

CHAPTER 10 – PARKS AND RECREATION

10.00 PURPOSE.

The purpose of this Chapter is to secure the quiet, orderly, and suitable use and enjoyment of City parks. The rules and regulations established in this Chapter apply to all areas owned or operated by the City as a park.

10.01 DEFINITIONS.

The following words and phrases when used in this Chapter shall have the meaning respectively ascribed to them in this Section:

1. “Park” means any land or water area, and all facilities thereon, established, owned, or operated by the City of Mahtomedi as a public park, recreation area, trail system, beach, or access to lakes and streams.
2. “Alcoholic Beverage” means any beverage containing more than one-half of one percent alcohol by volume, including all intoxicating liquor, 3.2 percent malt liquor and wine as defined in Minnesota Statutes Section 340A.101.
3. “Wildlife” means all living creatures, not human, wild by nature, endowed with sensations and power of voluntary motion, including quadrupeds, mammals, birds, fish, amphibians, reptiles, crustaceans, and mollusks.
4. “Park Visitor” means any person within a park.
5. “Vehicle” shall have the definition given it in Minnesota Statutes Chapter 169.
6. “Motor Vehicle” means every vehicle which is self-propelled. Motor vehicle does not include an electric personal assistive mobility device or a vehicle moved solely by human power.

10.02 HOURS OF OPERATION.

1. Parks will be open for public use from 5 a.m. until 10 p.m., unless posted otherwise, except that Mahtomedi Beach and the Chautauqua Park Beach shall be open for public access from sunrise until 9:00 p.m. daily. (6/21)
2. It shall be unlawful for any person other than authorized City personnel to loiter, idle, remain in, or leave any motor vehicle in any park or upon any parkway or pathway when the park is not open to the public.

3. The provisions of subsection two of this Section do not apply to anyone in designated areas such as lighted tennis courts, softball fields, or ice skating areas or participating in organized sports or other organized group activities as recognized by the City.

10.03 GENERAL CONDUCT.

It shall be unlawful for any person to do any of the following within a park:

1. Engage in any violent, loud, or other disorderly conduct creating or tending to create a breach of the peace.
2. Throw, discharge, or place in or upon any lake, stream, creek, pond, or other body of water in or adjacent to a park, or any tributary, stream, storm sewer, or drain flowing into such water, any substance, liquid, solid, or gas.
3. Deposit, scatter, drop, or abandon in a park any bottles, cans, broken glass, sewage, waste or other material unless the same is deposited in receptacles provided for such purposes.
4. Drop, throw, or otherwise leave unattended in a park lighted matches, burning cigars, cigarettes, tobacco, paper, or other combustible material.
5. Engage in any prohibited acts of gambling as defined in Minnesota Statutes Sections 609.75 and 609.76.
6. Possess or consume alcoholic beverages in a park.
7. Sell, solicit, or carry on any business or commercial enterprise or service in a park unless explicitly authorized to do so by a permit issued by the City.
8. Post unauthorized signs on any lands, waters, structures, or property in a park except with written permission from the City Council.
9. Use any land or body of water within a park as a starting or landing field for aircraft, balloons, or parachutes.
10. Enter a posted restricted area.
11. Destroy, deface, damage or remove any land, building, or personal property of the City, including but not limited to trees, vegetation, ruins, relics, and geological formations.
12. Hunt, injure, or trap any wildlife.

13. Shoot or discharge any weapons, fireworks, or explosives into a park from beyond park boundaries, or possess any weapon fireworks or explosives within a park unless so authorized by the City Council or State Statutes. Any unauthorized weapons, fireworks, or explosives found within a park shall be subject to seizure, to be disposed of in the same manner as other items confiscated by the Police Department.
14. Bring a dog, cat, or other animal into a park unless caged or kept on a leash not more than six (6) feet in length or on a Flexi Lead or similar device, or tether any animal to a tree or other plant.
15. Permit any dog, cat, or other animal, other than seeing-eye and police dogs, to enter a beach area, nature center area, refuge area, park building, or other unauthorized area within a park.
16. Permit a dog, cat or other animal to disturb or interfere with any park visitor.
17. Cause or permit an animal the individual owns or has custody or control over to be in any public site or open space without having in his or her possession a device for the removal of its feces, or to fail to remove the feces of such animal from a public site or open space.
18. Release within a park any insect, fish, or other wildlife, or introduce within a park any plant, chemical, or other agent potentially harmful to the vegetation or wildlife in the park.
19. Chip, putt, drive, or otherwise hit golf balls.

