



New Yorkers for Parks

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New Yorkers for Parks (NY4P) is a coalition of civic, greening, recreation, and economic development organizations that advocates for a higher level of park services in every community.

NY4P:

Works tirelessly to promote and protect the city's 28,700 acres of parkland and 1,700 public park properties;

Raises awareness about the importance of parks as a vital public service essential to strengthening the City and its residents;

Serves as an independent watchdog that conducts research and works toward creating a more equitable and efficient parks and recreational system;

Activates public discussion regarding best practices for the funding, managing and designing of parks and recreational programs.

In addition to *The Report Card on Parks*, NY4P also produces numerous research projects and community outreach events. All of these are designed to keep parks and open spaces on the public agenda and to provide park users with tools that help them to advocate for improved park services.

Report Card on Parks

The Report Card on Parks is the first publicly accessible park-by-park evaluation of NYC's neighborhood parks.

City Council District Profiles

"One stop shopping" for maps, photographs and statistics on parks funding, household income levels, population, health and education for each of the 51 City Council Districts.

The Daffodil Project

A joint endeavor between NY4P and the Department of Parks & Recreation, the Project, the largest volunteer planting effort in NYC history, unites communities and revitalizes parks in all five boroughs.

Parks Advocacy Day

Rallies New Yorkers at City Hall once a year to meet with Council Members to advocate for a citywide parks legislative agenda and local neighborhood concerns.

The Community Design Program

Provides pro bono design services to organizations in underserved communities to improve and beautify local parks.

The Natural Areas Initiative

A joint program of NY4P and New York City Audubon that promotes the protection and effective management of New York City's natural areas.

How Smart Parks Investment Pays Its Way

The first study of its kind to document the economic impact of parks in New York City. Its conclusions revealed that revitalizing parks *does* translate into economic benefits.

Please visit our website at www.ny4p.org.

A group of six diverse children are playing on a blue and green playground structure. They are leaning on the railings, smiling and looking towards the camera. The background shows a brick building and a cloudy sky.

The Report Card on Parks 2004

An Independent Assessment of New York City's Neighborhood Parks

Table of Contents

- 1 The Report Card on Parks**
- 2 Why another “Report Card on Parks”?**
- 4 Summary of Methodology**
- 7 Findings**
- 12 Conclusions and Recommendations**
- 14 Detailed Methodology**
- 23 Find Your Park**

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& NY4P staff

Maps: Community Mapping Assistance Project (CMAP).



The Report Card on Parks

NY4P's *Report Card on Parks* is an effort to demonstrate quantitatively the varying quality of neighborhood parks throughout the five boroughs. There are several hundred neighborhood parks in New York City. Unlike the larger, high-profile parks of the city, neighborhood parks are often solely dependent on public funding and as a result often receive insufficient maintenance attention.

The Report Card has three goals:

1 To provide communities with an assessment of how their neighborhood park is performing in comparison to other parks in the city. This easily accessible on-line information helps communities advocate for improved services in their neighborhood parks.

2 To provide an independent assessment of neighborhood park performance from year to year against a defined minimum level of service. This creates accountability for providing both this defined level of service as well as improvements for every park throughout the five boroughs.

3 To spark debate among communities, public agencies and advocates about how best to improve and maintain neighborhood parks in need. *The Report Card* provides a valuable service by identifying parks in the greatest need, but more importantly, *The Report Card* indicates how we might begin to address that need. By highlighting those high-performing, as well as low-performing parks, best practices can be identified and implemented in select parks and incorporated system-wide.

Although the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) does evaluate its properties using a comprehensive program, ratings are aggregated and published only at the citywide level in the *Mayor's Management Report*. In contrast, NY4P's *Report Card* is designed to provide an analysis of conditions on a park-by-park basis. Too often, communities are left "in the dark" when it comes to their park's performance. NY4P's community forums have shown time and again that maintenance needs are critical to park users and often not attended to. In addition to lack of maintenance care, constituents are frustrated by a lack of information on their neighborhood assets — their parks and playgrounds. These neighborhood parks are the front and back yards of most New Yorkers — they deserve better.

Why another “Report Card on Parks”?

In 2003, NY4P released its first annual *Report Card on Parks*. In the absence of publicly accessible performance data on New York City’s neighborhood parks, NY4P developed *The Report Card* to provide a citywide snapshot on the state of our open spaces.

The results of 2004 *Report Card* illustrate the need to continue this important project. We once again documented that too many of our neighborhood parks are lacking adequate maintenance care. As this year’s *Report Card* shows, these smaller, low-profile parks are in need of greater investment.

With each summer of additional data collection, *The Report Card* becomes a more powerful tool — illustrating trends, tracking improvements and decay, and keeping the spotlight on particular areas of need in NYC’s neighborhood parks.

NY4P’s advocacy work provides us with countless examples of constituents with maintenance concerns from all five boroughs. At our borough forums, concerned citizens continuously share anecdotal experiences that support the statistical findings of *The Report Card*. Recent concerns have included the following:

“Our park needs grass to cover all the dirt areas. Trees should be better maintained — a person was injured by falling limbs recently. The park could also use a second playground for there is no place for small kids to play. It would also benefit by having a dog run. The City should focus on sanitation pick-up in parks.” — *Friends of Devoe Park, The Bronx*

“Our baseball and softball program involves 1000 neighborhood children. We need kids to play baseball; and we need to have the fields ready in time for the start of the season — this means open bathrooms as well. The City should provide dirt or clay at these fields so that we can do minor maintenance right before games ... the fields get so much use.” — *Mosholu Montefiori Community Center, The Bronx*

“The park has been neglected for over 20 years. It has only 6 swings and 2 slides, insufficient lightning and no bathrooms. At night these conditions attract crime. People relieve themselves in the bushes and on the stairs, creating unsanitary conditions. No baseball fields — kids play baseball on the streets, or have to go to a different neighborhood to find baseball fields.” — *Woodbine Tenants Association, Brooklyn*

These maintenance and safety concerns fall right in line with the issues highlighted in this year’s *Report Card*. The 2004 *Report Card* identified trends that were first tracked in 2003 — too many neighborhood parks are in disrepair, lacking open bathrooms, working drinking fountains and green and clean athletic facilities. While the first *Report Card* documented these conditions, this year’s *Report Card* illustrates that these needs are chronic and not just a one-time occurrence. Our neighborhood parks continue to suffer, as do the communities that depend on them for open space and recreation.

In order to maximize the impact of *The Report Card*, it is distributed to City Council members, Community Boards and the Mayor’s Office and is available to the public on the NY4P website (www.ny4p.org).



Summary of Methodology

This report is intended as a follow up to the 2003 *Report Card on Parks*. Below is a summary of the methodology developed in 2002 and implemented in both the 2003 and 2004 *Report Cards*. A full discussion of the methodology can be found in the “Detailed Methodology” section on page 14.

Survey Population

In constructing *The Report Card*, NY4P focused on DPR “park” properties of between one and 20 acres, as these properties represent New York City’s neighborhood parks. This defines a survey population of 220 small to mid-size parks. However, several of these parks could not be included in the study. For example, we did not survey those parks that were closed for capital improvement. Further, certain park properties, like skating rinks, amusement parks or forests with no user trails have none of *The Report Card’s* Major Service Areas and were dropped from consideration in this report. The final survey universe consisted of 195 park properties.

Grading the Parks

In 2002, NY4P convened a focus group of park experts and community leaders to help define the eight Major Service Areas (MSA), along with a scale of weights to reflect the relative importance of different indicators. MSAs were weighted on a scale of 1 to 5 (5 being the most important to a park user’s experience). These service areas were evaluated on maintenance, cleanliness, safety and structural integrity. Thus, for each of the 195 parks included in the survey, every applicable MSA was assigned a numerical score. A park’s overall numerical score was calculated as a weighted average of these service area scores. The numerical scores were then converted to a final letter grade.

Each park was assigned a numerical score from 0 to 100 in each applicable MSA, based on the proportion of features in those service areas found to be in acceptable condition. This was done using an independently developed survey mechanism that is based on the DPR’s Parks Inspection Program (PIP). Next, MSA scores were averaged by weight to give an overall numerical park score. (Those parks lacking one or more of the

MSAs were not penalized). Letter grades corresponding to these numerical scores comprise the final park ratings in accordance with the following conversion table:

Raw Numerical Grade	Letter Grade
97-100	A+
93-96	A
90-92	A-
87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
70-72	C-
60-69	D
59 and below	F

Score / Grade associations developed by a focus group of park managers and open space experts.


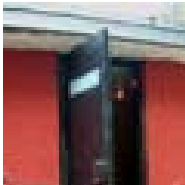






The survey is designed to fairly rate all features that are or should be available to a user visiting a park. By way of example, if a park has a bathroom facility that is locked or closed without explanation, it will receive a “0” for the bathroom rating. If the park does not have a bathroom, though, it will not receive a score for bathrooms, so that a park will never be penalized for not having a particular MSA.

Survey Mechanism

NY4P used a comprehensive survey mechanism developed specifically for *The Report Card on Parks* to determine a park’s rating. There are 8 MSAs tracked through the survey mechanism that breakdown into 12 feature forms. Surveyors completed a survey feature form for each of the features found in a park. For example, if there are three drinking fountains in a park, a surveyor completed three ‘Drinking Fountain’ forms. Surveyors answered a series of questions on the maintenance, cleanliness, safety and structural integrity of a feature. The total park score was based on the percentage of features evaluated that were found in acceptable condition.

