

# **PORTAGE COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES**

## **Chapter 6 PORTAGE COUNTY PARK ORDINANCES**

### **ORDINANCES**

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### **6.1 PORTAGE COUNTY PARK ORDINANCE**

#### **6.1.1 GENERAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND TERMS**

##### **(A) Terms**

(1) *Park Commission.* The terms “Commission” and “Park Commission” shall mean the Portage County Park Commission.

(2) *Park.* The terms “park”, “county park”, “parkways”, and “Portage County Park” are defined to mean all lands and water heretofore and hereafter acquired by the county for park or recreational purposes or placed under the Jurisdiction of the Park Commission, and include, without limitation, park beaches, swimming pools, boat landings, waysides and privately owned lands, the use of which has been granted to the county for parks, recreational or like public purposes. The following areas are designated as Portage County Parks:

Becker Lake Recreation Area	Standing Rocks Park
Cate Park	Stedman Wayside
Collins Park	Sunset Park
Consolidated Parkway	Tech Parkway
County Cemetery	Tomorrow River State Trail
Dewey Marsh Recreation Area/ Shooting Range	Tomorrow River Wayside
DuBay Park	Wisconsin River Recreation Area
Frost Park	Wolf Lake Park
Galecke Park	Trails (as Designated)
Jordan Park	Meyers Lake Boat Landing
Lake Emily Park	Rhinehart Lake Boat Landing
Lake Helen Park	Tree Lake Boat Landing
Peterson Park	Plover River Wayside
	Rocky Run Preserve

3) *Bathing Beaches.* The following areas are designated as bathing beaches adjacent to County Parks. The purpose of marked bathing beaches is to provide safe swimming areas consistent with public rights and interest. These bathing beaches are in effect when marked with official bathing beach markers placed and maintained consistent with all applicable state laws.

Collins Lake Beach-Located in the N1/2 of the SW1/4 of the NW1/4 of Section 31, T25N, R10E, Town of Alban.

Lake DuBay Beach-Located in the NE1/4 of the SE1/4 of Section 5, T25N, R7E, Town of Eau Pleine.

Lake Emily Beach-Located in the SW1/4 of the NE1/4 of Section 18, T25N, R10E, Town of Amherst.

Lake Helen Beach-Located in lot # of certified survey map No. 406, 2-66 being parts of Govt Lot 1, Section 24 and Govt Lot 1, Section 25, T25N, R10E, Town of Alban.

Jordan Pond Beach-Located in the SW1/4 of the NE1/4 of Section 12, T24N, R8E, Town of Hull.

Peterson Park Beach(Tree Lake)-Located in Govt Lot #8 Section 3, T25N, R10E, Town of Alban.

Sunset Lake Beach-Located in the NW1/4 of the NE1/4 of Section 22, T24N, R10E, Town of New Hope.

Wolf Lake Beach-Located in the SE1/4 of the NE1/4 of Section 1, T21N, R9E, Town of Almond.

(4) Person-The term "person" shall include any individual, firm, partnership, Corporation and association of person, and the singular number shall include the plural.

(B) Scope- Except when the context provides otherwise, the provisions of this Ordinance shall apply to all lands, structures and property owned, leased, or administered by Portage County, Wisconsin, and under the management, supervision, and control of the Portage County Commission.

(C) Parks Director-The Parks Director shall be the authorized agent of the Commission as referred to herein.

(D) Closing Hours and Dates:

(1) Closing Hours:

(a) No person or vehicle shall enter or be in any park between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and the following 6:00 a.m. (except registered campers in or en route to designated campgrounds).

(b) Persons transporting watercraft to and from designated boat landings are permitted at any hours.

(c) Persons renting lodges must vacate such buildings by 11:00 p.m.

(2) Closing of Parks

Any county park, trail or any portion of any county park or trail as they are defined under section 6.1.1 (A)(2) of the Portage County Park Ordinance, may be closed to vehicles and/or persons for any length of time deemed necessary, when in the opinion of the Portage County Parks Director such closing is necessary to protect the public safety, or the facilities and resources of the county parks and trails from injury or damage by persons or other forces. In the event, the Parks Director is not available, then the Portage County Sheriff or the senior Portage County Deputy on duty shall act under this section.

(3) Closing of Parks During the Deer Gun Season

All county parks and trails as they are defined under section 6.1.1 (A)(2) of the Portage County Park Ordinance, will be closed to all individuals except legally licensed hunters hunting in county parks that are designated public hunting areas during the Deer Gun Season. The designed public hunting areas are the following: Standing Rocks park south of Standing Rocks Road, Becker Lake Recreation Area, Dewey Marsh Recreation Area, and the Wisconsin River Recreation Area.

