

Sports and Trails Park Rules Ordinance:						Length: 8 Pages			
Reviewed									
Revised	*10/05								

*denotes date of origin

Purpose of Ordinance:

An ordinance to provide for the use, protection, regulation and control of the public parks and park facilities and other matters concerning recreation, conservation, education, historic and scenic areas and preserves and parkways, and to provide for the adoption of supplementary rules and regulations and other matters related to the use of and conduct on park property in Grass Lake Charter Township, Jackson County, Michigan.

I. Title of Ordinance:

This ordinance shall be known and cited as the Grass Lake Charter Township Park Rules Ordinance.

II. Definitions:

- A. "Board" shall mean the Grass Lake Charter Township Parks and Recreation Board.
- B. "Board Property" or "Township Parks Property" shall mean all lands, waters, and property administered by or under the jurisdiction of the Grass Lake Charter Township Park Board.
- C. "Person" or "Persons" shall mean individuals, male or female, singular or plural; firms, corporations, or any group or gathering individuals.
- D. "Rules" shall mean the rules adopted by the Grass Lake Charter Township Park Board applicable to all property administered by or under the jurisdiction of the said Board and all amendments thereto.

III. Public Use and Hours:

- A. General Public – Any group or gathering of 25 or more persons may use certain areas within the public parks in Grass Lake Charter Township to the exclusion of others by making application and being granted a permit by the Grass Lake Charter Township Clerk or representative of the Grass Lake Charter Township Park Board.
- B. Permits -
 - 1. Applications for permits for reserved park space shall be made upon forms to be furnished by the Grass Lake Charter Township Clerk as approved by the Township Board.

2. The Board or its agent may, upon written application, grant specific use permits for special uses when, in the opinion of the Board or its agent, special consideration is warranted.
3. Application shall be made in advance of the time of the reservation request sufficient to allow at least 12 hours posted notice of reservation of space.
4. In the event more applications for reserved space are received than spaces available, such applications shall be considered in the chronological order received.

C. Fees and Charges – to be determined

1. Fees and charges may be assessed by the Board for the use of any facility, land, area, or program on Township Park property.
2. It shall be unlawful for any person to use any facility, land or area for which a fee or charge has been established by the Board without payment of such fee or charge.

D. Hours – to be determined

1. No person or vehicle shall remain upon property administered by or under the jurisdiction of the Board beyond posted closing times and sunrise except for special use areas and providing an application to the Board or its authorized agent, said hours may be extended.

IV. Protection of Property:

A. Destruction of buildings, markers, monuments and other properties shall be prohibited, and no person shall, on township park property:

1. Willfully destroy, deface alter, change or remove any monument, stone marker, bench mark, stake, post, or marking, or designated any boundary line, survey line, or reference point.
2. Cut, break, mark upon or otherwise injure any building, equipment, bridge, drain, wall, foundation, lamp post, fence, gate, hedge, or other structure.
3. Deface, destroy, or remove any placard, notice or sign, whether permanent or temporary, posted or exhibited within or upon park property.

B. Destruction of plant life and natural surroundings shall be prohibited and no person shall:

1. Cut, remove, or destroy any tree, sapling, seedling, bush or shrub, whether alive or dead, or chip, blaze, box, girdle, trim or otherwise deface or injure any tree or shrub, or break or remove any branch, foliage, flower, or any tree or shrub, or pick, gather, uproot, remove or destroy any flower, plant or grass.
2. Remove or cause to be removed any sod, earth, humus, peat, boulders, gravel, or sand, without written permission of the Board or its agent.

C. The following rules shall apply to fires on township park property:

1. No person shall willfully set or cause to be set on fire any tree, woodland, brushland, grassland, or meadow within or upon the park property.
2. No person shall build any fire upon property except within the fireplaces, receptacles or open spaces approved and designated by the Board for such purposes.
3. No person shall drop, throw or otherwise scatter lighted matches, burning cigars, cigarettes, tobacco paper or other flammable materials within or upon any park property.
4. Fires shall not be left unattended. All fires shall be extinguished upon leaving the immediate vicinity.

V. Protection of Wildlife:

- A. It shall be unlawful for any person, while on Township Park Property to kill, wound or maim any wildlife.

VI. Traffic and Parking:

- A. It shall be unlawful for the operator of a motor-driven vehicle to stop, stand or park such vehicle upon any roadway, or in any designated prohibited parking area, or in any parking area in such manner as to form an obstruction to traffic thereon.

