

BURLINGTON COUNTY PARKS SYSTEM RULES AND REGULATIONS

ADOPTED ON May 14, 2008 by RESOLUTION NO. 328

The Burlington County Board of Chosen Freeholders (hereinafter, the “Board”) has adopted these rules and regulations for the protection of all visitors to the County Parks. These rules and regulations shall apply to all facilities, structures and natural resources that are part of the Burlington County Parks System.

HOURS OF OPERATION

1. All Parks System properties are open at 7:00 AM and closed one-half hour after sunset as defined by the National Weather Service for the Mount Holly area, unless otherwise permitted by the Board. The Board reserves the right to limit or close to the public any Park System property or specific area therein whenever such action is deemed necessary for proper management and operation of that park or area, and/or when it is in the best interest of the health, safety and welfare of the public.

USER FEES

2. The Board may establish user fees for Parks System properties. Such user fees shall be clearly posted at each Parks System property.

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION

3. In the event of an emergency, please dial 911.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES. SMOKING

4. No person shall possess or consume alcoholic beverages, drugs, drug paraphernalia or narcotics in any Parks System property nor shall any person be permitted within a Parks System property under the influence of intoxicating beverages, drugs, or narcotics. Tobacco use is permitted outdoors, except where specifically prohibited; tobacco use is strictly prohibited in any indoor structures.

GROUP USE. FACILITY RENTAL. MEETINGS. EXHIBITIONS. PERMITS

5. Certain Park System properties and facilities, as determined by the Board, may be reserved for group use in accordance with the County’s Facility Use Policies appended hereto.

PARK USE

6. Park visitors/users must obey all posted park and trail use regulations. Use of Park System property is done at the visitor’s/user’s own risk. All visitors/users shall comply with all applicable laws with regard to the activities they are conducting within a Park System property.
7. No person shall use any portion of Park System property for motorized travel, except drives and parking areas established for such purpose. The use of ATVs or other motorized off-road vehicles on Parks System property is strictly prohibited.
8. As determined by the County, no equipment may be used and/or activity be permitted to be conducted in such a manner as to create a public safety hazard and/or nuisance.

9. Metal detecting is not permitted within 100 feet of any building or facility. Recovery tools may only cause minimal disturbance and digging may not exceed six (6) inches in depth. Disturbed areas must be restored to their original condition. Articles found that are of apparent historic or personal significance such as artifacts or jewelry must be turned into the nearest Burlington County Parks System office. Metal detecting is not permitted at Historic Smithville Park, the Historic Burlington County Prison Museum, or in or any maintained, landscaped area (including sod).
10. There shall be no commercial uses of any Park System property except as permitted in writing by the Board. No signs or notices may be posted, nor advertisements distributed, nor shall there be any begging, soliciting, selling or attempts to commit such acts, without the written permission of the Board.
11. No person shall engage in any behavior, conduct, noisemaking or use of language which disrupts, interferes with, is unduly annoying to or prevents the enjoyment or maintenance of any Park System property by other visitors of Board/Park personnel. No public address/loudspeaker systems may be used without written permission from the Board.
12. No person shall block, obstruct or interfere with vehicular or pedestrian traffic on any road, parking area, trail, walkway, pathway or common area, nor shall occupy or interfere with access to any Park structure or lavatory in a manner which interferes with its intended use by visitors of Park personnel. Vehicle parking must be in designated parking areas only.
13. All persons on Park System properties shall be clothed sufficiently to conform with commonly accepted standards of dress or recreational wearing apparel. No person shall change clothes or disrobe except in the privacy of authorized Park System bathroom facilities. All public urination and defecation is prohibited.

PETS. HORSES

14. Dogs and cats must be kept on a physical leash up to six (6) feet in length and under the owner's control at all times. No domestic animal shall be permitted to run at large within any Parks System property, either with or without a keeper, except in those areas designated for that purpose by the Board. Keepers of domestic animals must promptly clean up, remove, and properly dispose of their animals' excrement discharged within any Park System property.
15. No horses or other animals are allowed within a Parks System property, except on such roads, trails, or areas specifically designated for this use.
16. Pet or horse owners shall be responsible for their animal's behavior, and shall remain strictly liable for any nuisance, noise, damage or injury caused by their animal.

WILDLIFE

17. No animal, reptile or bird, wild or domestic may be released onto or into a Parks System property. Only licensed wildlife rehabilitators, after receiving written permission from the Board, shall release wildlife within or into Park System property. Exotic, non-native species are strictly prohibited.

VEGETATION

18. No person shall plant, pick, dig, mutilate, injure, destroy or remove any vegetation, soil or water from Park System property without written authorization to do so.

REFUSE. POLLUTION. VANDALISM

19. Certain Parks System properties or areas are designated as Carry In/Carry Out for the purpose of refuse removal. Visitors are required to remove all refuse that is generated by their use from these Park System properties or areas for proper disposal. Please recycle cans and bottles where receptacles are available. No person shall, in any Park System property or waters therein, deposit or dump, or cause to deposit or dump any litter, trash refuse, garbage, bottles, pollutants, or any other substances or liquids.
20. Park System property and natural features shall not be vandalized, polluted, defaced, removed, disturbed, interfered with or destroyed.

FIRES. FIREWORKS

21. No person shall build, light, or maintain a fire within Park System property, except in a fireplace, fire ring, or grill provided, maintained, or designated for such purpose unless fire restrictions are in effect.
22. No person shall possess, discharge, or set off within Park System property any firecrackers, rockets, or other fireworks.

HUNTING. FISHING. FIREARMS.WEAPONS

23. No person shall carry nor discharge any weapon or firearm within or into a Park System property, including, but not limited to: air guns, bows and arrows, slingshots, paint ball guns and blank guns, or any other weapon capable of injuring persons or wildlife.
24. No hunting is permitted on Park System property. The building, erecting or use of any hunting-type tree stands or blinds is prohibited.
25. Fishing on Park System property is subject to NJ State Fish and Game Laws. All ice and spear fishing is prohibited.

COMMERCIAL USES

26. No person shall engage in any commercial enterprises, including but not limited to the offering of services, soliciting, selling or peddling any liquids or edibles for human consumption, or to distribute circulars or to hawk, peddle, or vend any goods, ware, or merchandise within Park System property without being authorized by the Board to do so.

DISORDERLY PERSONS

27. No person shall remain within a Parks System property who does not abide by conditions adopted and posted by the Board for the preservation of good order and the protection of property within Park System property.
28. Violators of the Park System Rules and Regulations will be escorted from the park and prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

The Board may modify or waive any and/or all of the Parks System Rules and Regulations at their discretion.