

*Recreation Facility Management*  
*Design, Development, Operations and Utilization*  
Richard Mull, Brent Beggs, Mick Renneisen, 2009,  
Online Study Guide ISBN-13: 9780736085960

**Reviewed by**  
**Yating Liang**

Recreation and Leisure Studies  
Missouri State University

Providing an instructor's guide as well as a student resource guide has become a standard practice in textbook publication business in higher education. The book written by Richard Mull, Brent Beggs, and Mick Renneisen in 2009, *Recreation Facility Management: Design, Development, Operations and Utilization* is no exception. Such ancillary material is an excellent resource that both instructors and students can utilize to better understand the material in the textbook. The student resource guide is not only a good resource for students, but also a great resource for instructors to facilitate student learning. One of the major characteristics of the online study guide for this book is that it is free and easily accessible from the book publisher's website, which can encourage students to engage in the suggested activities more often. This online study guide has three major components for each chapter: learning activities, discussion questions, and websites. All chapters have these categories except three (chapter one, chapter seven, and chapter 10). No websites were suggested for these three chapters. Four chapters (chapter nine, chapter 12, chapter 13, and chapter 14) also have an additional category called "forms," in which a variety of forms are provided in addition to the other three categories mentioned earlier.

In the "learning activities" section, facility visits were suggested for most chapters, thus requiring students to examine recreation facilities themselves for a hands-on experience. However, this resource does seem to lack a variety of learning activities. Facility visits are the only type of learning activity suggested for most chapters. Obviously, other exercises, such as interviews with professionals in the field as well as case studies can be included to avoid the monotony of these learning activities.

The "discussion questions" section is quite similar to many other textbook ancillary resources, and includes a list of key points of each chapter. The number of questions ranges from two to four questions in this guide, with most chapters having three questions. The brief lists of the questions in this section can keep students from being overwhelmed and help them to stay focused on the key points of each chapter. This can be misleading though when instructors would like students to know information beyond this list. Instructors should clarify the focal points of each chapter to avoid confusion.

Exploring websites is a great way to get students more involved in course material and help expand their knowledge beyond the textbook. Most chapters in the study

guide have a “website” section, which suggests web resources related to the material discussed in that specific chapter. Some chapters have only one website suggested while a couple chapters have four to six websites. Several chapters did not have any website resources suggested. For example, no web resources on the financial aspects of facility management were suggested. It is not clear if this is the authors’ intention or not. Instructors could possibly take advantage of the limited or lack of websites and make an assignment for students to explore more websites themselves.

The “forms” are very useful tools for students. The variety of forms in recreation facility management settings, such as “purchase requisition form,” “accident report form,” and “facility maintenance inventory form” are just a few examples provided in this study guide. However, these forms are limited to only several chapters. The examples of the forms can help students to link the content of book to real practices. Completing and keeping all the records is an important practice in recreation management and by seeing the examples of the forms that are being used, students will have a better understanding of the job responsibility of an employee in recreation facility management.

Overall, this study is simple and easy to use. I would recommend it to the instructors of recreation facility management courses as an additional resource to enhance their teaching potential.