

**TOWN OF ROCKFORD
SPOKANE COUNTY, WASHINGTON
ORDINANCE NO. 17-05**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF ROCKFORD, WASHINGTON,
ADOPTING RULES FOR THE USE OF PARK FACILITIES**

WHEREAS, the Town of Rockford intends to provide its parks and park facilities for the mutual enjoyment of all residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council believes it is in the best interest of the Town to adopt rules that regulate activities occurring within Town Parks;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Town Council of the Town of Rockford, Washington, do ordain as follows:

Section 1. The following definitions shall be used in this chapter:

- A. “Alcoholic beverages” or “liquor” shall be defined as set forth in RCW 66.04.010 and shall include alcohol, spirits, wine and beer.
- B. “Camping” means erecting a tent or shelter or arranging bedding or both for the purpose of, or in such a way as will permit, remaining overnight, or parking a trailer, van, recreational vehicle, bus, camper or other vehicle for the purpose of remaining overnight.
- C. “Town” means the Town of Rockford, Washington
- D. “Department” means the Town of Rockford Public Works Department.
- E. “Department employee” means a duly appointed Town of Rockford Public Works Department
- F. “Director” means the mayor or designee
- G. “Facility” or “facilities” means any building, equipment, sign, material, shelter or other physical property including but not limited to administered trees, shrubs, plants, lawns, playground equipment, benches, tables, picnics, basketball or tennis court, athletic fields, trails, or parking and pedestrian areas (including curbs, sidewalks and driveways or internal roads) for motor vehicles, persons or structures owned or controlled by the Town of Rockford.

- H. “Motor vehicle” means any self-propelled device capable of being moved upon a road, and in, upon, or by which any persons or property may be transported or drawn, and shall include, but not be limited to, automobiles, trucks, motorcycles, motor scooters, jeeps or similar-type four-wheel-drive vehicles, and snowmobiles, whether or not they can be legally operated upon the public highways.
- I. “Open space, trails or parks,” collectively referred to as “Town parks”, means any recreation or similar real property under the ownership, management or control of the Town
- J. “Person” means any individual, group, firm, partnership, corporation or club.
- K. “Trail” means any path, track, or right-of-way designed for use by pedestrians, bicycles, or other non-motorized modes of transportation.

Section 2. Purpose. The Town of Rockford parks, including facilities and programs of the department, are established and maintained by the Town for public recreation purposes.

Section 3. Hours of Operation. Unless otherwise established by the director, Town parks shall be open at dawn and closed for use at dusk.

Section 4. Facility and Outdoor Field Lights. Use of facilities Sunday through Saturday shall cease at dusk, unless otherwise approved by the Director.

Section 5. Special Event Permits. Town Parks and Facilities are available for private use by groups or organizations through a special event permit. Special event permits may include scheduling use of Facilities for any community special event, private event, sports or entertainment event involving more than the routine use of a park or a gathering of fifteen (15) or more people.

Where appropriate, special conditions for the event will be established by the department and included in the permit. The department reserves the right to cancel a permit at any time, for any reasonable cause. If possible, notice of cancellation shall be given within at least 24 hours in advance of the event.

A cancellation or denial of a special event permit may be appealed to the Town Council by filing a written appeal with the Town clerk within 10 days of the date of the decision. Upon such appeal, the Town Council may reverse, affirm or modify the department’s decision.

Section. 6 Sale of Goods or Services. The sale of goods or services in town parks or facilities shall be allowed only through written agreement with the Town.

Section 7. Rules Governing Use of Town Parks and Facilities – (Part I)

A. Camping: No person shall camp in any Town park or facility, unless otherwise designated.

B. Fires: No person shall ignite or maintain any fire or participate in igniting, maintaining or using any fire within any open space, trail or park or facility, including, but not limited to, any controlled receptacle such as BBQ grills, fixed/portable fire pits and rings, or burn barrels of any kind, unless proper permits are obtained by the department.

C. Food Waste, Washing of Clothes or Animals: No person shall clean food, or wash any clothing or other articles for personal or household use, or any dog or other animal.

D. Horseback Riding: Horseback riding is limited solely, to the show arena located behind the ballpark unless otherwise approved by the director. Persons using the arena are responsible for any and all removal of waste produced.

E. Littering: Littering in Town parks and facilities is not permitted. All waste and garbage shall be disposed of in a garbage can or other receptacle designated for such purpose.

