

The image features a black and white photograph of a serene park landscape. In the foreground, a calm body of water reflects the sky and the surrounding trees. A white wooden deck with a railing runs along the water's edge. In the middle ground, a white gazebo with a dark roof stands on a grassy bank. Behind the gazebo, there are several large trees, including a prominent evergreen. In the background, a white building is partially visible through the trees. The sky is filled with dramatic, textured clouds. The Oakland County Parks logo is overlaid in the top left corner.

# OAKLAND COUNTY PARKS

**Rules and Regulations**  
[OaklandCountyParks.com](http://OaklandCountyParks.com)



The Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission is dedicated to providing quality recreation experiences that encourage healthy lifestyles, support economic prosperity, and promote the protection of natural resources.

Please use the Oakland County Parks thoughtfully. It is important to appreciate and protect natural treasures and leave them for others to enjoy.

These rules and regulations have been established for the parks owned and operated by the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission. These rules are enforced in compliance with State of Michigan PA 1965, NO. 261.

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## INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

No qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs, or activities of Oakland County Parks and Recreation, or be subjected to discrimination by Oakland County Parks and Recreation.

Pursuant to Act 261 of the Public Acts of the State of Michigan of 1965, as amended, the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission herewith promulgates and publishes the following rules for use, protection, regulation and control of all of its services, facilities and parks, recreation, conservation, education, historic, and scenic areas and preserves and parkways.

**IMPORTANT -- VIOLATIONS OF ANY OF THE PARK RULES MAY BE CAUSE FOR REMOVAL FROM THE PARK. VIOLATORS MAY ALSO BE SUBJECT TO CIVIL AND CRIMINAL PENALTIES.**

## **Section 1. HOURS**

No person shall remain on Commission property between 30 minutes after sunset and 7 a.m., except at designated areas. Provided, however, that upon application to the Commission or its authorized agent said hours may be extended. No person shall enter Commission property that is closed to the public.

## **Section 2. FEES AND CHARGES**

No person or entity shall use any Commission property for which a fee/charge has been established by the Commission without payment of such fee or charge, unless authorized in writing by the Commission or other written agreement or permit. Annual park permits must be permanently affixed to vehicle windshield; each vehicle is required to have a separate permit.

## **Section 3. USE/RESERVATION OF COMMISSION PROPERTY**

1. Persons or entities may reserve, for exclusive use, Commission property open to the public. Application to reserve Commission property for exclusive use, e.g., to hold special events, tournaments, or races, shall be made upon forms furnished by the Commission. Persons reserving Commission property will be expected to sign a Permit/Agreement. Permits/Agreements for more than seven days must be approved by the Commission. Permits/Agreements for seven days or less may be approved by the Commission Executive Officer, pursuant to Commission policies.
2. In the event more applications to reserve Commission property are received than space available, such applicants shall be considered in the chronological order received.
3. Users of reserved Commission property shall comply with all Rules and policies of the Commission relating to use and conduct on Commission property.

4. Persons reserving Commission property may not erect or construct anything above, across or beneath Commission property without first having obtained written permission from the Commission authorizing such erection or construction.
5. Notwithstanding any of the provisions hereof, the Commission may, upon written application, grant specific permits/agreements for special uses when, in the opinion of the Commission, special consideration is warranted.

## **Section 4. EMERGENCY POWERS**

Nothing in these Rules shall:

1. Prohibit or hinder duly-authorized agents of the Commission or any peace officers from performing their official duties.
2. Prohibit the Commission or Commission property Supervisors from establishing emergency Rules required to protect the health, welfare, and safety of park patrons, protect Commission property, and maintain order.

## **Section 5. SWIMMING, BATHING AND WADING**

1. No person shall:

- a. Swim, bathe, wade, or scuba dive in any of the watercourses, lakes, ponds, or sloughs located within or upon Commission property, except at such times and places as may be provided or designated for such purpose. Persons must abide by posted swim Rules.
- b. Carry any food or beverage of any kind or have in their possession any glass container on any beach or in the water adjacent thereto.
- c. Use any flotation devices, inflatable or otherwise, in any watercourses, lakes, ponds, or sloughs on Commission property, except in specifically designated areas where posted

### **2. General Waterpark Rules**

- a. Glass containers are prohibited inside the waterparks.
- b. Lifejackets, tubes, chairs, tables, shaded areas, and charcoal grills are provided on a first-come, first-served basis. Tubes must remain in the pool area and may not be taken to picnic areas. Chairs and tables may be

used by waterpark patrons who are present in the waterparks. Chairs and tables may not be held for anticipated patrons.

- c. Outside inflatables, chairs, umbrellas, tents, and/or grills are prohibited except that waterpark patrons may bring in hand-held umbrellas used for sun protection and personal flotation devices, approved by the United States Coast Guard with the stamped seal.
- d. Balls and/or Frisbees are not permitted inside the waterparks.
- e. Only personal radios are allowed in the park and may only be listened to via headphones. Playing a stereo/radio with speakers is not allowed.
- f. Swim attire worn by waterpark patrons must comply with all local and state laws, rules, and regulations.
- g. Waterpark patrons must follow all other waterpark posted rules and procedures. (A full listing of waterpark rules may be found online at [OaklandCountyParks.com](http://OaklandCountyParks.com).)

