

MORRIS COUNTY PARK COMMISSION

Rules and Regulations

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| <b>RULES AND REGULATIONS</b> | Effective Date: 4/1/97 | Approval: Res. No. 110-97 |
|                              | Revised Date:          | Approval:                 |
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The Morris County Park Commission hereby establishes the following regulations to ensure public safety and pleasure, as well as the protection and control of the parks, roads, driveways, sidewalks, paths, docks, lakes, pools, trees, flowers, shrubs, statuary, buildings, and other facilities contained within and upon property controlled by the Morris County Park Commission.

**ARTICLE I  
DEFINITIONS**

Section 1. Definition of Terms

Whenever used in any Morris County Park Commission Regulations, the following respective terms, unless otherwise therein expressly defined, shall mean and include each of the meanings herein respectively set forth:

- a. "Morris County Parks" or "Parks," "Parkways," "Park Areas," "Golf Course," "Reservation": All the real property acquired by or under the jurisdiction and care of the Morris County Park Commission; or which may be hereafter acquired by it or come under its jurisdiction.
- b. "Borough," "City," "Town," "Township," or "Village": Respectively any borough, city, town, township, or village within which any portion of said park system is situated.
- c. "Park Commission" or "Commission": The Morris County Park Commission, created by authority of Chapter 276 of the New Jersey Laws of 1946.
- d. "Dusk": Sunset
- e. "Regulations": Any Regulations duly adopted, posted, and published by the Morris County Park Commission.
- f. "Owner": Any person, firm, association, co-partnership, or corporation owning, operating, or having the exclusive use of a vehicle, under a lease or otherwise, for a period greater than thirty (30) days.
- g. "Parking Place": Any part of the drive or space designated as a place for the standing of vehicles.
- h. "Park Patrolman" or "Officer": Any Officer of the Park Police of the County of Morris, New Jersey.

- i. “Bridle Path” or “Equestrian Trail”: Any path maintained for persons riding on horseback.
- j. “Walk”: Any path maintained for pedestrians.
- k. “Permit”: Any written license issued by or under the authority of the Commission, permitting the performance of a specified act or acts.
- l. “Person”: Any natural person, corporation, company, association, joint stock association, firm, or co-partnership.
- m. “Vehicle”: Any motorized vehicle or any vehicle propelled by muscular power.
- n. “Off Road Vehicles”: Any powered vehicle designed for cross-country travel on or immediately over land, water, sand, snow, ice, marsh, swampland, or other terrain that would include, but not be limited to, such vehicles as all terrain vehicles, dirt bikes, snowmobiles, amphibious and air cushion vehicles; except those vehicles utilized for fire, emergency, or law enforcement purposes and any vehicle whose use is expressly authorized by the Commission.
- o. “Official Opening”: The time when gates, entrances, or doors to facilities are opened to allow entrance to the public or signs indicating an opening time are posted.

**ARTICLE II  
PERMITS**

Section 1. Permits

A permit to do any act shall authorize the same only insofar as it may be performed in strict accordance with terms and conditions thereof. Any violation by its holder or his agents or employees of any terms or condition thereof, shall constitute grounds for its revocation by the Commission, or by its authorized representative, whose action therein shall be final. In case of the revocation of any Park Commission permit, all monies paid for or on account thereof shall, at the option of the Commission, be forfeited to and be retained by it; and the holder of such permit, together with his agents and employees who violated such terms and conditions, shall be jointly and severally liable to the Commission for all damages and loss suffered by it in excess of the money so forfeited and retained; but neither such forfeiture and retention by the Commission of the whole or any part of such monies, nor the recovery or collection thereby of such damages, or both, shall in any manner relieve such person or persons from liability to punishment for any violation of any provision of any Morris County Park Commission Regulation. These Regulations shall be deemed a part of each permit issued.

All permits that are granted must be produced upon demand.

**ARTICLE III  
PROHIBITED ACTS**

Section 1. Advertising

No person shall advertise within the Park System without the written authorization of the Park Commission.

Section 2. Solicitation

No person, business, group, or organization shall solicit for business, alms, contributions, or for any purpose without written authorization of the Park Commission.

Section 3. Animals

No person without a permit shall cause or permit any animal owned by him, in his custody or under his control, except a dog in a permitted area when restrained by a leash not exceeding 6 feet in length, or those animals permitted by State Statute, to go or be in any park area, and each such animal so found at large may be seized and disposed of as provided by the law or ordinance covering the disposal of stray animals on highways or public property then in effect at the place where such stray animal may be seen. Dogs are not permitted at any of the golf courses, outdoor education centers, arboreta, bathing facilities, Fosterfields Living Historical Farm, or the Mennen Sports Arena except as permitted by State Statute or specific Park Commission permit.

Any person having control, or person that should have control over an animal or animals within the Park System shall dispose of any feces left by the animal(s) in a publicly maintained area or close enough to a publicly maintained area as to cause public annoyance. Such feces shall be disposed of in a sanitary manner.

Section 4. Explosives

No person shall bring into, or have in said parks, any explosives without the written authorization of the Park Commission.