(E) Fees, Charges and Deposits:

(1) Fee Schedule

No person shall use any facility, shelter, land or area for which a fee or charge had been established by the Commission without payment of such fee or charge as posted or otherwise established for, but not restricted to, camping, ski tow fees, mountain bike trail fees, lodge rentals and firewood sales. Such fees may be periodically reviewed and changed by the Commission to reflect current economic conditions.

(a) Adult supervised juvenile groups shall be charged ½ price on all established daily use fees for use of Portage County Parks, except ski equipment rentals.

(b) A \$100 security deposit must be deposited when making application for use of any park shelter. Said fee will be returned upon clean-up of the shelter and the surrounding area meeting the satisfaction of the Parks Director.

(c) The person who registers for any park shelter will be responsible for ensuring compliance with all federal, state and local laws as well as rules of the Portage County Park Commission. The person who registers for the park shelter will also be responsible for the actions of all others in their party, including payment for all damages occurring at the park shelter.

(2) The Purpose of Fees

The fees collected by Portage County for the use of Portage County park property are intended solely to defray part of the cost of the operation of the Portage County Parks which are maintained solely in the governmental capacity of Portage County and the payment of a fee by a person or persons is not intended to imply a business invitee relationship.

### (3) Special Fees

Any park structure, facility, or area other than the above, may be reserved or rented for special purposes subject to the approval of the Commission. The Commission, at its discretion may set the charge for this facility.

### (F) Additional Rules, Permits Exceptions:

#### (1) Additional Rules

Rules and regulations may be made from time to time by the Commission, governing the further use and enjoyment of parks, parkways, playgrounds, beaches, boat landings, campgrounds, lakes, streams and the facilities thereof. Any person who shall violate such rules or regulations or who refuses to subject himself hereto, may be required to leave the park premises and may be subject to penalties as set forth in Section 6.1.13 (B) of this Ordinance. Persons required to leave the park premises for violation of this ordinance shall not return to any Portage County Park for at least a 24 hour period from the date and time of such order to leave the park.

#### (2) Permits

Any person to whom a permit shall have been issued by the Parks Director, or other authorized person shall be bound by the provisions of all Ordinances of Portage County as fully as though the same were inserted in each permit.

#### (3) Exceptions

Nothing in this code shall prohibit or hinder the Portage County Park Commission of Portage County, Wisconsin, its Director, Supervisors, Park Managers, Caretakers, or other duly authorized agents, or any peace officers from performing their official duties.

### (G) Compliance With Orders of Park Police

#### (1) Failure to Obey

No person shall fail or refuse to comply with reasonable order relating to the regulation, direction, or control of traffic or to any other order lawfully given by any park police or deputy sheriff acting under the authority of the board, or willfully resist, obstruct or abuse any park police or deputy sheriff or any other official in the exercise of his or her official duties.

## **6.1.2 PUBLIC MEETINGS AND SALES**

### (A) Public Meetings

(1) Any person desiring to hold a public meeting of any kind whatsoever in any park shall first obtain a permit from the Commission or its duly authorized agent. The permit must be applied for not less than 48 hours prior to the scheduled event.

(2) Permits will be granted for the purpose of holding any lawful public assembly in accordance with published regulations governing the reasonable use of parks.

### (B) Peddling and Soliciting

No person shall peddle or solicit business of any nature whatever, or distribute handbills or other advertising matters either of a commercial or political nature, or post unauthorized signs, bills or decorative matters on any lands, structure, 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 unless first authorized in writing by the Portage County Park Commission or its duly authorized agent.

## **6.1.3 PERSONAL CONDUCT AND NUISANCES**

### (A) Personal Conduct

All Wisconsin Statutes and Portage County Ordinances will be strictly enforced as to conduct on county property, i.e., disorderly conduct, etc.

(B) Unnecessary Noises

No person or persons shall engage in any boisterous or unreasonably loud activity, including the playing of audio or visual equipment, that tends to unreasonably disturb or impede:

(a) The quiet enjoyment of county parks: or

(b) The quiet enjoyment by neighboring tenants or persons legally entitled to possession of surrounding real property.

#### **6.1.4 DESTRUCTION, ENTRY, CLEANING AND REFUSE**

(A) Destruction and Entry

(1) Destruction, Defacement, or Removal

No person shall destroy, deface or remove any county owned or leased property, whether man-made or natural.

