairs, walk bridges, pavilion and trails
Connect the trails as much as possible in both the town and county. It is very limiting when the current trails end at short mileages.
More educational programs that offer fun for kids & teens - youths. More outdoor programming for kids and youths -- maybe even adults!
I am a senior citizen and am thankful for the WARF and feel that walking in the water 3 hours per week is helpful to my physical and mental health. Thank you.
Extremely important to maintain the existing town parks & trails including the restrooms. In time, the rest will come. Town needs to maintain the existing before adding additional features or no one will visit the rundown park. We definitely do not need a splash pad. Restroom upgrades like auto-flush toilets and sinks are needed. Let's keep what we have beautiful and inviting until the Town Budget can allow for expansion without tax increases.
The Town generally has enough park facilities. The County provides excellent facilities close to Warrenton and in Warrenton. Maintenance needs to be improved -- the fencing and the small bridge at the WARF are in bad shape.
The WARF is a great facility, indoors and outdoors, a wonderful asset for the community. Suggest a private sector lead capital campaign to raise funds to pay off remaining debt and fund improvements, and better marketing to increase use.
re:#20 - I've never felt unsafe on a trail (aka Greenway) because I am deliberate in times I go & not going alone. WARF walking - feel safe alone, but also deliberate in times
I have been a member since it opened. I will not be a future member if fees continue to grow. The management is non existent and can easily be deleted to allow for less fees. Fewer people just sitting behind the desk would also do. Jobs can be combined very easily
We are fortunate to have the WARF. It has been my primary resource to maintain, improve, and even rehab my person health. The aquatic fitness classes are key to my health journey, especially Aqua Zumba, HIIT, and the lazy River classes. The town and community parks are also a treasure, from walking trails to nature and birding, and to learning about native plants. I consider them to be key assets to living in Fauquier county, which I have done since 1974.
I love the Greenway and the Warrenton dog park. I've contributed to the fundraising for a park bench at the dog park. I enjoy the walkways around the WARF. Don't utilize other Town/Parks and Rec facilities much. The ones I do use seem well-maintained, but it would be nice to have more restrooms and maybe convenient food/water stations. That said, I know the budget is tight.
Side walks need to be on both sides of the street.
Partner with the county to keep costs to residents from rising.
Look more at maintenance of park equipment and playgrounds, shade seating for parents, fenced in areas keeping kids out of parking lots or busy roads. Autistic kids toddlers will just take off and run making it hard to find a safe space for kids to enjoy as well as the parents. More park equipment for older kids. Better restrooms and placement of them. More physical sports opportunities for simple classes for kids of all ages. Open gym time for families. Kids older and younger classes. Possibly a rock climbing wall for older children and adults. More hiking trails that go all the way around Warrenton and surrounding areas. More parks to experience. A park that has both young children's playground next to older kids playground. A splash pad. More sense of safe space's at parks weather that's better lights for nighttime use or more presence of patrol officers.
None
Improve sidewalks
Improve crosswalk safety over big roads like Lee highway
I like the value for what I get at the WARF. Think it is a great spot to increase fitness and stay healthy
I love the warf and all the classes land and pool. I am a member and very happy!!!
More affordable fitness options for seniors - chair yoga classes would be great!
Let the kids play in the natural water that is available.
The skate park is in shambles. Multiple surfaces are missing or damaged. Poor flow for skating and not well designed
I think the crew takes good care of the parks I have walked. People on the other end need to pick up after their dogs...bag stations are available people!!