VII. Horses:

- A. It shall be unlawful for any person to ride, lead or cause or suffer a horse to be upon any property administered by or under the jurisdiction of the Board.

VIII. Motor Driven Vehicles:

- A. It is unlawful for any person to operate a motor-driven vehicle of any kind or nature except on roads or designated parking areas.
- B. It is unlawful for any person to operate a motor-driven vehicle on any park road at a speed exceeding 25 miles per hour or at any speed greater than that posted; provided further, however, that notwithstanding any provisions herein, any person driving a vehicle on any park road shall drive at a careful and prudent speed not greater than nor less than is responsible and proper, having due regard to the traffic, surface and width of the road and of any other condition then existing, and no person shall drive any vehicle upon a park road at a speed greater than will permit him/her to bring said vehicle to a stop within the assured clear distance ahead.
- C. It is unlawful for any person to operate any motor-driven sled, toboggan or snowmobile on any property under the management, supervision or control of the

Board except where permitted by posted notice.

- D. It is unlawful for any person to operate a motor-driven vehicle upon Township Park Property in a speed contest or for the purpose of making a speed record, including that commonly known as a drag race, whether from a standing start or otherwise over a measured or unmeasured distance, the object of which is to better or defeat one or more contestants on the basis of the elapsed time, superior performance or speed. Provided further, however, this section shall not apply to any event for which a permit has been applied for and granted by the Board.
- E. It is unlawful for any person to operate any vehicle upon Township Park Property, including but not limited to, any area designated for parking of vehicles, in a careless or negligent manner likely to endanger any person or property.
- F. It is unlawful for any person to drive any vehicle upon Township Park Property while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or narcotic, drug, barbitol or any derivative of barbitol.
- G. It is unlawful for any person to drive any vehicle upon Township Park Property while his ability to do so has been impaired by the use of intoxicating liquor or by the use of drugs or narcotics.
- H. It is unlawful for any person to operate a motor-driven vehicle upon Township Park Property while his/her license to operate has been suspended or revoked.
- I. It is unlawful for any person to operate a motor-driven vehicle upon Township Park Property without having a valid operator's license, motor vehicle registration certificate and proof of the minimum liability coverage as required by the vehicle code in his possession.
- J. It is unlawful for any person to operate a vehicle upon Township Park Property contrary to posted traffic signs, symbols, rules or regulations or marked roadways.
- K. It is unlawful for any person to operate any motor-driven vehicle in any manner upon Township Park Property which results in excessive noise or disturbs the peace, quiet or tranquility of the area.
- L. It is unlawful for any person to leave, or cause to be left, any vehicle upon property administered by or under the jurisdiction of the Board between sunset and 8:00am except in designated parking areas.
- M. It is unlawful for any person to operate or ride on a motorcycle or motor-driven cycle without wearing a crash helmet approved by the Department of State Police. Rules of the Department of State Police for the implementation of

Section 658, subsection (d) of 1949, PA 300, as amended, shall apply to this rule.

IX. Operation of Bicycles:

- A. Bicycles shall be operated as closely to the right-hand side of the path, trail or roadways as conditions will permit and not more than two bicycles shall be operated abreast.
- B. It shall be unlawful for the operator of any bicycle where upon any path, trail or roadway, to carry any person upon the handlebar or frame of any bicycle, or for any person to so ride upon such bicycle.
- C. Bicycles may be operated upon such paths, trails, or roadways as may be posted allowing such use; provided, however, no such use shall be allowed between sunset and sunrise.

X. Trespass

- A. Livestock – No person shall drive or cause to be driven any horses, cattle, sheep, goats, swine, or other livestock upon or across property administered by or under the jurisdiction of the Board, without the written permission of the Board or its agent.
- B. Peddling and soliciting – It shall be unlawful for any person to peddle or solicit business of any nature whatsoever, or to distribute handbills, or other advertising matter, to post unauthorized signs on any lands, water, structures, or property administered by or under the jurisdiction of the Board or to use such lands, water structures or property unless first authorized in writing by the Board or its agent.
- C. Unlawful obstruction – No person, firm or corporation shall by force, threats, intimidations, unlawful fencing, enclosing, or by any other means prevent or obstruct any person from entering, leaving or making full use of any property administered by or under the jurisdiction of the Board.
- D. Hindering employees – No person shall interfere with or in any manner hinder any employee or agent of the Board while performing their official duties.
- E. No person shall interfere with any police officer in the discharge of duties; or fail or refuse to obey any lawful command of any police officer.
- F. Alcoholic Beverages/Drugs – No person shall have in their possession any intoxicating beverage while in or upon the property administered by or under the jurisdiction of the Board in areas determined by the Board and designated by posting at the main entrance or other conspicuous place to be areas in which no alcoholic beverages are permitted.

