

# Western Springs Park District Park Rules

Ordinance No. 2002-1

**WHEREAS**, the Western Springs Park District owns and operates park lands and facilities for the recreational use of public, regardless of race, creed National origin, and

**WHEREAS**, the Western Springs Park District is responsible for providing safe and enjoyable parks, and

**WHEREAS**, it is the express intent of the Western Springs Park District to preserve and protect its parks' facilities and to regulate the usage therefore, and

**WHEREAS**, this ordinance for the Western Springs Park District adopts rules and regulations for the Park District lands and facilities, and prescribing of fines and penalties for the violation thereof, and

**WHEREAS**, the Western Springs Park District is authorized under the Illinois Park District Code to establish and enforce rules and regulations it deems necessary and appropriate governing the use of park lands and facilities.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE WESTERN SPRINGS PARK DISTRICT, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1.**     **Establishment.** That there is hereby established codified and approved the following park land and park facility rules and regulations:

**Section 2.**     **Purpose.** The Western Springs Park District exists for the purpose of acquiring, improving, maintaining and developing a system of park lands and facilities, for use by the general public, and the residents of the Village of Western Springs for ecological, recreational, and educational uses and enjoyment by all park patrons. This ordinance is intended to help the Park District carry out these functions, by establishing reasonable rules and regulations for the public's use of park land and facilities.

**Section 3.**     **Hours of Use.** Except the lighted Spring Rock Park baseball field, the in-line hockey rinks, basketball and tennis courts at Spring Rock Park, which are lit for evening play, parks will be open from sunrise to one hour after sunset, unless different hours are posted by the Park District Superintendent. No person shall enter or remain in the park when the park is not open to the public, without permission from the Park District Superintendent.

**Section 4. Destruction or Damage to Park Property.** No person shall destroy, deface, paint, alter, change, or remove any Park District building, shelter, picnic table, sign, or any other Park property, structure or parks, thereof. Also no person shall deface, destroy, cover, damage or remove any sign, notice or parts, thereof, posted or exhibited by the Park District, to announce rules, regulations, warnings, or to furnish other information to the public necessary or desirable of proper use of the parks. No person shall enter into or upon a park structure, closed or posted closed, without the prior written permission of the Park District Superintendent. Such structures or areas may be limited to park buildings, construction areas, work safety zones, workshops, tree nurseries, or areas undergoing reforestation or improvement. No person shall damage, cut, remove, uproot, or destroy any tree, plant, bush, or flower, or remove any natural material located in any Park District. No person shall build a fire anywhere on Park District property or lands, for any purpose, except in the grills and fireplaces provided by the Park District or in approved receptacles, such as fabricated metal containers and grills designed for the outdoor cooking of food. Such a person shall properly extinguish the fire when leaving the park, such that the fires' ashes coals and any unburned substance in the fire, are cold to the human touch.

**Section 5. Motor Vehicles**

- a. **Operation of Motor Vehicles.** No person shall operate or cause to be operated any motorized vehicle which in any manner does not comply with the Vehicle Code of the State of Illinois or other laws, such as the Ordinances of the Village of Western Springs. All such operators of motorized vehicles shall drive the vehicles on only roads, driveways, and parking areas, in the Park District and only in compliance with the directions, regulations and restrictions of the Western Springs Park District.
- b. **Parking Regulations.** No person shall park any motorized vehicle anywhere in any park except in specified areas as provided and posted for the parking of such vehicle. No person shall park any motorized vehicle anywhere in any park in such a way as to block another parked vehicle, or in such a way as to block, restrict or impede the normal flow of traffic, or in a zone or area posted "prohibiting parking", or on any turf, meadow, prairie, marsh, field, in a woodland or on the exposed roots of an tree or shrub, except in an emergency or when directed to do so by the police or as a matter of public safety.

**Section 6. Personal Conduct and behavior.** No person shall engage in conduct that is disorderly. A person shall be deemed to have engaged in disorderly conduct when he knowingly does any act in such a manor as to provoke, make, or aide in making a breach of the peace or makes any offensive act, utterance, gesture, display, which under the circumstances, creates a clear and present danger of a breach of the peace or eminent threat of violence, or such person refuses or fails to stop any such conduct or activity that is likely to produce a breach of the peace when requested by the Park District Superintendent, a Park District Commissioner, Park District employee or a Western Springs Police Officer. Disorderly conduct shall also be defined, as any person

acting in any manner to disturb the peace by loud playing of musical instruments or electronic devices as radios, or sound equipment or CD players. No person shall be present in any park, land, or facilities under the influence of or have in his or her possession for selling, serving, dispensing, or for personal consumption any liquor, beer, drugs, narcotics, or other controlled substances. Smoking of cigarettes, cigars, and pipe tobaccos is prohibited in all buildings or facilities on Park District property.

