



MIDDLESEX COUNTY · NJ

MIDDLESEX COUNTY OFFICE OF PARKS AND RECREATION

RULES AND REGULATIONS

GOVERNING THE USE OF COUNTY PARKS AS ADOPTED BY
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION # 99-1441 8-19-99

RESOLUTION # 03-503 4-8-03

RESOLUTION # 04-1628 9-13-04

RESOLUTION # 15-274-R 2-19-15

RESOLUTION #18-1788-R 12-20-18

RESOLUTION #20-1502R 12-3-20

RESOLUTION #21-1615 12-16-21

RESOLUTION #22-1678 12-15-22

RESOLUTION #23-1757-R 12-21-23

I. DEFINITIONS

AUTHORIZED EMERGENCY VEHICLES- means vehicles of the fire department, police vehicles and such; ambulances and other vehicles approved by the Director when operated in response to an emergency.

ANIMALS – includes cats, dogs, horses, any fowl or birds – any living creatures within jurisdiction of the park.

BICYCLE PATH – any path maintained for self-propelled vehicles; no motorized bikes.

BLUETOOTH SPEAKER –
A non-amplified speaker which does not require an external amplifier to control the level of sound from said device.

BRIDLEPATH – any path maintained for equestrians; no motorized vehicles.

DIRECTOR - Title of the leading official overseeing all activities and operations of the Middlesex County Office of Parks and Recreation.

COMMERCIAL VEHICLES – includes every type of motor driven vehicles used for commercial purposes on the highways; or any omnibus or vehicle adapted for more than 9 passengers, or engaged in the carrying of any merchandise, or upon which is displayed for advertising purpose any writing, symbol, flag, banner, target, sign, placard, etc.

COOKING APPARATUS – refers to any fixed or portable grill, barbecue pit, hibachi, stove or similar cooking device, whether privately owned or a fixture in a county park.

CROSSING – any crossing, whether marked by a pavement or otherwise; the extension of any sidewalk space across any intersecting drive, street, highway or bridle path.

CURB – any boundary of any street, road, avenue, boulevard, drive or bridle path, whether or not marked by a curbstone.

DRIVE – shall mean any road, avenue, drive or boulevard maintained by the Office of Parks and Recreation for vehicular use, including the parts thereof under or over any bridge.

DRIVER-OPERATOR – any person, who propels, operates or is in charge of a vehicle.

ELECTRIC-POWERED MOBILITY DEVICE – any mobility device powered by batteries, including electronic personal assistance mobility devices (EPAMDs), such as the Segway®PT, electric-assisted bicycles and the following electric-powered devices: foot scooters, tracked mobility chairs or tricycles that are designed for locomotion by single individual with a mobility disability.

GRILL READY – refers to meat, fish, or poultry that is either prepackaged or prepared prior to being brought to any county park that is in sizes or portions suitable for placing directly on a cooking apparatus without the necessity for any further trimming, shaping, cutting, washing or forming.

GROUP – Ten (10) or more individuals considered together for the purpose of an activity within Middlesex County Parkland.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY PARKLAND – Including Park System, Recreation Areas, Conservation Areas, Greenways, Preserves, Natural Areas, Golf Courses, Open Space and Historic Sites – shall mean all the real property situated in Middlesex County or adjacent counties acquired by or under the jurisdiction and care of the Middlesex County Office of Parks and Recreation, including historic sites or which may be hereafter acquired by it or come under its jurisdiction.

METAL DETECTORS – an electronic device that gives an audible or other signal when it is close to metal.

MOTOR VEHICLE – shall mean and include all vehicles propelled other than by muscular power, and shall also include all electric or gas motor operated vehicles of the bicycle, tricycle or scooter type.

OFF ROAD VEHICLES – any powered vehicles designed for or capable of cross country travel on or immediately over land, water, sand, snow, ice, marsh, swampland, or other terrain which would include, but not be limited to, such vehicles as four wheel drive, motorcycle, snowmobile, amphibious or air cushion vehicles; except those vehicles utilized for fire, emergency or law enforcement purposes and any vehicle whose use is expressly authorized by the Office of Parks and Recreation.

OFFICIAL TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES - shall mean all signs, signal marking and devices placed or erected by authority of the chairman or other official having jurisdiction for the purpose of regulating, warning, or guiding traffic.

PARK RANGERS OR OFFICERS – any person employed by the Middlesex County Office of Parks and Recreation as a Park Ranger or Special Officer or any municipal or State Police Officer.

PARKING PLACE – any part of any drive or space designated as a place for the standing of vehicles.

PATH – shall mean any footpath, walk or any path maintained for pedestrians.

PERMIT – any written license issued by or under the authority of the Office of Parks and Recreation, permitting the performance of a specified act or acts.

PERSON – any person, corporation, company, association, joint stock association, firm or co-partnership.

PORTABLE HEATING EQUIPMENT – Portable heating equipment or portable heaters are defined as portable, purpose-built equipment designed to safely warm the air in an enclosed or open area in proximity to the heater. Portable heating equipment includes but is not limited to portable outdoor gas-fired heating appliances, patio heaters, portable unvented fuel-fired heaters and portable electric space heaters.

