

**Town of Clayton**  
**Park Rules & Regulations**  
**Ordinance # 8.1**

**A. Regulations of Public Parks**

1. Recreational trails in the Town of Clayton shall be considered linear parks, therefore, when referring to "public parks" in this document it shall mean all parks, recreation trails, nature areas, and rental facilities owned and managed by the Town of Clayton.
2. The public parks owned and managed by the Town of Clayton shall be governed by following rules and regulations. Additional rules and regulations may be made and published by the Clayton town board, as the Board shall see fit, to further regulate said parks. The power to regulate said parks, in addition to the restrictions contained in this ordinance, may be delegated, subject to approval of the Clayton Town Board.
3. The Town Board shall have the authority to pass, by majority vote, rules that shall apply to the rental of town parks and/or their facilities. Those rules shall, therefore, be given out at the time the key is picked up and shall be posted at the park shelter/pavilion. The posting shall be printed in a legible manner and a warning shall be posted with such rules, that a violation of any rule so passed and posted shall be considered a violation of the Ordinance and shall be punishable by the penalties provided herein.

**B. Offenses within Public Parks**

No person shall:

- a. Disobey or disregard the orders of any County Law Enforcement Officer, town Official, or properly-empowered Town employee when that individual is commanding said person to cease in a violation of any regulation/requirement of this Ordinance.
- b. Use any indecent, vile, profane, or obscene language, or conduct themselves in an indecent, lewd, lascivious, or obscene manner in any Town park.
- c. Alter or change, or cause to be altered or changed, anything in any Town park, unless permitted to do so by the Clayton Town Board.
- d. No person shall establish, erect, or use any temporary structures such as tents, covers, etc., in any Town park, without written permission from the Town Board.
- e. Remove, destroy, cut, deface, or injure any tree, shrub, or plant existing in any Town park.
- f. Interfere with, cause to be interfered with, injure, destroy, deface any property in any Town park, nor shall any person climb on any building, fence, statue, or other structure in any Town park, except those specifically designed as recreational facilities.

Such property to include, but not be limited to, signs, guards, protection barriers, barricades, park equipment, tables, benches.

- g. Attach any rope, wire, chain, sign, or other device whatsoever to any tree in any Town park.

- h. Place or leave rubbish of any kind in any Town park, except in specifically designated containers.
- i. Operate a snowmobile, all terrain vehicle, mini bike, or ride a horse in any Town park EXCEPT where the Town Board shall, by posting of official signs, designate that such activities are allowed, or as otherwise expressly permitted by the Town Board.

No vehicle should be operated at a speed exceeding 10 m.p.h. Snowmobiles operating on recreational trails must, at all times, conform to the requirements of the County Snowmobile Ordinance.

- j. Operate any vehicle except on established roads or specifically designated trails in any Town park, except as otherwise expressly permitted by the Town Board.
- k. Operate a vehicle of any kind in a designated nature area.
- l. Park any vehicle in a Town park, except in designated areas.
- m. Leave unattended any type of motorized vehicle, whether designed for on- or off-highway travel, and no person shall leave unattended, or abandon, any item of personal property on the premises of any Town park/nature area after closing. The Town of Clayton may have said vehicles/property removed pursuant to the rules and regulations of this Ordinance.
- n. Carry any firearm or weapon in any Town park. Firearms may be transported over recreational trails if accessing private property and the firearm is enclosed in a case.
- o. Discharge any missile from any firearm, sling shot, bow and arrow, paint ball, or other weapon, nor any rocket, torpedo, or other illegal fireworks of any description within, or into, any Town park.
- p. Hit any type of golf ball in, or into, any Town park.
- q. Harass, hunt, or trap wildlife in any Town park/nature area.
- r. Allow any animals, leashed or unleashed, in any Town park, except on specifically designated trails (i.e., WIOUWASH or Friendship trails).

Leashed dogs designated as "care animals," such as seeing-eye dogs, are allowed in Town parks.

Note: No person shall bring, or permit, any animal to be present on a county-operated recreation trail unless the animal is on a leash of suitable strength and not more than eight (8) feet long.

- s. Build, or cause to be built, fires other than in established stationary fireplaces and/or stationary or portable grills in any Town park.

No fires are permitted in nature areas.

- t. Leave unattended any legally-permitted fire in any Town park.