## **Section 6. CAMPING**

### **GENERAL CAMPING**

1. **Registration.** Upon arrival at a park, the park patron shall register for and/or be checked in on a campsite.
2. **Reservable Campsites.** On a reservation campsite, a reservation may be made for up to 30 consecutive nights, and reservations are allowed up to 11 months in advance of the arrival date.
3. **Walk-In Campsites.** Walk-in campsites are available on a “first-come, first-served” basis.
  - a. **Registration.** For a walk-in campsite, a park patron may register or renew up to 30 consecutive nights.
  - b. **Renewals.** For a walk-in campsite, a park patron may request renewal of their campsite by the due out time on the day their registration expires. Once a campsite is vacated the site will become available for rent.
4. **Camper Vehicle Pass.** Every vehicle registered must display the vehicle pass on the driver’s side of the windshield while the vehicle is in the park. There is a limit of two vehicles per campsite.

- 5. Assignment of Sites.** All campers are assigned to a campsite. Site changes must be approved by the Park Supervisor.
- 6. Parking of Trailers.** The tongue of the camping trailer hitch must face the road. This allows for quick removal in case of an emergency or to prevent “boxing in” trailers.
- 7. Occupancy of Campsite**
  - a. Each campsite is limited to immediate family members of the park patron reserving the campsite or up to four unrelated persons ages 18 years or older.
  - b. Any child under age 18 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. Children shall not be left unattended.
  - c. Only one camping trailer and one tent OR only two tents and no trailer will be permitted per campsite.
  - d. Campers shall not do any of the following: (1) allow other persons to use their campsites; (2) register a campsite for another person; (3) or transfer campsite or vehicle passes and equipment.
- 8. Visitors/Non-Campers.** All non-campers must pay the day-use entrance fee per vehicle. Vehicles will be parked in the day-use lot or designated parking areas. No non-campers will be allowed in the campground between 10 p.m. and 8 a.m.
- 9. Quiet Hours.** Observed 11 p.m.–7 a.m. All campers must stay at their own campsites after 11 p.m. No walking or driving through the campgrounds after 11 p.m. will be allowed, except directly to/from the restrooms. No power generators shall be operated 11 p.m.–7 a.m.
- 10. Water Outlets.** Water outlets are available to obtain water for use at campsites only. Washing of vehicles, dishes, clothes, animals, or your person at these outlets is prohibited. No hose will be permanently attached to any water outlet.
- 11. Hose Splitters.** No hose splitters are allowed to be attached to any water spigot or hose per the Oakland County Health Department.
- 12. Waste Water.** All grey/waste water must be disposed of at the designated dump station(s) per the Oakland County Health Department Sanitary Code Section 4.1, which states;

## SECTION 4 – UNLAWFUL SEWAGE DISPOSAL:

4.1 Unlawful Disposal of Sanitary Sewage – Under no conditions shall Sanitary Sewage from any structure be deposited upon the surface of the ground, into roadside ditches, watercourses, inland lakes, or into any closed drain other than a Sanitary Sewer.

- a. **Portable Waste Tanks.** Portable tanks may only be connected to a camping unit while in the process of emptying onboard holding tanks. Camper must be present and in view of portable tanks during the emptying process.
- b. **System Leaks.** Camping Units with grey/waste water leaks must be repaired immediately or be removed from Oakland County Parks property until the leak has been fixed.

**13. Golf Carts.** Golf carts are prohibited for use in campgrounds unless street licensed and registered. See Section 8: Motor-Driven Vehicles for additional information.

**14. Electric/Motorized Toys.** Park visitors may utilize electric driven devices such as scooters, hoverboards and Power Wheels on their registered campsite and pathways. No devices are to be operated on park roads.

**15. Bird Feeders.** Park visitors may not feed birds or other wildlife at any time. This includes bird feeders attached to or around RVs and trailers at campgrounds, regardless of whether they're attracting deer.

**16. Off Road Vehicles (ORV).** ORVs are prohibited from operating within the Campgrounds per MCL:324.81122.

- a. It is illegal to operate ORVs on state and federal highways, including the shoulders and rights of way.
- b. Only street licensed registered vehicles may operate on campground roads.

**17. Clotheslines.** Clotheslines must be removed at sundown. At no time shall a clothesline be attached to any electrical or lot posts, trees, fences, etc.

**18. Trash.** Trash shall be placed in dumpsters provided. Campsites shall be kept clean. On-site trash pickup is not offered at any campsites (including full hook-up, water and electric, and group areas).

**19. Large Electrical Appliances.** Refrigerators and other large electrical appliances are not permitted outside trailers

## **CABIN & YURT RENTAL**

1. Smoking or the use of any vapor-producing product, such as an e-cigarette or similar device, is not allowed in any cabin or yurt.
2. Cooking is not permitted inside cabins or yurts.
3. Gas or electric portable heaters are not allowed inside or around the cabins or yurts.
4. Cabins and yurts must be cleaned before leaving and left in the same condition as found.
5. No tents allowed at cabins or yurts.
6. Occupancy is limited to the capacity of each cabin or yurt as specified by the Commission.
7. All campers must follow all other camping Rules contained in this section.
8. Except for service animals, no animals are allowed at or in cabins or yurts.

