

Amphitheater Use Policy and Guidelines

Adopted April 17, 2023

The mission of the Mitchell Amphitheater is to provide a location for community members to gather for quality entertainment and educational programming, offered in a family-friendly setting and provide a high-quality multi-use space for community activities in the City of Owosso.

While the amphitheater is used for the public benefit, the City must impose certain policies and restrictions on its use to maintain community standards, safety, building integrity, and ensure the long-term availability of the amphitheater for many years to come.

In order to accomplish the goals of the City, the following Amphitheater Use Policy and Guidelines are adopted by the Owosso City Council and must be followed by persons or groups interested in using the amphitheater.

1. The amphitheater shall be reserved on a first-come, first-serve basis. Reservations shall be accepted beginning on the first business day in April of each year for the upcoming summer season at the City of Owosso Building Department.
2. The amphitheater is to be used for high-quality public events and public entertainment. Events at the amphitheater shall be free of charge and open to members of the public. Any organization seeking an exemption from this shall have a Recreational Use Agreement approved by Owosso City Council.
3. The City should strive to attract, arrange and allow a variety of events and entertainment to be held at the amphitheater. The City will work with local groups and businesses to plan and coordinate the events and entertainment at the amphitheater. No singular type of event should be allowed to monopolize the use of the amphitheater and the amphitheater should not become an outdoor extension of any group or business.
4. The City of Owosso is not responsible for the return of any fees or loss of revenue if an event is canceled or proven to be unsuccessful as a result of the weather. The City of Owosso will attempt to reschedule if the rental schedule allows, but rescheduling is not guaranteed.
5. Providing stage lighting and sound equipment is the responsibility of the lessee.
6. Reservation of the amphitheater includes the use of the stage, electricity, bathrooms, and the grounds within the fencing.
7. The city-provided portable toilets are shared with Curwood Park guests and the James Miner Trail and shall remain open to the public. Events are responsible for providing any additional porta-johns necessary.
8. All events require the naming of the City as additionally insured with a minimum single limit of personal injury and property damage of \$1,000,000.
9. The amphitheater is to remain "family-friendly" and is not to be used for events that promote nudity, vulgarity, sex, horror, violence, profanity, racism, or illegal drug use. Permitted equivalent movie ratings would include G, PG, and PG-13, and video game ratings to include E-Everyone, E-10+, and T-Teen.
10. Alteration of the amphitheater building is strictly prohibited. This includes screws, nails, holes, tape, glue, etc.
11. Refunds will only be given if the refund is requested at a minimum of two (2) weeks before the scheduled event date.

12. No amplified sound or music shall be created past 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and no later than 11:00 pm on Friday and Saturday. No amplified sounds shall exceed 90 decibels at Williams Street, Water Street, or Curwood Castle Drive at any time and amplified sounds shall also be judged by a reasonable person standard.
13. For any event that occurs while City Hall is closed, the group hosting the scheduled event shall designate an individual to be responsible for picking up the key, closing and locking all doors, return of any keys, shutting off electricity, and any other tasks required following the completion of the event.
14. Pets must always be leashed and their waste be immediately cleaned and removed.
15. The use of umbrellas, sun shades, tents, or other objects that block the view of persons seated behind that object shall be placed at the back of the crowd except as used by event organizers.
16. If a tent is erected in the lawn area utility stakes are required. The renter is responsible to contact MISSDIG (800-482-7171) for this service. Please allow ample time for stakes to be placed. Tents over 400 square feet require an inspection and permit from the Fire Marshall.
17. The event organizer is responsible for maintaining a safe and supervised environment during the event. The City of Owosso reserves the right to require extra security for selected activities at the renter's expense.
18. The scheduled start and end times of the event as stated on the application are expected to be followed.
19. The use of alcohol, marijuana, or illegal drugs is prohibited at the amphitheater.
20. Smoking tobacco is prohibited within the fenced area of the amphitheater grounds.
21. The use of rice, confetti, glitter, candles, fireworks, or any open flames is prohibited anywhere within the amphitheater grounds.
22. Groups using the amphitheater shall return the amphitheater to the same condition in which it was found including cleaning the grounds. Failure to return the amphitheater to the same condition may result in the loss of any security deposit and prohibition of future use of the amphitheater.
23. There are two (2) parking spaces in the Water Street parking lot behind the amphitheater available for loading and unloading. This parking lot is not owned by the City of Owosso. All events shall plan to utilize on-street or city-owned parking lots. A map of city-owned parking lots can be provided upon request.
24. Violations of any of these rules may result in immediate termination of the amphitheater use and removal from the park.
25. Events that cannot abide by these rules and guidelines may request for the Owosso City Council to approve rule deviations. The event application must state which specific amphitheater rules cannot be followed for the proposed event.
26. Rental of the amphitheater building shall cost the rate as set by a Resolution of the Owosso City Council. There are two classes of lessees described below, each has different rental fees:

Community Organizations: (local non-profit, civic, fraternal, service, or religious organizations)

The rental fee is \$50 if the event is open to the public and all proceeds from donations are used for the organization's community projects. Reoccurring or regular events are only required to pay one rental fee per summer season. Proof of tax-exempt status is required at the time of application.

For-profit organizations or individuals:

The rental fee is \$150.