No fires are permitted in nature areas.

- u. Be allowed in any Town park while under the influence of intoxicants in the form of alcoholic beverages or drugs.

- v. Possess an open container of fermented malt beverage, or intoxicating liquor, in any Town park between 10:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m., unless so permitted by the Town of Clayton.
- w. No person shall establish carnival rides, whether miniature or otherwise, or conduct any entertainment business in a Town park without written permission from the Town Board.
- x. Expose or offer for sale any article or thing, nor shall they station or place any stand, cart, or vehicle for the transportation, sale, or display of any such article or thing, without first obtaining a permit from the Town of Clayton.

Announce, advertise, or call public attention, in any way, to an article or service for sale or hire, without first obtaining a permit from the Town of Clayton.

Paste, glue, tack, erect, or otherwise post any sign, placard, advertisement, inscription, etc., within a Town park without first obtaining a permit from the Town of Clayton.

- y. Possess, or operate, any sound amplification equipment on park property, including, but not limited to, loud speakers and amplifiers, whether such equipment consists of self-contained units, or is incorporated into sound systems used in automobiles, radio receivers, or any other sound reproduction components, subject to the exceptions set forth below.

\* It shall not be a violation of the Ordinance if the person possessing, or using, sound amplification equipment has first obtained a written permit from the Town specifying the date, time, and purpose for which the sound amplification equipment will be used.

\* It shall not be a violation of this Ordinance for any person to project any type of sound from an automobile if the sounds are inaudible beyond a twenty-(20) foot radius.

#### C. Regulations, Reservations, and Permits

1. The Clayton Town Board shall have the authority to regulate the use of certain areas of a park during certain hours in order to facilitate the most effective use of the park on behalf of Town residents and/or others utilizing the park. The Town board shall have the authority to close a park, or any portion thereof, in order to maintain public peace and order, and to regulate the use of areas within a park when the health and safety of park users is of concern, or the facilities within a park, or the park itself, are in danger of being damaged.
2. No group, association, gathering, or other assembly of persons in excess of ten (10) in number, shall make use of the park pavilion facilities without first reserving the pavilion. Reserving the park, or a portion thereof, is required for any person or persons entertaining or performing in the park which would incur a gathering in excess of 25 people.
  - a. The Town Board will review fees and rules regarding the Town parks every year during the budgeting process and at other times as deemed necessary by the Town Board.
  - b. Park rental will not be refunded due to weather conditions or change of plans.

- c. The Town Board reserves the right to refuse a reservation to any group or persons making application for such permit when it reasonable believes:
    - \* a disturbance would be created affecting a substantial number of others using the park and/or people and residents near the park area.
    - \* the purpose of the gathering is solely for consumption of alcoholic beverages and the Board reasonable believes said gathering could cause a disturbance and damage to the park and/or the surrounding area.
    - \* that previous use, by the group applying for the reservation, has resulted in disturbances of any nature including, but not limited to, those outlined above.
  - d. The Town Board may require a bond to be filed by any applicant to indemnify the Town for any damage to Town property.
- 3. No glass containers of any form are allowed in a Town park. This rule does not prohibit the possession or consumption of beverages or food packaged in containers other than glass.
  - 4. Sales of beer cannot be made on, or about, park property without written permission and a beer license from the Town Board.
  - 5. Overnight camping in any Town park is prohibited without written permission from the Town Board.

D. Hours of Use

Town of Clayton parks shall be open from 8:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. except by special permission of the Town Board.

Town of Clayton nature areas shall be open from 8:00 a.m. to dusk, except by special permission of the Town Board.

Parks shall be regulated in such a manner that any person found upon park premises before or after opening/closing hours may be deemed guilty of violating this Ordinance.

Hours of operation do not apply to recreational trails with specifically identified boundaries which are outside of Town parks/nature areas.

E. Penalty

Any person who shall violate any provision of this Ordinance shall, upon due conviction thereof, forfeit no less than \$25.00, nor more than \$200.00, for each such offense together with the costs of prosecution and, in default of the payment of such forfeiture and costs, may be imprisoned in the Winnebago County Jail until such forfeiture and costs are paid, but not to exceed 30 days.

Adopted this 4<sup>th</sup> day of June 2008

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Town Chairperson, Mark E. Luebke

  
Attest: Town Clerk, Susan Nester-Huebner