



THE NORTHEAST CITIZENS ASSOCIATION OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

703 Devon Place • Alexandria, Virginia 22314 • 703-836-3729

**CHETWORTH PARK
DESIGN PRINCIPLES**

OVERVIEW: Chetworth Park is a City of Alexandria park, meant to serve the needs of City residents, primarily but not exclusively in the area served by the Northeast Citizens Association.

The Northeast Citizens Association, operating as the legal partner with the City under the Adopt-a-Park Program, will determine how the park is developed and maintained, in accordance with applicable City policies. The Northeast area is bounded on the north by Slaters Lane, on the south by First Street, on the east by George Washington Parkway/Washington Street, and on the west by Route 1.

ARCHITECTURAL PARK DESIGN: LOW PROFILE AND NESTLED Chetworth Park is a low-profile park, nestled in a nook area of the Northeast neighborhood, featuring natural wood accents. The park is and will continue to be designed to meet the safety standards adopted by the City of Alexandria Parks and Recreation Department. The park is and will continue to be designed to take advantage of crime-prevention planning techniques.

SOCIAL & RECREATIONAL DESIGN: AS A MULTI-PURPOSE COMMUNITY PARK The park has been and will continue to be developed and maintained in a manner that serves the recreational interests of all residents. Therefore, it is meant to be a park for the whole community, yet with multiple purposes. The park has open space, a tot lot with fixed play equipment, benches, and garden plantings. It is meant to meet the needs of different park users: families, couples, singles, children, pet-owners, long-time residents, new residents, those whose homes border the park and those whose homes do not, visitors, etc. Some illustrations of the park's purposes include (but are not limited to) as:

- o open space to walk and run in;
- o tot lot for kids;
- o places to sit and have conversations;
- o places to enjoy trees and flowers;
- o places for supervised pets;
- o space that brings together the Northeast neighborhood for neighborhood-building activities;
- o and as a fun place for all citizens.

The tot lot area shall be in full compliance with all applicable City of Alexandria safety standards for play areas and shall be compatible with the multi-purpose design of the park.

MUTUAL RESPONSIBILITY PRINCIPLE: ALL NEIGHBORS TAKE CARE OF IT It has been and will continue to be the mutual responsibility of all Northeast residents who use the park to join in the cleanup of the park and the overall supervision of the park. Pet owners bear a responsibility to supervise their pets and pick up after their pets, as is provided. Parents bear a responsibility to keep an eye on their children for safety concerns and for the protection of the park's trees and landscaping. Chetworth Park is meant for neighbors to meet and get to know neighbors, so each neighbor is encouraged to extend her/himself to other neighbors.

Chetworth Park is a place to grow...for some to grow up, for some to grow old. It is a place for bonds between neighbors to grow. Changes to the park must be done in a manner sensitive to the benefit of all neighbors.

MAINTENANCE RESPONSIBILITIES: The City of Alexandria Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for the general maintenance of Chetworth Park, such as weeding, watering, mowing, repairs and other such landscaping responsibilities. Under the Adopt-A-Park Program, the Northeast Citizens Association is responsible for cleanup activities in the park, in accordance with an agreement signed with the City. The Children's Coop is the lead group for park cleanup.

DISCOURAGED USES: Because Chetworth Park is a small park with multiple purposes, it shall not be designed for use as a basketball court, baseball diamond, tennis court, or football field. Organized sports activities are more suitable at City recreational sites designated for such purposes. However, playing catch with balls and similar games which do not require large fixed spaces is permitted. There also shall not be any barbecue fixtures used in the park, except as may be sponsored by the Northeast Citizens Association for neighborhood gatherings in accordance with the policies of the Park and Recreation Department and the Fire Department.

ADOPT-A-PARK FUNDS: Funds derived from the Adopt-a-Park Program for Chetworth Park are provided by the City of Alexandria to the Northeast Citizens Association. The Association may use such funds for the improvement of the park as well as for any other Association neighborhood-serving purposes.

Agreed to by the Association on September 23, 1992