- G. No person shall sell, use or have in his/her possession any drug or narcotic, the sale, use or possession of which is prohibited by State Law.
- H. Personal Conduct –
1. It shall be unlawful for any person to be under the influence of intoxicants, or to engage in any violent, abusive, loud, boisterous, vulgar, lewd, wanton, obscene or otherwise disorderly conduct, or to disturb or annoy others, while in or on any property administered by or under the jurisdiction of the Board.
 2. It shall be unlawful to conduct or to participate in any form of gambling, lottery or game of chance upon Township Park Property.
- I. Use of Loudspeakers – It shall be unlawful to use a loudspeaker, public address system or amplifier within or upon Township Park Property without a written permit issued by the Board or its agent.
- J. Fireworks – No person shall fire, discharge, or have in his/her possession any rocket, firecracker, torpedo, squib, or other fireworks or any substance of an explosive nature within or upon the Township Park Property unless the Board or its authorized agent shall have authorized same by the issuance of a permit therefore.
- K. Firearms – No person shall at any time, bring into or upon the Township Park Properties, nor have in his/her possession, nor discharge, or set off anywhere upon said properties, a revolver, pistol, shotgun, rifle, air gun, water gun or any gun, rifle, firearm, or bow or other weapon that discharges projectiles either by air, explosive substance or any other force, provided, however, this shall not apply to any deputy sheriff, police officer, peace officer, or other duly appointed law enforcement officer while carrying out the duties and responsibilities of his/her position.
- L. Littering and pollution of waters:
1. It shall be unlawful to discard or deposit refuse of any kind or nature in or upon the Township Park Properties, except by placing said refuse in containers provided for such purpose.
 2. It shall be unlawful to throw, cast, lay, drop, or discharge into or leave in waters administered by or under the jurisdiction of the Board any substance, matter or thing, liquid or solid which may or shall result in pollution of said waters.
- M. Skating and Coasting:
1. No person shall use roller skates/inline skates/skateboards within or upon Township Park Property except at such times and upon such places as may be designated or maintained therefore.

2. No person shall skate, sled, walk or go upon any ice, or snowshoe, or ski except at such times and upon such places as may be designated or maintained therefore.
3. No person shall within or upon Township Park Property coast with hand-sleds, bobs, carts, or other vehicles, on wheels, or runners, except at such times and upon such places as may be designated and maintained therefore.

N. Public Exhibition – No person shall exhibit any machine or show, or any animal, or indulge in any acrobatic exhibitions in or upon any Township Park Property, nor shall any person carry on any performance or do anything whatsoever which shall cause persons to congregate so as to interfere with the proper use of such property by the general public or to obstruct the passage of vehicles or persons without first having obtained written permission from the Board or its agent.

O. Special Permits – No erection, construction or maintenance shall be made above or below ground, across or beneath Township Park Property by any person, firm, or corporation without first having obtained written permission from the Board authorizing such installation or construction and permit specifying in detail the work to be done and the conditions to be fulfilled pursuant to the terms of such approval.

P. Emergency Powers

1. Nothing in these rules shall prohibit or hinder duly authorized agents of the Board or any peace officer from performing their official duties.
2. Nothing in these rules shall prohibit the Board from establishing emergency rules required to protect the health, welfare and safety of park visitors and to protect park property; including, but not limited to, the right of the Board to order all persons off Township Park Property, and close all or any portion of said park.

XI. Servability:

If any section, subdivision sentence, regulation, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining sections, subdivision, sentences, regulation, clauses and phrases of this ordinance or the regulation as an entirety.

XII. Enforcement:

- A. Fines and imprisonment – Any person violating any provision of the foregoing rules shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor an upon conviction thereof be fined not more than \$500.00 and costs of prosecution, or imprisoned in the county jail for a period not exceeding 90 days, or both, for each offense.

XIII. Effective Date

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon publication or posting as required by law following adoption by the Township Board. Adoptive Date 10-11-2005.

Marjorie A. Clark
Grass Lake Charter Township, Clerk
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