

CHAPTER 16

PARKS AND RECREATION

PART 1

PARK AND RECREATION

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PART 1

PARK AND RECREATION

§ 101. Policy.

- A. It is the policy of the Robeson Township Board of Supervisors to manage the natural, cultural and developed resources of each park owned or controlled by Robeson Township in the public interest, providing the public with safe and healthful recreational opportunities while protecting and enhancing these resources.
- B. Unless otherwise indicated herein, the term “Board” shall mean the Board of Supervisors of Robeson Township and its authorized representatives.
- C. The term “Park” refers to the recreation areas of recreation or park projects administered by the Board and parks owned by Robeson Township and all facilities therein or thereon of any such Park.
- D. Parks open for public use shall be available to the public without regard to sex, race, color, creed, age, nationality or place of origin. No lessee, licensee, or concessionaire providing a service to the public shall discriminate against any person because of sex, race, creed, color, age, nationality or place of origin in the conduct of the operations under any lease, license or concession contract.
- E. In addition to these regulations, all applicable state and local laws and regulations remain in full force and effect on Park lands, including those portions which are out granted by the Board by lease, license or other written agreement.
- F. Any violation of any section of these regulations shall constitute a separate violation for each calendar day in which it occurs.
- G. For the purposes of these regulations, the owner of any unattended vehicle shall be presumed to be responsible for its use on Park property. Unless proven otherwise, such presumption will be sufficient to issue a citation to the owner for the violation of these Regulations applicable to the use of such vehicle. Unless otherwise approved by an authorized Township official, any unattended vehicle not removed within twenty-four (24) hours is subject to removal and impoundment at the owner’s expense.

§ 102. Motorized Vehicles.

- A. This section pertains to all motorized vehicles, or equipment towed by motorized vehicles (together, referred to hereinafter as motorized vehicles), including, but not limited to, automobiles, trucks, motorcycles, mini-bikes, snowmobiles, dune buggies, all-terrain vehicles and trailers, campers or any other such equipment.

- B. Motorized vehicles shall not be parked in violation of posted restrictions, or in such a manner as to obstruct or impede normal or emergency traffic movement or the parking of other vehicles, or create a safety hazard, or endanger any person, project property or environmental feature. Motorized vehicles so parked are subject to removal and impoundment at the owner's expense.
- C. The operation and/or parking of a motorized vehicle off authorized roadways or parking areas is prohibited except at locations and times designated by the Board. Taking any motorized vehicle through, around or beyond a restrictive sign, recognizable barricade, fence or traffic control barrier is prohibited.
- D. Motorized vehicles shall be operated only in accordance with posted regulations and applicable state and local laws, which shall be enforced by authorized enforcement officials.
- E. No person shall operate any motorized vehicle in a careless, negligent or reckless manner so as to endanger any person, Park property or environmental feature.
- F. At developed recreation areas, motorized vehicles shall be used only to enter or leave the area or individual sites or facilities unless otherwise posted.
- G. Park property shall not be used for the parking of vehicles by persons using State Game Lands.

§ 103. Nonmotorized Vehicles and Wheeled Equipment.

- A. This section pertains to all nonmotorized vehicles and wheeled equipment (together, referred to hereinafter as nonmotorized vehicles), including, but not limited to, bicycles, roller skates, or any other such equipment; provided, however, that skateboards, scooters, and roller blades are entirely prohibited within Park property; and provided further, that equipment utilized by persons authorized by the Township to maintain Park property, such as line marking machines and lawn mowers, are not subject to the regulations of this section and may be used on Park property for the purposes for which they were designed.
- B. Nonmotorized vehicles shall not be parked or used in violation of posted restrictions, or in such a manner as to obstruct or impede normal or emergency traffic movement or the parking of motorized or nonmotorized vehicles, or create a safety hazard, or endanger any person, Park property or environmental feature. Nonmotorized vehicles so parked or used are subject to removal and impoundment at the owner's expense.
- C. Riding or operating nonmotorized vehicles on playing courts and playing fields is strictly forbidden. The operation and/or parking of a nonmotorized vehicle off authorized roadways, parking or riding areas is prohibited except at locations and

times designated by the Board. Taking any nonmotorized vehicle through, around or beyond a restrictive sign, recognizable barricade, fence or traffic control barrier is prohibited.

- D. Nonmotorized vehicles shall be ridden or operated only in accordance with posted regulations and application state and local laws, which shall be enforced by authorized enforcement officials.
- E. No person shall ride or operate any nonmotorized vehicle in a careless, negligent or reckless manner so as to endanger any person, Park property or environmental feature.

§ 104. Sanitation.