PORTABLE STRUCTURE – any temporary structure, including but not limited to pop up tents, canopies and umbrellas that is covered with fabric or another type of membrane, is of rigid construction and serves as a shelter.

PRIVATE/SERVICE ROAD OR DRIVE – shall mean every road, lane or driveway not open to use of the public in general.

RIGHT OF WAY - means the privilege of the immediate use of the roadway, drive, and path.

RUBBISH – any refuse matter that includes ashes, dross, cinders, shell, paper, dirt, sand, oil, grease, clay, loam, stone or building materials, brush, stumps, hay, straw, oats, sawdust, shavings, glitter, confetti, water balloons, rice or manufacturing, trade or household waste, old iron or other metals or objects made therefrom, or sick, diseased, or dead animals, organic refuse or any other offensive matter, including swill, brine, offal, fecal matter, or garbage.

SAFETY ZONE – shall mean any space (within a drive) established for pedestrians

SPARKLING DEVICES AND NOVELTIES – include wood sticks or wire sparklers of not more than 100 grams of pyrotechnic mixture per item; Hand held or ground based sparkling devices which are non-explosive and non-aerial, which may produce a crackling or whistling effect, and contain 75 grams or less of pyrotechnic composition per tube or a total of 500 grams or less for multiple tubes; and Snakes and glow worms, smoke devices, and trick noisemakers, which include party poppers, snappers, and drop pops, each consisting of 25/100 grains or less of explosive mixture.

SPECIAL EVENT – an event that significantly impacts the regular or customary use of park facilities or amenities, public access or enjoyment and the surrounding neighborhood or requires additional maintenance or Park Ranger services. Criteria of a special event includes, but is not limited to: Event has been advertised and is intended for general public participation; Event participation or attendance requires an entry fee; Event will

include vending and/or commercial activities; Event requires exclusive use of site, reserves more than one reservable site at the same time or includes amenities set up outside a reservable site; Expected attendance exceeds 100 people; Event will impact public usage of site or will require a temporary closure or exclusive use of a park, road, or other public space.

STOPPING OR STANDING – when prohibited means any cessation of movement of a vehicle occupied, except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic – including horses.

TRAFFIC – means pedestrians, ridden or herded animals; vehicles, either singly or together, while in the confines of the Park jurisdiction.

VEHICLE – any conveyance (except by baby carriage) including motor vehicles, bicycles, tricycles, sleds, sleighs, pushcarts or vehicles propelled by other than muscular power – also any horse (trailers).

II. TERRITORIAL SCOPE

All Middlesex County Office of Parks and Recreation Resolutions shall be effective within all Middlesex County Parkland of the Middlesex County Park System and regulate the use thereof by all persons.

III. INTOXICANTS/ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1. No person shall be permitted within Middlesex County Parkland under the influence of intoxicating beverages, drugs or narcotics. All alcoholic beverages other than wine and beer are prohibited in any Middlesex County Parkland, and the consumption of wine and beer requires a permit issued by the Office of Parks and Recreation and is only to be used in a designated picnic area where food is consumed.

IV. GROUP USE/MEETINGS/EXHIBITIONS

1. No group of ten (10) individuals or more shall use Middlesex County Parkland without first obtaining a group use permit. Group use shall be limited to designated areas. Adult supervision of children's groups is required at all times.

2. All required permits including the Picnic Permit, Fire Marshal Application and certificate of insurance must be filed under one name.

3. Park Rangers may be on-site to inspect the picnic area at the beginning and the end of the event with the picnic permit holder. Please ensure that you have your picnic permit on hand. Upon completion of event, a Park Ranger may again inspect the picnic area to determine if the grounds are left in the appropriate condition. Permit holders are responsible for any damage caused to the facility and/or its contents

during their rental time. This applies to cleaning as well as physical damage. Permit holders will be invoiced for all labor and material costs to return picnic areas to their previous condition. Should maintenance staff be required for cleaning/damage repair after hours or on a weekend, those costs will be responsibility of the permit holder.

4. Large groups that wish to picnic in a reservable area will be required to obtain a permit. Open Grove areas are for small group picnics consisting of less than 100 persons and do not require a permit. There will be no alcohol permits issued for picnics using the Open Grove areas. All picnics shall end 45 minutes before park closing hours. Use of these areas is subject to regulations established and posted by the Office of Parks and Regulations and hereby contained in Appendix A.

5. No persons shall call or hold any meetings, walks, foot races, charitable or Special Events or give any concert or public entertainment of any kind within Middlesex County Parkland without first having obtained written permission in advance from The Director of County Parks and Recreation no later than one (1) month before the proposed date of use.

6. No person shall use loudspeakers, public address systems, bullhorns, megaphones, amplifiers or employ Disc Jockeys "DJ" or musical acts within any Middlesex County Parkland without first having obtained written permission in advance from The Director of County Parks and Recreation. Nor shall any portable radio, Bluetooth speaker, tape player, compact disc player or musical instrument be played in such a manner as to create a nuisance to other park patrons, neighbors or wildlife. Non-amplified speaker may not exceed a range of 70 to 90 dBs. And shall not exceed a size of 10"L x 10"H.

7. Public assemblies, meetings, demonstrations, religious activities, the sale and distribution of printed matter, and other public expressions of views conducted under the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States and the State of New Jersey upon the lands of the Middlesex County Park System are permitted provided that a permit has been issued by the Director of Parks and Recreation or duly designated representative.