(2) Entry and Manipulation

No person shall enter any building, installation or area that may be under construction or locked or closed to public use; or to molest or manipulate any water control structure, dam or culvert; or to enter or be upon any building, installation or area after the posted closing time or before the posted opening time, or contrary to posted notice, in any park.

(B) Cleaning and Refuse

(1) Washing

The washing of cars, persons, pets, cooking utensils, or clothing, is prohibited in any of the lake or streams, or on any picnic grounds, playgrounds, recreation areas, boat landings, parking lots or roadways. The washing of persons, cooking utensils, and clothing shall be permitted at designated areas within campgrounds.

(2) Fish and Game Cleaning

No person shall clean, butcher, scale or skin any fish, game, livestock or poultry in any county park except at designated fish-cleaning tables if provided for such purposes. Refuse from such cleaning operations must be suitably wrapped or packaged and deposited in the refuse containers provided for that purpose.

(3) Refuse

(a) State and County Ordinances against littering shall be strictly enforced on county property

(b) Charcoal residue must be left in a grate or fireplace until cool, or placed in receptacles provided for such purposes.

(c) No person shall dispose of any refuse if such contents are not as a result of the use of the park.

#### **6.1.5 VEHICLES AND BOATS**

(A) Vehicular Traffic

(1) No person shall operate any vehicle at a speed in excess of 15 m.p.h. or contrary to official traffic signs posted in any county park.

(2) No person shall operate any vehicle in any park in a reckless manner contrary to the provisions of Section 346.62 of the Wisconsin State Statutes.

(3) No person shall operate or park a motor vehicle upon county park property except upon designated areas.

(4) No person shall operate any motor-driven bike in any park except where they are permitted on designated roads and trails.

(5) No person shall operate, within any park, any motor vehicle which is not customarily registered with the Department of Motor Vehicles of the State of Wisconsin and designated for highway travel.

(B) Speed Restriction

(1) Speed to be reasonable and prudent. No person shall operate a motor boat at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under the conditions and having regard for the actual and potential hazards then existing. The speed of a motor boat shall be so controlled as to avoid colliding with any object lawfully in or on the water or with any person, boat or other conveyance in or on the water in compliance with legal requirements and exercising due care.

(2) Fixed limits. In addition to comply with (1) no person may operate a motor boat at a speed in excess of the posted notice as established by regulatory markers on the following lakes:

(a) Sunset Lake, Town of New Hope

(b) Jordan Pond, Town of Hull

(c) Tree Lakes and Lake Helen, Town of Alban, except between 10a.m. and 4 p.m.

(d) Wolf Lake, Town of Almond

(e) The Wisconsin River between the dams of Consolidated Papers, Inc., Stevens Point Division and the Wisconsin River Division.

(3) No person may operate a motor boat within 100 feet of any dock, raft, pier or buoyed restricted area on any lake at a speed in excess of "slow-no-wake" speed.

(C) Definition: For the purpose of this ordinance, the definition of "slow-no-wake" speed is defined as the slowest possible speed so as to maintain steerage.

(D) Vehicles used to transport watercraft are permitted in designated areas at or near boat landings.

(E) No Person shall moor a boat for more than 12 hours on park property except by registered campers.

(F) No person shall operate a snowmobile in any park except along a snowmobile trail maintained by the County or a snowmobile route designated by the County.

(G) No person shall operate a snowmobile at a speed in excess of 15 m.p.h. or contrary to official signs or in a reckless manner in a county park.

(H) Only vehicles loading or unloading boats or other watercraft or emergency vehicles may use boat landings. No other uses are permitted.

### **6.1.6 FIRES, FIREWORKS, FIREARMS**

(A) Fires

(1) No person shall start, tend, or maintain any fire, or burn any refuse, except at designated fireplaces, fire rings, or grills within any county park, except that fires for cooking or heating may be made in portable stoves, heaters or grills at designated campgrounds and picnic areas.

(2) No person shall leave any fire unattended, or throw away matches, cigarettes, cigars, or pipe ashes or any embers without first extinguishing them, or abandon any fire.

(B) Fireworks

No person shall possess, fire, discharge, explode or set off any squib, cracker or other explosive or pyrotechnic device containing powder, or other combustible or explosive material within the limits of any county park.

(C) Firearms

No person shall have in his possession or under his control any firearm or air gun as defined in Section 939.22 of the Wisconsin Statutes, unless the same is unloaded and enclosed in a carrying case, or any bow unless the same is unstrung or enclosed in a carrying case in any county park except if such bow or gun is within the confines of any designated gun or archery range or in those parks where hunting is authorized.

