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CODE OF RULES AND REGULATIONS

STARK COUNTY PARK DISTRICT

The Code of Rules and Regulations of the Stark County Park District have been established in accordance with Sections 1545.09 and 1545.13 of the Ohio Revised Code, as well as all other applicable provisions contained in Chapter 1545 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION 1: GENERAL PROVISIONS

1.01 TITLE OF CODE

This codification of rules and regulations by and for the Stark County Park District and the Board of Park Commissioners of the Stark County Park District shall be designated as the Code of Rules and Regulations of the Stark County Park District and may be so cited.

1.02 AUTHORITY

The following Rules and Regulations set forth in this code are adopted by the Board of Park Commissioners of the Stark County Park District, pursuant to ORC 1545.09, for the preservation of good order within and adjacent to parks and land of the Stark County Park District, and for the protection and preservation of the parks, parkways, and other parcels of land under its jurisdiction and control and of property and natural life therein. The Park District Rules and Regulations are applicable to all property owned, leased, operated or managed by mutual agreement by the Stark County Park District and real property adjacent thereto.

1.03 INTERPRETATION

Unless otherwise provided herein, or by law or implication required, the same rules of construction, definition, and application shall govern the interpretation of this code as those governing the interpretation of state law.

1.04 DEFINITIONS

Aircraft - means any contrivance used or designed for navigation or flight in the air, excepting a parachute or other contrivance for such navigation used primarily as safety equipment.

Alcoholic Beverages - Beer and/or intoxicating liquor as defined in ORC 4301.01.

Bicycle - means every device, other than a device that is designed solely for use as a play vehicle by a child, that is propelled solely by human power upon which a person may ride, and that has two or more wheels, any of which is more than fourteen inches in diameter.

Board - The body appointed to govern the park district pursuant to ORC 1545.05.

Conservation Areas – Areas under conservation stewardship, including but not limited to prairies, woods, meadows, and wetlands.

Executive Director – The chief executive officer of the Stark County Park District.

Land - Includes rights and easements of incorporeal nature.

May – Is permissive.

Motorboat - Any watercraft propelled by any mechanical device, electric motor, or internal combustion engine.

Motor Vehicle - Any vehicle propelled or drawn by power other than muscular power.

Other Power Driven Mobility Devices or OPDMDs – Mobility devices as defined in Revised Final Title II Regulation of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 1213)

Park - Any land or water area owned, leased, managed, or otherwise controlled by the Stark County Park District.

Parking Area – Any area of the park district improved with asphalt, gravel or concrete used for the purpose of parking vehicles.

Permit - Any written permission by the Executive Director or his or her agents.

Person - Includes an individual, corporation, business trust, estate, trust, partnership, and association.

Police Officer - A Stark County Park District Ranger qualified to enforce the rules and regulations of the Stark County Park District pursuant to ORC 1545.13, and every other law enforcement officer of the State of Ohio or of any political subdivision thereof, including, but not limited to, state highway patrolmen, sheriffs, deputy sheriffs, constables, and Division of Wildlife game wardens. Stark County Park District Rangers as defined herein are not members of a police department as defined in ORC 4117.01(F)(2) and 4117.01(N).

Road or Roadway - Includes alleys, avenues, boulevards, lanes, streets, highways, viaducts, and all other public thoroughfares which are adjacent to or through the Stark County Park District and which are designed and intended for motor vehicle traffic.

Rules and Regulations - The Stark County Park District Code of Rules and Regulations as modified by amendment, revision, and adoption of new titles, chapters, or sections.

Shall – Is mandatory.

State – The State of Ohio.

Trail - Includes footpaths, bike paths, horse paths, and all other passageways maintained or managed by the Park District, and which are not specifically reserved for motor vehicle traffic.

Vehicles - Everything on wheels.

Watercraft - Any vessel designed for navigation on water, including, but not limited to, any rowboat, sailboat, personal watercraft or motorboat.

Waters - Any lake, pond, reservoir, stream, channel, lagoon, or other body of water, or any part thereof, whether natural or artificial, located in or adjoining a park.

1.05 RULES OF INTERPRETATION

The construction of all rules and regulations of the Stark County Park District shall be by the following rules, unless such construction is plainly repugnant to the intent of the Board or of the context of the same rule or regulation:

(A) AND or OR. Either conjunction shall include the other as if written and/or, if the sense requires it.