To ensure public safety and the protection of park resources and values and to avoid assigning the same location and time to two or more activities, the Park System may manage these activities by regulating the time, location, number of participants, use of facilities, and number and types of equipment

to be used, but not the content or message.

V. PETS/HORSES

1. Dogs and cats must be kept on a leash not exceeding six feet in length. No domestic animal shall be permitted to run at large within any Middlesex County Parkland, either with or without a keeper, except in designated Off-Leash Dog Areas. Use of Off-Leash Dog Areas is subject to regulations established and posted by the Office of Parks and Recreation and that are contained in Appendix B. Pet owners shall be responsible for removing and properly disposing of fecal matter from Park property.

2. No person shall ride, drive, lead or keep a saddle horse or other animal within any Middlesex County Parkland, except on such roads, trails or areas, and subject to such regulations as The Director of County Parks and Recreation may especially designate. In such an occasion, no horse shall be unbridled or left unattended in any unenclosed area, and should not be hitched to any tree or shrub in a manner that may cause damage.

VI. REFUSE

1. No person shall leave bottles, broken glass, ashes, wastepaper or other rubbish, as defined in Section I, within Middlesex County Parkland, except in a properly provided receptacle designated for that purpose.

2. No person shall bring into Middlesex County Parkland any household garbage or rubbish or other debris for the purpose of disposing those items in County provided receptacles intended for use by park patrons.

3. No person shall throw or place any dirt, stone, rock debris, foreign substance or rubbish into or upon any Middlesex County Parkland or in any lake, river or lagoon within or bordering upon land of Middlesex County Parkland.

4. No person shall throw, cast, lay, drop or discharge into or allow to remain in the water of any Middlesex County Parkland or any tributary, brook, stream, storm sewer or drain flowing into said waters any substance, matter or thing, which may or shall result in the pollution of said waters.

VII. NATURAL FEATURES/WILDLIFE

1. No person shall pick flowers, foliage, berries or fruit or cut, break, dig up or in any way mutilate or injure any tree, shrub, plant, fern, grass, turf, railing, seat, picnic bench, fence, structure or any other object within any Middlesex County Parkland.

2. No person shall bring into or upon Middlesex County Parkland any tree, shrub or plant or any newly plucked branch or portion of a tree, shrub or plant.

3. No person shall tie, connect or

otherwise attach a rope, cable, zip-line or any other appurtenance to any tree, shrub or plant life within any Middlesex County Parkland.

4. No person shall dig up or remove any dirt, stone, rock or other substance whatever, make any excavation, quarry sand or stone or lay or set off any blast or cause or assist in doing any of these things within any Middlesex County Parkland.

5. No person shall remove or cut firewood, regardless of whether the tree or wood is dead, fallen, diseased or otherwise from any Middlesex County Parkland.

6. No person shall feed any animal or fish any food or other substance excepting such food or substance expressly permitted by the Office of Parks and Recreation.

7. No person shall feed any waterfowl any food or any substance at any time in Middlesex County Parkland.

VIII. FIRES/FIREWORKS

1. No person shall build, light or maintain a fire within Middlesex County Parkland, except in picnic area grills, established campsites or a fireplace provided, maintained or designated for such purpose by the Director of County Parks and Recreation. Picnic grills shall only contain charcoal fires. Use of personal portable grills of any type are prohibited.

2. In cases where permits are issued for a group or family picnic and said group chooses to use a caterer, the use of gas fire will be permitted within the confines of the caterer's portable facility when proper insurance documents are provided to the Office of Parks and Recreation and a permit is obtained from the Office of the County Fire Marshal.

3. No person shall discard any cigar, cigarette, or lighted match carelessly or in a manner that may start a fire.

4. No person shall possess, discharge or set off within any Middlesex County Parkland any firecrackers, torpedoes, rockets or other fireworks. The use of Sparkling Devices and Novelties is prohibited within any building or within 100 feet of the following: playgrounds, Picnic Groves and shelters, athletic courts, athletic fields, off-leash dog areas, animal havens, gazebos, trailheads or other recreational amenities or facilities.

IX. HUNTING/FISHING

1. No person shall discharge any weapon or firearm within or into any Middlesex County Parkland. No person may openly possess any rifle, shotgun, fowling piece, air gun, spring gun, slingshot, bow, crossbow or any other instrument or weapon in which the propelling force is aspring or air, except when the Director of the Office of Parks and Recreation expressly permits the

use of such weapons pursuant to a sanctioned activity at designated places and times. Firearms are strictly prohibited during all public events and inside the Parks Administration Building.

2. Hunting is prohibited on Middlesex County Parkland except by issuance of a written permit. Persons without a permit shall not hunt, molest, take chase, trap, capture, hold, remove, injure or kill any animal, reptile or bird or disturb its habitat within any Middlesex County Parkland. Persons who obtain a hunting permit may only hunt in the manner permitted, at the prescribed times and places, and subject to rules and regulations issued with that permit. Hunters and fishers must also comply with all regulations established and posted by the Office of Parks and Recreation and N.J. State Fish and Wildlife Laws.