Survey Work

NY4P staff conducted the survey on weekdays between June and August 2003, a high-use season for public parks. Teams of trained surveyors used handheld computers and digital cameras to complete an evaluation. For each MSA evaluated, digital photographs were taken. Both survey forms and photos were stored as documentation of survey efforts and results.

Major Service Area	Description	Weight	Major Service Area	Description	Weight
 <p>Active Recreation Space</p>	<p>This MSA evaluates all athletic facilities in a park, both athletic fields and courts. Athletic fields include soccer and ballfields and courts include basketball, handball, bocce and volleyball facilities.</p>	3	 <p>Bathrooms</p>	<p>This MSA evaluates each discrete bathroom or comfort station in a park.</p>	4
 <p>Passive Recreation Space</p>	<p>This MSA evaluates all green and passive features in a park. Features included in this service area are lawns, landscaped areas, and gardens, park trees, waterbodies and natural areas. The trees included in the form are only those contained within tree pits in the park.</p>	5	 <p>Drinking Fountains</p>	<p>This MSA evaluates each discrete drinking fountain in a park.</p>	3
 <p>Playgrounds</p>	<p>This MSA evaluates all playground areas and playground equipment in a park.</p>	5	 <p>Sitting Areas</p>	<p>This MSA evaluates each discrete sitting area in a park.</p>	5
 <p>Immediate Environment</p>	<p>This MSA measures how well a park is insulated from potential negative impacts of its surroundings. Intrusive odors, particulate matter and excessive noise are monitored.</p>	3	 <p>Sidewalks, Streets, Trails and Pathways</p>	<p>This MSA evaluates each type of walkway in a park, including asphalt, dirt, turf or concrete.</p>	3



Findings

The 2004 *Report Card on Parks* clearly indicates the need for improved maintenance for neighborhood parks in all five boroughs.

The haphazard nature of parks maintenance results in great fluctuations in park performance.

The Report Card illustrates just how greatly neighborhood parks are influenced by maintenance work — enough to significantly change their score from one year to the next. Many parks slipped or improved based solely on the level of maintenance work performed, illustrating how critical maintenance is to neighborhood parks.

The disparity between the highest and lowest performing parks is only increasing, reflecting New York City's two-tiered park system. The difference in scores at one of the City's highest-performing parks — Arthur Von Briesen Park on Staten Island (A+: 98%) — and at the City's lowest-performing park — University Woods in the Bronx (F: 12%)

— illustrates this disparity. The difference in conditions at these two parks is stunning and exhibits the wide range of maintenance attention that neighborhood parks receive.

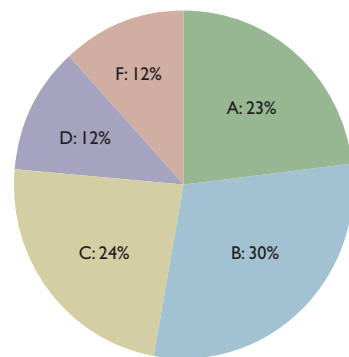
This discrepancy is even greater than last year when University Woods scored a 19%, then the lowest score in *The Report Card*.

This year, the number of mid-performing parks ('B' and 'C') increased the most substantially. The number of Bs and Cs jumped by 11% and 4%, respectively. In addition, the number of parks scoring a 'D' or 'F' decreased. This year 46 parks scored a 'D' or 'F', which is an overall improvement from last year, when 69 parks received a 'D' or lower.

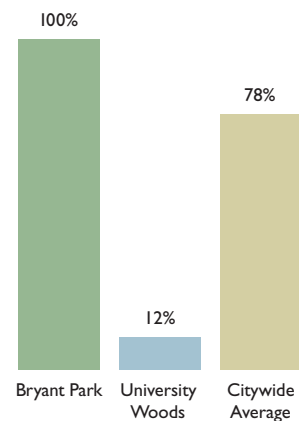
In contrast, the number of parks scoring an 'A' remained relatively stable, moving from 24% to 23% of the survey universe.* This year 45 parks scored an 'A-' or better — last year 43 parks scored as well.

See the "Find Your Park" section on page 23 for a full listing of individual parks and their ratings.

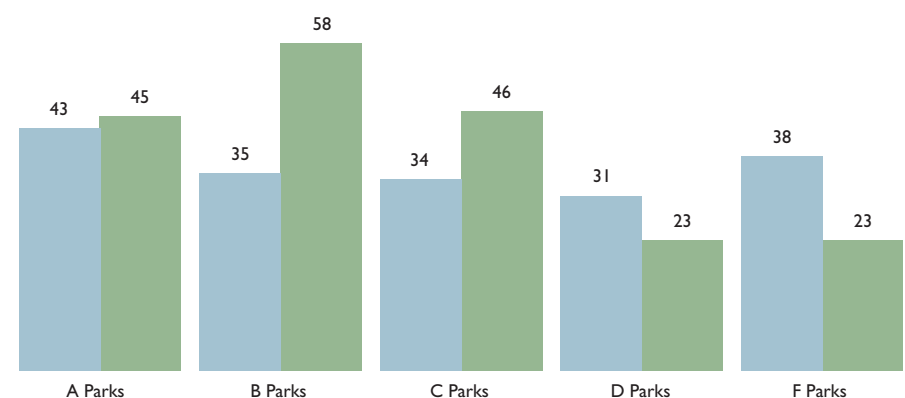
Breakdown of Grades Citywide



Highest & Lowest Performers Citywide



Number of Parks by Grade 2003 2004



*The total survey universe increased by 14 parks, or 8%, which is why although the discrete number of 'A's increased, its percentage of the total decreased.

Best and Worst Citywide

Of the survey's ten highest-scoring parks, four are located in Manhattan, two in Staten Island and two are in Brooklyn. Only one of the City's best is in Queens and only one is in the Bronx. Four of the top ten parks in 2004 were in the top ten last year as well.

The lowest scoring parks in the survey are almost exclusively in the outer boroughs. Of the survey's ten lowest-performing parks, six are located in Brooklyn, two in Staten Island, one in the Bronx and one in Manhattan. Three of the lowest scoring parks in 2004 were in the bottom ten last year as well — all but two of this year's poorest performers (if they were included in last year's study) received an 'F' in 2003 and 2004.

Certain aspects of the park system performed as well in 2004 as they did in 2003.

In 2004, as in 2003, 'Sitting Areas', 'Sidewalks, Streets and Pathways' and 'Playgrounds' all received an average of a 'B' in the survey, with the following breakdown:

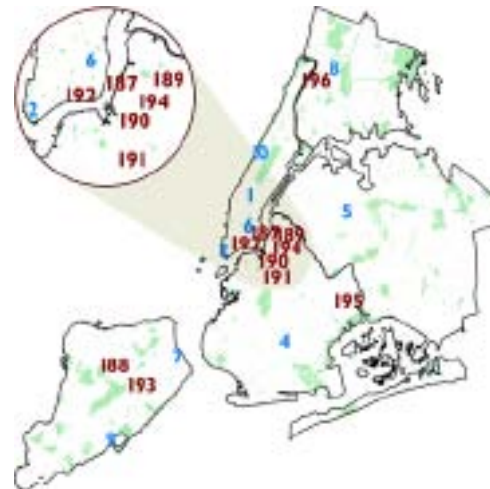
- 'Sitting Areas' scored 82% (down from 83%)
- 'Sidewalks, Streets and Pathways' scored 86% (up from 83%)
- 'Playgrounds' scored 85% (up from 80%)

The DPR has been able to devote significant institutional resources over the last decade to playground equipment, pathways and park elements, such as benches, through the requirements contracting process. This consistent source of funding has allowed the DPR to maintain these features at a higher level than some other aspects of the parks system.

The highest rated MSA in 2004 was 'Immediate Environment,' which received a 94% and was the only MSA to receive an 'A' rating. This is an improvement from last year's rating of 89%. ('Immediate Environment' measures how well a park is insulated from potential negative

Best Performing Parks

1	BRYANT PARK	Manhattan	100%
2	PUBLIC PLACE (BATTERY PARK CITY)	Manhattan	99%
3	COLUMBUS PARK	Brooklyn	99%
4	PAERDEGAT PARK	Brooklyn	99%
5	LOST BATTALION HALL	Queens	99%
6	HAMILTON FISH PARK	Manhattan	99%
7	ARTHUR VON BRIESEN PARK	Staten Island	98%
8	OLD FORT #4 PARK	Bronx	98%
9	SEASIDE WILDLIFE NATURE PARK	Staten Island	98%
10	THEODORE ROOSEVELT PARK	Manhattan	97%



Worst Performing Parks

196	UNIVERSITY WOODS	Bronx	12%
195	ROBERT VENABLE PARK	Brooklyn	20%
194	MARTINEZ PLAYGROUND	Brooklyn	21%
193	LAST CHANCE POND PARK	Staten Island	29%
192	CORLEARS HOOK PARK	Manhattan	30%
191	CHARLIE'S PLACE	Brooklyn	33%
190	STERNBERG PARK	Brooklyn	37%
189	COOPER PARK	Brooklyn	44%
188	INGRAM WOOD	Staten Island	46%
187	GRAND FERRY PARK	Brooklyn	49%

impacts of its surroundings. For example, is the park next to a highway so that exhaust and debris from the road negatively impact the park user?) A park with a high 'Immediate Environment' grade reflects that the average user's experience is not negatively impacted by the park's surroundings.

Additionally, 'Passive Green Space' improved from 70% to 80%. This is largely attributable to a change in the methodology of the survey and also influenced by fluctuating maintenance.

Problem Areas Persist

Unfortunately, problem areas highlighted in 2003 did not show significant improvements in 2004. All of the features that rated poorly in 2003 continue to perform poorly this year.

