

UPDATE TO THE CITY OF READING PARK CODE

The City's Park Code was recently amended to clarify that the entire Mount Penn Preserve area includes areas outside the City's boundaries in Lower Alsace and Alsace Township. The Reading Police and Central Berks Police recently executed a ***Mutual Aid Agreement*** allowing both to enforce local laws in each other's municipalities. Also, the County's Park Rangers patrol the Mount Penn Preserve area and they will report activities that appear illegal. What does all this mean?

The regulations and restrictions in the City's Park Code apply across the entire Mount Penn Preserve area and these regulations ***can be enforced by Central Berks Police*** if Reading officers are unable to respond to complaint calls. What are some of the regulations on Park property across the Mount Penn Preserve? The complete list can be found in City Code Chapter 396, Part 3. In summary, DO NOT-

- (1) Disfigure, disturb, injure, tamper with, move or remove anything that is considered City property including plants, trees, etc. – including no installing new trails or adding physical features (ramps, etc) to the existing trails
- (2) Climb, stand, roller skate, roller blade, skateboard or sit upon any property not designated for such purposes.
- (3) Hunt for, shoot at, chase, catch or kill, or attempt to shoot at, chase, catch or kill, anything – do not discharge firearms, bows/arrows, etc.
- (4) Dump or discard any refuse including waste materials or litter of any kind, junk, dead animal or offensive matter of any kind - all such rubbish or waste shall be carried away from the park or playground by the person responsible for its presence, and properly disposed of elsewhere.
- (5) Sell or offer for sale any merchandise, food, article or thing whatsoever, without a permit – including from trucks and carts.
- (6) Engage in camping, archery, golfing. Camping includes overnight stays in a tent or recreational vehicle. Horseback riding is allowed in parts of the Mt. Penn Preserve area.
- (7) Consume, drink or have possession or custody of any alcoholic beverages
- (8) Engage in any disorderly conduct or behavior tending to breach the public peace.
- (9) Operate a licensed or unlicensed motor vehicle of any type, including motor bikes, mopeds, motorcycles, ATVs and snowmobiles.

Keep in mind, there are ***several security cameras*** at key locations that record and store footage of activities. ***These cameras can be viewed by Reading and Central Berks Police.***

These regulations are not in place to make things difficult, but to keep the Mount Penn Preserve **preserved and protected** for tomorrow, next week, next year and the future.