X. RESTRICTED USES AND AREAS

1. No person shall enter upon any portion of Middlesex County Parkland where persons are prohibited from going by direction of the Director of County Parks and Recreation as indicated by sign or notice. Nor shall any person participate in an activity that is prohibited as indicated by sign or notice.

2. No person shall coast with hand sleds, bobs, carts, skateboards or other vehicles or wheels or runners or use radio-controlled devices such as, but not limited to, boats and cars except in areas and during times designated and posted for this purpose by the Director of County Parks and Recreation and hereby contained in Appendix G regarding the use of remote-controlled model boats and in Appendix H regarding the use of radio/remote controlled (RC) model cars.

3. No person shall operate radio-controlled flying devices such as, but not limited to, remotely piloted aircraft, model airplanes, or drones without a written permit. Persons who obtain a written permit may only operate such devices at designated locations and times. Persons operating such flying devices shall adhere to the regulations hereby contained in Appendix C.

4. No person shall transport, use or operate motorized or mechanical carnival rides, petting zoos, horse/pony rides, dunk tanks, force air rides (bounce houses), entertainment/sports trucks and private generators in conjunction with any picnic permit.

5. No person shall throw, cast, catch, kick or strike any baseball, golf ball, football or basketball or any object within any Middlesex County Parkland except in areas designated and posted for this purpose by the Director of County Parks and Recreation. Areas designated Tennis/Pickleball Play by the Director of County Parks and Recreation are hereby contained in Appendix D. Evening

play at all lighted Tennis/Pickleball Courts between May 1 and October 31 requires a Tennis Pass from the Office of Parks and Recreation. Use of these areas is subject to the regulations contained in Appendix D..

6. The County Board of Commissioners adopts a resolution each year setting forth required fees for specific facilities and park areas. Individuals or groups using such facilities or areas must be in possession of the appropriate permit or pass issued by the Office of Parks and Recreation. A permit to do any act shall authorize the holder to do so only in strict accordance to the terms and conditions stated in the permit. Any violation by the holder or his agents or employees of the terms and conditions shall constitute grounds for revocation of the permit by the Director of Parks and Recreation, whose action is deemed final. In a case where a permit is revoked, all monies paid for or on account for the permit shall, in the option of the Director of Parks and Recreation, be forfeited and retained. The holder of a permit, including his agents or employees, who violates the terms and conditions shall be jointly and severally liable to the Office of Parks and Recreation for all the damages and/or loss suffered by it in excess of the money so forfeited and retained; but neither such forfeiture and retention by the Office of Parks and Recreation of the whole or any part of monies nor the recovery or collection for such damages or both shall in any manner relieve the holder or his agents or employees from liability to punishment for any violation of any provision of any Middlesex County Rules and Regulations.

7. No person shall bathe in any pond, stream, river or other body of water within or bordering any Middlesex County Parkland unless it has been designated and posted for this purpose by the Director of County Parks and Recreation.

8. No person shall use private boats, canoes or kayaks on any streams, lakes, ocean, or body of water within or bordering any Middlesex County Parkland unless it has been designed for such use and in an area posted for launching private boats, canoes or kayaks by the Office of Parks and Recreation. Canoes, kayaks and boats with electric motors are permitted in Davidsons Mill Pond Park and Thompson Park. Gasoline powered motors are not allowed at these locations. Permission to launch private boats into the Raritan River from Donaldson Park is required by the Director of Middlesex County Parks and is subject to the rules in Appendix D.

9. No person shall ice skate in any County park lake or other water body except in areas and times specified by the Office of Parks and Recreation and under

the monitoring of the Office of Parks and Recreation personnel.

10. The use of manned powerless flying objects or devices, either for landing or taking off, shall not be permitted in any Middlesex County Parkland unless it has been specifically designated and posted for this purpose or special permission has been granted by the Director of County Parks and Recreation.

11. No person shall solicit alms or contributions for any purpose.

12. No raw meat, fish or poultry shall be brought to any county park and cooked on any cooking apparatus unless such meat, fish or poultry is grill ready. No butchering of raw meats, poultry or fish is permitted.

13. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 26:3D-56 the smoking of tobacco products, cannabis or any other matter, or the inhaling or exhaling of smoke or vapor from an electronic smoking device is expressly prohibited on all Middlesex County Parkland, with the exception of Tamarack Golf Course, Raritan Landing Golf Course and Meadows at Middlesex Golf Course. Additionally, no person shall use any smokeless tobacco product (e.g. snuff, chew, etc.) within any building, or within 100 feet of the following: playgrounds, athletic courts, athletic fields, off-leash dog areas, animal havens and buildings. Nor shall any person use any smokeless tobacco product in a manner that creates a nuisance or unsafe condition within Middlesex County Parkland.

14. Portable Heating Equipment is prohibited in all Middlesex County Parkland.

15. Balloon releases and sky lanterns are prohibited in all Middlesex County Parkland.

16. Metal Detectors are prohibited in the following areas: athletic fields and courts, playgrounds, off-leash dog areas, Picnic Groves when occupied by any group, all cemetery or grave sites and Historic Sites as designated by the Division of Historic Sites and History Services, including, but not limited to, East Jersey Old Town, Cornelius Low House, Van Dyke Farm and the Raritan Landing Historical District in Johnson Park between Violet Drive and Grove 5 from River Road to the Raritan River and subject to the rules in Appendix F.