I absolutely love the amenities that the Town of Warrenton provides, BUT some are in desperate need of maintenance. The indoor areas on the play side pool at the WARF is in a state of disrepair and looks pretty bad. Shower areas and family locker rooms are often dirty and things are broken.
The playground at the WARF is also in a state of disrepair and needs to be redone/repared. The sign at the front is rotting and faded and looks awful.
I don't know where half these parks are... but I've only lived here two years. Been a WARF member for that time, and I love the WARF (although the new leg machine is awful, wish they'd bring back the old one.) The WARF is a real gem. I haven't used the outdoor facilities because I didn't know I could. Guess I should've asked. The greenway is very popular. I can jog to it, so it is my go to in good weather. In bad, I go to the WARF. I have a bicycle but this town is not bike friendly. I'd ride more if I wasn't afraid of dying.
Improve the entrance to the dog park with wood chips or some material to prevent the mud at the entrance area.
Parks are great right now!!
Seniors on fixed incomes should be favored in WARF membership rates. WARF membership rates for non-town residents should be raised considerably.
As a 66 yr. old Fauquier co. resident, but NOT a Warrenton resident I pay over \$60 per mo. This is absurd! Even the monthly/yearly fees Warrenton res. pay is higher than any of the surrounding counties/municipalities. Drop-in fees for... Leesburg non-res. = \$4.50; Loudon Co. nor Round Hill doesn't discriminate bet. res/non-res. \$4.00/\$2.50 respectively. PWC Freedom is \$7.50 drop-in so quite high.
Aerobics at the warf and paved trail from warrenton lakes to Giant shopping center
Maintenance of the lower level of the WARF including pools, decking, locker rooms etc need improved preventative maintenance. I have observed the same dead insects on pool decks for weeks at times. Drain flies in female showers.
Splash pad!!
The WARF needs to become more efficient in their operations. There is no need for 3-4 people to check people in. It is not a difficult job.
Adding pickleball courts and promoting clinics, instruction, etc. would be welcomed
People are coming whether fauquier wants it or not, y'all will want their contributions to your county as these are people being forced out of the city and want a more slow pace when they aren't working, we need more for these kids!! The people!! Mental health matters!!
Focus on more opportunities for family recreation within walking distance of Main Street to attract family tourists; implement Eva Walker plan.
WARF is an asset to Warrenton - have been to several other similar facilities in Virginia - none of them are up to the standard of WARF. Many loyal customers.
being a Culpepper Co. resident I pay the most fees for access. I feel everyone should pay the same fee to use the facility
Our family chose to live in Warrenton in part because of offerings like the WARF and Greenway. We love our parks and playgrounds and look forward to using them for many years. The highest priority should be to make sure that's possible before expanding.
I love the WARF, the personnel, the pool, the hot tub and swimming laps. It is so wonderful for me and my family. Please do not take away one of the most healthy things we do to stay fit. I have been a member since you opened your doors and come daily. I'm almost 79 and coming to the WARF is the main reason I have maintained my health. Please do not take this away from us! Thank you.
We need to extend the sidewalk down Blackwell road past poets walk and put a park on that side of town
The WARF is Warrenton's crown jewel but it is not publicized AT ALL in surrounding parts of Fauquier County and hardly known in Warrenton. Zero publicity. Zero free passes as coupons to bring people in. Zero presence at fairs, festivals, and community events. Zero advertising in newspapers or online. Inconvenient class times (too early in the am) and lack of handicapped accessibility due to an often nonoperational elevator. Doesn't the town have ANYONE in a publicity position? If so, they totally neglect the WARF Need BIG ADS in Discover, Fauquier NOW, etc. Try that first and see how attendance booms. People don't even know about the water slide! And that slide should be available for 2 days during the week in the summer. Publicize at camps and schools. Honestly, the WARF is the best kept secret Warrenton has
The funds used for the rady park improvements seem to be misused. The shade canopy is overdesigned structurally, and as huge as it is, only covers 4 swings. The "inclusive" amenities appeal to such a small minority of the town population. I think the gross amount of funds focused on disabled adult play structures was over prioritized for this small town with limited funds. I think adding a handicap swing is great. The rest of the "inclusive" structures should have been standard playground expansion features that have capacity for more people than what was built. Lastly, minor comment... there should be clear signs on playgrounds (especially toddler playgrounds such as the one at Eva walker) for age limits. Often times I go there with my toddlers and a teenage couples are occupying the toddler playgrounds as a hangout space, or big kids are playing roughly when they should be using other surrounding park spaces. It's dangerous to toddlers and discourages them to play on the toddler playgrounds. If theres one large playground, it should be posted that it is for all ages but be mindful of smaller children or playmates with disabilities.

