

# Rules and Regulations of the National Trail Parks and Recreation District

## Section 1—Authority

- 1.1 The following rules and regulations are adopted by the Board of National Trail Parks and Recreation District, pursuant to Section 755 of the Ohio Revised Code, for the preservation of good order within and adjacent to parks and reservations of land, and for the protection and preservation of the parks, parkways, and other reservations of land under its jurisdiction and control and of property and natural life therein.

## Section 2—Definitions

- 2.1 Park District shall mean the National Trail Parks and Recreation District.
- 2.2 Park shall mean any land or water area owned, leased, or otherwise controlled by the Park District.
- 2.3 Board shall mean the Board of National Trail Parks and Recreation District.
- 2.4 Director shall mean the NTPRD CEO or his/her designee.
- 2.5 Police Officer shall mean every law enforcement officer of the State of Ohio or of any political subdivision thereof, including, but not limited to, state highway patrol, sheriff, deputy sheriff, constables, and Division of Wildlife game protectors.
- 2.6 Person shall mean any individual, company, partnership, corporation, or association, or any combination of individuals, or any employee, agent or officer thereof.
- 2.7 Park waters shall mean any lake, pond, reservoir, stream, channel, lagoon, or other body of water, or any part thereof, whether natural or artificial, located in or adjoining a park.
- 2.8 Motor vehicle shall mean any vehicle propelled or drawn by power other than muscular power.
- 2.9 Vehicle shall mean everything on wheels.
- 2.10 Watercraft shall mean any vessel designed for navigation on water, including, but not limited to any rowboat, sailboat, personal watercraft or motorboat.
- 2.11 Motorboat shall mean any watercraft propelled by any mechanical device, electric motor, or internal combustion engine.
- 2.12 Bicycle shall mean every device, propelled solely by human power, upon which any persons may ride, having two tandem wheels.

## Section 3—Removal or Destruction of Property and/or Natural Features

- 3.1 No person in a park shall remove any property, natural feature, or part thereof, including but not limited to any building, equipment, sign, rock, stone, mineral formation, earth, wood, tree, shrub, flower, plant, nut, or other seed, which is owned, leased, or otherwise controlled by the Park District, from a Park without a permit from the Director.
- 3.2 No person in a Park shall injure, deface, destroy, break, disturb, cut, chop, write upon, mutilate, set fire, deface, dig, paint, damage, or remove any part of any property, natural feature or part thereof, including but not limited to any building, sign, equipment, or other property found therein, nor shall any tree, flower, shrub, or other vegetation, or fruit or seed thereof, or rock or mineral be removed, injured, destroyed, or disturbed.
- 3.3 No person in a Park shall climb or rappel any rock escarpment or other natural features other than designated climbing areas.
- 3.4 No person in a Park shall impound or cause to be impounded any park water or in any other way alter or affect the normal flow of such waters without a permit from the Director.

## Section 4—Deposit of Material

- 4.1 No person, without the specific written consent of the Director, shall bring into, leave behind, or dump any material of any kind in the Park except the refuse, ashes, garbage, and/or other material of a picnic, camp, or other permitted activity, and all such material shall be deposited in receptacles or pits provided for such purposes.
- 4.2 No person shall, either within or adjacent to the Park, place or permit to be placed in any river, brook, stream, ditch, or drain which flows into or through Park lands, any noxious or deleterious material which may render Park waters harmful or inimical to the public health, or to animal, vegetative, or aquatic life, or which may prevent, limit, or interfere with the use of such waters for domestic, industrial, or agricultural purposes, or which may lessen to an unreasonable degree the use and enjoyment of such waters for Park land for recreational or other Park uses.
- 4.3 No person shall, either within or adjacent to the Park, discharge into any pipe, drain, sewer, ditch, or natural tributary watercourse that flows into, through, or onto Park lands, any liquid or aqueous waste.

- 4.4 No person shall, adjacent to a park, deposit, discard, dump, or leave behind any noxious or waste material including but not limited to, paper, garbage, ashes, or refuse which may blow, wash, or otherwise be transported into a park.
- 4.5 No operator or occupant of a motor vehicle shall, regardless of intent, throw, drop, discard, or deposit litter from any motor vehicle in operation upon any parkland, except into a roadside litter receptacle.

