

CITY OF OWOSSO
PARK RULES AND REGULATIONS

AUTHORITY. These rules are promulgated pursuant to the provisions of Section 21-1 of the Owosso City Code.

APPLICABILITY. These rules shall apply to all City of Owosso parks, play fields, and other public grounds, which for the purpose of these rules shall be identified as parks.

CLOSING HOURS. All parks shall be closed to public use between dusk and dawn, except as follows: 1) Bentley Park, Grove Holman Park (for sledding only), Bennett Field and Rudy DeMuth Fields shall be closed from 11:00 p.m. to dawn, and 2) Hopkins Lake Park shall be open between dusk and dawn solely and exclusively for the purpose of fishing in Hopkins Lake.

SWIMMING PROHIBITED. Swimming is prohibited in all parks except in areas designated for that purpose by the Director of Public Works.

FIRES. Fires are restricted to barbecue grills and then only for the purpose of preparing food.

PROPER DISPOSAL OF REFUSE. Refuse generated during the use of park facilities shall be properly disposed of in containers provided for that purpose. Disposal of household refuse in park refuse containers is prohibited.

VEHICLE REGULATIONS. The following provisions relate to the use of vehicles in the parks: 1) Motorcycles, mopeds, snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles, and the like are prohibited from all park areas except for roadways designated for public travel, 2) The speed limit in all parks shall be ten miles per hour, and 3) Parking shall be restricted to areas designated for that purpose.

PAVILION RESERVATION. All picnic pavilions shall be available to be used on a first-come, first-served basis on the day of use except as follows: The pavilions in Bentley Park and Harmon Patridge (Green Meadows) Park shall be reserved in advance after January 1 of the year in which the pavilion is to be used. Detailed procedures for the reservation of these pavilions shall be developed and implemented by the Director of Public Works.

USE BY ORGANIZATIONS. Provisions of these rules and regulations to the contrary notwithstanding, Shiawassee County-based organizations shall be permitted the exclusive control of designated areas of City parks, including control during hours the parks are closed to the public, subject to the following conditions:

- 1) The use of the park shall be approved by the City Manager;
- 2) Areas used shall be those not regularly frequented by the general public or the areas occupied shall be open to the general public; although a fee may be charged the general public for such access;
- 3) The organizations' use of the park area shall not be conducted in violation of any local or state law nor unreasonably interfere with the use and enjoyment of adjacent park areas by others;
- 4) The organizations shall agree to hold the City harmless from liability for incidents arising out of the organizations' use of the park area and shall provide evidence of insurance coverage for public liability satisfactory to the City Manager;
- 5) The City reserves the right to direct where organizations' structures are installed and activities conducted so as to minimize damage to park property and facilities and to limit interference with the use of adjacent areas of the park.

SCHEDULING AND USE OF ATHLETIC FIELDS.

- 1) Priority in the use of ball fields, soccer fields and similar athletic facilities in City parks shall be given to organizations scheduling regular games or matches. When the City Manager determines that coordination of organizations' use of such facilities is necessary to avoid scheduling conflicts, he or she shall provide for the development of schedules for such facilities. The City Manager shall have the authority to designate organizations to provide for scheduling and oversight of use of athletic fields. Such organizations shall schedule use of the fields in such a manner as to accommodate use by all interested organizations to the greatest extent feasible and so as to provide for compliance by these rules and regulations by all organizations using the athletic facilities.
- 2) The City Manager shall have the authority to restrict use of athletic fields so as to avoid excessive wear and tear on facilities.
- 3) The City Manager may authorize organizations to sell concessions at athletic fields and to use City facilities designated for that purpose. Preference in selling concessions may be given to organizations designated to provide scheduling and oversight of the use of athletic fields. Organizations selling concessions at athletic fields shall be responsible for the cleaning of restroom facilities at such fields although supplies for use in restrooms shall be provided by the Director of Public Works.
- 4) Organizations providing for the scheduling and oversight of athletic fields may be permitted to provide for the installation of signs recognizing program sponsors. Such signs shall not advertise specific products or services but shall be limited to the names and logos of sponsors and brief descriptions of the nature of the sponsor's business. All sponsor signs shall be constructed of material that will withstand customary weather conditions and shall be maintained by the organizations installing them. Signs shall be installed on existing fences and in such a manner that the message content of the signs is visible from within the athletic fields only. Signs shall be installed only during the usual seasons during which organizations schedule games and matches on the fields.
- 5) Organizations utilizing athletic fields for scheduled games, matches and practices shall be responsible for removing litter from the areas used for their activities. In addition, organizations shall be responsible for removing and storing any equipment used in their activities. Installation of bleachers or similar facilities must be authorized by the Director of Public Works.
- 6) The Director of Public Works shall provide for utilities (except for telephone service), refuse disposal and the maintenance of athletic fields in coordination with the needs and schedules of organizations utilizing the fields. The Director of Public Works may require that organizations utilizing athletic fields undertake specific activities uniquely required for their particular use of the fields such as the installation of bases or nets, the painting of lines on fields, etc.

