

## 1. Heritage Park

### LOCATION:

Located south of the Village, with frontage on South Main Street, Stockton Street and Bergen Drive. Main entrance with parking on South Main Street near Old Trenton Road. Pedestrian entrances on Stockton Street and Bergen Drive (see Figure 8).

BLOCK: 18  
LOT(S): 44.01  
ACREAGE: 13.5

FUNDED/UNFUNDED: Unfunded  
FACILITIES: 1 bike/skateboard/walking path  
11 benches around east end of path  
5 single green trash receptacles  
Play structure  
1 picnic table  
Tercentennial Foundation with stone benches

### FUNCTION:

Heritage Park's primary purpose is to provide "alternative recreation," as defined in this plan (see Chapter II, Section A), which means unorganized, informal recreation on open fields and landscaped areas. Heritage Park's designation as an "alternative" recreational park, from conception, was intended to provide park space for Cranbury residents not participating in organized team and field sports, and to recognize the need and desirability of providing residents—especially adults and seniors—with other forms of community recreation. Some of the recreational activities that are provided for in Heritage Park include walking, strolling, jogging, biking, inline skating, skateboarding, Frisbee, kite flying, reading, dog walking, bocce, and yoga. In addition, community events are held on the Great Lawn, and ceremonial events are held at the fountain area. The park also has a tot lot which primarily serves small children in the immediate neighborhood.

At the time of its conception and planning, Heritage Park's "alternative recreation" focus was intended primarily to address an "age-based imbalance issue" (see Chapter II, Section B for a more complete discussion of this issue). Village Park and Millstone Park, which were the two parks in existence at the time in Cranbury, were both active recreational parks with team and field sport facilities in place. The age group primarily served by Village and Millstone Parks' facilities is school-age children. Heritage Park was intended to expand the scope of recreational options for adults and seniors, but included recreation facilities to serve small children, as well as informal, unorganized games for persons of all ages. Although Heritage Park is often seen as falling under the broad umbrella of active recreational parks within Cranbury, its "alternative" recreational status and designation is what allows Cranbury Township to offer a balanced park system with facilities serving residents of all ages.

On January 2, 2007, at a Township Committee meeting, Mayor David J. Stout proclaimed that the Great Meadow in Heritage Park would be forever known as "Judy Dossin Meadow" in honor of Judy Dossin, who lived in Cranbury for nearly 30 years and devoted a great part of her life to preserving open space and parks in Cranbury. Judy served as chair of both the Parks Commission and Shade Tree Commission for many years. She also served on the Recreation Commission and the Open Space and Recreation Subcommittee, and was instrumental in providing information and guidance in this Open Space and Recreation Plan Element. Judy was a strong believer in "alternative recreation," and felt it was important to retain Heritage Park for this primary purpose in the future.



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