2010 Guiding Principle #5

Crozet values and will protect its natural resource assets through a variety of cultivation, recreation, and conservation efforts.

2010 Goals

- Protect sensitive natural systems (centered on the Lickinghole Creek drainage system).
- Reserve public areas of topographic, historic or cultural interest that contribute to the character of Crozet.
- Create areas for structured and unstructured recreation.
- Link neighborhoods to Downtown, schools, parks, squares, greens and the larger region.
- Protect and preserve Crozet’s exceptional mountain views from light pollution.
- Link rural area trails to Downtown destinations.
- Protect areas shown, as well as identify the location of existing/new parks and greenways on the Parks & Green Systems Plan.
The Crozet Connector Trail is an example of a trail that connects neighborhoods to Downtown Crozet.

Mint Springs Park (above) was identified during Workshop #2 as one of the main recreational destinations in the rural areas surrounding Crozet.

The Square was and will be a formal gathering space in Downtown Crozet that is part of a network of recreational opportunities (trails, parks, greenways).
Community Workshop #1
Crozetians value Crozet’s natural and scenic beauty and access to parks and outdoor recreational activities.

A key “hope” is to preserve natural resources and encourage sustainability.

There is continued support for trails and greenways linking important centers.

Crozetians value their “small town feel” with a close relationship to its surrounding rural areas farms, wineries and breweries.

Community Workshop #2
Crozetians would like to see a variety of gathering spaces - from formal downtown spaces to spaces for active recreation.

Crozetians would like to see businesses that support agritourism and the agricultural economy.

Claudius Crozet Park and Mint Springs Valley Park are the two major destinations for recreation in and around Crozet.
Conservation
Proposed Guiding Principle & Goals

Proposed Guiding Principle

Enhance Crozet’s natural beauty and the surrounding rural areas with an integrated network of parks and gathering spaces, trails, and greenways that support outdoor recreation and natural resource conservation.

Why this principle?

• This builds upon the 2010 Master Plan’s principle “Crozet values and will protect its natural resource assets through a variety of cultivation, recreation, and conservation efforts.”
• In the 2017 Community Survey and at Workshops 1 & 2, community members highlighted the value of different types of recreational opportunities within Crozet as well as in nearby rural areas.

Proposed Goals

Community parks & outdoor recreation opportunities.

• This is a continuation of the 2010 Master Plan’s goal to “create areas for structured and unstructured recreation.”
• In the 2017 Community Survey, 81% of participants described “park space” as “very important” or “somewhat important”.
• During workshops 1 & 2, we heard that Crozet community members value close proximity to parks and outdoor recreation opportunities.

Trail & greenway connectivity.

• This is a continuation of several 2010 Master Plan goals, including: “link rural area trails to Downtown destinations” and “link neighborhoods to Downtown, schools, parks, squares, greens, and the larger region.”
• The 2017 Community Survey and Workshops 1&2 reflect continued support for trail and greenway connectivity.

Access to rural & regional amenities.

• The 2010 Master Plan references regional connectivity and rural area access in several of its goals, including “link rural area trails to Downtown destinations”.
• During Workshop #1, community members described close proximity to the rural areas as a key feature of Crozet’s “small town feel”.

Natural resource conservation and sustainability.

• This is a continuation of the 2010 Master Plan goal, “protect sensitive natural systems.”
• In the 2017 Community Survey, 93% of participants described “natural areas & open spaces” as “very important” or “somewhat important”.
• Preserving natural resources and encouraging sustainability were key hopes expressed for the future of Crozet at Workshop #1.