17. The use of Portable Structures shall be limited to two (2), 10ft x 10ft pop up tents per Picnic Grove or sports field. Any structure must remain open from all sides.

XI. COMMERCIAL USES

1. No person shall engage in any commercial enterprise including but not limited to commercial photography, the offering of services or instruction including exercise or personal training classes, soliciting, selling or peddling any liquids or edibles for human consumption or distribute circulars or hawk, peddle or vend any goods, ware or merchandise within any Middlesex County Parkland or Historic Site, except as provided by action of the Director of County Parks and Recreation.

2. No person shall cut, carve, paint, mark, paste or fasten on any tree, fence, wall, building, monument or other object within any Middlesex County Parkland any bill, advertisement or inscription. Nor shall any person distribute, cast, throw or place any handbill, pamphlet, circular, advertisement or notice of any kind within any Middlesex County Parkland.

3. No person shall tell fortunes, play at games of chance or use any gambling device within any Middlesex County Parkland except as provided by special permission of the Director of County Parks and Recreation.

XII. VEHICLES/PARKING

1. All provisions of the New Jersey State Motor Vehicle Act with regard to equipment, lights, licensees, brakes, operation, etc., will apply in the parks and will be strictly enforced, with also such further restrictions as may be herein stated.

2. No person shall use any portion of Middlesex County Parkland for the purpose of way except drives, parking areas, roadways, paths, walks and trails established for such purpose by the Director of County Parks and Recreation. Footpaths, trails or walks established for pedestrian travel shall not be used for motor vehicle travel. The use of mopeds, motorized bikes, motorized scooters, electric skateboards, "one wheels" or any other wheeled device will be limited to roadways, drives and parking areas as established and opened to all other vehicular traffic. Electric-Powered Mobility Devices are permitted for use in designated areas as established and posted by the Office of Parks and Recreation.

3. No person shall drive or propel, or cause to be driven or propelled, along or over any road within Middlesex County Parkland any vehicle at a rate of speed greater than twenty-five (25) miles per hour or the speed limits as established by the Director of County Parks and Recreation, and indicated by speed limit signs erected along the right-of-way.

4. Whenever any Park Ranger or other park representative shall indicate or direct by gesture or otherwise, that the speed of a

vehicle shall be checked or stopped, or its course altered, the driver thereof shall immediately obey such directions.

5. No person shall drive or propel, or cause to be driven or propelled, along or over any road, parkway, drive or parking area within any Middlesex County Parkland any motor vehicle in a careless manner or in a manner to endanger the life, limb or property of pedestrians or the drivers or occupants of other vehicles or any other person within any Middlesex County Parkland. The motor vehicle operator, self-propelled motor vehicle, and the motor vehicle operated within Middlesex County Parkland shall be in compliance with New Jersey State Motor Vehicle License and Safety Laws.

6. No person shall park or store any motorcar, motorcycle, bicycle, wagon or other vehicle within any Middlesex County Parkland except in areas designated and posted for such purposes. Parking areas and thoroughfares are limited to use by park patrons only and for the purpose of driving to park a vehicle.

7. No person shall set or place or cause to be set or placed, any goods, wares or merchandise or property of any kind as to obstruct travel within any Middlesex County Parkland.

8. No person shall enter any part of Middlesex County Parkland or park roads with a commercial vehicle or a vehicle with a gross weight in excess of 5 tons except in the service of or by permission of the Director of County Parks and Recreation.

9. No person shall use park drives or parkways within any Middlesex County Parkland for the purpose of demonstrating any vehicle or for the purpose of instructing another to drive or operate any vehicle or for learning to drive or operate any vehicle.

10. No person shall attempt to stop or signal any vehicle for the purpose of soliciting a ride from the driver of such vehicle.

11. The cleaning, waxing or repairing of vehicles is not permitted within any Middlesex County Parkland, except in the cases of absolute emergency.

12. No person shall cause or permit a vehicle in tow to enter any Middlesex County Parkland or proceed therein, except in the case of a breakdown or disabled vehicle, vehicle may be towed to the nearest exit. Nor shall any person operate or drive a vehicle containing any person or object projecting or hanging outside of or beyond the side or rear of said vehicle.

13. Nothing contained in this Vehicle/Parking Rule and Regulation shall apply to the vehicles, trucks and apparatus of a fire department, police department or ambulance, or to emergency vehicles of the

Office of Parks and Recreation when responding for emergency work in case of fire, accident, public disaster, impending danger or emergency.

XIII. DISORDERLY PERSONS

1. No person or group of persons shall engage in such loitering conduct as will clearly cause an immediate, actual physical violent reaction from any person or persons, which violent action will cause a threat to the peace and order of the public.

A. Nor shall any person or group of persons engage in such loitering conduct which shall disturb a person of ordinary sensibilities as to cause such person to react immediately in such a way as to threaten by physical violence the peace and order of the public.

B. Nor shall any person or group of persons engage in such loitering conduct which obstructs free passage of pedestrians at, in or near any building, parking lot or vehicle or the free passage of vehicles at, in or near any building, parking lot or vehicles.

C. Nor shall any person or group of persons engage in such loitering conduct which obstructs the free passage of persons at or near any walkway or pathway;

D. Nor shall any person or group of persons engage in such loitering conduct, which will obstruct, molest or interfere with any person lawfully in or enjoying the park.