Section 5. Poisons

No person shall bring into, or have in said parks, any poison or poisonous substance, without the written authorization of the Park Commission.

Section 6. Fires

No person shall build, light, or maintain any fire or discard any burning materials except in designated areas provided for such purposes. Any such fires shall be continuously under the care of a competent person, until extinguished.

Section 7. Loitering

No person shall be permitted within the Park System after sunset except in designated areas or as authorized by a specific Park Commission permit or enter the Park System before its official opening.

Section 8. Merchandise Sale Prohibited

No person shall sell or offer for sale any object or merchandise or any other thing, whether corporeal or incorporeal, except pursuant to a permit issued by the Park Commission.

Section 9. Alcohol

a. Prohibition of Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages

No person shall consume alcoholic beverages anywhere within the Morris County Park System, except that alcoholic beverages may be consumed at the golf courses in the clubhouses and within a radius of 50 feet therefrom during daylight hours.

b. Special Permit

Notwithstanding the provisions contained in Section "a" above of these Regulations, a Special Permit may be issued by the Morris County Park Commission, or its duly authorized

representatives, for the consumption of alcoholic beverages, which permit shall include terms and conditions as established by the Park Commission and shall specify the duration of said permit.

c. Presumption of Consumption

A person shall be presumed to have consumed an alcoholic beverage in violation of this section if an unsealed container of an alcoholic beverage is found in their possession or constructive possession, the contents have been partially consumed, and the physical appearance or conduct of the person may be associated with the consumption of an alcoholic beverage. For the purposes of this section, the term "unsealed" shall mean a container with its original seal broken or a container such as a glass or a cup.

Section 10. Possession of Weapons

No person shall possess any weapons as defined by NJSA 2C:39-1 unless a permit to do so within the park has been issued by the Park Commission.

Section 11. Discharge of Weapons

No person shall discharge a weapon within the Morris County Park System without the written authorization of the Park Commission. The term weapon shall include, but not be limited to, firearms, paint guns, toy cannons, bows, and arrows, air guns, and sling shots. Nothing in this section shall apply to police officers or animal game wardens discharging their weapons during the course of normal business.

Section 12. Urinating and Defecating

No person shall urinate or defecate except in facilities provided for such use.

Section 13. Changing/Disrobing in Unauthorized Areas

No person shall change in or out of any clothing or bathing attire except in areas designated or customarily provided for such use.

Section 14. Spitting

No person shall spit within the Park System except into sinks, containers, or materials customarily provided for such purposes, and any such spitting that is allowed shall be disposed of in a sanitary manner.

Section 15. Tobacco

No person shall smoke cigarettes, cigars, or other tobacco products where the smoking of such tobacco products is prohibited by the Park Commission.

Section 16. Camping

No person shall erect or maintain a tent or shelter and/or camp in any area except in designated sites provided for such usage and within the occupancy limit approved for each site. (Any persons visiting such campers must leave the Park System by 10:00 p.m.)

**ARTICLE IV  
REGULATED ACTS**

Section 1. Aviation

No person, except in an emergency, shall launch, land, or operate any aviation apparatus within the Park System without the written authorization of the Park Commission.

Section 2. Bathing

No person shall bathe, wade, or swim in any park waters except at such times and in such places as the Park Commission may designate.

Section 3. Boating

No person, other than authorized operators of boats at Lee's County Marina, shall use or operate a boat, kayak, canoe, inflated float, raft, or other watercraft in any park waters without a permit, except those provided by the Park Commission. Where boating is provided, life preservers must be worn at all times while in the boat, and the occupants shall remain seated.

Section 4. Skating, Skiing, and Sledding

No person shall coast, tube, snowboard, sled or ski except at places designated by the Park Commission. No person shall use in-line skates, roller skates, or skateboards except at places designated by the Park Commission. No person shall ice skate or go upon the ice except at such times and upon such places as designated by the Park Commission.

Section 5. Models

No person shall engage in the use of gas- or battery-operated model aviation devices, model motorvehicles, or boats, whether radio-controlled or not, except at areas designated by the Park Commission or as authorized by a specific Park Commission permit.

Section 6. Horses

No person shall use, ride, or drive a horse except at such times and only in paths and areas designated by the Park Commission.

Section 7. Groups

No group of twenty-five (25) or more persons shall use a County Park or recreation area for a picnic or outing without first having obtained a permit in advance from the Commission. Adult supervision of children's groups is required at all times.

No person shall call or hold any public meeting or give any concert or entertainment of any kind or erect any structure, stand, tent, or platform, utilize any loudspeaker, public address system, or amplifier except by the specific written authority of the Commission, as authorized by permit. In addition, any athletic event or organized game to be played or conducted on Park facilities shall require a permit issued by the Park Commission noting the date, hour, and duration. No other organized group or persons other than the one holding the permit shall use such facilities during the time covered by the specific authority of the Commission.

Section 8. Regulation of Activities

The Park Police officers have the right and the power to enforce all the Rules and Regulations of the Park Commission, and violators of the Rules and Regulations may be directed to leave and may be subject to further penalties as determined by the Park Commission or Statutes.