### **6.1.7 DEWEY SHOOTING RANGE**

(A) No person shall discharge any firearm or air gun in any area within the Dewey Shooting Range not specifically designated for such use, or contrary to posted regulations, or contrary to verbal orders given by the Range masters on duty.

(B) No person shall possess or discharge any fully automatic gun or machine gun, any assault type rifle with more than a 5 shot clip, or load or discharge any firearm deemed unsafe by the range master, or load any firearm with or discharge any armor-piercing or incendiary ammunition at the Dewey Shooting Range at any time. This sub-section shall not apply to law enforcement officials engaged in authorized training exercises.

(C) No person shall engage in any sport, or activity, while in possession of an uncased firearm or air gun, which constitutes a safety hazard.

(D) No person shall hunt within 100 yards of the shooting range perimeter fence.

(E) No person shall target shoot on any county property adjacent to the Dewey Shooting Range.

(F) No person shall enter the confines of the perimeter fence of the Dewey Shooting Range during any time when the range is not open and a range master is not on duty except that authorized park personnel may enter for maintenance purposes and law enforcement personnel may enter and use the facility for official law enforcement training exercises.

(G) Persons between the ages of ten years and fifteen years shall be accompanied and supervised by a parent or guardian or other responsible adult with permission of the parent or guardian while at the shooting range.

(H) Persons sixteen years of age or older may shoot without being accompanied and supervised.

(I) Children must be at least ten years of age to be in the firing line area.

(J) No alcohol is allowed in or around the shooting range including, but not limited to, the parking lot.

(K) Individuals under the influence of alcohol or other drugs, including prescription medication, are not allowed in or around the shooting range including, but not limited to, the parking lot.

### **6.1.8 ANIMALS**

(A) Pets

(1) Restrictions

Pets shall be prohibited from entering in or on any public building, bathing beach, picnic grounds or playgrounds and from running at large at any time on county park grounds. All pets must be restrained on a leash at all times except in the designated Dog Exercise Areas. Leashes or ties used to restrain pets shall be no more than eight feet long. This does not apply to seeing eye dogs. Any person bringing a dog or dogs to a county park must have at least one dog feces waste bag per dog in his or her possession. The owner or person responsible for any pet found to be in violation of this section shall be liable and be subject to the penalty provisions of this ordinance.

(2) Dog Trials

A permit to conduct dog trials, at designated dog exercise areas, shall be obtained from the Commission or its duly authorized agent at least 30 days prior to the event.

(B) Horses, llamas, mules, dogs, and any other animals used for riding or hauling supplies

No person shall ride, lead or have an animal on the beaches, foot paths, picnic grounds, athletic fields or other similar special public use areas in any county park or ride an animal in a careless, negligent, or reckless manner so as to endanger the life, property or person of others on any county park roads or designated trails except as otherwise indicated.

(C) Hunting and Trapping

No person shall take, catch, kill, hunt, trap, or pursue or otherwise disturb any wild animals or birds in any county park except as follows:

- (1) Becker Lake Park
- (2) Wisconsin River Park
- (3) Dewey Marsh (except within the shooting range and not within 100 yards of the range perimeter fence)
- (4) Standing Rocks park (only land south of Standing Rocks Road)

(D) Tree Stands

No person shall construct, occupy or use any elevated or ground blind or other elevated device except that portable tree stands and blinds may be used provided they are removed from the property each day at the close of hunting hours. No person may cause damage to trees by the placement or erection of portable tree stands or by any other manner while climbing or hunting from a tree.

(E) Dog Exercise Area

The provisions of this subsection are applicable to the Portage County dog exercise area which is to be used exclusively by dogs. It is prohibited to allow any other type of animal, wild, or domestic, into the dog exercise area.

