

**Clermont County Park District
Rules and Regulations
Adopted by the Board of Park Commissioners on August 12, 2003
Amendments Adopted
Effective October 10, 2013**

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Statutory Authority for Establishment of Park Rules and Regulations

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The following section of the Ohio Revised Code pertains to the establishment and enforcement of park rules and regulations by the Clermont County Board of Park Commissioners.

R.C. 1545.09 The Board of Park Commissioners shall adopt such bylaws, rules, and regulations as the Board deems advisable for the preservation of good order within and adjacent to parks and reservations of land, and for the protection and preservation of the parks and parkways, and other reservations of land under its jurisdiction and control, and of property and natural life therein. Such bylaws, rules, and regulations shall be published as provided in case of ordinances of municipal corporations before taking effect. No person shall violate any of such bylaws, rules, or regulations.

Pursuant to **R.C 1545.09** the Clermont County Board of Park Commissioners adopt the following rules and regulations. Pursuant to **R.C. 1545.09 (C)** and **1545.99**, all fines collected for any violation of park regulations shall be paid into the treasury of the Clermont County Park District

Section 1: Preservation of Property and Natural Resources

- 1.1 No person shall remove from a park any property, natural feature or part thereof, including but not limited to, any building, equipment, sign, rock, stone, mineral formation, earth, wood, tree, shrub, flower, plant, nut, or other seed without a permit from the Director.
- 1.2 No person shall injure, destroy, break, cut, chop, write upon, mutilate, set fire to, deface, dig, paint, or damage in any manner any property, natural feature or part thereof, including but not limited to, any building, equipment, sign, rock, stone, mineral formation, earth, wood, tree, shrub, flower or plant of the park.
- 1.3 No person shall impound any park water or in other way alter or affect the normal flow of such waters without a permit from the Director.
- 1.4 Exceptions to the above may be permitted for purposes of scientific research, if approved guidelines are followed and if authorized by written permit from the Director.
- 1.5 Exceptions to the above may be permitted for purposes of removing non-native (alien or exotic) species by park personnel and for generally accepted land management practices, with the authorization of the Director.
- 1.6 No person or persons shall intentionally encroach upon lands owned or managed by the Clermont County Park District.

Section 2: Waste Materials and Litter

- 2.1 No person shall discard or dump on Park District lands or in Park District waters any paper,

- garbage, leaves, grass clippings, branches, ashes, bottles, cans, refuse, or foreign materials of any description.
- 2.2 Refuse, garbage, bottles, cans, and other residue of a picnic or other permitted activity must be deposited in receptacles provided for such purposes.
 - 2.3 No person shall, adjacent to a park, deposit, discard, dump, or leave behind any noxious or waste materials including, but not limited to, paper, garbage, ashes, or refuse, which may blow, wash, or otherwise be transported into park district lands or waters.
 - 2.4 No person shall place or permit to be placed in or adjacent to park district lands or waters any noxious or deleterious substance, either solid or liquid, which may render such waters harmful or inimical to the public health, or to animal and plant life.

Section 3: Protection of Animals, Hunting and Fishing

- 3.1 No person shall hunt, take, pursue with dogs, trap, molest, harm, harass, injure or disturb wild animals or wild birds within the confines of the park, nor shall any person rob or disturb the eggs of any animal or any nest found within the confines of the park.
- 3.2 Special exceptions to the trapping and taking of wild animals may be permitted for purposes of scientific research, if approved guidelines are followed (including the use of humane live trapping methods and the release of the animals) and such trapping is authorized by written permit of the Director.
- 3.3 Park personnel with the approval of the Director may trap and remove animals for preservation purposes.
- 3.4 Fishing is permitted only in areas designated by the Board for that purpose. In permitted areas and waters within a park, fishing is subject to the all Ohio state and federal fish and wildlife statutes, including possession of a valid fishing license where required.
- 3.5 No person shall leave fishing hooks unattended. The use of traps, spears, gigs, or bows and arrows for fishing is prohibited.
- 3.6 No person shall fish in park waters during the hours when the park is closed.

Section 4: Animal Control

- 4.1 Without specific written permission from the Director, no person shall bring into, have, or keep in the park any animal destructive of wildlife. A domestic dog or domestic cat may enter and remain in a park only if such is under constant control and supervision and held on a leash no longer than six feet in length. Dog owners are responsible for cleaning up after their dogs.
- 4.2 No pets or other animals shall be permitted to disturb or become a nuisance to other users of the park.
- 4.3 No person shall release, abandon, or deposit any animal, domestic or wild, into a park without permission from the Director.
- 4.4 No person shall herd, graze, drive, or permit to run at large within a park any cattle, horse, mule, donkey, goat, swine, sheep, or other animals, or any poultry or other fowl, without specific written permission from the Director.
- 4.5 No person shall ride or have under his control a horse in a park without specific written permission from the Director.