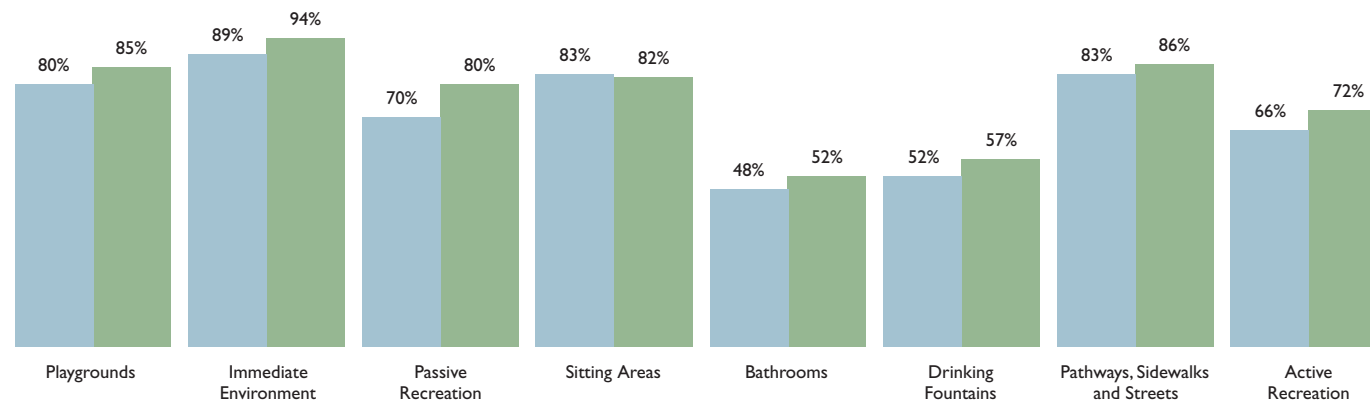
Citywide, the average park bathroom score is 52% — a solid 'F'. Although it is a four-point improvement from last year (48%), bathrooms in NYC parks continue to fall short of basic maintenance standards. More often than not, bathrooms are closed with no explanation (almost 20%) or when they are open, they are in need of maintenance (almost 50% were).

Drinking fountains are also a low-performer again this year, scoring an average of 57% in parks citywide. Many drinking fountains do not function at all — a full 40% failed due to non-functionality. Even when drinking fountains do provide water, users are met with a host of unsanitary conditions including trash, glass and mold. 36% of drinking fountains were rated unacceptable for maintenance work.

Citywide the average park 'Active Recreation Space' score is 72%, an improvement from last year's rating of 66%. While 'Courts' performance was mediocre, with a 76% average, 'Athletic Fields' still performed poorly, with an overall rating of 66%.

27% of athletic fields were rated unacceptable for maintenance work, while 46% of courts were similarly unacceptable. This deprives park users of clean, green athletic fields and, unfortunately, for many New Yorkers, parks are the only available recreation space. This is especially true for NYC's youth.

MSA Average Scores (averaged by park) 2003 2004



The quality of overall maintenance work is lacking.

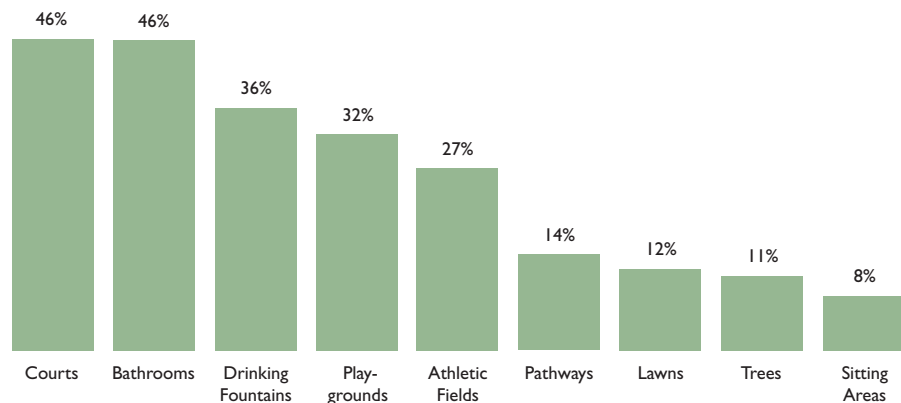
Different than last year, the 2004 *Report Card* analyzed the quality of maintenance work as a distinct finding.

For every feature tracked in *The Report Card*, surveyors are asked to answer the following question — “Has maintenance work been adequately performed?” Surveyors are provided with a series of thresholds to answer this question, including, “Are there sloppy painting jobs on 25% or more of equipment (paint outside area to be painted; on the wall / ground

near area to be painted), poorly constructed repairs on 10% or more of equipment (loose or moving parts, protruding parts), other evidence of carelessness?”

Unfortunately, many of the features tracked by *The Report Card* did not meet acceptability standards for basic maintenance conditions. The chart below details what percentage of features was rated unacceptable for maintenance work. For example, 46% of the ‘Bathrooms’ surveyed received an ‘unacceptable’ rating for maintenance work.

How Often was Maintenance Work Unacceptable (percentage of observations)



Did Neighborhood Parks Improve?

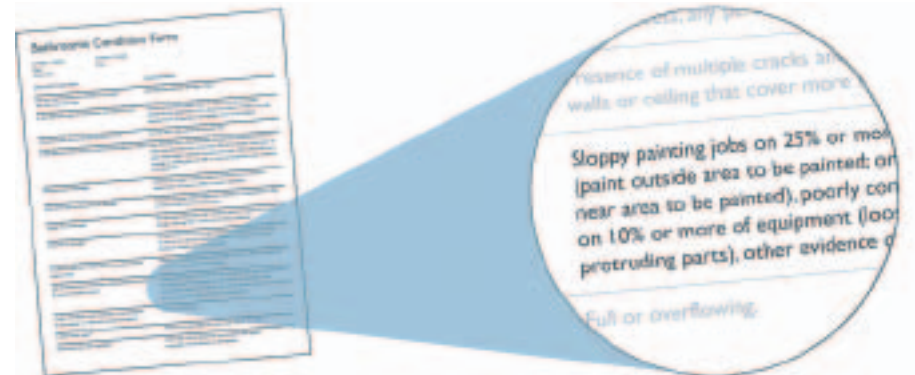
On the whole, neighborhood parks performed better in 2004 than in 2003. The following is a breakdown of parks grades from last year to this year. (The universe of this entire section is 179 parks — those that have scores from both last year and this year. Two parks were dropped from 2002 to 2003, while 16 parks were added.)

- The majority of parks either improved or maintained their letter grade, 41% and 40% respectively.
- 19% of parks rated in 2004 deteriorated in quality.

For the parks improving from 2003 to 2004 (74 parks), the majority, 50% or 37 parks, improved by one letter grade.

- 41% (30 parks) improved by 2 letter grades
- 7% (5 parks) improved by 3 letter grades
- 3% (2 parks) improved by 4 letter grades

Bathroom Survey Form: An Example; How the Report Card Tracks Maintenance



For the parks deteriorating from 2003 to 2004 (34 parks), the vast majority, 65% or 22 parks, decreased by one letter grade.

- 21% (7 parks) decreased by 2 letter grades
- 11% (4 parks) decreased by 3 letter grades
- 3% (1 park) decreased by 4 letter grades

Double Pass (A, B or C)	96	54%
Pass (A, B or C) to Fail	15	8%
Fail (D or F) to Pass	43	24%
Double Fail (D or F)	25	14%

Why Do “In Need” Parks Fail?

Conditions are Slipping — More Neighborhood Parks are Failing Major Service Areas

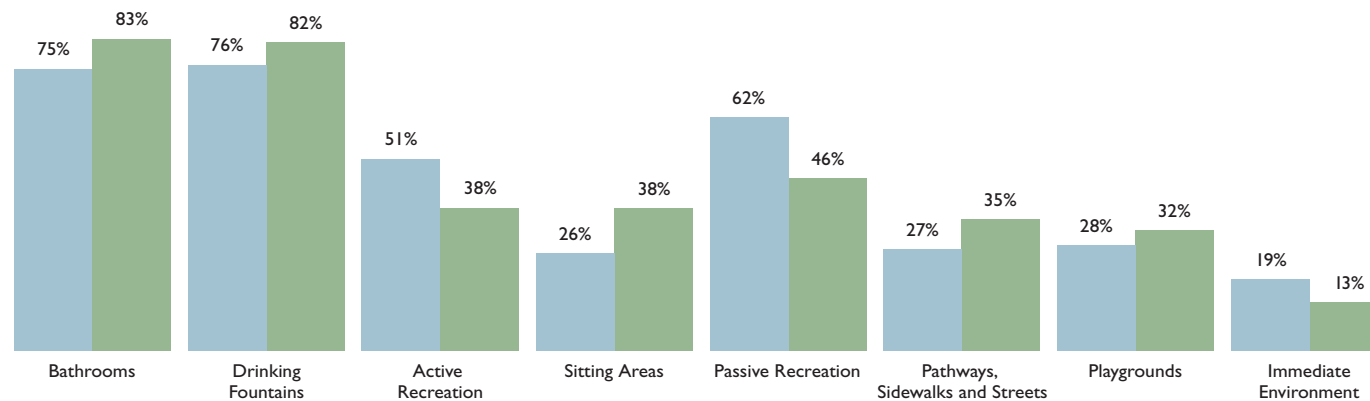
Although there are fewer parks that received a ‘D’ or ‘F’ rating this year, for 5 of the 8 MSAs, the percentage of parks failing increased. These needy neighborhood parks are failing more MSAs than last year. Of the 46 parks that received ‘D’ or ‘F’ ratings, the chart below details what percentage received a failing score for each MSA. For two-thirds of the features tracked, the number of parks failing increased.

