

**CHAPTER 19**

**PARKS AND RECREATION**

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**19.01 Authority.** To implement §27 and §59, Wis. Stats., under which the Vilas County Board is granted specific powers relative to the establishment, protection, development and management of the County Parks and other lands to provide recreational facilities.

**19.02 General Administration. (1) SCOPE.** Except when the context provides otherwise, the provisions of this chapter shall apply to all lands, structures, and property owned, eased, or administered by Vilas County, Wisconsin, and under the management, supervision, and control of the Forestry, Recreation and Land Committee.

**(2) PLAN.** The Vilas County Forestry, Recreation and Land Committee shall provide general guidelines for park and recreation development in the County.

**(3) DESIGNATIONS.**

(a) *Park, County Park, and Vilas County Park.* All lands and water previously and subsequently acquired by the County for park and recreational purposes, or under the jurisdiction of the Vilas County Forestry, Recreation, and Land Committee, including federal, state, town, and privately owned lands, the use of which has been granted to the County for park, recreational, or like public purposes:

- Eagle Lake Park
- Torch Lake Park
- Hunter Lake Park
- Tamarack Springs Picnic Area
- Dr. Oldfield Park
- Lac Vieux Desert Park
- Cranberry Island Park
- McLeod Lake Picnic Area

(b) *Boat Landings.* 1. The following County Park, federal, state, town, or private land under land use agreement with the Forestry, Recreation and Land Committee that is set aside for the purpose of setting afloat or retrieving any form of water craft:

- Town of Cloverland
- Pickerel Creek
- Snipe Lake
- Muskellunge Lake
- Boot Lake
- Ewald Lake Canoe Landing

- Town of Conover
- Lake of the Hills
- Baker Lake
- Tamarack Flowage
- Snyder Lake
- Buckatabon Landing
- Hunter Lake

- Town of Lincoln
- Dr. Oldfield Park

- Town of Washington
- Eagle Lake
- Cranberry Island Park

(c) *Campsites.* The following County Parks are set aside for the purpose of overnight camping by permit, except that overnight camping at the Wisconsin River Canoe Campsites without a vehicle is allowed without permit:

- Tamarack Springs Family Campground
- White Spruce Primitive Campground
- Lake of the Woods Primitive Campground
- River Road Canoe Campsite
- Rummels Road Canoe Campsite
- Buckatabon Shelter Canoe Campsite
- Razorback Canoe Campsite
- Cranberry Island Park

(d) *Panfishing Piers.* The following County Parks are set aside for the purpose of panfishing:

- Baker Lake
- Tamarack Flowage
- Deep Lake
- Cook’s Lake
- Lake of the Hills
- Mud Minnow Lake
- Rice Lake
- Wood Duck Lake

(e) *Other Recreational Areas.* The following County Park, federal, state, town, or private land under land use agreement with the Forestry, Recreation and Land Committee are set aside for recreational purposes:

- Vilas County Shooting Range
- Langlely Lake Cross-Country Skiing Trail
- Chicago Avenue Radio-Controlled Model Airplane Facility.
- Vilas County Fairgrounds
- Riverside Park
- Eagle River Tennis Courts

(f) *Swimming Beaches.* The following lands are under the jurisdiction of the Forestry, Recreation and Land Committee and are designated as swimming areas by standard regulatory markers or posted notice:

- Torch Lake Park
- Eagle Lake Park
- Hunter Lake Park

**(4) DEFINITIONS.**

(a) *Committee.* The Vilas County Forestry, Recreation and Land Committee.

(b) *County Lands.* Any park lands to which Vilas County is legal owner or those lands under the jurisdiction of the Committee.

**(5) CLOSING HOURS.**

(a) All County Parks shall be closed to the general public from sunset to sunrise except such areas and facilities specifically designated by official action of the Forestry, Recreation, and Land Committee and properly posted by the Vilas County Forest Administrator.

(b) Persons transporting water craft to and from designated boat landings are permitted at any hour, except where posted to the contrary. No camping is permitted at boat landings except where posted.

**(6) FEES.** No person shall use any park land or area for which a fee or charge has been established by the Committee without payment of the required fee.

**(7) ADDITIONAL RULES, PERMITS, EXCEPTIONS.**

(a) *Additional Rules.* Rules and regulations may be made from time to time by the Committee or County Board for use and enjoyment of parks, playgrounds, beaches, boat landings, lakes, streams, and the facilities thereof. Any person who refuses to subject himself/herself thereto may be excluded from the use of such facility.