2. Where there is conduct violative of section XIII (1) or any part thereof, there must, in addition, be a refusal by the persons engaged in such conduct to obey an order

by any agents, officers or employees of the Office of Parks and Recreation or Municipality to move on before a charge under these regulations may be prosecuted.

3. No person shall resist any agent or officer of the Office of Parks and Recreation or Municipality in the discharge of his/her duty, or fail or refuse to obey any lawful command of any such agent, officer or employee, or in any way interfere with or hinder or prevent any such agent, officer or employee from discharging his duty, or in any manner assist or give aid to any person in custody to escape or attempt to escape from custody, or rescue or attempt to rescue any person when in such custody.

4. No person shall falsely represent or impersonate any agent, officer or employee or pretend to be an agent, officer or employee of the Office of Parks and Recreation.

5. No person shall interfere with or in any manner hinder any agent, employee or officer of the Office of Parks and Recreation

or the Municipality while engaged in constructing, repairing or caring for any park property or interfere with any improvements being made within or about Middlesex County Parkland.

6. No person shall remain within any Middlesex County Parkland who does not abide by conditions adopted and posted by the Office of Parks and Recreation for the preservation of good order and the protection of property within Middlesex County Parkland; and no person shall remain within Middlesex County Parkland who does not abide by the instructions and directions of duly authorized officers or agents of the Municipality or Office of Parks and Recreation in the lawful performance of their duties. Any person directed by an agent or officer of the Office of Parks and Recreation or Municipality to leave Middlesex County Parkland shall do so promptly and peaceably.

7. No person shall harass, obstruct, molest, assault or interfere with any person lawfully within Middlesex County Parkland or resist, obstruct, molest, assault or interfere with any agent, employee or officer of the Office of Parks and Recreation or the Municipality.

8. No person shall use threatening, abusive, boisterous, insulting or indecent language or gesture within any Middlesex County Parkland, nor shall any oration, harangue, public demonstration or any nuisance be made.

9. No person shall possess any weapon capable of lethal use or of inflicting serious bodily injury within any Middlesex County Parkland.

10. No person shall appear in the park in a state of nudity or commit, perform or engage in lewd, lascivious, obscene, illicit, carnal or indecent act or behavior, and no person shall make any indecent exposure of his or her person.

11. No person shall cut, carve, paint, mark, paste or fasten any inscription or depiction on, or damage by any means, any tree, fence, wall, building, monument or other object within a County Park or Recreational Area.

XIV. HOURS OF OPERATION

1. OPENING HOURS: All parks will open at sunrise as defined by the National Weather Service for the New Brunswick, New Jersey area, unless otherwise specified or designated by signs.

2. CLOSING HOURS: All parks will close at sunset as defined by the National Weather Service for the New Brunswick, New Jersey area, unless otherwise specified or designated by signs. All picnics shall end 45 minutes before park closing hours.

3. No person shall, without permission from a park ranger, enter into, remain or allow their vehicle to remain within any Middlesex

County Parkland except during the hours the Park or Recreation Area is open to the general public.

4. Any vehicle remaining in any Middlesex County Parkland for more than 48 hours without permission of the Director of Parks and Recreation or their Designee shall be deemed abandoned and be subject to removal by an authorized County Towing Agent through the County Sheriff's Office.

XV. PENALTIES

Any person found guilty by a Municipal Court Judge of violating any of the provisions of these Rules and Regulations shall be subject to a fine, as set forth on the attached Schedule, imprisonment for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days, or both, as shall be determined by said Municipal Court Judge, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:24-3

Appendix A: Picnic Rules and Regulations

1. CONTACT THE PARK RANGERS AT (732) 745-3800 with any issues the day of your picnic.
2. Weekend and Holiday Picnics – At least one person must be at the picnic area NO LATER than 10:30AM and remain there REGARDLESS of when the customer plans to start their picnic. Picnic Groves will not be held after that time.
3. Weekday Picnics – Reservations will be held NO LATER than 30 minutes after the scheduled time.
4. All required paperwork must be submitted at least 3 business days prior to your event.
5. Conduct of the group and cleanliness of the area are the responsibility of the person signing the permit. The applicant is responsible for returning the area to its pre-event condition. Please remember to recycle. Customers are encouraged to throw out bagged garbage into the dumpsters.
6. No person shall possess or consume alcoholic beverages in any County Park except by PERMIT ONLY. Permits for alcoholic beverages are restricted to wine and beer. Bottles and Cans ONLY. Wine and beer is permitted in Reservable Picnic Groves only when food is being consumed. ALCOHOL IS PROHIBITED IN ALL PLAYING FIELD AREAS.
7. Grilling is ONLY permitted 1) in park provided grills using charcoal and 2) through the use of sterno cans with a fire extinguisher present. All other forms of grilling and the use of personal grills is prohibited .
8. No person shall transport, use or operate motorized or mechanical carnival rides, petting zoos, horse/pony rides, dunk tanks, pools, forced air rides (bounce houses), entertainment/sports trucks, employ musical acts, Disc Jockeys/ DJ's, amplified sound, private generators or personal grills in conjunction with any picnic permit.
9. NO REFUNDS OF PICNIC FEES. Refunds will only be given if the Executive Order in effect at time of reservation requires the Office of Parks and Recreation to cancel or modify the reservation. Credits will be given if the permit holder cancels the reservation. Credits must be used within the current or following year.
10. Picnics can be cancelled/changed at least 3 business days prior to your original scheduled date. Rescheduling any picnic due to weather will only be possible for the current season. Reservations can only be changed one time.
11. Parking is prohibited on grass or along roadways and is only permitted in designated parking lots. Driving or parking is prohibited inside Open Grove or Picnic Grove areas. Vehicles may not be driven on any safety zone, bikeway, walkway or roadway designated for limited use.
12. Park hours are from sunrise to sunset. Picnics must end 45 mins before SUNSET so that the group has time to clean and leave the park by SUNSET.
13. No animals may run at large. All dogs, etc. must be restrained by leash.
14. Feeding of waterfowl is prohibited.
15. Sparkling Devices and Novelties are permitted in designated areas only.
16. No posting of signs or other literature is permitted on poles or trees.