Some MSA failure rates increased considerably. For example, 75% of the universe of ‘D’ and ‘F’ parks received failing grades for ‘Bathrooms’ in 2003 whereas 83% failed in 2004, while ‘Sitting Areas’ jumped from 26% to 38%. Approximately one-third of the ‘D’- and ‘F’-rated parks failed every Major Service Area, with the exception of ‘Immediate Environment.’ (Not all 46 parks failed for all seven remaining MSAs concurrently.)

These results clearly indicate the need for a two-phased response from the City:

- 1) Address certain service areas that are failing citywide, such as bathrooms and drinking fountains and**
- 2) Devote significant resources to failing neighborhood parks that exhibit high need across the board.**

Percentage of ‘D’ and ‘F’ Parks (46 total) Failing (scoring under 60) for Each MSA ■ 2003 ■ 2004



Conclusions and Recommendations

The Report Card clearly documents areas for improved service in the neighborhood parks of New York City. Although many parks improved to mid-performance levels this year, problematic service areas persist. New Yorkers still struggle with closed bathrooms, broken water fountains and insufficiently maintained recreation areas.

Additionally, *The Report Card* illustrates the inadequacy of the current park maintenance system. The conditions of New York City parks are often significantly influenced by inconsistent maintenance work. There are simply not enough resources to maintain all neighborhood parks at the same, basic service level. This is unacceptable. The City must fund the Parks Department at a level that will result in *every neighborhood park* scoring an 'A' on *The Report Card*.

The Report Card has identified parks in need in every borough throughout the City and presents a concrete universe of parks and service improvements that could be made.

In order to address the citywide need for increased maintenance, New Yorkers for Parks calls for the creation of an initiative to directly address “in need” neighborhood parks.

NY4P believes that a targeted neighborhood park improvement effort, based on the findings of the *Report Card*, is the most effective way to improve neighborhood parks throughout the five boroughs. Through this effort a uniform, citywide maintenance standard could be developed and implemented, resulting in improved neighborhood parks citywide.



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Detailed Methodology

This section describes in detail the methodology developed in 2002 and used by New Yorkers for Parks in creating the *2004 Report Card on Parks*.

- Selection of the survey population
- Identification and weighting of Major Service Areas
- Feature forms: structure of the survey instrument
- Assignment of numerical scores
- Notes on ‘Athletic Fields’
- Conversion of numerical scores to letter grades
- Sample calculation: St. Catherine’s Park, Upper East Side, Manhattan
- Conduction of the survey
- Comparison of 2003 and 2004 *Report Cards on Parks*
- Modifications included in the 2004 *Report Card on Parks*
- Letter Grade Comparison, 2003-2004

Selection of the Survey Population

In constructing *The Report Card*, New Yorkers for Parks (NY4P) focused on DPR ‘park’ properties of between one and 20 acres in area, as these properties represent the “neighborhood park” that communities are most closely tied to. This defined a survey population of 220 small to mid-size parks. However, several of these parks could not be included in the study. For example, NY4P did not survey those parks that were closed for capital improvement. Further, certain park properties, like skating rinks, amusement parks or forests with no user trails, have none of the Major Service Areas and were not included in this report. Thus, the final survey population in 2004 consisted of 195 park properties.

Identification and Weighting of Major Service Areas

NY4P chose eight Major Service Areas (MSA) based on a user-focused approach, similar to the “zone management” system utilized by the Central Park Conservancy. NY4P convened a group of 10 community leaders and elected officials to weight the relative importance of each of these MSAs. Participants were asked to rate the MSAs on a scale of 1 to 5, 1 being the least important to their park experience, and 5 being the most important. Participants also provided feedback on the structure and composition of the MSAs. In addition, 20 park users at Brooklyn’s Prospect Park were also asked to rate the relative importance of the 8 MSAs to be used in the survey. The rankings provided by the 30 respondents were then averaged and rounded to the nearest whole number to provide a final MSA relative weight figure:

Figure 1: Major Service Areas and Relative Weights

Active Recreation Space (courts, athletic fields)	3
Passive Recreation Space (lawns, landscaped areas and gardens; water bodies, natural areas and trees)	5
Playground Space	5
Sitting Areas	5
Bathrooms	4
Drinking Fountains	3
Sidewalks, Streets and Pathways	3
Immediate Environment (impact on the park by its surroundings)	3

Participants in the ‘First Focus Group’ included Councilmember Joseph Addabbo, Jr., former Chair, Parks Committee, New York City Council; Matt Arnn, United States Forest Service, Director, Metropolitan Initiative, NYC; John Ameroso, Cornell Cooperative Extension, New York City; Skip Blumberg, Friends of City Hall Park; Frank Chaney, Community Board member; Jim Dowell, Riverside Park Fund, Manhattan Parks and Green Space Coalition; Susan Marraccini, Turnaround Friends, Inc.; Martin Olesh, Friends of Cunningham Park; Robert Pasqual, Queens Coalition for Parks and Green Spaces; and Gene Russianoff, Senior Attorney, New York Public Interest Research Group.

Feature Forms:

Structure of Survey Instrument

NY4P staff, in cooperation with statistical consultants from the firm of Ernst & Young, then developed question forms with which to evaluate the MSAs found in each park. Individual questions were designed to measure the performance of the MSAs in each of the following categories:

- Maintenance;
- Cleanliness;
- Safety; and
- Structural Integrity.

Whenever possible, the form questions were adapted from DPR's own internal evaluation mechanism, the Parks Inspection Program (PIP). A second focus group was then convened to provide relative weights to individual feature forms on a scale of 1 to 5, 1 being the least important to their park experience, and 5 being the most important. Next, the focus group was asked to designate each of the individual form questions as 'priority' or 'routine.' Priority ratings refer to those conditions of a park feature necessary for its safe use. Finally, the focus group rated questions tagged as routine

on a scale from 1 to 5. Participants in the 'Second Focus Group' included four park and advocacy experts: Mark Caserta, Director, Waterfront Park Coalition, New York League of Conservation Voters; Susan Craine, Consumer Advocate, New York Public Interest Research Group; Neysa Pranger, Coordinator, Straphangers Campaign; and Paul Sawyer, Executive Director, Friends of Van Cortlandt Park. A chart of the relative weights of all MSAs is on page 5.

Assignment of Numerical Scores

Each completed form was assigned a numerical grade between 0 and 100. Any park feature receiving an 'unacceptable' rating on any priority question was assigned a form grade of zero. However, in the large majority of completed forms, park features received only 'acceptable' ratings to all priority questions. In these cases, the calculation appears as follows:

Let A denote the sum of the relative weights of routine survey questions receiving 'acceptable' ratings. Let B denote the sum of the relative weights of routine survey questions receiving either 'acceptable' or 'unacceptable' ratings. Each form's final numerical score is then 100 times the quotient, or A divided by B. No form score was assigned to a park which lacked any given feature; in this way no park was penalized for not having any of the survey's 12 feature types.

Once each form is scored, MSA ratings were calculated. First, scored forms were grouped by MSA. Those MSAs with exactly one corresponding completed form were allotted the numerical score of that single form. Those MSAs with more than one completed form were scored according to a weighted average of the corresponding form scores, as follows: Suppose C_1, C_2, \dots, C_n are the n-many form scores corresponding to a given MSA. Let D_1, D_2, \dots, D_n be those forms' corresponding relative weights (see Figure 2). MSA numerical scores were then calculated as the following quotient: $(C_1 \times D_1 + C_2 \times D_2 + \dots + C_n \times D_n) / (D_1 + D_2 + \dots + D_n)$

No MSA rating was assigned to a park which lacked any given Major Service Area; in this way no park was penalized for not having any of the survey's eight Major Service Area types.

Each park's raw score was calculated in a similar fashion. Suppose E_1, E_2, \dots, E_m were a park's MSA scores with corresponding weights F_1, F_2, \dots, F_m . Final raw scores were then calculated as the following quotient: $(E_1 \times F_1 + E_2 \times F_2 + \dots + E_m \times F_m) / (F_1 + F_2 + \dots + F_m)$

Notes on Athletic Fields

NY4P hosted a third focus group on "Active Recreation Space". Participants in this focus group included Tom Brasuell, Vice President, Community Relations, Major League Baseball; Carlos Feliciano, President, Quebradilla Baseball Organization; Rich Berlin, Executive Director, Harlem RBI and John Oswald, Director, Beacon Program Pathways for Youth. This group provided commentary on ideal conditions for active recreational activities and provided general feedback on active play areas, including courts, turf ballfields and asphalt ballfields, which was then integrated into the survey questions and grading system.

Additional research was performed on the incidence of injury incurred on various active play surfaces. Based on focus group results and relevant research from the field, the athletic field form scores corresponding to any asphalt ballfield surveyed were reduced by 25%.

Conversion of Numerical Scores to Letter Grades

A fourth focus group was convened to determine the assignment of letter grades to raw scores, consisting of park managers and open space experts. Participants were brought to three parks in Manhattan and asked to provide a letter grade for the park based on a brief description of the MSAs and a tour of the park. These letter grades were consistent with the raw number scores for the parks and resulted in the raw score / grade assignment chart.