## **Section 5—Protection of Animals**

- 5.1 No person within the confines of a Park shall hunt, capture, take, trap, pursue with dogs, or in any other way molest, injure, pursue, feed or destroy any animal found within the confines of the Park, or rob or molest any bird nest, or take the eggs of any bird, or rob or molest any turtle nest, or take the eggs of any turtle.
- 5.2 No person in a Park shall fish in Park waters in a manner, or at a time, prohibited by Chapter 1533 of the Ohio Revised Code as now in effect, or as hereafter amended. The use of hooks left unattended, traps, spears or gigs, or bow and arrows for fishing is prohibited.
- 5.3 No person in a Park shall fish in park waters in violation of any sign or signs prohibiting fishing or a manner thereof.
- 5.4 No person shall bring, permit, have or keep in the Park, any dog, cat, household pet, or other animal destructive to birds and other wildlife, except that dogs or cats are permitted, if they are controlled at all times on a leash not more than eight (8) feet long or are in a controlled designated area. No pets or other animals shall be allowed to become obnoxious or disturbing to other users of park facilities. No person, while in or on a moving motor vehicle, shall lead or permit to be led, any leashed pet or animal.
- 5.5 No person in a Park shall release or abandon a domestic or sick animal.
- 5.6 No person shall herd, graze, drive or permit to run at large within a Park any cattle, horse, mule, donkey, goat, swine, sheep or other animal, any poultry or other fowl.
- 5.7 The Park District shall have the right to impound or destroy any feral or diseased animal.

## **Section 6—Personal Conduct**

- 6.1 No person in or adjacent to a Park shall conduct himself/herself by word or act, in a riotous, disorderly, boisterous, threatening or other manner so as to disturb the peace and good order in a Park.

- 6.2 No person in or adjacent to a Park may operate or play a radio, TV, musical instrument, or amplifying, or sound equipment so as to disturb the peace and good order in a Park. No speakers, amplifiers, or similar equipment shall be displayed outside of a vehicle.
- 6.3 No person in a park shall solicit or procure participants for, engage in, or promote any game, which is played for money or other thing of value.
- 6.4 No person in a Park shall loiter in the vicinity of a restroom and no person over the age of six (6) shall enter a restroom facility provided for the exclusive use of the opposite sex.
- 6.5 No person or group of persons shall loiter in or near any facility or structure, or loiter in or near a motor vehicle or vehicles, on or about a motorcycle or cycles, or on or about bicycles while with in or adjacent to a Park.
- 6.6 No persons or groups of persons shall assemble in or adjacent to a Park for any unlawful purpose or in riotous assemblage or with intent to annoy, harass, or inflict property damage or bodily injury upon another person or persons or inflict damage to a Park.
- 6.7 No person in a Park, except police officers, shall have in his possession any firearm (without permit), switchblade, hunting knife, dagger, metal knuckles, slingshot, or other dangerous weapons.
- 6.8 No person in a Park shall solicit or attempt to solicit another to engage in an act of sex perversion or solicit or request another to commit, perform or engage in any lewd, lascivious, obscene or indecent act or behavior within or adjacent to the Park whether the conduct is intended to occur in the Park or elsewhere.
- 6.9 No person within the Park, for the purpose of sexually arousing or gratifying himself or herself, shall commit trespass or otherwise surreptitiously invade the privacy of another, to spy or eavesdrop upon another.
- 6.10 No person shall recklessly do any of the following within the Park, under circumstances in which his or her contact is likely to be viewed by and affront others, not members of his or her household:
  - (a) Expose his or her private parts, or engage in masturbation;
  - (b) Engage in sexual conduct;
  - (c) Engage in conduct, which to an ordinary observer would appear to be sexual conduct or masturbation.
- 6.11 No person in a Park shall recklessly cause inconvenience, annoyance, or harm to another by creating a condition which is physically offensive to persons or which presents a risk of physical

harm to persons or property by any act which serves no lawful and reasonable purpose of the offender.