1. I am strongly opposed to addition of lighting to any athletic field or similar facility. Lighting unnecessarily increases both operational and maintenance costs, disturbs wildlife (e.g., it disrupts bird migration), and further erodes citizen enjoyment of the night sky. The Town is already failing miserably to enforce existing lighting ordinances. Don't compound that failure by adding more unnecessary, intrusive lighting.
2. Fees for use of athletic fields (daytime use only) need to be greatly increased to fully cover the cost of their upkeep. Furthermore, better crowd control is needed at athletic events on Town property. For example, people attending sporting events on the WARF fields routinely sit on chairs and blankets set on the walking trail, thereby blocking the trail and creating both a nuisance and a safety hazard.
The WARF fitness facility should be improved to compete with other gyms. This would increase membership if the gym was actually more attractive for members.
Please install tennis courts! Most of us have to travel far to other county parks to find tennis courts, and even then, they are often busy.
Need more pickleball courts - Fauquier county lacking facilities found in neighboring counties
Competition pool is most important to me.
An audit needs to take place at the WARF for operating cost to determine factors that are justifying a significant rate increase. On observation is over staffing the facility with lifeguards.
More walking /cycling trails throughout Warrenton.
You need to bring in true skatepark designers to create a great place for kids to skateboard
As a retiree on fixed income it would be critical to have fee structures that are reasonable
I would like to see more activities for non-school aged kids. Playgrounds don't have enough structures for a 2 year old to play on. A children's museum or splash pad would be great additions!
Lighted tennis courts would be a great addition.
As a parent of young children, it would be wonderful to see fences around play areas as well as more shade provided. From a safety aspect, it can be scary having young kids be able to access a parking lot very easily. I travel frequently to Europe, where playgrounds are fenced, shaded, and very utilized. The improvements at Rady Park are amazing and hope to see more improvements like that in the future. Would love a splash pad, lots of friends drive to Culpeper or Aldi to visit splash parks there in the summer. As far as the WARF, I used to enjoy group fitness classes there, but since having children I don't have the childcare to be able to enjoy those things any longer. A while ago I was told there was talk of bringing childcare in? I wonder if that would increase use? Love all the parks and will continue to use them, glad to live in a place like Warrenton.
Would love one of the parks to be fenced in.
Look at mini waterparks in Purcellville, Hal and Bernie Hanson Park, Rock Creek park....we need water activities near town in the summer.
Hard to answer some questions since I am in the county, not the town. Not really in a position to rejoin WARF, but I loved it and would hate to see it gone. Don't really know about the financing issues. Good luck.
Class offerings and schedules have fluctuated too much. More classes are needed in the evenings for people who commute and work 9-5. More classes starting 6pm or later.
I think green space, regular and free public events, and walk ability make a town's character so anything we can do to keep or enhance those things I would be willing to pay more for (especially if it makes it more affordable for those who want afford private land/gym/trails). I'd also like to see Warrenton be a leader in landscaping by reducing mowing and using native plants in any future projects. I have no idea why the indoor exercise portion of the WARF isn't more bumping. The equipment is nice and everything is clean! I never have to wait for a lane in the pool. I do worry that it means there aren't fees rolling in.
Any time I visit the WARF complex, all areas are in use by patrons of all ages. I am thankful (and proud!) that we have the WARF and all of its amenities.
Truly enjoy going to the warf. Glad to see they have made some repairs at the playground but a lot of the equipment is getting old or dirty
The WARF could be so much more than a pool and small gym with a few classes. It could become a total full service gym. Like some high end gyms. Bringing in an outside partner that is use to and has experience running a first class facility. Current management seems lacking in their experience.
no comments, but thanks for asking
We enjoy living in Warrenton and think it's a great place with nice parks. However, we travel a lot to European countries and they are so much more advanced in the outdoor recreation facilities. Their parks keep the young, the elderly, and everyone in between engaged with fun activities (for examples a bench with pedals so you can sit but at the same time do something for your legs). The playgrounds are wooden so the kids can use them even in the heat, and they focus on climbing & creative play. Outdoor ping pong tables are also very popular (made from concrete or similar materials; people bring their own paddles).
I would like to see indoor ping pong tables, as they can give you a good workout if no classes are available at the time you visit.
See above. If you increased the membership opportunities to all citizens who live in Fauquier county your membership would increase. It's silly to define "residents" and "non residents". I also see a lot of lifeguards just sitting around waiting to releave others - your staff costs must be very high
Please keep the WARF and the water classes and add to the water classes possibly try some evening classes if you add classes advertise them.
Please connect trails/sidewalks from Warrenton Greenway to the Vint Hill trails!
Need exercise classes geared specifically to senior citizens like Wellness enter offered before hospital closed it

