

Park Rules

Chapter 115, PARKS AND RECREATION

[HISTORY: Adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Penn 10-18-1999 by Ord. No. 723. (This ordinance also repealed former Ch. 115, Parks and Recreation, consisting of Art. I, Project 70 Lands, adopted 3-21-1983 by Ord. No. 405, as amended, and Art. II, Township-Owned Parks, adopted 9-18-1978 by Res. No. 52-1978, as amended.) Amendments noted where applicable.]

GENERAL REFERENCES

Animals--See Ch. 54.

Outdoor burning--See Ch. 75.

Curfew--See Ch. 81.

Vehicles and traffic--See Ch. 180.

§ 115-1. Applicability.

A. The regulations set forth in this chapter shall apply to each park, playground, conservation area, green space, pedestrian right-of-way or other public recreation area owned or leased by the Township of Penn, hereinafter collectively referred to as "recreation areas." A copy of the regulations and penalties prescribed in this chapter shall be to the extent practicable posted at a conspicuous place at each such park or playground.

B. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as prohibiting the development and management of the recreational areas of the Township of Penn by the Township of Penn in accordance with any recreation and open space plan which may be hereinafter enacted by the Township of Penn.

§ 115-2. Hours of operation. [Amended 5-19-2003 by Ord. No. 775]

The following hours of operation are established for the recreation areas of the Township of Penn, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania:

A. Municipal park located at 2001 Municipal Court, Penn Township, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania:

(1) Between April 1 and October 31, the hours of operation shall be 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. for those areas designated for baseball or softball play and which are lighted. All other areas shall close at dusk. The Board of Commissioners may grant an extension of the hours of operation for special events. The request for an extension of hours must be in writing and made to the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Penn at least 30 days prior to the date of said event.

(2) Between November 1 and March 31 the hours of operation shall be dawn to dusk.

(3) Notwithstanding the above, during the Penn Trafford School District School year, Field No. 5 shall only be used until 10:30 p.m. on those nights immediately preceding a regularly scheduled school day.

(4) Notwithstanding the above, during the Penn Trafford School District School Year, Field

No. 3 shall only be used until 9:30 p.m. on nights immediately preceding a regularly scheduled school day.

(5) There shall be no Sunday use of any of the playing fields for organized activities, unless a written request is made to the Penn Township Recreation Board at least five days before the regularly scheduled meeting of the Penn Township Recreation Board. The Penn Township Recreation Board shall then take action upon said written request.

(6) Notwithstanding the above, the hours of operation of the Municipal Park may be increased by the Penn Township Recreation Commission for activities scheduled by either the Penn Township Recreation Commission or the Penn Trafford Area Recreation Commission, and approved by the Penn Township Recreation Commission.

B. All other recreation areas of the Township of Penn, described in Exhibit A, attached hereto, made a part hereof and incorporated herein by reference:EN

(1) The hours of operation for recreation areas for the Township of Penn shall be from dawn until dusk at all times.

(2) Notwithstanding the above, the hours of operation of the other recreation areas may be increased by the Penn Township Recreation Commission for activities scheduled by either the Penn Township Recreation Commission or the Penn Trafford Area Recreation Commission, and approved by the Penn Township Recreation Commission.

§ 115-3. Prohibited activities.

The following conduct is absolutely prohibited within the premises of the recreation areas as set forth in §115-1 hereof:

A. Picking, disturbing, mutilating, transplanting or removing any plant.

B. Disturbing, harming or destroying any animal, fowl or mammal or the habitation thereof, with the sole exception of fishing as is described in §115-6 hereof.

C. Littering.

D. Use of motorized trail bikes, snowmobiles and all-terrain vehicles.

E. Use of skateboards and/or in-line skates, except in the areas designated for the same by separate resolution of the Township of Penn.

F. There shall be no riding of bicycles within the boundaries of the recreation areas described in Exhibit A, attached hereto,EN between April 1 and October 31, during the hours of 5:00 p.m. until closing. At all other times, there shall be no riding of bicycles on the playing fields of the recreation areas. All bikes brought to the recreation area described in Exhibit A after 5:00 p.m. shall be secured in the bike racks provided for the same.

