

PARKnerships

Annual Report | FY2023



PARKnerships
Building Community in Alexandria



DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION, PARKS & CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

PARKNERSHIPS AT A GLANCE



Connect the Community

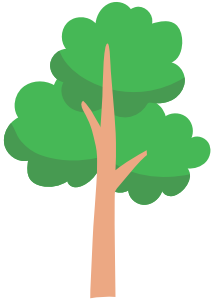
The Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities (RPCA) PARKnerships Program, continues to connect the community through collaboration with volunteers, community organizations, and sponsors. This year, PARKnerships partnered with over 25 community groups and organizations for facility improvements and innovative youth programming, in addition to sustaining many partnerships already in full swing from prior fiscal years.

Partnering with the community allows residents and local businesses to participate in planning and decision-making processes so RPCA can attain its mission of enriching the City of Alexandria by creating meaningful experiences through public space, cultural activities, and programming.



Community Matching Fund

Fiscal Year 2023 Awardees

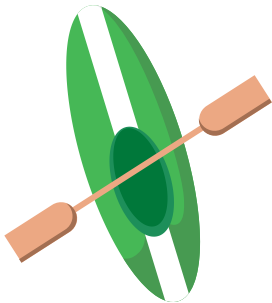


Lake Cook Pocket Park

Applicant: Townes at Cameron Parke Resident Group

Total Project Cost: \$25,000 • **Proposed City Contribution:** \$12,500

Project Description: This project includes planting native trees, implementing invasive species management, and signage to help identify the park and create a sense of place upon which future improvements can be built.

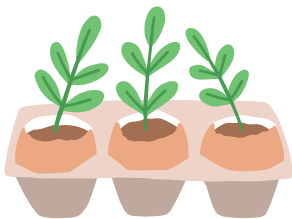


Paddling Access at Four Mile Run

Applicant: Four Mile Run Conservatory Foundation

Total Project Cost: \$436,885 • **Proposed City Contribution:** \$50,000

Project Description: The project is a public water access point, including a raised boardwalk from the Four Mile Run Trail to a gangway extending to a floating dock, maintaining ADA-compliant slopes and level landings.



Tucker Community Garden

Applicant: Samuel Tucker Elementary School PTA

Total Project Cost: \$21,238 • **Proposed City Contribution:** \$10,619

Project Description: The Tucker Community Garden Project developed a 'green' natural space adjacent to the Samuel Tucker Elementary School and provide an outdoor learning classroom for students.



Partnerships

In FY23, recreation services' program partnerships increased to provide more effective and affordable youth programs for Alexandria's Recreation Centers.

Partners	Project
<p>ACHS Women in STEM Club</p>	<p>Provided two workshops for science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and medicine at Nannie J. Lee and Oswald Durant Recreation Centers.</p>
<p>Alexandria Choral Society</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Free pop-up programming at Charles Houston and William Ramsay Recreation Centers (Snow Globe Series). 2 Perform a free and open choral concert to the public at the Patrick Henry Recreation Center, titled "On the Other Side of Change".
<p>Alexandria Fatherless Coalition</p>	<p>Mentoring for underserved youth at multiple recreation facilities as needed.</p>
<p>ArtStream</p>	<p>Provided the <i>Art of Theatre</i> program to Therapeutic Recreation participants at the Oswald Durant Recreation Center.</p>
<p>ASA Temporary Futsal Courts</p>	<p>Expanding futsal program capacity at Ben Brenman Park.</p>
<p>Boys To Men</p>	<p>Boys mentorship and empowerment program at Charles Houston Recreation Center.</p>
<p>The Campagna Center</p>	<p>Middle School mentoring program at Patrick Henry Recreation Center.</p>



Partners

Project

Founders Park Community Association (FPCA)

- 1 FPCA requested pet waste station at Founders Park. The group is responsible for restocking pet station bags supplied from Alexandria's Department of Transportation & Environmental Services.
- 2 Adopt-a-Garden for beautification in the center of Founders Park.

Jimmy Ralis (Eagle Scout Project)

Building a permanent wood frame for the perimeter of the Lockett Field Batting Cages and filled the base with stone dust to prevent soil erosion.

Literary Council of Northern Virginia (LCNV)

English language instruction to the surrounding community and recreation center participants.

