

**CHAPTER 12**  
**PARKS AND RECREATION**

**12.01 PARK REGULATIONS.** The rules and regulations set forth in this chapter shall apply in and are adopted for the management and control of Door County parks and forestlands.

- A. Park Property. It shall be unlawful for any person to disturb, molest, deface, destroy, remove, carve or mark on, drive nails in, or injure in any manner any park or forest structure including, but not limited to, buildings, beaches, signs, tables, benches, fences, trees, shrubs, stones, plants, lawns or other natural growth, roads, parking lots, or other County property, or to enter by force in any way any building on County property that may be locked or closed to public use. (Ord. 9-97; 3/25/97)
- B. Property of Others. It shall be unlawful for any person to disturb, molest, or remove the property or personal effects of others while on County Park or county forest lands.
- C. Refuse.
  - 1. It shall be unlawful for any person to dispose of any garbage, bottles, tin cans, paper, or other waste material generated by park use in any manner except by placing in receptacles provided for such purpose or to dump any such refuse, on county park or forest lands.
  - 2. No person may dispose of any waste material in any waste disposal receptacle or location if such refuse or material is generated from a permanent or seasonal residence or a business or other commercial operation.
  - 3. Refuse shall be removed from those areas where waste disposal receptacles are not provided. Charcoal residue shall be left in a grate or fireplace until cool, or placed in receptacles provided for that purpose. (Ord. #28-90; 9/25/90)
  - 4. The bathing of dogs, horses, (or any other animals), washing of cars or clothing is prohibited in any of the lakes or streams in county parks and at improved camp sites on county owned land within the boundaries of county forests, and throwing of bottles, tin cans, garbage, sewage or other refuse in any of the lakes or streams within the boundaries of county parks or county forests is prohibited. (Ord. #28-90; 9/25/90)
- D. Dogs. It shall be unlawful for any person to allow dogs to run at large at any time within a county park or at improved campsites on county owned lands within the boundaries of a county forest. All dogs within county parks shall be kept on a leash by the owner at all times. Any dog feces deposited on beaches, trails, or on mowed, groomed or paved areas must be picked up and disposed of properly.
- E. Fires. It shall be unlawful for any person to build any campfires or burn rubbish on County Park lands except at designated fireplaces or to throw away any matches, cigarettes, cigars, or pipe ashes without first extinguishing them.

- F. Peddling and Soliciting. It shall be unlawful for any person to peddle or solicit business of any nature whatever, or to distribute handbills or other advertising material on any county park or county forest lands; or to use the county park or forest lands as a base of commercial operations for soliciting business or peddling outside of county park and forest areas unless first authorized in writing by the Door County Facilities and Parks Board or its duly authorized agent.
- G. Safety. It shall be unlawful for any person to directly drive an automobile, truck, motorcycle, or other vehicle in a reckless manner or at a speed greater than 25 miles per hour on county park roads, or at a speed greater than that established by signs posted along county forest roads, or to operate any vehicle of gross load in excess of the posted weight limits. All-terrain vehicles (ATV's) and similar mechanized equipment are prohibited.
- H. Horses. It shall be unlawful for any person to ride a horse in a careless, negligent, or reckless manner so as to endanger the life, property or person of others on any county park or county forest lands, roads, or trails, or to ride a horse in any manner on the beaches, picnic grounds, camp grounds, or other similar special public use areas on county park or county forest lands. Any horse feces deposited on beaches, trails or on mowed, groomed, or paved areas, must be picked up and disposed of properly.

Ahnapee State Trail County Park is open for use by horses from April 15<sup>th</sup> to November 15<sup>th</sup> only. Trail is closed to horses during wet conditions.

