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**Chapter I  
Public Use and Hours**

**Section I – General Public**

Any group may use certain areas, facilities or services within Commission property to the exclusion of others by making application and being granted a permit by the Director, or his/her designated representative, of the Genesee County Parks and Recreation Commission.

**Section II – Permits**

(a) Application for a permit for reserved park space or facilities shall be made upon forms to be furnished by the Commission.

(b) Each application shall be accompanied by such fee as shall be required by Commission and shall be received by the Commission at least ten (10) days prior to authorized date of use.

(c) Application shall be made in advance of the time of the reservation requested as posted.

(d) In the event more applications for reserved space or facilities are received than space available, such applications shall be considered in the chronological order received.

**Park Rules**

Genesee & Lapeer Counties  
Revised April, 2008

Pursuant to Act 261 of the Public Acts of the State of Michigan of 1965, as amended, the Genesee County Parks and Recreation Commission herewith promulgates and publishes the following rules for the use, protection, regulation, and control of all its services, facilities, and parks, recreation conservation, education, historic, and scenic areas and preserves and parkways.

(e) Nothing contained herein shall operate to exempt the users of reserved space or facilities from full compliance with all rules of the Commission relating to use of and conduct on Commission property.

### **Section III – Hours**

No person or vehicle shall remain upon property administered by or under the jurisdiction of the Commission during hours such property or facilities are not posted open to public use. Provided, however, that upon application to the Commission or its authorized agent said hours may be extended. It shall be unlawful for any person to enter upon any portion of park lands or waters which have been designated as closed to the public use or entry.

## **Chapter II Protection of Property**

### **Section IV – Destruction, Removal or Damage to Commission and/or Other Properties**

No person shall, upon the property administered by the Commission:

(a) Willfully destroy, deface, alter, change or remove any monument, stone marker, benchmark, stake, post or blaze, marking or designating any boundary line, survey line, or reference point.

(b) Cut, break, mark upon or otherwise injure any building, equipment, bridge, drain, wall, fountain, lamp post, fence, gate, hedge, or other structure.

(c) Deface, destroy or remove any placard, notice or sign, whether permanent or temporary, posted or exhibited within or upon park property.

(d) Willfully or maliciously destroy, injure, or otherwise damage any property.

(e) Take or carry away, or attempt to take or carry away, any property without permission from the owner thereof.

(f) Interfere with or do any act which would be likely to interfere with the normal operation of the Huckleberry Railroad, including but not limited to, the throwing of objects at any of the equipment of said railroad or the placing of any objects upon or across the tracks upon which said railroad operates.

**Section V – Destruction of Plant life and Natural Surroundings**

No person shall, upon the property of the Commission:

(a) Cut, remove, or destroy any tree, sapling, seedling, bush or shrub, whether alive or dead, or chip, blaze, box, girdle, trim or otherwise deface or injure any tree or shrub, or break or remove any branch, foliage, flower or any tree or shrub, or pick, gather, uproot, remove or destroy any flower, plant or grass.

(b) Remove or cause to be removed any sod, earth, humus, peat, boulders, gravel, fungus or sand, without written permission of the Commission or its Agent.

**Section VI – Fires**

(a) No person shall willfully set or cause to be set on fire any tree, woodland, brush land, grassland or meadow within or upon the property administered by the Commission.

(b) No person shall build any fire upon property administered by the Commission except within the fireplaces, fire rings, grills or open spaces approved and designated by the Commission for such purpose. Fires shall be maintained so that the flames shall be no more than 3 feet in height.

(c) No person shall drop, throw or otherwise scatter lighted matches, burning cigars, burning cigarettes, tobacco paper or other flammable material within or upon any property administered by the Commission.

(d) No pallets, treated wood or other noxious materials are to be put in campfires.

(e) Fires shall not be left unattended. All fires shall be extinguished prior to leaving the immediate vicinity.

