

York Township Park Rules and Regulations

1.0 VANDALISM, DEFACEMENT, DESTRUCTION, DISTURBANCE OR REMOVAL

- 1.1 VANDALISM – No person shall cause serious physical harm to any building, property or equipment owned, leased or managed by the park district.
- 1.2 DEFACEMENT, DESTRUCTION, DISTURBANCE AND/OR REMOVAL – No person shall injure, deface, destroy, disturb, or remove any part of a park, including but not limited to, buildings, signs, equipment, trees, flowers, shrubs or other vegetation, fruit or seed thereof, rock, mineral, fossil or archeological artifact, or mammals, birds or any other wildlife whether alive or not, with the exception of legally obtained fish.
- 1.3 INTRODUCTION OF PLANTS – No person shall plant, propagate, leave or introduce plants, roots, seeds or otherwise cultivate plants of any type in the parks without prior written permission.

2.0 LITTERING, DUMPING, GARBAGE, SEWAGE, NOXIOUS MATERIALS AND POLLUTION

- 2.1 LITTERING, DUMPING, GARBAGE PROHIBITED – No person shall bring into, leave behind, place, or drop any material of any kind in the park, except refuse, ashes or garbage from permitted activities; such materials shall be deposited in receptacles for such purpose. No bottles, cans, refuse or any foreign material of any description shall be deposited or thrown in any stream, waterway, pond or lake in or adjacent to park lands.
- 2.2 SEWAGE, NOXIOUS OR HAZARDOUS MATERIALS – No person or corporation shall, either within or outside of the park, place, dump, release, spill or discard onto lands or into any river, stream, brook, ditch, pond or lake any sewage, noxious or hazardous materials which may render park property or waters harmful to public health, animals, vegetation or aquatic life; or which may prevent, limit or interfere with the use of park property. All sanitary sewage shall receive adequate primary, secondary and tertiary process plant treatment prior to resultant clear effluent entering into park property.
- 2.3 POLLUTION – No person or organization shall cause or allow any burning of garbage, refuse, waste material, trash, or any other material within or adjacent to a park so as to cause smoke, odor, sparks, dust, etc. to pass over, through, across the park and cause air pollution, nuisance, or damage.

3.0 FIRES, LIMITATIONS

- 3.1 STARTING OF FIRES – No person shall start a fire in the park except small fires for culinary purposes in park grills or fire rings, privately owned grills or in a place designated by the director or authorized agent. The director or agent, may, at his/her discretion, prohibit fires for a limited period at any location or for any purpose when necessary for the protection of park property. All fires shall be continuously attended under the care and direction of a competent person. All fires shall be extinguished by the person or persons responsible for starting said fire prior to leaving the vicinity.

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- 3.1.1 Camp fires shall be permitted provided the materials used were not taken live from the park and provided fires are maintained that such burning is accomplished without the emission of dense smoke, sparks, odor, dust, ash, etc.
- 3.2 PORTABLE STOVES OR GRILLS – Portable stoves or grills are prohibited on picnic tables.
- 3.3 DUMPING OF ASHES, LIMITATIONS – The dumping of hot ashes or fire from portable picnic grills onto the grass or plants is prohibited. Hot ashes shall be deposited only in specified areas or designated receptacles, but not in picnic refuse receptacles.
- 3.4 LIGHTED MATCHES, CIGARS, CIGARETTES, ETC. – No person shall drop, throw away, or discard any lighted match, cigar, or cigarette within or adjacent to any park property.

