

## PARK BENCH, PICNIC TABLE & TREE DONATION POLICY & APPLICATION

Thank you for your interest in donating a bench(es), picnic table(s), or tree(s). The Cornelius Parks, Arts, Recreation and Culture (PARC) Department has established a donation program, as we value the opportunity to work with you to provide a way to memorialize or commemorate a loved one, organization or special event.

- 1. The costs are \$1,500 or \$600 for a bench, \$3,000 for a picnic table, and \$500 for a tree. The cost includes the item chosen, a plaque (for benches and tables) or a certificate (for trees), installation, and maintenance.
- 2. Fixture designs are standardized to maintain quality control and to match existing park furnishings. Fixtures shall be as follows:
  - Standard Benches: 6' long, all steel on concrete pad with 3" x 5" plaque mounted on backrest
  - Natural Benches: 6' long, steel supports with wooden slats, 3' x 5" plaque mounted on backrest
  - Picnic Tables: 7' rectangular, steel, with 1-3/4"x8" plaque mounted on side edge of table
- 3. Donors may select trees, generally 2 ½" caliper or 6-8' tall, from the approved Cornelius PARC tree list. No plaques will be installed with planted trees. Memorial tree sponsors will receive a certificate of acknowledgement for their donation. Due to unpredictable conditions, Cornelius PARC cannot guarantee the full life of any tree, but does guarantee a minimum of ten (10) years.
- 4. The PARC Director or his/her designee will work with donors to determine potential installation locations. Most parks are available to receive donated all-steel benches, picnic tables and trees. The steel/wood benches will only be placed in nature preserves or natural areas. Final locations will be approved by the PARC Director or his/her designee.
- 5. The donor will provide Cornelius PARC with the exact inscription desired for the plaque for benches and picnic tables. The plaques can accommodate up to 25 words. Simple inscriptions of less than ten words work best. All inscriptions are subject to approval by the PARC Director or his/her designee.
  - Donations and sponsor plaques from an organization or individual that is engaged in any of the following activities, or that has a mission of supporting any of the following activities, shall be prohibited: promotion of the sale or consumption of alcoholic or malt beverages, tobacco products, illegal drugs, or firearms or other weapons; or promotion of establishments that are licensed for and primarily sell alcoholic or malt beverages, however restaurants or other food services establishments and places of lodging may be authorized when the plaque inscription promotes only the food services or lodging.
  - Donations or sponsor plaques shall be prohibited that, in the sole discretion and judgement of the PARC Director or his/her designee, are deemed unsuitable for or contrary to community standards or appropriateness.
  - If vandalism to the plaque occurs, the memorial sponsor has a choice on whether or not they will replace the plaque at their own expense (i.e., cost of new plaque est. \$25). Cornelius PARC has no responsibility to replace lost or stolen plaques. If the memorial sponsor elects not to replace the damaged plaque, Cornelius PARC retains the right to remove the damaged plaque from park grounds.
- 6. The party requesting the donation shall sign an agreement with Cornelius PARC for installation and maintenance of the bench(es), picnic table(s), and/or tree(s). For private donations of all benches and tables, the agreement period will be ten (10) years or the lifetime of the item, whichever is longer. For business and civic group donations, the agreement period will be ten (10) years.
- 7. At any time, the donor may contact Cornelius PARC to find out if they can pay to renew the contract for ten more years at the renewal rate at that time. If not, then the plaque, if available, will be removed by Cornelius PARC to be available for pick-up by the donor.
- 8. Once the contract is signed and payment processed, Cornelius PARC has up to six months to install the bench, table or tree. Once the memorial is installed, PARC will contact the memorial sponsor to confirm installation; the terms of agreement will start on that date.

9. Cornelius PARC retains the right to relocate the memorial bench, picnic table, or tree if the use of the site changes or to ensure park visitor safety.

Standard Benches: All steel, 6' long, with 3" x 5" plaque, \$1,500



Natural Benches: Steel supports, wooden slats, 6' long, with 3" x 5" plaque, \$600



Picnic Tables – All steel, 7' rectangular, with 1-3/4"x8" plaque. \$3,000



## **Bench Plaque Samples**





SMITHVILLE COMMUNITY COALITION
POTTS BARBERSHOP & POTTS FAMILY
TORRENCE CHAPEL A.M.E. ZION CHURCH
STINSON, GRIER & NELSON FAMILY
D.E.M. RIDAZ MC