F. Motor Vehicles on Park Property: No person shall operate any motor vehicle on open space, trail or park property unless such area has been specifically designated and posted for such use. No person shall operate a motor vehicle within the boundaries of a Town park except on roads, streets, highways, parking lots, parking areas, or where otherwise permitted by posted notice. This subsection shall not apply to emergency, maintenance or authorized vehicles.

1. Speed Limit: The speed limit on all roadways within the Towns jurisdiction, shall remain at 25MPH, or as posted. Exceptions shall be stated in the following subsection.

A. Willow St.: The speed limit on S. Willow St. from Emma St. to Church St., and Church St. from Willow St. to First St. shall remain at 10MPH unless otherwise posted.

G. Motor Vehicles – Parking: No operator of any motor vehicle, trailer, camper, boat trailer, or other vehicle shall park such vehicle in any Town park or facility except where the operator is using the area for the designated recreational purpose and the vehicle is parked either in the designated parking area, or in another area with the permission of the department. Parking on the grass is not permitted at any time, unless approved by the department. Any person in violation that ensues damage to any park sprinkler, pipe, or water main, may be billed for repair costs by the discretion of the department. No person shall park, leave standing, or abandon a vehicle in any facility after closing time except persons using park facilities as part of an event authorized by and permitted the department. Any vehicle found in violation of this subsection may be towed away at the owner’s expense. This subsection shall not apply to maintenance and emergency vehicles or vehicles authorized by the department.

H. Parking Lots and Roadway – Games Prohibited: Games of any kind are prohibited in parking lots and roadways.

I Pets:

1. Dogs, pets, or any domesticated animals are NOT permitted in any designated picnic area, tennis court, basketball court, or play area in any Town park or facility unless specifically permitted by posted notice. This subsection shall not apply to service dogs.
2. Dogs, pets, or domesticated animals of any kind, must be kept on a leash no greater than 15 feet in length, and under control of the owner at all times.
3. Any person whose dog or other pet is in any open space, trail or park area shall be responsible for the conduct of the animal and for removing feces deposited by such animal.
4. No person shall allow his or her dog or other pet or domestic animal to bite, disturb, or harass any facility users, wildlife or other pets. No person shall permit his or her dog or other pet or domestic animal to bark or make noise continuously or otherwise unreasonably disturb the peace and tranquility. No person shall permit dogs, pets or domestic animals to damage, destroy or remove park vegetation.

J. Presence in Town Facilities When Closed: No person shall enter or be present in facilities when closed except persons using facilities as part of an event authorized by the department.

K. Skateboards and Rollerblades – In Designated Areas Only: No person shall be permitted to skateboard or rollerblade in park facilities unless otherwise designated by the department.

L. Sound Amplification: No person shall use, operate or play in a Town park any radio, tape player, disc player, television, musical instrument, record player or any other machine or device producing sound at a volume that is audible at a distance over 30 feet therefrom except pursuant to a permit issued by the department.

M. Tents and Shelters in Parks: Unless authorized by the department, no person shall erect, maintain, use, or occupy a temporary tent or shelter in any Town park or facility unless there is an unobstructed view through such tent or shelter from at least two sides, provided, however, that nothing in this subsection shall be construed to authorize overnight camping. Any tent or shelter authorized by the department shall be free standing and must not include the use of any metal or plastic “tie down” style stakes, polls, or any object that must be secured into the ground. Weights, however, are permitted.

N. Trail Use:

1. For the purpose of this subsection, “trail use” shall be construed to include all forms of movement or transportation on a trail, including but not limited to foot, bicycle, horse, skateboard, roller-skates and rollerblades.
2. Trail use is open to all non-motorized users unless otherwise designated and posted. Trail use restrictions may be posted at park entrances, trailheads or, in some cases, on individual trails.

- 3 Every person traveling on a trail shall obey the instructions of any official traffic control device or trail sign unless otherwise directed.
- 4 No motorized vehicles shall be allowed on Town trails. For the purpose of this subsection, “motorized vehicles” means any form of transportation powered by an internal combustion or electric motor. This includes but is not limited to motor vehicles, golf carts, mopeds and all-terrain vehicles. This subsection shall not apply to wheelchairs powered by electric motors, or authorized maintenance, police or emergency vehicles.

