



## **Holliday Lake State Park**

Route 2, Box 622

Appomattox, VA 24522-9209

# **MASTER PLAN**

## **Executive Summary**

*This master plan was adopted on December 20, 2005  
and is scheduled to be updated in March 2013.*



Department of Conservation & Recreation

CONSERVING VIRGINIA'S NATURAL & RECREATIONAL RESOURCES

**HOLLIDAY LAKE STATE PARK  
MASTER PLAN – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY  
December 20, 2005 Update**

Deep in the heart of Appomattox-Buckingham State Forest, Holliday Lake State Park is a paradise for the outdoor enthusiast. Situated in the Piedmont Physiographic Province, the park consists of approximately 250 acres of gently rolling topography where fishing for largemouth bass, crappie and bluegill is a popular activity on the 150-acre lake within the park. Nearby, a managed Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries delayed-harvest trout stream allows anglers to fish for brown and rainbow trout. The park features excellent trails for hikers, and access to a cooperatively managed 12-mile trail for hikers, bikers and equestrians. A guarded swimming beach is provided from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day weekend, including a food service concession. The park is just minutes from the famous Appomattox Court House National Historical Park, the site of General Robert E. Lee's surrender to General Ulysses S. Grant in 1865. The park abuts the 19,000-acre Appomattox-Buckingham State Forest and neighbors the Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center, which resides on 156 acres of State Forest property.

The area encompassing Holliday Lake State Park and the surrounding state forest was cleared in the 1800s for farmland. In the 1930s, the federal government, through the Resettlement Administration, began buying the farms to return the land to its former productive hardwood forest status. Construction of a dam was begun at Fish Pond Creek, however efforts were relocated to Holliday Creek where a lake could be developed. Traces of family cemeteries can still be found in the area. The park was established in 1939 and acquired in 1945. Holliday Lake State Park, formerly Holliday Lake Recreational Area, was renamed by the Department of Conservation and Recreation in 1972.

Holliday Lake State Park lies in Appomattox County in the central Piedmont region of Virginia. The park is located 75 miles west of Richmond, 55 miles south of Charlottesville, and 35 miles east of Lynchburg and is approximately two hours from Richmond and Roanoke. Holliday Lake is accessible from U.S. 460, U.S. 15, U.S. 60, and VA Route 60; the primary park entrance is from VA Route 24. The following table depicts park attendance during the periods 1995 to 2003.

1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
36,685	40,804	49,893	43,866	38,190	34,001	36,542	36,608	31,232

Facilities at Holliday Lake include 30 campsites with water and electric hook-ups (six pull-through sites) and a bathhouse, lake with boathouse that offers paddle boats, rowboats and canoes for rent, boat launch for gas-free vessels, and swimming beach with concession area, bathhouse and water toys. Also available for park guests are multi-use trails, a small amphitheater complex, two playgrounds and two small picnic shelters. Maintenance and management facilities include park office, staff residences, maintenance complex, and a water treatment facility as well as a road system, parking area, water system, contact station, one comfort station and septic drain field.

Holliday Lake State Park received Federal Land and Water Conservation Funds (LWCF) in 1978 for park facility development. In compliance with the LWCF Act of 1965 and amendments thereto, the Commonwealth of Virginia is required to maintain the park for public outdoor recreation in perpetuity.

Planners from the Department of Conservation and Recreation conducted the master plan update in accordance with §10.1-200.1 of the *Code of Virginia*. The Holliday Lake State Park Master Plan was developed with the assistance of a technical advisory committee, which was comprised of local citizens, park users and volunteers, former park administrators, and representatives from federal, state and local government. With the assistance of the advisory committee, a park purpose statement and goals and objectives were developed, and public input was solicited at the beginning and at the end of the process to ensure that plan recommendations were understood and accepted by the community. This plan outlines the desired future condition of the park over a 20-year planning horizon. As required by the *Code of Virginia*, it must be revisited every five years to ensure that the development objectives outlined in the plan continue to meet the recreational and environmental protection needs of the citizens of the Commonwealth. The new park purpose statement is ***“The purpose of Holliday Lake State Park, situated on a 150-acre lake created by the Works Project Administration (WPA) in the 1930’s, is to provide opportunities to participate in traditional outdoor recreational activities while appreciating the natural, historical, and cultural resources that are available in and around the Appomattox-Buckingham State Forest in the heart of Virginia.”***

The new facilities, or improvements to existing facilities, listed below are proposed for Holliday Lake State Park. These facilities are carefully sited to minimize the impact to the parks’ viewshed. The building designs will utilize “green,” energy efficient, and sustainable materials and processes as much as feasible. All development activities will comply with the requirements set forth by the Department of Conservation and Recreation’s Best Management Practices (BMP) Handbook for Erosion and Sediment Control in order to protect water quality. All future phases of park construction will be developed in an environmentally sensitive manner.