- I. Unnecessary Noises. It shall be unlawful for any person to operate sound trucks, loud speakers or any other mechanical devices that produce undue or unnecessary noises in any county park or on any county forest lands without first obtaining a written permit from the Door County Facilities and Parks Board or its duly authorized agent.
- J. Firearms. It shall be unlawful for any person to have in his possession or under his control any firearms of any kind unless the same is unloaded and enclosed within a carrying case, and to hunt, trap, or disturb any wild animals or birds at any time within posted areas on county park or county forest land, except as provided in Section No. 12.03(c). (Ord. #23-91; 10/22/91)
- K. Parking. It shall be unlawful for any person to park / dock or leave unattended any automobiles, trucks, trailers, wagons, motorcycles, boats, or other similar equipment except in areas designated for such purposes, and during times when parks are closed, or to drive vehicles indiscriminately over County Park or county forest lands. (Ord. 4-94; 2/22/94) Overnight parking may be allowed by permit issued at the Parks Director or Manager's discretion
- L. Personal Conduct. It shall be unlawful for any person to be intoxicated or to engage in any violent, abusive, loud, boisterous, vulgar, lewd, wanton, obscene or otherwise disorderly conduct tending to create or provoke a breach of the peace or to disturb or annoy others while within the boundaries of a county park, or while in or near authorized camp grounds or county owned lands within the boundaries of a county forest.

- M. Enforcement. Nothing in this section shall prohibit or hinder the county law enforcing officials, its supervisors, or other duly authorized agents or other peace officers, from performing their official duties in any county park or on county forest lands. (Res. #7; 4/18/50)
- N. Penalty Provisions for Chapter 12.01.
1. Any person found guilty of violating the aforementioned chapter, or any part thereof, shall be subject to a forfeiture of not less than \$50 nor more than \$500 together with the costs of prosecution and in rueful default of payment of such forfeiture and cost of prosecution shall be imprisoned in the county jail until said forfeiture is paid but not exceeding 60 days.
  2. Any person, firm, or corporation, violating this subsection of this chapter may stipulate to the guilt or no contest and may pay to the Door County Facilities and Parks Department a bond according to a schedule prescribed by the Circuit Court of Door County which is presently set forth in Section 3 of this chapter. Such stipulation will make it unnecessary for the subject charged to appear in court, and will act as a basis for the court to enter judgement and order forfeiture of the bond. Forfeitures, penalty assessments, costs and fees shall be disbursed as provided in Wisconsin Statutes, Section 66.12.
  3. Procedure for enforcement of this ordinance.
    - a. Schedule of Deposits. Deposits shall be made in cash, money orders, or certified check to the Door County Facilities and Parks Department, who shall provide a receipt therefore; and the amount of the bond schedule is hereto fixed at \$100.00 plus surcharges of such amount that the Circuit Court of Door County hereafter affixes.
    - b. Adoption of this ordinance does not preclude the County Board from adopting any other ordinance or providing for the enforcement of any other law or ordinance relating to the same or other matter. And issuance of a citation hereunder shall not preclude the county or any authorized officer from proceeding under any other ordinance or law or by any other enforcement method to enforce any ordinance, regulation or order.
    - c. All ordinances or parts of ordinances contravening the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed. (Ord. #10-88; 4/19/88) (Ord. #28-90; 9/25/90) (Ord. #23-91; 10/22/91) (Ord. #4-94; 2/22/94) (Ord. 18-96; 6/25/96) (Ord. 9-97; 3/25/97) (Ord. 2005-12; 3/22/05)

## **12.02 OPENING AND CLOSING HOURS / CAMPING**

- A. Door County Parks are open from sunrise to 11:00 p.m.
- B. No person shall enter a Door County Park more than one half hour before sunrise or remain in a Door County Park after 11:00 p.m.
- C. Exceptions to Opening and Closing Hours, and Prohibited or Restricted Uses:
  - 1. Uses expressly authorized, in advance and in writing, by the Door County Facilities & Parks Director or Parks Manager.
  - 2. A person who has the prior express written permission of the Door County Facilities & Parks Director or Parks Manager to be in the Door County Park before opening or after closing.
  - 3. A Door County employee engaged in work for the County.
- D. Camping is prohibited in Door County Parks
- E. Penalties and enforcement of §12.02 include those set forth in Chapter 35 Door County Code.

