

CAMPGROUND POLICY AND PROCEDURES

(Ref: Chapter 19 - La Crosse County Ordinance)

- **PARK HOURS.** Except as provided in 19.15, no person shall be in any County Park between 10:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. without the written permission of the County Facilities Director or his/her assigned designee.
- **FIREARMS, HUNTING, TARGET PRACTICE and DEER FEEDING.** (1) No person shall have in his possession or under his control any firearm unless the same is unloaded and enclosed within a carrying case. (2) No person shall trap or disturb any wild animals or birds within any County Parks, but any person may use a County Park for access to public hunting areas and grounds. (3) No person shall discharge, or cause to be discharged, any missile from any firearm, airgun, slingshot, bow and arrow or other weapon in any County park, except in property designated areas or ranges. (4) No person in Goose Island Park shall feed deer, even for recreational viewing purposes. (5) Exception: The Public Works and Infrastructure Committee may approve deer management plans, allow special deer hunts in County parks, and grant exceptions to the prohibitions set forth in subsections 1 through 4 above, subject to County Board approval.
- **DISTURBING VEGETATION AND PUBLIC PROPERTY PROHIBITED.** No person shall disturb, molest, deface, remove or destroy any trees, shrubs, plants or other natural growth; carve on rocks, signs, walls or structures; drive nails in trees; destroy, damage or deface any park building, sign, fence, table, fireplace or other County property.
- **DISTURBING PRIVATE PROPERTY PROHIBITED.** No person shall disturb, molest, or remove the property or personal effects of others while in a County Park or on County lands.
- **LITTERING.** No person shall dispose of any garbage, bottles, tin cans, paper or other waste material in any manner except by placing the same in receptacles provided for such purpose; nor shall any person dump any such refuse on County Park lands or in any lake or stream within any County Park.
- **DOGS RESTRICTED.** No person having charge or control of any dog shall allow such dog to run at large within a County Park, but shall keep such dog attended and on a leash at all times. Animal waste must be disposed of properly. All dogs must be current with vaccinations and tags. All dogs must be registered with the campground office upon arrival
- **FIRES.** No person shall build any campfire on County Park lands except in designated fireplaces, nor shall any person throw any cigarettes, cigars or pipe ashes without first extinguishing them.
- **VEHICLES REGULATED.** (1) Driving. No person shall drive any automobile, truck, motorcycle or other vehicle in a reckless manner or at a speed greater than the established speed limits as posted on signs along County Park roads, nor shall any person drive any vehicle unnecessarily on County Park roads. (2) Parking. No person shall park or leave unattended any automobile, truck, trailer, wagon, motorcycle, boat or other similar equipment except in areas designated for such purposes.
- **UNNECESSARY NOISE.** No person shall operate any stereo, sound track, amplified loudspeaker or other mechanical device, including musical instruments, that produce undue or unreasonable noise in any County Park which disturbs or tends to disturb others in the County Park. *NO LIVE MUSIC BANDS, MOBILE DISC JOCKEY SERVICES, OR AMPLIFIED MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS SHALL BE ALLOWED IN ANY COUNTY PARK;* except campground managers may be allowed to offer live music bands, mobile disc jockey services or amplified musical instruments at County approved special events or use a amplified loudspeaker in case of an emergency.
- **ADVERTISING AND SALES REGULATED.** (1) Advertising. No person shall distribute any handbill or other advertising manner in any County Park without a written permit therefore from the Facilities Director. (2) Sales. No person shall peddle or solicit business or operate concessions or stands in any County Park without the written permission of the County Board or its duly authorized agent or committee.
- **DISORDERLY CONDUCT PROHIBITED.** No person shall engage in any disorderly conduct as defined by S947.01(1), Wis. Stats., in any County Park, nor shall any intoxicated person be or remain in any County Park.
- **SALES OF INTOXICATING BEVERAGES PROHIBITED.** No person shall sell or offer for sale any intoxicating liquors or fermented malt beverages in any County Park, except a campground manager who, if provided by written contract with the County, is allowed to sell and store alcoholic beverages.
- **SHELTER HOUSE RESERVATIONS.** (1) Procedure. (a) Any person 18 years of age or older, desiring to reserve a park shelter house, shall apply in person, by telephone or by mail to the Facilities Department for a shelter house permit. Such requests shall be handled by the Facilities Department on a "first come, first serve" basis. (b) No reservation shall be accepted prior to January 2nd of any year. (2) Fees. Rental fees and deposits for shelter houses and park facilities shall be determined by the County Board and shall be subject to change from time to time. A deposit is required in addition to the rental fee to be used for payment of excessive clean-up charges and/or damage to the rental facility. The deposit shall be held until after the date of the shelter use and may be returned to the person making the reservation if there are no excessive clean-up charges or damage to the rental facility. Youth organizations using the shelter houses and facilities during the week shall be entitled to use the facilities for one-half the regular fee. All groups and individuals using park facilities shall be held responsible for excessive clean-up charges and for damages to the facilities for such use. (3) Exceptions. Nothing herein shall prohibit the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee from making advance reservations for such special events and conventions as the Committee deems necessary.
- **CAMPING.**
 - (1) Permit Required. No person shall camp, picnic or remain in the designated camping area, Veteran's Memorial and Goose Island, without a permit from the Campground Manager or the Facilities Director; and no person shall camp in any County Park except in such designated camping areas.
 - (2) Permit Fees. (a) Fees as determined by the County Board, per night per camping unit and for electrical and water hook-up, shall be paid on receipt of the camping permit. The permit must be placed where it can be inspected by the Facilities Director or the Campground Manager. Persons camping 7 consecutive nights shall receive the 7th night free of the regular fee, however, payment must be made for electrical and/or water service. (b) A senior citizen shall receive a discount as determined by the County Board when the Campground Manager is presented with a valid discount card showing that the person is 60 years of age or older. This discount does not apply to monthly or seasonal use rates. (c) The monthly (28 nights) site rental charge and the seasonal rate for a site at Veterans Memorial Park and Goose Island Park shall be determined by the County Board. These sites shall be made available upon a first come, first serve basis. Reservations for Goose Island Park may be accepted after January 2nd of each year. (Monthly and seasonal rates will not be available to tents.) Monthly and seasonal camping sites shall be designated by the Campground Manager and/or Facilities Director. (d) The charges for electric and water hook-ups shall be determined by the County

Board. (e) All of the rates under this section shall be determined from time to time by the County Board without the requirement of an amendment to this Code.

