Chapter 1

Parks, Navigable Waters and Forests

| 12-1-1 | Park Regulations |
|--------|---|
| 12-1-2 | Adoption of State Statutes on Regulation of Boating |
| 12-1-3 | Campground Regulations |
| 12-1-4 | County Forest Financing |
| 12-1-5 | County Forest Regulations |

Sec. 12-1-1 Park Regulations.

- Purpose. In order to protect the parks, parkways, recreational facilities and conservancy areas within Iron County from injury, damage or desecration, these regulations are enacted. The term "park" as hereinafter used in this Chapter shall include all grounds, structures and watercourses which are or may be located within any area dedicated to the public use as a park, parkway, recreation facility, play ground, beach or conservancy area in the County.
- (b) **Definitions.** For the purposes of this Chapter:
 - (1) All-terrain Vehicle. Shall be defined pursuant to Sec. 340.01(2g), Wis. Stats.
 - (2) Campground. Any tract of land designated by the County exclusively for camping purposes.
 - (3) **Camping.** The use of any shelter such as a tent, trailer, motor vehicle, tarpaulin, bed roll or sleeping bag for temporary residence or sleeping purposes.
 - (4) Camping Party. Any individual, family, unorganized group, or juvenile group occupying a campsite.
 - (5) *Camping Unit.* A singular shelter used for camping by a camping party, except those used exclusively for dining purposes.
 - (6) Campsite. A portion of a campground which is designated for use by a camping unit.
 - (7) **Canoe Campground.** A campground along a waterway for use by persons traveling by water.
 - (8) Closed Shelter. Any building or structure capable of being closed to public access and reserved for public or private group activities.
 - (9) County Forest. All lands owned or leased by the County that are managed under Chapter 28, Wis. Stats.
 - (10) *Emergency.* A state of exigency which requires that immediate action be taken to protect life or property.
 - (11) Family. A parent or parents with their unmarried children and not more than two (2) lineal relatives or two (2) guests.
 - (12) *Group Campground.* A campground which is designated for use by organizational groups.

(13) **Juvenile Group.** A group composed of juvenile members of an established organization and under the leadership of at least one (1) competent, mature adult for each ten (10) juveniles in the group.

(14) Park. Includes all lands and water heretofore and hereafter acquired by the County for park or recreational purposes and includes parks on County land

managed under Chapter 28, Wis. Stats.

(15) **Person.** Includes any individual, firm, partnership, corporation, and association of persons, both singular and plural.

- (16) **Primitive Campground.** A campground or area with minimal or no improvements, where camping may be permitted, accessible by hiking or by watercraft.
- (17) Special Use Area and Wayside. Includes all lands and waters, other than parks, heretofore and hereafter acquired by the County for special recreational or other purposes.

(18) Unorganized Group. A camping party composed of a group of five (5) or less person who are seven (7) years of age or older.

(c) Specific Regulations.

- (1) Littering Prohibited. No person shall litter, dump or deposit any rubbish, refuse, earth or other material in any park.
- (2) **Sound Devices.** No person shall operate or play any amplifying system unless specific authority is first obtained from the Sheriff.
- (3) **Bill Posting.** No person shall post, paste, fasten, paint or attach any placard, bill, notice, sign or advertising matter upon any structure, tree or other natural object I any park, except park regulations and other signs authorized by the Forestry Conservation Parks Harbors Buildings Committee or its designee.

(4) Throwing Stones and Missiles Prohibited. No person shall throw stones or other missiles in or into any park.

(5) Removal of Park Equipment Prohibited. No person shall remove benches, bleachers, seats, tables or other park equipment from any park.

Trapping. "Trapping" when used in this Section includes the taking, or the attempting to take, of any wild animal by means of setting or operating any device, mechanism or contraption that is designated, built or made to close upon, hold fast or otherwise capture a wild animal or animals; live traps on a person's property are excluded. The trapping of wild animals is hereby prohibited in County parks, unless authorized by the Forestry – Conservation – Parks – Harbors – Buildings Committee or its designee.

(7) Making of Fires. No person shall start, tend or maintain a fire except in personal grills or designated fireplaces. Personal grills shall be used only in designated picnic areas. The use of personal grills is permitted provided lawns and vegetation are not endangered. Unburned fuel and ashes shall be disposed of in

such a manner as to prevent fire or damage to any park property.