Figure 4: Conversion from Raw Scores to Letter Grades

Raw Numerical Grade	Letter Grade
97-100	A+
93-96	A
90-92	A-
87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
70-72	C-
60-69	D
59 and below	F

‘Fourth Focus Group’ participants included Jerome Barth, manager, Bryant Park Restoration Corporation; Charles McKinney, consultant, former administrator, Riverside Park; and Andy Stone, director, NYC Programs, Trust for Public Land.

Sample Calculation: St. Catherine’s Park, Upper East Side, Manhattan

Figure 5 shows actual surveyor responses for St. Catherine’s Park on First Avenue in Manhattan’s Upper East Side. Figures 5, 6 and 7 below include a summary of form data and the subsequent form, MSA and park score.

Figure 5: Summary of St. Catherine’s Park Form Data

Form	Form Scores	Form Score Average
Bathrooms	78	78
Courts	88, 88, 80	85
Drinking Fountains	0, 0	0
Immediate Environment	100	100
Lawns and Landscaped Areas	100	100
Park Trees	100	100
Pathways	100	100
Playgrounds	86, 69	78
Sitting Areas	100	100

Figure 6: Summary of St. Catherine’s Park MSA Data

MSA	Calculation	MSA Score
Active Recreation Space	Average courts score from Figure 5 (no athletic fields)	85
Bathrooms	Single form score	78
Drinking Fountains	Average from figure 5	0
Immediate Environment	Single form score	100
Passive Recreation Space	(Lawns, Landscaped Areas x 2 + Park Trees x 1) / 3	100
Playgrounds	Average from figure 5	78
Sidewalks, Streets & Paths	Single form score	100
Sitting Areas	Single form score	100

St. Catherine’s Park raw score was calculated by the weighted average of the eight MSA scores listed in figure 6.

Figure 7: Calculation of Raw Score and Letter Grade — St. Catherine’s Park

MSA					MSA Score times Weight
Active Recreation Space	85	x	3	=	256 (with rounding)
Bathrooms	78	x	4	=	312
Drinking Fountains	0	x	3	=	0
Immediate Environment	100	x	3	=	300
Passive Recreation Space	100	x	5	=	500
Playgrounds	78	x	5	=	388 (with rounding)
Sidewalks, Streets & Paths	100	x	3	=	300
Sitting Areas	100	x	5	=	500
Total					2556

This total, 2556, was then divided by the sum of the weights of the 8 MSAs.

This sum is 31, so that the St. Catherine’s Park raw park score is then $2556 / 31 = 82.4$

Applying this numerical score to the letter grades listed in Figure 4, it can be seen that a score of 82 corresponds to a grade of ‘B-’.

Conduction of the Survey

Survey work for *The Report Card* took place from June to August 2003 from the hours of 10 AM to dusk, Monday through Friday. NY4P trained 12 surveyors (all NY4P staff members) to complete the survey work. NY4P senior staff held two full-day training sessions during spring 2003 to train surveyors in the following techniques: use of the handheld computers and digital cameras, delineation of park features, use of survey forms and standards manual and procedures for documenting features with digital cameras. Each training session included the full review of a park, collection of data according to defined standards, proper photo documentation, safety procedures and procedures for storing data in *The Report Card* database upon completion of survey.

In the field, surveyors completed a feature form for each feature that was delineated for a given park. For example, for every drinking fountain in a park, a ‘Drinking Fountain’ form was completed so that in a park with three drinking fountains, a surveyor would complete three ‘Drinking Fountain’ feature forms. Additionally,

surveyors would complete a form for every playground space within natural and / or constructed boundaries, for every pair of bathrooms, for every naturally bounded lawn or landscaped area, etc.

In addition to the completion of the survey forms, surveyors took extensive digital photographs to support and complement survey results. All survey findings and feature forms receive an identification number and are correlated to a series of photographs documenting conditions for each park in the survey. Survey results and photo documentation are stored in a central database. When photo documentation did not correlate with results or did not adequately illustrate park conditions, the park was re-visited and re-evaluated by surveyors.

Comparison of 2003 and 2004 Report Cards on Parks

NY4P designed the methodology of the 2003 *Report Card on Parks* to serve two functions. First, the report provided a mechanism to provide an instantaneous snapshot of the conditions of New York parks. This allows for (real-time) comparison among parks to identify those, which

showcase best practices, as well as those in-need parks requiring attention. In addition, the methodology was also designed to be replicated annually, so that trends at the individual park level, as well as borough- and citywide, could be documented and addressed.

In modifying the methodology of the 2004 *Report Card on Parks*, the goal of the design team was two-fold: to fine-tune the survey mechanism, to streamline and further define the measurements constructed in 2003, while simultaneously conserving the comparability between 2003 results and those of the previous year. The vast majority of survey instrument questions designed for the 2003 survey were left unchanged from the previous year; any modifications are noted below.

Modifications included in the 2004 Report Card on Parks

Sitting Areas: This MSA was redefined to include only those areas easily defined by landscaping or a group of benches. Benches along a pathway no longer comprised an individual sitting area.

Sidewalks, Streets and Paths: In a change to the previous survey, one ‘Pathways’ form was completed for each type of path, e.g. sidewalk, trail, or track, rather than one form for each separate pathway encountered in the park. The definition of pathways was clarified to include “desire lines”— those trails that were not expressly created by DPR, but which exist due to persistent wear by the park users.

Park Trees: Within a park, all trees surrounded by tree pits were evaluated on a single form. Those trees which fell within another park MSA, such as lawns or landscaped areas, were evaluated on that form.

Playgrounds: Any “playground cluster” was evaluated using a single playground form. Those parks with more than one non-adjacent playground were evaluated using multiple playground forms.

Bathrooms: Surveyors were instructed to measure both the men’s and women’s bathrooms using separate forms. When a thorough inspection of each was not possible, those questions that could not be answered were evaluated as “n/a” and did not detract from the park form score.

Trash receptacles: In the 2003 survey, trash receptacles more than half full were cited as ‘unacceptable’. In this year’s survey, that standard was relaxed to cite only those receptacles that were completely full or overflowing.

We believe that these procedural modifications to the 2003 methodology are sufficiently small in scope to allow for direct comparison of park scores between the two survey periods. Effectively, the majority of changes make it less likely that a park fail any given MSA, as more features were evaluated on additional forms, and then scored as an average. Figure 8 below outlines the eight citywide average MSA scores for each of the survey years:

Figure 8: Citywide Major Service Area Averages, 2003-2004

Major Service Area	2003 Citywide Average	2004 Citywide Average
Bathrooms	48%	52%
Drinking Fountains	53%	57%
Active Recreation Areas	66%	72%
Passive Recreation Areas	70%	80%
Playgrounds	80%	85%
Sitting Areas	83%	82%
Sidewalks, Streets and Paths	83%	86%
Immediate Environment	89%	94%

Letter Grade Comparison, 2003-2004

Citywide, there was an overall improvement in park scores between 2003 and 2004, as the average climbed from a score of 74% to 78%. These figure remain statistically unchanged if one considers the average score of only those 179 parks to be surveyed in both periods.

The largest subset of the 179 parks surveyed in the two periods (74 out of 179) improved in letter grade between 2003 and 2004. 71 retained the same letter grade, while 34 deteriorated. Most notable among this list are those twelve parks, which exhibited a change of three or more letter grades between 2003 and 2004. These parks, accompanied by a site-specific survey notes are listed in Figure 9:

Figure 9: Parks Exhibiting a Change of Three or More Letter Grades, 2003-2004

<i>Park</i>	<i>Score Change</i>	<i>Description of Impacted Elements</i>
John J. Carty Park	A to D	Scores in most categories slipped due to increased litter and structural deterioration. There were more non-functioning drinking fountains, lowering a 96% fountains score to a failing 49%. Additionally, extreme litter and deterioration of pathways failed the category entirely, whereas last year, it received 100%.
Seward Park	A to D	In 2003, the bathrooms in this park were closed, but Port-a-Johns were available and there was appropriate signage. Thus, bathrooms were not included in the survey. In 2004, the bathrooms were closed again, but with no signage and no portable replacements, earning a zero. Additionally, the park's 'Drinking Fountains' score slipped from 100% to 33%, and the 'Active Recreation' score slipped from 90% to 63%, as the volleyball court was missing appropriate equipment for play.
Manton Playground	A to D	In 2004, as in 2003, 'Drinking Fountains' performed poorly, (slipping from a 50% to a 33%). The 'Athletic Field' score also slipped, from a 75% to a 56% due to maintenance conditions. However, critical features — Trees, Sitting Areas and Pathways scores — that scored very well in 2003 (100%, 88%, 100%, and 100% respectively), dropped in 2004 due to changes in the administration of the survey. Thus, the areas of the park that performed poorly were weighted much more heavily.
Grand Ferry Park	A to F	Increased litter and maintenance needs caused the 'Trees', 'Sitting Areas' and 'Pathways' scores to fall. However, a broken fountain (the 'Drinking Fountain' score fell from 100% to 0%) and a plummet in the 'Lawns, etc.' score (from 92% to 0%) impacted the park's rating. In 2004, over 60% of the lawn area — the park's main feature — was bare of grass, failing the feature. Because this park has few features (no bathrooms, playgrounds, courts, fields, etc.), new failing areas caused score to drop.
Hallets Cove Playground	B to F	While the 'Active Recreation' scores in this park actually increased significantly ('Athletic Fields' score rose from 24% to 92%), this wasn't enough to counter the deleterious effect of broken drinking fountains (the 'Drinking Fountains' score fell from 45% to 0%) and a closed comfort station (the 'Bathrooms' score fell from 63% to 0%). Garbage and sloppy maintenance decreased the 'Sitting Areas' score (it fell from 100% to 63%) and broken glass, missing swings, and garbage decreased the 'Playgrounds' score from 78% to 27%.