DOG PARK REGULATIONS. Within the designated dog park area located in Collamer Park, dogs are permitted under the following regulations. Elsewhere in the city, the city code applies.

- 1) All dogs must be leashed in the dog exercise area parking lot.
- 2) Any person bringing a dog or dogs to the dog exercise area must have one leash per dog.
- 3) There shall be no more than three dogs per person allowed in the dog exercise area. Any person bringing a dog or dogs to the dog exercise area must have at least one dog feces waste bag per dog in his or her possession and must remove any feces deposited by the dog(s) in their care.
- 4) Persons under sixteen years of age visiting the dog exercise area must be accompanied and supervised by a parent or guardian or other responsible adult with permission of the parent or guardian.
- 5) No persons under sixteen years of age are allowed in the dog agility area unless accompanied and supervised by a parent or guardian or other responsible adult with permission of the parent or guardian.
- 6) Each dog must be under visual and voice control of the owner or other responsible

- 7) person at least 16 years of age at all times.
- 8) All dogs must have current vaccinations and licenses and shall wear a collar with tags as proof thereof.
- 9) Aggressive dogs, as defined below, are not permitted in or around the dog exercise area, including but not limited to, the parking lot. Owners or other responsible persons will be held legally responsible for any injury caused by a dog that they bring in or around the dog exercise area.
 - An aggressive dog is defined as:
 - a. A dog that bites a person. However, a dog shall not be considered aggressive if the dog bites a person wrongfully assaulting the dog or the dog's owner, or if the dog bites a person after being provoked by that person.
 - b. A dog that injures or kills another domestic animal without provocation while at the dog exercise area.
- 10) Female dogs in heat are not permitted in or around the dog exercise area including, but not limited to, the parking lot.
- 11) Dog owners or other responsible persons shall provide dogs with drinking water while visiting the dog exercise area when weather conditions require.
- 12) Dog owners or other responsible persons shall not keep dogs enclosed in a vehicle during hot weather which may cause injury to the dog.
- 13) Any person having knowledge of a dog having bitten, scratched, or injured a person or other animal within the dog exercise area, including but not limited to the parking lot, shall report the incident to the police department.

COMMUNITY GARDENS. Community gardens, as designated on public lands, whether leased or available to the general public, shall operated with the following regulations.

- 1) Garden uses must complete the community garden individual waiver as provided by the city.
- 2) Work on plots must begin within 10 days after the garden has been tilled, if applicable.
- 3) No synthetic fertilizers, herbicides, pesticides or insecticides are to be used.
- 4) Work on gardens may only occur between dawn and dusk.
- 5) No mechanized equipment may be used before 9:00 A.M.
- 6) Gardens must be kept free from weeds, rotten produce, and plant debris.
- 7) Stakes, plastics, and garbage must be disposed of in a timely manner.
- 8) Shared paths between garden plots must be maintained without digging into the main paths; such paths must be kept free of toxic materials and rocks.
- 9) Children must be supervised.
- 10) Headphones must be used to listen to the radio or other portable sound equipment.
- 11) All crops must be legal, non-toxic, and non-hazardous.
- 12) Other plots and gardens are not to be damaged or harvested by other users.
- 13) Sales of produce and other products at the garden or in the park is strictly prohibited.
- 14) No tires are allowed at the garden site.
- 15) No pets are allowed at the garden site.
- 16) Smoke and tobacco use is prohibited at the garden site.
- 17) Alcoholic beverages are prohibited at the garden site.

PUBLIC NOTICE. The public shall be deemed to have been properly notified of the provisions of these rules and regulations if the Director of Public Works shall cause their publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the City at least annually prior to April 1. The Director of Public Works is further authorized to post such signs as are in his opinion required to insure substantial compliance with the provisions of these rules and regulations.