(8) Protection of Park Property.

a. No person shall kill, injure or disturb or attempt to injure or disturb waterfowl, birds or animals, wild or domestic, within any park, except as permitted by this Chapter. No person shall climb any tree or remove flowers or fruit, wild or cultivated, or break, cut down, trample upon, remove or in any manner

injure, deface, write upon or ill use any tree, shrub, flower, flower bed, turf, soil, sand, fountain, ornament, building, structure, apparatus, bench, table, official notice, sign, fence, or other property within any park.

b. No person shall deface, by throwing stones, pebbles or other debris in any of the toilets, bubblers or other sanitary facilities located in any County park; or deface by drawing with crayon, chalk, paint, or anything else on any of the buildings or equipment at any County park; or deface the equipment by means of a sharp instrument.

- (9) Motorized Vehicles. Except for authorized maintenance vehicles, no person shall operate an unlicensed or licensed motorized vehicle outside of areas specifically designated as parking areas or areas where the operation of such vehicles is specifically permitted. Motor vehicles are restricted to the roads and drives and parking areas. No motor vehicles of any nature may be used n the seeded areas except vehicles which have Sheriff's Department authorization for shows, rides or exhibits and then only for the purpose of loading or unloading.
- (10) **Speed Limit.** No person shall operate any vehicle in a County park in excess of twenty (20) miles per hour unless otherwise posted.
- (11) *Reckless Driving in Parks Prohibited.* No person shall operate a motor vehicle in a reckless manner in any of the public parks of the County.
- (12) *Parking in Parks.* No person shall park any motor vehicle in any park in the County except in a designated parking area.
- (13) **Removing Tree Protectors.** No person shall remove any device for the protection of trees or shrubs.
- (14) *Fees and Charges.* The County Board, shall have the authority to establish such fees as deemed necessary for use of any park facility, shelter or land area. It shall be unlawful to use such areas without payment of such fee or charge when required.
- (15) *Fish or Game Cleaning.* Except in designated areas, cleaning of fish or game in shelters, toilet facilities or picnic areas in prohibited in all County parks.
- (16) *Controlled Substances.* Possessing, using or dispensing of a controlled substance in violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act is prohibited in all County parks.
- (17) **Vendors Restricted.** No person shall sell, vend or give away in any County park any article of merchandise whatever, without a written permit from the Sheriff's Department.
- (18) **Smoking.** No person shall smoke or hold a lighted cigarette, cigar or pipe in any no smoking area within any park, or in any other area in any park where notices prohibiting smoking are posted.
- (19) **Hours.** All parks, special use areas and waysides shall be open to the public throughout the year during the hours between 6:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. each day. No person may enter or be on such lands outside of those hours except for campers in or those who are in route to designated campgrounds or persons transporting watercraft to and from designated boat landings. For purposes of this Subsection, the time shall be computed under Section 175.09 and 175.095, Wis. Stats., whichever is applicable.

- (20) *Fireworks, Rockets, Explosive Devices.* It is unlawful for any person to 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 boundaries of any park, wayside or special use areas, except by permission of the Committee or its duly authorized agent.
- (21) *Firearms.* It is unlawful for any person to have in his or her possession or under his or her control in any park, wayside or special use area any firearm or airgun as defined in Sec. 939.22(2), Wis. Stats., or any bow, crossbow or slingshot, unless it is unstrung and enclosed in a carrying case. This prohibition shall not apply during established state hunting seasons.
- (22) **Pets.** It is unlawful for any person to allow pet animals to enter any public building, bathing beach, picnic ground or playground within any park, wayside or special use area, or to allow them to run at large at any time in parks, waysides or special use areas, or otherwise contrary to posting. Subject to the conditions expressed such animals hall be permitted upon lands under the control of the Committee, provided that they are kept on a leash no longer than eight (8) feet and under the owner's control at all times. Persons shall not allow their pet animals to deprive or disrupt the enjoyment or use of any area by other persons.
- (23) *Horses.* It is unlawful for any person to ride or possess a horse in any park, wayside or special use area except in designated places.
- (24) **Boundary Buoy.** It is unlawful to swim, beyond, disturb, vandalize or damage a bathing beach boundary buoy, dam marker buoy or other markers or buoys in any swimming area, adjacent to any dam, or in any other such marked area in any park, wayside or special use area.