(b) *Permits.* Any person to whom a permit shall have been issued by the Committee shall be bound by the provisions of all ordinances of Vilas County as fully as though the same were inserted in each permit. [History: rev. 1/02-2A; rev. 6/04-4A]

**19.03 Peddling and Soliciting. (1)** No person shall peddle or solicit business of any nature whatsoever or distribute handbills or other advertising matter, post, unauthorized signs or decorative matter on any lands, structure, or property in any County Park or use such lands, structures, or property as a base of commercial operations for soliciting or conducting business, peddling, or providing services within or outside of such lands, structures or property, with the exception of activities conducted through the Vilas County Fair Board pursuant to the lease entered into with the Vilas County Forestry Department and the Vilas County Fair Board.

**(2)** No person shall use in any manner the dock, pier, wharf, boat landing, mooring facilities, or the waters in any County Park for the purpose of soliciting rides of any kind. [History: rev.1/02-2A; rev. 6/04-4A]

**19.04 Personal Conduct and Nuisances.**

**(1) PERSONAL CONDUCT.** No person shall engage in violent, abusive, indecent, profane, boisterous, unreasonably loud, or otherwise disorderly conduct which tends to cause or provoke a disturbance.

**(2) PROPERTY OF OTHERS.** No person shall destroy, disturb, molest, or remove the property of another without the consent of the owner.

**(3) UNNECESSARY NOISES.** No person shall operate soundtracks, loud speakers, motors, motorboats, motor vehicles, or any other

mechanical devices that produce unnecessary noises.

**19.05 Destruction, Entry, Cleaning and Refuse. (1) DESTRUCTION AND ENTRY.**

(a) *Destruction, Defacement, or Removal.* No person shall disturb, molest, deface, remove or destroy any trees, shrubs, plants or other natural growth; carve on any rocks, archaeological or geological features, signs, walls or structures; or drive nails in trees in any County Park or boat landing. No person shall on lands under the jurisdiction of the Committee, move, injure, or deface in any manner any structures including buildings, signs, fences, tables, or other property. The picking of edible fruits or nuts is permitted.

(b) *Entry and Manipulation.* No person shall enter in any way any building, installation, or area that may be under construction or locked or closed to public use; molest or manipulate any dam or culvert; or enter or be upon any building, installation, or area after the posted closing time, before the posted opening time or contrary to posted notice, in any lands or facilities under Committee jurisdiction.

**(2) CLEANING AND REFUSE.**

(a) *Washing.* The washing of cars, persons, pets, cooking utensils, or clothing is prohibited at any of the lakes or streams or on any picnic grounds, playgrounds, boat landings, parking lots, or roadways or within 50 feet of any pump, fountain, or drinking water outlet in any County Park.

(b) *Fish and Game.* No person shall clean, butcher, scale or skin any fish, game, livestock, or poultry in any County Park or boat landing.

(c) *Refuse.* No person shall dispose of any garbage, sewage, bottles, aluminum cans, paper, or other waste material in any manner except by placing in receptacles provided for such purposes or dump any such refuse in any park. Throwing of bottles, aluminum cans, sewage, or other refuse in or on the roads in any County Park is prohibited. Charcoal residue must be left in a grate or fireplace until cool or placed in receptacles provided for such purposes. No person shall dispose of any non-park generated litter in refuse containers placed in County Parks.

**19.06 Vehicles. (1) VEHICULAR TRAFFIC.**

(a) No person shall operate any vehicle at a speed in excess of 15 MPH or contrary to official traffic signs in any County Park.

(b) No person shall operate any vehicle in any park in a reckless manner contrary to provision of §346.62, Wis. Stats.

(c) No person shall operate or park any motor vehicle, except as provided for herein, upon any beach area, playground, picnic area, or any other area other than established roads, parking areas, boat ramps, and service areas, or contrary to posted notice, or within any park seasonally closed to vehicular traffic.

**(2) PARKING.** No person shall park, stop, or leave standing, whether attended or unattended, any vehicle, obstruction, or water craft, in any manner so as to block, obstruct, or limit the use of any road, trail, parking lot, boat landing, or waterway, contrary to posted notice or between sunset and sunrise, except that vehicles used to transport water craft are permitted at designated boat landings at any time.

**19.07 Fires, Fireworks, Firearms. (1) FIRES.**

(a) No person shall start, tend, or maintain any fire or burn any refuse except in grills within any County Park, except that fires for cooking or heating may be made in portable stove, heaters, or grills.

(b) No person shall leave any fire unattended, or throw away any matches, cigarettes, cigars, pipe ashes, or any embers without first extinguishing them, or abandon any fire or start, tend or use in any manner, any fire contrary to posted notice on any lands under Committee jurisdiction.

**(2) FIREWORKS.** No person shall possess, fire, discharge, explode, or set off any explosive or pyrotechnic device containing powder or other combustible or explosive material within the limits of any lands under Committee jurisdiction, except that exhibitions of fireworks given under the direction or by the permission of the Committee or its authorized agent are permitted.