1. All dogs must be leashed in the dog exercise area parking lot.
2. Any Person bringing a dog or dogs to the dog exercise area must have one leash per dog.
3. There shall be no more than three dogs per person allowed in the dog exercise area. Any person bringing a dog or dogs to the dog exercise area must have at least one dog feces waste bag per dog in his or her possession.
4. Persons who purchase a season pass will be assigned and issued tags for their dogs which must be worn by all dogs visiting the dog exercise area.
5. Persons under sixteen years of age visiting the dog exercise area must be accompanied and supervised by a parent or guardian or other responsible adult with permission of the parent or guardian.
6. No persons under sixteen years of age are allowed in the dog agility area unless accompanied and supervised by a parent or guardian or other responsible adult with permission of the parent or guardian.
7. Each dog must be under visual and voice control of the owner or other responsible person at least 16 years of age at all times.
8. All dogs must have current vaccinations and licenses and shall wear a collar with tags as proof thereof.
9. Aggressive dogs, as defined below, are not permitted in or around the dog exercise area, including but not limited to, the parking lot. Owners or other responsible persons will be held legally responsible for any injury caused by a dog that they bring in or around the dog exercise area pursuant to Chapter 174 of the Wisconsin Statutes.
  - a. An aggressive dog is defined as:
    - i. A dog that bites a person. However, a dog shall not be considered aggressive if the dog bites a person wrongfully assaulting the dog or the dog's owner, or if the dog bites a person after being provoked by that person.
    - ii. A dog that injures or kills another domestic animal without provocation while at the dog exercise area.
10. Female dogs in heat are not permitted in or around the dog exercise area including, but not limited to, the parking lot.
11. Dog owners or other responsible persons shall provide dogs with drinking water while visiting the dog exercise area when weather conditions require.
12. Dog owners or other responsible persons shall not keep dogs enclosed in a vehicle during hot weather which may cause injury to the dog.

13. Any person having knowledge of a dog having bitten, scratched, or injured a person or other animal within the dog exercise area, including but not limited to the parking lot, shall report the incident to the Portage County Parks Department and the Portage County Humane Society.

### **6.1.9 SKIING AND BIKING**

#### **(A) Skiing and Biking within County Parks**

(1) No person shall ski or bike within any County Park in a reckless manner or at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent.

(2) No person shall violate any of the special rules and regulations passed by the Park Commission concerning skiing or biking within any County Park which are posted at the park.

### **6.1.10 BEACHES**

#### **(A) Beverages**

No person shall carry or possess any glass containers of any kind on any bathing beach or in the water adjacent to any bathing beach in any county park.

#### **(B) Regulatory Marker Buoys-Molestation**

No person shall move or alter any regulatory buoy or marker in any swimming beach in any county park and no person shall swim or float beyond any bathing beach boundary buoy or swimming area marker.

#### **(C) Swimming and Bathing During Storms**

No person shall swim, bathe, or float on a floating device in the water fronting any bathing beach during electrical storms or in dangerous weather.

#### **(D) 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 bathing beach or in the water, when injury or inconvenience to others might result therefrom.

#### **(E) Bathing Dress**

No person shall swim, bathe or enter the water or onto any bathing beach unless clothed in a suitable dress or suit for bathing.

#### **(F) Changing Clothing**

No person shall change clothes, except in beach houses or other enclosed places.

#### **(G) Water Safety**

No person shall falsely call for help or assistance, or act in any manner that would jeopardize the safety of others.

No person shall swim in any waters in county parks except in those areas designated as public swimming areas and only during such hours as specified.

#### **(H) Infectious Diseases**

Any person having any infectious disease shall be prohibited from entering onto any bathing beach or into any bathing house or waters adjacent thereto.

#### **(I) No Boats Within Swimming Areas**

Operation of any boat, other than inflatable devices, motor driven or otherwise, within a designated swimming area as marked by buoys or other means, is strictly forbidden.

(J) No person shall consume or be in possession of any alcoholic beverages while at Sunset Park.

### **6.1.11 CAMPING**

(A) Definitions

For the purpose of this Ordinance, the following definitions apply.

(1) Camping or Camp

The use of a shelter such as a tent trailer, motor vehicle, tarpaulin, bed roll, or sleeping bag for temporary residence or sleeping purposes.

(2) Designated Campground

Any tract of land designated exclusively for camping by families or groups.

(3) Family Campground

Any tract of land designated for camping by families of any size or groups of five (5) persons or less.

(4) Group Campground

An area within a park designated for use by organizational or other groups of six (6) persons or more.

(5) Primitive Campground

A campground or tract with minimum or no improvements where camping is permitted, facilities are not provided and access is by hiking or watercraft.

(6) Walk-in Tent Sites

A campground where campers must walk and carry their camping gear to the campsite.

(7) Campsite

A segment of a campground which is designated for camping use by a camping unit or camping party.

(8) Camping Unit

A single tent; pickup camper; motor home; van; converted bus; or recreation trailer used for a camp by a camping party except those shelters used exclusively for dining purposes.

(9) Camping Party

An individual, family, or informal unorganized group of not more than 5 persons occupying one campsite.

(10) Family

A parent or parents with their unmarried children.

