

CHAPTER 16

PARKS AND RECREATION

PART 1

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PART 1

USE OF TOWNSHIP PARKS

§16-101. Rules and Regulations.

The following are the rules and regulations which shall be observed by all persons using any of the facilities in Township parks:

A. General Rules.

- (1) Littering is absolutely prohibited. Violators will be prosecuted and subject to a fine.
- (2) Picnics will be allowed only in locations provided for that purpose. Persons holding picnics shall clean up and place all waste paper and other refuse in receptacles provided for that purpose. Permits for use of buildings and recreation facilities may be obtained from the Township office.
- (3) Grass areas must not be used for roadways, parking, or for other purposes which may injure or destroy the turf or landscaping.
- (4) Trees, shrubs, hedges, berries, wild flowers or other flowers must not be picked, cut, broken, or injured in any way whatsoever.
- (5) Buildings, fences, fountains, statuary, benches, signs, or other structures must not be injured or defaced in any way.
- (6) Games, contests, or sports are permitted only in areas designed for such use and in no case shall use be permitted in areas where lawns or planting may be injured or where such games or contests may be in conflict with park regulations.
- (7) Fires are not permitted anywhere in the park other than in stoves or fireplaces provided for that purpose. No person shall throw away or discard any lighted match, cigar, or cigarette in any park.
- (8) Activities of a special nature prohibited by these regulations may be engaged in only by special permit of the Supervisors or Township Secretary upon written application and under conditions as specified in the said special permit.
- (9) Defacing, littering, or making unsanitary any restrooms, washrooms, etc., or preventing the proper drainage of any toilet, pipe, or drain is prohibited.

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- (10) Moving of picnic tables or other park equipment is prohibited.
- (11) Any person using a Township park, whether with or without a permit, shall be fully and financially responsible for any damages they may inflict upon park property and equipment.

B. Prohibited Substances.

- (1) Bottled beverages are prohibited in all Township parks, except where wine is being served as permitted by application and granted permit to be dispensed as part of a permitted use at the barn. Bottled wine brought onto the premises must be restricted within a small service area in the barn and be dispensed by a server into plastic or other unbreakable glasses or containers. [Ord. 335]
- (2) All alcoholic beverages are prohibited in Township parks, except where malt beverages and/or wine are permitted by application and granted permit to be dispensed as part of a permitted use at the barn. [Ord. 335]
- (3) Illegal drugs and narcotics are prohibited in all Township parks.

C. Conduct.

- (1) No person shall conduct herself or himself in any manner which causes harm to the health, safety, morals, or general welfare of any person within the parks.
- (2) Lotteries or other gambling or games of chance are prohibited.
- (3) Drunkenness, disorderly, or indecent conduct and profane or offensive language are forbidden.

D. Automobiles and Vehicular Use.

- (1) No person shall in any park clean, polish, grease, lubricate, or make repairs to any vehicle except those of a minor nature and then only in cases of emergency.
- (2) The Park and Recreation Commission shall advise on speed, traffic control, and vehicular regulations on and about any roads, driveways, parking areas or other areas within any of the Township's parks. Such regulations will be prominently posted in the parks and will be strictly enforced by Township Police.
- (3) Motorized vehicles of any sort are permitted only on roadways and designated parking areas.

E. Pets and Domestic Animals.

- (1) Dogs are permitted, only when held in leash, on nature trails and similar areas. Dogs are not permitted on ballfields or any play areas. Any other domestic animals brought into the parks must be appropriately confined.
- (2) Horses shall be permitted on the park roadways, trails, and non-playground grassy areas only. Horses are not permitted on any ballfields or in picnic areas.
- (3) It shall be the responsibility of the person bringing the animal to the park to clean up after that animal.

F. Weapons and Firearms. No firearms, airguns, pistols, rifles or weapons of any nature shall be used or carried within the limits of the park, excepting archery equipment which may be used only at designated areas and under proper adult supervision.

G. Solicitation. Peddlers, picnic parties or any other person or persons whatsoever may not sell or offer for sale any service for hire, article, or substance within the limits of the park, or set up any stand or booth for such purposes, or distribute or display handbills, cards, or advertisements of any nature whatsoever unless duly authorized to do so by the Township Secretary.

H. Amplification and Sound Systems. When amplification or sound systems are used, the time permitted shall be limited to a maximum of four hours, and they may only be used between the hours of 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Sunday. Noise levels which disturb the peace are not permitted, except that the use of the barn under granted permit will extend the hours of use of such systems until the term permitted on the barn use permit.[Ord. 335]

I. Hours.

- (1) Park hours shall be from sunrise to sunset throughout the year and it shall be a violation of this Part to be present in the Park except during those hours unless a permit for such presence is obtained from the Township Secretary, except that the park hours of use of the barn and the area in the immediate vicinity of the barn will be extended until the time permitted on the barn use permit. [Ord. 335]
- (2) Where ice skating or other winter sports are available, parks may remain open until 10:00 p.m.
- (3) The Township Secretary or a designated representative shall have the right to close any park if it is in the best interest of the public's health and safety.

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(Ord. 171, 11/17/1981, §1; as amended by Ord. 301, 9/15/1993; and by Ord. 335, 2/5/1997)

§16-102. Permits and Fees.

The following permits and fees shall be required, and applications for a specific use shall be filed with the Township Secretary.