Propane use and Charcoal Grills larger than residential size models may be used by CATERERS ONLY. Customer must supply a copy of the caterer's insurance and a complete County Fire Marshal Application. Applications must be submitted to the Fire Marshal's office no later than 3 business days prior to your event. (ask for specific details)

17. Vending or soliciting is prohibited in parks.
18. All rules and regulations will be enforced by the park rangers or municipal police.
19. Picnics over 300 people require additional payment for the stationing of additional Park Rangers at the event.

Appendix B: Off-Leash Dog Park Rules

The off-leash dog area is an unsupervised recreation area of the Middlesex County Park System.

All users are advised that the use of this facility is at their own risk.

1. Users must abide by all Rules and Regulations Governing the Use of Middlesex County Park and Recreation Lands and must comply with the directions of Park System Personnel.
2. Children under 8 years of age are not permitted within the off-leash dog area unless they are accompanied by an adult who must remain in close supervision.
3. Only two dogs per person. At no time should the number of dogs within an off-leash area exceed 20 or the number of people exceed 20. When others are waiting, please limit your use to 30 minutes.
4. Users are responsible at all times for the behavior and safety of their dogs and should be considerate of other users.
5. Dogs with a history of dangerous or aggressive behavior are prohibited. Puppies under four months old are prohibited. Dogs over six months old must be spayed or neutered.
6. Dogs must wear collars displaying licenses at all times and remain current with their rabies, Bordetella, and DHLPP vaccinations.
7. Dogs must be leashed prior to entering and upon leaving the off-leash area. Users must remain with their dogs at all times and must carry a leash for each dog at all times.
8. Users must properly secure access gates upon entering and leaving the off-leash area. Once within the area, it is recommended that users momentarily restrain their dogs when others are entering or leaving in order to prevent dogs from leaving the enclosure
9. Users must clean up after their dogs.

Note: All incidents and injuries must be reported immediately to the Middlesex County Park System by

- a. contacting a Park Ranger Assigned to the park, or
- b. calling the Park Ranger office at (732) 745-3800

Appendix C: Flying Field Thomas Edison Park

Rules and Regulations

1. Operators shall display on their back a flying field permit issued by the Middlesex County Office of Parks and Recreation. Permit holders and clubs must provide proof of required insurance coverage.
2. No more than four (4) aircraft are allowed in the air at a time.
3. Flying times are limited to fifteen (15) minutes when someone is waiting to fly.
4. Engines shall not exceed a reading of 98bd at nine (9) feet. Spot checks will be conducted by Middlesex County and any violation of this rule will subject the violators to the penalties prescribed in Rule 9.
5. Pursuant to Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) rules, all Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (sUAS) must be registered with the FAA. Registration information is available at: <https://www.faa.gov/uas/registration/> Registration number must be present on all aircraft.
6. All permit holders must be in compliance with Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR 14) part 107. Only visual line of sight flying is permitted. The established operating boundaries of the flying field must be observed.
7. Fixed wing engine powered aircraft are to have first priority --- Helicopters and other sUAS may be flown only when fixed wing engine powered aircraft are not flown or there is no desire to fly same.
8. Flying period for fixed wing aircraft powered aircraft is 10:00AM to DUSK. Other sUAS are allowed between 7:30AM and 10:00AM, or in accordance with Rule 7.
9. Users must observe all rules and regulations of the Middlesex County Office of Parks and Recreation as well as the Academy of Model Aeronautics Safety Rules and CFR 14 Part 107 .
10. Failure to observe rules and regulation will result in:
 - _ First Offense: Suspension of flying privileges for one (1) month.
 - _ Second Offense Suspension of flying privileges for one (1) year.

