

213 Main Avenue North Bagley, Minnesota 56621  
Phone: 218.694.6520

The Board of County Commissioners of Clearwater County do hereby ordain the following Parks, Recreation Areas and Water Surface Use Ordinance, to wit:

**A) Statement of Policy and Purposes**

- 1) The Legislature has provided for the creation and establishment of County Parks, County Monuments, County Recreation Areas and County Waysides for the purpose of conserving the scenery, natural and historic objects and wildlife therein.
- 2) The purpose of these rules is to provide for the enjoyment of the same in Clearwater County, in such a manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired.
- 3) These rules and regulations shall not apply to persons lawfully engaged in the development, maintenance and operation of County Parks, County Monuments, County Recreation Areas and County Waysides while acting in official capacity for Clearwater County.

**B) Authority**

These rules shall govern the use of County Parks, County Monuments, County Recreation Acres and County Waysides and are promulgated under the authority of M.S. 1971, Sections 398.31 to 398.36, and Laws of Minnesota 1973, Chapter 702.

**C) Penalty**

Any person who shall willfully violate any rules promulgated herein shall be subject to immediate removal from the Park or guilty of a misdemeanor or both.

**D) Severability**

The provisions of this Ordinance shall be severable, and the invalidity of any paragraph, sub-paragraph, or subdivision thereof shall not make any other paragraph or subdivision of this Ordinance.

**E) Definitions**

For the purpose of these rules, unless a different meaning is manifest from context, the terms defined in this section have the meaning given them.

- 1) The word "shall" is mandatory and not permissive.
- 2) "Drug" means any drug, the possession of which is in violation of Federal or State Law.
- 3) "Intoxicating Liquor" means liquors which are intoxicating pursuant to Minnesota Law.
- 4) "Motor Boats" include all inboard, outboard, inboard-outboard, and any other motorized device used as a vehicle of travel on, in, or under water.
- 5) "Motor Vehicle" means any self-propelled vehicle except snowmobiles, the term should include, but not limited to automobiles, trucks, dune buggies, mini-bikes, motorcycles, trail bikes, and other all-terrain vehicles.
- 6) "Person" means any individual, partnerships, corporation or association.
- 7) "Snowmobile" means any engine driven vehicle of a type which utilizes sled-type runners, or skis, or an endless belt treat of any combination of these or other similar means of contact with the surface upon which it is operated and which is designed to operate over ice or snow.
- 8) "County Park" means any designated County Park, County Monument, County Recreation Area, County Wayside, and County Public Access.
- 9) "Enforcing Officer" means the Land Commissioner, the Sheriff or their designated representatives.

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**F) Public Campgrounds**

Clearwater County Long Lake Park and all other County Parks will be open seasonally, dates to be set by the County Board of Commissioners. County Public Accesses will be open year around, but not maintained between October – April.

**G) Personal Behavior**

It is unlawful for any person to engage in any violent, immoral, abusive, loud, obscene, or other conduct creating or tending to create a breach of the peace or to disturb or annoy the recreational enjoyment of park lands and waters by other members of the public.

**H) Intoxicating Liquors**

It is unlawful for any person to be intoxicated within a County Park.

**I) Drugs**

It is unlawful for any person to use, be in possession, or be under the influence of drugs.

**J) Public Safety**

- 1) It is unlawful for any person to discharge or have in his possession a firearm, BB gun, pellet gun or air gun unless unloaded in both barrels and magazine and cased on Clearwater County Long Lake Park.
- 2) It is unlawful for any person to have in his possession explosives or fireworks of any kind
- 3) It is unlawful for any person to use or display any other type of weapon, including but not limited to slingshots, switch blades knives, bows and arrows on Clearwater County Long Lake Park.
- 4) No vehicle shall be parked in other than the designated parking space nor in such manner as to obstruct any avenue of ingress or egress to the area, except for the purpose of unloading and loading boats or other equipment.
- 5) No person shall molest, harass, pursue, capture, or kill any wildlife species within the Clearwater County Long Lake park area except as permitted my resolution of the Board of County Commissioners of Clearwater County.
- 6) No person shall remove, destroy, or damage any tree, shrub, vine or plant or any part thereof.
- 7) Children twelve and under shall not be left unattended by parents or guardian in county park areas.
- 8) The Board of County Commissioners of Clearwater County may except any provisions of Paragraph J, when in the opinion of the commissioners such exception will better serve the public interest.

