

Chapter 12 ½

PARKS AND RECREATION

Sec. 12 1 2-1./Operation of motor vehicles.

Sec. 12 1 2-2./Use of floodlights in town recreational areas.

Sec. 12 1 2-3./Rules and regulations governing the use of public parks and playgrounds.

Sec. 12 1 2-4./Reserved.

Sec. 12 1 2-5./Regulations for the use of Bushee School outdoor recreational area.

Sec. 12 1 2-5.1./Certain activities on town-owned tennis courts and basketball courts prohibited.

Sec. 12 1 2-6./Rules and regulations; director of parks and recreation.

Sec. 12- 1 2-7./User fees for recreational fields and facilities.

Sec. 12 1 2-8./Penalties.

Sec. 12 1 2-1./Operation of motor vehicles.

(a) No person shall operate a motor vehicle, motorcycle, snowmobile, go-cart, dirt-bike, mini-scooter, mini-bike, motorbike, or other self-propelled vehicle in any of the parks, recreational areas or exterior school property of the town.

(b) Operation and parking of the aforesaid vehicles shall only be allowed in designated driveways or parking lots and in such areas, the speed limit shall not exceed ten miles per hour, conditions permitting. In addition, these vehicles shall be properly registered and equipped according to the motor vehicle code of the State of Rhode Island.

(c) Operation of snowmobiles shall be prohibited in all town parks at all times.

(d) No washing, polishing, cleaning or repairing of any motor vehicle or recreational vehicle shall be allowed within the confines of the parks, recreational areas or exterior school property.

(e) The operator of a motor vehicle, recreational vehicle or any other vehicle not manually propelled, shall grant the right-of-way to all persons within the limits of a public park or recreational area.
(Ord. of 7-17-78; Ord. of 6-6-86)

Sec. 12 1 2-2./Use of floodlights in town recreational areas.

(a) Floodlighting of all parks and recreation facilities shall terminate at 10:00 p.m. weekdays, weekends, and holidays from April 15 to September 30 and at 8:00 p.m. from October 1 to October 31.

(b) There shall be no charge for use of floodlights; however, permits for use of said facilities shall be obtained from the recreation director or his authorized representative.
(Ord. of 7-17-78; Ord. of 6-6-86)

Sec. 12 1 2-3./Rules and regulations governing the use of public parks and playgrounds.

(a) Town parks or recreational facilities shall be open from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. from April 15 to

September 30 and from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. from October 1 to April 14. Unless otherwise closed by order of the parks and recreation director or the town council.

- (b) No person shall bring into any park or playground area any refuse, ashes, garbage, or other material for the purpose of disposal within said area.
- (c) Littering is prohibited. All refuse and waste material shall be deposited in receptacles provided for that purpose and shall not be left on the ground or in waters of any town park. Picnic areas must be left clean.
- (d) No person shall start a fire in any park or playground area without a written permit from the recreation director.
- (e) No person shall erect any tent, or be allowed to camp or live in any park or playground area without a written permit from the recreation director.
- (f) No person shall bathe in the waters of any town park.
- (g) No person shall hunt, trap, or carry firearms within a park or playground area. No animal or bird in any town park shall be harassed, injured or killed.
- (h) No person shall cut, remove, or damage any tree or shrub within a park area, nor shall they deface any building or public property.
- (i) No person shall disrobe in any public park or recreational area other than in a properly designated building.
- (j) The playing of golf or the driving of golf balls is prohibited.
- (k) The public safety director (after conferring with the superintendent of schools if exterior school property) may by permit applied for in writing, authorize the use of such property for special public functions during times other than those specified herein.
- (l) The recreation director (after conferring with the superintendent of schools if exterior school property) may schedule activities on public recreation property and may issue a written permit authorizing the use of said property.
- (m) It is the intent of subsections (k) and (l) not to divest the school committee of its jurisdiction and authority to regulate utilization of school property.
- (n) No person shall possess, drink, sell or offer for sale any intoxicating beverages or possess any controlled substances within the limits of a town park or recreational area.
- (o) No person shall offer for sale at any park or playground area any goods or services of a commercial nature without a written permit from the recreation director.
- (p) No person shall distribute or exhibit any printed or written matter, nor shall any persons hold any

public meetings at any park or playground area without a written permit from the recreation director. When official permission is granted, the distributor or exhibitor shall be responsible for removal of all litter which may result from such distribution or exhibition.