Section 5: Personal Conduct

- 5.1 All park visitors shall comply with all sections of the Ohio Revised Code related to criminal law and personal conduct which are in effect and made part hereof while on park property. In addition to the prohibitions as listed in the Ohio Revised Code, no park visitor shall do any of the following:
- 5.2 No person in or adjacent to a park shall engage in riotous, disorderly, boisterous, or other behavior so as to disturb the peace and good order of a park.
- 5.3 No person shall enter a toilet room designated for the exclusive use by the opposite sex.
- 5.4 No person shall engage in any game or activity in a park which endangers other persons.
- 5.5 No person shall gamble or conduct gambling or games of chance in any form in a park.
- 5.6 No person shall loiter in or near any building, toilet, or structure in a park. No person shall loiter in or near a motor vehicle, nor on or about a motorcycle within a park.
- 5.7 No person shall appear on Park District lands or waters in a state of nudity, or commit, perform or engage in lewd, lascivious, obscene, illicit, carnal, or indecent acts or behavior. No person shall engage in any act of public indecency as described in section 2907.09 (A) of the Ohio Revised Code.
- 5.8 No person shall publicly solicit or attempt to solicit another in a park to engage in sexual activity as defined in section 2907.01 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- 5.9 No person shall possess an open container of beer or intoxicating liquor within the park except at Park District residences or at reserved or leased facilities as may be permitted by the Board.

Section 6: Firearms & Weapons

- 6.1 No person, subject to the exception in 6.3, except for law enforcement officers, shall carry, possess, discharge, or have under his or her control in a park; firearms of any description, air guns, gas guns, or pellet guns, sling shots, fireworks, explosives or dangerous ordnance of any kind. An exception may be permitted if such person obtains written permission from the Director.
- 6.2 No person shall carry or use bows, cross-bows, long-bows, or arrows in a park except with the written permission of the Director
- 6.3 Persons possessing a valid license issued pursuant to Ohio Revised Code § 2923.125 or § 2923.1213 may carry a concealed handgun while on park property subject to all restrictions imposed by law. Said persons approached by a ranger or other law enforcement officer for a valid law enforcement reason shall immediately notify the ranger or other law enforcement officer that they possess a valid concealed carry permit and that they are carrying a concealed handgun. Whoever violates section 6.1 through 6.3 will be prosecuted under the appropriate state law.

Section 7: Fires

- 7.1 No person shall start, maintain, or assist in maintaining a fire on Park District lands, except for small fires in grills for cooking purposes and other fires in places approved for this purpose. The dumping of ashes or fire from portable picnic grills onto the grass, plants or into trash receptacles is prohibited.
- 7.2 One who starts a fire may not leave the area of that fire until the fire is extinguished.

Section 8: Camping

- 8.1 No person shall camp or sleep overnight within a park, nor erect tents or temporary lodging or sleeping facilities on park lands without a permit from the Director.

Section 9: Water Oriented Activities: Swimming, Wading and Boating

- 9.1 Swimming and Wading. No person shall swim, bathe, wade, nor enter into any waters in a park where prohibited, or in a manner contrary to regulations prescribed by the Board.
- 9.2 Boats, Canoes, and Watercraft. No person shall place any boat, canoe, raft, or other watercraft of any type upon or in any lake or pond within the boundaries of a park, except in designates areas, without specific written permission from the Director except for boats owned and operated by the Board.

Section 10: Commercial Activities

- 10.1 No person shall sell or offer for sale any article, privilege, or service in a park unless such sale is pursuant to a contract with the Park District.
- 10.2 No person in a park shall beg, peddle, or solicit for money, a privilege, or a service.

Section 11: Erecting and Attaching Signs

- 11.1 No person shall erect a sign or attach a sign to property owned or controlled by the Park District, nor shall any person display any placard, notice, advertisement, circular, banner, or statement of any other kind onto property owned or controlled by the Park District without a permit from the Director.