(3) Camp Unit Defined. For the purposes of this section, any of the following groups is a "camping unit" and shall be subject to the provisions of this section:

- a. One tent occupying one unit site.
- b. Two connected tents occupying only one unit site and used by only one family.
- c. One trailer equipped to be lived in or slept in.
- d. One car, truck, bus or other vehicle used for living or sleeping quarters.
- e. A sleeping bag, hammock or similar vehicle used for living or sleeping quarters.
- f. Any special situation regarding "camp units" shall be handled by Facilities Director.

(4) Registration. Any camp unit shall register with the campground manager upon his request.

(5) Camping Restricted.

- a. Length of Stay. Campers may remain in the camp area for no more than 14 days provided, upon leaving the camp area for 2 days, a camper may re-enter for another 14 day period. This provision is not applicable to the monthly or seasonal rental space provided in s.19.15(2)(c).
- b. Camping Season. Camp areas and facilities in County Parks will be open for use May 1st through September 30th.
- c. Tables. Each camp unit shall be allowed one table only.
- d. Quiet Time. Visitors must be out of the camp area and quiet maintained at 11:00 p.m.
- e. Mini-Bikes. No mini-bikes or other mechanized unlicensed vehicles shall be driven in any County Park.
- f. Utility Buildings and Laundry Room Restrictions. No person shall clean fish or waterfowl, wash dishes, or take hot water from the Utility Building or Laundry Room.

(6) Unoccupied Camps. Camp units set up but not occupied by the owner or person in charge thereof shall be subject to permit fees and sub. (5)(b) regulating the length of stay in the same manner as occupied sites.

(7) Additional Regulations. Campers and camping activities shall be subject to all other provisions of this chapter and any rules or policies adopted by the Public Works & Infrastructure Committee.

➤ **WASTE DISPOSAL RESTRICTIONS**. No person shall dispose of any garbage, bottles, tin cans, or any other solid waste material, including demolition material, in any County park where the waste is generated from outside of the County Park property.

➤ **PENALTY**. Any person who shall violate any provision of this chapter or any regulation, rule or order made thereunder shall be subject to a penalty as provided in s. 25.04 of the La Crosse County Code of Ordinances.

Chapter 25.04 provides for a penalty of not less than \$5.00 nor more than \$500.00 and/or one (1) to ten (10) days in jail for violations of any regulation pertaining to County Parks.

CAMPSITE POLICY

- All campers are expected to abide by park and health code rules/regulations and strive to maintain a high standard of conduct.
- All campers are expected to maintain their campsites in a neat and orderly manner. Your receipt must be displayed on the numbered site post.
- Quiet time in the campground is 11 PM. All non-campers must be out of the campground by this time.
- No additional structures (i.e. fences, flag poles) are to be erected outside of the camping unit without permission of the Facilities Department. One screened tent (up to 14'x14') allowed per site. All outdoor furniture shall be manufactured and intended for use as lawn furniture. Portable garage tents, old couches, chairs, car seats, etc. are not acceptable. Refrigerators/freezers and umbrella clotheslines are not allowed. Plastic tarpaulins are allowed as a woodpile or tent cover only.
- To facilitate grounds keeping, vegetable/flower/garden plots will not be allowed. Grass fertilization is not allowed.
- One county owned picnic table per site.
- Each site shall be allowed no more than two vehicles on a regular basis. Storage of inoperable or other vehicles inappropriate to camping is not allowed.
- To minimize any restriction to shoreline access during the camping season, one watercraft is allowed secured to the shoreline in designated area only when in use. When not in use, it is requested that the watercraft be trailered. All watercrafts must be registered with the campground office. Note: Shoreline parking at waterfront sites is reserved with the campsite.
- Firewood supply must be kept in a neat pile no larger than one "face cord" (4'x8'x24"). Pallets and other box type wooden structures are not allowed.
- To protect our parks and forest areas we follow the WI DNR rule regarding firewood: Firewood must originate from within 50 miles of the campground and be harvested in Wisconsin. Firewood that has been in the WI EAB quarantined areas is not allowed on properties outside of the quarantined area. Firewood is available for purchase at Goose Island Campground.
- Do not place or burn garbage in fireplaces.
- Fireworks that leave the ground or blow into pieces (for example and not inclusive: bottle rockets, firecrackers, roman candles) are not allowed. (Exception granted to campground manager upon receipt of required permits.)
- Water hookups will be available from April 15th to October 15th. La Crosse County reserves the right to change the beginning or end date due to weather/flood conditions.
- Smoking is not allowed in any of the campground buildings.
- During periods of extreme fire hazard or weather emergency, special precautions or measures may have to be ordered by La Crosse County. In such events, the campground may be closed or other precautionary measures ordered. All campers and guests shall immediately comply with orders to take special precautions or evacuated the campground.
- All interpretations of these rules are within the authority of the Campground Manager.