## **ORGANIZED CLUB/GROUP CAMPING**

1. A group or organization will be assigned to designated group areas only through advance reservations.
2. Groups of campers may be required to share a pavilion with other groups or organizations in the same area.
3. All campers must follow all other camping Rules contained in this section.

## **YOUTH ORGANIZATION CAMP**

1. A youth organization camp is a group of youth ages 17 and younger, who are members of a legal entity/organization, camping with their adult (age 18 years or older) leaders.
2. Youth organization camp area must be reserved in advance.
3. Campers will be placed in an organized campground area. Each group must have one adult leader for every five youths.
4. Youth organization camp shall have tent camping only, unless a trailer or camper will be used as a first aid station or headquarters (Independence Oaks County Park only).
5. No trenching around tents. No ground fires are permitted except in designated fire circles.
6. All campers must follow all other camping Rules contained in these rules

and regulations.

## **CONTINUOUS WALKING OR CRUISING IN OR NEAR CAMPGROUNDS**

It shall be unlawful to continuously walk or cruise in any motor-driven vehicle in, through, and around campgrounds for the purpose of attracting or distracting persons using campsites or for the purpose of using a boat ramp, beach building, or other camping facility, except registered campers/persons to a specific registered campsite.

### **Section 7. BOATING**

1. No person shall launch any boat, yacht, canoe, raft, paddle board or other watercraft from any Commission property, except at such time or place as may be provided or designated for such purpose.
2. All watercraft shall comply with and be used in compliance with Public Act 451 of the Public Acts of the State of Michigan, of 1994 as amended, and such regulations as may be adopted.
3. Air mattresses, inner tubes, and other flotation devices are prohibited, except in designated swimming areas. Belly boats and other specialty flotation equipment may be used. United States Coast Guard approved individual flotation jacket or vest must be properly worn by all occupants.
4. No gasoline-powered watercrafts shall be launched from any Commission property, unless authorized by the Commission. Watercrafts powered by electric motors that are launched from Commission property shall not exceed 24 foot pounds of thrust/24-volt system.
5. To prevent the spread of aquatic nuisance species, when entering and exiting Commission waters, persons shall inspect their watercraft, trailers, motors, and accessory equipment and remove any aquatic plants and animals.

### **Section 8. MOTOR-DRIVEN VEHICLES**

1. No person shall operate a motor-driven vehicle of any kind or nature, including but not limited to any motor-driven sled, toboggan, snowmobile, bike, or all-terrain vehicle on Commission property, except on designated

roads and parking areas.

2. No person shall operate off-road recreational vehicles on Commission property, except on designated roads and parking areas.
3. No person shall operate a motor-driven vehicle on any park road at a speed exceeding 20 miles per hour or at any speed greater than that posted.
4. The driver of any vehicle shall yield the right-of-way to any person riding a horse on marked bridle paths where such bridle paths cross streets or roadways.
5. No person shall violate any provisions of Motor Vehicle Act 300 of the Public Acts of 1949.
6. Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and its regulations, the Commission has authorized persons with mobility disabilities to use certain types of Other Power-Driven Mobility Devices (OPDMD) on park trails. To determine if any particular OPDMD is approved, visit [OaklandCountyParks.com](http://OaklandCountyParks.com) or call 1-888-OCPARKS

## **Section 9. OPERATION OF OFF-ROAD VEHICLES**

1. No person shall operate a motor-driven vehicle of any nature on off-road courses on Commission property outside of the days and hours of operations approved by the Commission. For purposes of these Rules, any motor-driven vehicle of any nature driven on the off-road courses on Commission property is referred to as a “vehicle” and Holly Oaks ORV Park, as part of Commission Property, is referred to as the “ORV Park.”
2. A vehicle with four or more wheels must contain a seat and individual seat belt for each occupant of that vehicle. Those vehicles with automotive-type seating and fewer than four wheels shall be equipped with a seat belt for each occupant. Vehicle operators shall comply with the provisions of the Michigan child passenger safety law, MCL 257.710d, and all of the following provisions:
  - a. Seat belts shall be in use by all occupants while the vehicle is in operation.
  - b. An approved automotive manufactured restraining device, such as a lap belt or three- or four-point harness, is an acceptable seat belt.
  - c. Seat belts and restraining devices, other than factory installed, shall be secured by bolting to the vehicle floor, frame, or roll bar.

