

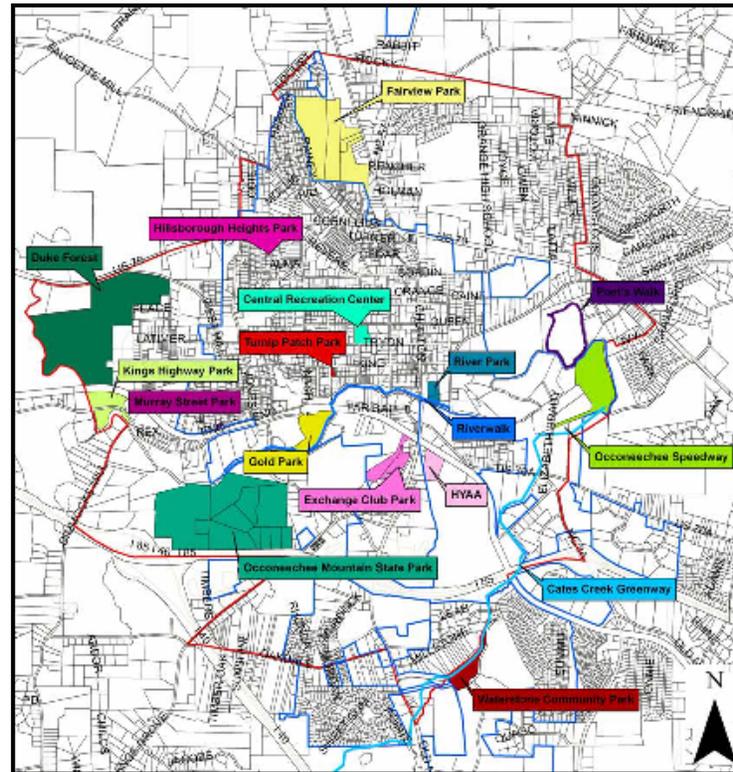
Recreational Areas in Hillsborough

Ayr Mount Historic Site located at 376 St. Mary's Road covers 265 acres and is home to a fully restored 1815 plantation house. **Poet's Walk** is a one-mile mulched trail around the perimeter of Ayr Mount along the Eno River. Ayr Mount is privately owned but is open to the public. For further information call 919-732-6886 or check the Ayr Mount website at: <http://www.classicalamerican.org/>

Cates Creek Greenway is a proposed 2.6 mile greenway along Cates Creek that will connect Oconeechee Speedway to the planned Waterstone Community Park. Pending funding, the project is the next major greenway project after Riverwalk is complete.

Exchange Club Park is located at 331 Exchange Club Lane and is privately owned and operated but is available for public use. The park consists of 16 acres with a baseball field, 2 playgrounds, open space areas, and 16 picnic tables and picnic shelters.

Fairview Park, located at 501 Rainey Avenue, consists of 41 acres, 25 of which are owned by the town and 16 of which are owned by Orange County. Currently, the park includes natural areas, a playground, and restroom facilities. After the current park



Map of Existing and Planned Parks in Hillsborough

expansion, it will have a ball field, 2 basketball courts, 3 tennis courts, a volleyball court, 10 picnic tables, a picnic shelter, and extensive trails and open space.

Gold Park is a 20-acre park located at the end of South Nash Street. The park includes restroom facilities, 7 picnic tables, 2 picnic shelters, a multi-use field, a playground, a dog park, and extensive natural areas and pedestrian trails. Gold Park will eventually be linked to downtown Hillsborough via the Riverwalk greenway.

Hillsborough Heights Park is a town-owned and maintained tot lot located at 510 Terrell Road. This neighborhood park has a playground, 2 picnic tables, and a grill.

HYAA Ball Fields, located at the eastern end of Orange Grove Road, are operated by the Hillsborough Youth Athletic Association. HYAA is a nonprofit community organization that runs children's baseball leagues in facilities throughout the county. The fields are scheduled from March through late November.

Kings Highway Park is an 18-acre natural area located on Ben Johnson Road. Volunteers have built trails, bridges, and a kiosk, and

it now has almost 1 mile of nature trails. It is owned and maintained by the town.

Murray Street Park is located at the corner of Murray and Eno streets. The park is a little less than 1 acre and has an open area, a play structure, and swings. It is owned and maintained by the town.

Occoneechee Mountain State Natural Area boasts the highest elevation point this side of the North Carolina Mountains. The park has 125 acres of natural area and 2 miles of pedestrian trails, with trail access points on Orange Grove Road and Allison Road. The park is operated by the North Carolina Division of Parks and Recreation.

Occoneechee Speedway was one of the first two NASCAR tracks to open in the nation in 1949 and is the only track remaining from that season. The site, located on Elizabeth Brady Road, has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places. At the site, remnants of the concession area and grandstands are still visible beside the 1-mile, mulched, oval track. Three miles of pedestrian trails are open to the public. The site is owned and maintained by Classical American Homes Preservation Trust.

Orange County Central Recreation Center is located at 300 W. Tryon Street. The site has a play structure and a multi-use field that is open to the public when scheduled activities are not occurring. The basketball courts and other indoor facilities can be reserved through the Orange County Recreation and Parks Department. The recreation center is owned and maintained by Orange County. More information can be found at <http://www.co.orange.nc.us/RecParks/>

River Park, located alongside the Eno River behind the New Orange County Courthouse, includes 12 acres of natural area and open

space. It is owned and maintained by Orange County. The site houses the Public Market House for the Hillsborough Farmer's Market, and it also has picnic areas, benches, and paths. In the future, River Park will comprise the western end of Riverwalk.

Riverwalk is a proposed greenway that will run alongside the Eno River from River Park through Gold Park to Occoneechee Mountain State Natural Area. It will connect into the statewide Mountains-to-Sea Trail. It is a 1.8 mile trail that will be 8 feet wide and will be paved for bicycle, stroller, and handicap accessibility. The expected completion date for Riverwalk is 2009. It will be maintained by the Town of Hillsborough.

Turnip Patch Park is a 1-acre neighborhood park, located at 333 W. King St., that includes a play structure, a footbridge, several garden areas and sitting benches. The park was built primarily with volunteer donations and is owned and maintained by the Town of Hillsborough.

Waterstone Community Park is a proposed 11-acre park that will be located in the planned Waterstone development. The park will include a multi-use field, a playground, extensive pedestrian trails, and natural areas. The park will be built in several phases. The first phase will be financed and installed by the developer and is expected to be complete by December 2008. The town will be responsible for future phases of the park's development. The full park will be complete by X. The park will be owned and maintained by the Town of Hillsborough.

For more information contact:

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