Chapter 24 PARKS AND RECREATION

Sec. 24.01.001. Opening times.
All County parks shall be open for public use on a yearround basis, with some areas and facilities not being available from November 1 through March 31.
(Ord. No. 98-050, § 1(24-1), 5-26-1998)

Sec. 24.01.002. Presence in parks after dark.
No persons are permitted in any park during the hours of darkness, except in those areas designated for extended use activities or unless written permission is obtained from the Department of Special Services for after-dark programs.
(Ord. No. 98-050, § 1(24-2), 5-26-1998)

Sec. 24.01.003. Temporary closing or curtailment of activities.
The General Manager of the Department of Special Services may temporarily close or curtail activities upon any lands or waters or any portions thereof when it has been deemed necessary to be in the best interest of public safety, conduct, health or order.
(Ord. No. 98-050, § 1(24-3), 5-26-1998)

Sec. 24.01.004. Operation of watercraft.
The operation of power watercraft is prohibited on nontidal waters under the jurisdiction of the Department of Special Services except electric trolling motors on Becks Pond. Watercraft shall not be anchored, moored, beached, stored or left unattended in excess of twenty-four (24) hours within any park. No person shall swim from any watercraft, raft or similar device at any time.
(Ord. No. 98-050, § 1(24-4), 5-26-1998)

Sec. 24.01.005. Swimming.
Swimming is prohibited in all parks except in facilities expressly designated for that purpose. Personal bathing is prohibited. Swimming is permitted only during park hours with lifeguard service provided by the Department of Special Services. Authorized lifeguards shall have the authority to enforce and expel any or all persons violating any safety rules posted at the swimming facilities. Animals within any swimming area are prohibited, except that such prohibition shall not apply to support animals as described under 6Del. C. § 4501(3) or Seeing Eye dogs, as provided for under 31 Del. C. § 2117.
(Ord. No. 98-050, § 1(24-5), 5-26-1998)

Sec. 24.01.006. Operation of motor vehicles.
No person shall ride in or drive any motor vehicle which is self-propelled upon any parkland, except upon the roads or on areas which are designated and provided for such purposes. It is prohibited for any person to commit any act by use or operation of any motor vehicle on any parkland which, if committed upon a public highway or street in the State, would be prohibited and unlawful. Speed

limits within all parks shall be fifteen (15) miles per hour unless otherwise posted. No one shall test or repair anyvehicle or mechanical device in any park. There shall be no parking at any time except in areas designated for such purposes.
(Ord. No. 98-050, § 1(24-6), 5-26-1998)

Cross references:
Traffic and vehicles, ch. 34.

Sec. 24.01.007. Posting of advertisements, signs; sale of goods.
No person shall, without written permission of the Department of Special Services, erect, paint, paste or otherwise affix or distribute any signs, advertisements or circulars on park property. The sale of anything or the solicitation of funds or donations within any park is forbidden, except upon written permission of the Department of Special Services.
(Ord. No. 98-050, § 1(24-7), 5-26-1998)

Sec. 24.01.008. Consumption or possession of alcoholic beverages or narcotic drugs; gambling.
The consumption or possession of intoxicating liquors or beverages and/or dangerous or narcotic drugs, or gambling of any kind is prohibited in any park, except that the sale, possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages shall be permitted in the clubhouse of the Delcastle Recreation Area, the clubhouse of the Greenhill Golf Course and the conference facilities at the Rockwood Museum and other County facilities with the authorization of the General Manager of the Department of Special Services.
(Ord. No. 98-050, § 1(24-8), 5-26-1998)

Sec. 24.01.009. Damaging propert y; dumping rubbish.
No person shall cut, break, move, take or otherwise injure, destroy or deface any trees, shrubs, plants, turf, rock or any building, fence, bridge, sign or other structure or foul any stream, or dump any earth, rubbish, or other substance or material in or upon any park without written permission of the Department of Special Services.
(Ord. No. 98-050, § 1(24-9), 5-26-1998)

Sec. 24.01.010. Open fires.
No person in any park shall make or kindle any open fire except in fireplaces and grills provided for this purpose or in private portable grills, approved as safe by the Department of Special Services. Grills provided for public use shall be on a first come, first served basis. Special exception may be granted to controlled groups with authorization from the General Manager of the Department of Special Services.
(Ord. No. 98-050, § 1(24-10), 5-26-1998)

Cross references:
Fire prevention and protection, ch. 16.

