

RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING GRAYSON COUNTY PUBLIC PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS

The following rules and regulations shall apply to all public parks and public recreation areas owned and/or operated by the County of Grayson, Virginia, effective the 1st day of June 2022, and shall continue in effect until amended by action of the Director of Parks and Recreation, or the County Administrator.

Park and Recreation Regulations. Article 1. Section 1.1-12.1. Rules and Regulations Governing the Use of Public Parks and Recreation Areas in Grayson County.

Section 1.1. Definitions.

For the purpose of these rules and regulations, the following words and phrases shall have these meanings:

Department means the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Director means the Director of Parks and Recreation, or any person whom the Director designates to act on their behalf.

Park means county-owned and operated parks, picnic areas, playgrounds, indoor or outdoor athletic recreation facilities, and similar recreational or social facilities and open spaces, both within and outside the county corporate limits.

Permit means any written license issued by or under the authority of the Director of Parks and Recreation, permitting the performance of a specified act or acts.

Person means any person, firm, partnership, association, corporation, company, or organization of any kind.

County shall refer to Grayson County.

Section 2.1 - Park operating policy.

(1) The Director shall have the authority to ban, temporarily or permanently, individuals from park property for serious or repeated violations of park regulations. To enforce this ban, the Director shall issue a written notice to the violator. Any aggrieved person shall have the right to appeal in writing within five (5) days to the County Administrator, or the Administrator's designee, who shall consider the matter and sustain or overrule the Director's decision within fifteen (15) days. The decision of the County Administrator, or the Administrator's designee, shall be final. Violations may be prosecuted and punished as trespassing.

(2) Parks shall be open to the public every day of the year from dawn until dusk, except those park facilities with special hours of operation. Notice of special hours of operation or closings shall be prominently posted.

(3) Any section or any part of any park may be closed at any time as the Director shall deem reasonably necessary.

(4) The Director is authorized to adopt and enforce reasonable written rules and regulations for the use of parks that supplement the regulations in this chapter, subject to the approval of the County Administrator.

(5) A copy of this chapter, and any supplemental rules or regulations adopted by the Director, shall be available for inspection and review in the Director's office and on the Parks and Recreation website. The Director may post these or other site-specific rules on such public bulletin board or other locations as the Director may deem appropriate.

Section 3.1 - Specific prohibitions.

No person shall do the following in any park:

(1) Mark, deface, or damage any building, table, bench, sign, monument, or other park property.

(2) Dig or otherwise remove any dirt, sand, soil, rock, or stones, except as permitted in play areas.

(3) Construct or erect any building or structure of any kind, whether permanent or temporary, except as authorized by the Director.

(4) Set up a tent or other temporary shelter or park any recreational vehicle for the purpose of camping except as authorized by the Director.

(5) Possess spray paint without permission from the Director.

(6) Damage, cut or remove any tree or plant without permission from the Director.

(7) Harm or otherwise attempt to harm any animal, reptile, or bird.

(8) Pollute or place litter in any fountain, pond, stream, or other body of water.

(9) Dump or leave any bottles, cans, tobacco products, or any other trash except in proper receptacles. Where receptacles are not provided, all trash shall be carried away from the park.

(10) Enter or remain in a park or recreation area while in possession of any alcoholic beverage, legal, or illegal drug, unless the alcoholic beverage is being consumed at a specific event authorized by the Director and County Administrator and consumed in the appropriate designated areas.

(11) Fail to follow posted rules applicable to specific facilities, such as the Skate Park, the Dog Park, the Aquatic Center, or additional facilities operated by the Parks and Recreation Department.

(12) Stage motion picture, video or broadcast television productions involving the use of vehicles, equipment, or props on park property. Written permission for such activities may be given when such activities will permit normal use of park facilities by other visitors. The provisions of this

section shall not in any way restrict the use of cameras by amateur photographers or news media operations.

Section 4.1 - Vehicles and traffic.

(1) No person shall drive any vehicle on any area except designated park roads or parking areas, or such other areas as may be specifically designated by the Director.

(2) No go-carts, all-terrain vehicles, motorcycles, or any other motorized vehicles shall be operated in any park or recreation area except in areas specifically designated for such purpose by the Director.

Section 5.1 - Parking.

Vehicles shall be parked only in established or designated parking areas in accordance with posted directions or pursuant to the instructions of any park attendant or police officer who may be present. No vehicle shall be parked in any area of a park for the purpose of washing, repairing, or maintaining the same.