*This amendatory ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its enactment and publication.* (Ord. #7-88; 4/19/88) (Ord. 18-96; 6/25/96) (Ord. 9-97; 3/25/97) (Ord. 2005-12; 3/22/05) (Ord. 2018-15; 7/24/18) (Ord. #2021-10; 6/22/2021)

**12.03 PROTECTION OF WILD LIFE AND COUNTY PROPERTY**

(a) Firearms / Air Guns / Archery Equipment.

The use of firearms, air guns, and archery equipment is prohibited except as expressly provided herein. Firearms, air guns and archery equipment shall be unloaded, cased, with ammunition not immediately accessible at all times except as noted below.

Firearms and archery equipment used for hunting may be uncased and ready for use only in authorized hunting areas during hunting seasons (See: paragraph (c) below)

(b) Disturbing, Harassing, or Feeding of Wildlife.

Harassing, disturbing, possession or feeding of wildlife is strictly prohibited within Door County Parks.

(c) The following Door County Parks are open to the training of dogs, hunting and trapping from November 15 through April 1, during established seasons and subject to all applicable federal, state and local regulations:

- Ellison Bluff County Park - 194 acres
- Door Bluff Headlands County Park - North + 220.13 acres with posted minimum 100 foot residential buffer zone along Southwest portion of park
- Forestville Dam County Park - 79 acres
- Meridian County Park - 141.56 acres
- Sugar Creek County Park - Eastern 15 acres BOW HUNTING ONLY
- Cave Point County Park – 19 acres BOW HUNTING ONLY
- LaSalle County Park – 29.33 acres BOW HUNTING ONLY
- Frank E. Murphy County Park – 28 acres BOW HUNTING ONLY

A County Park access permit is required to train dogs, hunt or trap in a County Park. These permits are limited in number, and will be issued by, and at the discretion of, Door County's Parks Director or Manager. Individuals must carry this permit on their person at all times while training dogs, hunting or trapping in a County Park.

The following Door County Parks are not open to the training of dogs, hunting and trapping:

- Tornado Memorial County Park
- Baileys Harbor Ridges County Park
- Chadoirs Dock County Park
- Door Bluff Headlands County Park - Southeast +33 acres
- Cana Island
- Sugar Creek – Western 15 acres including disc golf course
- Robert M. Carmody County Park
- Percy Johnson Memorial County Park
- Lily Bay County Park
- Lyle Harter Matter Sanctuary 40 acres
- John Miles County Park
- George K. Pinney County Park
- Ahnapee State Trail County Park

- (d) Damaging Property. It shall be unlawful for any person to destroy, molest or deface any natural growth or natural features or any county buildings or property in the county parks of Door County. (Ord. #6-65; 1/17/66). Permanent stands or blinds are prohibited. Screw-in steps are not allowed. Portable stands are allowed, but must be removed at the end of each hunting season. Stands must be labeled with owner's name and address. The cutting of shooting lanes is prohibited.
- (e) Penalty Provisions for Chapter No. 12.03.
1. Any person found guilty of violating the aforementioned chapter (ordinance), or any part thereof, shall be subject to a forfeiture of not less than \$50 nor more than \$500 together with the costs of prosecution and in rueful default of payment of such forfeiture and cost of prosecution shall be imprisoned in the county jail until said forfeiture is paid but not exceeding 60 days.
  2. Any person, firm, or corporation, violating this subsection of this chapter may stipulate to the guilt or no contest and may pay to the Door County Facilities and Parks Department a bond according to a schedule prescribed by the Circuit Court of Door County which is presently set forth in Section 3 of this chapter. Such stipulation will make it unnecessary for the subject charged to appear in court, and will act as a basis for the court to enter judgment and order forfeiture of the bond. Forfeitures, penalty assessments, costs and fees shall be disbursed as provided in Wisconsin Statutes, Section 66.12.
  3. Procedure for enforcement of this ordinance.
    - a. Schedule of Deposits. Deposits shall be made in cash, money orders, or certified check to the Door County Facilities and Parks Department, who shall provide a receipt therefore; and the amount of the bond schedule is hereto fixed at \$100.00 plus surcharges of such amount that the Circuit Court of Door County hereafter affixes.
    - b. Adoption of this ordinance does not preclude the County Board from adopting any other ordinance or providing for the enforcement of any other law or ordinance relating to the same or other matter. And issuance of a citation hereunder shall not preclude the county or any authorized officer from proceeding under any other ordinance or law or by any other enforcement method to enforce any ordinance, regulation or order.
    - c. All ordinances or parts of ordinances contravening the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