<i>Park</i>	<i>Score Change</i>	<i>Description of Impacted Elements</i>
Old Fort #4 Park	D to A	While in 2003 a broken drinking fountain led to a 0% score in this MSA, in 2004, this fountain was fixed, leading to a 100% 'Drinking Fountains' score. Other features showed a similar jump from an 'F' to an 'A', specifically, lawns (24% to 100%), trees (48% to 100%), and playgrounds (46% to 94%). These score increases can be attributed to a higher level of maintenance attention evident in the park in 2004.
Joseph Rodman Drake Park	F to A	Because only 4 feature forms are applicable to this very small piece of passive-use parkland ('Immediate Environment', 'Lawns, etc.', 'Trees', and 'Pathways, etc.'), changes in any one feature's score heavily impacted the park's overall score; specifically the park's 'Trees' score. Because of a change in survey administration, the park's trees, which received a 0% score in 2003, were no longer applicable to the survey in 2004, raising the overall score significantly. Additionally, the park's 'Immediate Environment' score jumped from 14% to 82%. The park is adjacent to a large automobile compaction lot — the park's 'Immediate Environment' is sporadically impacted by noise and odor from the lot.
Maurice Park	F to A	In 2003, the park's comfort station was closed, leading to a 0% score. In 2004, the comfort station was open for use, and the score jumped to 95%. A similar jump occurred in the park's 'Trees' score (from 0% to 100%). In 2003, the park's trees failed the survey due to an above-the-threshold number of dead and overhanging branches. These branches were removed by the time of the survey in 2004, and the trees scored 100%. Additionally, in 2004, 7 of the park's 8 drinking fountains were functional. A greater percentage of less functional fountains in 2003 led to a lower score (57% in 2003 versus 88% in 2004).
Loreto Playground	F to B	Glass and trash on the 'Athletic Field' in 2003 failed the feature, whereas in 2004, these conditions were not present, and the feature received a score of 75%. The other feature contributing to the increase in this park's score were the 'Playgrounds' — closed without signage in 2003, the playground received a 0% score. Available for use in 2004, the feature scored a 100%. Additionally, drinking fountains, broken in 2003 (0% score), were in slightly better condition (57%) in 2004.

Park	Score Change	Description of Impacted Elements
Jerome Park	F to B	<p>Because only 3 feature forms are applicable to this very small piece of passive-use parkland ('Immediate Environment', 'Lawns, etc.' and 'Trees'), changes in any one feature's score heavily impacted the park's overall score. This is the case between 2003 and 2004; specifically relating to the 'Trees' score. Because of a change in survey administration, the park's trees, which received a 0% score in 2003, were no longer applicable to the survey in 2004, raising the overall score significantly. Additionally, the 'Immediate Environment' score jumped from 68% to 100%. The park is adjacent to a busy street on one side, and the Jerome Park Reservoir on the other side. Decreased traffic volume on the adjacent street in 2004 increased the 'Immediate Environment' score significantly. The 'Lawn, etc.' score also increased significantly (from a 41% to a 75%) due to less litter, as well as lawn cover in better condition.</p>
Thomas Jefferson Park	F to B	<p>This park's score jumped significantly as a result of a major capital overhaul made to the soccer field and surrounding running track. Due to this investment, the 'Athletic Field' score jumped from 27% to 82%, and the 'Pathways, etc.' score jumped from 79% to 95%. Additionally, more features in 2003 received score penalties for garbage and dirty conditions than in 2004, reducing the score in almost every category, across the board. For instance, in 2003, the park's 'Courts' score was impacted significantly by excessive garbage in the park's handball and basketball courts, and by the presence of 'both dog and human waste' on the handball courts. In 2003, the 'Courts' score was 36%, compared to 87% in 2004. Similar litter conditions impacted 'Sitting Areas' in 2003 (65%), while cleaner conditions raised this score to 96% in 2004.</p>
John Golden Park	F to B	<p>Whereas in 2003 the locked comfort station failed the park's 'Bathrooms' score (0%), in 2004, the facility was available for use, and the score rose (71%). Additionally, whereas in 2003 the 0% 'Trees' score (due to hanging branches and falling limbs) had a considerable impact on the 'Passive Green Space' score, an adjustment to survey methodology removed the 'Trees' feature from the park's analysis in 2004, again, raising the park score significantly. Dirtier conditions recorded on the 'Athletic Fields' in 2003, not present in 2004, are also a part of the difference in the park's performance from one year to the next ('Athletic Fields' scored 63% in 2003, and 82% in 2004).</p>



Find Your Park

Would you like to see how your neighborhood park fared?

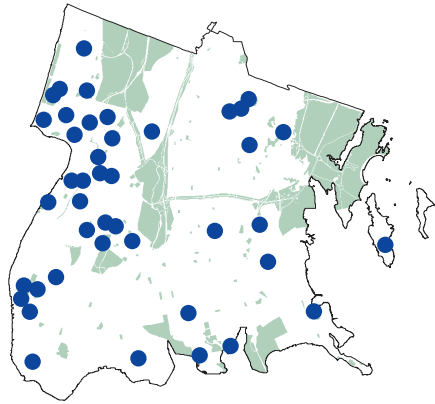
This section of the report is designed to help you find out how your local park performed in comparison to others in the city.

Organized first by borough and then alphabetically, the following charts list each park in the survey along with its corresponding grade from 2003-2004, its neighborhood, city council district and acreage.

The final scores and grades are based on the park's performance on *The Report Card* for all the MSAs evaluated at that site.

The park scores are designed to provide constituents with a park-by-park evaluation so that they have access to tools that help them to advocate for their neighborhood park. Use the information in this section to talk about both what works and what doesn't in your local park. For a more detailed analysis of park scores, visit the NY4P website (www.ny4p.org) and view the Park Profiles, which provide additional information on park scores along with other neighborhood statistics.

Bronx



PARK NAME	2004 Raw Score	2004 GRADE	2003 Raw Score	2003 Grade	Council District	Neighborhood	Acreage
A FARM IN THE BRONX	79	C+	49	F	15	Tremont	3
AMBROSINI FIELD	97	A+	95	A	13	City Island	3
AQUEDUCT WALK	66	D	63	D	14	University Heights	9
BICENTENNIAL VET / PARK AT WEIR CK	92	A-	72	C-	13	Edgewater Park	3
BRUST PARK	71	C-	69	D	11	Riverdale	2
BUFANO PLAYGROUND	84	B	82	B-	13	Middletown	4
CASTLE HILL PARK	75	C	64	D	18	Castle Hill	3
COLUCCI PLAYGROUND	64	D	68	D	13	Pelham Bay	12
COONEY GRAUER FIELD	74	C	n/a	n/a	14	Kingsbridge	1
CO-OP CITY FIELD	76	C	n/a	n/a	3	Co-op City	11
DEVOE PARK	73	C	48	F	14	University Heights	5
EDENWALD PLAYGROUND	72	C-	42	F	12	Edenwald	5
EWEN PARK	68	D	69	D	11	Kingsbridge	8
FORDHAM LANDING PLAYGROUND	66	D	47	F	14	University Heights	4
FORT INDEPENDENCE PLAYGROUND	76	C	83	B	11	Van Cortlandt Village	3
FRANZ SIGEL PARK	77	C+	68	D	17	Concourse Village	16
HACKETT PARK	84	B	62	D	11	Fieldston	1
HAFFEN PARK	72	C-	74	C	12	Baychester	1
HARDING PARK	81	B-	62	D	18	Classon Point	3
HARRIS FIELD	77	C+	79	C+	11	Norwood	15
HENRY HUDSON PARK	71	C-	85	B	11	Spuyten Duyvil	9
JEROME PARK	85	B	43	F	11	Norwood	4

PARK NAME	2004 Raw Score	2004 GRADE	2003 Raw Score	2003 Grade	Council District	Neighborhood	Acreage
JOSEPH RODMAN DRAKE PARK	95	A	52	F	17	Hunts Point	3
JOYCE KILMER PARK	94	A	73	C	17	Concourse Village	7
LORETO PLAYGROUND	83	B	57	F	13	Morris Park	4
MACOMBS DAM PARK	57	F	n/a	n/a	17	Concourse	12
MARBLE HILL PLAYGROUND	68	D	84	B	16	Kingsbridge	2
MOTT PLAYGROUND	69	D	76	C	16 / 17	Morrisania	1
MULLALY PARK	73	C	65	D	14	Concourse	19
OLD FORT #4 PARK	98	A+	64	D	8	Kingsbridge Heights	5
PEOPLES PARK EXCHANGE	87	B+	90	A-	15	Mott Haven	1
POE PARK	88	B+	66	D	15	Fordham	2
QUARRY BALLFIELDS	53	F	66	D	14	East Tremont	5
RAINEY PARK	57	F	n/a	n/a	11	Longwood	8
RICHMAN (ECHO) PARK	51	F	58	F	11	Mount Hope	4
RIVERDALE PLAYGROUND	71	C-	73	C	11	South Riverdale	2
SETON PARK	80	B-	76	C	15	South Riverdale	12
SPUYTEN DUYVIL PLAYGROUND	97	A+	91	A-	12	South Riverdale	2
ST JAMES PARK	71	C-	65	D	15	Fordham	11
STARS & STRIPES PLAYGROUND	86	B	73	C	14	Edenwald	8
TREMONT PARK	55	F	39	F	15	East Tremont	15
UNIVERSITY WOODS	12	F	19	F	11	University Heights	3
VIDALIA PARK	92	A-	92	A-	n/a	Bronx Park South	2
WILLIAMSBRIDGE OVAL	78	C+	66	D	n/a	Norwood	20