(d) Public Meetings, Demonstrations, Sales Solicitations, Games and Amusements.

- (1) **Permit Required for Public Meetings.** All public meetings, assemblies, entertainments, tournaments or public discussion on any subject, religious, social, political, or otherwise are prohibited within the limits of any park or parkway except when a written permit of the Committee has first been granted, and then only in areas designated as assembly areas by the Committee.
- (2) Permit Required for Services, Demonstrations.
 - a. No service or demonstration by an organization, creed, or sect, excepting only non-demonstrational or inter-denominational Easter Sunday Services, shall be allowed within the limits of any park or parkway of Iron County, except in those areas designated by the Committee as an assembly area and then only with the written permission of the Committee.
 - b. No sermon, discussion, or speech shall be delivered by a person for political purpose or in connection with sale of any article or which shall constitute a public criticism or abuse of any religious organization or representation thereof.
- (3) Permit Required for Advertising, Sales.
 - a. No person shall sell, keep, or offer for sale any tangible or intangible article, merchandise or thing; nor solicit for any trade, occupation, business or profession, or for alms, within any park or parkway, without the written permit of the Committee.

- b. No person shall distribute, post, affix or display any card, handbill, sign, placard, target, banner, flag, (except that of the United States), or advertisement of any kind within any park or parkway, or upon any of the gates or enclosures thereof without the written permit of the Committee. The word "distribute" shall include the scattering of printed matter from aircraft.
- c. It shall be unlawful to use in any manner the dock, pier, wharf, boat landing, mooring facilities in, or the waters in or immediately adjacent to any County park for the purpose of soliciting rides of any kind unless authorized by the Committee.

(4) Games and Amusements in Designated Areas, Gambling Prohibited.

- No person shall engage in any sport, game, race or amusement in any park or parkway except upon such portions thereof as may be designated for that purpose, and then only under such rules and regulations as may be established by the Committee.
- b. No person shall be allowed to tell fortunes or to play or bet at or against any game which is played, conducted, dealt or carried on with cards, dice, corn, or other devise for money, chips, credit, or any other representative of value; nor shall any person be allowed to maintain or exhibit any gambling table or other instrument of gambling or gaming.

(e) Bathing and Swimming Regulations.

- (1) No person shall wade, bathe, or swim within a park or parkways except at such pools or beaches as are or may be designated for that purpose by the Committee.
- No person shall wade, bathe, swim in, or attend any such pool or beach without proper bathing attire.
- No person shall take any tin cans, bottles or glassware of any kind, except eye glasses into an area designated as a beach or pool for bathers by the Committee.
- (4) It shall be unlawful for any person to change clothes except in beach houses or other enclosed places.
- (5) Any other rules and regulations which may be posted at beaches, pools or in bathhouses or other buildings.

Sec. 12-1-2 Adoption of State Statutes on Regulation of Boating.

(a) Statutes Adopted. Secs. 30.50 through 30,80, Wis. Stats., as amended from time to time, exclusive of any provisions therein relating to the penalties to be imposed r the punishment for violation of said statutes, are hereby adopted and by reference made a part of this Section as if fully set forth herein. Any acts required to be performed or prohibited of this Section as if fully set forth herein. Any acts required to be performed or prohibited by the said statute incorporated herein by reference is required or prohibited by this Section.

(b) Boat Launching and Docking Regulations.

- (1) No person shall launch or dock any boat or other watercraft except at locations or facilities provided and designated for that purpose by the Committee.
- (2) No person shall launch or dock any boat or watercraft except at such times as are designated by the Committee.

- (3) No person shall store or leave unattended overnight any boat or other watercraft without the written permission of the Committee except in designated areas.
- (4) All persons using the boating facilities of the Iron County Park System shall comply with all posted regulation and fee schedules of the Committee.
- (5) The launching of any boat containing a toilet for the disposal of any waste material shall hereafter be prohibited at all County-owned boat launching facilities unless the toilet is plugged from the outside of the hull in such a manner that the plug cannot be removed from the inside of the boat.
- (6) All persons using the boating facilities of the Iron County Park System shall comply with all posted County regulations.
- (c) **Boating.** No person shall operate a motor boat of any kind in any manner on the following specified waters:
 - (1) Weber Lake in Section 5 and 6, T45N, R1E, Anderson.
 - On the waters of a designated swimming area of within one hundred (100) feet of such a designated area.