(B) Acts by assistants. When a statute, ordinance, rule or regulation requires an act to be done which, by law, an agent or deputy as well may do as the principal, such requisition shall be satisfied by the performance of such act by an authorized agent or deputy.

(C) Gender; singular and plural; tenses. Words denoting the masculine gender shall be deemed to include the feminine and neuter genders; words in the singular shall include the plural, and words in the

plural shall include the singular; the use of a verb in the present tense shall include the future, if applicable.

(D) General term. A general term following specific enumeration of terms is not to be limited to the class enumerated unless expressly so limited.

1.06 SEVERABILITY

If any provisions of a section of these codified rules and regulations or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of the section or related sections which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions are severable.

1.07 REFERENCE TO OTHER SECTIONS

Whenever in one section reference is made to another section hereof, such reference shall extend and apply to the section referred to as subsequently amended, revised, recodified, or renumbered unless the subject matter is changed or materially altered by the amendment or revision.

1.08 ERRORS AND OMISSIONS

If a manifest error is discovered, consisting of the misspelling of any words; the omission of any word or words necessary to express the intention of the provisions affected; the use of a word or words to which no meaning can be attached; or the use of a word or words when another word or words was clearly intended to express such intent, such spelling shall be corrected and such word or words supplied, omitted, or substituted as will conform with the manifest intention, and the provisions shall have the same effect as though the correct words were contained in the text as originally published. No alteration shall be made or permitted if any question exists regarding the nature or extent of such error.

1.09 OFFICIAL TIME

The official time, as established by the National Institute of Standards and Technology, www.time.gov, shall be the official time within the park district for the transaction of all park district business.

1.10 RULES AND REGULATIONS REPEALED

This code, from and after its effective date, shall contain all of the provisions of a general nature pertaining to the subjects herein enumerated and embraced. All prior rules and regulations pertaining to the subjects treated by this code shall be deemed repealed from and after the effective date of this code.

1.11 RULES AND REGULATIONS UNAFFECTED

All rules and regulations of a temporary or special nature and all other rules and regulations pertaining to subjects not embraced in this code shall remain in full force and effect unless herein repealed expressly or by necessary implication.

1.12 EFFECTIVE DATE OF RULES AND REGULATIONS

All rules and regulations passed by the Board requiring publication shall take effect from and after the due publication thereof, unless otherwise expressly provided. Rules and regulations not requiring publication shall take effect from their passage, unless otherwise expressly provided.

1.13 REPEAL OR MODIFICATION OF RULES AND REGULATIONS

(A) Whenever any rule or regulation or part of a rule or regulation shall be repealed or modified by a subsequent rule or regulations, the rule or regulation or part of a rule or regulation thus repealed or

modified shall continue in force until the due publication of the rule or regulation repealing or modifying it when publication is required to give effect thereto, unless otherwise expressly provided.

(B) No suit, proceedings, right, fine, forfeiture, or penalty instituted, created, given, secured, or accrued under any rule or regulation previous to its repeal shall in any way be affected, released, or discharged, but may be prosecuted, enjoyed, and recovered as fully as if the rule or regulation had continued in force unless it is otherwise expressly provided.

(C) When any rule or regulation repealing a former rule, regulation, clause, or provision shall be itself repealed, the repeal shall not be construed to revive the former rule, regulation, clause, or provision, unless it is expressly provided.

1.14 RULES AND REGULATIONS WHICH AMEND OR SUPPLEMENT CODE

(A) If the Board shall desire to amend any existing chapter or section of this code, the chapter or section shall be specifically repealed and a new chapter or section, containing the desired amendment, substituted in its place.

(B) Any rule or regulation which is proposed to add to the existing code a new chapter or section shall indicate, with reference to the arrangement of this code, the proper number of such chapter or section. In addition to such indication thereof as may appear in the text of the proposed rule or regulation, a caption or title shall be shown in concise form above the rule or regulation.

1.15 VIOLATIONS; EJECTION FROM PARK

(A) Police officers may order any person violating any of the provisions of these Rules and Regulations to leave a park and no person shall fail to obey such an order.

(B) Any person violating these Rules and Regulations may lose the privilege of entering a park for a period of time as designated by the Executive Director.