4.0 MOLESTING WILDLIFE, HUNTING, TRAPPING, FISHING

- 4.1 MOLESTING WILDLIFE – No person within the confines of the park shall pursue on foot or with dogs, use walkie-talkies, radios, planes, or any vehicle, or in any way molest any wild bird or animal or rob nests or dens of eggs or young of any bird or animal.
- 4.2 HUNTING, TRAPPING PROHIBITED – No person within the confines of the park shall pursue, hunt by any means or trap any wildlife, except in areas designated for such purpose by the board. If permitted, hunting on designated hunting areas, a state hunting license shall be required, and all state and park laws shall apply for limits, seasons, hours, times and other restrictions deemed necessary.
- 4.3 FISHING REGULATIONS – Park waters open to fishing are subject to posted restrictions deemed necessary by the park district to ensure and maintain safe quality fishing areas. All White Amurs are protected and, if caught, shall be released immediately. In areas deemed “public waters” by the State of Ohio, fishing is permitted and subject to state fishing statutes. All fishing lines shall be attended at all times. Unattended lines are subject to confiscation.
- 4.4 FISHING LICENSE – A fishing license shall be required by anyone 16 years or older while fishing in areas deemed “public waters” by the State of Ohio.
- 4.5 FROG GIGGING – No person within the confines of the park shall engage in frog gigging.
- 4.6 TROT LINES – Trotlines are strictly prohibited.
- 4.7 ARCHERY FISHING – Archery fishing is prohibited.
- 4.8 TURLING PROHIBITED – Taking of turtles by any means is prohibited.
- 4.9 INTRODUCTION OF AQUATIC ANIMALS PROHIBITED – No person shall add, stock, deposit or introduce fish, frogs, turtles, or any other species of aquatic animals into parks or park waters.

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5.0 FIREARMS, FIREWORKS, EXPLOSIVES, WEAPONS, DISCHARGE, ARCHERY

- 5.1 POSSESSION OF FIREARMS – No person(s) shall possess, discharge, or otherwise have ANY firearm of ANY description, including air or gas guns, sling shots, missile throwing devices, or ammunition for any of the above, within the park.
- 5.2 FIREWORKS, EXPLOSIVES – No person shall possess use, or discharge any type of firework, explosive device, or incendiary device within the park.
- 5.3 POSSESSION OF DANGEROUS WEAPONS – No person(s) shall have, possess, or carry any dangerous weapon or ordnance within the park.
- 5.4 ADJACENT LANDS WEAPON DISCHARGE – No person shall discharge any firearm of any description, arrow, or projectile toward park property so as to alarm, endanger, or injure wildlife, property, or persons in the park.
- 5.5 ARCHERY – No person shall release an arrow, possess or use archery equipment, arrows, bows, cross bows, or long bows within the park.

6.0 INDECENT CONDUCT, EXPOSURE, SOLICITATION, LOITERING, OBSCENE MATERIALS

- 6.1 INDECENT CONDUCT – No person shall appear in the park in a state of nudity or commit, perform, or engage in lewd, lascivious, obscene, or indecent acts or behavior.
- 6.2 SOLICITATION – No person shall solicit or attempt to solicit anyone to engage in a sexual act, act of perversion, or any lewd, lascivious, or indecent acts or behavior.
- 6.3 LOITERING – No person shall loiter in or about rest room facilities, buildings, pond, or loiter around vehicles within or adjacent to the park.
- 6.4 OBSCENE MATERIALS – No person shall bring into the park, display, or leave behind any photograph, publication, or apparatus of lewd, lascivious, obscene, indecent, or pornographic nature.
- 6.5 UNLAWFUL ENTRY OF REST ROOMS – No person except maintenance employees on duty, rangers, or other law enforcement officers shall enter into any rest room set aside for the opposite sex.

7.0 DISORDERLY CONDUCT, ASSEMBLAGE, DISTURBING THE PEACE, RESISTING

- 7.1 DISORDERLY CONDUCT – No person shall recklessly cause inconvenience, annoyance, or alarm to another.
- 7.2 UNLAWFUL ASSEMBLAGE – No person or group shall gather in or adjacent to the park for any lawful purpose or in a riotous assemblage which would annoy, harass, or inflict any injury upon any person or park property.
- 7.3 DISTURBING THE PEACE – No person shall indulge in any noise, boisterous, or disorderly manner, or in any way disturb the peace or good order of the park and its intended peaceful use. No person shall disrupt the park by loud playing of audio equipment, noisemakers, fighting, quarreling, or any riotous clamor or tumult. All persons shall refrain from the use of obscene, profane, or abusive language within the park.

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- 7.4 FAILURE TO COMPLY – Persons who enter township property shall remain upon such property only so long as they abide by the rules and regulations of the district and only so long as they abide by the lawful instructions and directions of agents of the district, and shall peaceably leave said property if so directed by such agent.