G. Damage, destruction, alteration or vandalism of playgrounds or improvements thereon.

H. Swimming in the pond.

I. Ice skating or ice fishing on the pond.

J. Possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages is strictly prohibited.

K. No boating in the pond area.

L. No reptiles shall be brought upon the premises.

M. No loud boisterous noise.

N. No hunting in said area.

O. No trapping in said areas.

P. No bringing of domesticated animals, including but not limited to dogs and cats, into the park area designated on Exhibit AEN; provided, however, that domesticated animals shall be allowed on all paved areas in the park and on the walkway around the pond. The domesticated animals brought to said area must be leashed. Further, appropriate measures must be taken to remove the animal droppings. The animal droppings shall not be deposited in any receptacle located within the park area.

Q. No open fires within said recreation area; nor shall charcoal grills or any other type of cooking receptacles be used within said areas, except within the pavilions located within said area; provided, however, that all charcoal, coals, ashes, etc., must be disposed of in the appropriate receptacles located at each of the pavilions. No person may dispose of any charcoal, coals, ashes, etc., in any area of the park except within the aforesaid designated receptacles.

R. No picnic tables shall be removed from the pavilion areas.

S. Within the area of the recreation facilities known as the "Warrior Wonderland" no person over the age of 12 shall ride upon, stand upon or use any of the recreation equipment, except adults accompanying children under the age of six years may assist the children on the recreation equipment.

T. There shall be no feeding of waterfowl.

U. There shall be no advertising on any external portion of a structure, fence or any other area of the recreation area at the Municipal Park located at 2001 Municipal Court, Penn Township, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, or those recreation areas set forth in Exhibit AEN, unless recommended by the Penn Township Recreation Board and approved by the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Penn. [Added 5-19-2003 by Ord. No. 775]

V. No person, partnership, corporation or other entity shall bring onto the recreation areas of the Township of Penn any municipal waste or solid waste as defined by Chapter 138, §138-2, of the Code of the Township of Penn, for the purpose of disposing said municipal waste or solid waste, on the ground or in any container, dumpster or other receptacle situated within the recreation areas. [Added 3-21-2005 by Ord. No. 803]

§ 115-3.1. Exemptions. [Added 5-19-2003 by Ord. No. 775]

By reason of a large population of Canada geese that may from time to time choose to inhabit portions of the Municipal Park located at 2001 Municipal Court, Penn Township, Westmoreland County, and which may cause excessive fecal material to be deposited within said Park, the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Penn may from time to time, by resolution duly adopted, waive the provisions of Subsections B, M, N, O and P of §115-3 of this chapter.

§ 115-4. Speed limit.

The speed limit on all designated roadways within the recreation areas as herein above described shall be 10 miles per hour.

§ 115-5. Parking. [Amended 10-16-2000 by Ord. No. 729]

Parking shall only be in designated parking areas unless otherwise directed by a designated representative of the Township of Penn. The following prohibitions and penalties are established:

A. Any violation of the designated parking provisions of this chapter shall subject the violator to a fine of \$5 if paid within 10 days. If not paid within 10 days, the violator shall be subject to fines and penalties as prescribed by the Motor Vehicle Code of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, for failure to pay parking fines within the designated time.

B. Any handicapped parking violation as set forth in the Vehicle Code of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania shall subject the violator to a fine of \$15 if paid within 10 days. If not paid within 10 days, the violator shall be subject to fines and penalties as prescribed by the Motor Vehicle Code of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, for failure to pay parking fines within the designated time.

C. Any violation of parking near a tire hydrant or a fire zone as set forth in the Motor Vehicle Code of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania shall subject the violator to a fine of \$10 if paid within 10 days. If not paid within 10 days, the violator shall be subject to fines and penalties as prescribed by the Motor Vehicle Code of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, for failure to pay parking fines within the designated time.

§ 115-6. Fishing.

Fishing shall be allowed subject to the following:

A. No person 16 years of age or older shall fish without having obtained and having in his possession a valid Pennsylvania fishing license.

B. Three trout may be removed from the lake per day, per person. Individual stringers must be maintained.

C. All other rules of the Pennsylvania Fish Commission shall remain in full force and effect in said recreation area.

D. All fish of any species other than trout must be returned to the pond immediately.

§ 115-7. Rental of pavilions.

The Recreation Board of the Township of Penn, with the approval of the Penn Township Board of Commissioners, may establish reasonable charges for the rental of pavilions within the recreation areas. The rental fees shall be established on or before February 1 of each year. The rental fees shall be paid to the Township of Penn.

§ 115-8. Trespassing.

Any person found in any recreational area either owned by the Township of Penn or leased by the Township of Penn during other than those hours set forth herein shall, upon request of a police officer of the Township of Penn or any other lawful authority, immediately remove himself from said recreational areas. If said person refuses to do so, he shall be considered a defiant trespasser, pursuant to the Crimes Code of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Section 3503(b)EN or any amendments thereto and shall be subject to the fines and penalties as set forth in the Crimes Code of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania with respect to defiant trespassers.