1.16 CODE OF RULES AND REGULATIONS EXEMPTION

Acts of employees and duly authorized representatives of the Stark County Park District, to the extent necessary for the performance of their authorized duties or in furtherance of programs or events organized and conducted by the Stark County Park District, shall be exempt from the provisions of these Rules and Regulations. Other organizations or individuals may also be exempted from specified Rules and Regulations by permit, contract or agreement in furtherance of programs, construction projects, land maintenance or other activity deemed appropriate by the Executive Director or his or her agents.

1.17 APPLICABILITY AND ENFORCEMENT OF OHIO REVISED CODE

All provisions of the Ohio Revised Code shall apply in the Stark County Park District and may be enforced within the park district by all Stark County Park District Rangers and all other Police Officers authorized to enforce the Ohio Revised Code.

1.99 GENERAL PENALTY

Pursuant to ORC 1545.99, any person who violates any provision of the Rules and Regulations shall be fined not more than \$150 for a first offense; for each subsequent offense such person shall be fined not more than \$1000. Statutory reference: State law penalty, see ORC 1545.99

SECTION 2: TRAFFIC AND TRAIL RULES

2.01 BOARD AUTHORITY TO REGULATE LOCAL TRAFFIC

(A) The provisions of the State Traffic Code as contained in Ohio R.C. Chapters 4511 and 4513 do not prevent the Board from enacting local traffic regulations covering the following activities with respect to

the roadways under local jurisdiction and within the reasonable exercise of the police power by the Board:

1. Regulating the stopping, standing or parking of vehicles;
2. Regulating traffic by means of rangers or traffic control devices;
3. Regulating or prohibiting processions or assemblages on streets or roadways;
4. Designating particular roadways as one-way and requiring that all vehicles on the one-way roadways be moved in one specific direction;
5. Regulating the speed of vehicles in public parks;
6. Designating any roadway as a through roadway and requiring that all vehicles stop before entering or crossing a through roadway, or designating any intersection as a stop or yield intersection and requiring all vehicles to stop or yield at one or more entrances to the intersection;
7. Regulating or prohibiting vehicles from passing to the left of safety zones;
8. Regulating the operation of bicycles; provided that no such regulation shall be fundamentally inconsistent with the uniform rules of the road prescribed by this Traffic Code and that no such regulation shall prohibit the use of bicycles on any roadway.

(B) No regulation enacted under subsections (A)(4), (5), (6), (7) or (8) of this section shall be effective until signs giving notice of the local traffic regulations are posted upon or at the entrance to the roadway or part of the roadway affected, as may be most appropriate.

(C) Every regulation enacted under subsection (A)(1) hereof shall be enforced in compliance with ORC Section 4511.071

2.02 PURPOSES OF WAY

No person shall use any portion of a park for purposes of way except drives, roadways, walks and trails established for such purposes. Trails established as horse trails, foot trails, bicycle trails or multipurpose trails shall not be used for motor vehicular traffic.

2.03 IMPOUNDING VEHICLES IN VIOLATION

Vehicles in parks in violation of these Rules and Regulations may be removed or caused to be removed by police officers to a location, in or outside of a park, where the same may be kept until owners or their authorized representative obtain an order from the Executive Director or his or her agents releasing such vehicles to the owners thereof or their authorized representatives.

2.04 TESTING, WASHING OR REPAIRING VEHICLES IN PARK

No person shall test, repair, wash or wax any vehicle or mechanical device within the parks.

2.05 SPEED

It is unlawful for the operator of a vehicle to operate that vehicle at a speed exceeding the following:

- (A) Fifteen miles per hour (15 MPH) on all park roads, or in parking lots, parking areas and trailheads;
- (B) Fifteen miles per hour (15 MPH) on all other park areas, except as otherwise posted.

2.06 TRAIL SPEED LIMIT

It is unlawful for the operator of any vehicle to operate that vehicle at a speed exceeding the following: Fifteen miles per hour (15 MPH) on any park trail.

2.07 ONE-WAY ROADWAYS

Upon a roadway designated and posted with signs for one-way traffic a vehicle shall be driven only in the direction designated. A vehicle passing around a rotary traffic island shall be driven only to the right of the rotary traffic island.

2.08 SAFETY AND LOAD LIMITS

No person in a park shall operate a motor vehicle when such motor vehicle is in excess of the 10-ton gross load limit without a permit from the Executive Director. PERMIT is herein defined as any written permission by the Executive Director or his or her agents.

2.09 PERMIT REQUIRED FOR OPERATION OF TRUCKS

No person in a park shall drive a truck, tractor, semi-truck or other vehicle which is at that time used for the transportation of goods or materials over any park road without a permit from the Executive Director.