Sec. 12-1-3 Campground Regulations.

- (a) **Permitted Camping.** During the camping season, camping shall be allowed only at designated campsites.
- (b) Camping Limit. No person shall camp and no camping unit shall remain in a campground for a period in excess of fourteen (14) nights in succession. Thereafter, the camping unit must be removed from the property for at least one (1) night before the camping party is eligible to return.
- (c) Campsite Occupancy. It is unlawful for more than one (1) camping party to occupy a single campsite, except that up to ten (10) members of a juvenile group may occupy a campsite, using any number of camping units, on properties which do not have a designated group campground area. Not more than one (1) recreational trailer, motor home, or pickup camper may occupy a campsite. Campsite occupancy is not required at any specific time during the registration period.
- (d) Campsite Changes. No registered camping party shall move from its assigned campsite to another campsite in a designated campground without prior approval of the caretaker.
- (e) Campsite Registration. Campers shall register with the park caretaker before setting up camp unless otherwise posted. Registration for a campsite must be made by a member of the camping party. One (1) person per campsite may register for a maximum of two (2) sites. Under no circumstances will refunds be granted.
- (f) Camping Permit Expiration. All camping permits expire at 3:00 p.m. on the last day of the permit period.
- (g) Campsite Entry Hours. No camping party shall set u or take down its camping unit between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and the following 6:00 a.m. except with authorization of the park caretaker or in case of an emergency.
- (h) Campsite Parking. It is unlawful to park any motor vehicle at any campsite except upon the gravel parking area therein provided, and no more than two (2) motor vehicles shall be permitted at any one (1) campsite including the camping unit if said is a motor vehicle.
- (i) Campsite Use. Except the campground reservations available for some designated campsites, campsite use shall be on a first-come first-serve basis.

- (j) Camping Violations. The violation of any law or County ordinance by any member of a camping part shall constitute cause for revocation of the camping permit for the campsite in question.
- (k) Campground Hours. With the exception of registered campers, no person shall be allowed in campground areas between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and the following 6:00 a.m. except in case of an emergency.

Sec. 12-1-4 County Forest Financing.

- (a) All allotments from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to the County under Sec. 28.11(8)(b), Wis. Stats., for the purchase, development, preservation and maintenance of the County forest, shall be deposited in the segregated state forest aid fund by the County Treasurer.
- (b) All monies received from County Board appr0priations, fees and use permits, sale of building materials, sale of surplus materials and equipment or other revenue received by the Forestry Committee except income specified in Subsections (a) and (c), shall be deposited in the County Forestry Fund. All unexpected funds shall be non-lapsing.
- (c) All monies received from the sale of timber on County Forest Lands shall be deposited in the County Forest Timber Revenue Fund and distributed to the towns and Forestry Fund at the end of the calendar year. Severance taxes incurred as a result of such sales shall be paid as required by statute.
- (d) The Forestry Committee shall prepare a budget of sums required for operations under this Section and when the sums are appropriated by the County Board may be expended by the Committee for the purposes covered by this Section.

State Law Reference: Sec. 28.11(8)(b), Wis. Stats.

Sec. 12-1-5 County Forest Use Regulations.

(a) Designation of County Forests.

- (1) Determination is hereby made that for the purpose of proper and complete identification all County-owned forest lands now held and entered under the Wisconsin County Forest Law by Iron County, or hereafter acquired for forestry purposes, are established and designated as county forest, and such lands shall be shown on the official County forest map displayed in the County Forest Office in the Courthouse of Hurley, and according to the records in the office of the Register of Deeds.
- (2) It is the intent of the County Board of Supervisors to consolidate county forest holdings as lands are acquired by the County within the above defined areas and that application to enter such lands under Chapter 28.11, Wis. Stats., shall be filed.
- (b) **Committee Appointment.** The Iron County Board of Supervisors hereby assigns administration of the County Forestry Department to the Committee of the Board known as the Forestry Committee, composed of five (5) members, and hereinafter referred to as the Committee.
- (c) Responsibilities and Duties of the Committee.