- d. Occupancy of any vehicle on which the operator straddles the seat, such as a motorcycle or an all-terrain vehicle (ATV), limited to the operator as the sole occupant no seat belt will be required, with the exception of those vehicles that permit passengers per the manufacturer design and specifications.
3. A vehicle requiring seat belts with an occupant(s) in the rear seat must be protected by a roll bar located immediately behind the occupant's seat as described in the following subsection 4, unless the rear seat occupants are wearing a safety helmet approved for automotive use (A.N.S.I. or equal). The operator or occupant of a vehicle not required to meet seat belt specifications shall wear a safety helmet approved for automotive use (A.N.S.I. or equal) and protective eyewear.
4. A vehicle requiring seat belts must be equipped with an integral steel roof, roll bar located immediately behind the operator, or roll cage, capable of supporting the weight of the vehicle. The operator and occupants of a vehicle without a full front windshield shall wear protective eyewear. A vehicle equipped with a roll bar shall comply with all the following requirements:
  - a. The roll bar shall be welded or bolted to the floor or frame of the vehicle.
  - b. The roll bar shall be braced in such a manner as to prevent collapse.
  - c. The roll bar shall have clearance above, behind, and outside each seated occupant in the vehicle.
5. A vehicle must submit to, and comply with, each of the following tests and no person shall operate a vehicle which fails to do so:
  - a. All vehicles are required to have a muffler. Motorcycles, ATVs and side-by-side vehicles must also have a spark arrestor.
  - b. A maximum noise level of 94 dB(A), or the current EPA emissions limit, shall be met. The testing provisions of current SAE J 1287, June 93 standard for ATV and motorcycle vehicles and SAE J 1169, March 93 standard (as each standard may be updated from time-to-time) for all other vehicles shall be followed and all vehicles shall pass a stationary sound level test. The stationary sound level test shall be administered from a 0.5 meter (19.69 inches) distance at one-half the engine's

- maximum rated RPM and as further described by current testing provisions for the particular vehicle.
6. It shall be unlawful to operate any vehicle at any time without possessing a valid unrestricted operator's or chauffeur's license, except as follows:
    - a. A person at least 12 years of age with an off-road vehicle ("ORV") safety certificate issued by this state or another state or a province of Canada may operate either an ATV or motorcycle with direct visual supervision by an adult. The direct supervision shall not be impaired by distance and must allow the adult the ability to direct the youth's actions by verbal communications. Electronic amplification of verbal communications shall not be used.
    - b. An adult shall not allow an unlicensed youth to operate an ORV.
    - c. An ORV operator licensed under a level two graduated driver's license shall only operate under the provisions of that license.
  7. The operator of any type of vehicle must present an operator's or chauffeur's license or ORV safety training certificate upon the demand of any law enforcement officer or state park personnel.
  8. All persons entering or using the ORV Park shall comply with all posted regulatory, directional signs, and these Rules and operate a vehicle in the directional pattern established and marked within the ORV Park.
  9. No person shall enter or use the ORV Park without obtaining and displaying a valid ORV Park vehicle entry permit and a Michigan ORV License and Trail Permit.
  10. It shall be unlawful to drive or operate any vehicle at speeds exceeding posted speed limits or perform exhibition-type driving within the parking area or entrance road/ramp to the ORV Park. Exhibition-type driving means performing wheelies, spinning tires, cutting circles, jump starts, or other erratic, irresponsible or careless driving.
  11. No person shall possess or consume an alcoholic beverage at any time in the ORV Park including parking lots.
  12. No person shall operate a remote-control car/vehicle in any area of the ORV Park, including parking lots.

13. No person shall bring glass containers into the ORV Park.
14. It shall be unlawful to operate a vehicle after sunset without front-facing and rear-facing lights, as well as brake lights.
15. All vehicles must enter the ORV Park trails under their own power. Trailering, towing, or otherwise transporting vehicles except under their own power past the funnel/gate into the ORV Park is prohibited. Trailers, tow trucks, or other means of transporting a vehicle are only allowed in the parking lots of the ORV Park, unless otherwise approved by the Park Supervisor, as determined in his or her sole discretion. Passengers shall not occupy any trailer or trailer/towed vehicle while the vehicle is being trailered or towed.
16. Oakland County Parks and Recreation and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources are not responsible for towing of vehicles out of the ORV Park. Persons needing towing assistance shall make arrangements for such services.

## **Section 10. PARKING IN PROHIBITED AREAS**

1. It shall be unlawful for a vehicle operator to stop, stand, or park a vehicle in any place marked as a passenger or loading zone, other than for the expeditious loading or unloading of passengers or for the unloading, delivery, pick-up, or loading of materials.
2. It shall be unlawful for a vehicle operator to stop, stand, or park such vehicle upon any roadway or in any parking area in such manner as to form an obstruction to traffic thereon.
3. It shall be unlawful for a vehicle operator to stop, stand or park said vehicle in any area not designated for such purposes.

## **Section 11. OPERATION OF BICYCLES**

1. Bicycles shall be operated as closely to the right-hand side of the path, trail, or roadway, as conditions will permit, and not more than two bicycles shall be operated abreast.
2. It shall be unlawful for a bicyclist to carry any person upon the handlebar or frame of the bicycle.

3. 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 7 a.m.
4. Bicyclists must yield to slower moving trail traffic, such as equestrians and pedestrians. Bicyclists must also verbally announce their presence, with a statement such as, “passing on your left!” before passing other trail users.

## **Section 12. SKATING, COASTING AND SKIING**

1. No person shall use roller skates, in-line skates or skateboards within or upon Commission property, except at such times and at such places as may be designated or maintained.
2. The skateboarding area at Groveland Oaks County Park is open to persons of all ages. Parents shall be in attendance and supervise their children at all times. NO food or beverages are allowed inside the fenced area.
3. Users must be in control at all times in the skateboarding area at Groveland Oaks. Uncontrolled skating activities that endanger others will result in ejection from the skateboarding area. NO bicycles are allowed inside the skateboarding area. This area is for skateboarding only. All other uses prohibited.
4. No person shall, within or upon Commission property, skate, sled, snowshoe, ski, or go upon any ice, except at such times and at such places as may be designated or maintained.
5. No person shall, within or upon Commission property, coast with hand sleds, bob sleds, carts, or other vehicles on wheels or runners except at such times and at such places as may be designated or maintained.