2.10 PARKING LIMITED TO DESIGNATED AREAS

No person shall park any motor vehicle, bicycle, or other vehicle within any traveled roadway within the park or any location where posted signs prohibit parking except in emergencies, or upon any sod, gravel or other surface not specifically designated as a parking area.

2.11 ALL-TERRAIN, ALL-PURPOSE VEHICLES AND OFF-HIGHWAY MOTORCYCLES

No person shall drive or propel, or cause to be driven or propelled, any all-terrain vehicle, other all-purpose vehicle or off-highway motorcycle (as defined by section 4519.01 of the Ohio Revised Code), within the park.

2.12 SNOWMOBILES

No person shall drive or propel, or cause to be driven or propelled, any snowmobile (as defined by section 4519.01 of the Ohio Revised Code), within the park.

2.13 BICYCLES

No person shall operate a bicycle except on paved roads, or in areas or on trails designated for such purpose. Nor shall any person operate a bicycle in a reckless manner so as to endanger the operator or any other person or any property. Bicycle operators shall comply with the requirements of all sections of the Ohio Revised Code pertaining to vehicles, operators, and bicycles while using park roads.

2.14 ELECTRIC VEHICLE USAGE ON TRAILS

The following electric vehicles are permitted to utilize trails within the park district.

- (A) Class 1 and Class 2 electric bicycles;
- (B) Other electric vehicles powered by no more than one motor of 750 watts or less;
- (C) Electric vehicles must not exceed the trail speed limit of 15mph;
- (D) Electric vehicles may not have a width greater than thirty-six (36) inches.

2.15 OTHER POWER-DRIVEN MOBILITY DEVICES (OPDMDs)

Stark County Park District regulation of OPDMDs for persons with mobility disabilities in the park are in accordance with Revised Final Title II Regulation of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 1213) and an Impact Analysis and Guidelines performed by the Stark County Park District. Persons with mobility disabilities may use OPDMDs on Park properties subject to the following requirements:

- (A) OPDMDs may not have a width greater than thirty-six (36) inches;

- (B) OPDMDs must remain on trails and may not cause unnecessary damage to the trail surface;
- (C) OPDMDs must be operated at a speed of five (5) miles per hour or less;
- (D) Park staff may make seasonal use restrictions on OPDMDs based on current or anticipated levels of user activity on trails;
- (E) Park staff may make seasonal use restrictions on OPDMDs based on weather and trail conditions;
- (F) Battery powered OPDMDs must be safely maintained and protected from leakage;
- (G) Specific trail features like boardwalks or bridges may be posted against OPDMD use based upon their design or capacity;
- (H) OPDMDs must have the capacity to safely negotiate trail features and obstructions such as steps and boardwalks and be able to do so within the trail boundaries;
- (I) OPDMDs are not permitted in park indoor facilities except park restrooms, unless designed for indoor usage;
- (J) Gas-powered OPDMDs are not permitted on trails or open spaces of the park.

2.16 OPERATING ENGINE-POWERED VEHICLES ON TRAILS

No person shall operate a vehicle on any trail that is powered by gasoline, kerosene, diesel or any other fossil fuel.

2.17 TRAIL OBSTRUCTION

No person shall place any object on or across any trail or otherwise obstruct any trail.

SECTION 3: WATERCRAFT

3.01 OPERATION PERMITTED ONLY ON DESIGNATED WATERS

No person in a park shall operate a watercraft on any park waters except those designated by the Executive Director. Areas closed to watercraft shall be clearly posted closed to such vessels.

3.02 HORSEPOWER RESTRICTIONS

No person shall operate a watercraft on the waters in this park district that violate horsepower restrictions. Specific horsepower restrictions within the district are:

(A) It shall be unlawful for any watercraft powered by a motor or combination of motors with a horsepower rating of more than ten horsepower at the following locations:

(1) Sippo Lake Park

(2) Walborn Reservoir

(B) Electric motors only (comparative horsepower restriction not to exceed 10 hp)

(1) Deer Creek Reservoir

(C) Motors Prohibited (carry-in, manually powered watercraft only)

(1) Petros Lake

(2) Ohio Erie Canal

(3) All other non-specified park district waterways and ponds

3.03 RULES APPLICABLE TO RENTAL WATERCRAFT

No person shall occupy or permit the occupation of a park owned watercraft unless all individuals on board abide by all rules detailed on the rental agreement including the requirement to wear a properly fitted personal flotation device at all times.