Section 6.1 - Bicycles.

Bicycles are prohibited except on vehicular roads or paths designated for that purpose. A bicyclist shall be permitted to wheel or push a bicycle by hand over any grass area or wooded trail or any paved area reserved for pedestrian use.

Section 7.1 - Skateboards, roller-skates, in-line skates.

Skateboards, roller-skates, and in-line skates are permitted on vehicular roads, on multi-purpose trails, and in other specifically designated areas, such as the Skate Park. Skateboards, roller-skates, or in-line skates are prohibited on sidewalks, basketball courts, volleyball courts, tennis courts or other hard-surfaced areas not specifically designated for skateboard or skating use unless authorized by the Director.

Section 8.1 - Prohibited uses of parks.

(1) It shall be unlawful for any person to swim or bathe in any waters or waterways in any park, except those specifically designated. It shall be unlawful for any person to go onto ice on any of the waters except for such areas designated as skating areas and posted as such.

(2) No person shall fish in any park waters, whether by the use of hook and line, net, spear, gig, or any other device or means, except as may be designated by the Director or in an area designated for such purpose.

(3) No person shall discharge firearms of any description, including pneumatic guns, in any park. The use of bows and arrows, slingshots, and any other forms of weapons potentially dangerous to wildlife and to human safety is prohibited. The use of any kind of trapping device is also prohibited. This subsection shall not apply to law enforcement or official county activities or for designated Parks and Recreation programs and approved by the Director.

(4) No person shall ride or lead a horse in a park except on areas or trails specifically designated by the Director. Where permitted, horses shall be properly trained and ridden with due care.

(5) No person shall build or attempt to build a fire or use fireworks except in such areas and under such regulations as may be designated by the Director.

Section 9.1 - Use of picnic areas.

(1) Park attendants shall have the authority to regulate the activities in picnic areas when necessary to prevent congestion and to secure the maximum use for the comfort and convenience of all.

(2) Unless the Director has issued a permit, use of the individual grills at picnic areas, together with tables and benches, shall be on a first-come, first-served basis.

(3) Reservations for exclusive use of a shelter may be obtained by paying a fee, in such amount and upon such terms as may be prescribed by the Director from time to time.

(4) No person shall leave a picnic area before all fires are completely extinguished and before all trash is placed in the disposal receptacles where provided. If no such trash receptacles are available, then refuse and trash shall be carried away from the park area for proper disposal.

Section 10.1 - Concessions.

No person, organization or entity may sell or offer for sale any food, beverage, refreshments or any article or service whatsoever in any park or recreation area except by concessionaires authorized by the Director.

Section 11.1 - Dogs.

(1) Dogs are permitted in county parks.

(2) Dogs shall always be under the supervision and control of their owners.

(3) Training of dogs of an aggressive nature shall not be permitted unless training is done in conjunction with the Grayson County Sheriff's Office or cooperating agency and/or authorized by the Director.

(4) Dogs shall be permitted the use of Field #2 between the months of October and February. Use of any other ballfield shall be prohibited.

(5) Organized dog training will be permitted between the months of October and February with approval by the Director. Signage shall be posted alerting the general public of "Active Dog Training in Progress" at trainer's expense.

(6) Owners shall be required to clean up after their dogs in all areas within Grayson County parks. Any person owning, keeping or having custody or control of a dog must remove immediately the dog's excrement from any public or private property other than property owned or occupied by the person owning, keeping or having custody or control of said dog. The provisions of this section shall not apply to service animals where the owner is unable to remove the excrement due to their disability or to dogs used by police officers for law enforcement or tracking purposes

Section 12.1 - Private use or rental of park areas or facilities.

The Director has the right to extend private use of park facilities or park areas to private groups for use if the private rental does not violate the above-mentioned Park Regulations. Private use shall refer to the use of any Parks and Recreation facility and/or park for the sole use of the renter and their guests. This private use would require at least one weeks' notice and would require payment for said private rental of the park facility or park area.

Section 13.1 - Penalties.

Violation of any provision of this chapter may result in ejection from the park. Violations shall be cause for the Director, by written notice, to prohibit violators from returning to the public park or recreation areas of the County. Persons entering upon the premises of any public park or recreation area of the County after having been prohibited by the Director shall be cause for prosecution for trespass, in addition to any additional penalties provided by law.