

The Niles Park Board is grateful to the residents of Niles for their continued support of the City's park system. The Board is committed to providing the community with a quality park system to be enjoyed by all. Visitors are required to be respectful of others in conduct and speech, and adhere to these Regulations hereinafter set forth:

NOTE: The Board recognizes these Rules and Regulations cannot anticipate every action or incident. In the event an incident or action occurs that is not defined, the Board grants the Park Director authority to take necessary actions to preserve the safety of all guests and park property.

ALCOHOL

- (A) No alcohol is permitted in any city park.
- (B) Except as may be permitted by the Ohio Revised Code, no person in a park shall be under the influence, possess, sell or offer for sale any type of narcotic drug, controlled substance, opiate or hallucinate, or any equipment for administering such drugs, opiates or hallucinates. Except as may be permitted by the Ohio Revised Code, no person in a park shall smoke, drink, have injected or inject into himself, or otherwise use any type of narcotic drug, opiate, controlled substance, or hallucinate.

ANIMALS

- (A) No person shall hunt, trap or in any way abuse, molest, injure, pursue or destroy any animal.
- (B) No person shall move, injure or destroy any animal habitation.
- (C) Any person bringing into a park or having or keeping in a park a dog, cat, or domesticated animal shall keep such dog, cat or animal under control at all times. No person shall bring or have or keep in a park any dog, cat, household pet, wild animal or any other animal that may be destructive, harmful, or present a threat or be dangerous to any person, bird or wildlife.
- (D) It shall be the duty of any person who owns, possesses or controls an animal to remove and dispose of any feces or excrement with tool(s), implement(s), or other such device(s) carried by that person for such purpose.
- (E) If the attitude of any animal under the control or supervision of any person within a city park excites fear in other persons, or if the animal disturbs the quiet enjoyment by other persons of any area administered by incessant barking, whining, howling, crying or other incessant sharp, abrupt outcries, or other means, the Park Director may direct that the animal be removed by the owner or handler from the area.
- (F) No person shall leave behind, or otherwise abandon any animal within or adjacent to any park.
- (G) No person shall release any wild or exotic animal within the confines of a park without a specific written permit from the Director or a designated agent thereof.

CAMPING

- (A) 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.
- (B) Camping permits shall not exceed three (3) nights.
- (C) No person shall camp in an area or on a site that is not designated for this purpose.

COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES

- (A) No person in a park shall sell or offer for sale any article, privilege, or service unless such sale or offer

is pursuant to a contract with the Park Board.

- (B) No person in a park shall beg, peddle or solicit for money, a privilege, or service unless such sale or offer is pursuant to a contract with the Park Board.
- (C) No park shall be used for commercial purposes unless such activity is pursuant to a contract with the Park Board.

DRONE FLIGHT

- (A) Recreational drone flight is permitted in “common areas” of the park, as designated by the Park Director.
- (B) No person shall utilize drones above park facilities, athletic fields, or activity areas.
- (C) Commercial drone flight is allowed only upon granting of the appropriate permit from the Park Director.
- (D) Commercial drone permits shall not exceed three (3) days.

FIRES

- (A) No person in a park shall start or maintain a fire except in a place or at a site designated for such purpose. A person who starts or maintains a fire shall not leave a fire unattended and shall see that it is properly contained and fully extinguished before leaving the park.
- (B) No person in a park shall collect wood in the park for any purpose.
- (C) No person in a park shall place portable stoves or grills in shelters or on combustible picnic tables.
- (D) No person in a park shall deposit burning material or hot ashes on grass, plants or in refuse receptacles.
- (E) No person in a park shall build a fire at a time or period when the Director has prohibited the building of fires.

FIREWORKS AND EXPLOSIVES

- (A) No person in a park shall have in his possession or ignite any fireworks.
- (B) No person in a park shall have in his possession or detonate any explosive except with a permit from the Niles City Fire Dept. Chief and Director.

GEOCACHE

- (A) Geocaching is a popular activity where participants use GPS, mobile devices or other systems to find hidden objects at specific locations.
- (B) Prior to placing a geocache, earth catching, letterboxing or similar device in a city park, a permit from the Park Director is required.
- (C) Permits shall not exceed 30 days.

HOURS

- (A) No person shall enter a park except during the hours that parks are open and so posted.
- (B) No person shall enter a park or remain in a park during the hours a park is closed except with a permit from the Director.

- (C) No person shall enter a park or a part of the park during a period of emergency declared by the Director/Safety Forces.
- (D) No person shall be permitted to remain within a park between 11:00 P.M. – 6:00 A.M., or when a park is either permanently or temporarily closed, except upon special permission of the Director or a designated agent thereof or in the event of an emergency. In the event of such an emergency the person shall use his or her best efforts to notify a law enforcement agency or law enforcement officer of the nature of the emergency and to leave the park at the earliest opportunity.
- (E) The Director or designee, may temporarily close a park or curtail or stop activities within or upon a park, or any portion thereof, when it has been deemed by the Director or his designated agent, that such closing or curtailment or stopping is in the best interest of the public health, safety, or welfare, or to maintain public order.
- (F) Any park, or any portion thereof, may be closed to the public when it has been determined by the city that the park, or any portion thereof, is especially environmentally sensitive and human presence will endanger or harm the especially environmentally sensitive area of the park. Upon such determination, only employees or agents of the city, law enforcement personnel, or emergency personnel carrying out their respective duties shall be permitted in that closed park or area, and no person, other than for which is herein provided, shall be permitted in such closed park or area except upon written permission from the Director. Any park, or portion thereof, closed to the public under the provisions this division may be designated by the city as a nature sanctuary.
- (G) No person shall engage in any activity in, on or within any park, bikeway, transportation corridor, or linear park, except those activities approved by the Director. No person shall remain in, on or within any park, facility or transportation corridor, except during those times, as approved by the Director.

