



City of Monroe Park Rules and Regulations

Approved by City Council: December 4, 2023

I. Purpose

A policy for regulating and governing the use of public parks in the City of Monroe, Michigan to ensure the enjoyment of all users.

II. Applicability

All persons availing themselves of the facilities of any park, recreational area or public place in the City of Monroe shall be subject to the following rules and regulations.

III. Enforcement

The City Manager, Director of Economic and Community Development and any of their designees, including Parks Division staff, and the Director of Public Safety and any of their designees are authorized to enforce the provisions of these regulations.

IV. Definitions

- a. "Department" shall mean the Economic and Community Development Department.
- b. "Director" shall mean the Director of Economic and Community Development or their designee.
- c. "Division" shall mean the Parks and Recreation Division of the Economic and Community Development Department.
- d. "Special Event Permit" means a permit issued by the Office of the City Manager following a special event permit application submission.

V. Rules & Regulations

1. Parks shall be open from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. unless otherwise posted or authorized with the written approval of the Director or by Special Event permit. Entering or remaining in any Park outside of the posted hours is prohibited.
2. All facilities are open for the use of the public on a first-come, first-served basis. If an individual or individuals collectively, association or organization desires the exclusive use of a Park facility, application shall be made for a permit in accordance with the Park Facility Reservation Policy.
3. No person shall drink or possess alcoholic beverages in any park unless authorized by a Special Event permit or within the Downtown Monroe Social District in accordance with such policies and statutes.
4. Park trails, walks and drives shall not be obstructed.
5. No person shall injure or damage park facility or property.
6. Do not damage, destroy, disturb or remove any natural life or native materials in any City park, including but not limited to trees, shrubs, grass, flowers, rocks, stones or other natural material.
7. There shall be no littering. All paper, garbage and other debris shall be placed in a waste container or other appropriate container. If waste containers are not available or have exceeded capacity, it shall be the responsibility of the park visitor to take their garbage with them for disposal. Garbage shall not be placed on the ground next to waste containers.
8. Fires are prohibited except in personal portable gas grills and stoves or City-installed grills. No open fires are allowed in any park. The use of personal portable gas grills and stoves are permitted. Personal portable charcoal grills are prohibited. Charcoal may only be used in City-installed grills. Personal portable gas grills must be placed 30 feet from any flammable materials including grass, weeds, wood chips, brush or buildings and does not scorch, burn or otherwise

damage lawns, tables or other park property. Personal portable grills shall not be used under any pavilion or shelter and must be placed on the ground and not picnic tables. At least one adult must be responsible for any fire and must extinguish it upon completion of cooking. The adult is responsible for supervising the grill until it has cooled.

9. All motorized vehicles, including but not limited to, automobiles, e-bikes, e-scooters and recreational vehicles (mini bikes, dirt bikes, four-wheelers, snowmobiles) must remain on designated paved roadways and parking areas at all times. Unless otherwise posted, motorized vehicles shall not be operated on any trail, paved or non-paved, or within any park or playground, including the Mark Worrell Trail, River Raisin Heritage Trail and the Munson Park Trail network.
10. Non-motorized trails may be used by walkers, joggers, cyclists (bikes, tandem bikes, tricycles, quadracycles), snow skiers, skaters and skateboarders, unless the trail is otherwise posted. Persons who use the non-motorized trails, including cyclists, shall be limited to speeds that do not endanger the person, another person or property of another. Trail users shall remain to the right of the trail and shall pass other users only when it is safe to do so and shall pass only on the left of the person being passed.
11. No person shall use any abusive, threatening, insulting, indecent, profane or other language calculated to occasion a breach of the peace in any City park, nor shall any person behave in any indecent or obscene manner.
12. Pets and domestic animals shall not run at large within any Park. No pet or domestic animal shall be permitted in any City park or playground unless on a physical leash not over six feet long and in areas permitted by the Parks and Recreation Division. Owners of pets and domestic animals shall be held responsible for the presence of their animal in any City park. Pets and domestic animals shall not be left unattended and shall not be hitched to any structure or tree. Owners must clean up animal waste and deposit it in waste containers or other appropriate containers.
13. Any person may exercise dogs with or without a physical leash in the designated area of Munson Park north of the MASA soccer complex November 1-March 31 during the hours between 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and daily from 6:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. except legal holidays and Saturday and Sunday from April 1-October 31. Dog owner must be in full control and proximity to such dogs at all times and be responsible for cleaning up all dog's wastes. Dogs must be fully vaccinated and with a current license.
14. Feeding of wildlife is prohibited.
15. The use of fireworks is prohibited in any City Park unless authorized by a Special Event permit.
16. Camps, tents, shade canopies, portable shade structures, trailers, overnight outings, and similar activities are not permitted in any City park without the written permission of the Director.
17. Hunting and trapping of any animal is not permitted in any City park.
18. Persons may gather or assemble any group of more than thirty (30) persons for any common concerted purpose in any Park only if a permit for such assembly has been issued by the City Manager, Director or their designee in accordance with Parks policies and in accordance with rules adopted for the issuance of such permit.
19. Bounce houses and other inflatable recreational amenities are prohibited in any City park unless otherwise approved under a Special Event permit.
20. Generators are not permitted in any City park without the written approval of the Director of Economic & Community Development or by Special Event permit.
21. Amplified sound is not permitted in any City park without the written approval of the Director of Economic & Community Development or by Special Event permit.
22. Smoking is prohibited in all City parks ([City Ordinance #659-8](#)).
23. Any section or part of any Park may be declared closed to the public at any time and for any interval of time, either temporarily or at regular and stated intervals (daily or otherwise) and either entirely or merely to certain uses, as Parks Staff shall find reasonably necessary. Examples include City-sponsored activities, issuance of a permit for specific park area use, acts of God, and maintenance not ordinarily scheduled that may be hazardous to the safety or welfare of the general public.
24. Solicitation of donations, goods, business or service or the distribution of literature or information is prohibited. No individual, firm, organization, or corporation is permitted to distribute literature, offer or advertise merchandise or other goods for sale or hire without the written permission of the Director of Economic and Community Development. If authorized and permitted, the Director or their designee shall designate areas within a Park facility that is set aside for persons to stand within and from the area to distribute materials or solicit donations or sales. If a designated area is established, it must be available to all who wish to use, within the parameters of the number of persons permitted to occupy it at one time and the decision to allow use of the area must not be made by considering the identity of the