## **Section 13. PERSONAL CONDUCT**

1. It shall be unlawful for any person to create a breach of or to disturb the peace or to be a disorderly person, as provided under state law, while in or on any Commission property.
2. It shall be unlawful to conduct or to participate in any form of gambling, lottery or game of chance upon Commission property, except as permitted by state law and approved by the Commission.
3. It shall be unlawful for any person to consume or smoke marijuana while

in or on all Commission property. Marijuana means all parts of the plant of the genus cannabis, growing or not; the seeds of the plant; the resin extracted from any part of the plant; and every compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of the plant or its seeds or resin, including marijuana concentrate and marijuana-infused products.

4. Smoking or the use of any vapor-producing product, such as an e-cigarette or similar device, is strictly prohibited in all buildings, facilities, beaches, waterparks, and playgrounds located on Commission property. This prohibition shall extend a reasonable distance from said buildings, facilities, beaches, waterparks, and playgrounds.
5. It shall be unlawful for a person to make any open or indecent exposure of their person or of another person on Commission property, as provided under state law.
6. A person who violates any Park Rule may be ejected from Commission property, without a refund or rain check, by Park personnel.

#### **Section 14. METAL DETECTORS**

Metal detectors will be allowed in the picnic, campground, and general park area. With permission from the Park Supervisor, metal detectors will be allowed in the beach area when the beach has been closed to the public. The use of metal detectors in the water will be done by a group of volunteers approved through the Commission's Chief of Operations and Maintenance—North or South District.

#### **Section 15. USE OF LOUDSPEAKER/EXCESSIVE NOISE**

Sound-amplifying equipment, loudspeakers, or public-address systems are prohibited unless written permission is given by the Commission. It is also prohibited to operate a motor vehicle, radio, television, large electrical appliance, refrigerator, or any device in a manner that produces excessive noise.

#### **Section 16. PUBLIC EXHIBITION**

No person shall exhibit any machine, display, or animal; perform any acrobatic exhibitions; carry on any performance; or do anything whatsoever on

Commission property that causes 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 Commission.

## **Section 17. HUNTING, FISHING AND TRAPPING**

1. **Hunting.** No person shall hunt any animal in or upon any Commission property, unless authorized by the Commission.
  - a. **Firearms Hunting.** The use of firearms for hunting is prohibited unless authorized by the Commission. All hunting will be in accordance with the laws of the State of Michigan and regulations promulgated by Michigan Department of Natural Resources. All hunters must also abide by any additional Rules established by the Commission.
  - b. **Archery hunting.** Archery hunting shall be in accordance with the laws of the State of Michigan and regulations promulgated by Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Archery hunting for white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) is permitted at Rose Oaks, Highland Oaks, Independence Oaks-North, Addison Oaks East, Orion Oaks, and Lyon Oaks (Day-use area only) during Michigan Department of Natural Resources archery seasons for Oakland County. Any additional archery hunting opportunities will be authorized by the Commission and posted on the OCPR website and within designated areas of specific parks.
  - c. **Safety zones.** 450-FOOT SAFETY ZONES FOR RESIDENTIAL/ COMMERCIAL AREAS ARE SIGNED AND STRICTLY ENFORCED ON COMMISSION PROPERTY.
2. **Fishing.** Fishing is permitted within or upon Commission property in accordance with the laws of the State of Michigan and regulations promulgated by Michigan Department of Natural Resources in such areas designated for such purposes. Ice fishing is permitted on Commission property, at your own risk. The Commission assumes no liability for injuries sustained while ice fishing. All shanties must comply with the laws of the State of Michigan and regulations promulgated by Michigan Department of Natural Resources.
  - a. Upper Bushman Lake at Independence Oaks-North County Park has

been designated as a Special Regulation Catch-and-Release-Only Fishery by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) Fisheries order 244.

3. **Trapping.** No person shall catch, wound, kill, or attempt to catch, wound, or kill any animal, unless authorized by the Commission or these Rules. No person shall steal any nest, lair, den, or burrow of any animal in or upon any Commission property, unless authorized by the Commission or these Rules.
  - a. **Trapping** of animals is not permitted on Commission property, unless posted in specific areas at selected Parks. All trapping will be in accordance with the laws of the State of Michigan and regulations promulgated by Michigan Department of Natural Resources. All trappers must also abide by any additional Rules established by the Commission.
  - b. **Beaver trapping** occurs by invitation lottery only during nuisance conditions as determined by the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Natural Resources Management Team.
4. **Cameras.** Use of trail or game cameras is permitted only in areas open to archery hunting during hunting season for the purpose of observing wildlife for hunting. All cameras must be clearly marked with owner's name, address, and telephone number visible from the ground. Cameras cannot be affixed to trees or shrubs in any manner that causes damage per Section 18. Cameras may not be used for the purpose of general wildlife observation or observation of staff or park patrons.