8.0 GAMBLING, ALCOHOL, DRUGS OF ABUSE

- 8.1 GAMBLING PROHIBITED – No person shall play, engage, or otherwise participate in any games of chance within the park.
- 8.2 ALCOHOL PROHIBITED – No person shall possess, use or offer for sale, ANY intoxicating liquor or alcoholic beverages as defined in O.R.C. Section 4301.01, nor shall any person enter or remain within the park while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or alcoholic beverages. The Board of Trustees of the park may designate dates, times, or places where alcoholic beverages are permitted.
- 8.3 DRUGS OF ABUSE – No person shall use or possess any type of illegal drug or controlled substance, nor shall any person enter or remain within the park while under the influence of illegal drugs or controlled substances.

9.0 TRAFFIC

- 9.1 DEFACEMENT OF SURFACES – No person shall knowingly accelerate a motor vehicle causing the tires to spin, mark, squeal, and/or deface park roadways, parking lots, turf areas or graveled lots.
- 9.2 STORAGE OF VEHICLES PROHIBITED – No person shall park or store any vehicle of any type within the park except in areas designated for such purpose and upon payment of parking fee, if any, set by the board. Any vehicle left within the confines of the park between the hours of closing and opening shall be subject to removal at the owner's expense.
- 9.3 VEHICLES RESTRICTED TO ROADWAYS – No vehicle shall be parked or driven over or upon any portion of the park except drives and roadways established for designated vehicle use.
- 9.4 SPEED – No person shall drive, propel, or cause to be driven any vehicle in excess of the posted speed limit on any road, drive, parking area, trail, or any other area established for vehicle traffic. On any road, drive, parking area, or trail established for vehicle traffic that is NOT posted, no vehicle shall exceed ten (10) mph, NOR shall any person operate a vehicle at a greater speed than is posted on roads adjacent to the park.
- 9.5 PARKING RESTRICTIONS – No person shall park any vehicle within or upon any traveled roadway, right of way, drive, entrance, or other areas restricting vehicle travel or creating a hazard or restriction for emergency or maintenance vehicle access. Parking on grass, lawns, or other areas not designated for vehicle parking is strictly prohibited except during pre-scheduled, district approved park functions requiring temporary additional parking access and for emergencies.

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- 9.6 HANDICAPPED PARKING AREA – No person shall park any non-registered handicap vehicle in a posted/marked handicapped area.
- 9.7 UNSAFE VEHICLE OPERATION – No person shall operate any type of vehicle on any roadway, parking area, trail, path, or transportation corridor in an unsafe or reckless manner that poses a threat of injury to oneself or others.
- 9.8 TRAIL BIKES, ATV'S, GO CARTS, MINI BIKES AND/OR SNOWMOBILES – Motorized trial bikes, all terrain, all purpose vehicles, go carts, mini bikes and/or snowmobiles are prohibited on park property.

10.0 WATERCRAFT PROHIBITED.

11.0 HORSES ARE PROHIBITED.

12.0 PETS AND DOMESTIC/WILD ANIMALS, LEASHES

- 12.1 DOGS, CATS, ANIMALS RESTRICTIONS – No person shall have or keep in a park any dog, cat, pet, or other animal destructive to birds, wildlife, or property. Dogs and cats are permitted IF controlled at ALL times on a leash not more than eight (8) feet long. All pets are strictly prohibited in wildlife areas.
- 12.2 ABANDONING ANIMALS – No person shall leave behind or otherwise abandon ANY domestic, wild, or exotic animal within or adjacent to the park.
- 12.3 CRUELTY TO ANIMALS – No person shall mistreat, cruelly beat, mutilate, or torture any animal.
- 12.4 VICIOUS AND DANGEROUS DOGS PROHIBITED – Vicious and dangerous dogs are prohibited on park property.
- 12.5 CLEAN UP – All persons are to clean up after their pet.

13.0 CAMPS AND CAMPING

- 13.1 CAMPING PERMIT REQUIRED – No person or group shall establish or maintain any camp, lodging, or temporary lodging or sleeping place within the parks without obtaining a specific written camping permit. Camping is permitted in established areas only with prior written permission.
- 13.2 FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH CAMPING REGULATIONS – All persons engaged in lawful camping shall abide by all camping rules and restrictions, in addition to all park regulations.