## **ARTICLE V VEHICLES**

### Section 1. Motor Vehicle Act and Traffic Laws

All the provisions of the New Jersey State Motor Vehicle Act and Traffic Laws shall apply in the parks and shall be strictly enforced with also such further restrictions as may be hereinafter stated.

### Section 2. Vehicles Where Prohibited

No person shall ride or drive any type of vehicle within or upon a walk, bridle path, or any part of the park not designated or customarily used for such purpose except or unless authorized by a specific permit issued by the Park Commission.

### Section 3. Obeying Officers

When a Park Police officer is directing traffic, all drivers of vehicles and pedestrians shall obey his orders and directions whether by hand, voice, or other manner.

### Section 4. Parking

No owner or driver shall park any vehicle anywhere outside of designated parking spaces, or leave the vehicle parked anywhere on Park Commission property after sunset except at such times and in such places as the Park Commission may designate. Any vehicle parked or standing as to obstruct or impede a normal flow of traffic, block entrances or exit ways, loading zones, oil or gas fills, any grass area, fire zone, pedestrian walkways, after dusk, or present, in any way a safety or traffic hazard, may be removed by towing. The cost of towing and storage shall be borne by the owner and shall be paid before regaining possession of the vehicle.

### Section 5. Off-Road Vehicles

No person shall drive or operate any off-road vehicle or snowmobile anywhere within the Morris County Park System except at such times and places as may be designated by the Park Commission and/or as authorized by a specific Park Commission permit.

### Section 6. Restricted Traffic

When a road, drive, or parkway shall be restricted as to traffic or closed and duly marked by signs, road markings, or barricades, it shall be a violation of this Regulation to fail to observe and obey such signs, road markings, or barricades.

## **ARTICLE VI PROTECTION OF PROPERTY**

### Section 1. Damage to Property

No person without a permit shall damage, deface, remove, or tamper with any property within the Morris County Park System.

## **ARTICLE VII WILDLIFE**

### Section 1. Wildlife

No person without a permit shall kill, wound, harass, trap, hunt, remove, or have in his/her possession any animal, reptile, bird, or nest to remove the eggs of young of any of the above.

No person shall fish in any of the Park System waters, unless in possession of the required New Jersey fishing license, except in those cases or on those occasions where the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife does not require a fishing license.

No person shall feed any animal or waterfowl any food or other substance except such food or substance expressly permitted by the Commission.

No person shall hunt on any Park Commission land, excepting those persons who have been issued a permit by the Park Commission to do so.

## **ARTICLE VIII POLLUTION AND REFUSE**

### **Section 1. Pollution of Waters**

No person shall, within or without said parks, discharge into the waters of the Park Commission or any tributary river, brook, stream, storm sewer, or drain flowing into said waters any substance that may result in the pollution of said waters.

### **Section 2. Littering**

No person shall throw, deposit, or leave litter or recyclable material within the Park System except in designated receptacles provided therefore.

### **Section 3. Dumping**

No person or company shall dump any material anywhere within the Park System without the written authorization of the Park Commission. This is to include depositing in any dumpster, waste station, garbage can, or recycling can any waste that is generated outside of the Park System.

## **ARTICLE IX REPEAL**

### **Section 1. Repeal**

All Regulations or parts thereof and all amendments thereto, heretofore adopted inconsistent with these amendments are hereby repealed. The foregoing repeal shall not affect or impair any act done, offense committed, right accruing or acquired or liability, penalty, forfeiture, or punishment incurred prior to the time these Regulations take effect; but the same may be enjoined, asserted, enforced, prosecuted, or inflicted as fully and to the same extent as if these amendments to the Regulations have not been adopted.

## **ARTICLE X PENALTIES**

### **Section 1. Penalties**

Any person violating any of the provisions herein shall, upon conviction thereof, before a Magistrate or Judge having jurisdiction, pay a penalty as provided by Statute and stipulated in the Morris County Park Commission Schedule of Penalties, at the discretion of the Magistrate or Judge. In addition to any penalties provided thereof, restitution for the cost of labor can be ordered by the Judge or Magistrate.

**ARTICLE XI  
VALIDITY**

Section 1. Validity

These Regulations shall take effect after final adoption, and publication according to the law shall be made in at least five (5) newspapers circulating in the County of Morris once a week for two (2) weeks, commencing not later than Tuesday, April 11, 1997. If any section, paragraph, subdivision, clause, or regulations thereof shall be adjudged invalid, the remainder of the Regulations shall not thereby be invalidated but shall continue in full force and effect.

**ARTICLE XII  
SITE-SPECIFIC RULES AND REGULATIONS**

In addition to the General Park Rules and Regulations described in Articles I through XI, Article XII provides for Specific Rules and Regulations that have been duly adopted and are fully enforceable on a location and facility basis as detailed in Article XII, Sections A through W.

No person shall fail to comply with any site-specific rules that have been adopted and promulgated by the Park Commission.

No person shall fail to comply with any temporary restrictions that have been approved by the Park Commission or its designee to which adequate notice to the public has been given.

Any person who fails to comply with either a site-specific rule or temporary restriction may be directed to leave the Park System and may be subject to further penalties as determined by the Park Commission or Statutes.