- a. **Control of Animals.** No person shall permit a dog, cat or other animal owned or under control by another person, to be brought into or allowed to remain on Park District land or in Park District facilities, without prior approval of the Park District. Park District officials or Western Springs Police Officers, shall be entitled to remove such animal or pet. The person responsible for such animal or pet, shall be responsible for any fees or recovery from the appropriate animal shelter where such animal or pet may be taken, in addition to any other fines and penalty provided in this ordinance.
- b. **Sales and Solicitation.** No person shall sell, buy or exchange anything on park land without the prior written consent of the Park District. No person shall beg, take up collections, solicit or receive anything of value. No person shall display, distribute, host, or fix any type of sign, pamphlet, or other printed material containing advertising except for groups holding valid picnic permits or special material containing advertising except for groups holding valid picnic permits or special events approved by the Park District.
- c. **Public Indecency.** No person shall commit, perform, or engage in an act of public indecency, including, but not limited to: 1) an act of sexual intercourse, 2) an act of deviate sexual conduct, 3) a lewd exposure of the body done with intent to arouse or satisfy the sexual desire of that person, 4) a lewd fondling or caress of the body of oneself or another person of either sex.
- d. **Firearms, Weapons, Explosives and Missiles.** No person while on Park District property shall have at any time in their possession or on or about their person, any firearm, pistol, revolver, rifle, shotgun, air gun, bb gun, ammunition, switchblade, hunting knife, dagger, metal knuckles, chains, slingshot, blowgun, bow, arrow, crossbow, blackjack, billy club, and device capable of discharging a projectile by air, spirits, gas or explosive substance or harmful solid or liquid or gaseous substance, any tear gas or any disabling chemical or any other dangerous weapon. Nothing contained herein shall be construed to prevent any Park Ranger or other law enforcement officers from carrying such weapons as may be authorized and necessary in the discharge of their duties.

No person shall throw or cast any stones or other missiles, or possess, ignite or use any type of fireworks, firecracker, sparkler, explosive, smoke device or pyrotechnic device on any Park District property.

**Section 7. Regulations of Sports and Activities.**

- a. **Aviation, and Airspace.** No person shall voluntarily bring, land or cause to descend or alight upon park lands any airplane, flying machine, balloon, parachute or other apparatus for aviation except by prior written permission of the Park District. Any landing other than one caused by mechanical or structural failure of the aircraft or any of its parts shall be deemed to have been made voluntarily. This section is not intended to restrict or prohibit law enforcement, medical or other emergency or humanitarian use from landing on Park District property.
- b. **Camping and Sleeping in Parks.** No person shall camp within any Park except upon receiving the written approval of the Park District Superintendent. No person shall sleep in any Park between dusk and sunrise the following day, except upon receiving the written approval.
- c. **Golf.** No person shall play or practice golf in or upon any Park District property except as part of an organized program administered by the Park District, or the Village Recreation Department.
- d. **Playground Equipment.** No person shall use or operate playground equipment in a manner other than that for which it was intended, nor in anyway which may endanger the safety of any person or property.
- e. **Power Models, Toys and Model Rocketry.** No person shall start, ignite, fly or use any fuel powered jet-type rocket or electrical powered model aircraft and rockets in any park area unless such use is pursuant to the written permission of the Park District Superintendent. Model cars and toy cars shall be permitted only in non-pedestrian or non-restricted areas and may not be powered by any combustible fuel type engine.
- f. **Winter Sports.**
  - 1. **Ice Skating.** No person shall skate or slide on any frozen waters of the Park District except those areas designated for such purpose and then only in compliance with rules and regulations.
  - 2. **Sledding/Tobogganing.** No person shall sled, slide, or toboggan on Park District property except in those areas designated for such purpose and then only upon proper snow cover as determined by the Park District Superintendent.
  - 3. **Skiing.** Downhill skiing is not permitted at any time on the Park District property. Cross Country Skiing shall be permitted only in those areas designated by the Park District Superintendent.