## **Section 18. DESTRUCTION OF PLANT LIFE AND NATURAL SURROUNDINGS**

No person shall:

1. Cut, remove, or destroy any tree, shrub, fern, forb, grass, rush, sedge, or other plant, whether alive or dead, or chip, blaze, box, girdle, trim, or otherwise deface or injure any tree or shrub on Commission property, or pick, gather, uproot, remove or destroy any plant without the Commission's written approval.
2. Remove or cause to be removed any seeds, sod, earth humus, peat, boulders, firewood, gravel or sand on Commission property without the Commission's written permission.

3. Leave a designated trail or blaze new trails on park property without Commission's written approval.
4. Gather mushrooms unless the mushrooms are gathered in accordance with the mushroom hunting guidelines listed at [OaklandCountyParks.com](http://OaklandCountyParks.com).

The Commission does not assume responsibility for the identification of any plant, fungus, or berry species on Commission property and is not responsible for any illness which may result from the ingestion of the aforementioned species.

## **Section 19. LITTERING AND POLLUTION OF WATERS**

It shall be unlawful:

1. To discard or deposit refuse of any kind or nature in or upon the Commission property, except by placing said refuse in containers provided for such purpose.
2. To throw, cast, lay, drop, or discharge into or leave on any Commission property any substance, matter of thing, liquid, or solid, which may or shall result in the pollution of said property or waters.

## **Section 20. FIRES**

1. No person shall willfully set or cause to be set on fire any tree, woodland, brush land, grassland, or meadow upon any Commission property, unless authorized by the Commission.
2. No person shall build any fire upon Commission property, except within the fireplace, receptacles, or open spaces approved and designated by the Commission for such purposes.
3. No person shall drop, throw, or otherwise scatter lighted matches, burning cigars, cigarettes, tobacco, paper, or other flammable material within or upon any Commission property, unless authorized by the Commission.
4. No pallets, treated wood, or other noxious materials are to be put in campfires.

## **Section 21. DESTRUCTION OF BUILDINGS, MARKERS, MONUMENTS AND OTHER PROPERTIES**

No person shall upon Commission property:

1. Willfully destroy, deface, alter, change, or remove any monument, stone marker, bench mark, stake, post, or blaze, marking or designating any boundary line, survey line, or reference point.
2. Cut breaks, mark upon, or otherwise injure any building, equipment, bridge, drain, wall, fountain, lamp post, fence, gate, hedge, or other structure.
3. Deface, destroy, or remove any placard, notice or sign, whether permanent or temporary.
4. Appropriate, excavate, injure or destroy any historic or prehistoric ruin or any object of antiquity, without the Commission's permission.

## **Section 22. CONTRABAND**

All game animals, fowl, birds, fish, and other aquatic life hunted, killed, taken, destroyed, bought, sold, bartered or had in possession, contrary to any of the provisions hereof, shall be declared to be contraband and shall be turned over to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for disposal.

## **Section 23. FIREARMS**

The use, possession, and carrying of firearms on Commission property shall be governed by federal, state and local law.

## **Section 24. FIREWORKS**

No person shall fire, discharge, or have in his or her possession any rocket, firecrackers, sparklers, torpedo, squib, floating sky lanterns, other fireworks, or any substance of an explosive or dangerous nature within or upon the Commission property, unless authorized by the Commission or its authorized agent through an agreement or permit. Any agreement/permit issued hereunder shall not relieve a person from obtaining the necessary permits as required by law from the local governing authority wherein the Park is located.

## **Section 25. PEDDLING AND SOLICITING**

It shall be unlawful for any person to peddle or solicit business of any nature whatsoever, to distribute handbills or other advertising material, or to post unauthorized signs on any Commission property, unless first authorized by the Commission in writing.

## **Section 26. ANIMALS AND BIRDS**

1. **Prohibitions.** It shall be unlawful for any persons while upon or within Commission property to:
  - a. Bring, drive, or lead any animal onto Commission property, except as otherwise provided in these Rules or except if prior written permission is received by the Park Supervisor;
  - b. Feed any wildlife;
  - c. Cause any animal to run at large;
  - d. Torture, abuse, ill-treat, or neglect any animal;
  - e. Dispose of, release, or set free any wild or domestic animal upon Commission property unless authorized by the Commission or the Park Supervisor;
  - f. Bring animals in beach areas, waterparks, county market, concession areas, waterways, or in cabins or yurts. Service animals are allowed in all areas of Commission property, except, subject to and in accordance with state or federal laws, rules, and regulations, waterpark pools and splash pads; or
  - g. Leave pets unattended.
2. **Turtles, Frogs, and Mudpuppies.** Turtles, frogs, and mudpuppies shall not be removed from Commission property.
3. **Snakes and Snake Bites.** Snakes shall not be harmed or killed. All snake bites must be reported immediately to 911. Snake bite victims must provide bite incident details to the Park Supervisor or Park Natural Resources Planner.
4. **Service Animals.** Notwithstanding any other Park rule, persons may bring their service animals upon or within any Commission property.
5. **Liability.** Owners or caretakers of animals assume full responsibility for all animals brought onto Commission property.

