

## CHAPTER 30

### PARKS ORDINANCE

#### 30.01 Authorization

- (A) This ordinance is authorized by Wisconsin Statutes §59.56(9) and §59.54(6).
- (B) Any mandatory amendments or repeals or recreations to the statutes pertaining to the subject matter of this ordinance are incorporated into this ordinance as of the effective date of amendment, repeal or recreation.

**30.02 Applicability** This ordinance applies to all county parks, trails, forest lands , facilities and structures leased, owned and/or operated and maintained by the County Parks Division of the Community Development Department.

#### 30.03 Interpretation

- (A) It is not intended by this ordinance to repeal, abrogate, annul, impair or interfere with any existing easements, covenants, deed restrictions, agreements, rules or permits previously adopted or issued pursuant to law.
- (B) It is not the intent of this ordinance to abrogate, impair or interfere with the legal rights of individuals as they may be guaranteed by the state and federal constitutions, statutes and administrative rules.

**30.04 Severability** If any section, clause, provision or portion of this ordinance is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this ordinance shall not be affected.

#### 30.05 Definitions

- (A) All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) Means an engine-driven device which has a net weight of 900 pounds or less, which is originally manufactured with a width of 50 inches or less, which is equipped with a seat designed to be straddled by the operator and which is designed by the manufacturer to travel on 3 or more low-pressure tires;
- (B) Authorized Vehicle Any vehicle given official approval and authority by the Parks Administrator for enforcement and maintenance;
- (C) Bicycle A device propelled by feet acting upon pedals and having one or more wheels;

- (D) Building A structure intended to be or capable of being occupied by a person or persons, including but not limited to, registration stations, maintenance buildings, permanent restrooms, utility sheds;
- (E) Camp or Camping The temporary use of a shelter, such as a tent, trailer, motor vehicle, tarpaulin, bed roll or sleeping bag, used for vacation, relaxation, recreation, and/or sleeping purposes in a campground;
- (F) Camper Day The period beginning at 3:00 PM and ending at 3:00 PM the following day;
- (G) Campground A parcel of land designated or designed and operated for camping and related purposes;
  - (1) Family Campground A campground designated for camping by families or groups of five persons or less;
  - (2) Group Campground A campground designated for camping by organizational or juvenile groups;
- (H) Camping Party Any individual, family, individual group or juvenile group occupying a campsite;
  - (1) Individual Group A camping party of not more than five persons occupying one camping unit;
  - (2) Juvenile Group A group made up of juvenile members of an established organization and at least one competent, mature adult for each ten juveniles;
- (I) Camping Permit Any permit for camping overnight that requires registration and payment of a daily fee;
- (J) Camping Unit Any single shelter, except sleeping bags, hammocks, and those used exclusively for dining purposes; used by a camping party;
- (K) Campsite That part of a campground which is designated for camping use by a camping unit or camping party;
- (L) Committee Community Development Committee (CDC);
- (M) Edible Fruits The fleshy fruits from plants including apples, plums, pears, blueberries, raspberries, blackberries, juneberries and strawberries that are harvested for human consumption. It does not include the seeds, roots or other parts of herbaceous plants such as wildflowers or grasses.
- (N) Edible Nuts Means walnuts, hickory nuts, acorns and other similar nuts from trees and shrubs;
- (O) Equine Any horse, pony, donkey, mule or hinny;

- (P) Firearm A weapon that acts by the force of gunpowder;
- (Q) Occupied Means the act or fact of taking possession of or taking up space;
- (R) Parks Administrator Official in charge of overseeing the St. Croix County Parks System;
- (S) Pedestrian Any person afoot without the use of skis, skates or other similar device. Any physically disabled person in a wheelchair, either manually or mechanically propelled, or other low-powered mechanically propelled vehicle designed specifically for use by a physically disabled person, but does not include any person using an electric personal assistive mobility device;
- (T) Physically Disabled Person A person who has been issued a disabled registration plate or special identification card by the department of transportation for a disability that will last greater than one year or who has been issued an approval under s.29.193, Stats., for a disability that will last greater than one year.
- (U) Picnic Area Any tract of land developed and maintained for picnicking and containing not less than five picnic tables. Included in the definition of picnic area are adjacent playground and play field areas;
- (V) Registered Camper A person camping on a campsite whose name is included on the camping permit for that campsite;
- (W) Self-Registration Means depositing a properly completed envelope with accurate information and containing, at a minimum, the appropriate fees into a self-registration box upon entering a fee area for which an admission fee has been established;
- (X) Swimming Beach/Area Any water area or adjacent land area designated as a swim area by standard regulatory markers or posted notice;
- (Y) Utility-Terrain Vehicle (UTV) As defined in Section 23.33 (1)(ng)(intro.), Wisconsin State Statutes.
- (Z) Vehicle Any automobile, truck, motorcycle, golf cart, moped, motorhome or camping trailer.