4. **Ice Fishing.** No person shall ice fish on any waters of the Park District.
  5. **Snowmobiling.** No person shall bring in, ride, operate or possess any self-propelled vehicle designated for travel on snow covered ground at any time unless such vehicle is pursuant to written permission by the Park District Superintendent.
- g. **Bicycles, Scooters, Skateboards, and Roller Skates.**
1. No person shall ride a manual or motorized bicycle, scooter, or skateboard on any path, trail, roadway except on a suitable seat attached thereto for such a purpose, or operate a bicycle or skateboard in a reckless manner so as to endanger pedestrians, the rider, or riders therein.
  2. No person shall carry another person on the handlebars, frame, fender or ride a bicycle or skateboard except on a suitable seat attached thereto for such a purpose, or operate a bicycle or skateboard in a reckless manner so as to endanger pedestrians, the rider, or riders therein.
  3. No person shall park or leave unattended any bike, scooter or skateboard in a manner that totally or partially impedes or blocks any pedestrian or vehicular traffic or access ways.
  4. No person shall be permitted to roller skate or “roller blade” on any athletic courts, except those areas specifically designated for such use.
- h. **Team Sports.** No groups of persons shall play or engage in any team sport or game, such as but no limited to baseball, football, soccer, volleyball, lacrosse, softball, except in those park areas designated for use as athletic fields, and only in such a manner as to not interfere with other persons using said athletic areas, and under the rules and regulations of the Western Springs Park District.

**Section 8. Permits and Designated Areas/Authority:** To carry out the terms of this ordinance, the Park District Superintendent is hereby given authority to issue the permits, post notices or take the other action as follows:

- a. The Park District Superintendent shall have the authority to designate areas, facilities, or fields, suitable for various activities or use, to close entire parks, or parts thereof, in the interest of public health, safety or general welfare in order to protect the park land and playing fields from harm based upon weather conditions, usage or the park land and playing

fields from harm based upon weather conditions, usage or other causes, and to promulgate and issue permits where required by this ordinance and collect such fees as established by the District in accordance with the following guidelines:

1. No person shall be discriminated against because of race, sex, creed, color or national origin.
  2. The proposed use or activity shall not reasonably interfere with or detract from the general public's use and enjoyment of the park and surrounding property or facilities.
  3. The proposed use or activity or use shall not entail extraordinary expense operational costs by the District or expose it to unusual liability.
  4. The area desired shall not be reserved for another activity at the same time.
  5. The proposed use or activity shall be reasonably compatible with the type of park, size and character of the area involved and the facilities available, and that it is not reasonably expected to cause harm or damage to the park lands.
- b. The Park District Superintendent may impose reasonable restrictions on the granting of a permit including, but not limited to any of the following:
1. The number of dates of use by any organization, the length of time an area will be reserved, the use of sound and energy amplification devices, amusement devices, the number of persons present, location and type of any temporary structures, the type and location of sports and games or any other activity which may create a risk and location of sports and games or any other activity which may create a risk of unreasonable harm to the use and enjoyment of the park by others or of damage to the District property.
  2. Requiring proof of and establishing the amount of liability insurance required, and/or requiring a Hold Harmless Agreement, or requiring a Certificate of Insurance naming the District as an additional insured when the activity is deemed by the Park District Superintendent to require such.
  3. Requiring the name, address, telephone number, and driver's license number of a legal adult responsible for the use of activity requested as well as the name, address, and telephone number of the group represented by the applicant.
  4. Requiring that the applicant furnish additional approved security forces at the applicant's expense, such forces to act under District supervision.

- c. All permits required by this ordinance and issued by the Park District shall be issued at the District administration office in Western Springs, Illinois, in accordance with Park District fees and regulations established each year for the issuance of such permits. All applications for permits shall be submitted at least 72 hours in advance of the earliest requested date provided that the Park District Superintendent may waive the 72-hour time period in the interest of public health or safety or for such events that are of a significant civic nature.
- d. The Park District Superintendent is authorized to seek reasonable information regarding any proposed use, activity or privilege and require a record of such information on a permit application.
- e. No person shall misrepresent, falsify or withhold such required information.
- f. No person granted a permit shall violate the requirements, terms, conditions, restrictions, or rules duly set forth under the authority of this ordinance as part of any granted permit or registration.
- g. The Park District may set fourth in other ordinances such permit or registration fees as it deems proper and may change them from time to time.
- h. Ho person shall obtain or use any permit without first having paid the fee established by ordinance for such permits.