(q) Sirens and other noise-making devices are not to be operated within the confines of a public park or recreational area. Engine-powered model airplanes and cars can be operated upon the receipt of a written permit from the recreation director.

(r) All written permits may be obtained from the recreation director or an authorized representative of the recreation division.
(Ord. of 7-17-78; Ord. of 6-6-86)

Sec. 12 1 2-4./Reserved.

Editors Note: Ord. of Apr. 6, 2009 deleted § 12 1/2-4, which pertained to animal control in town parks and derived from Ord. of July 17, 1978; Ord. of June 6, 1986.

Sec. 12 1 2-5./Regulations for the use of Bushee School outdoor recreational area.

(a) During days when school is in session such areas as are not otherwise designated, i.e., tennis court or parking areas may be used for such sports, games or recreational activities as may be organized, planned and supervised by the professional teaching staff or other authorized school department employees.

(b) Whenever the school custodian terminates his duties for the day (usually about 5:00 p.m.), or in his absence some other person designated by the school principal or other higher authority, he shall close and lock all gates enclosing the recreation and parking area, except one small gate which shall remain unlocked at all times.

(c) During days when school is not in session, the recreational area, exclusive of the tennis court, shall be available at all times to the community for sports, games or recreational activities.

(d) Said tennis court at Bushee School shall be enclosed by a chain link fence with a gate leading directly into the tennis court from Merrimac Street and shall be under the supervision of the town recreation department.

(e) The gate shall be equipped with a locking device with the key remaining in the possession of the recreation department.

(f) The tennis court shall be available for use from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on all days except Sundays and holidays, and shall be supervised by such persons as authorized by the recreation department.

(g) No street hockey is to be played on the tennis court.

(h) Whenever school facilities are in use during the evening, the custodian on special duty shall open the gates to permit the use of the parking area. These gates shall be locked after the parking area is vacated, when the custodian leaves the school. The school committee reserves the right at any regular meeting to modify, amend or revise these regulations when in its discretion it appears necessary or desirable for the maintenance of good order, the encouragement of physical fitness or athletics or for such other purpose or activities as are reasonable

and within the general powers conferred by the school committee.
(Ord. of 7-17-78)

Sec. 12 1 2-5.1./Certain activities on town-owned tennis courts and basketball courts prohibited.

The riding of bikes, skateboards, roller skates and the playing of street hockey and soccer on all town-owned tennis courts and basketball courts is hereby prohibited.
(Ord. of 8-18-80)

Editors Note: An ordinance of Aug. 18, 1980, contained provisions designated as § 12 1/2-5. At the discretion of the editor, said provisions have been included as § 12 1/2-5.1 in order to facilitate reference.

Sec. 12 1 2-6./Rules and regulations; director of parks and recreation.

The director of parks and recreation is hereby authorized to issue rules and regulations, with the approval of the town administrator, for the use of all facilities within his jurisdiction. Said rules and regulations shall be in addition to those set forth in this chapter, and shall be effective upon approval by the public safety director.
(Ord. of 5-17-04, § 3)

Sec. 12- 1 2-7./User fees for recreational fields and facilities.

Any adult person, group or organization obtaining a recreational fields and facilities use permit under this chapter shall pay a fee of \$25.00 per event. Said permit shall reserve the use of the facility for the time(s) specified in said permit. Provided further, that all youth sports programs, including but not limited to the North Smithfield Little League, and North Smithfield Youth Soccer Association are exempt from said fees.

All such fees shall be deposited in the town's general fund, identified and allocated to maintenance and improvement of the town's recreational fields and facilities.
(Ord. of 3-4-02)

Sec. 12 1 2-8./Penalties.

Any person, firm or corporation, whether as principal, agent, employee or otherwise, who violates any of the provisions of this chapter, including any rule or regulation promulgated by the director of parks and recreation shall be fined by an amount not exceeding \$500.00 for each offense.
(Ord. of 7-17-78; Ord. of 5-17-04, § 2)