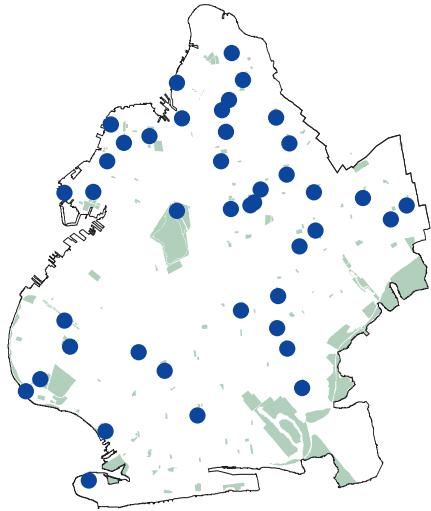


OLD FORT #4 PARK
Raw Score: 98, Grade: A+



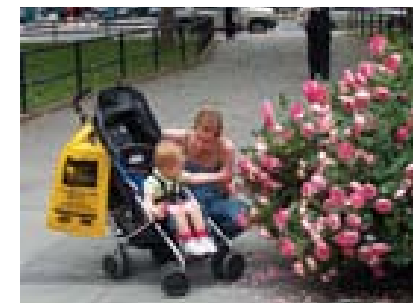
UNIVERSITY WOODS
Raw Score: 12, Grade: F

Brooklyn



PARK NAME	2004 Raw Score	2004 GRADE	2003 Raw Score	2003 Grade	Council District	Neighborhood	Acreage
BENSONHURST PARK	73	C	58	F	47	Bath Beach	18
BETSY HEAD MEMORIAL PLAYGROUND	87	B+	68	D	42	Brownsville	11
BROWER PARK	95	A	91	A-	36	Crown Heights	7
CHARLIE'S PLACE	33	F	47	F	34	Bedford Stuyvesant	1
COFFEY PARK	82	B-	61	D	38	Red Hook	8
COLUMBUS PARK	99	A+	96	A	33	Downtown Brooklyn	1
COMMODORE BARRY PARK	66	D	80	B-	35	Downtown Brooklyn	10
CONEY ISLAND CREEK PARK	71	C-	54	F	47	Sea Gate	10
COOPER PARK	44	F	71	C-	34	East Williamsburg	6
CYPRUS HILLS PLAYGROUND	80	B-	65	D	42	City Line	5
FOX PLAYGROUND	79	C+	74	C	45	East Flatbush	2
FRIENDS FIELD	49	F	50	F	44	Ocean Parkway	7
FULTON PARK	92	A-	94	A	36	Stuyvesant Heights	2
GRAND FERRY PARK	49	F	91	A-	33	Williamsburg / Southside 2	
GRAVESEND PARK	74	C	90	A-	44	Borough Park	6
HARMONY PARK	88	B+	90	A-	41	Weeksville	2
HARRY MAZE PLAYGROUND	78	C+	57	F	45	Remsen Village	2
HERBERT VON KING PARK	88	B+	81	B-	36	Bedford Stuyvesant	8
HILLSIDE PARK	80	B-	94	A	33	Brooklyn Heights	2
IRVING SQUARE PARK	93	A	n/a	n/a	37	Bushwick	3
JACOB JOFFE FIELDS	71	C-	58	F	46	East Flatbush	3

PARK NAME	2004 Raw Score	2004 GRADE	2003 Raw Score	2003 Grade	Council District	Neighborhood	Acreage
JOHN J CARTY PARK	67	D	93	A	50	Bay Ridge	10
JOHN PAUL JONES PARK	95	A	88	B+	50	Bay Ridge	5
LEIF ERICSON PARK & SQUARE	75	C	69	D	43	Bay Ridge	17
LINDOWER PARK	84	B	70	C-	46	Mill Basin	7
LOUIS J. VALENTINO, JR. PARK & PLGD	97	A+	85	B+	38	Red Hook	2
MARIA HERNANDEZ PARK	68	D	n/a	n/a	0	Bushwick	7
MARTINEZ PLAYGROUND	21	F	43	F	34	East Williamsburg	2
MCKINLEY PARK	87	B+	87	B+	43	Bay Ridge	8
MONSIGNOR MCGOLRICK PARK	84	B	n/a	n/a	33	Greenpoint	9
MT PROSPECT PARK PLAYGROUND	85	B	94	A	35	Prospect Heights	8
NEHEMIAH PARK	76	C	56	F	42	Brownsville	2
PAERDEGAT PARK	99	A+	79	C+	45	East Flatbush	4
ROBERTO CLEMENTE BALLFIELD	54	F	n/a	n/a	33	Williamsburg	1
ROBERT VENABLE (PARK) PLGD	20	F	49	F	37	City Line	4
SARATOGA SQUARE PARK	87	B+	76	C	41	Ocean Hill	3
SPERANDEO BROTHERS PLAYGROUND	62	D	48	F	37	Highland Park	2
ST JOHNS RECREATION CENTER	84	B	82	B-	36	Weeksville	9
STERNBERG PARK	37	F	35	F	34	East Williamsburg	4
THOMAS BOYLAND PARK	90	A-	87	B+	36	Ocean Hill	2
VAN VOORHEES PARK	87	B+	69	D	38	Cobble Hill	5
WM E KELLY MEMORIAL PARK	68	D	79	C+	48	Ocean Parkway	3

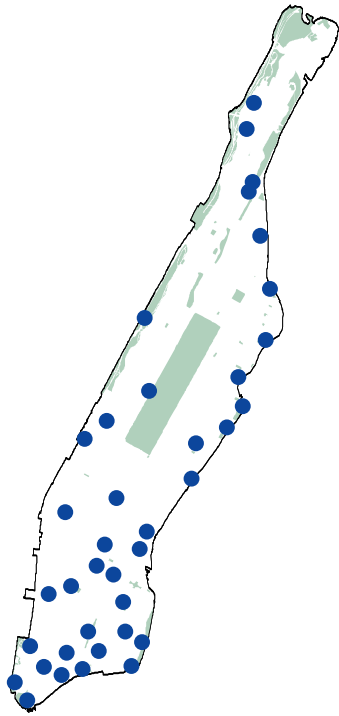


COLUMBUS PARK
Raw Score: 99, Grade: A+



ROBERT VENABLE (PARK) PLAYGROUND
Raw Score: 20, Grade: F

Manhattan

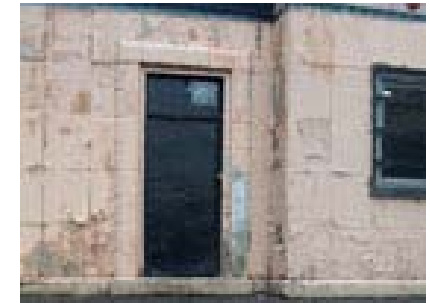


PARK NAME	2004 Raw Score	2004 GRADE	2003 Raw Score	2003 Grade	Council District	Neighborhood	Acreage
ALFRED E SMITH PARK	70	C-	n/a	n/a	1	Lower East Side	3
BARUCH PLAYGROUND	61	D	70	C-	2	Lower East Side	2
BELLEVUE SOUTH PARK	72	C-	92	A-	2	Kips Bay	2
BENNETT PARK	78	C+	77	C+	7	Washington Heights	2
BRYANT PARK	100	A+	100	A+	3	Times Square	10
CARL SCHURZ PARK	81	B-	91	A-	5	Yorkville	15
CHELSEA PARK	86	B	77	C+	3	Chelsea / Midtown South 4	
CITY HALL PARK	95	A	98	A+	1	City Hall	9
COL CHARLES YOUNG PLAYGROUND	68	D	55	F	9	Harlem	6
COLEMAN PLAYGROUND	51	F	37	F	1	Chinatown / LES	3
COLUMBUS PARK	75	C	71	C-	1	Chinatown	3
CORLEARS HOOK PARK	30	F	53	F	2	Lower East Side	4
DAMROSCH PARK	97	A+	95	A	6	Lincoln Square	2
DE WITT CLINTON PARK	82	B-	74	C	3	Clinton	6
FREDERICK JOHNSON PARK	73	C	76	C	9	Sugar Hill	2
GEO SOILAN PARK-BATTERY PARK CITY	94	A	n/a	n/a	1	Battery Park City	10
HAMILTON FISH PARK	99	A+	94	A	2	Lower East Side	4
HARLEM RIVER DRIVE PARK	61	D	50	F	8	East Harlem / Yorkville	6
J HOOD WRIGHT PARK	72	C-	80	B-	10	Washington Heights	7