(B) Camping Regulations

(1) Camping Prohibited

Camping is prohibited in any park not having designated campgrounds, or any area outside of designated camping areas.

(2) Designated Campgrounds

Designated campgrounds are those family and group campgrounds located in Collins, DuBay, Jordan, and Lake Emily Parks.

(3) Camping Limited-Designated Campgrounds

No person shall camp and no camping unit shall remain in a designated campground for a period greater than 14 days in any 3 week period in the property of registration from June 1 to Labor Day Thereafter, the camping unit must be removed from the property for at least 7 days before being eligible to return.

Exceptions may be authorized by the caretaker in charge.

(4) Campsite Occupancy

Not more than one single family or one individual group shall occupy a single campsite in a designated campground unless authorized by the caretaker in charge.

(5) Campsite Changes

No registered camping party shall move from its assigned campsite to another campsite in a designated campground without prior approval.

(6) Camping Permit Extensions

Extensions within the 14 day limit may be granted on camping permits. Extensions must be obtained prior to 10:00 a.m. on the expiration date of the permit.

(7) Camping Permit Expiration

All camping permits expire at 3:00 p.m. on the last day of the permit period.

(8) Campsite Parking

No person or persons shall park any motor vehicle outside the parking area designated at each campsite and not more than two motor vehicles are permitted in any campsite.

(9) Campsite Reservation

Reservations will be accepted for designated campsites up to eleven months in advance of the reservation date.

(10) Camping Group Membership

No person shall obtain a camping permit for use by a camping party of which that person is not a member, except that parents and group leaders may obtain camping permits for use by juvenile groups.

(11) Campsite-Mandatory Occupancy

Once the campsite is set up, registered and paid for, occupancy is not required for the first 48 hours. After that, the campsite must be occupied every 24 hours.

(12) Camping Prohibitions-Posted Notice

No person shall camp on any lands or use any camping facilities under the management, supervision or control of the Commission contrary to posted notice.

(13) Camping Violations

Violation of any federal, state or local law or any rules of the Portage County Park Commission by any member of a camping party is cause for revocation of the camping permit. The person who registers for the camp site will be responsible for ensuring compliance with all federal, state and local laws as well as rules of the Portage County Park Commission. The person who registers for the camp site will also be responsible for the actions of all others in their camping party, both at the camp site and anywhere within the park, including payment for all damages occurring at the camp site or anywhere within the park.

(14) Quiet Hours

Quiet hours shall be maintained by all campers from 10:00 p.m. until 7:00 a.m. of the following day. Failure to observe quiet hours may result in revocation of the camping permit or other sanctions as the park police shall determine.

(15) Juvenile Camping Prohibited

Juveniles (below 18 years) cannot register for a campsite. Juveniles must have adult supervision at the campsite between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. the following morning.

(16) Camping Equipment and Refuse Removal

Registered campers shall remove their camping equipment and refuse before vacating the site.

### **6.1.12 TRAIL USE BY MECHANIZED EQUIPMENT**

(1) No person may operate or possess any mechanized equipment on county park property except on trails designated for such use or as authorized in writing by the parks director. Official designation signs will be used to notify the public where such use will occur.

(2) No person shall operate any mechanized equipment in a reckless manner or at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent.

### **6.1.13 LEGAL ACTION**

(A) Civil Action

Whenever an arrest shall have been made or any violation shall occur, the Portage County Corporation Counsel shall prosecute as provided by law.

(B) Secondary Fees

In lieu of arrest or commencing a civil action for any violation set forth herein, the Portage County Parks Director may, at his discretion, impose a notice fee for such violation in the amount of \$20.00. If this notice fee is not paid within 5 days of issuance, the matter shall be referred to the corporation counsel for prosecution in accordance with (C) below. The Parks Director shall prepare an envelope in which the notice fee shall be submitted. The notice fee shall be submitted in the manner stated on the envelope which may be amended from time to time as the Parks Director deems necessary.

(C) Penalties

Any person who violates this ordinance, which is not resolved in accordance with (B) above, shall be required to forfeit an amount as set forth in Chapter 5, together with all legally applicable costs, fees, and assessments, and in default thereof, shall be subject to imprisonment in the Portage County Jail for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days. In addition, any person who the Portage County Parks Director determines has violated any provision of this ordinance, is also subject to being banned from all Portage County Parks at the discretion of the Portage County Parks Director.

