

Chapter 9.23

GENERAL RULES FOR CITY PARKS

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9.23.010 Purpose.

The purpose of this chapter is to provide and ensure an enjoyable, recreational, and relaxing atmosphere within city parks for the residents of the City of Ripon. (Ord. 576 §1, 1997)

9.23.020. Conduct.

No person shall engage in threatening, abusive or disorderly conduct or behavior within any city park tending to be a breach of the public peace. Any department head of the City, including the City Administrator, the City Recreation Director, the City Attorney, as well as any Ripon police officer or Ripon Fire District officer, may expel any person engaging in threatening, abusive or disorderly conduct from any city park. Any person refusing to leave a city park at the order of any person authorized pursuant to this ordinance may be cited with a misdemeanor. (Ord. 576 §1, 1997; Ord. 703 § 1, 2004)

9.23.025 Driving or Parking Motor Vehicles on Grass

It shall be unlawful for any person to operate or park a motor vehicle on any grass area within any City park. (Ord 658 §1, 2002)

9.23.030. Park Hours.

The hours that all city parks shall be open will be determined by resolution of the City Council. Hours shall be posted. Loitering in city parks during closed hours is prohibited. (Ord. 576 §1, 1997)

9.23.040. Use of Drugs and Alcohol.

All parks are declared drug, alcohol, and gang free zones. Consistent with Section 9.04.020, alcoholic beverages are not permitted within any parks. (Ord. 617 §2, 2000)

9.23.050. Permits.

The city parks and/or facilities may be made available for the exclusive use of persons and groups only upon the issuance of a permit by the Recreation Director. (Ord. 576 §1, 1997)

9.23.060. Revocation of Permit.

Littering, soiling or defacing restrooms, facilities including landscape and fixtures is prohibited and may be grounds for revocation of permit and immediate expulsion. (Ord. 576 §1, 1997)

9.23.070. Precedence of City Sponsored Events.

All city and recreation commission sponsored events within all city parks take precedent over any other event. (Ord. 576 §1, 1997)

9.23.080. Organized Activities.

An organized activity is defined as any practice, training, game, tournament, contest or any other activity in which more than 8 persons participate, and in which the time, place, and rules for competing have been pre-determined by either the participants or any other person or organization. (Ord. 796 §1, 2012)

9.23.090. Use of Park for Organized Activities.

The use of any city park for an organized activity must be approved by the Recreation Director with a twenty-one day advance notice and may be scheduled no more than one year in advance. A one-hundred dollar (\$100.00) deposit for each event, in cash or a cashiers check, is required to conduct any organized activity within a city park. The deposit may be refunded in whole or in part, if at the discretion of the Recreation Director, the field has been left in good condition at the conclusion of the organized activity. Any refund shall be paid within thirty (30) days after the event. (Ord. 576 §1, 1997)

9.23.100. Public Address System.

The operation of a public address system in any city park shall be prohibited without prior written permission of the Recreation Director. The use of small portable radios shall be permitted so long as such radios are operated at such a volume as not to disturb other persons in the park or any residence along the park. (Ord. 576 §1, 1997) No amplified music or amplified sound shall be allowed at any city park. (Ord. 617 §3, 2000)

9.23.110. Field Rental.

The rental of any field must be approved by the Recreation Director. The rental of any field shall be limited to once per week per person, group or organization and shall not exceed 4 hours at any given time. The rental of any field shall be at the rate of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per hour. Notwithstanding the foregoing, all city and recreation sponsored events shall be exempt from this restriction. (Ord. 576 §1, 1997)

9.23.115 Advertising Within City Parks.

The Recreation Commission, with the assistance of the Recreation Director, may establish, by resolution, programs, rules and procedures for the sale and maintenance of advertising space within any City park. Any such programs, rules and procedures may include terms

and conditions for advertisers, including the establishment of fees and charges for advertising space. The Recreation Director shall administrate any such program, rules and procedures on behalf of the City. (Ord. 731 §1, 2006)

9.23.120. Removal of Signs.

The removal of any authorized or official sign indicating that any park facility or equipment is reserved is prohibited. The use of any park facility or equipment which has been reserved or which is marked by any authorized or official sign as reserved without receiving prior written permission from the Recreation Director is prohibited. (Ord. 576 §1, 1997)

9.23.130. Inspection and Closure of Park.

Any section or part of a park or facility may be inspected and declared closed to the public at the direction of the Recreation Director or designated city official at any time and for intervals of time, either temporarily or at regular and stated intervals (daily or otherwise) for reasons including, but not limited to, the following:

- a) public liability
- b) damage to turf
- c) public service
- d) public health

Such closure may be partial, so as to limit certain activities, as the director or designated city official may reasonably find necessary. (Ord. 576 §1, 1997)

9.23.135 Fires Within City Parks

It shall be unlawful for any person to make or kindle a fire in Mavis Stouffer Park, Mistlin Sports Park and Ripon River Crossing Recreation Area, except under the following circumstances:

1. Prior permission is granted by the City in conjunction with the rental of a designated venue; or
2. Where the park is equipped with barbecue pits, a fire may be kindled in the provided pits. (Ord. 834, 2016)

9.23.140. Relationship to Chapter 9.24.

This chapter is intended to be read consistently with the provisions of Chapter 9.24. In the event of any conflict between this chapter and the provisions of Chapter 9.24, the provisions of Chapter 9.24 shall prevail. (Ord. 576 §1, 1997)

9.23.150. Violation - Penalty.

Any person, firm or corporation violating any of the provisions of this chapter, except Section 9.23.040, shall be deemed guilty of an infraction, and upon conviction thereof, shall be punishable as provided in Chapter 1.08 of this Code. (Ord. 576 §1, 1997)

9.23.160 Appeal

Any applicant or other person, firm or corporation dissatisfied with a decision, interpretation or enforcement of this Chapter 9.23 by any City official, City employee, or the Recreation Commission, may appeal that action to the City Council within 10 days after the decision or interpretation has been rendered. If the 10 days falls on a weekend or legal holiday, the appeal period shall be automatically extended to the next business day. The appeal shall be in writing and shall clearly set forth the reasons why the appeal should be granted. The City Council may establish, by resolution, a fee for the handling and processing of any appeal. In addition, the City Council may call up for review any decision or interpretation of any City official, City employee, or the City Recreation Commission. The decision to call up for review must occur prior to the effective date of the action. (Ord. 617 § 4, 2000)