I have a second home in Warrenton yet I can't get a membership at the WARF. We pay taxes but do not get the benefit of the facility. I usually buy a package of fitness classes and use of the facility. I recently found out if I do no use them in a year they expire.
I'm not concerned about Sam tarr Park, since I only ride through it on my bicycle to get from my apartment to the wharf, but I'm curious how mothers deal with their children since that is a children's playground, knowing that children often have to go to the bathroom all of a sudden with no warning, but Sam tarr park has no facility for children that like to surprise you. Anyway I'm not a parent and maybe they have ways of dealing with it and they're fine, I'm just curious if you've ever had questions from parents.
The Warf locker rooms are gross. I contacted you about flying in womens locker room and got no response. Too much staff on upper level. They do not interact with customers, except Kathy who is great. The place is dirty and loud music flows out of exercise room that no one is using. You are wasting electricity. Cut back on staff to save money. I don't see they doing anything for the customers
rock gyms generate enormous revenue and could be a good add on to the WARF
Warrenton's facilities are excellent, but due to pressing demands on my time, it is difficult to attend during normal operating hours, so I would appreciate extending the hours. Also, I am disappointed that residents of Jeffersonton must pay higher fees for WARF membership despite living close to the WARF.
Need more Pickleball courts and rest rooms
Love everything about the WARF! FACILITY, INSTRUCTORS, STAFF ARE THE VERY BEST!!!
Add more pickleball courts and charge a fee
N/A
Add more pickleball courts and an outdoor pool. Also allow fishing near the lake by the WARF.
Provide electrical outlets for forward facing fans for the ellipticals and bikes in the hallway.
Sell the WARF to a private for-profit company.
More pickleball courts
We live in Warrenton but not the town. We are paying higher annual rates for the WARF and still feel it is a great value. I believe we should pay the same as the town but overall is a good deal.
More pickleball please! Outdoor and indoor courts.
Grateful to have such amenities in a small town!
WARF indoor pool is crowded and have rude people. Please get rid of the basketball hoop. Also, please monitor crowd for bathroom use. Some people are so filthy and they have no regards for the bathrooms - they litter it and make it very dirty.
WARF's burgeoning operating costs exceed the means of taxpayers
I think the town of Warrenton has done an excellent job with the Wharf. Expand more outdoor activities and better advertising
Warf is a nice facility. I am not happy with the increase of the membership. I think they are too many lifeguards on duty. Reducing personal will help with to keep membership low. Also Warrenton town should give Active military dependents a discount.
Hire someone that knows how to promote/market the WARF - not leaving it to instructors & staff. There is a tremendous opportunity with the high school next door. Many students walk/travel across town to PLanet Fitness
warf has terrific staff and the building is...pretty well managed but a number of "maintenance" things go a long time before anyone seems to notice them for repairs, as simple as light bulbs and roof leaks. why is the roof still leaking..??

Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

Would you like to sign up for updates about this master plan and/or other projects?

Name:	Email Address:
Billy Hand	
Chris Gatti	
Lita Trimmings	
Sarah Caryl	
Sarah Weber	
Melanie Blanding	
Patrick McDonald	
Katie Waters	
Alec Burnett	
Ruth E Fugee	
Megan kalec	
Heather Saucedo	
Stephanie Rush	
Kendall Adkins	
Deborah Mak	
Madeleine Miller	
Curt Bluefeld	
M. Fenimore	
Chelsea Copeland	
Phyllis Snipes	
Heidi Jameson	
Diane Hayes	
Mary Perry	
Al Penksa	
Brittany Penksa	
Andrew Alford	
Heather Kincaid	
Karen Conchar	
Dina Lyon	
Christine Orr	
Catey	
Brittney	
John Thompson	
Karen Redmon	
Amber Terrant	
Kira Topeka	
Susanna Walker	
Dana Wright	
Schanna Chilcote	

