

CHAPTER 47

PARK REGULATIONS

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47.01 PURPOSE. The purpose of this chapter is to facilitate the enjoyment of park facilities by the general public by establishing rules and regulations governing the use of park facilities.

(Code of Iowa, § 364.12)

47.02 DEFINITION. The park system shall be defined as all city-owned land and equipment used for recreational purposes. The park system shall also include all trails and greenbelts designated for public use and included in the comprehensive plan. All trails and greenbelt areas designated for public use will be governed by the rules of this Chapter regardless of their ownership.

47.03 USE OF DRIVE REQUIRED. No person shall ride or drive any motorized vehicle, or other animal of nature upon any sidewalks, walking paths, walkways, bikeways, cement areas or grass areas within the confines of the City Parks. No person shall ride or drive in any public park except upon established roadways and shall not exceed a speed limit of ten (10) miles per hour. Electric personal assistive mobility devices are exempt from this section.

47.04 COMMERCIAL VEHICLES. No person shall drive a truck or other commercial vehicle of any kind along or over any park roads or drives except for delivery of its load for use in such park.

47.05 DESIGNATED PARKING AREAS. No person shall park an automobile, wagon or other vehicle in any public park except in places so designated by appropriate signs.

47.06 PUBLIC MEETINGS. Public meetings, religious, political or otherwise, including picnic parties and entertainment for charitable and religious purposes may be held in any public park upon first obtaining permission from the Clerk or other designated official of the City. Such assemblages shall be conducted in a lawful and orderly manner and shall be under the supervision of the designated City representative and shall occupy such ground or building as may be assigned to or reserved for them. No alcohol shall be sold during such use except upon receiving special written permission from the Council.

47.07 ANIMALS OR PETS. No animals or pets shall be allowed to run at large in any public park. Any animal or pet found in any such park shall be deemed to be found running at large, unless the owner carries such animal or pet or leads the same by a chain, strap or rope not exceeding six (6) feet in length, or keeps such animal confined in a wagon, automobile or other vehicle by a chain, rope or strap not exceeding six (6) feet in length. Furthermore any person who walks an animal on public grounds shall be responsible for the proper and immediate disposal of solid waste excreted by that animal. This section shall not apply to animals under control of a handicapped person and especially trained for the purpose of assisting handicapped persons. Such persons shall keep the guide dog or pet under control and shall be liable for any damage done to the premises or facilities by the dog or pet.

47.08 STRUCTURES, EQUIPMENT AND ANIMALS. No person shall disturb, damage or interfere with any building, equipment or improvements of any kind made or being made in and about any public park or disturb or interfere with birds or animals kept or found therein.

47.09 REMOVAL OF WOOD, GRASS OR GRAVEL. No person shall cut or remove any wood, turf, grass, soil, rock, sand or gravel from any public park without written permission of the Council or City Administrator.

47.10 DESTRUCTION OF PLANT LIFE. No person shall in any manner deface, injure or remove any trees, shrubs or plants standing or growing in any public park or pick or destroy any flowers or seeds growing therein.

47.11 FIRES. No fires shall be built, except in a place provided therefore, and such fire shall be extinguished before leaving the area unless it is to be immediately used by some other party.

47.12 FIREWORKS, WEAPONS AND EXPLOSIVES. No person shall use firearms, weapons, firecrackers or explosives of any character in any public park, except by the approval of the City Council.

47.13 LITTERING. No person shall place, deposit, or throw any waste, refuse, litter or foreign substance in any area or receptacle except those provided for that purpose.

47.14 ICE SKATING.

47.15 BASEBALL. No person shall throw, hit or play with a baseball in any City park other than in areas clearly designated by signs or on a designated baseball field.

47.16 GOLF BALLS. No person shall drive, hit or play with a golf ball in any City park except in designated areas.

47.17 MOVING BENCHES AND TABLES. No person shall move benches, seats or tables from their places in any park, except on picnic grounds, and then only within the designated areas.

47.18 UNAUTHORIZED SIGNS. No person shall post, paste, fasten, paint or affix any placard, bill, notice or sign upon any structure, tree, stone, fence or enclosure along or within any park.

47.19 POSTED NOTICES. No person shall enter upon portions of any public park in disregard of signs and posted notices forbidding the same.

47.20 DISORDERLY AND OBSCENE CONDUCT; NUISANCES. No person shall use any loud, violent, obscene or profane language while in any public park, nor shall any person conduct himself or herself in a disorderly or obscene manner or commit any nuisance therein.

47.21 RESPONSIBILITY OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN. No parent, guardian, or custodian of a minor shall permit or allow such minor to do any act prohibited by any provision of this chapter.

47.22 NO ALCOHOLIC LIQUOR IN PARK. No person shall have in his or her possession or consume any alcohol in the public park.

47.23 SHELTER. The park shelters may be reserved for the exclusive use of groups or persons or organizations without charge, provided that such requests for reservations must be made to the City Hall no later than 5:00 P.M. on the day before the proposed use of said shelter. Reservations are made on a first-come

first served basis. The City will issue a certificate stating that the shelter has been reserved; however, the City will not monitor nor enforce the use of the shelters after said reservation has been made to ensure that it is open for the reservee.

47.24 PARKS CLOSED. No person shall enter or remain within any park between the hours of ten o'clock (10:00) p.m. and five thirty (5:30) a.m. unless special permission has been given by the custodian of the park for such person or groups of persons to remain there. A person shall not be considered in violation of this section if they are using the City park system as a safe travel-way to their destination.

47.25 POSTING RULES. Signs containing a summary of the rules set out in this section shall be posted in conspicuous places in the public parks.

47.26 LIGHT USE POLICY. The Council shall, from time to time, adopt by resolution, a light use policy to govern the usage and the fees associated with the lights at the Sports Complex.