O. Trespassing: No person except an authorized Town employee, or other person duly authorized, shall enter or go upon any area or facility which has been designated and posted as a “No Admittance” or “No Trespassing” area or during any time when the park is closed to the public.

P. Washing of Vehicles: No person shall clean or wash any motor vehicle in any Town park or facility.

Q. Theft of Town water: No person shall fill containers or tanks with water from any Town park or facility source for domestic household use.

Section 8. Violation Any person violating any provision Sections 3,4,5,6 and 7 of this Ordinance shall have committed a Class I Civil infraction.

Section 9. Rules Governing Use of Town Parks and Facilities – (Part II).

A. Alcohol Consumption: No person shall knowingly allow, hold, maintain, or consume alcohol in Town parks or facilities without first obtaining a permit from the department.

B. Designated Areas: The Town Council shall, through resolution, designate specific areas in Town parks and facilities where alcohol may be consumed after obtaining an alcoholic beverage permit.

C. Application for Alcoholic Beverage Permit: Application for permits shall be in writing and filed with the department. The application shall be filed no less than 10 business days prior to the gathering at which alcoholic beverages will be consumed. Fees for such permits shall be established by council resolution. The department shall prescribe the form of the application, which shall include the name and age of the applicant, public place where permit is to be used, type of activity, date of activity, measures to control the consumption of alcoholic beverages and such other matters as deemed appropriate by the department.

The director shall review and either approve or deny the application within 5 business days from receipt. The director may impose reasonable conditions upon the permit. A denial by the director may be appealed to the Town council within 10 business days from the date of the denial.

D. Illegal Drug Use: No person shall knowingly allow, hold, maintain, or use marijuana or any illegal or recreational drugs in Town parks or facilities.

E. Damage to Property: No person shall remove, damage, or destroy any area in a Town park or facility.

F. Damage to Wildlife: It is unlawful in any park to capture, attempt to capture, tease, annoy, disturb, or strike any bird or animal, or to throw or otherwise propel any object at or in the vicinity of any bird or animal.

G. Dumping in Water Prohibited: No person shall deposit any waste or refuse of any nature, including human or animal waste, into Rock Creek, running adjacent to the Town trail or path.

H. Firearms, Weapons:

1. No person except duly authorized law enforcement personnel, shall possess a bow and arrow, crossbow, or air or gas weapon in a Town park or facility. No person shall discharge across, in, or onto any facility a firearm, bow and arrow, crossbow, air or gas weapon, or any device capable of injuring or killing any person or animal, or damaging or destroying any public or private property. This subsection shall not apply where the department issued a special event permit for such activity.

I. Fireworks: No person shall possess, discharge, or cause to be discharged, in any Town park or facility, any firecracker, torpedo, rocket, firework, explosive, or similar device unless so authorized by the department.

J. Interference with Trails: No person shall place, deposit, or otherwise locate any object, structure or device, whether natural or artificial, that threatens or endangers any trail, or that threatens or endangers any person traveling thereon.

This subsection shall not apply to Town employees in the performance of their duties or to persons acting pursuant to written direction of the City.

K. Outside Household or Commercial Waste: No person shall bring in or deposit household or commercial garbage, refuse, waste, or rubbish which is brought in such form from any private property, in any Town park or facility garbage can or other receptacle.

L. Removal of Property: No person shall remove any Town property from a Town park or facility without the permission of the department.

M. Solicitation: No person shall solicit, sell, or peddle any goods, services, food or drink, or distribute or post any handbills, circulars, or signs, or use any loudspeaker or other amplifying device, in any Town park, except by contract or by permit issued by the department.

N. Waste from Vehicles: No person shall drain or dump refuse or waste from any trailer, camper, automobile or other vehicle in any Town park or facility.

Section 10. Violations: Any person violating any provision of Section 9 of this ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Section 11. Administrative Sanctions: In addition to any prescribed penalty, any person failing to comply with any provisions of this chapter shall be subject to the loss of park or recreation facility use privileges.

Section 12. Rules and policy: The mayor or designee may develop rules, policies and forms to implement this ordinance. All adopted rules, policies and forms shall be filed with town hall.

Section 13. Severability. If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance shall be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any other section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance.

Section 14. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect five (5) days after the date of publication of this ordinance or a summary thereof in the official newspaper of the Town.

PASSED by the Town Council this _____ day of _____, 2017.

Mayor, Carrie Roecks

ATTEST:

Town Clerk, Heidi Johnson