**K) Environmental Protection**

The Park Environment is for the enjoyment of all. It is therefore, unlawful for any person to destroy, injure, or damage any land or personal property of the County, including but not limited to trees, vegetation, ruins, relics, and geological formations, except collections for scientific or educational purposes which are permitted by written consent of the County Board of Commissioners.

**L) Fires and Refuse**

- 1) Building fires in other than designated fireplaces or throwing lighted cigarettes, cigars or other burning materials on the ground shall not be permitted.
- 2) It is unlawful to disobey park personnel when ordered to extinguish a fire in any location at any time.
- 3) Park Personnel may limit or ban fires by declaring that a forest fire emergency exists. The declaration will be posted on the camp store bulletin board, shower rooms and game room.

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- 4) It is unlawful for any person to burn or otherwise dispose of garbage, refuse, sewage, or trash of any kind except to dispose of the same in receptacles provided for that purpose.
- 5) The receptacles for the purpose of garbage disposal are for the use of the users of the campgrounds or public accesses and not a community dump-ground. Persons using these disposal facilities for personal garbage from cabins and homes shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

**M) Pets**

- 1) Pets are permitted in Clearwater Long Lake Park, provided no person shall allow any dog, cat, or other pet animal to enter any building or permit any dog, cat, or other pet animal to be unrestrained. Such animals shall be attended and effectively restrained by a leash not exceeding six feet and such animals shall not deprive or disrupt the enjoyment or use of any area by other persons.
- 2) Pet waste deposited in mowed or maintained areas must be immediately cleaned up by the pet owner and deposited in an appropriate waste container.
- 3) No pets are allowed in designated swimming areas.
- 4) Horses are prohibited from camping areas.

**N) Picnicking**

- 1) Picnicking is permitted only in designated picnic area, provided no person or group or persons shall exclude others from a picnic area.
- 2) All picnic areas regulated by Clearwater County shall be closed after 10 p.m. and shall not be open to use by any person.

**O) Camping Area**

Campgrounds in the County Parks are established for the convenience and pleasure of the tourist and vacationer for overnight camping use. They are not intended as a place for permanent or semi-permanent residence, a base for the operation of a business, or a facility for noncamper use. Campground roads and facilities are for the use of the campers, and guests of the same and shall not be used for just "driving through."

- 1) In keeping with the purposes herein stated, park attendants are authorized to assign and operate camping sites. Their actions shall be governed by the Park Manager and the County Board of Commissioners. The Commissioners from time to time may alter the control of said campsites based on consideration of use, varying patterns of use, the size of the camping area, the physical conditions of the particular campground, and the available sanitary facilities.
- 2) Camping is permitted only in designated camping areas within the prescribed limitations for the particular camping area.
- 3) Camping shall be permitted to a total period of two weeks in any one park during the period of May 1 to October 1 provided, however, that the park attendant of any County Park may, in their discretion, allow camping for longer periods as they may prescribe when conditions of nonuse so warrant.
- 4) All campers must register. A responsible person of a camping party shall register for the group, giving the number in the group. Names of all persons in the party are required when requested by park personnel.
- 5) A campsite's occupancy is limited to one camping group of four people or less using one camping shelter and one vehicle. Additional people, shelters or vehicles only with prior approval of park personnel and payment of additional camping fees.
- 6) It shall be unlawful for any person to install permanently or affix any camping facility, equipment, or structure in any County Park.

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- 7) The placement of tent stakes or anchors in the ground for the erection of tents is permitted, but digging or excavating for any other purpose is prohibited.
- 8) A boat used for shelter or sleeping which is tied on Park Water Frontage constitutes camping and is subject to these rules.
- 9) It shall be unlawful for any person to participate or engage in any activity which disturbs the outdoor solitude of other campers between the hours of 10:00 pm – 7 a.m.
- 10) A fee shall be charged for camping and set by resolution of the County Board of Commissioners.
- 11) Camping is at one's own risk during severe weather conditions.
- 12) No non-registered visitors or non-registered vehicles shall be allowed at campsites in Clearwater County Long Lake Park and Campground after 10:00 p.m.

**P) Boating**

Boating may be enjoyed on waters within or adjacent County Parks subject to the following expectations:

- 1) It is unlawful for any person to operate a motor boat within the area designated and posted by buoys as a swimming, scuba diving or bathing area in waters adjacent to a County Park in Clearwater County.
- 2) It is unlawful for any person to operate a motor boat in excess of ten (10) miles per hour on Long Lake (Lake #15-57) and Long Lost Lake (Lake #15-68).
- 3) The operation of motor boats and all other boats or devices designed as a vehicle of travel on, in, or under water is subject to all laws and other rules and regulations promulgated by the Commissioner of Natural Resources, including, but not limited to the Boat and Water Safety Ordinance
- 4) It is unlawful for any person to dispose of garbage, refuse, sewage, or trash of any kind in any lake, river, or creek in or adjacent to County Parks in Clearwater County.