**Chapter III  
Protection of Wildlife**

**Section VII – Animals**

It shall be unlawful for persons to bring animals upon property administered by or under the jurisdiction of the Commission except the following:

(a) Dogs shall be allowed on Commission properties (except upon beaches and For-Mar Nature Preserve and Arboretum or in Park buildings or pavilions) while in the immediate control of a competent person and while on a leash of less than six feet in length;

(b) Guide or leader dogs, hearing dogs and service animals for persons with disabilities, as provided under MCL 750.502(c);

(c) Horses and other beasts of burden and draft animals may be ridden by persons in charge thereof or driven before a vehicle attached thereto, on such portions of Commission properties as may be designated for riding or driving by the Commission;

(d) Dogs used in designated water fowl hunting, dog shows, or field trial areas or used in connection with activities specifically approved by the Commission.

It shall be unlawful for any person to hunt, trap, catch, wound, or kill any bird, fish or animal, molest or rob any nest of any bird or any lair, den, or burrow of any animal upon any land or waters administered by the Commission except as specifically allowed from time to time by the Commission and, in addition in the case of fishing, in accordance with the laws of the State of Michigan, rules of the Department of Natural Resources of the State of Michigan in such areas designated for such purposes by the Commission.

It shall be unlawful to violate any of the laws of the State of Michigan relating to hunting and/or fishing while on property administered by or under the jurisdiction of the Commission.

## **Section VIII– Contraband**

All game, animals, fowl, birds, fish and other aquatic life, hunted, killed, taken or destroyed, bought, sold, bartered or had in possession, contrary to any of the provisions hereof, shall be and the same are declared to be contraband and the same shall be subject to seizure and confiscation and shall be disposed of in accordance with the laws of the State of Michigan. Provided further, that any weapon or object carried or used by any person in violation of these rules, shall be subject to seizure by the Commission or its Agents and disposed of according to law.

## **Chapter IV Regulations Governing Sports, Games, Activities And Other Uses**

### **Section IX – Swimming, Bathing & Wading**

No person shall:

(a) Swim, bathe or wade between sunset and sunrise, in any of the watercourses, lakes, ponds, or sloughs located within or upon the properties administered by or under the jurisdiction of the Commission.

(b) Swim, bathe or wade except at such times and places as may be provided or designated for such purposes.

(c) Have in their possession any glass or metal container on any Commission beach or in the water adjacent thereto.

(d) Engage in conduct that violates Section XXII of these Rules concerning personal conduct;

(e) Permit dogs upon Commission beaches in violation of Chapter III of these Rules.

Air mattresses, inner tubes, or any other device, inflatable or otherwise, used in aid of swimming, are permitted in areas designated for swimming, bathing or wading except where specifically prohibited by posted notice.

### **Section X – Boating**

No person shall bring into, use or navigate any boat, yacht, canoe, raft or other watercraft upon any watercourse, lagoon, lake, pond or slough located within or upon the properties administered by or under the jurisdiction of the Commission, except at such time or places as may be provided or designated for such purpose. All watercraft shall comply with and be used in compliance with the laws of the State of Michigan being Act No. 58 of the Public Acts of 1995, as amended, being Michigan Compiled Laws Section 324.80101 et seq and such regulations as may be adopted under the authority of the Act.

### **Section XI – Camping**

It shall be unlawful to camp except in such areas as may be provided and designated for such purposes by the Commission. No person shall camp without a written permit issued by an authorized representative of the Commission. No camping permit shall be issued to any person or persons for a continuous period exceeding fourteen nights (fifteen days) on any one camping site. However, a new permit may be issued at the discretion of the Commission's representative when camp sites are available. No permit shall be issued to any person under the age of eighteen (18) years.

It shall be unlawful:

(a) For more than a single family or four (4) unrelated persons to camp on one campsite.

(b) For more than one (1) camping unit and one tent or two tents and no camping unit to be on a single site.

(c) For any person or persons between the hours of 11:00 P.M. and 7:00 A.M. of the following day, to cause, create, or make any noise or disturbance which is a hindrance to the peace, quiet and tranquility of the camping area.

(d) For any person or persons to wash dishes at pumps or drinking fountains; to fail to clean campsites

daily or to discharge wastewaters or any other wastes, except into designated containers, drains or dumping stations.

(e) To dig a trench or make any excavation on any campsite.

(f) To occupy a campsite after check out time, (i.e., 1:00 p.m.) on the last day covered by the permit.

(g) To occupy campsites contrary to assignments as may be made by the Commission's authorized representative.

(h) For more than two (2) vehicles to occupy an individual campsite. Each vehicle must be registered on the camp permit. Vehicles are prohibited from driving within the campground between the hours of Midnight and 5:00 A.M., except for emergencies.