**30.06 Park System Regulations** The rules and regulations set forth in this chapter shall apply in and are adopted for the operation, management and control of St. Croix County parks, boat landings, trails, forest lands and facilities.

- (A) Park Property It shall be unlawful for any person to disturb, molest, deface, destroy, remove, carve or mark on, drive nails in, or injure in any manner any park or forest structure including, but not limited to, buildings, signs, tables, benches, fences, trees, shrubs, plants, lawns or other natural growth, roads, parking lots, or other County property, or to enter by force in any way any building on County property that may be locked or closed to public use. The picking of edible fruits or edible nuts is permitted.
- (B) Property of Others It shall be unlawful for any person to disturb, molest or remove the property or personal effects of others while on county park or county forest lands.
- (C) Refuse
- (1) It shall be unlawful for any person to dispose of any garbage, bottles, tin cans, paper, or other waste material generated by park use in any manner except by placing in receptacles provided for such purpose or to dump any such refuse, on county park or forest lands.
  - (2) Recyclable materials are required to be kept separate from any refuse and then properly disposed of in the provided recycling containers.
  - (3) No person may dispose of any waste material in any waste disposal receptacle or location if such refuse or material is generated from a permanent or seasonal residence or a business or other commercial operation.
  - (4) Refuse shall be removed from those areas where waste disposal receptacles are not provided. Charcoal residue shall be left in a grate or fireplace until cool, or placed in receptacles provided for that purpose.
  - (5) The bathing of animals, washing cars or clothing is prohibited in any of the lakes or streams in county parks.
  - (6) Throwing of bottles, tin cans, garbage, sewage or other refuse in any of the lakes or streams within the boundaries of county parks or county forests is prohibited.
- (D) Pets
- (1) It shall be unlawful for any person to allow dogs, cats or other domesticated animals to run at large at any time within a county park, trails or at improved campsites on county owned lands.
  - (2) Persons must keep any pet on an 8 foot maximum lead and control the animal to prevent it from interfering in any manner with the enjoyment of the area by others.
  - (3) It shall be unlawful for any person to allow a pet to be upon a public swimming beach/area.
  - (4) Any feces deposited in the park, trails or on mowed, groomed or paved areas must be picked up and disposed of properly.
  - (5) No person shall allow his/her pet to deprive or disrupt the enjoyment or use of any area by others.

- (6) Nothing in this ordinance shall prohibit the use of dogs by the blind or handicapped persons or WAGS (Wisconsin Academy for Graduate Service) dogs in training.
- (E) Fires It shall be unlawful for any person to start or maintain any fire or to burn any refuse except in designated fire rings or receptacles in any county park or recreation area. It shall be unlawful for any person to leave any fire unattended without first completely extinguishing the fire or ashes.
- (F) Firewood It shall be unlawful to bring any firewood into a county park or campsite. Firewood purchased from a Wisconsin certified firewood dealer is exempt from this restriction.
- (G) Peddling and Soliciting It shall be unlawful for any person to peddle or solicit business of any nature whatever, or to distribute handbills or other advertising material on any county park or county forest lands; or to use the county park, boat landings or forest lands as a base of commercial operations for soliciting business or peddling outside of county park and forest areas unless first authorized in writing by the Parks Administrator.
- (H) Safety
- (1) It shall be unlawful for any person to directly drive an automobile, truck, motorcycle, or other vehicle in a reckless manner or at a speed greater than that established by signs posted along county park roads. If no limit is posted, the speed limit is 10 miles per hour on county park roads. It is unlawful for any person to operate any vehicle of gross load in excess of the posted weight limits.
  - (2) It shall be unlawful to operate or park any motor vehicle upon any trail, swimming beach/area, playground, picnic area, or anywhere else contrary to posted notice other than established roads, parking areas, boat landings and service areas.
  - (3) All-terrain vehicles (ATV's), utility-terrain vehicles (UTV's) and similar mechanized equipment are prohibited in County parks, trails, campgrounds and forest lands. Winter time usage on Glen Lake is exempt from this restriction.
  - (4) Vehicle traffic on trails shall be restricted to authorized vehicles only.
- (I) Equine
- (1) It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly cause any equine to enter any county trail, forest land, boat ramp, picnic area or swimming beach/area. Any animal waste shall be immediately cleaned up and properly disposed of by the individual who caused the equine to enter county property.
  - (2) Only flat soled horseshoes shall be permitted on park roads during the months of April through November each year.

