

TABLE 2: COMPARISON OF FACILITIES IN STATE PARKS, METROPOLITAN REGIONAL PARKS AND TRAILS, GREATER MINNESOTA REGIONAL PARKS, AND STATE TRAILS

FACILITIES PROVIDED	State Park System	Metropolitan Regional Park and Trail System	Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails (examples of park facilities)	State Trails
CAMPING	5,496 campsites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3,801 drive-in sites • 1,273 electric sites • 133 backpack-in sites • 255 other such as cart, walk, canoe-in sites 280 horse camps with a capacity of 978 68 group camps 1,118 state forest campsites	676 RV compatible campsites 147 tent-only campsites 32 group campsites (1,654 total capacity)	29 parks with camping and campgrounds	.
LODGING	86 camper cabins, cabins, guest houses and lodges			
PICNIC FACILITIES	6,526 picnic sites	123 picnic shelters 3,576 picnic tables	42 parks with picnic areas	
TRAILS OUTSIDE OF PARKS and STATE TRAILS		170 miles of paved regional trails outside of metropolitan regional park boundaries	over 100 miles of paved regional trails, excluding internal park trails	1,066.1 miles of State Trail: 372.6 miles paved with asphalt for biking and in-line skating; 36 miles paved with limestone for biking; 635.5 miles of natural surface. Provides 459 miles for mountain biking, 855.1 miles for hiking and walking, 473 miles for horseback riding, 939 miles for snowmobiling, 102.5 miles are groomed for cross-country skiing

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TRAILS WITHIN PARKS	1,255 miles of trail summer activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 84 miles of self guided • 1,024 miles of hiking • 83 miles surfaced for biking • 146 miles of mountain biking • 33 miles of handicapped accessible trails • 300 miles of horse trails winter activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 530 miles of cross country ski trails • 35 miles of skate ski trails • 446 miles of snowmobile trails 	244 miles of paved trails 177 miles of mowed/dirt trails 100 miles of horse trails 30 miles of mountain biking trails 22 miles of gravel trails	42 parks with nature / hiking trails 10 parks with cross country skiing	
ROADS AND BRIDGES WITHIN PARKS	332 miles of road and 72 bridges			
VISITOR / INTERPRETIVE CENTERS	33 visitor centers	28 visitor / interpretive centers	8 parks with an interpretive center for environmental education	
ZOO / ARBORETUM		Como Zoo and Conservatory	3 parks with a zoo or nature center 1 park with an arboretum	
FISHING / BOAT FACILITIES	33 fishing piers (20 that are accessible to people with disabilities) 135 water access sites	30 parks with fishing piers 47 boat launches (ramp) 26 boat launches (carry in) 902 boat-trailer parking spaces 16 parks with boat rentals	22 parks with boating / canoeing 22 parks with fishing	

FACILITIES PROVIDED	State Park System	Metropolitan Regional Park and Trail System	Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails (examples of park facilities)	State Trails
PARKS WITH PLAYGROUNDS	28 parks with playgrounds	42 parks with playgrounds		
SWIMMING BEACHES / POOLS	40 beaches	22 swimming beaches (lake) 1 swimming beach (river) 3 swimming (artificial pond) 2 swimming pools 4 wading pools 2 water parks	23 parks with swimming / swimming beaches	
REFRESHMENT STANDS		27 parks with refreshment stands		
SPORTING FACILITIES:				
Golf	2 courses - Fort Ridgely; Fort Snelling administered by Minneapolis Park Board	207 golf course holes See Note 1.		
Volley Ball	32 parks with volley ball			
Horseshoes	29 parks with horseshoe pits			
Rock Climbing	4 parks with rock climbing			
Archery Range		6 parks with archery ranges		
Tennis Courts		34 tennis courts		
Basketball Courts		8 basketball courts		
Frisbee Golf Holes		12 Frisbee golf holes		
HISTORIC / ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES	62 historic districts or landmarks 1,600 buildings (620 on the National Register of Historic Places) 360 archaeological sites			
SCIENTIFIC AND NATURAL AREAS	7 scientific and natural areas			

Note 1: Golf course land is used in the winter for cross country skiing, and thus is part of the regional park system. Golf courses are "enterprise fund facilities" that are intended to be self supporting (i.e., no general tax funds are to be used to finance their operations and maintenance). Golf course operations and maintenance costs are not included in general operations and maintenance costs of the Metropolitan Regional Park System. Golfers are not counted as regional park system visitors. But, additional revenues from enterprise fund facilities are in some cases used to help finance park operations and maintenance.

Regarding softball/baseball fields and football/soccer fields, those facilities are not part of the Metropolitan Regional Park System. They are comparable to municipal athletic fields in non-regional parks, and the fees athletic leagues pay to the park agency goes towards maintaining these fields. Users of these fields are not counted as visitors to the Metropolitan Regional Park System, and the cost of operating and maintaining these fields is not included in the cost of operations/maintenance of the Metropolitan Regional Park System.