(Ord. #9-88; 4/19/88) (Ord. #23-91; 10/22/91) (Ord. #24-92; 7/28/92)  
(Ord. #18-96; 6/25/96) (Ord. 2005-12; 3/22/05) (Ord. 2010-01; 3/23/10)

**12.04 REGULATING SNOWMOBILE AND RECREATIONAL VEHICLES ON COUNTY OWNED PROPERTY.**

- (1) It shall be unlawful for any snowmobile or recreational vehicle to be permitted on any part or portion of the land under the jurisdiction of the Door County Park System except those areas so designated and clearly marked for that purpose. All-terrain vehicles (ATV's) and similar mechanized equipment are prohibited.
- (2) It shall be the duty of the Law Enforcement Agencies of Door County to enforce the provisions of this ordinance.
- (3) Any parent or legal guardian who allows a minor child to operate a snowmobile or recreational vehicle on county lands designated as Door County Parks also violates this ordinance.
- (4) Any person violating any of the provisions of this chapter shall upon conviction thereof, forfeit not less than \$200 nor more than \$500 together with the costs of prosecution, and in rueful default of payment of the forfeiture and costs of prosecution, shall be imprisoned in the County Jail not exceeding sixty (60) days.
- (5) Any person, firm, or corporation, violating any of the subsections of this chapter may stipulate to the guilt or no contest and may pay to the Door County Facilities and Parks Department a bond according to a schedule prescribed by the Circuit Court of Door County which is presently set forth in Section 6 of this chapter. Such stipulation will make it unnecessary for the subject charged to appear in court, and will act as a basis for the court to enter judgement and order forfeiture of the bond. Forfeitures, penalty assessments, costs and fees shall be disbursed as provided in Wisconsin Statutes, Section 66.12.
- (6) Procedure for enforcement of this chapter.
  - (a) Schedule of Deposits. Deposits shall be made in cash, money orders, or certified check to the Door County Facilities and Parks Department, who shall provide a receipt therefore; and the amount of the bond schedule is hereto fixed at \$200.00 plus surcharges of such amount that the Circuit Court of Door County hereafter affixes.
  - (b) Adoption of this ordinance does not preclude the County Board from adopting any other ordinance or providing for the enforcement of any other law or ordinance relating to the same or other matter. And issuance of a citation hereunder shall not preclude the county or any authorized officer from proceeding under any other ordinance or law by any other enforcement method to enforce any ordinance, regulation or order.
  - (c) All ordinances or parts of ordinances contravening the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.  
(Ord. #8-88; 4/19/88) (Ord. #18-96; 6/25/96) (Ord. 2005-12; 3/22/05)

## 12.05 COUNTY OWNED DOCKS & LAUNCH RAMPS

### A. Boat and Other Watercraft Launching Fees

1. Boat launching fees shall not exceed the maximum allowable amount under §NR 1.91(11) Wisconsin Adm. Code, as it now exists or is hereafter revised.
2. Boat launching fees include:
  - (a) Daily Launch Fee;
  - (b) Season Pass; and
  - (c) Differential Fee based on residency.
3. Boat launching fees shall be established by the Facilities and Parks Committee, subject to review and approval by the Board of Supervisors.
4. Information regarding boat launching fees shall be prominently posted at all County owned public boating access sites.
5. No person may use (i.e., launch, and/or land watercraft) a County owned public boating access site without first paying the applicable boat launching fee, obtaining a daily pass or season pass, and displaying the daily pass so it is visible through the driverside windshield of a vehicle or annual sticker prominently displayed in accordance with sticker placement guide received with permit. A watercraft is defined as anything used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on water. (i.e. motorboat, sailboat, jet ski, pontoon, canoe, kayak, seaplane, fishing raft, etc.)
6. Daily passes and season passes are not transferable.
7. A self-help mechanism to obtain a daily pass and season pass shall be provided at all County owned public boating access sites.