Patricia Koglin	
Emiley Keenley	
Stephanie Rodia	
Melanie Blanding	
Eric J Liebe	
Elizabeth Falcon	
Chris Jubeck	
Jodi	
Martha Skinker	
Hutch Putnam	
V. S. Bromley	
Tiffany	
Birge Watkins	
Beth Miller-Herholtz	
Silvia Fuechsel	
Deborah Foulk Libby	
Tom Sutton	
Jeremy Noel	
Meghan Mangrum	
No	no
Powell Kenerly	
Kathy wright	
Ana Waters	
Susan Morrison	
Susan F Taft	
Cynthia Axell	
Carolyn	
Carrie Berlin	
Helen S	
Michele O'Halloran	
Rachel Rooney	
Athena Coleman	
Ruth E Fugee	
Kathy White	
Christopher Bonner	
Krystyn Rash	
BJ Flemming	
Sarah Fil	
Greg Safford	
Courtney Noel	
Barbara Amster	
Ellen Diekel	
Sue Worden	
Mark Bumgardner	

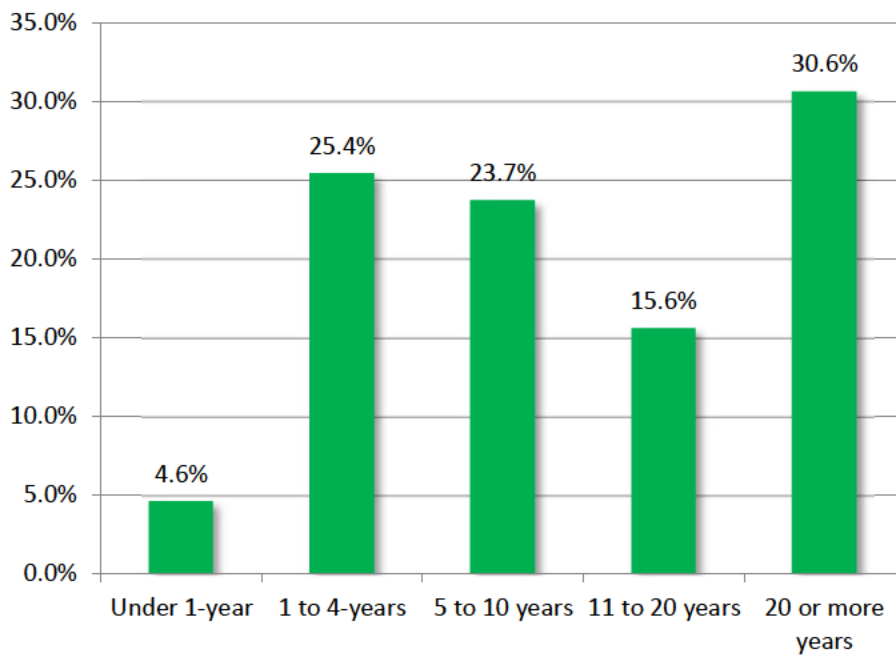
Chris Lane	
Holly Sloan	
Leslie Restaino	
SUSAN HELANDER	
Kathi Collins	
Kevin Andersen	
Victoria Packer	
Helene	
Kimberlee Calvert	
Casey	
Karen Conchar	
John Stinson	
Evelyn Smith	
Lauren Brittle	
Anne Ziegler	
No	no
Julianne Sonnenburg	
Bridget Bradshaw	
Caitlin Ely	
Tim Nickas	
Jill Apperson	
Kelly	
Heather	
Curt Bluefeld	
Linda Holloway	
Diane Shofkom	
Queta Bond	
Chris Martz	
Philip Taggart	
Stephanie Bedow	
Deborah Mak	
Suzanne Funesti	
Stella Lilley	
Judy Armor	
Donald Jeanrenaud	
Charles Verget	
Richard Stevens	
Norman Huff	
Ethan Cassee	
Gale Serene	
Dave	
Mike Schagrin	
jim bounds	

Jim Kiffney		
Barbara Lenky		
Larissa Ly		
David Wall		
Richard Anulewicz		
Rory Mulvey		
Matthew Haynes		
Joanne Kresic		
Jessica Hall		
Casey-Lynn Finnerty		
Maritza		
Janice Herzog		
Robert Pfannkuch		
Lynn		

Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

How long have you lived in Warrenton?

