

AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING PARKS AND RECREATIONAL TRAILS

207B.01 PURPOSE. The purpose of this chapter is to facilitate the enjoyment of park facilities and recreational trails by the general public by establishing rules and regulations governing the use of those City facilities.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12)

PARKS

207B.02 USE OF DRIVES REQUIRED. No person shall drive any car, cycle or other vehicle, or ride or lead any horse, in any portion of a park except upon the established drives or roadways therein or such other places as may be officially designated by the City. All vehicular traffic on Park Circle shall be one way, in an easterly direction, and no vehicle shall be driven contrary to one-way traffic signs. No person shall drive a truck or other commercial vehicle of any kind along or over any park roads or drives, except for delivery of its load for use in such park.

207B.03 FIRES. No fires shall be built in a public park; provided, however, this section does not apply to fires in stoves, grills, and ovens for use in picnic cooking.

207B.04 LITTERING. No person shall place, deposit, or throw any waste, refuse, litter or foreign substance in any area or receptacle except those provided for that purpose.

207B.05 PARKS CLOSED. No person shall enter or remain within any park between the hours of 10:30 p.m. and sunrise, unless special permission has been given by the Parks and Recreation Director.

207B.06 PUBLIC MEETINGS. Public meetings (religious, political, or otherwise), including picnic parties and entertainment for charitable or religious purposes, may be held in the park upon first obtaining permission from the Parks and Recreation Director. Such assemblages shall be conducted in a lawful and orderly manner, shall be under the supervision of the Parks and Recreation Director, and shall occupy such ground as may be assigned to or reserved for them.

207B.07 USE OF SHELTERS.

1. Reservations; Fees. Enclosed shelters and unenclosed shelters may be reserved for the exclusive use of groups of persons or organizations for a fee as established by resolution of the Council.
2. Hours. No reservations shall be taken between the hours of 5:00 p.m. on Friday and 8:00 a.m. on Monday.
3. Refusal to Grant Reservation. The Parks and Recreation Director may refuse to grant an exclusive reservation to any group that, in the opinion of the Director, is not large enough to fully utilize the facilities of the shelter.

4. Deposit Required. Any person reserving the Ridge Pointe Park Pavilion or the Community Center shall deposit a sum as established by resolution of the Council with the Parks and Recreation Director, and if such person fails to leave the Pavilion or Community Center in a clean and undamaged condition, such person shall forfeit the deposit, in addition to any other remedy the City may have for any damages.

5. Display of Reservation. Reservations for the shelter shall be in writing, signed by the Parks and Recreation Director, and shall be displayed upon request.

207B.08 PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY. No parent, guardian, or custodian of a minor shall permit or allow such minor to do any act prohibited by any provision of the rules set out by the provisions of this chapter.

207B.09 PARKING AREAS. No automobiles, wagons or other vehicles shall be allowed to park in any public park except in the places so designated by the Parks and Recreation Director.

207B.10 SPEED LIMIT. No person shall ride or drive in any public park except upon the established roads and ways, and shall not exceed a speed limit of fifteen miles per hour at any time or ten miles per hour through play areas, as posted along said roadways.

207B.11 DISTURBING BUILDINGS OR ANIMALS. No person shall disturb, damage, destroy, deface or otherwise interfere with any buildings or improvements of any kind made or being made in or about a public park, or disturb or interfere with birds or animals kept or found therein.

207B.12 DOGS RESTRICTED. No dog shall be allowed to run at large in a public park. Any dog found in such a park shall be deemed to be found running at large, unless the owner carries or leads the dog by a chain, strap, or rope not exceeding six feet in length, or keeps any such dog confined in a wagon, automobile, or other vehicle by a chain, rope, or strap not exceeding six feet in length.

207B.13 DESTRUCTION OF PLANT LIFE. No person shall in any manner deface, injure, or remove any tree, shrub, or plant standing or growing in a public park or pick or destroy any flowers or seeds growing therein.

207B.14 ALCOHOLIC LIQUOR. No person shall have in his or her possession or consume any alcoholic liquor in a public park, except at special events with permission from the Parks and Recreation Board. For the purpose of this subsection, "alcoholic liquor" is defined in Section 123.3(5) of the *Code of Iowa*.

207B.15 SPLASH PADS, LAKES, PONDS AND STREAMS. No person shall throw or place any foreign or waste substance in any lake, splash pad, wading pool, pond, or stream in a public park. In addition, all persons shall abide by the following:

1. No person shall enter the water for any purpose, including but not limited to wading, swimming, boating, fishing, use of flotation devices, or any other

activity, in or on any City-owned pond, City owned detention area, or other City owned body of water, except as specifically authorized in this chapter.

