

Chapter 7
PARKS and PLAYGROUNDS

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7.1 DEFINITIONS

The term “park” as used in this Chapter shall mean all recreational areas owned and/or operated by the Village.

7.2 PROTECTION OF PARK PROPERTY

A. **DAMAGE TO PROPERTY:** No person shall mark, deface, injure, destroy, damage, tamper with or remove any park property, facilities or equipment, whatsoever, either real or personal.

B. **SANITATION:** No person shall throw, pour or in any other manner, discharge any substance or chemicals, whether liquid or solid, upon the water, grounds or property of the park which may be injurious to persons or park property.

C. **REFUSE:** No person shall bring in, have brought in, or put into any park, any rubbish, refuse, garbage or other such material. Any refuse and rubbish generated from use of any park shall be deposited in receptacles provided in the park. Where no such receptacles are provided, all such rubbish or waste shall be carried away from the park by the person responsible for its presence, and properly disposed of elsewhere.

D. **TREES AND VEGETATION:** No person shall damage, destroy, remove or climb upon, any tree or other vegetation located in any park or recreation area.

E. **ANIMALS:** No person shall bring any animal into any baseball or soccer field or marked perimeters of tot lots areas, whether on a leash or being ridden, except blind or other physically challenged persons being led or assisted by a guide dog. Animals on leashes will be allowed in all other Village-owned parks as long as the owner has appropriate waste collection equipment and subsequently picks up any droppings eliminated by their animal.

7.3 VEHICLES, OPERATION

No person shall operate any motor vehicle other than on roadways within Village-controlled park lands except that the Chief of Police may grant special permission to individuals to operate vehicles on areas other than roadways.

7.4 MOTORIZED VEHICLES

No person shall operate a snowmobile or off-road vehicle within any parks controlled by the Village except that the Chief of Police may grant special permission for a snowmobile to be operated on Village-controlled park land.

7.5 SPEED LIMIT

No person shall exceed a speed of 10 miles per hour unless it is otherwise posted on any roadway or traffic way within any Village controlled park.

7.6 PARKING

No person shall park a motor vehicle in any prohibited area which is posted with signs, or park any vehicle in any area for the purpose of repair, except those immediate repairs necessary to remove the vehicle from the area.

7.7 FIREARMS, WEAPONS AND FIREWORKS

A. FIREARMS, WEAPONS: No person, other than authorized police officers, shall display or use on Village-controlled park lands, except as authorized by the Chief of Police, any gun, including a shotgun, rifle, pistol, revolver, air or BB-gun, paint ball gun, or other weapon, including a slingshot, bow and arrow, switchblade knife with spring-loaded blade, throwing knife, tomahawk or throwing axe, or any martial arts devices.

B. FIREWORKS: No person, except authorized personnel, shall bring, carry or use, in any way, any fireworks or other explosive substance of any kind in any Village-controlled park.

7.8 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

No person shall consume or possess any alcoholic beverages on park lands, with the following exceptions:

1. The Village Board may grant a daily exception permit to any organization authorizing the dispensing of beer and/or wine at any group picnic or similar function authorized in any park.
2. Such function must be open to the public and be held during hours that would not inhibit the use of the park by the general public.

3. Before the permit is issued, the permittee must file a certificate of insurance naming the Village as an additional named insured.
4. Unless specifically provided otherwise, all requirements of the Liquor Control Chapter of this Code shall apply to permits granted under this Section.

7.9 ADVERTISING AND SIGNS

A. **ADVERTISING:** No person shall announce, advertise or call to the public's attention in any way, any article or service for sale or hire on any park land.

B. **SIGNS:** No person shall paste, glue, tack or otherwise post any sign, placard, advertisement or inscription whatever on any park land or highway or road adjacent to any such park land, except as approved by the Village Board.

7.10 USE OF PARK AREA

A. **REGULATED:** No person in a park shall picnic, lunch or camp in a place other than that designated for such purpose. Attendants shall have the authority to regulate activities in park areas whenever necessary to prevent congestion and to secure the maximum use for the comfort and convenience of all visitors.

B. **NON-EXCLUSIVE USE:** No person shall use any portion of the picnic areas or of any of the buildings or structures therein for the purpose of holding picnics to the exclusion of other person, nor shall any person use such area and facilities for an unreasonable length of time if the facilities are crowded, unless permission is granted by the Village Board.

7.11 FIRES

No person shall build a fire in any place other than a fireplace or grill affixed to the property by the Village, or any portable grill constructed of a suitable fireproof substance, or in any other area designated by the Village. No persons shall leave a picnic area before their fire is completely extinguished.

7.12 GROUP ACTIVITY

Any group, association or organization desiring to use the park facilities for a particular purpose must first obtain permission from the Village. Permission will be issued if it appears that the group, association or organization will not interfere with the general use of the park by the individual members of the public and if the group, association or organization meets all other conditions contained in the application. The Village may require an indemnity bond to protect the Village from any liability of any kind or character and to protect the Village property from damage.

7.13 SWIMMING

No person shall swim or wade in any stream, creek, lake or pond, located in any park, unless such area is expressly reserved for such activity and clearly posted as such.

7.14 OPERATING POLICY

A. **HOURS:** Village parks shall be open daily to the public during the hours from dawn to dusk. It shall be unlawful for any person other than Village personnel conducting Village business therein to occupy or be present in the park during any hours in which the park is not open to the public, except as approved by the Village Board.

B. **CLOSING PARKS:** Any section or part of a park may be closed to the public by the President at any time and for any interval of time, either temporarily or at regular or stated intervals.

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