

# **HAMILTON TOWNSHIP PARK RULES AND REGULATIONS**

## **SECTION I. OPERATION**

Hamilton Township parks will be open for public use only during times determined by the Board of Trustees. No person shall remain in or use any part of park facilities after closing time, unless by special written permission of the Board or its agent. Areas may be closed whenever conditions are such that any activity conducted thereon would cause unnecessary damage to the area. Park areas under construction or development are closed until such time as opened by the Board for public use. The closed areas shall be posted.

## **SECTION 2. USE OF PARK FACILITIES**

Picnic shelters, picnic areas, picnic tables, and play areas are available on a first come, first served basis unless reserved through the Township office and issued a written permit. Deposits and fees for use of shelters are determined by the Board of Trustees. Persons or organizations with written permits have sole use of their designated area during the times listed on the permit. Athletic fields are not to be used if such use will cause damage to the area.

The Board of Trustees reserves the right to cancel or relocate any individual or group holding a written permit to use any park facilities. Users of shelters, athletic fields, play areas, and other park facilities are responsible for proper cleanup of the areas they use. Failure to do so can result in loss of deposit and or permission to use the area. Failure to clean up may also cause an additional charge for labor by Township personnel. Clean up must be completed the same day as the event. Compliance with this rule for purposes of deposit refund shall be at the sole determination of the Board's agent.

## **SECTION 3. CHILD SUPERVISION**

No child under ten years old shall be left unattended in any areas of the parks.

## **SECTION 4. PRESERVATION OF PROPERTY AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

No person shall injure, deface, befoul, or disturb any part of a park or any building, sign, equipment, or other property found therein; nor shall any tree, flower, shrub, rock, or other mineral be removed, injured, or destroyed. No park fixtures or equipment (picnic tables, bleachers, waste receptacles, soccer goals, etc.) shall be moved to other locations within the park or removed from park property without written permission of the Board or its agent.

## **SECTION 5. PRESERVATION OF GOOD ORDER IN THE PARKS**

No event or activity sponsored or promoted by an individual or organization shall be permitted if, in the opinion of the Board, it will constitute hazards and dangers to the personal safety of the participants or other park visitors; endanger peace and good order in the parks; interfere with the regular and normal use of the facilities and activities by park visitors; or is inconsistent with the use of park lands for park purposes.

No person shall sell or offer for sale any article, thing, privilege, or service without a written permit from the Board or its agent, and no person shall do any begging, hawking, peddling, or soliciting herein.

## **SECTION 6. GARBAGE, REFUSE, ASHES, SEWAGE, AND WASTE MATERIAL**

No person shall deposit, or permit in any part of the parks, any garbage, ashes, sewage, refuse, brush, chips, or waste materials whatsoever, other than in receptacles provided for such purposes, nor dump any earth or other materials within the parks without specific written permission of the Board.

No person shall, either within or from without a park, discharge into, throw, cast, lay, drop, or leave in any stream, creek, storm sewer or drain flowing into or through a park any substance, either liquid or solid, which may or shall result in the pollution of the water courses within the park.

## **SECTION 7. HUNTING AND HARMING WILDLIFE**

No person within the confines of a park shall hunt, pursue with dogs, trap, harm, injure, or take any wild bird or animal found within the confines of a park, or therein rob or harm any bird nest or take the eggs of any bird or animal.

## **SECTION 8. WEAPONS**

No person, in any park, except authorized employees or agents of the Board, or law enforcement authorities, shall discharge firearms of any description, air rifle or pistol, slingshot, or other missile throwing device including archery equipment, or discharge any firearm, fireworks, or explosive substances, or air rifle or pistol therein.

## **SECTION 9. FIRES**

No person shall start a fire within a park, except small fires for cooking purposes in park grills, without written permission from the Board or its agent. No "bonfires" shall be permitted in the park grills. All fires shall be extinguished thoroughly by the person or persons starting or using the same before leaving the immediate vicinity of the fire. The Board may at its discretion, prohibit fires or smoking for limited periods at any location or for any purpose when necessary for the protection of park property.