- (1) Annually, at the budget meeting, the Committee shall present to the County Board for it consideration, a work plan for the ensuing calendar year together with a detailed recommended budget in a form prescribed by the Finance Committee of the County Board. The work plan and budget adopted by the County Board at this meeting shall serve as a directive to the Committee and shall establish the limits as well as purpose for which expenditures may be made.
- (2) Subject to budget limitations, the Committee is hereby assigned the following responsibilities:
 - a. The Committee shall direct and supervise the County Forestry Department. Subject to the approval of the County Board, it shall employ a County Forest Administrator as its agent and such other competent personnel as the Board may authorize to direct, perform and enforce the administrative and management functions of this Section. Employment of all personnel other than the County Forest Administrator must be cleared through the Forestry Committee of the County Board.
 - b. Upon approval of the County Board, the Committee shall establish and maintain forest headquarters for office space and the housing of machinery, tools, equipment and supplies needed in conducting forestry operations.
 - c. In conformity and procedures established by the Forestry Committee or County Board Rules, the Committee may purchase, acquire, sell trade or dispose of instruments, tools, equipment and supplies required for the operations of the Department. [Items costing more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,00.00) cannot be purchased until the same have been referred to the County Board for action].
 - d. The Committee is empowered to negotiate for the acquisition of lands within County Forest areas by purchase, gift or bequest, or by exchange of County-owned lands outside such areas for the purpose of blocking the forest for better administration of for recreational purposes.
 - e. Make application for entry under the County Forest Law as lands are acquired within the County forest areas.
 - f. The Committee shall do all things necessary for the protection of the forest, whether from fire, insects, disease, trespass or from damage by animals or from other causes, in cooperation with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources in all such related matters.
 - g. Regulate the disposals of slash and dispose of all salvaged material.
 - h. Locate survey lines and appropriately monument corners of County Forest lands. Annual expenditures for this purpose cannot exceed the amount provided in the budget.
 - i. Construct, improve and maintain a system of forest roads, trails and fire breaks and purchase or secure easements for access-ways required to cross privately-owned lands.
 - j. Conduct forest improvement work including reforestation, release cuttings, thinnings, pruning and weeding by any method including spraying or dusting of chemicals by airplane and other methods not prohibited by law.

- k. Cooperate with Department of Natural Resources in the determination of the allowable annual cut by establishment of an intensive County forest management plan including an inventory of growing stock and increment, acreage control, establishment of cutting compartments and other necessary items for such plan.
- 1. Sell timber stumpage in accordance with a County forest management plan in cooperation with the Department of Natural Resources.
- m. Subject to budget limitations, establish, construct and maintain wherever desirable within the forest, picnic grounds, waysides, camps and campsites, public access preserve places of natural or historic interest and significance.
- n. Cooperate with the Department of Natural Resources on all matters relating to game and fish management within the County Board and the Department is in existence.
- o. The Committee is authorized to enter into agreement with the Lakes States Forest Experiment Station and the University of Wisconsin system or other universities with the endorsement of or directly with the Department of Natural Resources for the use of tracts of County lands, labor, materials and equipment for conducting forest research.
- p. Do specific forest or recreation development work on other public lands not included in the County forests except State and Federal lands but including such lands as school forests, community forests, county parks, watersheds, reduction of hazards, public highways and similar projects.
- q. Refer granting of permits to prospect for ore or minerals, excepting sand and gravel, to the Ore Committee of the County Board. All ore or mineral permits are subject to the approval of the County Board and Department of Natural Resources.
- r. Prepare and present an annual report of its activities to the County Board. The report shall include statistics showing work accomplished and at what cost. Such reports shall be in sufficient detail so that performance of the Forestry Department may be measured.
- (d) County Forest Law Administration. After the County Forest Law applications for entry have been prepared and approved by the Committee, the County Clerk shall take all necessary action to effect such application as provided by statute. Withdrawal of lands entered under the County Forest Law shall be in the manner prescribed in Sec. 28.11(11), Wis. Stats., or any amendment thereof. No deed to any description of County forest land shall be issued prior to recording of an order of withdrawal with the Register of Deeds.

