

Chapter 144

PARKS AND RECREATION

- § 144-1. Rules and regulations.
- § 144-2. Use of park facilities.
- § 144-3. Establishing and amending activities.
- § 144-4. Posting of regulations.
- § 144-5. Penalties for offenses.

[HISTORY: Adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Vernon at time of adoption of Code; see Ch. 1, General Provisions, Art. I. Amendments noted where applicable.]

GENERAL REFERENCES

Dogs and other animals — See Ch. 89.
Firearms and explosives — See Ch. 103.
Garbage, rubbish and refuse — See Ch. 114.
Vehicles and traffic — See Ch. 189.

§ 144-1. Rules and regulations.

The following rules and regulations shall be applicable to all parks, open spaces and recreation areas of the Village of Vernon:

- A. Hours. All parks, public open spaces and recreation areas shall be open to the public between the hours of 6:00 a.m., local prevailing time, and 10:00 p.m. on Sunday through Saturday. No person or persons shall be in, on or about the above premises during the prohibited times except those persons going to or from a scheduled event at the parks; public open spaces; recreation areas; Village Board meetings; meetings of the Board of Trustees or any other board or agency of the village on village business; on police business; or scheduled events in the village.

B. Parking.

- (1) No vehicles shall be parked overnight without the approval of the Village Board.
- (2) Grass areas must not be used for roadways, parking or for other purposes which may injure or destroy the turf or landscaping.

C. Automobile and vehicular use.

- (1) Unauthorized motor vehicles, whether licensed or unlicensed, including motorbikes, motorcycles, minibikes, snowmobiles and all-terrain vehicles, are not permitted within the parks, open spaces or recreational areas.
- (2) All vehicles are restricted to roadways except those used for maintenance or police work.
- (3) The Village Board of Trustees shall regulate speed, traffic control and vehicular regulations on and about any roads, driveways, parking areas or other areas within any of the village parks. Such regulations will be prominently posted in the parks and will be strictly enforced by the police.

D. The following activities and uses are prohibited:

- (1) Camping.
- (2) Hunting.
- (3) Shooting.
- (4) Trapping.
- (5) The possession or use of firearms, air rifles, spring guns, bow and arrows (except on a defined range approved by the Police Department, if any), slingshots, BB guns or rifles or darts.
- (6) Destruction of or interference with wildlife or their feeding grounds, nests or resting or breeding places.
- (7) Open burning.
- (8) Organized team and/or league sports, except with written approval of the Mayor or Board of Trustees.

E. Animal control.

- (1) No animals are allowed in the parks or public open spaces or recreational areas.
- (2) Horses shall be permitted on the park roadways, trails and nonplayground grassy areas only. Horses are not permitted in any ballfields or in picnic areas.
- (3) The individual in charge of an animal entering any park or recreational area is required to be in possession of proper implements for the gathering and disposal of animal feces. All feces will be collected immediately, removed from the park or recreational area and disposed of in accordance with accepted sanitary standards.

F. Fires.

- (1) Fires may be built only in fireplaces provided or in grills brought to the park for this purpose.
- (2) All fires will be extinguished before leaving.
- (3) Campfires or fires for use in conjunction with scouting or social activities which cannot be accommodated in existing fireplaces or grills may be permitted upon application to and upon written approval from the Village Mayor.

G. Respect for park property.

- (1) Cutting, mutilating, removing or taking away of trees, shrubs, turf, plants, flowers or other natural phenomena or the removal, defacing or damaging of any park or recreational area property, including but not limited to buildings, equipment, supplies or other property, is prohibited.
- (2) Buildings, fences, fountains, statuary, benches, signs or other structures must not be injured or defaced in any way.
- (3) Games, contests or sports are permitted only in areas designed for such use and in no case shall such 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.

- (4) Defacing, littering or making unsanitary any restrooms, washrooms or other facilities or preventing the proper drainage of any toilet, pipe or drain is prohibited.
- (5) Moving of picnic tables or other park equipment is prohibited.
- (6) Any person using a village park shall be fully and financially responsible for any damages that person may inflict upon park property and equipment.

H. Conduct.

- (1) Disorderly conduct as defined in statutes of the New York State Law, ordinances of the Village of Vernon or in the common law, is prohibited.
- (2) All use of any indecent, lewd or vulgar behavior or language is prohibited.

I. Disposal of waste material.

- (1) No person shall discard any form of waste material, paper or rubbish except in containers supplied for that purpose.
- (2) Violators will be prosecuted and subject to a fine. ---

J. Picnics.

- (1) Picnics will be allowed only on locations provided for that purpose.
- (2) Persons holding picnics shall clean up and place all wastepaper and other refuse in receptacles provided for that purpose.

§ 144-2. Use of park facilities.

A. Preparation of facilities for usage; security deposit.

- (1) Preparation of park facilities for use shall be the responsibility of the village or caretaker as may be designated from time to time by the Board of Trustees.

B. Opening of buildings; cancellation of activities.

- (1) The village shall have the discretion to cancel activities due to weather or other circumstances.
- (2) Park buildings shall only be open under the direct supervision of the department designated from time to time by the Board of Trustees.

§ 144-3. Establishing and amending activities.

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Vernon may, by resolution, from time to time establish additional rules and regulations, and, if it so desires, alter, amend and supplement the rules and regulations established herein for the operation, use and protection of the village parks. Such rules and regulations may include, but shall not be limited to, regulations governing the times for the presence of persons therein, the nature and extent of the permitted and prohibited uses thereof and such other matters as the Board of Trustees may deem necessary or proper for the protection of the parks and persons and property therein.

§ 144-4. Posting of regulations.

All rules and regulations established under the authority of this chapter and established hereafter shall be posted at a conspicuous place or places in each park to which they are applicable. Appropriate signs may be posted to direct or warn persons with respect to the rules and regulations and their operation.

§ 144-5. Penalties for offenses.

- A. Any person who violates any provision of this chapter shall, upon conviction thereof, be subject to a fine not to exceed two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.) or to imprisonment for a term not to exceed fifteen (15) days, or both.

- B. Each and every violation of any provision of the terms of this chapter and each and every day a violation occurs shall constitute a separate and distinct offense under this chapter, and each such offense shall be subject to separate and distinct penalties hereunder.
- C. The penalties provided in this section shall not be the exclusive method of enforcing compliance with the provisions of this chapter, but shall be in addition to all other legal and equitable remedies available to the Village of Vernon.