(i) For visitors to remain in the campground after 10:00 P.M.

(j) To possess or consume alcoholic beverages within the campground.

(k) For any child under the age of 18 years to be unaccompanied or unsupervised by a responsible adult.

## **Section XII – Continuous Cruising In or Through Park Areas**

It shall be unlawful to continuously cruise, in or on any motor driven vehicle in or through any area of the park system.

To continuously cruise is herein defined as the repeated driving of a motor driven vehicle in and through a park area without stopping for the purpose of using park facilities.

## **Chapter V Traffic And Parking**

### **Section XIII – Parking In Prohibited Areas**

Standing for loading or unloading in certain places:

(a) It shall be unlawful for the operator of a vehicle to stop, stand or park said vehicle in any place marked as a passenger or loading zone, other than for the expeditious loading or unloading of passengers, or for the unloading and delivery or pick up and loading of materials.

(b) It shall be unlawful for the operator of a vehicle to stop, stand or park such vehicle upon any roadway or in any parking area in such manner as to form an obstruction to traffic thereon.

(c) It shall be unlawful to park any vehicle in any area that is designated as a prohibited parking area.

(d) It shall be unlawful to drive or park any motor vehicle in or upon Commission property that is used for recreational purposes, unless otherwise allowed by these rules.

#### **Section XIV – Motor Vehicles**

For purposes of these Rules, the following definitions apply:

“Vehicle” means every device in, upon or by which any person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a highway, except devices exclusively moved by human power.

“Motor vehicle” means every vehicle that is self propelled.

“Motorcycle” means every motor vehicle having a saddle or seat for the use of a rider and designed to travel on not more than 3 wheels in contact with the ground but excluding a tractor.

“Moped” means a 2- or 3- wheeled vehicle which is equipped with a motor that does not exceed 50 cubic centimeters, produces 2.0 brake horsepower or less, and cannot propel the vehicle at speeds at a speed of greater than 30 miles per hour on a level surface. The drive system shall not require the driver to shift gears.

“Off road vehicle” means a motor driven off-road recreation vehicle capable of cross-country travel without benefit of a road or trail, on or immediately over land, snow, ice, marsh, swampland or other natural terrain. Off road vehicle includes, but is not limited to, a multi-track or multi-wheel drive vehicle, an ATV, a motorcycle or related 2-wheel, 3-wheel or 4-wheel vehicle, an amphibious machine, a ground effect air cushion vehicle or other means of transportation deriving motive power from a source other than muscle or wind. An off road vehicle shall not include a snowmobile or a vehicle used for fire, emergency or law enforcement purposes.

“ATV” means a 3- or 4-wheeled vehicle designed for off-road use that has low-pressure tires, has a seat designed to be straddled by the rider, and is powered by a 50cc to 500cc gasoline engine or an engine of comparable size using other fuels.

“Bicycle” means a device propelled by human power upon which a person may ride, having 2 or 3 wheels in a tandem or tricycle arrangement, all of which are over 14 inches in diameter.

“Low-speed vehicle” means a self-propelled motor vehicle to which both of the following apply:

(A) The vehicle conforms to the definition of low-speed vehicle under 49 CFR 571.3(b)

(B) The vehicle meets the standard for low-speed vehicles under 49 CFR 571.500.



“Snowmobile” means any motor vehicle designed for travel primarily on snow or ice of a type that utilizes sled-type runners or skis, an endless belt tread, or any combination of these or other similar means of contact with the surface upon which it is operated.

It shall be unlawful for any person to:

- (a) Operate a motor vehicle of any kind or nature, except on roads or designated parking areas.
- (b) Operate a moped, off-road vehicle, ATV or low speed vehicle upon properties administered by the Commission except as specifically allowed from time to time by the Commission.
- (c) Operate a motor vehicle on any park road at a speed greater than or less than is reasonable and proper, having due regard to the traffic, surface and width of the road and of any other condition then existing, nor drive any vehicle upon a park road at a speed greater than will permit him/her to bring said vehicle to a stop within the assured clear distance ahead or operate a motor vehicle on any park road at a speed exceeding 25 miles per hour or at any speed greater than the posted speed.
- (d) Operate any motor sled, toboggan or snowmobile on any property under the management, supervision or control of the Commission except where permitted by posted notice.