Little Free Pantry

A small enclosed box where neighbors can share non-perishable food with the public so others can take what they need at William Ramsay Recreation Center.

Little Rising Stars

Little Rising Star is a day care that uses Fort Ward Park for outdoor play.

Miracle Field Alexandria

Volunteer pollinator garden planting (grasses, wildflowers, and shrubs).

Momentum Collective Inc.

Providing an arts-focused afterschool program at the following recreation centers: Charles Houston, Mount Vernon, Patrick Henry, and Leonard "Chick" Armstrong.

Old Town North Farmer's Market

Alexandria's favorite dog friendly Market is host to a wide variety of vendors offering fresh produce, baked goods, gift items, easy take home meals and much more at Montgomery Park.



Partners

Project

Ronald Cooper

Plant and provide maintenance for one tree at 507 Prince Street.

**Tree Stewards
Arlington/Alexandria**

Donated and planted 32 appropriate native trees and made a monetary donation towards watering maintenance.

True Worshippers

Partnership with Charles Houston Recreation Center for community events.

Two Birds

Two Birds Park Pre-School uses the Leatrice Byrd Playground for pre-school play time.

**VA Tech STEM Workshop
(Lee Center)**

Middle school students from Francis C. Hammond and George Washington Middle Schools had the opportunity to build, program, and automate a VEX IQ robot.

West End Farmers Market

Every Sunday, at Ben Brenman Park, an array of farmers, bakers, cooks, crafters, and artisans set up tents and tables to sell delicious food, superb crafts, and beautiful art.

Young and Mannered (Y.A.M.)

Mentorship program for teen girls at Charles Houston Recreation Center.

Zeta Phi Beta

Youth Club for girls that enhances mind, body, and spirit while working with various communities to help others.



ADOPT-A-BENCH



In Honor of
Mary Lou Hagerty
who taught me what is, is.

In Memory of
Anne Herrmann
She loved her river walks

Beatrice Howard & Paul Butler
Best friends forever.

Dedicated in loving memory
of our parents
Helen Fitzgerald & Richard Olson

Adopt-a-Bench had another successful year, resulting in 18 adopted benches. The donations have helped us to beautify and enhance Alexandria's parks and open spaces. Many residents have chosen to commemorate a loved one by placing a plaque on an existing bench within an Alexandria park. For most donors, this opportunity brings a sense of healing and peace after the loss of a loved one. While the waterfront parks are a popular location, residents also enjoy the beautiful parks on the West End. The memories of walking, playing, and jogging in a park are a perfect reflection of their loved ones. Additionally, many animal lovers have seen this as an opportunity to remember and celebrate the lives of their pets.



ADOPT-A-PARK



The Adopt-a-Park program is a cooperative venture between the State of Virginia, the City of Alexandria, and community groups to improve the appearance and condition of Alexandria's small urban parks and open spaces.

Parks Adopted in 2023

Beverly Park

Northeast Citizens Association

Charles Hill Park

Alexandria Police Department Special Ops Team

Colosanto Center

Del Ray Artisans

**Commonwealth Avenue Medians, WOD Trail,
Judy Lowe, Kettle, Mason Avenue & Simpson
Parks** *Del Ray Citizens Association*

Founders Park

Founders Park Community Association

**Four Mile Edison, Four Mile Flagpole Area,
Hume Springs & Shirley Tyler Parks**
Hume Springs Civic Association

Goat Hill, Hillside, & Landover Parks

Warwick Village Citizens Association

Lee Center

Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc.

Linear Park

Cameron Station Community Association

Lynhaven Park & Gateway

Lynhaven Citizens Association

Montgomery Park

Carr Company, LLC

Monticello Park

Boy Scouts of America (Troop 129)