- 6.12 No person in a Park shall sell or offer for sale any intoxicating liquor or alcoholic beverage without a permit from the Director.
- 6.13 No person in a Park shall be intoxicated or be under the influence of any intoxicating liquor, alcoholic beverage, controlled substance as defined by Ohio Revised Code section 3719.41, drugs, opiates, harmful intoxicant or hallucinogen.
- 6.14 No person in a Park shall possess, sell, use, or offer for sale any type of narcotic drug, opiate, or hallucinogen controlled substance, marijuana, or harmful intoxicant as defined in Chapter 2925 and 3719 of the Ohio Revised Code, or any equipment for administering such drugs, opiates, or hallucinogens, except as otherwise provided in Ohio Revised Code 2925.11 and Ohio Revised Code 2925.12. Narcotic drugs, opiates, hallucinogens, amphetamines or barbiturates in a park may be confiscated by police officers, with the exception of those as provided for by law.
- 6.15 No person in a Park shall consume, possess or display the presence of any alcoholic beverage in a park, except within a reserved building or area and with the expressed written consent of the Director. For the purpose of this Section, the term "alcoholic beverages" shall mean beer and/or intoxicating liquor as defined in Section 4301.01 of the Ohio Revised Code, and the use of which, pursuant to a permit issued by the Director, has been temporarily reserved by a person or persons to the exclusion of the general public.
- 6.16 No person in a park shall have in his possession an opened container of beer or intoxicating liquor within the designated premises of the holder of any permit from the Department of Liquor Control as defined in Ohio Revised Code section 4301.62 except as lawfully purchased from the permit holder for consumption on the designated premises.
- 6.17 Persons in a Park shall not gather in groups for the purpose of holding a speech, parade, or demonstration as members of a political, military, or other organization in the park without a written permit from the Director.
- 6.18 No person in a Park shall beg, peddle, or solicit for money, a privilege, or service.
- 6.19 No person in a Park shall enter a hiking trail on any animal or on or in any other vehicle or motor vehicle.
- 6.20 No person in a Park shall willfully resist, obstruct, or abuse a police officer while such officer is engaged in the execution of his/her office.
- 6.21 No person in a Park except Park District employees or its agents shall carry on or about his or her person a container capable of propelling paint by means of a gaseous charge.
- 6.22 No person shall knowingly cause or attempt to cause physical harm to another within the Park; and no person shall recklessly cause physical harm to another within the Park.
- 6.23 No person in a Park shall knowingly cause another to believe that the offender will cause (serious) physical harm to the person or property of such other person or member of his or her immediate family.
- 6.24 No person within the Park, without privilege to do so, shall knowingly restrain another of his liberty.
- 6.25 No person in a Park shall sled ride, ski or ice skate within or adjacent to the Park except in designated areas.
- 6.26 You can use your metal detecting equipment in the open park areas; you are required to return the turf to its original condition. You are not permitted to go on any athletic areas: softball, baseball, soccer, etc. You are not permitted to go into any fenced/secured areas, pools, stadiums, etc. You are not permitted to utilize your equipment while events are ongoing in the parks. Removal of any historical artifact is not permitted and should be reported immediately to the National Trail Administrative Office.
- 6.27 No person shall swim, bathe, wade nor enter into any park waters where prohibited or in a manner contrary to regulations prescribed by the Director.
- 6.28 All persons in a Park must obey all posted signs.

## **Section 7—Fires**

- 7.1 No person shall start a fire in a Park, except in privately owned grills, or in designated areas, except that the Director may at his/her discretion prohibit fires for limited periods at any location or for any purpose when necessary for the protection of Park property. The person or persons starting or using the fire prior to leaving the immediate vicinity of the fire shall put out all fires. The dumping of hot ashes or fire from portable picnic grills onto grass or plants is prohibited.
- 7.2 No person in a Park shall collect wood in a Park for any purpose without permission from the Director.

## **Section 8—Camping**

- 8.1 No person in a Park shall camp in an area or on a site, which is not designated for this purpose by the Director. No person in a Park shall establish or maintain any camp or other temporary lodging or sleeping place within a Park without a permit from the Director.
- 8.2 No person under the age of eighteen (18) may camp in a Park without the direct supervision of an adult.
- 8.3 Any and all campers in a Park must abide by and all Rules and Regulations as established by the Park District.

## **Section 9—Firearms and Weapons**

- 9.1 Unless otherwise authorized by law, no person in a Park except police officers shall carry on or about his person, firearms of any description (without permit), knives, bows and arrows, or gas guns, missiles, slingshots or other missile-throwing devices.
- 9.2 No person except police officers shall discharge into a Park a firearm, arrow, air or gas gun, missile, slingshot, or any other missile-throwing device. No person in a Park except police officers, shall discharge a firearm, or shoot an arrow except in areas designated by the Director for their use.
- 9.3 No person in a Park shall have in his possession or shoot a crossbow.
- 9.4 Firearms, bows and arrows, knives, air or gas guns, missiles, slingshots or other missile-throwing devices or any snares or traps brought into a Park may be confiscated by police officers.
- 9.5 For the purpose of historical reenactment activities in a Park, the following guidelines should be followed:
  - (a) Possession and use of firearms will be limited to registered, costumed participants of the event.
  - (b) Possession and use of firearms will be confined to those areas specifically used for the event.
  - (c) All use and handling of firearms will be in strict compliance with the safety guidelines established by organizations responsible for providing safety instruction.
  - (d) All demonstrations must use noise-making loads involving no projectiles.
  - (e) All organizations wishing to present live fire demonstrations must present a copy of the safety procedures and guidelines for approval by the Park District.