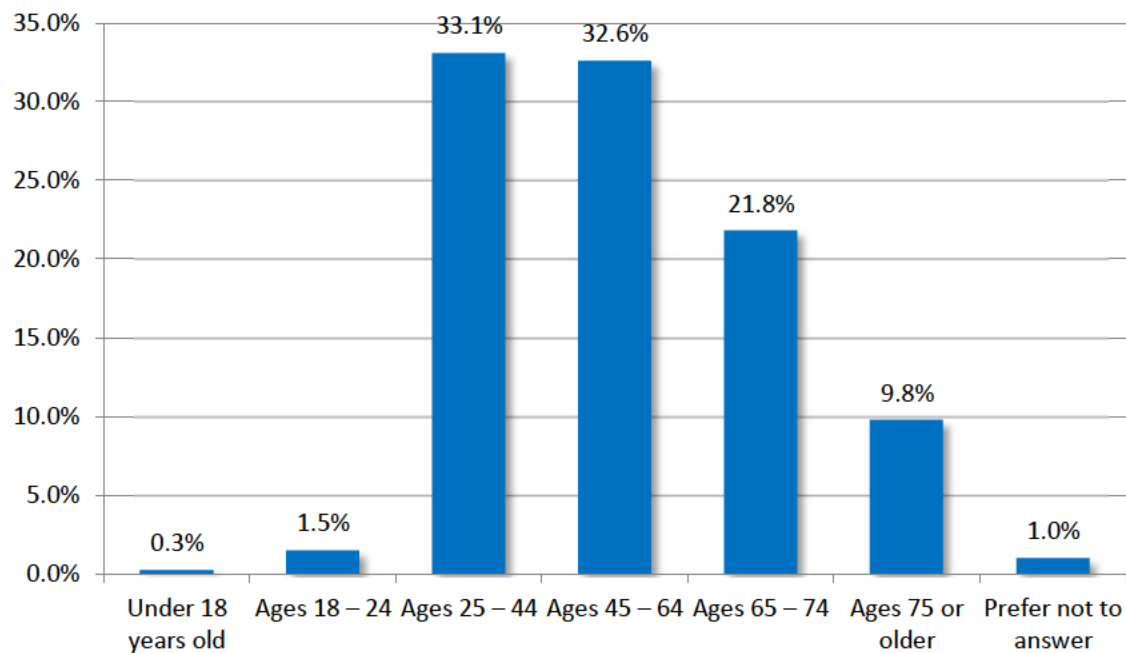
Answer Choices	Town Responses	
Under 1-year	4.6%	8
1 to 4-years	25.4%	44
5 to 10 years	23.7%	41
11 to 20 years	15.6%	27
20 or more years	30.6%	53
	Answered	173
	Skipped	63



Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

Which range best describes your age?

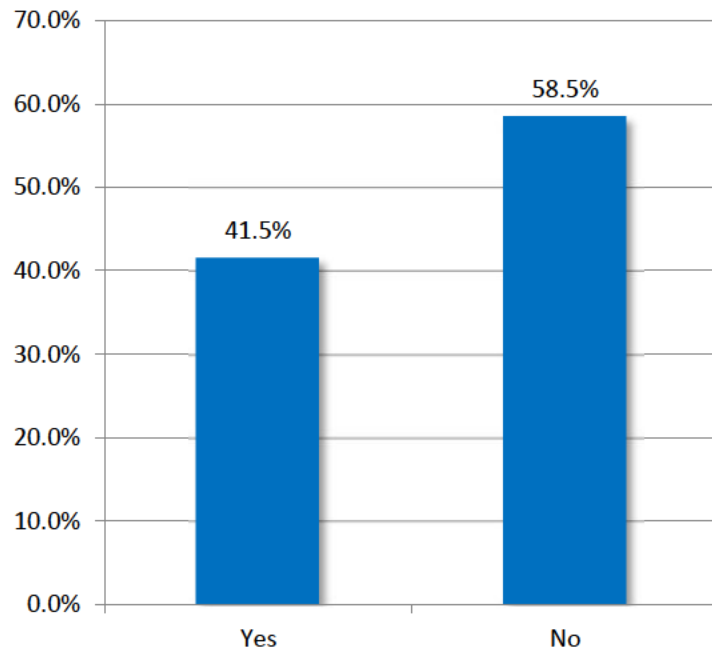
Answer Choices	All Responses		Town Responses	
Under 18 years old	0.3%	1	0.0%	0
Ages 18 – 24	1.5%	6	2.3%	4
Ages 25 – 44	33.1%	132	38.9%	68
Ages 45 – 64	32.6%	130	28.0%	49
Ages 65 – 74	21.8%	87	21.7%	38
Ages 75 or older	9.8%	39	8.0%	14
Prefer not to answer	1.0%	4	1.1%	2
	Answered	399		175
	Skipped	175		61



Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

Are any members of your household under the age of 18?

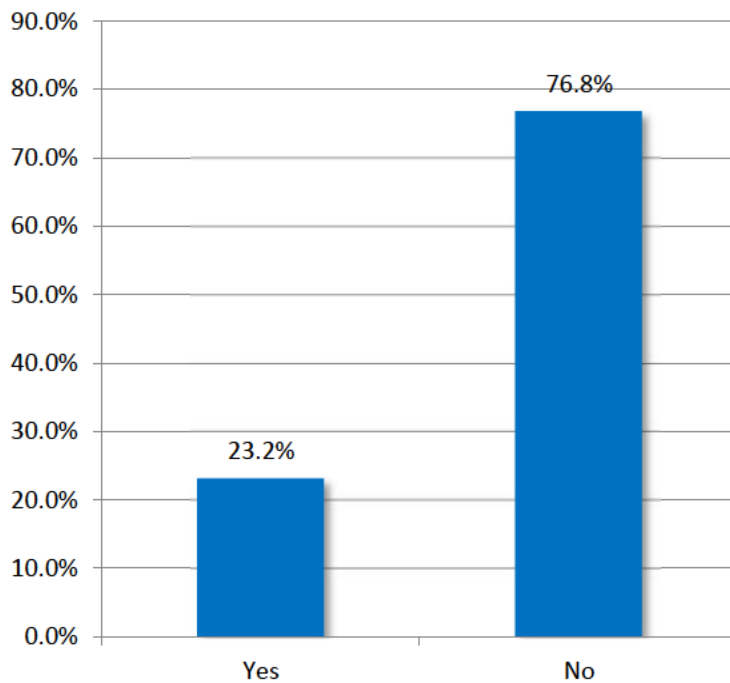
Answer Choices	All Responses		Town Responses	
Yes	41.5%	164	44.3%	77
No	58.5%	231	55.8%	97
	Answered	395		174
	Skipped	179		62



Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

Do any members of your household participate in youth organized sports or tournament play?

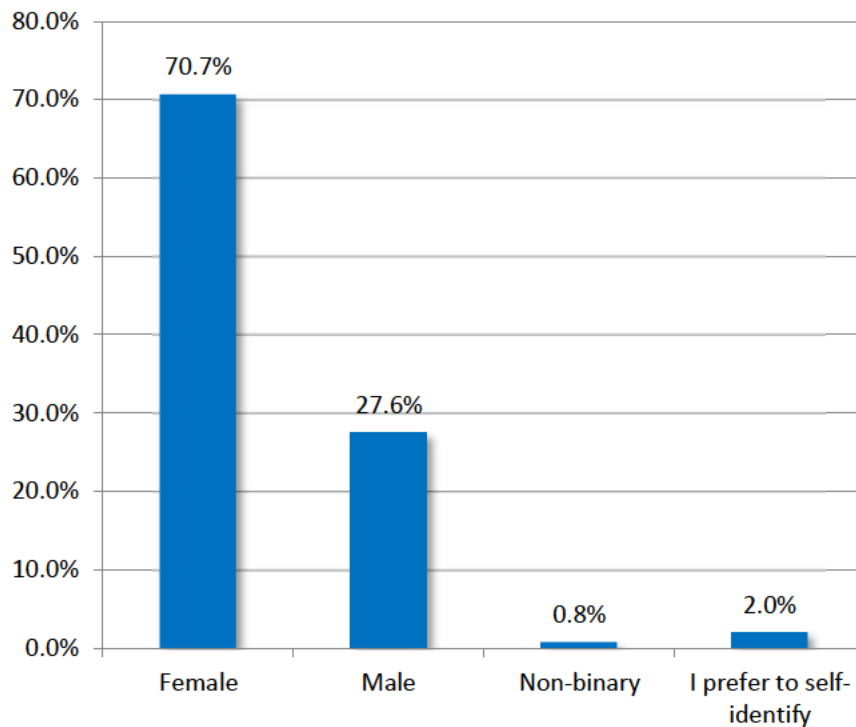
Answer Choices	All Responses		Town Responses	
Yes	23.2%	91	22.7%	39
No	76.8%	302	77.3%	133
	Answered	393		172
	Skipped	181		64



Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

Do you think of yourself as:

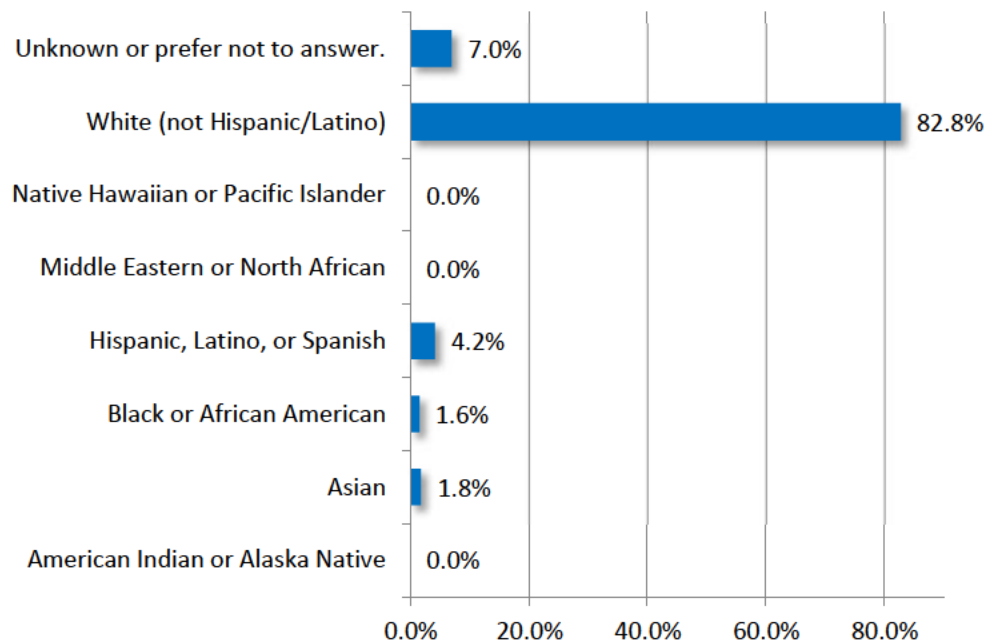
Answer Choices	All Responses		Town Responses	
Female	70.7%	277	70.8%	121
Male	27.6%	108	29.2%	50
Non-binary	0.8%	3	1.2%	2
I prefer to self-identify	2.0%	8	1.2%	2
	Answered	392		171
	Skipped	182		65



Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

What is your race and/or ethnicity?

Answer Choices	All Responses		Town Responses	
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.0%	0	0.0%	0
Asian	1.8%	7	0.6%	1
Black or African American	1.6%	6	3.0%	5
Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish	4.2%	16	4.7%	8
Middle Eastern or North African	0.0%	0	0.0%	0
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	0	0.0%	0
White (not Hispanic/Latino)	82.8%	318	82.3%	139
Unknown or prefer not to answer.	7.0%	27	6.5%	11
	Answered	384		169
	Skipped	190		67



Town of Warrenton 2025 Parks and Recreation Survey

Do you or anyone in your household have a disability that affects your use or experience of parks or recreation services?

Impairments or challenges may be physical, cognitive, mental, sensory, emotional, developmental, or combination of these.

Answer Choices	All Responses		Town Responses	
Yes	14.2%	56	14.0%	24
No	83.3%	328	84.8%	145
Prefer not to answer	2.5%	10	1.2%	2
	Answered	394		171
	Skipped	180		65