(e) Operate a motor vehicle upon Commission property in a speed contest or for the purpose of making a speed record, including that commonly known as a drag race, whether from a standing start or otherwise over a measured or unmeasured distance, the object of which is to better or defeat one or more contestants on the basis of the elapsed time, superior performance or speed. Provided further, however, this section shall not apply to any event for which a permit has been applied for and granted by the Commission.

(f) Drive any vehicle upon Commission property while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or narcotic, drug, barbitol, or any derivative of barbitol.

(g) Drive any vehicle upon Commission property while his or her ability to do so has been impaired by the use of intoxicating liquor or by the use of drugs or narcotics.

(h) Operate any motor vehicle upon Commission property while his/her license to so operate has been suspended or revoked by the State of Michigan.

(i) Operate a motor vehicle upon Commission property without having a valid operator's license, motor vehicle registration certificate and proof of the minimum liability coverage or uninsured motor vehicle fee as required by the State of Michigan vehicle code in his/her possession.

(j) Operate any vehicle upon Commission property contrary to posted traffic signs, symbols, rules or regulations or marked roadways.

(k) Operate any motor vehicle in any manner upon Commission property that results in excessive noise or disturbs the peace, quiet, or tranquility of the area.

(l) Leave, or cause to be left, any vehicle upon property administered by or under the jurisdiction of the Commission during hours such property or facilities are not posted open to the public use.

(m) Any person operating or riding on a motorcycle or motor-driven cycle shall wear a crash helmet approved by the Department of State Police. Rules of the Department of State Police for the implementation of MCL 257.658, as amended from time to time, shall apply to this rule.

(n) For any person to operate a motor vehicle upon Commission property without having been licensed therefore; or in violation of conditions attached to said license.

(o) Violate any of the laws of the State of Michigan Off Road Recreation Vehicle Act while upon Commission properties, said Act being Act No. 58 of the Public Acts of the State of Michigan of 1995, as amended, being Michigan Compiled Laws Section 324.81101 et seq.

Nothing in this Section shall prohibit the use of an adaptive device or aid by a person with a disability as allowed by the Persons With Disability Civil Rights Act, being MCL 37.1101 *et seq* and the regulations promulgated pursuant to said Act.

### **Section XV – Operation of Bicycles**

(a) Bicycles shall be operated as closely to the right-hand curb or right-hand side of the path, trail or roadway as conditions will permit and not more than two bicycles shall be operated abreast.

(b) It shall be unlawful for the operator of any bicycle when upon any path, trail, or roadway, to carry any person upon the handlebar or frame of any bicycle, or for any person to so ride upon such bicycle.

(c) Bicycles may be operated upon such paths, trails, or roadways as may be posted allowing such use; provided however, no such use shall be allowed between sunset and sunrise.

**Chapter VI  
Trespass**

**Section XVI – Peddling and Soliciting**

It shall be unlawful for any person to peddle or solicit business of any nature whatsoever, or to distribute handbills, or other advertising matter, to post unauthorized signs on any lands, waters, structures, or property administered by or under the control of the Commission, or to use such lands, waters, structures or property unless first authorized in writing by the Commission or its Agent.

**XVII – Unlawful Obstruction**

No person, firm or corporation shall by force, threats, intimidations, unlawful fencing, enclosing, or by any other means; prevent or obstruct any person from entering, leaving or making full use of any property administered by or under the jurisdiction of the Commission.

**Section XIII – Hindering Employees**

No person shall interfere with, or in any manner hinder any employee or agent of the Commission while performing their official duties.

**Section XIX – Resisting Park Ranger**

No person shall interfere with any Park Ranger in the discharge of his or her duties; or fail or refuse to obey any lawful command of any Park Ranger.

**Section XX – Impersonation of Park Ranger**

No person shall represent themselves falsely to be a Park Ranger.

**Section XXI – Alcoholic Beverages, Drugs**

Except as hereinafter provided, no person shall have in their possession any intoxicating beverage while in or upon lands or waters administered by or under the jurisdiction of the Commission.