## 6. Dogs.

- a. Persons may bring dogs on Commission property if they are on a leash (not longer than six feet) or if they are confined to a tent or camping trailer, unless prohibited by posting or otherwise provided by these Rules.
- b. All dogs must have a current license.
- c. Owners or caretakers must clean up all dog droppings.
- d. Unruly dogs are prohibited on Commission property. Unruly dogs are defined as dogs that are not controllable by their owners or caretakers, dogs which physically attack or bite another dog or human (when not provoked), or dogs which physically pin other dogs to the ground (when not provoked).
- e. All dog bites must be reported immediately to the Park Supervisor or an Oakland County Sheriff's deputy, who will contact Oakland County Animal Shelter and Adoption Center. The dog must then be confined until the Oakland County Sheriff's Office or park personnel arrive at the scene.

7. **Dog Parks.** The Commission may designate areas for the purpose of exercising dogs off leash. While in the dog park areas, all dogs and their owners or caretakers must obey all Park Rules, including:

- a. Dogs must be on leash when entering and exiting the dog park. Owners must carry leash with them at all times while in the dog park.
- b. Maximum of two dogs per patron.
- c. Dogs must have current license, up-to-date vaccinations, and respond to voice commands.
- d. Shock collars, metal pinch/choke collars or collars with metal links are not allowed in the dog park.
- e. No dogs under four months of age allowed in the dog park.
- f. Small dog area is for dogs 25 pounds or less.
- g. Owners or caretakers assume full responsibility for all dogs brought onto Commission property.
- h. Dogs must be accompanied and supervised by an adult (age 18 or older) at all times. Dogs must never be left unattended in the dog park.
- i. Children, ages 12 and under, must be accompanied and closely supervised by a parent or adult present inside the dog park, at all times.

- j. No food, human or animal, is allowed in the dog park.
- k. Dogs in heat may not enter the dog park.
- l. Owners or caretakers must clean up dog droppings; bags are provided on site.
- m. Lake Sixteen Dog Dock access at Orion Oaks is for dogs only. Lake Sixteen Boat Launch is not part of the Dog Park.
- n. Dogs are not allowed to dig in the dog park. Owner must fill in any holes.
- o. Community bowls or pools may not be brought to or left at the dog park.

## **Section 27. HORSES**

1. It shall be unlawful for any person to ride, lead, or cause a horse to be upon any Commission property, except on specifically designated and posted areas, bridle paths or by permit on field trail areas.
2. It shall be unlawful for any person to ride a horse in a careless, negligent, or reckless manner so as to create a nuisance or to endanger the life, property, or persons of others on any Commission property.

## **Section 28. LIVESTOCK**

No person shall drive or cause to be driven any horses, cattle, sheep, goats, swine, or other livestock upon or across any Commission property unless approved by the Commission.

## **Section 29. UNMANNED AIRCRAFTS, HOT AIR BALLOONS, AIRPLANES AND PARACHUTES**

1. No person shall make any ascent in any hot air balloon, airplane or ultralight, or any descent in or from any hot air balloon, airplane or parachute on any Commission property unless authorized in writing by the Commission.
2. Any person operating an unmanned, remote control aircraft shall do so in accordance with all federal and state, laws and regulations.

## **Section 30. UNLAWFUL OBSTRUCTION**

No person shall by force, threats, intimidations, unlawful fencing, enclosing or by other means, prevent or obstruct any person from entering, leaving or making full use of any Commission property

### **Section 31. HINDERING EMPLOYEES**

No person shall interfere with, or in any manner hinder, any Commission employee or agent while performing their official duties.

### **Section 32. RESISTING PARK EMPLOYEES**

No person shall interfere with any Commission employees in the discharge of their duties or fail or refuse to obey any lawful command of any park employee.

### **Section 33. IMPERSONATING PARK EMPLOYEES**

No person shall impersonate any Commission employee or agent for any reason whatsoever.

### **Section 34. FINES AND IMPRISONMENT**

Except as otherwise provided by law, any person violating these Park Rules and Regulations shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined not more than \$100 and costs of prosecution, or imprisoned in the Oakland County Jail for a period not exceeding 90 days, or both, for each offense.

### **Section 35. SPECIAL USE AREAS**

Special use areas will have posted Commission rules and regulations specific to the area's use and users' conduct. Special use areas include, but are not limited to: beaches; waterparks; bicycle motocross track; bicycle skills course; skateboard parks; dog parks; disc golf course; golf; miniature (putt-putt) golf; driving range; cross-country ski trails; playgrounds; mountain biking trails; and any other designated areas with their own specific rules and regulations.

### **Section 36. FREE SPEECH**

Parks are traditional public forums that citizens may use for purpose of assembly, communicating thoughts, discussing public questions and protests. Peaceful assemblies, public demonstrations and other types of protests are permissible except where such activity will do the following:

1. Disrupt scheduled events at or on Commission property;
2. Create a hazard to Commission property;
3. Physically interfere with other park patrons' use of Commission property; or

4. Block traffic or block the path of others using Commission property.

“Disrupt,” as used above, does not include peacefully holding a protest sign at a public meeting or acting in a manner that does not prevent others from participating in a scheduled event at or on Commission property, or that does not create a hazard to the health, welfare and safety of park patrons, or that does not destroy or damage Commission property.

If a planned assembly or public demonstration on Commission property can be reasonably anticipated to disrupt, create a hazard, physically interfere or block traffic or the path of other patrons, as specified above in numbered paragraphs 1-4; organizers of such activities shall provide two business days’ notice to the Commission.