- A. Garbage, trash, rubbish, litter, or any other water material or waste liquid generated on the Park and incidental to authorized recreational activities shall be either removed from the Park or deposited in receptacles provided for that purpose. The improper disposal of such wastes, human and animal waste included, on the Park is prohibited.
- B. It is a violation to bring onto a Park any household or commercial garbage, trash, rubbish, debris, dead animals or litter of any kind for disposal or dumping without the written permission of the Board.
- C. The spilling, pumping or other discharge of contaminants, pollutants or other wastes, including, but not limited to, human or animal waste, petroleum, and industrial and commercial products and by-products on Park lands or into Park waters is prohibited.
- D. Picnickers, and all other persons using a Park shall keep their sites free of trash and litter during the period of occupancy and shall remove all personal equipment and clean their sites upon departure.

§ 105. Fires.

- A. Gasoline and other fuels, except that which is contained in storage tanks of motorized vehicles, camping equipment, or hand portable containers, designed for such purpose, shall not be carried onto or store on the Park without written permission of the Board.
- B. Fires shall be confined to those areas designated by the Board, and shall be contained in fireplaces, grills or other facilities designated for this purpose. Fires shall not be left unattended and must be completely extinguished prior to departure. The burning of materials that produce toxic fumes, including, but not limited to, tires, plastic or treated wood products is prohibited.

- C. Improper disposal of lighted smoking materials, matches or other burning material is prohibited.

§ 106. Control of Animals.

- A. Except for properly trained animals assisting the handicapped (such as seeing-eye dogs), no person shall bring or allow dogs, cats, or other pets, or horses, cattle or other livestock, into any Park area. Animals brought into a Park area are subject to immediately impoundment and removal in accordance with state and local laws.
- B. Ranging, grazing, watering or allowing livestock on Park lands is prohibited except when authorized by lease, license or other written agreement with the Board.
- C. Any animal impounded under the provisions of this section may be confined at a location designated by the Board, which may assess a reasonable impoundment fee. This fee shall be paid before the impounded animal is returned to its owner(s).

§ 107. Restrictions.

- A. The board may establish and post a schedule of visiting hours and/or restrictions on the public use of a Park or portion of a Park. The Board may close or restrict the use of a Park or portion of a Park when necessitated by reason of public health, public safety, maintenance, or other reasons in the public interest. Entering or using a Park in a manner which is contrary to the schedule of visiting hours, closures or restrictions is prohibited.
- B. Hitting of golf balls is strictly prohibited within Park areas.
- C. If the Board authorizes the use of the Park between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m., quiet shall be maintained in all public use areas during said hours and during any other quiet hours as the Board may designate. Excessive noise during any such quiet hours which unreasonably disturbs persons is prohibited.
- D. Any act or conduct by any person which interferes with, impedes or disrupts the use of a Park or impairs the safety of another person is prohibited. Individuals who are boisterous, rowdy, disorderly or otherwise disturb the peace on Park lands may be requested to leave the Park.
- E. The operation or use of any audio or other noise producing device including, but not limited to, radios, televisions, or musical instruments and motorized equipment including vehicles, in such a manner as to unreasonably annoy or endanger persons at any time or exceed state or local laws governing noise levels from motorized equipment, is prohibited.
- F. Possession and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited.

- G. The parent or guardian of any minor child who violates the terms of this Ordinance shall be responsible for the minor child's conduct to the maximum extent allowed under the law.

§ 108. Explosives, Firearms, Other Weapons and Fireworks.

The possession of loaded firearms, ammunition, loaded projectile firing devices, bows and arrows, crossbows, explosives or explosive devices of any kind, including fireworks, is prohibited unless: (1) in the possession of a Federal, state or local law enforcement officer; or (2) written permission has been received from the Board.

§ 109. Public Property.

- A. Destruction, injury, defacement, removal or any alteration of public property including, but not limited to, developed facilities, natural formations, mineral deposits, historical and archaeological features, and vegetative growth, is prohibited except when in accordance with written permission of the Board.
- B. Cutting or gathering of trees or parts of trees and/or the removal of wood from Park lands is prohibited without written permission of the Board.

§ 110. Abandonment and Impoundment of Personal Property.

- A. Personal property of any kind shall not be abandoned, stored or left unattended upon Park lands. After a period of twenty-four (24) hours, or any time after a posted closure hour in a public use area, unattended personal property shall be presumed to be abandoned and may be impounded and stored at a storage point designated by the Board which may assess a reasonable impoundment fee. Such fee shall be paid before the impounded property is returned to its owner.
- B. The Board shall, by public or private sale permitted by law, dispose of all lost, abandoned or unclaimed personal property that comes into Board custody or control. However, property may not be disposed of until a diligent effort has been made to find the owner, heirs, next of kin or legal representative(s). If the owner, heirs, next of kin or legal representative(s) are determined but not found, the property may not be disposed of until the expiration of one hundred twenty (120) days after the date when notice, giving the time and place of the intended sale or other disposition, has been sent by certified or registered mail to that person at the last known address. When diligent efforts to determine the owner, heirs, next of kin or legal representatives are unsuccessful, the property may be disposed of without delay except that if it has a fair market value of Twenty-Five and 00/100 Dollars (\$25.00) or more, the property may not be disposed of until ninety (90) days after the date it is received at the storage point designated by the Board. The net proceeds from the sale of property shall be paid to the general fund of Robeson Township.