3.04 PROHIBITED WATERCRAFT

(A) No person shall be permitted to launch, moor, and/or operate on the waters in this park district, any of the following watercraft:

- (1) Unregistered inflatable watercraft
- (2) Pontoon aircraft
- (3) Air boats (hovercraft)
- (4) Personal watercraft (jetskis)

(B) No person shall be permitted to launch, moor, and/or operate on the waters in this park district any watercraft in excess of the following length restrictions:

- (1) Sippo Lake Park – 21ft
- (2) Walborn Reservoir – 25ft
- (3) Deer Creek Reservoir – 25ft

(C) No person shall be permitted to launch, moor and/or operate a pontoon boat on Sippo Lake Park in Perry Township, Stark County, Ohio.

(D) No person shall operate any watercraft that cannot be carried by hand and operated through the use of oars and/or a paddle on the following bodies of water:

- (1) Petros Lake Park
- (2) The Ohio Erie Canal
- (3) All other non-specified park district waterways and ponds

3.05 DOCK PROHIBITIONS

No person shall construct a dock, whether temporary or permanent on the waters in this park district.

3.06 MOORING

No person shall moor any watercraft on the waters in this park district or on land in this park district without written permission from the Executive Director or his or her agents.

SECTION 4: ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

4.01 PERMIT REQUIRED FOR SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

No person in a park shall sell or offer for sale any alcoholic beverage, without a permit from the Executive Director.

4.02 CONSUMPTION, POSSESSION OR DISPLAY OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

No person shall consume, possess or display the presence of any alcoholic beverage in a park, except within a reserved building or area which, pursuant to a permit issued by the Executive Director, has been temporarily reserved by a person or persons to the exclusion of the general public.

SECTION 5: PERMITS

5.01 PERMITS IN GENERAL

To assure good order and the reasonable use of the property for which a permit is granted, the Executive Director or his or her designee may grant a permit on an exclusive basis for a particular place and time and purpose. Subject to the foregoing, and except as hereinafter provided, all Stark County Park District properties may be used by members of the general public, without permit, for recreational purposes not inconsistent with the Stark County Park District Rules and Regulations, the nature of the property and the safety of the public and of Stark County Park District property. The Executive Director may, from time to time, establish supplemental guidelines based on the intended use and classification

of each property in the Stark County Park District system and for obtaining permits pursuant to this section. Such guidelines shall be based on a due regard for the purpose for which the property is established, the safety of those using the property, of park employees and of the public, the safety and maintenance of Stark County Park District property, the need for and the availability of supervisory personnel, and the maximum number of people who can safely use the property at one time.

5.02 PARK PROPERTY CLASSIFICATIONS

(A) All Stark County Park District property is classified under the following system:

(1) Public forums: General park lands

(2) Limited use areas:

(a) Inside all visitor centers, education buildings and other public use buildings;

(b) Children's play areas;

(c) Shelters and reservable picnic areas.

(3) Areas not designated for public assembly:

(a) Maintenance, operational and administrative facilities.

(b) Conservation Areas, including but not limited to prairies, woods, meadows, and wetlands.

(B) The Executive Director may, from time to time, modify these classifications as to particular Stark County Park District properties and may issue maps and/or guidelines establishing the areas with specificity.

5.03 PERMIT REQUIREMENT

No person shall, without first receiving a permit from the Executive Director:

(A) Conduct, sponsor or promote any meeting, speech, picnic or other public activity involving more than 25 individuals;

(B) Circulate or distribute any leaflets, handbills, notices, pamphlets, books, documents or papers of any kind in any place other than a public forum;

(C) Conduct any exhibit, music or dramatic performance, wedding, fair, circus, concert, festival, parade, play, radio or television broadcast, other than a news transmission;

(D) Exhibit or display any motion picture, television program, light or laser light display, or similar event; or film a media broadcast (other than a news transmission), commercial motion picture, or commercial still photography;

(E) Operate or play a radio, TV, musical instrument or other amplifying or sound equipment, except that an individual may operate a radio, recorder, compact disc player or other device possessed and used by an individual for his or her own enjoyment so long as it is operated in such a manner as not to interfere with the use and enjoyment of the park by any other person;