- (3) All equine-drawn carriages shall be equipped with manure-catching devices.
  - (4) Any and all manure deposited on roadways or property is the responsibility of the operator to clean up and remove.
- (J) Boats It shall be unlawful for any person to operate a motorized boat powered by gasoline, diesel fuel, or any other fossil fuel on Glen Lake in Glen Hills Park and on Perch Lake in Homestead Parklands on Perch Lake, except under emergency lifesaving situations or by authorization of the Parks Administrator. Further exempt are WI DNR staff, Conservation Wardens and fishery staff in performance of their official duties.
- (K) Unnecessary Noises It shall be unlawful for any person to operate sound trucks, loud speakers or any other mechanical devices that produce undue or unnecessary noises in any county park or any county forest lands without first obtaining written permission from the Parks Administrator.
- (L) Fireworks Possessing or discharging fireworks is prohibited as set forth in Chapter 36 of the St. Croix County Code of Ordinances and/or Wisconsin Statutes §167.10.
- (M) Firearms
- (1) It shall be unlawful for any person to carry or possess a firearm to enter or remain in any building that is owned, occupied or controlled by St. Croix County.
  - (2) It shall be unlawful to discharge a firearm in any county park, trail or forest lands except while hunting during an open hunting season. See Section 30.08 Wildlife and Hunting of this Chapter below
- (N) Parking
- (1) It shall be unlawful for any person to park/dock or leave unattended any automobiles, trucks, trailers, wagons, motorcycles, boats, equine-drawn carriages or other similar equipment except in areas designated for such purposes, and during times when parks are closed, or to drive vehicles indiscriminately over County parks, trails or county forest lands.
  - (2) Any property left in a County park, campground, trail or forest land unattended for more than 24 hours without prior approval of park personnel shall be considered abandoned and may be disposed of at the discretion of the Parks Administrator.
- (O) Swimming Beach/Area
- (1) It shall be unlawful for any person to use any soap, detergent or shampoo on any swimming beach/area or in water adjacent to any swimming beach/area in any county park under the Parks Division's operation and management.

- (2) There are no lifeguards at any swimming beach/areas in the County Parks. Swim, wade, boat, or launch water craft in the designated areas AT YOUR OWN RISK.
  - (3) It is unlawful to disturb, damage or remove a swimming beach/area boundary buoy or marker in any swimming beach/area in any county park.
  - (4) No person shall operate a boat in any area designated by marker buoys.
  - (5) No person may fish in any marked swimming beach/area in any county park.
  - (6) It shall be unlawful for any person to allow a pet to be upon a public swimming beach/area.
- (P) Personal Conduct It shall be unlawful for any person to be intoxicated or to engage in any violent, abusive, loud, boisterous, vulgar, lewd, wanton, obscene or otherwise disorderly conduct tending to create or provoke a breach of the peace or to disturb or annoy others while within the boundaries of a county park, or while in or near authorized campgrounds or county owned lands within the boundaries of a county forest.
- (Q) Fees and Charges It shall be unlawful for any person to use any facility, land or area for which a fee or charge has been established by the Committee without payment of such fee and charge. Fees shall be as posted and subject to change by Committee action.
- (R) Admission Fees It shall be unlawful for any person to operate any automobile, motor bus, motorcycle or similar motor vehicle in any fee area unless such vehicle has affixed thereto an annual admission sticker, daily vehicle sticker or self-registration permit. Bicycles and pedestrians have free admission.
- (S) After Hours
- (1) It shall be unlawful to enter any county park land, structure or property during closed hours or as posted.
  - (2) Special events at County park facilities may have extended opening or closing hours by permit or written authorization from the Parks Administrator.