A. Shelter Applications.

- (1) Application to be secured from Township Secretary or designated representative who will issue a shelter permit upon payment of proper fee and deposits. Applications from Township residents or Township groups shall be considered first in granting permits.
- (2) When several applications are received for the same shelter on the same day, permits will be issued to resident applicants or Township groups first in order received.
- (3) All applicants, whether Township residents or not, must state on the application whether or not they represent a group or organization. All non-resident groups, non-resident organizations, and all businesses shall pay the non-resident fees. The Township Secretary, or designee, shall have the right to revoke any permit which is obtained in violation of this §102; and any applicant guilty of misrepresenting their affiliation under this §102 shall be subject to a fine of \$100.
- (4) Shelter fees shall be in amounts as established from time to time by resolution. [Ord. 278]
- (5) Prior to the issuance of the “shelter permit,” the applicant must deposit with the Township Secretary a refundable deposit, in an amount as established from time to time by resolution. This deposit and a self-addressed, stamped envelope must be received by the Township at least one week prior to use of the shelter. This deposit will be promptly refunded in full, if the shelter is left in a clean and undamaged condition following use. [Ord. 278]
- (6) Exceptions from Fees. Fees may be waived by the Township Secretary on shelter applications for use between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Fees are required for Saturday, Sunday and holiday applications. Non-profit organizations will be charged the resident applicant fee. The Township Secretary or designee may waive fees for non-profit organizations.
- (7) Deposit requirements will not be waived.

B. Ballfield Applications.

- (1) It is the general policy of the Township of Richland that recreation facilities are for the general use of the residents for non-organized activities at no cost to the users on Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., exclusive of holidays.
- (2) Applications for ballfield permits for use of the ballfields for organized activities, including leagues, must be secured from the Township Secretary, or designated representative, who will issue the ballfield permit upon payment of the proper fee and deposits.
- (3) Ballfield fees shall be in amounts as established from time to time by resolution of the Board of Supervisors. [Ord. 2]
- (4) Season use by leagues and organized groups shall be scheduled on an equitable basis giving first consideration to resident applications. All applications for ballfields must be in writing. The Township Secretary shall have the exclusive right to determine whether or not to schedule an organized use of the ballfield for any particular day or time, or whether to leave the field open for non-organized resident use.

C. Permit Fee Refunds. Refunds of fees will be made if adequate notice is given so that facility may be rented to others. Adequate notice is considered to be seven days. Refunds will only be given if the previously rented facility can be re-rented.

D. Malt Beverage and/or Wine Applications.

- (1) Application to be secured from Township Secretary or designated representative who will issue a malt beverage and/or wine permit upon payment of proper fee and deposits. Applications from Township residents or Township groups shall be considered first in granting permits.
- (2) When several applications are received for a malt beverage and/or wine permit on the same day, permits will be issued to resident applicants or Township groups first in order received.
- (3) All applicants, whether Township residents or not, must state on the application whether or not they represent a group or organization. All nonresident groups, nonresident organizations and all businesses shall pay the nonresident fees. The Township Secretary, or designee, shall have the right to revoke any permit which is obtained in violation of this Section and any applicant guilty of misrepresenting their affiliation under this Section shall be subject to forfeiture of the application fee and deposit.

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- (4) Malt beverage and/or win permit fees shall be in amounts as established from time to time by resolution.
- (5) At the time of application for issuance of a shelter permit to use the barn and the malt beverage and/or wine permit, the applicant must deposit with the Township Secretary a refundable deposit, in an amount as established from time to time by resolution. This deposit will be promptly refunded, in full, if the shelter is left in a broom clean and undamaged condition following use. The deposit is not to be considered as a limit of the applicant's liability. In the event of damage or cleaning costs in excess of the deposited amount, the applicant shall be personally liable for such excess.
- (6) Application fee and deposit requirements will not be waived.
- (7) All applicants/users of any permit issued under this subsection will abide by the rules and regulations specific to the use of malt beverages and/or wine as published as part of the application form. Failure to abide by said rules and regulations shall cause a forfeiture of the application fee and deposit and shall be an immediate revocation of the right of use of the barn and/or dispensing of malt beverages and/or wine on order of the Township Secretary or Township police officer.
[Ord. 335]

(Ord. 171, 11/17/1981, §2; as amended by Ord. 278, 9/18/1991; and by Ord. 335, 2/5/1997)

§16-103. Penalties.

1. Any person who shall violate any provision of this Part shall, upon conviction thereof, be sentenced to pay a fine not exceeding \$500 and costs and, in default of payment thereof, shall be subject to imprisonment for a term not to exceed 30 days. Each day that a violation of this Part continues shall constitute a separate offense. [Ord. 336]
2. All applicants for park permits shall be required to sign the following statement as part of the application:

"I hereby acknowledge receipt of a copy of the Richland Township Parks Ordinance No. 171 and intend to be fully and legally bound by its terms and provisions. Further, I understand that as the applicant for a Richland Township parks permit, I will be judged to be the responsible party in the event of any damages to park facilities or violation of park rules by any members or guests of my organization or group; and I accept this responsibility and legal obligation."

3. The Township Secretary or designee shall have the right to revoke a permit for any violation of this Part.

(Ord. 171, 11/17/1981, §3; as amended by Ord. 278, 9/18/1991; by Ord. 325, 7/3/1996; and by Ord. 336, 2/5/1997)

§16-104. Amendment.

The rules and regulations contained in §101 and §102(D)(7) may, from time to time, be amended by resolution of the Board of Supervisors.

(Ord. 171, 11/17/1981, §4; as added by Ord. 335, 2/5/1997)