### B. Fuel / Lubricants for Boats and Other Watercraft.

1. The fueling or lubrication of watercraft is potentially hazardous (e.g., may result in personal injury and/or property damage) and poses a risk of pollution (e.g., to groundwater and/or lakes).
2. Fueling or lubrication of boats or other watercraft at docks or launch ramps is, with one exception, strictly prohibited. The sole exception being that fueling of boats or watercraft is allowed at Chadoir's Dock Park from the lessee's fuel dispensing facility.

### C. Enforcement and Penalties.

1. Forfeiture of not less than \$100 for each day of continued violation, plus applicable costs, fees, and surcharges.
2. Issuance of a citation as set forth in Chapter 35 Door County Code.

### D. Non-Exclusivity.

1. The adoption and authorization for use of a citation under this section shall not preclude the governing body from adopting any other ordinance or providing for the enforcement of any other law or ordinance relating to the same or any other matter.
2. The issuance of a citation under this section shall not preclude the proceeding under any other ordinance or law relating to the same or any other matter.
3. The proceeding under any other ordinance or law relating to the same or any other matter shall not preclude the issuance of a citation under this section.

This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its enactment and publication.

(Ord. #27-88; 10/25/88) (Ord. 2-93; 1/26/93) (Ord. 18-96; 6/25/96) (Ord. 9-97; 3/25/97) (Ord. 12-99; 8/24/99) (Ord. 21-00; 12/28/00)  
(Ord. 2005-12; 3/22/05) (Ord. 2012-08; 2/28/12) (Ord. #2021-10; 6/22/2021)

## 12.06 PORTABLE ICE FISHING SHELTERS

- A. Definition
  - 1. "Ice Fishing Shelter" ... Shall be construed to include any building, fish shanty, vehicle, tent, or similar enclosure that may be used on the ice for fishing purposes.
  - 2. "Portable" ... Capable of being moved or transported.
- B. Off Ice Regulations
  - 1. No person shall locate, place or store a portable fishing shelter within a Door County Park, unless the portable fishing shelter is registered and posted as set forth hereinafter.
  - 2. Any person intending to locate, place or store a portable fishing shelter within a Door County Park shall:
    - a) file a (completed and executed) application for a portable fishing shelter registration number and permit with the Door County Facilities and Parks Department; and
    - b) concurrently pay a thirty-five-dollar (\$35.00) application fee for a seasonal portable ice fishing shelter permit.
  - 3. Upon submission of a completed and executed application and payment of the fee, provided there is space available, the Facilities and Parks Department will issue a permit and registration number to the applicant to be used only by the applicant for the applicant's portable fishing shelter.
  - 4. The registration number shall be clearly displayed on the outside of the portable fishing shelter at all times it is located, placed or stored on Door County Park property.
  - 5. All portable ice fishing shelters must be removed from Door County Parks property by March 1 of each year.
  - 6. Any portable ice fishing shelter left after March 1 of each year may be removed and disposed of by Door County. All costs of such removal and disposition shall be paid by the person in whose name the portable ice fishing shelter was registered. Such costs shall be in addition to any forfeitures, costs, fees, and surcharges imposed for failure to timely remove the shelter.
- C. Enforcement and Penalties.
  - 1. Forfeiture of not less than one-hundred-dollars (\$100.00) for each day of continued violation, plus applicable costs, fees, and surcharges.
  - 2. Issuance of a citation as set forth in Chapter 35 Door County Code.
- D. Non-Exclusivity.
  - 1. The adoption and authorization for use of a citation under this section shall not preclude the governing body from adopting any other ordinance or providing for the enforcement of any other law or ordinance relating to the same or any other matter.
  - 2. The issuance of a citation under this section shall not preclude the proceeding under any other ordinance or law relating to the same or any other matter.
  - 3. The proceeding under any other ordinance or law relating to the same or any other matter shall not preclude the issuance of a citation under this section.

(Ord. #2019-12; 10/25/2019) (Entire Chapter 12 Amended per Ord. #2021-10; 6/22/2021)