person or group wishing to use it, or the message sought to be disseminated. The designated area will be determined in a manner so as to not disrupt the visitor experience. Persons shall refrain from approaching park visitors or otherwise disturb their right to peaceful enjoyment of City of Monroe Parks. All food trucks and mobile vendors must operate in accordance with City of Monroe Ordinance 22-003.

25. Amateur and professional photographers seeking to take portraits, group photos, or conducting a photography project do not need to apply for a permit through the Parks Division. This is assuming that no harm is done to the landscape of the parks and does not interfere with another person's enjoyment of the park. A permit is not required for individuals using the City Parks and taking personal photos of family picnics, scenery or wildlife or for privately hired photographers affiliated with private parties who have rental event space. No furniture or large prop amenities are allowed without application for a permit, payment of permitting fees (if applicable), and proof of insurance naming City of Monroe as additionally insured. Parks Employees may make the final determination on site if a photography endeavor is creating an unsafe situation, causing damage to the Park, or otherwise violating the terms of this policy or City ordinances. If told to cease the photography activity, an individual may be issued a citation if they do not cooperate.
26. Any person or organization desiring to film in a City park must apply for a permit in accordance with the Videography Policy. Passive and personal video filming is acceptable and does not require a permit so long as such photography does not endanger Park property, including wildlife, or interfere with other visitors. Parks Employees may make the final determination on site if a personal videography endeavor is creating an unsafe situation, causing damage to the Park, or otherwise violating the terms of this policy or City ordinances. If told to cease the videography activity, an individual may be issued a citation if they do not cooperate. Videography by credentialed personnel of the media is exempt from permit requirements.
27. Signs and banners are prohibited to be placed, mounted or otherwise posted in any City Park without the written approval of the Director.
28. The use of recreational metal detectors is permitted in City Parks unless otherwise posted. The use of metal detectors is strictly prohibited in any area of Munson Park. Park Visitors are prohibited from damaging, defacing, injuring, destroying, removing or using without permission any public facility or public property including all wildlife, plants, animals and archaeological, historic or geological objects in a City Park. Users may probe with a screwdriver, ice pick or similar device so long as the shaft is no larger than 4" in diameter and the user does not damage plants or geological features. Any further disturbance of topsoil or digging is not permitted. Any collecting must be done for personal use and not for commercial purposes. Parks Staff retain the right to restrict or limit metal detecting within any City Park. Any items found must be reviewed by Parks Staff and may be retained by the City of Monroe for further investigation except for modem jewelry or modem coins.
29. The use of toys or recreational activities which deploy airborne components is permissible in City Parks but use of such is prohibited within 25 feet of any playground.
30. Orienteering is allowed within City Parks so long as such activities are not in conflict with other Park uses or disruptive to the enjoyment of other Park facility users.
31. The intentional or deliberate release of lighter-than-air balloons or airborne sky lanterns is prohibited in any City Park.