(e) Recreational Use.

- (1) The Forestry Committee may designate suitable areas for forest parks, campsites, public access and picnic grounds and is authorized to provide needed conveniences, including wells and sanitary facilities. Such areas shall be for public use.
- (2) Except in designated County Forest Recreation Areas, overnight camping may be permitted in the County forest without charge for a period not to exceed two (2) weeks time, except during the camping season, or the period when fees are charged for use of a County campground. Any camper or campers who violate

the rules and regulations of this Chapter or of good conduct, including or defacing timber, carelessness with fire, violation of game, fish and litter regulations shall be subject to ejection from the County forest and subject to the penalties provided by ordinances and state law.

(3) The dumping of rubbish, debris, dirt, stone, or any other materials shall be prohibited on all County forest lands. Visitors, including berrypickers, hunters, fishermen and tourists are forbidden to leave litter anywhere in the forests or in its lakes or streams.

(4) Except in designated recreation areas, it is unlawful for any person to have in his or her possession or under his or her control in any County forest any firearm or airgun as defined in Sec. 939.22(2), Wis. Stats., or any bow, crossbow or slingshot in contravention of state law.

(5) It is unlawful to construct, occupy or use any elevated scaffold or other elevated device on County forest lands other than portable tree stands or to cause damage to trees on County forest lands by the placement, erection or removal of tree stands or other means of gaining access to trees. Portable tree stands shall be removed at the end of each day's hunting hours.

(6) It is unlawful to operate a vehicle for recreation use or other purposes in such a manner as to cause soil erosion, or other damage to County forests.

(7) It is unlawful to operate any unauthorized motor vehicle on roads or trails which are gates, bermed, or posted to prohibit travel.

(8) It is unlawful for any person to abandon or leave any fires unattended, to discard any matches, cigarettes, cigars, pipe ashes, or any embers without first extinguishing them.

(9) It is unlawful to cross-country ski on any authorized snowmobile trail on County land

(10) It is unlawful to operate any motorcycle, all-terrain bicycle or any unlicensed motor vehicle on County forest land, except upon areas so designated by the County.

The use of County shelters for overnight use is prohibited in Iron County. No one is permitted to use these shelters between 10:00 p.m. and sunrise. Campers using tents, trailers or portable cabins of their own on supervised recreation areas must first obtain written permission from the person in charge of the area before placing their tent or trailer or other equipment.

(f) Timber Cutting.

Cultural cuttings shall include thinnings, release cuttings, sanitation cuttings and improvement cuttings to remove trees of inferior species, form, or condition for the purpose of stand improvement. All cultural cuttings in the County forest shall be approved of by the Committee, in accordance with the County forest management plan, and in cooperation with the staff of the DNR. Materials cut in such operations by County crews may be used by the County or given to other County agencies for their use, or sold, as the committee shall determine. When given, or sold, to other public agencies, the latter shall pay the County a sum not less than prevailing average stumpage rates.

- Salvage cuttings shall include the cutting of timber damaged by fire, storm, insect or disease. Salvage cutting shall be done under the procedure specified for cultural cutting or for commercial cutting, as the Committee may decide.
- (3) Commercial cuttings shall include all cuttings where stumpage is sold under contract in which the primary objective of the cutting is the marketing of the timber products, including logs, ties, poles, pulpwood, piling, Christmas trees and boughs, or other forest products.
 - a. Timber sales shall be managed in accord with County sales/purchasing policies.
 - b. Contract specifications for each cutting operation pertaining to payment and financial responsibility of the bidder shall be determined by the Committee in consultation with the Forest Administrator and the DNR Forester.
 - c. After approval of any sales by the committee, a notice of intention to cut shall be prepared under Sec. 28.11(6)(3), Wis. Stats., and DNR rules. Cutting operations shall not be started until cutting notice approval is received by the department.
 - d. All timber sales shall conform with the provisions of Sec. 28.11, Wis. Stats., and shall follow the procedure as provided for in the "DNR Timber Sales Handbook 2461."
 - e. Payment for forest products shall be made promptly after billing. Prepayment and other payment arrangements may be arranged with the approval of the Committee.