(D) Powers of County Park Police

Any park personnel duly appointed and authorized by the Portage County Park Commission and its Director to function as park police shall have the authority to enforce provisions of this ordinance and any other park rules and regulations established by the Park Commission. The Director, designated park police, and any deputy sheriff, shall have authority to issue a citation to any individual that they believe has committed a violation of this ordinance. Such citation shall inform the individual of the offense charges, the date of appearance in court and forfeiture required. The copies of any citation issued shall be immediately forwarded to the Portage County Parks Director who shall then consult with the Portage County Corporation Counsel.

Any county park police or deputy sheriff shall have at all times, the right to enter the premises of any building, structure, or enclosure in any park or parkway, including such grounds, buildings, structures or enclosures which may be leased or set aside for private or exclusive use of any individual or group of individuals for the purpose of enforcing this Ordinance.

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## **6.2 PORTAGE COUNTY GREEN CIRCLE ORDINANCE**

### **6.2.1 DEFINITIONS**

(A) “*Person*” as used throughout this ordinance shall be deemed to include any individual, partnership, firm, or corporation.

(B) “*Green Circle Trail*” is described as:

A linear corridor 18’ more or less in width and about 30 miles in length running through the City of Stevens Point, the Village of Whiting, the Town of Hull, the Town of Plover, Village of Plover, and Village of Park Ridge, posted with trail head signs named River Pines trail; Riverfront trail, Stage Coach trail; the Holiday trail; University trail; Moses Creek trail; Plover River trail; Iverson Park trail; McDill trail; Hoover Road trail; Whiting Park trail; and Paper Mill trail, Mainland Meadows, and the Westside Loop.

And includes public property and private property where Portage County and/or the City of Stevens Point has been granted the right of public use for the “Green Circle Trail.”

### **6.2.2 USE**

The use of the Green Circle trail and its corridor by the public is limited to pedestrian activities such as walking, hiking, running, jogging, cross country skiing and bicycling. Bicycling is not allowed where alternate bicycle routes are posted.

### **6.2.3 PERSONAL CONDUCT AND NUISANCES**

(A) No person shall be threatening, abusive, insulting, profane or be unreasonably loud to another person while on the Green Circle Trail, or commit other disorderly conduct that tends to cause or provoke a disturbance.

(B) No person shall operate any loudspeaker, radio or other device that produces noises in an unreasonably loud manner.

### **6.2.4 DESTRUCTION, DEFACEMENT OR REMOVAL**

No person shall disturb, molest, deface, remove or destroy any trees, shrubs, plants or other natural growth, rocks, flora and fauna, archaeological or geological features, signs, walls or structures; injure or deface in any manner any structures including buildings, signs, fences, tables or property within the Green Circle trail or any support facility associated with the Green Circle trail.

### **6.2.5 LITTERING AND REFUSE**

#### **(A) Littering**

State and County ordinances against littering are incorporated within this ordinance and shall be strictly enforced on the entire Green Circle trail whether on private or public property.

#### **(B) Refuse**

No personal refuse or garbage shall be carried onto the Green Circle trail and be deposited and/or dumped next to or into refuse containers or left anywhere along the trail corridor or its support facilities.

### **6.2.6 PEDDLING AND SOLICITING**

No person shall sell, peddle or solicit business of any nature or distribute handbills or other advertising matter, post unauthorized signs or decorative matter on any structures, trees or any other property within the Green Circle trail corridor; nor use this corridor as a base of commercial operations for soliciting or conducting business, peddling or providing services.

### **6.2.7 PUBLIC MEETINGS**

No person may conduct or participate in an assembly or public demonstration, except with written permission of the Portage County Parks Director or his/her designee. This includes such organized events as walks and runs for various non-commercial and civic purposes.

Approval is based upon a finding that such activity would not substantially interfere with the use of the Green Circle trail corridor by the general public and is not for commercial purposes and participants are not charged user fees.

### **6.2.8 MOTOR VEHICLES**

Motorized vehicles, excluding wheel chairs, of any kind are prohibited within the Green Circle trail corridor unless they are used for maintenance, operations, emergency, enforcement of the Green Circle Trail ordinance or other purpose authorized in writing by the parks director.

### **6.2.9 ANIMALS**

#### **(A) Pets**

Pets are prohibited on those sections of the trail corridor that are so posted. Pets shall be effectively restrained at all times to within the Green Circle Trail Corridor boundaries and shall be restrained by a leash or tie not more than eight feet long.

#### **(B) Horses**

Horses are not permitted within the Green Circle Trail Corridor.