**Section 9. Ordinance Co-ordinance.** All public ordinances of the Village of Western Springs, the Township of Lyons and the County of Cook within which the Park District of Western Springs is located, are hereby incorporated by reference and adopted by the Park District insofar as the same are applicable to, and not in conflict with Park District ordinances, for the regulation of the use of that portion of the parks and park facilities of the Park District located within the territorial limits of such respective municipalities. The public ordinance of the Village of Western Springs within that portion of the Park District located within respective municipalities shall be deemed to be in addition to the provisions of Park District ordinances. Said Village ordinances are incorporated herein by reference as subsections of this section, as now enacted and as amended from time to time.

**Section 10. Enforcement.**

- a. The qualified persons who can enforce the following rule and regulations of the Park District are officers and employees of the Park District, including Park Board Commissioners, the Park District Superintendent, authorized Park District employees, and local law enforcement officers. Arrest powers are reserved to employees, and local law enforcement authorities, including the members of the Village of Western Springs Police Department, members of the Cook County Sheriff's Department and the Illinois State Police.

- b. No person shall make, continue or assist in making any breach of the peace in or upon any Park District property or gather in or upon any Park District property with other persons for the performance of such purpose or to perform other unlawful acts.
- c. No persons shall hinder or refuse to obey any Park Commissioner, Park District employee, or Police Officer during the enforcement of Park District regulations.
- d. No person shall impersonate any Park District Commissioner, or Park District employee within or upon any Park District property.

**Section 11. Additional or Temporary Rules to be Obeyed.**

- a. No person shall violate or disobey any rule of the District relating to the use and administration of the park system. The Park District or the Park District Superintendent of the Park District are authorized to issue such additional or temporary rules and regulations as are necessary to insure public health and safety in the use and enjoyment of any and all park facilities, including, but not limited to, its park lands, any other recreational activities, and any special events.
- b. No person shall use any Park District facility, which in the sole opinion of the Park District Superintendent of the Park District is not in condition for use, and shall refrain from using the same when requested by a posted written notice or when personally requested by authorized Park District personnel.
- c. No person shall enter upon any portion of the Park District where persons are prohibited by the District as indicated by sign or notice. No person shall enter or attempt to enter any building or area in the park system when it is closed to the public or scheduled for specific group or activity unless invited by the group.

**Section 12. Exemption for Park District Employees and Park Officials, and Qualified Enforcement Officials.**

No provision hereof shall make unlawful any act necessarily performed by any officer or employee of the District in the line of duty or work as such or by any person, his agents or employees, in the proper and necessary execution of the terms of any agreement with the Board, except when such act endangers or encroaches upon the rights of others as regulated by the laws of the Village of Western Springs and the State of Illinois.

**Section 13. Fines and Penalties for Violations.**

Any person, firm, corporation or organization, violating any provision of this Ordinance shall be fined not less than Fifty Dollars (\$50.00), nor more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) for each offense upon conviction, and in addition the District may seek an order from any court of competent jurisdiction requiring restitution for actual damages resulting from violation of any provision of this Ordinance. Each day any violation of any provision of this Ordinance shall continue, shall constitute a separate offense. In addition, spectators and participants in Park District sanctioned programs such as Little League or AYSO, or Village of Western Springs Recreation programs and activities, may be

suspended from such programs or banished from Park District property for violations of the terms and conditions in Permits issued by the Park District and the Rules and Regulations of this Ordinance.

**Section 14.** That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict therewith are to the extent of such conflict hereby repealed.

**Section 15.** That each section, paragraph, clause and provision of this ordinance is separable and if any provision is held unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the remainder of this ordinance, nor any part thereof, other than that part affected by such decision.

**Section 16.** That this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and due publication in pamphlet form according to law.

**Passed** by the Board of Commissioners of the Western Springs Park District, Cook County, Illinois, at a Regular Meeting thereof, held on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2002, and approved by me as President on the same day.

Kenneth Sitkowski  
PRESIDENT

ATTEST

Katherine Schuetz  
Secretary