## **SECTION 10. ANIMALS**

Pets permitted in the parks must be controlled and confined to a leash. Pet owners must have in their possession some device for the removal and containment of such pet's excrement and shall remove to a waste receptacle any excrement deposited by any pet under their control.

## **SECTION 11. PARKING**

Vehicles shall be parked in designated parking areas only – no parking on grassy areas is permitted without written permission of the Board or its agent. All handicapped parking restrictions shall be observed. No blocking of park entries or entry ways to trails or walkways is permitted. No other activities, such as roller blading, skate boarding, or improper bicycling shall take place in road or vehicle parking areas; except in areas clearly marked and closed off for that purpose. No person shall leave any vehicle in a park during the hours which a park is closed. Any vehicle within a park after closing time will be subject to towing at the owner's expense.

No person shall park or store commercial car or truck, trailer, semi-trailer, pole trailer, bus, recreational vehicle, boat, watercraft, commercial tractor, or any other vehicle with a gross vehicle

weight over 6,000 pounds in any Township park unless prior permission from the Township is obtained.

## **SECTION 12. TRAFFIC**

No person shall drive or propel or cause to be driven or propelled along or over any roads within the parks, any vehicle at a rate of speed greater than ten miles per hour. No portion of a park shall be used for the purpose of travel by motorized vehicle except designated, paved roadways, except by agents of the Board or police officers. Paths, walks, and trails established for pedestrian travel shall not be used for vehicular travel. Motorized vehicles used as a means of transportation for disabled individuals are permitted on paved trails and walkways. No persons shall drive or propel any vehicle along or over any park road in a reckless manner without due regard for the safety of pedestrians and drivers and all other occupants of any vehicle. No person shall drive or propel any vehicle along or over any park road without complying with all traffic signs and all posted traffic regulations.

## **SECTION 13. DISORDERLY CONDUCT**

No person shall recklessly engage in any boisterous, disorderly, or indecent conduct that annoys, inconveniences, or alarms the community within a park. No person shall do any indecent, lascivious, lewd, or improper acts therein. Any person directed by a police officer or agent of the Board to leave a park shall do so promptly and peaceably. No person shall indulge in any noisy, boisterous conduct nor shall any person use any sound amplification device without specific written permission of the Board or its agent. No person shall drive or propel any type of golf ball, or cause the same to be driven or propelled within a park. No person shall operate a drone within any park without express permission of the Board of Trustees or their agent. No person or organization shall place any obstruction or markings on any trail, building, or structure within a park for any reason.

No skates, skateboards, rollerblades, motorized models, or any other objects with wheels except bicycles, strollers, wheelchairs, and motorized vehicles used as a means of transportation for disabled individuals, will be permitted on trails or walkways unless otherwise posted or with written permission of the Board or its agent.

## **SECTION 14. CAMPS**

No person shall establish or maintain any camp or temporary lodging within a park, without the written permission of the Board or its agent.

## **SECTION 15. ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES**

No alcoholic beverages shall be sold or consumed in any park except with specific written permission from the Board or its agent with the rental of a shelter or pavilion area. No open containers of alcoholic beverages shall be permitted within the parks except in areas designated for dispensing and consuming same, except with written permission of the Board or its agent.

## **SECTION 16. SIGNS**

No person shall place any sign or advertisement except with written permission of the Board or its agent.

## **SECTION 17. ENFORCEMENT/PENALTY**

All State of Ohio criminal and traffic laws will be enforced in the parks. Additionally, the Board has adopted as laws within the parks these Rules and Regulations which further protect and preserve the resources and property of the parks and insure that safety of all park visitors. Any person violating any of the foregoing Rules and Regulations and any amendments or additions thereto shall be fined a sum not exceeding \$100.00 for the first offense, nor more than \$500.00 for a second or further offense. Violations of any of these regulations shall be considered prima facie grounds for immediate dismissal from a park and revocation of previously granted authorization to the same by any member of the law enforcement agency designated by the Board, or by an agent of the Board, to enforce the Rules and Regulations contained herein.

## **SECTION 18. TERMS**

The terms "park" as used herein means any land owned, leased, or controlled by the Board of Trustees of Hamilton Township, Warren County, Ohio.

The term "person" includes persons, corporations, partnerships, limited liability companies or any other entity.