10.04 SWIMMING.

It is unlawful for any person to:

1. Wade or swim within a park except at beaches designated for that purpose during posted swimming hours.
2. Use air mattresses or any other floatation devices in a designated swimming area.
3. Take glass bottles or glass receptacles of any kind into a designated beach area.
4. Hurl or throw balls, Frisbees, or any other projectiles which could cause injury to others on a beach or in a swimming area.

10.05 BOATING.

It is unlawful for any person to:

1. Operate any watercraft in a designated swimming area or other prohibited area.
2. Water ski in a designated swimming area or other prohibited areas.

10.06 FISHING.

It is unlawful for any person to:

1. Fish in a park in violation of any provision of Minnesota Statutes Chapters 97A and 97C, the "Game and Fish Laws."
2. Fish in an area posted "No Fishing."

10.07 EQUESTRIAN.

It is unlawful for any person to:

1. Ride or lead a horse within a park, except on specifically designated and posted areas or bridle paths.
2. Ride a horse in a reckless or careless manner so as to create a nuisance or in a manner that endangers the safety or property of the rider or other riders, pedestrians, or vehicles.

10.08 BICYCLING.

It is unlawful for any person to:

1. Fail to operate a bicycle as close to the right hand curb or right hand side of the path, trail, or roadway as conditions will permit.
2. Ride more than two (2) bicycles abreast.
3. Ride or use a bicycle, skateboard, in-line skates, roller blades, roller skates, roller skis, or scooter in any City park or on any public property faster than is reasonable and safe, or in a reckless or dangerous manner, without regard to the safety of the operator and other persons in the immediate area.
4. The following are prohibited in any City park or on any public property not specifically designed for the operational safety of said activities such

as a designated public skate park or other specialty public park/recreation area: using a bicycle, skateboard, in-line skates, roller blades, roller skates, roller skis, or scooters to jump onto, over or from any fixture to perform tricks or acrobatics; sliding, as opposed to rolling on the wheels of the device along the surface or edge of any fixture; or performing any maneuver wherein the wheels of the device are suspended above the ground, except where necessary to navigate the curb of a sidewalk or path. (Approved 10-5-04)

10.09 VEHICLES.

It shall be unlawful for any person to:

1. Operate any motor vehicle other than electric-powered wheelchairs and small electric carts operated by physically handicapped individuals within a park except upon roadways, parking areas or other designated locations therefore.
2. Operate a motor vehicle within the park in violation of posted regulations, Minnesota Statutes Chapter 169, Minnesota Statutes Chapter 84, County and City traffic codes, or orders or directions of traffic officers or park employees authorized to direct traffic.
3. Park or leave a vehicle standing within a park except in a designated parking area. Any violation of this Section 10.09, 2., shall constitute a petty misdemeanor violation as defined by Chapter 1, Section 1.15, 2.
4. Grease, change oil, or repair any vehicle in a park.

10.10 SNOWMOBILING.

It shall be unlawful for any person to:

1. Operate a snowmobile in a park except on trails and areas posted and designated for such use.
2. Operate a snowmobile on a designated ski touring trail.

10.11 WINTER ACTIVITIES.

It shall be unlawful for any person to skate, sled, toboggan, snowshoe, or ski in a park at such times and in such locations where such activities are posted as prohibited.

10.12 PARK OPERATION.

1. Permits. Any person or group wishing to reserve the outdoor shelter at Wildwood Park or the buildings at Wedgewood Park or Katherine Abbott Park must obtain a permit from the City for such use. In the event more applications for reserved spaces are received than space is available, applications shall be considered in the order received. Nothing herein contained shall exempt the users of reserved space from full compliance with all other Sections of this Chapter.

2. Park Closure. Any park or portion thereof may be declared closed to the public by the City Council at any time and for any period of time, or to certain uses, as the City Council may find reasonably necessary to protect health, safety, and welfare.