Speech may not be restricted based on content or views expressed, except that the speakers may not:

1. Use fighting words, which are words by which their very utterance tend to incite an immediate breach of the peace;
2. Threaten to physically harm others; or
3. Engage in obscene speech or conduct as that term is defined by MCL 752.362(5);
4. Organizers must also comply with all other governmental requirements, including these Rules, for conducting such assemblies or public demonstrations.

### **Section 37. PHOTOGRAPHY, VIDEO AND AUDIO RECORDING**

Persons may take still photographs or video or audio recordings on Commission property without first obtaining a written permit from the Commission unless any of the following apply:

1. The photographs or recordings are being taken for the purpose of advertising a product or service;
2. The photographs or recordings involve professional or amateur casts, props, models, or crews, other than bona fide news media personnel covering a news event that cannot be covered at any other time or at any other location;

3. The project requires access to Commission property that is closed or restricted to the general public; and
4. The project carries substantial risk of damaging Commission property, disrupting park patrons, disrupting park operations, or compromising public health and safety regulations already covered by law.

## **Section 38. CONSUMPTION AND SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES**

### **1. Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages on Commission property:**

Alcoholic Beverages may be brought into and consumed on Commission property by park patrons subject to the following:

- a. Individuals who bring and consume alcoholic beverages on Commission property are responsible for their own actions as a result of consuming alcoholic beverages and must be in compliance with all laws and Park Rules.
- b. No person under the age of 21 may consume or purchase alcoholic beverages on Commission property. In the event that any underage drinking is suspected, the Oakland County Sheriff's Office and/or the local police department will be immediately notified.
- c. No alcoholic beverages are permitted at park beaches, dog parks, waterparks, waterpark parking lots, and concession areas.
- d. Park patrons shall not bring alcoholic beverages to Park golf courses (except for Red Oaks Golf Course), and Park banquet facilities, including the parking lots for these areas, where a license from the Michigan Liquor Control Commission to sell alcoholic beverages is in place.
- e. Keg beer is not allowed at or on Commission property, unless served by a caterer or entity approved in writing by the Park Supervisor.
- f. When a person or entity reserves and uses Commission property, the consumption of alcoholic beverages at such facility or property shall also be governed by the written agreement, which provides for the use of the Commission property.

## **2. Sale of Alcoholic Beverages on Commission property:**

The sale of alcoholic beverages within or on Commission property is prohibited, subject to the following exceptions:

- a. At formally established concession and banquet facilities operated by, or under contract with, the Commission. The contract with the Commission shall address all aspects of the sale of alcoholic beverages, including licenses, liability and insurance.
- b. At events that meet all of the following requirements:
  - i. An application for such purpose shall have been submitted to and approved by the Commission, and
  - ii. The applicant must be an established non-profit, charitable entity which meets the following requirements:
    1. Has actively functioned in Oakland County for at least two years
    2. Is recognized as having provided substantial benefit in the interest of the public in Oakland County, and
    3. The Commission has determined in the exercise of its reasonable discretion, based on the available evidence, that the proceeds from the approved sale of alcohol will be used primarily to serve the interests of the public in Oakland County; and
    4. The applicant has secured licensure from the Michigan Liquor Control Commission and has provided written evidence of such licensure; and
    5. The applicant has secured all insurance for the event as required by the Oakland County Department of Risk Management; and
    6. The event will be short term; and
    7. The event is primarily expected to be attended by adults, and any minors expected to attend will, for the most part, be in the presence of their parents or affiliated adults.

## DEFINITIONS

“Commission” shall mean the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission or its Executive Officer.

“Commission property” shall mean all lands, waters and property administered by or under the jurisdiction of the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission.

“Person” or “persons” shall mean individuals, firms, corporations, or any group or gathering of individuals.

“Resident” shall mean any individual who resides within the County of Oakland as confirmed by a government-issued ID.

“Rules” shall mean the rules and regulations adopted by the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission applicable to all property administered by or under the jurisdiction of the said Commission and all amendments thereto. These rules and regulations are enforced in compliance with State of Michigan Public Act 261.

“Camping” shall mean the overnight lodging or sleeping of person or persons in a tent, trailer-coach, vehicle camper, motor vehicle, or in any other conveyance erected, parked or placed on the premises within any park or recreation area administered by the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission.

“Alcoholic beverages” refers to products of distillation of any fermented liquid whether or not rectified or diluted with water or other liquid, including beer, wine and liquor, but does not mean ethyl or industrial alcohol, diluted or not, that has been denatured or otherwise rendered unfit for beverage purposes. (based on the definition contained in the Michigan Liquor Control Act, Act 58 of 1998; MCL 436.1105(1))

OAKLAND COUNTY PARKS  
AND RECREATION COMMISSION

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J. David VanderVeen, *Vice Chairman*

Ebony Bagley, *Secretary*

Christine Long, *Executive Committee Member*

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Nancy L. Quarles

Dan Stencil, *Executive Officer*

Sue Wells, *Manager of Parks and Recreation Operations*

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

2800 Watkins Lake Road

Waterford, MI 48328-1917

248-858-0906

[OaklandCountyParks.com](http://OaklandCountyParks.com)



# OAKLAND COUNTY PARKS