Notwithstanding any provision herein, the consumption of alcoholic beverages shall be allowed when consumed upon premises within the park system duly licensed by the Michigan Liquor Control Commission. The use and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages upon such premises shall be subject to all laws and/or rules and regulations pertaining to establishments selling intoxicants for on-premises consumption as such laws and/or rules and regulations may be amended from time to time.

No person shall sell, use or have in their possession any drug or narcotic; the sale, use or possession of which is prohibited by state law.

**Section XXII – Personal Conduct**

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to be under the influence of intoxicants, or to engage in any violent, abusive, loud, boisterous, vulgar, lewd, wanton, obscene or otherwise disorderly conduct, or to disturb or annoy others, while in or on any property administered by or under the jurisdiction of the Commission.

(b) It shall be unlawful to intentionally or recklessly do any of the following while in or on any property administered by or under the jurisdiction of the Commission under circumstances in which his/her conduct is likely to be viewed by others:

1. Expose his/her private parts, including buttocks, with less than a full opaque covering;
2. Engage in any actual or simulated sexual conduct;
3. Violate any Michigan statutory provision related to nudity and/or public indecency.
4. It shall be unlawful to conduct or to participate in any form of gambling lottery or game of chance upon park property.

**Section XXVIII– Use of Loudspeaker**

It shall be unlawful to use a loudspeaker, public address system, or amplifier within or upon Commission property without a written permit issued by the Commission or its Agent.

**Section XXIV – Fireworks**

No person shall fire, discharge or have in his or her possession any sparkler, rocket, firecracker, torpedo, squib, or other fireworks or any substance of an explosive nature upon properties administered by the Commission unless the Commission or its authorized Agent shall have authorized same by the issuance of a permit therefore. Any authorization issued hereunder shall not relieve a person desiring to use fireworks from obtaining the necessary permits as required by law from the local governing authority wherein the park is located.

**Section XXV – Firearms**

For purposes of these rules, the term “firearm” shall include any revolver, pistol, shotgun, rifle, air rifle, air gun, water gun, slingshot, BB gun or any gun, rifle, firearm or bow or other device which is designed to discharge projectiles or are models or facsimiles of these devices, which appear to be capable of doing so.

No person shall possess or control any firearm (except those as permitted by MCL 28.421 *et seq*) upon properties administered by or under the jurisdiction of the Commission, except by prior written permission of the Commission or as allowed by the Commission from time to time in designated areas.

No person shall discharge any firearm upon property administered by or under the jurisdiction of the Commission except by prior written permission of the Commission or as allowed by the Commission from time to time in designated areas.

This section shall not apply to any law enforcement officer acting in the course of his/her official duties.

### **Section XXVI – Littering, Dumping and Pollution of Waters**

It shall be unlawful:

(a) To discard or deposit refuse of any kind or nature in or upon the property of the Commission except by placing said refuse in containers provided for such purpose.

(b) To throw, cast, lay, drop or discharge into or leave in waters administered by or under the jurisdiction of the Commission any substance, matter or thing, liquid or solid which may or shall result in the pollution of said waters.

(c) To bring onto Commission property domestic refuse for the purpose of discarding or dumping said refuse upon Commission property or within its refuse containers so provided.

### **Section XXVII – Skating and Coasting**

(a) No person shall use roller skates, roller blades or other similar devices upon property administered by the Commission except at such times and upon such places as may be designated or maintained therefore.

(b) No person shall skate, sled, walk or go upon any ice, or snowshoe, or ski upon premises administered by the Commission except at such times and upon such places as may be designated or maintained therefore.

(c) No person shall within or upon property administered by the Commission coast with hand sleds, bobs, carts, skateboards or other vehicles, or wheels or runners, or other similar devices except at such times and upon such places as may be designated or maintained therefore.

### **Section XXIII – Balloons, Airplanes and Parachutes**

No person shall make any ascent or descent in any balloon, airplane or parachute on any land or waters administered by or under the jurisdiction of the Commission without first obtaining written permission from the Commission or its agent or except as may be necessary in the event of an emergency.

### **Section XXIX – Public Exhibition**

No person shall exhibit any machine or show, or any animal, or indulge in any acrobatic exhibitions in or upon any property of the Commission nor shall any person carry on any performance or do anything whatsoever, which shall cause persons to congregate so as to interfere with the proper use of such property by the general public or to obstruct the passage of vehicles or persons, without first having obtained written permission from the Commission or its Agent.