§ 111. Lost and Found Articles.

All articles found shall be deposited by the finder at the Board's office or with a staff person of the Board. All such articles shall be disposed of in accordance with the procedures set forth in Section 110.

§ 112. Advertisement.

Advertising by the use of billboards, signs, markers, audio devices, handbills, circulars, posters, or any other means whatsoever, is prohibited without written permission of the Board. Motorized vehicles with semipermanent or permanent painted or installed signs are exempt as long as they are used for authorized recreational activities and comply with all other rules and regulations pertaining to vehicles.

§ 113. Commercial Activities.

The engaging in or solicitation of business without the express written permission of the Board is prohibited.

§ 114. Unauthorized Structures.

The construction, placement, or existence of any structure (including, but not limited to, roads, trails, signs or landscape features) of any kind under, upon, in or over the Park lands is prohibited unless a permit, lease, license or other appropriate written agreement has been issued by the Board. The design, construction, placement, existence or use of structures in violation of the terms of the permit, lease, license or other written agreement is prohibited. Neither the Board nor Robeson Township shall be liable for the loss of, or damage to, any private structures, whether authorized or not, placed on Park lands. Unauthorized structures are subject to summary removal or impoundment by the Board.

§ 115. Special Events.

- A. Special events, including, but not limited to, carnivals, music festivals, dramatic presentations, athletic events, or other special recreation programs are prohibited unless written permission has been granted by the Board. An appropriate fee may be charged under the authority of Section 117.
- B. The public shall not be charged any fee by the sponsor of such event unless the Board has approved in writing (and the sponsor has properly posted) the proposed schedule of fees to be charged by the sponsor. The Board shall have authority to revoke permission and require removal of any equipment upon failure of the sponsor to comply with terms and conditions of the permit, permission or these regulations.

§ 116. Unauthorized Occupation.

- A. Occupying any lands, buildings, or other facilities within a Park for the purpose of maintaining the same as a full or part-time residence without the written permission of the Board is prohibited.

- B. Use of Park lands for agricultural purposes is prohibited except when in compliance with terms and conditions authorized by lease, license or other written agreement issued by the Board.
- C. No person shall loiter on Park property.
- D. No person shall utilize any restroom on Park property or enter any building on Park property except those persons visiting Park property for authorized purposes.

§ 117. Fees.

The Board shall have the authority to establish by resolution fees for use of Park facilities.

- A. All use fees imposed by the Board shall be fair and equitable and based on the following criteria:
 - 1. The direct and indirect amount of Board expenditure.
 - 2. The benefit to the recipient.
 - 3. The public policy or interest served.
 - 4. The comparable recreation fees charged by other public agencies and the private sector within the general area in which the fee is charged.
 - 5. The economic and administrative feasibility of fee collection.
 - 6. The extent of regular maintenance required.
 - 7. Other pertinent factors.
- B. In addition to fees, or in lieu of fees, at the Board's discretion, the Board may require a Fifty and 00/100 Dollars (\$50.00) cash deposit and proof of liability insurance to be filed with the Township as a condition for the rental of any Park facilities. Any renter of Park facilities shall be personally liable for any damages resulting from said use. The deposit shall be returned to the renter within thirty (30) days after the use of Park facility is completed, if the Park facility was properly used and maintained and if any keys to the Park facility have been returned to the proper representative of the Board.
- C. Where fees are charged, the Board shall insure that clear notice of fee requirements is prominently posted at each Park area, and at appropriate locations therein, and that the notice be included in publications distributed at such areas. Failure to pay authorized recreation use fees as established by the Board is prohibited and is punishable by a fine of not more than One Hundred and 00/100 Dollars (\$100.00).

§ 118. Violations of Rules and Regulations.

Any person who violates the provisions of these regulations, other than for a failure to pay authorized recreation use fees as separately provided for in Section 117, may be punished as a summary offense by a fine of not more than One Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$1,000.00) or imprisonment to the extent allowed by law for the punishment of summary offenses as provided in Section 1601(c) of the Second Class Township Code. Persons designated by the Board shall have the authority to issue a summons or warrant for violation of these regulations requiring the appearance of any person charged with the violation to appear before the District Justice within whose jurisdiction the affected Park is located.

§ 119. State and Local Laws.

Except as otherwise provided herein, state and local laws and ordinances shall apply on Park lands. This includes, but is not limited to, state and local laws and ordinances governing:

- A. Operation and use of motor vehicles;
- B. Hunting, fishing and trapping;
- C. Use of firearms or other weapons;
- D. Civil disobedience and criminal acts; and
- E. Littering, sanitation and pollution.

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