**(3) FIREARMS.** No person shall have in his possession or under his control any firearm or airgun as defined in §939.22, Wis. Stats., except as otherwise allowed by Wis. Stat. §941.23.

**19.08 Animals. (1) PETS.** No person shall allow pets to enter any public building, swimming beach, picnic grounds, boat landing, or playground, or run at large at any time on lands designated in this chapter. In addition, pets are not allowed on the following Vilas County properties all located within the City of Eagle River: all vendor/exhibitor areas and food concessionaire areas located on the Vilas County Fairgrounds, Riverside Park, the Fran Richter Memorial Softball Fields, or Eagle River Tennis Courts. In areas where permitted, pets shall be kept on a leash not more than 8 feet long. All pets shall be effectively restrained or under the owner’s control at all times. No person shall allow his pet to deprive or disrupt another’s enjoyment or use of any area.

**(2) HORSES.** No person shall ride a horse in any area designated in this chapter, except in connection with organized shows or exhibits on the Vilas County Fairgrounds.

**(3) HUNTING AND TRAPPING.** No person shall take, catch, kill, hunt, trap, pursue or otherwise disturb any wild birds or animals in any County Park. [History: rev. 2002-2A; rev. 6/04-4A]

**19.09 Beaches. (1) FOOD AND BEVERAGES.** No person shall carry or consume any food or beverages of any kind on any swimming beach or within 2 feet of any swimming beach.

**(2) BOUNDARY BUOYS – MOLESTATION.** No person shall swim beyond or disturb or molest a swimming beach boundary buoy or marker in any swimming beach.

**(3) STORMS AND DANGEROUS WEATHER.**

(a) No person shall swim in the water fronting any beach during electrical storms or in dangerous weather.

(b) No person shall swim more than 50 yards from the shoreline of any swimming beach, or beyond the limits of beach marker buoys where provided.

**(4) BEACH ATHLETICS.** Except in locations designated for such purposes, no person shall engage in any athletic game or sport or in any activity upon a swimming beach or in the water when injury or inconvenience to other might result therefrom.

**(5) SWIMMING ATTIRE.** No person shall enter the water or onto any swimming beach unless clothed in such a manner so as to cover all

intimate parts, as defined in §939.22(19), Wis. Stats.

**(6) CHANGING CLOTHES.** No person shall change clothes, except in beach houses or enclosed places.

**19.15 Enforcement and Penalties.**

**(1) ENFORCEMENT.** Every law enforcement officer shall enforce the provisions of this chapter.

**(2) PENALTIES.** Any person, firm, or corporation, including those doing work for others, who shall violate any of the provisions of this Ordinance, shall upon conviction thereof, forfeit to Vilas County the sum of not less than \$50.00 nor more than \$500.00, plus the penalty assessment imposed. Each day a violation exists shall constitute a distinct and separate violation of this Ordinance and as such, forfeitures shall apply accordingly.

**(3) ADDITIONAL PENALTIES.** In addition to the penalties above, any person damaging the property of the County or another person shall remain liable in a civil action for the amount of that damage.

**19.16 Uniform Schedule of Deposits.**

<u>Ordinance</u>	<u>Violation</u>	<u>Forfeiture Plus Court Costs</u>
19.02(5)(a)	Closing Hours	\$100.00
19.02(6)	Fees & Charges	50.00
19.03(1)	Peddling	50.00
19.03(2)	Soliciting Rides	50.00
19.04(1)	Personal Conduct	100.00
19.04(2)	Property of Others	50.00
19.04(3)	Unnecessary Noise	100.00
19.05(1)(a)	Destroy & Deface	200.00
19.05(1)(b)	Entry/Manipulation	50.00
19.05(2)(a)	Washing	50.00
19.05(2)(b)	Cleaning Fish	50.00
19.05(2)(c)	Leaving Refuse	200.00
19.06(1)(a)	Vehicular Traffic	50.00
19.06(2)	Parking	50.00
19.07(1)(a)	Campfires	200.00
19.07(1)(b)	Unattended Fire	200.00
19.07(2)	Fireworks	100.00
19.07(3)	Firearms Unlawful	100.00
19.08(1)	Pets Unauthorized	50.00
19.08(2)	Horseback Riding	50.00
19.08(3)	Hunting & Trapping	50.00
19.09(1)	Food/Beverage on Beach	50.00
19.09(2)	Buoy Molestation	100.00
19.09(3)(a)	Swim/Dangerous Weather	50.00
19.09(3)(b)	Swim Beyond Limits	50.00
19.09(4)	Beach Athletics	50.00
19.09(5)	Swimming Attire	50.00
19.09(6)	Changing Clothes	50.00