(F) Station or erect any building, tent, play equipment, mechanical ride, canopy, stand, bandstand, stage, tower, scaffold, sound stage, platform, rostrum or other structure (except umbrellas, canopies and similar items to provide personal shade);

(G) Station or use any electrical or electronic device or equipment that would require outdoor auxiliary power;

(H) Sell or offer for sale any article, thing, privilege or service (unless such sale or offer is pursuant to a contract with the Stark County Park District), or otherwise use a park for commercial purposes;

(I) Post, distribute or place any sign, advertisement, circular, notice or statement, or display any banner, emblem or design, other than a permanent sign (painted or otherwise not readily removable) on a vehicle; or display, post or distribute any other writing containing commercial advertising matter within the Stark County Park District system;

- (J) Launch or land, within Stark County Park District property, any airplane, helicopter, flying machine, hot air balloon, parachute or other apparatus for aviation;
- (K) Conduct any sporting event (i.e., a pre-arranged activity involving organized teams or clubs, spectators or the like);
- (L) Bring onto the Stark County Park District property a non-domestic animal or release or abandon any animal, domestic or wild;
- (M) Possess, ignite or discharge any fireworks or have in his or her possession or detonate any explosives or explosive devices;
- (N) Sell or offer for sale any intoxicating liquor or alcoholic beverage; or consume, possess or display the presence of any alcoholic beverage;
- (O) Take surveys or collect signatures in any place other than a public forum.

5.04 EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES SPONSORED BY PARK DISTRICT

No permit shall be required for an event or activity sponsored or co-sponsored by the Stark County Park District. The Executive Director may nevertheless require co-sponsors to comply with those portions of the permit requirements that the Executive Director deems applicable.

5.05 PHOTOGRAPHY, VIDEO AND AUDIO RECORDING

Persons may take still photographs or video or audio recordings within the park. If any of the following apply, a written permit from the Executive Director shall be required:

- (A) The photographs or recordings are being taken for the purpose of advertising a product or service;
- (B) The project involves professional casts, props, models, or crews, other than in the case of bona fide news media personnel covering a breaking news event that cannot be covered at any other time or at any other location;
- (C) The project requires access to an area that is closed or restricted to general public use;
- (D) The project carries substantial risk of damaging park resources, disrupting park visitors, disrupting park operations, or compromising public health and safety regulations.
- (E) Coverage or filming of breaking news by news media personnel does not require a permit, but such personnel may not damage park resources, disrupt park visitors, or compromise public health and safety regulations. "Breaking news" is defined as an event that cannot be covered at any other time or at any other location.

SECTION 6: COMMERCIAL ENTERPRISES AND SOLICITATION

6.01 SALES

No person shall sell or offer for sale any article, thing, privilege, or service within the park without first obtaining a written permit from the Executive Director.

6.02 SOLICITATION

No person, while in a park, shall solicit any person for a donation, a good or a service by:

- (A) Blocking the path of the person being asked for a donation a good or a service;
- (B) Following a person who walks away from the solicitor;
- (C) Making any statement, gesture, or other communication by which the solicitor knowingly causes another to believe that the solicitor will cause physical harm to the person or property of the other person; or
- (D) violating any applicable local or State law regarding soliciting.

SECTION 7: ANIMALS

7.01 DOMESTIC ANIMALS AND LEASHES

(A) No persons shall bring, permit, have or keep in the park any dog, cat, household pet or other animal destructive to birds and other wildlife, except that dogs or cats are permitted if they are controlled at all times on a physical tether attached to such animal not more than 8 feet long.

(B) No person shall have any dog or animal which by causing frequent or long continued noise so as to disturb the peace and good order.

7.02 HUNTING, TRAPPING OR MOLESTING WILDLIFE

(A) No person shall hunt, trap, kill or attempt to kill any bird, animal, amphibian, or other wildlife by the use of firearms, bow and arrow, air rifle, net, cage or any other means unless in full compliance with all current hunting laws outlined by the State Division of Wildlife, Stark County Park District permits and while in designated hunting areas.

(B) No person shall trap on any area owned, administered or controlled by the Stark County Park District except without first obtaining a permit issued by the Executive Director or his or her designee.

(C) Special Regulation: No individual shall hunt whitetail deer on any land owned, administered or controlled by the Stark County Park District in the area east of SR44, south of SR224, west of SR183 and north of SR619 with a firearm or muzzleloader.