**Q) Fishing**

- 1) All State Laws, regulations and order of the Commissioner of Natural Resources are applicable in all waters.
- 2) A person may clean fish and dispose of the remains only at facilities provided for such disposal.
- 3) All Clearwater County Public Accesses to lakes are closed to everything except the purpose of landing and loading boats for fishing after 10:00 p.m.

**R) Swimming**

- 1) Swim only at one's own risk.
- 2) Swimming is allowed only in designated swimming areas.
- 3) Air mattresses and other flotation devices are prohibited.
- 4) Diving from fishing pier or other floating devices are prohibited.
- 5) All swimming areas regulated by Clearwater County shall be closed after 10:00 p.m. and shall not be open to use by any person
- 6) Supervised night scuba diving excursions must be approved by Park Manager
- 7) Use of any soap, detergent or shampoo are prohibited in lake waters
- 8) It is unlawful in beach areas to possess glass containers; to enter with any boat, canoe or raft; to change clothes except in a facility designated for that use, where a facility is provided.

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**S) Motor Vehicle Travel**

- 1) It is unlawful to operate any motor vehicle within the boundaries of any County Park except upon designated roads or parking areas.
- 2) It is unlawful to operate any vehicle at a speed in excess of the posted speed or in a reckless or careless manner.
- 3) It is unlawful to operate any motor vehicle on roads which are posted, chained, or gated prohibiting vehicular traffic.
- 4) It is unlawful to operate all-terrain vehicles in camping area.
- 5) It is unlawful to park any motor vehicle in any other than designated parking areas.
- 6) Except from October 1 through April 30, it is unlawful to park vehicles in designated parking areas for more than 24 hours. All unauthorized/unattended vehicles will be towed away at the owner's expense and subject to a \$25 fine. All fines shall be credited to the County Parks Fund.
- 7) It is unlawful for any person to operate an unlicensed motor vehicle.

**T) Snowmobiles**

- 1) A person is only permitted to operate a snowmobile on designated and posted trails and areas under the condition of snow cover considered adequate for protection of County Parks by the park manager.
- 2) The operation of Snowmobiles is subject to all laws, rules, and regulations promulgated by the Commissioner of Natural Resources.

**U) Protection from Peddling and Soliciting**

- 1) It is unlawful for any person to engage in or solicit business of any nature whatsoever from park visitors within a County Park.
- 2) It is unlawful for any person to advertise in any manner any private activity or function without the consent of the park manager or attendant.

**V) Restricted Areas**

- 1) It shall be unlawful to enter by any means a posted, restricted area.

**W) Enforcement and Penalties**

- 1) The Parks Recreation Areas and Water Surface Use Ordinance of Clearwater County, Minnesota, shall be posted in the office at Long Lake Park and Campground and the Office of Land and Forestry at the Courthouse in Bagley, Minnesota.
- 2) This Ordinance shall be administered and enforced by Land Commissioner, Sheriff of Clearwater County, Minnesota and designated park personnel who are hereby designated the Enforcing Officers.
- 3) Upon complaint about problems associated with any of these rules, one verbal warning will be given by park personnel or the Sheriff's Office and, if necessary, the second time the Enforcing Officer may remove the offending parties from Clearwater County Long Lake Park with no refund of camping fees.
- 4) Any person who unlawfully violates any of the terms of this Ordinance, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not more than \$700.00 or by imprisonment not exceeding ninety (90) days, or both. All fines and violations shall be credited to the County Parks Fund.



## **Parks, Recreation Areas and Water Surface Use Ordinance**

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- 5) In the event of a violation or threatened violation of this Ordinance, the County Board, in addition to other remedies, may institute other actions or proceedings to prevent, restrain, correct, or abate such violations or threatened violations, and it shall be the duty of the County Attorney to institute such action.

### **X) Suspension of Rules**

In situations of emergency or in the case of authorized special events, the Land Commissioner may provide temporary exceptions to the general rules by posting notice of the exception on the camp store bulletin board.

### **Y) Effective Date**

- 1) This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after the date of adoption, as provided by law.
- 2) Passed by the Board of County Commissioners, Clearwater County, Minnesota, this 18<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1997.

*\*This document is a copy of the Parks, Recreation Areas and Water Surface Use Ordinance. To view the original, signed document, please contact the Clearwater County Land Department at 218.694.6227.*