Section 12: Hours of Closing

- 12.1 Park District lands and waters shall be closed from dark until sunrise. No person except parties holding permits for the use of Park District facilities, participants in Park District sponsored activities, Park District employees on duty, resident caretakers and their guest, and persons using the Chilo Lock #34 Park boat ramp to launch or remove a boat from the Ohio River, shall remain on Park District lands when the park is closed.
- 12.2 Special Closing of Areas
The Director may close areas of the park that have been determined to be hazardous for public use because of weather, water, fire, construction, or other situations involving public health, safety, or welfare, or to ensure the safety and good order of the park, or to facilitate the management and protection of natural resources within the park. No Person shall be permitted to enter, remain, stop, or park within the areas of any park that have been closed without written permission from the Director

Section 13: Vehicles and Traffic

- 13.1 All motor vehicles and operators shall comply with all sections of the Ohio Revised Code related to motor vehicles and operators which are in effect and made part hereof while on park property. In addition to the prohibitions as listed in the Ohio Revised Code no park visitor shall do any of the following:
- 13.2 No person shall operate a vehicle in a park in such a manner as to endanger the operator, any other person, park property, or any animal in the park.
- 13.3 No person shall operate a snowmobile or any unlicensed motor vehicle of any kind in a park.
- 13.4 No person in a park shall drive around, cause to be moved, or damage any traffic barricade or barrier.
- 13.5 No person in a park shall operate a vehicle in excess of the posted speed limit.
- 13.6 No person shall leave a vehicle in a park during hours when the park is closed.

Section 14: Williamsburg to Batavia Hike/Bike Trail

- 14.1 The hike/bike trail is for hiking and biking only where posted.
- 14.2 No motorized vehicles are permitted on the hike/bike trail where posted. Motorized wheelchairs, mobility scooters, and similar devices approved by the federal government as a medical device used by an individual with a mobility disability for the purpose of indoor and/or outdoor locomotion are permitted in parks and facilities and on trails owned and managed by the Park District.
- 14.3 No horses are permitted on the hike/bike trail where posted. Dogs must be on a leash that is less than six feet long.

Section 15: Pedestrian Access

- 15.1 Persons traveling through or within a park are to travel on pedestrian trails where such have been established and appropriately marked. Those not traveling on pedestrian trails must have written permission of the Director.
- 15.2 No motorized vehicles are permitted on the pedestrian trails. Motorized wheelchairs, mobility scooters, and similar devices approved by the federal government as a medical device used by an individual with a mobility disability for the purpose of indoor and/or outdoor locomotion are permitted in parks and facilities and on trails owned and managed by the Park District.

Section 16: Employee Exemption

- 16.1 To the extent necessary for the performance of their authorized duties, employees shall be exempt from the provisions of these Rules and Regulations.

Section 17: Failure to Obey

- 17.1 No person in or adjacent to a park shall fail or refuse to comply with any reasonable order relating to the regulation, direction, or control of traffic, or to any order lawfully given by a park ranger or any other law enforcement officer.

Section 18: Ejection from Park

- 18.1 Rangers, law enforcement officers, park employees or their agents may order any person violating any provision of these Rules and Regulations or the laws of the State of Ohio to leave the park. No person shall fail to obey such an order.

Section 19: Penalty

- 19.1 Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code §1545.99 any person who violates a rule or regulation adopted under these Park District Rules and Regulations for which a similar violation under state law does not bear a penalty or for which there is no similar violation under state law, will receive a fine of not more than one hundred fifty dollars for a first offense and not more than one thousand dollars for each subsequent offense.

Section 20: Severability

- 20.1 Each section of these Rules and Regulations and every part of each section are independent sections. If any provisions of a section of these codified by-laws or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not

affect other provisions or applications of the section or related sections which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions are severable.

Section 21: Definitions

- A) "Animal" or "animals" shall mean and include, but not limited to, quadrupeds, birds, fish, reptiles, amphibians, crustaceans, mollusks, and insects.
- B) "Board" refers to the Board of Park Commissioners of the Park District.
- C) "Director" refers to the Director of the Park District.
- D) "Motor Vehicle" means any vehicle propelled or drawn by power other than muscular power.
- E) "Park District" and "District" refer to the Clermont County Park District.
- F) "Park" shall mean any land or water area owned, leased, or otherwise controlled by the Park District.
- G) "Person" shall mean any individual, company, partnership, corporation, or association, or any employee, agent, or officer thereof.
- H) "Park waters" shall mean any lake, pond, reservoir, stream, channel, lagoon, or other body of water, or any part thereof, whether natural or artificial, located in or adjoining a park.
- I) "Ranger" shall mean a law enforcement officer of the Park District empowered by the Board to enforce the rules and regulations of the Park District pursuant to Section 1545.13 of the Ohio Revised Code. Such person may exercise all the powers of police officers within and adjacent to the lands under the jurisdiction and control of the Board.

_____ YES

_____ No

_____ attest

Chairman, Board of Park Commissioners

_____ date

_____ date