

CHAPTER 4 RECREATION ACTIVITIES

CH. 4 / Section 1: Picnicking

- a. Picnicking is allowed in designated areas.
- b. Assuming control of a reservation picnic site or even a portion of a reservation picnic area without a permit is not allowed.
- c. A permit and approval from Parks' staff is required for the use of tents, canopies, inflatables, large games and rides, dunk tanks, animal rides and volleyball nets, etc. in picnic areas.

CH. 4 / Section 2: Grilling and Outdoor Cooking

- a. Grilling and outdoor cooking is allowed in areas designated and equipped for that purpose. Grilling is not allowed on beach areas.
- b. Outdoor grilling is not allowed in the following downtown parks: Landmark Plaza, Rice Park, Kellogg Mall Park, Mears Park, Irvine Park and Wacouta Commons without written permission from the Director.
- c. McMurray, Rice and Arlington and Dunning ball fields allow grilling and outdoor cooking in designated areas.
- d. Outdoor grilling is allowed at Midway Stadium for tailgating purposes during scheduled City events and/or during games played by the St. Paul Saints professional minor league baseball club. Coals should not be placed in dumpsters or trash barrels. Designated receptacles for coals are provided at Midway Stadium. This activity is governed by Midway Stadium parking lot rules.
- e. Individuals are allowed to bring their own grill for outdoor cooking but must extinguish all charcoal before disposal, and charcoal ash must be disposed of in designated receptacles. Charcoal grilling at recreation centers is not allowed without prior approval from the facility manager.

CH. 4 / Section 3: Recreational Fires

- a. Any recreational fire outside the designated area(s) requires a permit and/or written permission from the Director – this includes portable fire pits:
 - All recreational bonfires shall be in designated fire rings **only**.
 - Fuel area can be no larger than 3 feet in diameter and 2 feet high.
 - Only cut fire wood is permitted. **All** other materials are prohibited.
 - The harvesting of live or dead wood from any park area is not allowed.
 - Any condition which could cause a fire to spread to within 25' of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition.
 - A means shall be provided to extinguish the fire. This can include buckets, shovels, garden hoses (if a water source is available), or a minimum 4-A fire extinguisher.
 - Fires shall be constantly attended by a person knowledgeable in the use of the fire extinguishing equipment provided.
 - Fires shall not be ignited if the wind speed is 10 mph or more.
 - Fires shall not be left unattended and must be extinguished no later than 11:00 PM.
- b. The Saint Paul Fire Department, Police Department and/or the Department of Parks and Recreation may order the fire to be discontinued if, in their opinion, the fire constitutes a hazardous condition or produces obnoxious smoke or odors that may cause a public nuisance.
- c. Fire dancing, twirling or throwing is not allowed.
- d. Exceptions to bonfires other than in a designated fire ring and/or size of fuel area require the following:
 - Requests must be submitted in writing through the Park Permit Office to the Director of Parks and Recreation for his review and approval at least two weeks prior to the event date.
 - After approval by the Director, any permits required by the Fire Department must be obtained and a copy submitted to the Park Permit Office prior to the event date.
 - Bonfires must be completely extinguished and the site cleaned and returned to pre-existing conditions.

CH. 4 / Section 4: Swimming

- a. Bathing, wading, or swimming is only allowed in areas that are specifically designated for those activities.
- b. Appropriate bathing attire is required at all times.
- c. Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times.
- d. Animals accompanied by people are not allowed to come closer than 100 yards of any swimming beach, and are not allowed to enter the water closer than 100 yards from a designated swimming area.
- e. Launching, docking, or operating any water craft within 150 yards of a designated swimming area is not allowed.
- f. The rules, directions and instructions of the lifeguards "on-duty" shall be followed at all times.

- g. An admission fee is required before entering the Como Park, Highland Park and Great River Water Park aquatic facilities.
- h. Bicycles, mopeds and alternative vehicles are not allowed on a beach or within a pool facility except at designated bicycle racks.
- i. Fishing is not allowed from the Lake Phalen swimming beach.

CH. 4 / Section 5: Floatation Devices

- a. Inner tubes, life rafts, or other inflatable or buoyant objects which provide floatation support are not allowed at any pool or body of water within the park system.
- b. U.S. Coastguard approved personal floatation devices are allowed in shallow water areas. Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times.
- c. Persons with disabilities that wish to enter deep water with the aid of a personal floatation device must inform the facility manager on-site before entering the deep water area, and must be accompanied by a companion.

CH. 4 / Section 6: Boating

- a. Minnesota licensed boats and life rafts approved by the U.S. Coast Guard are allowed on any lake or pond. One personal floatation device per occupant is required.
- b. Gasoline powered motors may be on a boat but cannot be used on City lakes.
- c. Electric trolling motors can be used on City lakes.
- d. Boats may only be launched at an authorized boat launch site.
- e. Boating is not allowed before daylight or after 11:00 P.M.
- f. Boat rental on City lakes can only be conducted by concessionaires authorized by the Director.
- g. Each water craft kept on park waters must be equipped as required by law, and is subject to inspection; any water craft which does not meet the requirements will not be allowed on a lake.
- h. It is illegal to operate any water craft in violation of Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 361. All water craft operators shall remove Eurasian Milfoil and/or other nuisance materials from their water craft in accordance with Minnesota law.
- i. Only car top-carried boats are allowed on Como Lake, and the parking of boat trailers is not allowed in any Como Park parking lots.

