

Chapter 42 PARKS AND RECREATION

Chapter 42 PARKS AND RECREATION [\[1\]](#)

[Sec. 42-1. Rules for county parks and trails.](#)

[Sec. 42-2. Permits for overnight camping and special events use.](#)

[Sec. 42-3. Penalties.](#)

Sec. 42-1. Rules for county parks and trails.

- (a) The following rules shall apply to the use of county-owned parks and trails, including the White River State Recreation Trail:
- (1) Except as provided in (d)(9), parks and trails shall be open from one hour before sunrise to one hour after sunset daily. No person shall use a park or trail outside those hours except by special permit or as authorized in [section 42-1\(b\)\(1\)](#).
 - (2) Users shall remove their own litter, recyclables and trash, except where they may be placed in receptacles provided for that purpose.
 - (3) Except as provided in (d), pets must be properly controlled on a leash no more than eight feet in length. Pet owners shall be responsible for picking up their animal's waste.
 - (4) No person may offer for sale any item of any kind unless permitted by county administrative procedures.
 - (5) Except as provided in (d), the discharge of any firearm, including a paint ball gun, is prohibited.
 - (6) Possession or discharge of fireworks is prohibited.
 - (7) Camping is prohibited except within designated camping areas (see [42-2\(a\)](#)).
 - (8) Except as provided in (d), hunting and trapping are prohibited.
 - (9) Fires are prohibited, except in designated fireplaces, fire rings and cooking grills. No fire may be left unattended, or any matches, cigarettes, cigar or pipe ashes disposed of, without being extinguished.
 - (10) Swimming and wading are prohibited.
 - (11) Except as provided in (d)(8), no person may launch a boat or canoe of any kind.
 - (12) All natural and archeological features, wild animals and plants are protected and shall not be disturbed, except for the removal of invasive plant species by county employees or volunteers acting with county permission.
 - (13) No person may plant or cultivate any crop unless first authorized by the county.
 - (14) Motorized vehicles may be operated only in parking lots and roads. This prohibition shall not apply to:
 - a. Persons using any low-powered, mechanically-propelled vehicle designated specifically for use by persons with physical disabilities; and
 - b. Persons authorized by the county to maintain parks and trails.
 - (15) Bicycles are not permitted on park trails or paths, except as authorized in (b).
 - (16) Horses are not permitted on park trails or paths, except as authorized in (b).

Chapter 42 PARKS AND RECREATION

- (17) Possession, use, sale or consumption of alcohol is prohibited.
- (18) Written materials pertaining to park or trail issues may be posted only in officially designated areas.
- (19) No person may disobey an official sign posted in a park or on a trail.
- (b) In addition to the rules contained in (a), the following rules shall apply to use of the White River State Recreation Trail:
 - (1) The trail shall be open 24 hours per day for snowmobiles when snowmobile trails, generally, are declared open by the Walworth County Snowmobile Alliance.
 - (2) Hiking and bicycling are permitted uses. Horseback riding shall be permitted only on that portion of the trail designated for that purpose.
 - (3) All users, except pedestrians and persons using any manually or low-powered mechanically-propelled vehicle designed specifically for use by persons with physical disabilities, shall possess a valid state trail permit.
- (c) In addition to the rules contained in (a), the following rules shall apply to the parcel CR 300004, comprised of approximately 0.72 acres of land in SW¼ NE¼, Section 3 T3N R15E, Richmond Township and located in Whitewater Lake of Natureland Park.
 - (1) The island is a wildlife refuge and as such there shall be no access by the public for any reason.
- (d) Hunting, fishing and trapping shall be permitted in White River Park subject to the following restrictions:
 - (1) Federal, state and local laws and regulations must be observed at all times.
 - (2) Hunting shall be allowed only with bow and arrow, crossbow, shotgun, muzzle loader or pistol. Hunting on farmland must be consistent with any lease.
 - (3) Hunting and trapping shall be by permit only, which permits shall be issued by the Director - Central Services.
 - (4) Target shooting shall not be allowed. The intended target of any shooting must be a game animal.
 - (5) All personal property, including, but not limited to tree stands and personal blinds shall not be permitted to remain unattended.
 - (6) Hunting dogs, while actually engaged in hunting, are permitted to be off-leash.
 - (7) Trapping shall be allowed only in areas designated by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.
 - (8) Boat launching shall be permitted at White River Park.
 - (9) Anyone entering White River Park during normal open fishing times can actively line fish during closed park hours.

(Ord. No. 268-07/04, § I, 7-13-04; Ord. No. 424-03/07, pt. I, 3-13-07; Ord. No. 672-03/11, pt. I, 3-8-11; Ord. No. 810-10/13, pt. I, 11-12-13)

Sec. 42-2. Permits for overnight camping and special events use.

- (a) Permits may be granted by the county for overnight stays, subject to the following restrictions:
 - (1) Overnight stays shall be limited to two nights.
 - (2) No campers, motor homes, or any recreational type vehicles are allowed.

Chapter 42 PARKS AND RECREATION

- (3) Sales may be conducted only as permitted by county administrative procedures.
- (4) There shall be one adult present for every six people under the age of 16.

(Ord. No. 268-07/04, § II, 7-13-04; Ord. No. 672-03/11, pt. II, 3-8-11)

Sec. 42-3. Penalties.

Persons found guilty of violating this section shall forfeit not less than \$30.00 nor more than \$100.00 for a first offense, and not less than \$50.00 nor more than \$250.00 for a second and any subsequent violations of this section, plus costs of prosecution for each violation. Persons in default of payment of forfeiture and costs shall be imprisoned in the county jail until payment is made, but not in excess of 30 days.

(Ord. No. 268-07/04, § III, 7-13-04)

FOOTNOTE(S):

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Editor's note— Ord. No. 268-07/04, §§ I—III, amended the Code by repealing former ch. 42, § 42-1, and adding a new ch. 42. Former ch. 42 pertained to similar subject matter, and derived from Ord. No. 161-03/95, adopted March 14, 1995. ([Back](#))

Cross reference— Use of county-owned property for private functions and events, § 2-1; special events, public assemblies and mass gatherings requirements and regulations, § 26-236 et seq.; streets, sidewalks and certain other public places, ch. 54. ([Back](#))

State Law reference— County exercise of park powers, Wis. Stats. § 27.075. ([Back](#))