2700 Mount Vernon Avenue Park

Del Ray Partnership

Oronoco Bay Park

A.C. High School National Honor Society

Robert Leider Park

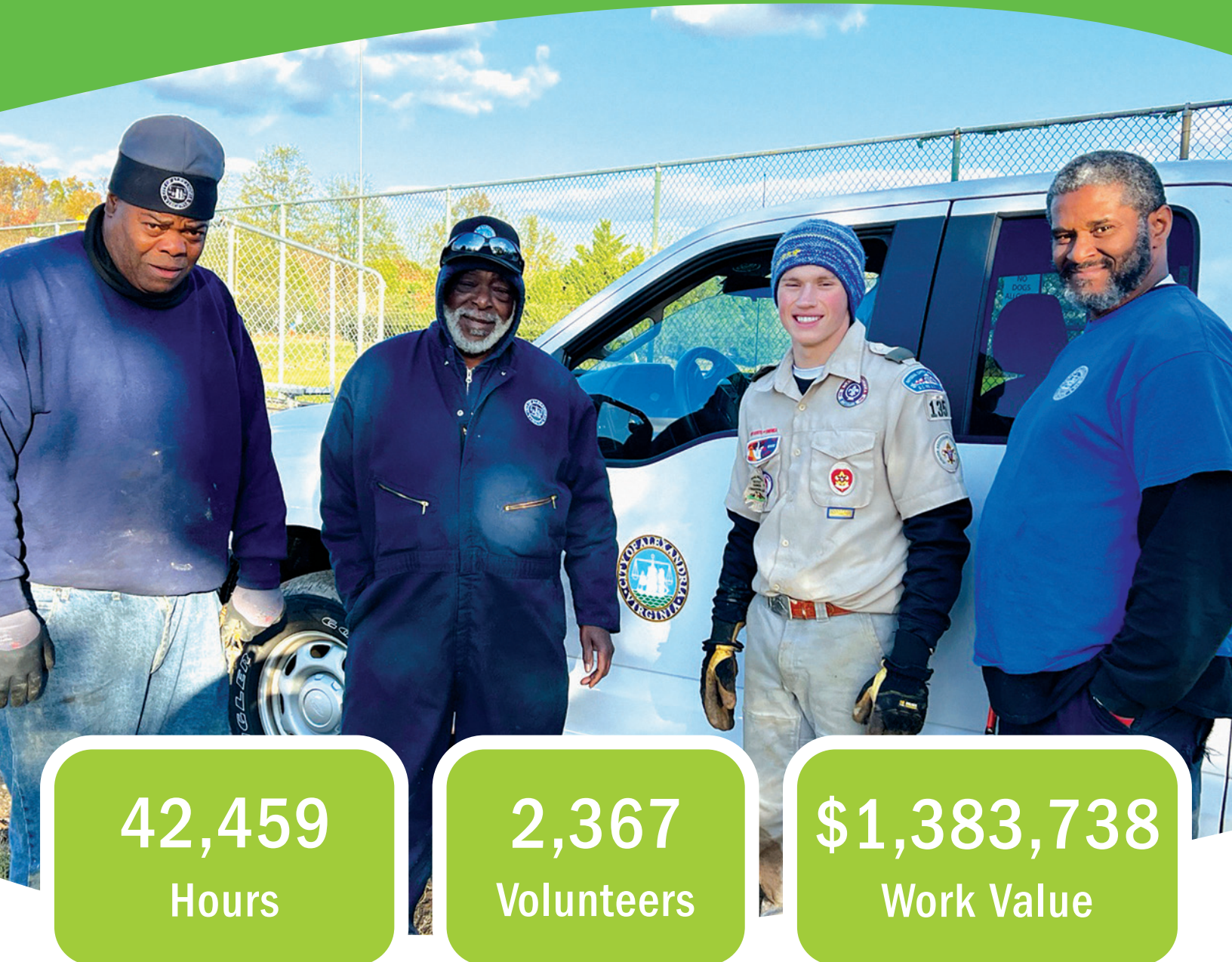
Boy Scouts of America (Pack 129)

South Earley Street Park

Society Hill Homeowners Association



VOLUNTEERS



42,459
Hours

2,367
Volunteers

\$1,383,738
Work Value

The latest figure from Independent Sector, with the Do Good Institute, announced on April 19, 2023 that the latest value of a volunteer hour is estimated to be \$31.80, which is a 6.2% increase from 2021 to 2022. For the state of Virginia \$32.59. For more information visit independentsector.org/resource/value-of-volunteer-time.



BY THE NUMBERS

FY2021 - 2023

	FY21	FY22	FY23
Volunteer Hours	2,112	10,151	42,459
Volunteers	527	1,119	2,367
Work Value	\$63,254	\$304,007	\$1,383,738
New Partnerships	7	16	25
Contributions	\$76,054	\$91,155	\$32,343
Adopt-A-Bench	24	12	18