14.0 SWIMMING PROHIBITED.

15.0 PARK HOURS/CURFEW, CLOSED OR RESTRICTED AREAS

- 15.1 PARK HOURS/CURFEW – No person shall be permitted to remain, stop, or park within the confines of the park from dusk to dawn, unless otherwise posted or with prior written permission or for an immediate emergency. Rangers or park agents may close any park area deemed necessary for public safety concerns or immediate threat of harm.

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- 15.2 CLOSED OR RESTRICTED AREAS – No person shall trespass on ANY park areas posted closed or restricted. If posted closed or restricted, driving or trespassing on park areas, roads, drives, buildings, and/or structures is strictly prohibited without a permit. No person shall trespass in or upon any park preserve without first obtaining permission from the trustees.
- 15.3 PERSONS RESTRICTED TO TRAILS – No person while walking, hiking, jogging, etc., shall enter, wander or meander through areas of the park except in areas designated for said use, and all visitors shall remain on trails.

16.0 SNOWMOBILES, SKIING, SKATING, SLEDDING

- 16.1 SNOWMOBILES, SKIING, SKATING ARE PROHIBITED.
- 16.2 SLEDDING – Sledding is permitted on the sled hill only until 11:00 p.m. as weather permits.

17.0 GOLFING PROHIBITED

18.0 POWER MODELS, AVIATION, GAME SAFETY

- 18.1 POWER MODELS – Fuel engine powered model cars, boats and planes are permitted.
- 18.2 MODEL ROCKETS PROHIBITED – The operation of model rockets is prohibited without a special use permit issued prior to operation in the park.
- 18.3 AVIATION – No person shall bring into, land, or cause to descend or alight any airplane, ultra-light plane, flying machine, balloon, parachute, or other apparatus for aviation within the park, except for emergency landing only.
- 18.4 GAME SAFETY – Playing of horseshoes, baseball, soccer, or any other games or sports shall be conducted safely with the welfare of other park visitors in mind.

19.0 CONCESSIONS, ADVERTISING, SALES PERMITS, FEES

- 19.1 CONCESSIONS PROHIBITED – No person, group, or organization shall sell or offer for sale any article, item, thing, privilege, or services within the park without obtaining a written permit from the trustees.
- 19.2 ADVERTISING, POSTING SIGNS – No person, group, or organization shall expose, distribute, or place any sign, advertisement, circular, notice, statement, banner, emblem, or design within or upon any park.
- 19.3 UNLAWFUL SALES, PEDDLING - No person shall sell, beg, peddle, or solicit within the park.
- 19.4 PERMITS REQUIRED – All groups shall obtain a written permit from the trustees prior to entrance to and use of any park or facility and payment of any fee, if required. The board, director, or park agent may, in its discretion, issue permits upon application when the request is consistent with proper use and protection of park facilities and deny any request if deemed inappropriate or inconsistent with proper use of park property. Failure to obtain a written permit may result in expulsion from the park.

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19.5 RESERVATIONS AND FEES – Facilities of the park such as shelters, camping areas, reservable portions of the park, and/or field areas and the like may be reserved, and, upon payment of fees, if any, the park district may reserve areas for persons and organized groups. Failure to pay required permit fees will result in denial of use and/or expulsion from the park, in addition to future loss or denial of use of facilities.

20.0 ENCROACHMENT

20.1 ENCROACHMENT OF PARK LAND – No person or persons or adjacent property owner shall encroach upon lands owned, leased, or administered by the York Township Park Area.

20.2 ENCROACHMENT OF ADJACENT LANDS – No person or persons utilizing park lands, trails, or other park property shall trespass from park property onto adjacent private property.

20.3 ADJACENT PROPERTY PRIVACY – No person, while within the park, shall adversely affect or interfere with adjacent property owners' rights to privacy.

1545.99 PENALTY

“(A) Whoever violates Section 1545.09 of the revised code shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars for a first offense; for each subsequent offense, each person shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars.”

Questions on the above rules and regulations may be directed to:

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