**30.07 Camping Regulations** Overnight camping is allowed only in designated or designed areas operated for camping and related purposes.

- (A) Designated Campsites It shall be unlawful for any person to camp, to maintain a campsite or to use camping equipment or to camp or stay in any car, truck, or boat in or out of the water or docked overnight in any county park except in areas designated for camping.
- (B) After Hours It shall be unlawful for any person to enter, be, or remain in any county park after posted closing hours, except persons camping in designated County park campgrounds.

- (C) One Unit Per Campsite It shall be unlawful for more than one camping party to occupy a single campsite.
- (D) Campsite Boundary No camping unit, sleeping bag or hammock shall be set up beyond the limits of the campsite.
- (E) Juvenile Groups
- (1) Any group of juvenile members of an establish organization must be supervised by a competent, mature adult.
  - (2) There must be one competent, mature adult for every ten juveniles in the group.
  - (3) Juvenile groups of not more than ten persons may occupy a single campsite in a family campground ONLY when group campgrounds are not available.
- (F) Organized Groups Organized groups may be given reservations for use of group campgrounds.
- (G) Assigned Campsites No camping party shall move from its assigned campsite to another campsite without prior approval.
- (H) Hours
- (1) The “camper day” begins at 3:00 p.m. and runs until 3:00 p.m. the following day. All camping permits expire at 3:00 p.m. on the last day of the permit period.
  - (2) Quiet hours are from 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. During quiet hours, no camping party shall set up or take down its camping unit. Further, during quiet hours all campers should be respectful of other campers and are prohibited from making excessive noise.
  - (3) During quiet hours, only registered campers are allowed in campsites.
- (I) Maximum Stay No person shall camp and or camping unit shall remain for a period of greater than 21 days. Extensions within the 21-day limit may be granted by the Parks Administrator.
- (J) Motor Vehicles It shall be unlawful to park any motor vehicle outside the parking area designated at each campsite and not more than two motor vehicles are permitted on any one campsite.
- (K) Violations And Revocation Violations of any state law, this ordinance, or any other regulations by any member of a camping party is cause for revocation of the camping permit. If revocation occurs, there is no refund on the remaining day(s) left on the camping registration or vehicle admission stickers.

### **30.08 Wildlife and Hunting**

- (A) Disturbing Wildlife It shall be unlawful for any person to take, catch, kill, hunt, trap, pursue or otherwise disturb any wild animals or birds in any county parks, boat landings, trails, forest lands or any campground, except during hunting seasons established by the Parks Administrator.
- (B) Hunting or Trapping The Parks Administrator may authorize hunting or trapping if it is deemed necessary to control over population, disease, nuisance or pest problems or to prevent damage to structures or facilities. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the removal of any fish lawfully taken by hook and line.
- (C) Baiting And Feeding Baiting and feeding wildlife, including deer, waterfowl, turkeys and small game is prohibited.
- (D) Hunting Hunting seasons for deer and waterfowl are established by the Parks Administrator at Glen Hills and Homestead parks. These County parks are open solely at the discretion of the Parks Administrator. The Wildwood Trail, Apple River Property and the Kinnickinnic and Stanton County forests are open for public hunting. All state hunting regulations and license requirements apply.
- (E) Damaging Property It shall be unlawful for any person to destroy, molest or deface any natural growth or natural features or any county buildings or property in the county park system. Permanent stands or blinds are prohibited. Screw-in steps are not allowed. Portable tree stands are allowed, but must be removed at the end of each hunting day. Stands must be labeled with the owner's name and address. The cutting of shooting lanes is prohibited.

**30.09 Penalty** Any person who fails to comply with the provisions of this ordinance shall upon conviction thereof, forfeit not more than \$200 and costs of prosecution for each violation and in default of payment of such forfeiture and costs, shall be imprisoned in the County jail until payment thereof, but not exceeding thirty (30) days.

**30.10 Effective Date** This ordinance shall be effective the day after its publication.

Ordinance No. 822(2013)

Ordinance No. 273(1991)

Ordinance No. 76(83)

Resolution No. 26(72)