CH. 4 / Section 6A: Boating on the Mississippi River

- a. No person shall land any water craft on park land or launch any water craft therefrom or dock, moor or anchor any water craft in the water of the Mississippi River for a period in excess of seventy-two (72) hours except at locations designated by the Director.
- b. No person shall in any manner secure any water craft to any tree, shrub, post or other object in or on park or parkway.
- c. No person shall dock or anchor a boat in places other than designated for that purpose for a period in excess of seventy-two (72) hours.

CH. 4 / Section 7: Public Dock(s)

- a. The public dock at Harriet Island Park and all other public docks are available for public use from daylight to 11:00 PM.
- b. Boaters may tie-up to the Public Dock at Harriet Island only during public hours. Overnight docking is not allowed.
- c. Boaters are not allowed to dock at the Great Stairs on Harriet Island or at Raspberry Island and Upper Landing parks.
- d. Fishing is allowed from all public docks **except** the dock at Phalen Lakeside Pavilion. Fishing from the Public Dock at Harriet Island is allowed, but should be kept at least 20 feet from moored vessels.

CH. 4 / Section 8: Paths and Trails

- a. Pedestrians shall have the right-of-way at all times. Motorized vehicles shall have the right-of-way where a bicycle path intersects. Bicycle riders shall observe and obey all traffic laws, traffic signals and directional signs.
- b. The speed limit on Saint Paul pathways is 10 MPH.
Bicycle riders shall operate in a safe and controlled manner and in accordance with pathway speed limit.
- c. Designated pathways, trails and surfaces normally provided for vehicular traffic may be used by bicyclists, pedestrians and other users.
- d. Designated bicycle racks are provided for bike parking. Bikes should not be left out where they may endanger other park patrons.
- e. In-line skates, roller skates, roller skis and self propelled scooters are allowed on paved pathways under the same stipulations as bicycles.
- f. Permanent and/or temporary pathway or trail markings shall not be placed on any City pathway or trail without written permission from the Director.

CH. 4 / Section 9: Golfing

- a. Golf play is only allowed on City courses during times when the course is open for business.
- b. A valid greens fee receipt is required before entering the area of play, and that receipt must be carried by the player or group at all times during play.
- c. Parents must accompany children between the ages of 7 - 11. Children under the age of 7 are not allowed on the course at any time.
- d. Only persons 16 years of age and older, with a valid driver's license may operate a motorized golf cart.
- e. Practice play, including driving and putting, is only allowed in designated areas at courses. It is not allowed in general park areas.
- f. Tampering with any irrigation system, tee marker, greens flag, or maintenance equipment is not allowed.
- g. Entrance to or exit from any golf course is allowed only through designated access points.

CH. 4 / Section 10: Fishing and Ice Fishing

- a. Fishing is allowed on City lakes and ponds in designated areas and only in accordance with current Minnesota State fishing regulations.
- b. Ice fishing houses or similar structures cannot be placed on any City lake before sunrise and must be removed no later than 11 P.M.
- c. An ice fishing hole on City lakes cannot be larger than 10 inches in diameter.
- d. Ice fishing is not allowed in areas designated for ice skating.

CH. 4 / Section 11: Skiing, Snowboarding and Skijoring

Downhill skiing and snowboarding are only allowed at the Como Park Ski Center during designated hours of operation.

- a. Groomed Cross Country ski trails are provided at Como Golf Course, Phalen Golf Course, and Highland 9-hole Golf Course.
- b. Cross country skiing is not allowed on the grounds of Como Campus.
- c. Skijoring is allowed in designated area(s) at Highland 9 -hole golf course. Call 651-266-6400 for information.
- d. Skijoring dogs are not allowed on any other trails.
- e. Skijoring dogs must be leashed at all times and are subject to the same control and clean-up rules and fines listed in CHAPTER 6, Section 2.

CH. 4 / Section 12: Snowmobiles and All-Terrain Vehicles

All terrain vehicles (ATVs) are not allowed in City parks. Snowmobiling is allowed on Lake Phalen and on the lagoon and north of Lakeside Activity Center as a route into the Ramsey County park area under the rules listed below. Any exception to these rules shall require written permission from the Director:

- a. Snowmobilers are to park their vehicles in the Lakeside Activity Center parking lot and drive their snowmobiles

directly onto the lake.

- b. Snowmobiles shall be operated in accordance with the laws of the State of Minnesota.
- c. Snowmobiling is not allowed before daylight or after park hours.
- d. No more than two adults, or one adult and two minor children can ride on the snowmobile at the same time.
Snowmobile must be driven in a reasonable manner so as to not endanger the safety of others, and must stay at least 50 yards of any other park users and from any areas which endanger other park users.
- e. Snowmobiles shall not be left on the lake ice or left unattended.

CH. 4 / Section 13: Wildlife and Environmental Protection

- a. Attempts to kill, injure, harass, remove or unnecessarily disturb fish, water fowl, birds, deer or any wildlife creatures within park property is not allowed.
- b. The feeding of any wildlife creatures within park property is not allowed without prior written permission from the Director
- c. The abuse of any natural resource within the park system is not allowed, nor is the intentional digging of holes, excavating or otherwise initiating destruction or damage to any natural resource.
- d. The intentional removal of any natural resource from within the park system without prior written permission from the Director is not allowed. This includes but is not limited to: trees, plants, shrubs, flowers, water, soil, wildlife, stones and turf.
- e. The introduction of any plant or animal species or agent which could pose a threat to the existing park environment is not allowed.
- f. The planting or cultivation of any natural resource is not allowed without prior written permission from the Director.