PARK NAME	2004 Raw Score	2004 GRADE	2003 Raw Score	2003 Grade	Council District	Neighborhood	Acreage
JACKIE ROBINSON PARK	53	F	70	C-	7	Hamilton Heights	13
JAMES J WALKER PARK	92	A-	98	A+	3	West Village	2
JOHN JAY PARK	75	C	79	C+	5	Upper East Side	3
MADISON SQUARE PARK	84	B	96	A	3	Flatiron	6
PUBLIC PLACE (BATTERY PARK CITY)	99	A+	97	A+	1	Battery Park City	2
QUEENSBORO OVAL	68	D	58	F	5	Turtle Bay	1
SAKURA PARK	94	A	87	B+	7	Morningside Heights	2
SARA D ROOSEVELT PARK	54	F	55	F	1	Lower East Side	8
SEWARD PARK	73	C	94	A	2	Lower East Side	3
ST CATHERINE'S PARK	82	B-	96	A	5	Upper East Side	1
ST VARTAN PARK	96	A	91	A-	4	Murray Hill / Kips Bay	3
STANLEY ISAACS COURT	70	C-	71	C-	4	East Harlem / Yorkville	1
STUYVESANT SQUARE	92	A-	97	A+	2	Gramercy Park	4
THEODORE ROOSEVELT PARK	97	A+	94	A	6	Upper West Side	18
THOMAS JEFFERSON PARK	82	B-	54	F	8	East Harlem	16
TOMPKINS SQUARE PARK	69	D	67	D	2	East Village	11
UNION SQUARE PARK	90	A-	98	A+	2	Gramercy Park	4
WASHINGTON MARKET PARK	88	B+	91	A-	1	Tribeca	2
WASHINGTON SQUARE PARK	86	B	85	B	1	Greenwich Village	10

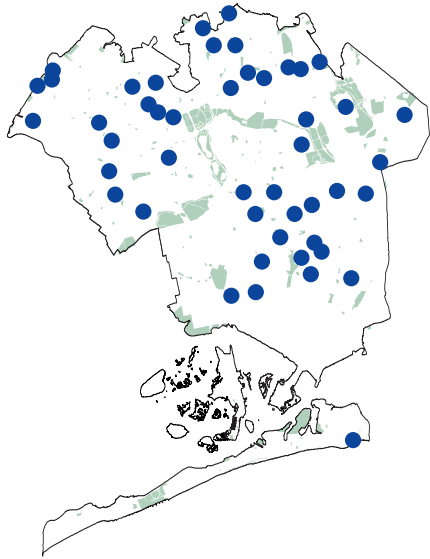


BRYANT PARK
Raw Score: 100, Grade: A+



CORLEARS HOOK PARK
Raw Score: 30, Grade: F

Queens



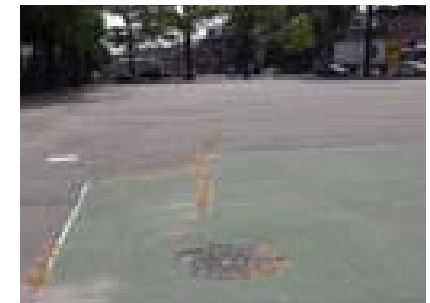
PARK NAME	2004 Raw Score	2004 GRADE	2003 Raw Score	2003 Grade	Council District	Neighborhood	Acreage
BAYSIDE FIELDS	79	C+	64	D	19	Auburndale	4
BIG BUSH PARK	88	B+	69	D	26	Woodside	3
BOWNE PARK	84	B	80	B-	19	Auburndale / Whitestone 12	
BREININGER PARK	75	C	84	B	23	Bellerose	3
BULOVA PARK	82	B-	75	C	21	Astoria	2
CAPT TILLY PARK	56	F	70	C-	24	Jamaica Hills	9
DETECTIVE KEITH L. WILLIAMS PARK	77	C+	84	B	27	Hollis / Jamaica	8
DOUGHBOY PLAZA	95	A	94	A	26	Woodside	2
DR CHARLES R DREW MEMORIAL PARK	89	B+	67	B+	28	South Jamaica	6
EAST ELMHURST PLAYGROUND	78	C+	67	D	21	East Elmhurst	4
FARM PLAYGROUND / PS 26	85	B	67	D	23	Fresh Meadows	4
FLUSHING FIELDS	95	A	91	A-	20	Linden Hill / Whitestone 10	
FRANCIS LEWIS PARK	80	B-	67	D	19	Whitestone	17
FRANK GOLDEN PARK	77	C+	n/a	n/a	19	College Point	11
HAGGERTY PARK	89	B+	84	B	27	Bellaire	5
HALLETS COVE PLAYGROUND	55	F	80	B-	26	Astoria	6
HARVEY PARK	74	C	73	C	19	Whitestone	9
JOHN GOLDEN PARK	83	B	42	F	19	Bayside	17
LINDEN PARK	75	C	56	F	21	Corona	3
LINNAEUS PLAYGROUND	94	A	79	C+	23	Oakland Gardens	2
LOST BATTALION HALL	99	A+	90	A-	25	Rego Park	2
MAFERA PARK	74	C	n/a	n/a	30	Glendale	5
MANTON PLAYGROUND	64	D	90	A-	24	Briarwood	5
MARCONI PARK	76	C	44	F	28	Jamaica	7

PARK NAME	2004 Raw Score	2004 GRADE	2003 Raw Score	2003 Grade	Council District	Neighborhood	Acreage
MARGARET I CARMEN GREEN	84	B	83	B	19	Murray Hill / Kips Bay	2
MAURICE PARK	91	A-	57	F	26	West Maspeth	9
MONTBELLIER PARK	78	C+	63	D	31	Laurelton	6
MURRAY PLAYGROUND	80	B-	71	C-	26	Long Island City	3
NAUTILUS PLAYGROUND	65	D	76	C	27	South Jamaica	4
NORTHERN PLAYGROUND	82	B-	81	B-	21	Jackson Heights	2
O'DONOHUE PARK	66	D	70	C-	31	Far Rockaway	2
PETERS FIELD	82	B-	89	B+	27	Hollis	4
PLAYGROUND NINETY XC	86	B	81	B-	25	Jackson Heights	1
POLICE OFFICER EDWARD BYRNE PARK	85	B	82	B-	31	South Ozone	5
POWELL'S COVE PARK	82	B-	85	B	19	College Point	7
RAILROAD PARK	84	B	n/a	n/a	27	Springfield Gardens	16
RAINEY PARK	66	D	32	F	26	Astoria / Ravenswood	8
RAYMOND O'CONNOR PARK	71	C-	61	D	19	Bayside	5
REIFF PLAYGROUND	88	B+	69	D	29	Maspeth	2
ROCHDALE PARK	83	B	67	D	28	Springfield Gardens	8
RUFUS KING PARK	72	C-	n/a	n/a	28	Jamaica	11
SAUL WEPRIN PLAYGROUND	94	A	83	B	19	Fresh Meadows	2
SOCRATES SCULPTURE PARK	80	B-	92	A-	26	Astoria / Ravenswood	2
SOUTHERN FIELDS	64	D	22	F	32	South Ozone	11
ST ALBANS PARK	88	B+	86	B	27	Saint Albans	9
TENNEY PARK	90	A-	80	B-	23	Glen Oaks	3
WAYANDA PARK	77	C+	51	F	27	Bellaire	4



LOST BATTALION HALL

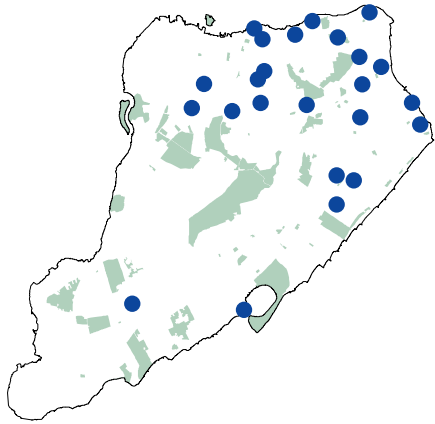
Raw Score: 99, Grade: A+



HALLETS COVE PLAYGROUND

Raw Score: 55, Grade: F

Staten Island



ARTHUR VON BRIESEN PARK
Raw Score: 98, Grade: A+



LAST CHANCE POND PARK
Raw Score: 29, Grade: F

PARK NAME	2004 Raw Score	2004 GRADE	2003 Raw Score	2003 Grade	Council District	Neighborhood	Acreage
ALICE AUSTEN HOUSE & PARK	94	A	90	A-	49	Rosebank	15
ALLISON PARK	88	B+	84	B	49	Randall Manor	11
ANTHONY R. GAETA PARK	96	A	73	C	50	Westerleigh	1
ARTHUR VON BRIESEN PARK	98	A+	98	A+	51	Shore Acres	13
CLOVE'S TAIL	93	A	86	B	49	Sunnyside	3
CPL THOMPSON PARK	93	A	90	A-	49	Livingston	2
FABER PARK	95	A	84	B	49	Port Richmond	6
FATHER MACRIS PARK	93	A	n/a	n/a	49	Graniteville	12
GRANITEVILLE PLAYGROUND	93	A	85	B	49	Graniteville	2
HERO PARK	97	A+	96	A	49	Ward Hill	3
IDA COURT	86	B	73	C	51	Annadale	1
INGRAM WOOD	46	F	38	F	50	Westerleigh	4
LAST CHANCE POND PARK	29	F	n/a	n/a	50	Dongan Hills	4
LUIS R LOPEZ PARK	85	B	90	A-	49	Park Hill	1
MACARTHUR PARK	86	B	71	C-	50	Dongan Hills	5
MIDLAND FIELD	78	C+	52	F	50	Midland Beach	2
NORTH SHORE ESPLANADE	82	B-	88	B+	49	Saint George	2
NORTHERLEIGH PARK	84	B	80	B-	49	Elm Park	4
SEASIDE WILDLIFE NATURE PARK	98	A+	96	A	51	Great Kills Harbor	2
STAPLETON PLAYGROUND	64	D	n/a	n/a	49	Stapleton	3
TAPPEN PARK	52	F	58	F	49	Stapleton	2
VETERANS PARK	82	B-	85	B	49	Port Richmond	3
WALKER PARK	96	A	95	A	49	Livingston	9
WESTERLEIGH PARK	84	B	98	A+	49	Westerleigh	4