The proposed developments for Holliday Lake State Park are presented in priority order; the first project listed in Phase One below is funded through the 2002 Virginia Parks and Natural Areas General Obligation Bond (GOB). Phases I through III are representative of total build-out (completed development of this master plan) over the course of the plan’s 20-year time span. Total estimated cost, including the 2002 GOB project, is **\$9,520,945**.

## **PHASE I**

- Construct a new campground (Bond 2002)
- Replace the boat dock
- Renovate and dredge the boat ramp
- Construct a finger pier
- Improve the drainage in the day use area
- Improve access to the beach
- Replace the existing campground bathhouse
- Repave and ditch the campground road
- Convert 3 existing campsites to ADA accessible
- Construct a new group campground
- Provide additional parking across from the campground

**The total estimated cost for Phase I development is \$4,263,948**

## **PHASE II**

Renovate and expand the Chief Ranger's residence  
Construct an ADA accessible fishing and wildlife observation pier  
Construct one additional picnic shelter  
Convert existing office to an environmental education center with exhibits  
Construct a new office complex  
Enhance the amphitheater  
Enhance and expand trails and support facilities  
Update well, water treatment and water storage system  
Replace water lines where needed

**The total estimated cost for Phase II development is \$3,851,172**

## **PHASE III**

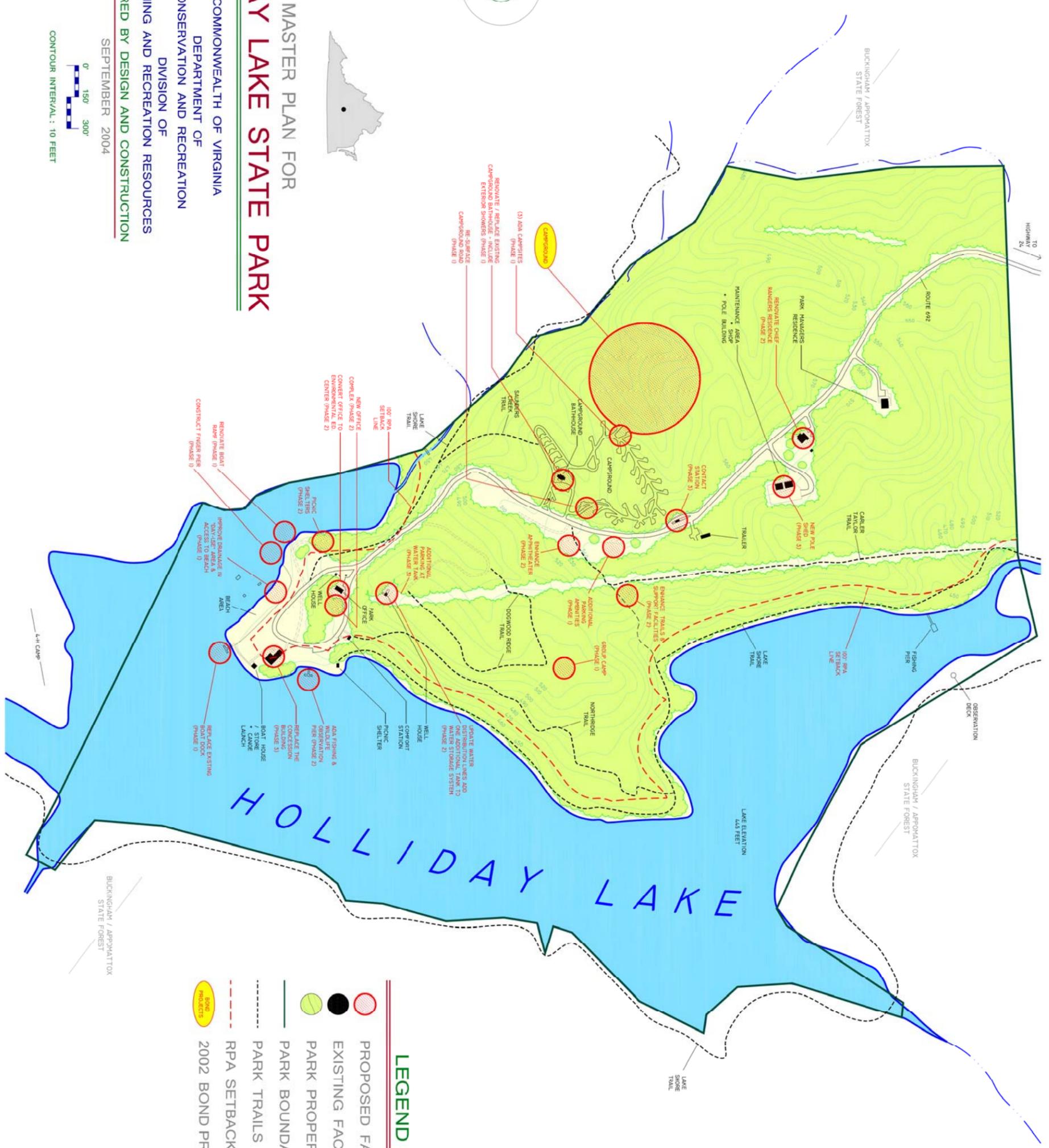
Replace the concession building  
Upgrade the maintenance area and add a pole shed  
Provide additional parking at the water tower area  
Construct a new contact station