2. No person shall enter upon the frozen surface on any City-owned pond, City Owned detention area, or other City owned body of water, for any purpose including, but not limited to, skating, sledding, fishing, or the operation of any vehicles, including but not limited to cars, trucks, snowmobiles, and ATVs, except as specifically authorized in this chapter.
3. **Ice Fishing.** Ice fishing is permitted only on 1) “Tallgrass” and 2) “Kettlestone Common Ponds” City-owned ponds, between Sunrise and Sunset, subject to the following rules and conditions:
 - A. Any person who stands, walks, ice fishes, or otherwise enters on such frozen surfaces does so at his or her own risk and is solely responsible for his or her safety.
 - B. Any person who ice fishes on such frozen surfaces shall must assure they remain in full compliance with applicable state law and DNR regulations and, further, shall be familiar with applicable DNR guidelines.
 - C. No ice fishing structures or other appurtenances shall be used or otherwise be placed on the on the ice, except between ½ hour after official sunrise and ½ hour before official sunset.
 - D. No motorized augers or other drilling devices shall be used on the ice, except between ½ hour after official sunrise and ½ hour before official sunset.
 - E. No cleaning, disposing, or gutting of fish is allowed on city owned property including, but not limited to, the city parks, ponds, trails, tables or shelters.
4. **Non Ice Fishing.** Fishing is permitted only on 1) “Tallgrass” and 2) “Kettlestone Common Ponds” City-owned ponds, between Sunrise and Sunset, subject to the following conditions:
 - A. Any person undertaking any activity at or near a City-Owned Ponds does so at his or her own risk and is solely responsible for his or her safety.
 - B. Any person who fishes shall be in full compliance with applicable state law and DNR regulations and, further, shall be familiar with applicable DNR guidelines.
 - C. No Kayaks, paddle boats, motor boats, rafts or boats are allowed on the water.
 - D. No person shall wade, swim, or otherwise enter the water.
 - E. No cleaning, disposing, or gutting of fish is allowed on city owned property including, but not limited to, the city parks, ponds, trails, tables or shelters.

207B.16 UNAUTHORIZED SIGNS. No person shall post, paste, fasten, paint, or affix any placard, bill, notice, or sign upon any structure, tree, stone, fence, or enclosure along or within a park.

207B.17 MOVING BENCHES AND TABLES. No person shall move benches, seats, or tables from their places in a park, except on picnic grounds, and there only within designated lines.

207B.18 REMOVAL OF WOOD, GRASS OR GRAVEL. No person shall cut or remove any wood, turf, grass, soil, rock, sand, or gravel from a public park, without written permission from the Parks and Recreation Director.

207B.19 HITTING GOLF BALLS. No one shall drive, hit, or play with a golf ball in a City park, except in areas clearly designated by signs allowing such activity.

207B.20 POWER DRIVEN MODEL AIRPLANES. No one shall fly, glide, or play with a power driven model airplane in a City park, except by special permission of the Parks and Recreation Director.

RECREATIONAL TRAILS

207B.21 OBEDIENCE TO OFFICIAL SIGNS. Every user of a recreational trail shall observe and obey any official signs posted next to, adjacent to, or along any said trail.

207B.22 HOURS OF USE. Recreational trails shall be open for use by the general public at all hours, provided appropriate personal lighting devices are in use from sunset to sunrise.

207B.23 EMERGENCY USE AND MAINTENANCE. Recreational trails may be used by an official City, County, or State emergency, maintenance or public works vehicle when necessary in the discharge of the duties of its operators.

207B.24 TRAIL IN COMMON USAGE WITH EXISTING PUBLIC WAY. When the recreational trail utilizes an existing road for its traffic, the normal use of such road, street, or highway shall not be restricted. Normal rules of the road shall apply to all users.

207B.25 TRAIL USE RESTRICTIONS.

1. Cyclists. Recreational trails may be used by cyclists, but cyclists shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians. Regulations of said bicycles shall be controlled by Section 321.234 of the *Code of Iowa*.
2. Motor Vehicles. Motor vehicles, except as otherwise provided for in this chapter, shall not be allowed on a recreational trail. This prohibition includes, but is not limited to, automobiles, trucks, motorcycles, motor scooters, minibikes, motorized bicycles, snowmobiles, three-wheelers, four-wheelers and go-carts.
3. Disabled Persons. Mechanical assistance is allowed in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

207B.26 ANIMALS.

1. Use by Animals or Animal-Drawn Vehicles. It is unlawful for a person to ride a horse or other animal or to operate any type of horse- or animal-drawn conveyance on the recreational trails.
2. Control of Animals. All animals must be under control of a person competent to restrain or control the animal, either by leash, cord, chain, or other similar restraint not more than six feet in length. The owner or person in charge of an animal shall clean up and/or remove as soon as possible any excrement or droppings deposited by the animal on the trail. Owners shall have a form of waste disposal in their possession while on the recreational trails.

207B.27 PROHIBITED ACTS AND CONDITIONS.

1. Alcohol Use; Intoxication. No person shall possess, use, or consume any alcoholic liquor, beverages, wine or distilled substances on recreational trails, and no person shall be intoxicated or simulate intoxication on trails.
2. Hunting; Firearms and Weapons Prohibited. It is unlawful for any person to engage in any hunting or trapping activity on the trails, using a rifle, shotgun, bow and arrow or any other means.
3. Posting of Signs or Placards. No person shall post, fasten, paint, or affix any placard, bill, notice, or sign upon any structure, tree, stone, sign, or fence along any trail.

207B.28 TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF TRAILS; USE RESTRICTED. Recreational trails shall be closed for use by bicycles when accumulation of snow or ice exists on the surface of the trail. During such periods of temporary closure, those trails that are not part of the traveled portion of a street may be used for hiking and cross country skiing.

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