METAL DETECTING

- (A) Recreational metal detecting devices are permitted in “common areas” of the park, as designated by the Park Director.
- (B) No person shall utilize metal detecting devices on athletic fields or activity areas.
- (C) Any person who disrupts park grounds must restore the area to it’s natural state.

PARKING-VEHICLES

- (A) No person shall obstruct traffic on the roadways, access roads or parking lot areas.
- (B) No person shall operate a motorcycle anywhere in the Park properties other than on proper roadways. The operation of mini-bikes, dirt bikes, trail bikes, all-terrain vehicles, dune buggies or other motorized recreational vehicles anywhere in the Park properties is prohibited.
- (C) Parking of motor vehicles is permitted only in parking areas provided for that purpose and is not permitted outside of the roadways, parking lots and access roads. No person shall park or stop a motor vehicle in areas designated as "No Parking" or "No Stopping."
- (D) No person in a park shall operate a snowmobile or engage in sledding, skiing or ice skating except in areas and at times designated by the Director.

PAVILION/CABIN USE

- (A) It shall be the duty of an individual/organization to complete an application and pay the rental fee in full prior to the use of these facilities. No reservations will be accepted without a completed application and payment of the rental fee.

- (B) It shall be the duty of the individual/organization to leave the pavilion/cabin in a condition that is clean/sanitary.
- (C) No person shall deface, willfully mark, displace, remove or tamper with any Park owned property located in a pavilion or cabin.

PERSONAL PROPERTY

- (A) No person shall leave any personal property in any area in such a manner that the conditions surrounding its placement, when found, give indication that the owner has left the area.
- (B) Such property may be removed from the location at which it is found and stored by the Niles Park Dept.
- (C) The owner of such property, if known or can be found with reasonable effort, shall be notified and the owner shall be permitted to redeem such property.
- (D) If any property goes unclaimed by the owner after 30 days, the property shall be disposed of in accordance with the City of Niles disposal policy and procedures.

SIGNAGE

- (A) No person in a park shall erect a sign or attach a sign to property owned or controlled by the Parks Department; nor shall any person display any placard, notice, advertisement, circular, banner, or statement of any kind, except in areas designated by the Director.

SMOKING/VAPING

- (A) No person shall smoke/vape except in areas designated by the Director.
- (B) The Director designates parking lots as smoking areas. If a parking lot abuts an activity/play area, individuals must be at least 25ft away from the area.
- (C) Visitors who violate this policy shall be required to cease smoking, relocate to the designated areas or leave the park.

VISITOR CONDUCT

- (A) No person shall participate in any form of organized league game or practice on any field, in the city park, without prior written advance authorization from the parks and recreation department.
- (B) No person in or adjacent to a park shall conduct himself by word or by act in a riotous, disorderly, boisterous, threatening or other manner so as to disturb the peace and good order in a park.
- (C) No person in a park shall operate or play a radio, TV, musical instrument, or amplifying or sound equipment so as to disturb the peace and good order. When events are sponsored by the Park Dept., they shall comply with the City of Niles Noise Ordinance.
- (D) No person in a park shall use insulting, abusive, threatening, profane or indecent language.
- (E) No person in a park shall loiter in the vicinity of a restroom.
- (F) No person or group of persons shall loiter in or adjacent to any park or facilities. No person shall sit upon, stand around, or otherwise loiter within ten (10) feet of the exterior of any parked vehicle.
- (G) No person in a park shall resist, obstruct, or abuse an enforcement officer while such enforcement officer is engaged in the lawful execution of his duties.
- (H) No person in a park shall willfully assault or commit bodily injury upon another or engage in or abet or aid in any fight, quarrel, or other disturbance.

- (I) No person shall engage in fighting for sport or entertainment.
- (J) No person or groups of persons shall assemble in or adjacent to a park for any unlawful purpose or in a 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.
- (K) No person in a park shall, without reasonable cause have on or about his person, a knife, bow and arrow, air or gas gun, missile, slingshot or other missile-throwing device or any snares or traps.
- (L) 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.
- (M) No person in a park shall appear in a state of nudity or make any indecent exposure of his or her person.
- (N) No person shall write upon, cut, mutilate, deface, or damage in any manner any building, equipment or other property or part thereof that is owned, leased or otherwise controlled by Park Board.
- (O) No person shall discard or dump any paper, garbage, ashes, bottles, cans, refuse or foreign materials of any description. Refuse, garbage and other residue of a picnic or other permitted activity shall be deposited in receptacles provided for such purposes.
- (P) No person shall operate an all-terrain vehicle, go-cart, air balloon, hang glider, hover craft, skateboard, roller skates or metal detector without approval by the Director.
- (Q) No person shall bring into a park, display or leave behind any photograph, publication, or apparatus of a lewd, lascivious, obscene, indecent, or pornographic nature.
- (R) No person shall pass from any park so as to trespass onto private property. All persons using any park shall exit and enter such park in or at areas designated for ingress and egress.
- (S) No person shall refuse to comply with any reasonable order of any Police Officer or Park Official or employee relating to any specific facility or these general rules and regulations. No person shall willfully resist, obstruct, or abuse any Police Officer or Park Official or employee in the execution of his duty.