- (f) All liability for the safe operation of live fire demonstrations will be the sole responsibility of the group presenting the demonstration. The Park District will be held harmless.
- (g) The organization using firearms agrees to comply with all the above stated guidelines as a condition of possessing firearms on the grounds of the Park District.

## **Section 10—Commercial Activities**

- 10.1 No person in a Park shall sell or offer for sale any article, privilege, or service unless such sale of offer is pursuant to a contract with the Park District.
- 10.2 No Park shall be used for commercial purposes except with a permit from the Director.

## **Section 11—Erecting and Attaching Signs**

- 11.1 No person in a Park shall erect a sign or attach a sign to property owned or controlled by the Park District, nor shall any person display any placard, notice, advertisement, circular, banner, or statement of any kind other than a permanent sign on a vehicle without a permit from the Director.

## **Section 12—Horses**

- 12.1 No person in a Park shall ride a horse except in areas or on trails designated for this use.
- 12.2 No person in a Park shall ride a horse in such a manner as to endanger the rider, the horse, or any other person or any property. Horseback riders in a Park shall yield right-of-way to pedestrians and motorists at points where bridle trails intersect foot trails, roads, drives, and parkways.
- 12.3 No person shall ride a horse in a Park when it is closed except with a permit from the Director.
- 12.4 No person in a Park shall leave a horse unattended other than for the purpose of stabling at a designated stable.
- 12.5 No person in a Park shall over-ride, cruelly mistreat, mutilate, or torture a horse.
- 12.6 No person in a Park shall enter any hiking trail on a horse.
- 12.7 No person, horse, or any other vehicle or motor vehicle may enter a horse trail when that trail has been declared closed because of weather, ground conditions, or other reasons.

## **Section 13—Hours of Use**

- 13.1 No person shall be permitted to remain, stop, or park within the confines of a Park during the hours

a Park is closed except as permitted by the Director. Hours are posted at each park.

- 13.2 No person shall be permitted to remain, stop, or park within the confines of a Park during a period of emergency as declared by the Director or a police officer.

#### **Section 14—Boating**

- 14.1 No person in a Park shall operate a motorboat on any Park water, except that designated by the Director.
- 14.2 All watercraft and operators shall comply with the requirements of Sections 1547 and 1548 of the Ohio Revised Code when using any Park waters under the jurisdiction of the Park District.
- 14.3 No person in a Park under sixteen years of age shall operate any watercraft upon Park waters unless such person is under the direct visual and audible supervision during such operation of a person over the age of sixteen years of age.
- 14.4 No person in a Park shall operate a watercraft on Park waters in such a manner as to endanger the operator or any other person or any property.
- 14.5 No person in a Park shall use a life raft, inner tube, or rubber or inflatable object intended to support persons on Park waters.

#### **Section 15—Fireworks and Explosives**

- 15.1 No person in a Park shall discharge any fireworks.
- 15.2 No person in a Park shall have in his possession or detonate any explosives or explosive devices except with a permit from the Director.

#### **Section 16—Vehicles and Traffic**

- 16.1 All motor vehicles and operators shall comply with the requirements of all Sections of the Ohio Revised Code pertaining to motor vehicles and operators while using Park District roads.
- 16.2 No person in a Park shall operate a vehicle except on and within the paths and roads provided for such vehicles.
- 16.3 No person shall drive upon or along any Park road or drive, which has been closed or posted with appropriate signs or barricades. No person in a Park shall drive around, cause to be moved, or damage any barricade barrier, so placed to temporarily or permanently close a road to sign traffic.
- 16.4 No person in a Park shall operate a vehicle in excess of the posted speed limit.
- 16.5 No person shall park any motor vehicle, bicycle, or other vehicle within any traveled roadway within

the Park or any location where posted signs prohibit parking except in emergencies, or upon any sod, gravel or other surface not specifically designated as "a parking area."