### **Section XXX – Special Permits**

(a) No erection, construction or maintenance shall be made above or below ground, across or beneath the property of the Commission by any person, firm or corporation without first having obtained written permission from the Commission authorizing such installation or construction and permit specifying in detail the work to be done and the conditions to be fulfilled pursuant to the terms of such approval.

(b) The Commission or its Agent may, upon written application, grant specific use permits for special uses when in the opinion of the Commission or its Agents special consideration is warranted.

### **Section XXXI – Fees and Charges**

It shall be unlawful for any person to use any facility, land or area for which a fee or charge has been

established by the Commission without payment of such fee or charge.

### **Section XXXII – Emergency Powers**

Nothing in these rules shall:

(a) Prohibit or hinder duly authorized agents of the Commission or any peace officers from performing their official duties.

(b) Prohibit the Commission or the Director from establishing emergency rules required to protect the health, welfare and safety of park visitors and to protect park property; including, but not limited to, the right of the Commission to order all persons off Commission property, and close all or any portion of said park.

## **Section XXXIII– Powers Reserved**

The Commission shall have the power to further regulate the use of any properties administered by or under the jurisdiction of the Commission by resolution.

### **Chapter VII Enforcement**

#### **Section XXXIV – Fines**

Any provision of the foregoing rules which describes an act or omission which constitutes a civil infraction under the terms of the Michigan Vehicle Code, being Public Act 300, of 1949 as amended, shall be processed as a civil infraction and any person found to have committed a civil infraction may be ordered to pay a civil fine of no more than \$100.00 and costs in accordance with Section 907 of the Michigan Vehicle Code.

Violation of any other provisions of the foregoing rules not constituting a civil infraction, as herein provided, shall be punishable by a fine of not more than \$100.00 or imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or by both such fine or imprisonment.

## **Chapter VIII Definitions**

1. “Commission” shall mean the Genesee County Parks and Recreation Commission.
2. “Commission property” shall mean all lands, waters and property administered by or under the jurisdiction of the Genesee County Parks and Recreation Commission.
3. “Person” or “persons” shall mean individuals, male or female, singular or plural; firms, corporations, or any group or gathering of individuals.
4. “Camping” means the overnight lodging or sleeping of person or persons on the ground or in any other manner, or in any sleeping bag, tent, trailer-tent, trailer coach, vehicle camper, motor vehicle, boat or in any other conveyance erected, parked or placed on the premises or waters within any park or recreation area administered by the Genesee County Parks and Recreation Commission.
5. “Rules” shall mean the rules adopted by the Genesee County Parks and Recreation Commission applicable to all property administered by or under the jurisdiction of the said Commission and all amendments thereto.

Approved and adopted by the Genesee County Parks and Recreation Commission August 8, 1968, and as amended April 10, 1969, November 12, 1970, November 11, 1971, January 22, 1976, October 14, 1976, November 17, 1977, July 12, 1979, July 24, 1980, September 25, 1986, July 24, 1993, September 23, 1993, April 12, 2007 and March 13, 2008.

Approved and adopted by the Genesee County Board of Commissioners, August 13, 1968, and as amended May 1, 1969, November 24, 1970, November 23, 1971, February 10, 1976, November 8, 1976, December 27, 1977, July 24, 1979, August 12, 1980, October 14, 1986, September 7, 1993, November 16, 1993, April 24, 2007 and April 15, 2008.

Approved and adopted by the Lapeer County Board of Commissioners April 4, 1973, and as amended April 1, 1976, December 2, 1976, January 15, 1978, August 1, 1979, September 3, 1980, November 6, 1986, April 21, 1994, July 5, 2007 and April 23, 2008.

Park Rules, Revised April, 2008



## Park Rules

Welcome!

We are pleased you have chosen to visit  
Genesee County Parks.

To ensure every visitor's safety and enjoyment,  
please take the time  
to read and heed our park rules.

Thank You!

[Geneseecountyparks.org](http://Geneseecountyparks.org)

5045 Stanley Road  
Flint MI 48506  
810-736-7100 or 800-648-PARK  
[geneseecountyparks.org](http://geneseecountyparks.org)

Park Rules, Revised April, 2008