

Chapter 5 – Park Rules and Regulations

Sec. 5.01 Parks and Recreation Areas

The District maintains open space for parks and recreation areas within the District for the benefit of the public. The District wants all patrons of parks and recreation areas to have a positive and enjoyable experience. The District encourages all persons to demonstrate respectful and courteous behavior, including maintaining noise and music to a reasonable level, while enjoying the parks and recreational facilities.

These parks and recreation areas are located throughout the District and are referred to herein as the “Parks.” To ensure that everyone may enjoy these areas, the District has adopted the rules in this Chapter (the “Park Rules”).

Sec. 5.02 Park Rules

- a. Park Hours: Spring/Summer 5:00 A.M. to 11:00 P.M.
Fall/Winter 6:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M.
- b. Alcoholic Beverages: Consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited.
- c. Smoking. Smoking is prohibited within 50 feet of Park facilities.
- d. Open Flames: No ground fires are allowed.
- e. Camping. Camping is prohibited in all District parks unless a request for permission is submitted to and approved by the Board of Directors or by the Parks Committee of the Board of Directors on behalf of the Board of Directors.
- f. Motor-Driven Vehicles and Equipment: Except for equipment used to assist the disabled and as explicitly authorized by the District for official purposes, motor-driven vehicles and equipment are prohibited.
- g. Trash and other Refuse. Littering is prohibited. All refuse must be placed in trash receptacles.
- h. Control of Animals. All animals, including but not limited to dogs, cats and horses, must be under tethered control within 5 feet of its owner at all times. All pet owners must clean up after their pets.
- i. Drug use. Use of illegal drugs is prohibited.
- j. Firearms and Fireworks. Firearms and fireworks are prohibited.

k. Projectiles. Hurling, throwing, discharging, firing, or propelling by any means any projectile is prohibited. Under this rule, prohibited activity includes, but is not limited to, golf activities; possession or use of BB guns, pellet guns, air guns, slingshots, bows and arrows, and blowguns; and throwing or otherwise propelling stones, darts, knives, spears, and javelins. This rule does not apply to throwing balls, Frisbees, and other similar athletic objects.

l. Offensive Language. Use of offensive language is not permitted.

m. Destructive Activities: Activities that cause or are likely to cause destruction, damage, or defacement to trees, landscaping or any other facility in the Parks are prohibited. By way of example and not in limitation, the riding of bicycles, skateboards, rollerblades or other similar wheeled mechanisms in the Pavilion or on any furniture in the Parks is expressly prohibited.

n. Harassment of Wildlife. Harassment of wildlife is prohibited.

o. Certain activities prohibited. Carnival rides, miniature trains, petting zoos, and water/splash rides are prohibited in the District parks.

p. Noise Control. Except as may be authorized in writing in advance by the District, no visitor to the parks may cause or allow any sound that constitutes a noise disturbance in a District park. A noise disturbance means a sound which i) disturbs a reasonable person of normal sensitivities; and/or ii) is audible by person of normal hearing faculties at a distance of 200 feet or more from the source of the sound or noise. Any person who causes or allows a noise disturbance to occur creates a nuisance. The following acts are declared to be in violation of this article and are hereby defined as nuisances:

- i. Operating or playing a radio, television, phonograph, musical instrument, or similar device that reproduces or amplifies sound so it creates a noise disturbance.
- ii. Operating or playing any self-contained, portable, handheld music or sound amplification or reproduction equipment in the public park space so as to cause a noise disturbance.
- iii. Operation of any public loudspeaker in a fixed position, moveable position, or mounted on a sound vehicle in the park for the purpose of communication or sound reproduction or causes a noise disturbance.
- iv. Any District official (or law enforcement official) who hears potential noise disturbance in a District park will assess the noise according to the following standards: The primary means of detection are the official's normal hearing faculties, so long as the official's hearing is not enhanced by any mechanical device, such as a hearing aid. The official must have a direct line of sight and hearing to the section of the park property of the

source of the noise so the official can readily identify the offending source of the noise and the distance involved. If the official is unable to have a direct line of sight and hearing to the real property of the source of the noise, then the official must confirm the source of the noise by approaching section of the park from which the source of the noise originates and to obtain a direct line of sight and hearing, and identify the same noise that was heard at the place of original assessment.

- v. The official need not determine the particular words or phrases being said or produced, or the name of the song or artist producing the noise. The detection of a rhythmic bass reverberating type of noise is sufficient to constitute a plainly audible noise.
- vi. A District official is a member of the Board of Directors or one of its designees. When a noise disturbance is detected the official will take the following steps: i) request the person or persons creating the reduce the noise level so as to avoid creating a nuisance; ii) dispatch a law enforcement officer to address the noise disturbance and issue citations, if necessary

Sec. 5.03 Penalties and Violations:

a. Violations of the Park Rules may make the person or organization in violation ineligible for future use of all Parks. Peace officers and/or an authorized representative of the District are authorized to enforce Park Rules. Depending on the severity of the offense, action taken on behalf of the District for violations of Park Rules may include one or more of the following:

- i. Notification of parents or guardian,
- ii. Suspension from the Parks for an extended period of time, and
- iii. Criminal and civil complaints as necessary which will include notification to the Williamson County Sheriff's Department and prosecution and/or other legal remedies.

b. Penalties. Penalties may be assessed to the individual or responsible party. Peace officers are authorized to make arrests when necessary to prevent any violation of these Park Rules. Any person who violates the Park Rules is guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a penalty of up to an amount not to exceed the jurisdiction of a justice court. The District's Rules regarding appeals and violations (Chapter 6) also apply to the provisions of Chapter 5.