7.03 TREE STANDS AND GROUND BLINDS

(A) Tree stands and ground blinds may be erected in public hunting areas, but must be removed daily. A permit may be issued by the Executive Director or his or her designee to permit placement of tree stands or ground blinds on a temporary basis for wildlife management purposes.

(B) It shall be unlawful for any person to construct, place, or use permanent-type tree stands, or place spikes, nails, wires, or other metal objects to hold tree stands or as steps to tree stands on any area owned, administered or controlled by the Stark County Park District;

(C) Tree stands and ground blinds found on any area owned, administered or controlled by the Stark County Park District in violation of this section shall be immediately removed from the park. Confiscated tree stands and ground blinds will be disposed of in accordance with the rules governing recovered property.

7.04 FISHING REGULATIONS

(A) No person in a park shall fish in park waters in a manner, or at a time, prohibited by the Ohio Revised Code or Ohio Administrative Code as now in effect or as hereafter amended.

(B) No person shall fish in park waters in violation of any sign or signs prohibiting fishing or a manner thereof.

(C) Anglers bow fishing, using dip nets, cast nets and seine collecting shall remain at least 100 feet away from any dock, pier, boardwalk or marina.

(D) Bow fishing along or in the Ohio and Erie Canal is prohibited.

(E) No person shall take or remove any reptile or amphibians from any body of water within the boundaries of the park district except as permitted by state law.

(F) Ice fishing: Ice fishing is permitted, except in certain areas that are otherwise designated, and is at the user's sole and exclusive risk.

(G) No person 16 years of age, or older shall take or catch any fish by angling in any waters within the boundaries of the park district, or engage in fishing those waters without a valid Ohio fishing license.

7.05 RELEASING OR ABANDONING ANIMALS

No owner, keeper or custodian of any animal shall abandon or release such animal unless authorized to do so for wildlife management, education or other lawful purpose.

7.06 REGULATION OF HORSES

(A) No person in a park shall ride a horse except in areas or on trails designated for this use.

(B) No person in a park shall ride a horse in such manner as to endanger the rider, the horse or any other person or any property.

(C) Horseback riders and those hand walking a horse on a lead shall have the right-of-way on shared use trails.

(D) Horseback riders in a park shall yield right-of-way to pedestrians and motorists at points where bridle trails intersect foot trails, roads, drives and parkways.

(E) No person shall utilize any animal to pull a cart, buggy or other wheeled vehicle on any park trail.

(F) On shared use trails, horseback riders shall ride on the trail berm when able.

(G) Horseback riders shall remove all horse manure from trailheads and parking areas and deposit in a sanitary manner in any litter receptacle.

(H) No person in a park shall leave a horse unattended.

(I) No person in a park shall over-ride, cruelly mistreat, mutilate, or torture a horse.

7.07 FEEDING ANIMALS

No person shall feed or cause to be fed any bird or other animal unless authorized to do so for wildlife management, education or other lawful purpose.

7.08 ANIMAL EXCREMENT REMOVAL

Any owner or custodian of any animal, except horses as designated in 7.06, shall immediately remove excrement deposited by such animal. The removed excrement may be disposed of by depositing such in a sanitary manner in any litter receptacle.

SECTION 8: PRESERVATION OF PROPERTY AND NATURAL FEATURES

8.01 PRESERVATION OF PROPERTY AND NATURAL FEATURES

(A) No person in a park shall remove any property, or part thereof, which is owned, leased, managed, or otherwise controlled by the Stark County Park District, from a park without a permit from the Executive Director.

(B) No person shall injure, deface, destroy, disturb, or remove any part of a park, including, but not limited to any building, sign, equipment, gate or other property located therein, or any tree, flower, shrub, or other vegetation, or fruit or any seed thereof, or rock or other mineral.

(C) No person in a park shall climb or rappel any rock escarpment, tree, or other natural features without a permit from the Executive Director.

8.02 INTRODUCTION OF FEATURES

(A) No person shall bring, leave, or plant within the park any tree, flower, shrub, plant, rock, soil, sand, gravel, mineral, or fossil without first obtaining written permission from the Executive Director.

(B) No person shall build any structure, place any artificial feature or construct any fence on any area owned, administered or controlled by the Stark County Park District without a permit issued by the Executive Director.

8.03 BARRICADES, SIGNS AND WARNINGS

(A) No person shall destroy, remove, damage or extinguish any barricade, sign, or warning light that has been placed in the park by employees or other authorized representatives of the Stark County Park District for the protection of the public.