Sec. 24.01.011. Hunting, trapping, injuring animals and birds.
No person shall, in any park, set a trap or snare or shoot, injure, annoy, disturb or poison any wild animal or bird or injure or destroy any nest. When deemed necessary by the State Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, Division of Fish and Wildlife, the County Executive may permit controlled hunting to maintain a healthy deer population at County facilities.
(Ord. No. 98-050, § 1(24-11), 5-26-1998)

Cross references:
Animals, ch. 4.

Sec. 24.01.012. Disorderly conduct.
No person in a park shall engage in a fight with another or use any language which would constitute obscenity under State law or language calculated to provoke an immediate, violent response from another.
(Ord. No. 98-050, § 1(24-12), 5-26-1998)

Sec. 24.01.013. Presence of animals; horseback riding.
Horses, cattle, livestock and domestic animals of any kind are prohibited in any park, except a dog or cat on leash under control of a person is permitted. Horseback riding is prohibited, except on facilities expressly designated for that purpose. This prohibition shall not apply to support animals as described under 6Del. C. § 4501(3) or Seeing Eye dogs, as provided for under 31 Del. C. § 2117.
(Ord. No. 98-050, § 1(24-13), 5-26-1998)

Cross references:
Animals, ch. 4.

Sec. 24.01.014. Possession of certain knives; discharge of weapons.
No person shall carry a knife upon his or her person having a blade three (3) inches or longer in length or have possession of or discharge a BB gun, air rifle, pistol, firearm, paint ball gun, bow and arrow or any other type of lethal weapon in any park.
(Ord. No. 98-050, § 1(24-14), 5-26-1998)

Sec. 24.01.015. Golf and archery.
Practicing, playing or using park areas for golf and archery is prohibited, except on facilities expressly designated or provided for such purposes. Golf is permitted only during park hours, and authorized golf course personnel shall have the authority to enforce and expel any or all persons violating golf course rules which are deemed necessary for proper operations. No winter sports are permitted on any golf course, except in designated areas.
(Ord. No. 98-050, § 1(24-15), 5-26-1998)

Sec. 24.01.016. Entertainments, demonstrations or exhibitions.
No entertainment, demonstration, or exhibition shall be given in any park except under the supervision of the Department of Special Services or with the written

permission of the Department of Special Services.
(Ord. No. 98-050, § 1(24-16), 5-26-1998)

Sec. 24.01.017. Permits for use of athletic fields.
Permits for playing league or casual athletic games on park fields or courts may be secured on a first come, first served basis from the Department of Community Services. All permits that are granted must be produced upon demand, in order to avoid conflicts in the use of the facilities.
(Ord. No. 98-050, § 1(24-17), 5-26-1998)

Sec. 24.01.018. Reservations for group picnic facilities.
Reservation permits for group picnic shelter facilities in parks may be obtained for a nominal fee from the Department of Community Services.
(Ord. No. 98-050, § 1(24-18), 5-26-1998)

Sec. 24.01.019. Encroachment.
No person shall willingly encroach upon lands administered by the Department of Special Services.
(Ord. No. 98-050, § 1(24-19), 5-26-1998)

Sec. 24.01.020. Fishing.
Fishing shall be permitted in all waters and from all lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of Special Services during regular park hours, except those areas designated for other activities such as golf, swimming, and boat launching.
(Ord. No. 98-050, § 1(24-20), 5-26-1998)

Sec. 24.01.021. Permit possession.
All of the Sections of this Chapter requiring written permission require that such permits must be carried and produced upon demand.
(Ord. No. 98-050, § 1(24-21), 5-26-1998)

Sec. 24.01.022. Enforcement of Chapter.
The employees of the Department of Special Services, the Department of Land Use and the Police Department are authorized to enforce this Chapter.
(Ord. No. 98-050, § 1(24-22), 5-26-1998)

Sec. 24.01.023. Penalty for violation.
Any person violating any of the sections of this Chapter shall be subject to the penalties provided in Section 1.01.009 of this Code.
(Ord. No. 98-050, § 1(24-23), 5-26-1998)

Sec. 24.01.024. Jurisdiction of violations of rules of Department of Special Services.
Justices of the peace shall severally throughout the County have jurisdiction of violations of the rules and regulations of the Department of Special Services with the condition that any person arrested for such violation shall be taken before the closest available magistrate in the County where such violation is alleged to have occurred.

(Ord. No. 98-050, § 1(24-24), 5-26-1998)

Sec. 24.01.025. Effect of State statutes and County ordinances.
All statutes, including penalties, of the State and all ordinances of the County Council have full force and effect upon all County parklands.
(Ord. No. 98-050, § 1(24-25), 5-26-1998)