Appendix D: Donaldson Park Boat Ramp Rules and Regulations

1. A season permit is required for launching of all vessels, including personal watercraft.
A numbered adhesive decal will be issued upon application to the Middlesex County Office of Parks and Recreation.
The decal must be affixed to the left side of the tongue of the boat trailer. When transporting personal watercraft without a trailer, the decal must be affixed to the transporting vehicle's rear bumper.
2. Hours of Operation
Boat ramp is open from sunrise to sunset; no boats, trailers, or vehicles may be left overnight.
3. Alcoholic Beverages
Possession/ consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited anywhere in a Middlesex County Park except by permit in connection with the use of the Picnic Grove areas.
4. Operation of Vessels
No Wake Zone- No boat wakes are permitted while passing within 200 feet in each direction of the Donaldson Park Boat Ramp and New Brunswick Landing pursuant to New Jersey statute 12:7-45.
Vessels, including personal watercraft, may not be operated above an idle speed within 50 feet of the shoreline, ramp, or boat dock pursuant to New Jersey Statute 12:7-63.
Fueling of vessels is not permitted at the boat dock or boat launch area. Docking is permitted for 10 minutes only.
5. General Rules
Crabbing and fishing are not permitted on the boat dock or from the launch area.
Swimming is not permitted at the boat ramp, except that persons using personal watercraft may board their craft as necessary pursuant to Middlesex County Rules and Regulations Section X-6.
The Middlesex County Office of Parks and Recreation reserves the right to regulate any condition and/or action deemed unsafe. All rules will be enforced by Middlesex County Park Rangers and/or Municipal Police. Violations of County Park Rules, Boat Ramp Rules, or State Marine Laws may be cause for revocation of permit by

the Middlesex County Office of Parks and Recreation.

Appendix E: Tennis/Pickleball Rules and Regulations

1. Courts are for Tennis and Pickleball ONLY. No other sports permitted
2. Evening play at all lighted Tennis/Pickleball Courts between May 1 and October 31 requires a Tennis Pass from the Office of Parks and Recreation
3. No pets, bicycles, scooters, roller blades or skateboards allowed
4. Private instruction and lessons are prohibited
5. Do not hold courts- If you are not using the court, please relinquish it to other players ready to play
6. Evening play 7:00pm - 10:00pm as conditions allow
7. Season passes are required for evening play for each individual from May to October
8. Evening passes are required to be displayed by the owner and are not transferable
9. Pickleball follows the NEXTuP Paddle Rack Rotation System
 - a. Winners stay on court for a maximum of 2 games together. The winning team can stay on court after the 2nd game, but must split the team to continue playing. Games end when one side has 11 points, win by 2.
 - b. If there are more than 8 players waiting, the waiting players remain outside of the fenced-in area. Each player plays 1 game. All 4 players come off the court after each game and 4 new players enter the court.
 - c. Waiting players use paddle rack/fence to determine order of play. If you wish to play with a specific player, you can move your paddle down but not forward in the wait line.
 - d. Do not hold courts – if you are not using the court, please relinquish it to other players ready to play.

F. Metal Detecting Terms and Conditions

1. Individuals requesting to use a metal detector within the Middlesex County Park System should be advised that he or she might do so, under the following terms and conditions:
 - a. All individuals are responsible for restoring any area they disturb back to its original condition.
 - b. The depth of ground disturbance shall not be more than 8 inches.
 - c. Anything found by an individual on Middlesex County Parkland is the property of Middlesex County, unless otherwise specified by the Division of Historic Sites and History Services. Objects not acquired for the museum collection and returned to the detectorist may be photographed by museum staff and included in an online history database.
2. Metal Detectors are prohibited in the following areas:
 - a. Athletic fields and courts;
 - b. Playgrounds;
 - c. Off-leash dog areas;
 - d. Picnic groves when occupied by any group;
 - e. All cemetery or grave sites;
 - f. All Historic Site as designated by the Division of Historic Sites and History Services, including, but not limited to East Jersey Old Town, Cornelius Low House, Van Dyke Farm;
 - g. The Raritan Landing Historical District in Johnson Park between Violet Drive and Grove 5 from River Road to the Raritan River

G. Model Boat Use Policy

1. Individuals requesting to use a remote-control model boat within the Middlesex County Park System should be advised that he or she may do so, under the following terms and conditions:
 - a) The use of model boats is at the risk of the individual. The County is not responsible for any damage to personal property during use.
 - b) Individuals will be held liable for any damage to County property.
 - c) Electric remote-control model boats **ONLY**; No gas driven model boats permitted.
 - d) The use of electric model boats is permitted at the following areas within the Middlesex County Park System:
 - Manalapan Lake, Thompson Park
 - Davidson's Mill Pond Park
 - Spring Lake Park
 - Roosevelt Park Lake
 - Lake 2 (by the ball fields) only, Johnson Park

H. Radio/Remote Controlled (RC) Model Car Use Policy

1. Individuals requesting to use a radio-controlled or remote-controlled (RC) model car within the Middlesex County Park System should be advised that he or she may do so, under the following terms and conditions:
 - a) The use of radio-controlled or remote-controlled (RC) model cars is at the risk of the individual. The County is not responsible for any damage to personal property during use.
 - b) Individuals will be held liable for any damage to County property.
 - c) Electric remote-control or radio-controlled model cars **ONLY**; No gas driven model cars permitted.

d) The use of radio-controlled or remote-controlled (RC) Model Car use is prohibited within any building or within 100 feet of the following:

- Playgrounds;
- Picnic groves and shelters;
- Athletic courts (tennis, pickleball, handball, etc.);
- Athletic fields (both grass and turf);
- Off-leash dog areas;
- Gazebos;
- Trailheads;
- Roads and parking lots;
- Other recreational amenities or facilities.