**The total estimated cost for Phase III development is \$1,405,825**

Staffing and operational costs at Holliday Lake State Park for fiscal year 2004 were budgeted at \$195,142, including salaries for 3 permanent staff. The 2002 Senate Document No. 4, Report of the Commission Studying the Future of Virginia's Environment, proposed a rebenchmarking of state park funding. The proposal for Holliday Lake identified a need for an additional \$71,857 in operating costs, which includes salaries for 2 additional permanent staff. During Phase 2 of this proposed master plan, a chief ranger – educational specialist has been identified to expand the educational offerings of the park afforded by the development of an environmental education center. At complete build out of the 3 phases of development, 1 additional staff will be needed and an additional \$260,451 in operating funds. Without the projected staffing and operating costs for the rebenchmarking and 3 development phases, there will be insufficient funds or staff to adequately operate the park at full build out. Total budget for Holliday Lake at full build out is projected to be \$455,593, a 133% increase over the current (FY04) budget.

A chart depicting staffing and operational costs is on the next page.

<b>EXISTING (FY 04)</b>	<b>2002 PROPOSED REBENCHMARKING*</b>	<b>PHASE 1</b>	<b>PHASE 2</b>	<b>PHASE 3</b>	<b>FULL BUILD OUT</b>
<u>STAFFING</u>					STAFFING
Park Manager					Park Manager
Chief Ranger					Chief Ranger
			Chief Rgr – Educ. Spec.		Chief Rgr – Educ. Specialist.
Park Ranger	Park Ranger				Park Ranger (2)
	Prog. Support Tech.				Prog. Support Tech.
<b>SALARY TOTAL</b>					<b>SALARY TOTAL</b>
\$108,852	\$65,014	--	\$37,751	--	\$211,617
<b>WAGE TOTAL</b>					<b>WAGE TOTAL</b>
\$45,295	\$225	\$26,182	\$40,887	\$3,700	\$116,289
<b>OTPS TOTAL</b>					<b>OTPS TOTAL</b>
\$40,995	\$6,618	\$15,624	\$58,650	\$5,800	\$127,687
<b>TOTAL BUDGET (FY04 dollars)</b>					<b>TOTAL BUDGET (FY04 dollars)</b>
\$195,142	\$71,857	\$41,806	\$137,288	\$9,500	\$455,593



# MASTER PLAN FOR HOLLIDAY LAKE STATE PARK

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
DEPARTMENT OF  
CONSERVATION AND RECREATION  
DIVISION OF  
PLANNING AND RECREATION RESOURCES  
PREPARED BY DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

SEPTEMBER 2004



## LEGEND

- PROPOSED FACILITIES
- EXISTING FACILITIES
- PARK PROPERTY
- PARK BOUNDARY
- PARK TRAILS
- RPA SETBACK LINE
- 2002 BOND PROJECTS