#### **(C) Animal Excreta**

Any owner or person having the immediate care, custody or control of any animal shall promptly remove and dispose of, in a sanitary manner, any excreta left or deposited by the animal within the Green Circle trail corridor. Any person bringing a dog or dogs on the Green Circle trail must have at least one dog feces waste bag per dog in his or her possession.

#### **(D) Hunting and Trapping**

No person shall take, catch, kill, hunt, trap, pursue or otherwise disturb any wild animals or birds within the Green Circle Trail Corridor.

### **6.2.10 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, NARCOTICS, AND ILLEGAL DRUGS AND BARBITURATES**

(A) No person may sell or consume alcoholic beverages within the Green Circle trail corridor.

(B) No person shall possess or use any illegal narcotic drug within the Green Circle Trail Corridor.

### **6.2.11 FIRES, FIREWORKS, FIREARMS**

#### **(A) Fires**

No person shall start, tend or maintain any fire, or burn any refuse within the Green Circle trail corridor except in designated park grills.

#### **(B) 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 Green Circle trail corridor.

#### **(C) Firearms**

Within the Green Circle Trail Corridor, no person shall have in his possession or under his control any firearm or air gun as defined in Section 939.22 of the Wisconsin Statutes, unless the same is unloaded and enclosed in a carrying case.

### **6.2.12 REGULATION OF BICYCLE RIDERS**

(A) Ride only on trails designated for bicyclists' use.

(B) Yield to all other trail users. Slow down and pass with care.

(C) When encountering walkers on narrow trails, stop and wait for them to pass or signal you through.

(D) Use your bell or horn to announce your presence to walkers well in advance, particularly when approaching from behind.

- (E) Never exceed the 15 m.p.h. speed limit. Slowly approach blind turns in anticipation of other trail users and obstacles that are beyond your view.
- (F) Yield to other bicyclists traveling uphill.
- (G) Racing or reckless riding is prohibited.
- (H) Walk bicycles on boardwalks, steep hills, and narrow bridges.

### **6.2.13 ATHLETICS**

No person shall play ball or any other game or sport upon or within the Green Circle trail corridor.

### **6.2.14 CLOSING OF THE GREEN CIRCLE CORRIDOR AND SUPPORT FACILITIES**

In an emergency, or when in the judgment of the Park Commissioner or its Director, any portion of the Green Circle Corridor and its support facilities may be closed to the public for reasons that may include severe high fire danger, flooding, severe weather, deer gun season, or any other reason that the public interest demands closing of the corridor. Use of the portion of the corridor after it is posted "closed" under this section shall be trespass.

### **6.2.15 ADDITIONAL RULES AND EXCEPTIONS**

(A) Rules and regulations may be made from time to time by the Commission, governing the further use and enjoyment of the Green Circle Corridor and the facilities thereof. These rules shall be posted on the Trail Corridor. Any person who shall violate such rules shall be posted on the Trail Corridor. Any person who shall violate such rules or regulations may be required to leave the trail corridor or support facility and may be subject to penalties as set forth in Section 6.3.17(B) of this ordinance. Persons required to leave the Trail Corridor or its support facilities shall not return for a 24 hour period from the date and time of order to leave.

#### **(B) Exception**

Nothing in this ordinance shall prohibit or hinder the Portage County Park Commission, its Director, or other duly authorized agents, or any peace officers from performing their official duties.

### **6.2.16 LEGAL ACTION**

#### **(A) Civil Action**

Whenever any violation shall occur, the Corporation Counsel shall prosecute as provided by law.

#### **(B) Secondary Fees**

In lieu of arrest or commencing a civil action for any violation set forth herein, the Portage County Parks Director may, at his discretion, impose a notice fee for such violation in the amount of \$20.00. If this notice fee is not paid within 5 days of issuance, the matter shall be referred to the corporation counsel for prosecution in accordance with (C) below. The Parks Director shall prepare an envelope in which the notice fee shall be submitted. The notice fee shall be submitted in the manner stated on the envelope which may be amended from time to time as the Parks Director deems necessary.

#### **(C) Penalties**

Any person who violates this ordinance, which is not resolved in accordance with (B) above, shall be required to forfeit as set forth in Chapter 5, together with all legally applicable costs, fees, and assessments, and in default thereof, shall be subject to imprisonment in the Portage County Jail for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days.

(D) Citations for violations of this chapter may be issued by any peace officer of the County, City, Town or Village within its jurisdiction or by those persons designated under this ordinance.

Revised February 22, 2006

Revised April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008

Revised by Resolution No. 143-2010-2012 on March 15, 2011

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