

CHAPTER 8 PARKS

8.01 MANAGEMENT OF PARKS, PARKWAYS AND BOULEVARDS. The management, maintenance and care of public parks, parkways, boulevards, and pleasure drives in the City of Hartford shall be under the supervision of the Park & Recreation Commission subject to the direction and control of the Common Council, in accordance with Section 27.08 of the Wisconsin Statutes. The Park & Recreation Commission is empowered:

1) To govern, manage, control, improve and care for all parks, parkways, boulevards or pleasure drives located within, or partly without, or without the corporate limits of the City, and secure their quiet, orderly and suitable use and enjoyment by the people.

2) To acquire in the name of the City for park, parkway, boulevard or pleasure drive purposes by gift, devise, bequest or condemnation, either absolutely or in trust, money, real or personal property or any incorporeal right or privilege. Gifts to the City of money or other property, real or personal, either absolutely or in trust, for park, parkway, boulevard or pleasure drive purposes shall be accepted only after they have been recommended by the Park & Recreation Commission to the Common Council and approved by the Council by resolution. The Park & Recreation Commission may execute every trust imposed upon the use of property or property rights by deed, testament or other conveyance transferring the title of such property to the City for park, parkway, boulevard or pleasure drive purposes.

3) To buy or lease lands in the name of the City for park, parkway, boulevard or pleasure drive purposes within or without the City, and, with the approval of the Common Council, to sell or exchange property no longer required for its purposes.

4) To acquire by condemnation in the name of the City such lands within or without its corporate boundaries as it may need for public parks, parkways, boulevards, and pleasure drives.

5) To perform any duty or exercise any power given to the Park & Recreation Commission by the laws of the State of Wisconsin.

8.02 DAMAGING PARKS. No person shall destroy, mutilate, deface, injure, or remove any fence, railing, bridge, building, fountain, seat, sign, pipes, hydrants, walks, drives, curbs, gutters or apparatus or fixed or movable property of any kind; nor shall injure, break, remove or mutilate any trees, shrub, plant or flowers in any of the public parks, pleasure drives or boulevards.

8.03 RECREATIONAL VEHICLES. No person shall drive a power driven recreational vehicle upon any City-owned land or recreational area, except upon designated trails as shall be authorized by the Park & Recreation Commission.

8.04 CAMPING. 1) Overnight camping is not permitted in City parks.

2) Upon written request, the Park & Recreation Commission will review special event program camping requests and will consider a temporary camping permit, as deemed appropriate.

8.05 PICNIC AREA AND SHELTER RESERVATION. 1) Persons wishing to reserve a picnic area or shelter facility must complete a reservation form and pay the designated fees.

2) Picnic areas that are not reserved are open for public use on a first come first serve basis.

8.06 MOTOR VEHICLES. No person shall drive, park or leave standing any motor vehicle within any park except upon designated driving and parking areas unless the vehicle:

1) Is on a service drive for loading or unloading for no more than 15 minutes.

2) Is on or adjacent to a service drive and displays a registration plate or card issued by a government authority and designating the vehicle as a vehicle used by a physically disabled person.

3) Has been issued a permit by the Park & Recreation Department permitting such driving or parking.

4) No person shall drive a motor vehicle upon a designated driving or parking area within a park at a speed in excess of 15 mph.

8.07 ANIMALS. 1) No person shall take, catch, kill, hunt, trap, pursue or otherwise disturb any wild animals or birds in any park, excluding game fish.

2) Domestic dogs will be allowed to run freely under an owner's strict control and supervision within that area south of the most southern softball diamond located in Independence Park. Domestic dogs will be allowed under leash control within that area of Centennial Park from Grand Avenue west into Centennial Park from the park service drive extending east to the Millpond (Rubicon River) boat launch ramp, providing dog owners access to the Millpond waters.

Domestic dogs will be allowed on the Rubicon River Parkway trail under strict leash control. Dog owners must follow these trail use rules:

- a) All dogs must be restrained on a maximum six-foot leash at all times;
- b) Owners and dogs must remain on the trail when in City parks; and
- c) No rollerblading, skateboarding or biking with a dog in tow.

Dog owners will be responsible for the proper removal and disposal of any dog fecal matter or any property maintenance violations caused by the dog's activity within the park.

3) Service dogs as defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act assisting the handicapped are allowed in City parks under leashed control. Domestic dogs are prohibited in all other City parks and in all areas of Centennial Park and Independence Park not identified in Section (2). (SECTION 8.07 (2) & (3) AMENDED 3/25/08—ORDINANCE NO. 1172)

8.08 FIRES. No person shall, in any park, build a fire except in scars, grills or fireplaces designed for such purpose or dispose of charcoal or embers, except in containers specifically provided for such disposal.

8.09 **AMUSEMENTS.** No person shall erect any tent, booth, stand, pavilion, ride or similar device in any park without completing a Park & Recreation Department reservation form and further submitting all required permits and certificates of insurance as required in the reservation application.

8.10 **FIREARMS.** No person shall possess or use any firearm, bow and arrow, sling shot or other shooting device in any park unless in a designated area.

8.11 **WASTE.** No person shall place, leave, or throw any waste materials in any park, except receptacles specifically provided for that purpose.

8.12 **HOURS.** No person shall enter or be upon any park, except a park roadway for purposes of travel through a park and the tennis courts, between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.

CHAPTER 8 REPEALED AND RECREATED 8/27/02—ORDINANCE NO. E-491