



Rockford Park District

Shelter and Picnic Area Rental Rules and Regulations

The following rules and regulations apply specifically to the general use of the park grounds for picnics. Park users shall abide by all ordinances and regulations as officially adopted by the Board of Park Commissioners, either published and/or posted in addition to the list below.

- 1. Cause for Voiding Permit:** Any unnecessary littering, noise or disorder, or violation of any ordinance or regulation of the Rockford Park District shall be deemed just cause for the immediate voiding of a permit, and may be cause for future denial of permit requests.
- 2. Use of Special Areas or Facilities:** Any use of areas or facilities within a park, such as ball fields, tennis courts, buildings, and other special areas, are not specifically included in a picnic permit, and are available for general public use. In some cases these areas may be reserved under a "Special Use Permit."
- 3. Hours:** Picnic use hours shall be 10 am to 10 pm daily, except by request through a "Special Use Permit."
- 4. Clean and Orderly Grounds:** Groups holding permits shall be required to leave the grounds in a clean and orderly condition. Any out of the ordinary extra work required by Rockford Park District personnel to clean grounds following use by a group shall be charged to the group and/or the individual taking out the permit on a cost basis.
- 5. Use of Fires:** Fires will only be permitted in areas of parks designated for that purpose. The Park District will not provide firewood. No cutting, sawing, or removal of wood from parks is permitted. Permittees must supply charcoal for fires.
- 6. Use of Weapons, Missiles, and Fireworks:** No person or organization shall bring, carry, or use in any way knives, firearms, or other weapons of any kind, or any fireworks or other explosive substance of any kind within any park of the Rockford Park District without permission of the Executive Director. This would require a Special Use Permit and possible other local, state, or federal permits or licenses.
- 7. Loudspeakers:** Any use of loudspeakers, public address systems, musical instruments, or other devices causing considerable noise may only be used through a "Special Use Permit."
- 8. Liquor:** No beer, liquor, or any alcoholic beverages shall be brought or consumed upon the premises or be in the possession of any member of the party, unless otherwise permitted through permission of the Executive Director. This would require a Special Use Permit and possible other local, state, or federal permits or licenses. It is agreed that violation of this provision shall result in automatic revocation of all rights hereunder, and the forfeiture of all fees.
- 9. Narcotics - Drugs:** No person within or entering any park of the Rockford Park District shall use, consume, smoke, or be under the influence of heroin, marijuana, or any other drug or narcotic designed to induce excitement, exhilaration, hallucination, drowsiness, or any other abnormal or unusual conduct or behavior upon the part of the recipient or user thereof. This section shall not apply to any drug taken or used pursuant to a doctor's prescription, nor to any non-prescription drug designed to reduce or cure human illness, pain, or suffering.

10. **Gambling:** No person within the limits of any park shall play for money or other valuable thing any game which may be used for the purpose of playing or betting upon or winning or losing money or other articles of value.
11. **Obscenity:** No person shall use any vile, abusive, profane, indecent, or obscene language or engage in any vile, abusive, violent, indecent, or obscene conduct within any park which might reasonably result in a breach of the peace or interfere with the peaceable enjoyment of Rockford Park District's park facilities by others.
12. **Public Meetings:** Public meetings shall not be held in any of the parks under the jurisdiction of the Rockford Park District unless a "Special Use Permit" is first secured.
13. **Special Uses:** Businesses, factories, clubs, organizations, societies, churches, and/or other religious organizations shall be allowed to reserve areas in certain parks on a "Special Use Permit" basis. Said large groups and societies may operate their own concession stands to help defray expenses, but not for profit to the organization or to any individual. Entertainment features may also be provided by said organizations to their own people, but no charge shall be made therefore in any of the public parks, and rights to use the parks under permits granted are subject to the use thereof by the public at all times.
14. **Sales and Collections:** There shall be no sale, collection, or punching of admission tickets to any of the shelters, pavilions, or other facilities provided in the parks under the jurisdiction of the Rockford Park District, and no soliciting or collection of money for the use of any said facilities. There shall be no advertising, either printed or otherwise, to the effect that any group has the exclusive use of shelters, pavilions, or other facilities, and any group which has been granted a permit to use any of said facilities shall stop its activities in bad weather and share said shelters, pavilions, and other facilities with the public. The Board of Commissioners of the Rockford Park District alone shall have the power to make and enforce charges for the use of the facilities of said Rockford Park District.
15. **Advertising:** No person shall display any placard or advertisement of any kind in any park; nor shall any person distribute, cast, throw, or place any handbill, pamphlet, circular, advertisement, or notice of any kind nor post, stencil, or otherwise affix any notice or bills, advertisements, or other papers upon any structure or thing in or about any park, except as herein provided. Display materials relating to alcohol brands (beer and wine products only) may be permitted only at locations which are permitted to serve beer/wine in certain circumstances.
16. **Environmental Policies/Procedures:** Groups holding permits are encouraged to use recyclable or biodegradable products in parks and Rockford Park District facilities. Excessive use of latex balloons, including balloon release activities is prohibited.
17. **Camping:** No person shall be permitted to stop and camp in parks of the Rockford Park District. Except for designated areas or with permission through a special use permit.
18. **Indemnity:** Permittee hereby agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the Rockford Park District and their agents and employed from and against all claims, damages losses and expenses including attorney fees arising out of or be asserted by or in behalf of any person(s) whomsoever by reason of injury suffered or occasioned to the person or property of such person(s) growing out of said use of said park facilities by said permittees(s), pursuant to this permit.



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