




Department Of Parks and Recreation Rule/Policy

Subject: Code of Conduct		Number: P 060 7.21.00
		Effective: July, 6, 2015
Approved: 	Department: Parks & Recreation	Page 1 of 6

1.0 INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSES

- 1.1 The purpose of this administrative rule is to establish a Code of Conduct to better manage the Parks and Recreation system. The Code of Conduct prohibits specified conduct to ensure that all users may have the opportunity to enjoy the amenities the parks system offers.
- 1.2 These rules apply only on property and facilities under the jurisdiction of the Department of Parks and Recreation and do not provide for a criminal or civil penalty. However, violation of these rules may result in 1) issuance of a Trespass Warning and/or penalties as provided in Department of Parks and Recreation Policy P.060.7.15.1; or 2) citation or arrest as provided under applicable law.

2.0 REFERENCES AND AUTHORITY

- 2.1 These administrative rules are authorized by and promulgated as provided in the City Administrative Code (SMC 3.26.040).
- 2.2. SMC 18.12.278 “Park Exclusion.”
- 2.3 Parks and Recreation Policy P.060.7.15.1, Trespass Warnings

3.0 PARKS CODE OF CONDUCT

3.1 Violations of State and Local Laws

In addition to violating applicable law, it is also a violation of this administrative rule to engage in any conduct that would constitute a criminal or civil violation of any applicable laws, including any provision of Chapter 18.12 of the Seattle Municipal Code (the Parks Code), any

other provision of the Seattle Municipal Code (SMC), or any provision of the Revised Code of Washington (RCW).

3.2 Violations of this Administrative Rule

The following conduct is also expressly prohibited by this administrative rule.

- 3.2.1** Camping in any park, unless specifically approved by the Superintendent (SMC 18.12.250);
- 3.2.2** Conduct that unreasonably deprives others of their use or enjoyment of the park or park facility (Policy and Procedure 7.13.1);
- 3.2.3** Disrupting Department of Parks and Recreation business, events, or other sponsored activities;
- 3.2.4** Disposing of unwanted items anywhere but in a designated trash or recycling receptacle, dumping, or creating unsanitary conditions or health hazards on park property that violate public health rules of Seattle and King County (i.e. littering) (SMC 18.12.260);
- 3.2.5** Violation of the laws requiring that dogs or other pets be leashed and licensed and that owner carry and use equipment for removing feces (SMC 18.12.080);
- 3.2.6** Dogs or other pets, whether on or off leash, at athletic fields, beaches, or children's playgrounds (SMC 18.12.080);
- 3.2.7** Possession of glass containers at athletic fields, beaches or children's playgrounds;
- 3.2.8** Posting of signs, posters, or notices in any park, unless otherwise permitted by the Superintendent (SMC 18.12.050);
- 3.2.9** Behavior that impedes the use of a restroom by park visitors or users of park facilities;
- 3.2.10** It is a violation of these rules for any person to smoke or light cigars, cigarettes, hookahs, tobacco, or other smoking material, within all publically accessible portions of property under Parks' jurisdiction. For the purposes of this section, "smoke" or "smoking" means the carrying, holding, or smoking of any kind of lighted pipe, cigar or cigarette or any

other lighted smoking equipment, but does not include any electronic smoking device in which vaporized liquid is inhaled through the use of heat from an electronic ignition system (for example, e-cigarettes, electronic cigars, electronic cigarillos, electronic pipes, vape-pens).

The Superintendent may suspend this rule in writing for any permitted event not open to the general public, provided that no employees, children or animals are exposed to smoke, and provided further that such smoking shall not create any fire hazard or create any danger of damage to property, plants or any park feature.

- 3.2.10** Distribution of handbills, circulars, or signs in any park in any manner that interferes with normal passage of people or vehicles, unless otherwise permitted by the Superintendent (SMC 18.12.060);
- 3.2.11** Leaving packages, backpacks, luggage, or other personal items unattended while the owner is not in the same area of the park or inside the facility (Policy and Procedure 2.7.3);
- 3.2.12** Urinating or defecating, except in designated restroom fixtures (SMC 18.12.145);
- 3.2.13** Possession of liquor without all applicable permits (SMC 18.12.255 and .257);
- 3.2.14** Blocking entrances, exits, fire exits, handicap access areas, public walkways, or roadways, or obstructing pedestrian traffic or otherwise interfering with the provision of services or the use of park property (SMC 18.12.070(c));
- 3.2.15** Conduct that creates an unreasonable and substantial risk of harm to any person or property (i.e. dangerous activity);
- 3.2.16** Presence in a park or area within a park without a permit when the park or area within the park is not open to the public (SMC 18.12.070; Policy and Procedure 7.1.2);
- 3.2.17** Igniting or maintaining a fire or use of flammable liquids, except in designated barbecues, grills, and fire rings (SMC 18.12.270);
- 3.2.18** Using park property without a permit for a use that requires a permit or requires City services (for example, use of amplified

- sound without a permit) (SMC 18.12.275);
- 3.2.19** Capturing, annoying, or disturbing any animal, wildlife, waterfowl, etc. (SMC 18.12.100);
- 3.2.20** Removing, destroying, or mutilating, or any way altering lawn, shrubs, plants, flowers, sand, soil, or a habitat area without proper authorization (SMC 18.12.070(a));
- 3.2.21** Driving a motor vehicle anywhere in a park except on public roadways and parking lots (SMC 18.12.235);
- 3.2.22** Abusive or harassing behavior, including obscene language or gestures (SMC 12A.06);
- 3.2.23** Sale, possession, use, or discharge of any fireworks or pyrotechnics special effects, except where authorized by a Seattle Fire Department permit (Seattle Fire Code);
- 3.2.24** Possession of explosives, acid, or any other article or material capable of causing serious harm to others;
- 3.2.25** Illegal gambling (RCW 9.46);
- 3.2.26** Possession, sale, or use of illegal drugs (RCW 69.50);
- 3.2.27** Defacing, destroying, or otherwise vandalizing park property, including buildings, fixtures, grounds, signs, or other structures (SMC 18.12.070(b));
- 3.2.28** Sexual misconduct, such as indecent exposure, offensive touching, sexual acts, or prostitution (various RCWs);
- 3.2.29** Assault or fighting (SMC 12A.06);
- 3.2.30** Firearms violations under RCW Chapter 9.41.

3.3 Violations of Additional Rules

Unless provided otherwise in a specific applicable rule, failure to comply with any other rule relating to the use of property or facilities when the substance of such rule is indicated to the public by means of signs or signals, as provided in SMC 3.02.020(E)(4).

4.0 ENFORCEMENT

4.1 Violations of Law (Rule Section 3.1, 3.2)

Conduct that would constitute a violation of civil or criminal law may result in: 1) issuance of a Trespass Warning and/or other penalties as provided in Department of Parks and Recreation Policy P.060.7.15.1; and/or 2) citation or arrest as provided under applicable law.

4.2 Violations of Smoking Ban, Section 3.2.10

A Trespass Warning issued for violating the ban on smoking as provided in Section 3.2.10 of this Rule may be disputed via a process to be established by Seattle Parks and Recreation.

4.3 Criminal Trespass

Entering or remaining in an area not open to the public, violating a Parks Notice of Exclusion, or remaining on the premises after being notified that permission to remain has been withdrawn, may subject the violator to arrest and prosecution for criminal trespass.