§ 115-9. Alcoholic beverages.

It shall be unlawful to sell, offer for sale, consume or have in possession any intoxicating beverage or liquor while within the recreation areas. Any person violating the prohibition herein set forth shall be charged as provided in §115-12 of this chapter.

§ 115-10. Littering prohibited.

It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation, in person or by its agents, employees or servants, to cast, throw or deposit in any manner or in any way any dirt, rubbish, waste article, thing or substance whatsoever, whether liquid or solid, upon the ground of any of the recreational areas either owned by or leased by the Township of Penn.

§ 115-11. Public inconvenience.

It shall be unlawful to cause public inconvenience, annoyance or alarm or to recklessly create a risk by:

A. Engaging in fighting or threatening or in violent or tumultuous behavior;

B. Making unreasonable noise;

C. Using obscene language or making obscene gestures; or

D. Creating a hazardous or physically offensive condition by any act which serves no legitimate purpose of the person or persons involved.

§ 115-12. Violations and penalties.

Any person convicted before a District Magistrate or any other court of competent jurisdiction of violating any of the rules, regulations and prohibitions herein, except the penalties for parking as set forth in §§115-5 and 115-8, shall be subject to a maximum fine of \$600 plus costs and, in default of payment of such costs, to imprisonment not to exceed 30 days.

§ 115-13. Exemptions.

The above restrictions shall not apply to the Penn Township Police Department while the members of the Police Department are patrolling and enforcing this chapter.

§ 115-14. Rewards.

Any person or group of persons who submits information leading to the arrest and conviction of an individual or individuals for damage, destruction, alteration or vandalism of recreation areas, improvements thereon or township property shall be eligible for receipt of an award of up to \$250. In the event that multiple individuals submit information, one reward of up to \$250 shall be divided equally between the reporting individuals.

§ 115-15. Rules and regulations. [Added 5-19-2003 by Ord. No. 775]

In addition to the provisions set forth herein, the Penn Township Recreation Board shall be empowered to make and enforce all rules, regulations and policies governing the use of the recreation areas or the sponsoring of any area or event, which would come under its jurisdiction, subject to the approval by the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Penn by a resolution duly adopted. The powers delegated herein shall include the right to govern the construction of structures and remodeling or repair to any

existing structures erected upon the recreation areas located at 2001 Municipal Court, Penn Township, Westmoreland County, or as set forth in Exhibit A.EN Prior to any approval for either construction of new structures or additions or remodeling or rehabilitation of existing structures, the same must be submitted to the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Penn for approval, which approval shall be granted by a resolution duly adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Penn.

Pavilion Rentals Township of Penn

The following procedure is established for the rental of pavilions in recreation areas owned and/or leased by the Township of Penn:

A. Applications for reservations shall be available from the Township of Penn after January 2 of each year.

B. Reservations must be completed and returned to the Township of Penn on or before May 1 of each calendar year and must include the required deposit and applicable fee. Reservations may be made after May 1 of each year; however, the same shall be subject to availability.

C. Fee Schedule.

(1) Residents of the Township of Penn.

(a) Rental fee, General Forbes Pavilion: \$75.

(b) Rental fee, other pavilions: \$50.

(c) Deposit for damage and cleaning: \$50.

(2) Nonresidents.

(a) Rental fee, General Forbes Pavilion: \$150.

(b) Rental fee, other pavilions: \$100.

(c) Deposit for cleaning and damage: \$100.

(3) Checks shall be payable to "The Township of Penn."

D. Any person who does rent a pavilion shall be responsible for the cleaning of said pavilion and shall also be responsible for any damage done thereto. The person making said reservation shall be required to see that the pavilion is clean and that all garbage, waste, trash and litter is placed in appropriate trash bags or containers as deposited in the area designated by the Recreation Commission. In the event that the pavilion is not cleaned or that the surrounding areas of said pavilion are not cleaned and have trash, litter or rubbish deposited thereon, the depositor shall forfeit the deposit herein provided for.

E. Any person renting a pavilion shall not remove picnic tables from the pavilion area.

F. Any person renting the pavilion shall not offer for consumption or allow the consumption or possession of alcoholic or intoxicating beverages.

G. Any person renting the pavilion shall not allow music to be played at such a volume so as to disturb any other individual using the recreation area.

H. The reservations for the use of the pavilions or the recreation area shall be acted upon on a first-come, first-served basis.