- 16.6 No person shall leave a vehicle in a Park during the hours when a Park is closed.
- 16.7 No person in a Park shall drive a vehicle on a road or path in a direction other than that indicated by traffic signs.
- 16.8 No person in a Park shall drive a truck, tractor, or other vehicle, which is, at that time, used for the transportation of goods or materials over any Park road without a permit from the Director.
- 16.9 No person in a Park shall operate a motor vehicle when such motor vehicle is in excess of the ten (10) ton gross load limit.
- 16.10 Vehicles in a Park that are in violation of these rules and regulations shall be ticketed, removed, or caused to be removed, by police officers to a location in or outside of a park, where the same may be kept until the owners or their authorized representative obtain an order from the Director or his/her agents releasing such vehicles to the owners thereof or their authorized representatives.
- 16.11 No person in a Park shall intentionally accelerate a motor vehicle causing the rubber tires to mark or deface Park roadway surfaces.
- 16.12 No person shall operate or cause to operate any type of vehicle, which is self-propelled vehicle or moved by animal or human, over or upon any footpath or bridle trail within the Park.
- 16.13 No person shall operate or cause to operate any type of vehicle on or along a Shared Use Trails Park that is wider than 42 inches or longer than 60 inches.
- 16.14 No person shall operate or cause to operate any motorized vehicle on or along a Shared Use Trails Park.
- 16.15 No person shall operate or cause to operate any vehicle within, through or gain access to any Shared Use Trail Park where use has been established and appropriately marked except by the use of such trails, unless special permission has been granted by the Director.
- 16.16 No person shall operate or cause to operate a self-propelled vehicle, which is designed to travel on snow-covered surfaces, paths or over terrain within the Park.
- 16.17 No person shall operate or cause to operate within the Park an all-purpose vehicle as defined in Ohio Revised Code section 4519.01. "All-

purpose vehicle" means any self-propelled vehicle designed primarily for cross-country travel on land and water, or on more than one type of terrain, and steered by wheels or caterpillar treads, or any combination thereof, including vehicles that operate on a cushion of air, vehicles commonly known as all-terrain vehicles, all-season vehicles, mini-bikes, and trail bikes.

#### **Section 17—Pedestrian Access**

- 17.1 No person shall travel within, through, or gain access to any Park where pedestrian trails have been established and appropriately marked except by the use of such trails, unless special permission has been granted by the Director.
- 17.2 No person shall travel within, through, or gain access to any Shared Use Trail Park where use has been established and appropriately marked except by the use of such trails, unless special permission has been granted by the Director.

#### **Section 18—Employee Exemption**

- 18.1 Acts of employees of the Park District or its agents to the extent necessary for the performance of their authorized duties shall be exempt from the provisions of these Rules and Regulations.
- 18.2 The Director may from time to time designate a Park District employee(s) or other person to exercise any authority permitted him under these Rules and Regulations.

#### **Section 19—Failure to Obey**

- 19.1 No person in or adjacent to a Park shall fail or refuse to comply with any reasonable order relating to the regulation, direction, or control of traffic, or to any order lawfully given by any police officer.
- 19.2 No person shall resist, obstruct, abuse or address in a profane or obscene manner any police officer, employee or agent of the Board.
- 19.3 No person shall knowingly make a false statement or knowingly swear or affirm the truth of a false statement previously made to a police officer, employee or agent of the Board, when the statement is made in any official proceeding, the statement is made with the purpose to incriminate another, the statement is made with the purpose to mislead a public official in performing his or her official function, or the statement is in writing on or in connection with a report or return which is required or authorized by law. When the offender makes contradictory statements relating to the same fact within the period of the statute of limitations for falsification, it is not necessary for

the prosecution to prove which statement was false, but only that one or the other was false.

#### **Section 20—Ejection from Park**

- 20.1 Police officers and Park District employees or its agents may order any person violating any of the provisions of these Rules and Regulations or the laws of the State of Ohio to leave the Park and no person shall fail to obey such an order.
- 20.2 Any person repeatedly violating these Rules and Regulations may lose the privilege of entering a park for a period of time as designated by the Director.

#### **Section 21—Penalty**

- 21.1 Pursuant to Section 1545.99 of the Ohio Revised Code, any person who violates any provision of these Rules and Regulations shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars for the first offense; for each subsequent offense, such person shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars.

#### **Section 22—Separability**

- 22.1 Each section of these Rules and Regulations and every part of each section is an independent section and part of a section and the holding of any section or a part thereof to be unconstitutional, void, or ineffective for any cause does not affect the validity of constitutionality of any other section or part thereof.

#### **Section 23—Gender and Number**

- 23.1 Wherever the masculine gender appears, it shall be deemed to include the feminine. Wherever reference is made in the singular or plural it shall be deemed to include the other unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

#### **Rules and Regulations**

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Adopted by NTPRD and Revised 10-14-02, 5-10-04,  
12-13-04, 12-5-05, 10-20-09, 9-27-11