

**Community Partner:** Starkville Parks and Recreation

**Team name:** Rec Force

**Team Members:** Dominic Avioli, Sharnita Brooks, Stephen Felker, Ashley Little, Scott May, Malcolm Topps, Natasha Wilson

The Rec Force Action Team completed 148 hours of service to Starkville Parks and Recreation, logged 94 visits, and traveled 371 miles during the fall semester of 2008. The purpose of their work was “to rehabilitate an abandoned park by making it more appealing and satisfying when used, to change the ill-conceived perception that J. L. King is not a wonderful park, to create a park that is safe for the community, and to make J.L. King Park become well known.” The Rec Force Action Team addressed their purpose by 1) trimming trees in the park, so that there was at least eight feet of vertical space underneath; 2) trimming bushes so that they provided at least a three foot clearance from the sidewalk; 3) creating new activities that will be useful to the community, such as Frisbee golf. The Rec Force team realized their project benefit to their community partner, “Though we were not able to complete all tasks, we were still able to leave a lasting effect on J.L. King Park. We did a great job on pruning the trees and shrubs. We also had many great ideas about the walking track. We marked off every one hundred feet as well as a start/finish marker for the walkers. We recreated a sign to show how many feet equal a mile. We are very proud of our efforts with the track, it helped us on our quest to leave a lasting effect on J. L. King Park. Working on the park did not only help our team, Rec Force, it helped the community as well! Helping the community is what Day One is all about.”