(B) No person shall post any sign, advertisement or notice within the park district, except reasonable freestanding directional signs on the day of an event provided such signs are removed at the conclusion of such event.

(C) No such sign shall be affixed to any tree or other park property.

8.04 METAL DETECTORS

It shall be unlawful to use a metal detector on any area owned, administered or controlled by the Stark County Park District.

8.05 MAGNET FISHING

Magnet fishing is permitted in park waters with the following restrictions:

(A) Magnet fishing shall not disturb other park activities.

(B) Magnet fishing is prohibited within 100 feet of any dock, pier, boardwalk or marina.

(C) All items found must be handled, treated, and disposed of in a manner that is in accordance with law.

(D) Any dangerous item must be reported immediately to the Stark County Park District Rangers. A dangerous item includes, but is not limited to:

a. Firearm

b. Knife

c. Dangerous ordinance

d. Any item with a serial number or other identifying number

(E) Magnets must be of a size that can be carried and retrieved only by hand.

8.06 FORAGING

It shall be unlawful to collect any flora or fungi from the park district without first obtaining a permit issued by the Executive Director or his or her designee. The permit shall include the following: Individual's name, species to be collected, location to be collected, dates open to collection, allowable collection method and amount of flora or fungi permitted to be taken.

8.07 SMOKING RESTRICTIONS

Smoking of tobacco or other plants, e-cigarettes, or other vaporizer devices is prohibited in all areas of the Park except in parking areas or other designated areas.

8.08 MARIJUANA

The use or consumption of marijuana in any form is strictly prohibited on all Park District property, including trails, picnic areas, and facilities. This prohibition applies to smoking, vaping, edibles, or any other method of marijuana consumption.

Adopted January 7, 2025; Effective February 3, 2025

SECTION 9: HOURS OF OPERATION

9.01 HOURS OF OPERATION

All parks are open 24 hours a day, unless otherwise posted. No person shall be present in a park outside of the applicable posted hours without a permit issued by the Executive Director.

9.02 TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF FACILITIES

Consistent with the laws of the State, employees of the Stark County Park District who have duly authorized management, public safety or law enforcement authority may temporarily close specific areas within the park upon a determination that such action is necessary for reasons of weather, resource protection or management, scientific research, equitable allocation of use of facilities, avoidance of conflict among visitor activities, law enforcement, or other situations involving public health, safety, or welfare. Maintenance personnel employed by the Stark County Park District may temporarily close specific areas within the park for construction, reconstruction, or maintenance purposes.

9.03 EMPLOYEE PRESENCE IN THE PARK

Employees of the Stark County Park District may enter or remain on park lands, waters, or premises as necessary, for the performance of their duties.

SECTION 10: GENERAL OFFENSES

10.01 SWIMMING, BATHING, ENTERING PARK WATERS

No person shall swim, bathe, wade or enter into any park waters. This section, however, shall not preclude persons duly licensed from fishing or wading into or entering park waters for that purpose.

10.02 REMOTE CONTROLLED TOYS, MODELS AND ROCKETS

No person shall operate any engine or motor-powered model or toy airplane, boat, car, siren or any other noise making device except in specifically designated areas or by permit.

10.03 AIRCRAFT AND DRONES AND UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLES

No person shall operate or use aircraft, drones or other unmanned aerial vehicles on lands or waters within the park, nor deliver or retrieve a person or object in the park by parachute, paraglider, helicopter, or other airborne means without first obtaining a written permit from Executive Director or in any specifically designated area. Nor shall any person intentionally operate or use aircraft in the park in a manner which molests or harms animals or persons, or which prevents, obstructs, delays, hampers, or impedes the performance of any official business of the Stark County Park District in violation of section 2921.31 of the Ohio Revised Code. The provisions of this section shall not be applicable to official government business; emergencies involving public health, safety, or serious property loss; emergency landings due to circumstances beyond the control of the operator; or as such operation is otherwise authorized by the regulations of the Federal Aviation Administration or the State of Ohio.

10.04 FIRES

No person shall build, start, maintain, or use a fire in the park, except for:

- (A) Small charcoal fires for culinary purposes in grills provided by the park or personally owned grills;
- (B) Small campfires in fire rings provided by the parks;
- (C) If authorized to do so by a written permit issued by the Executive Director for resource management or other lawful purposes;
- (D) No person shall place or maintain a portable stove, cooker or grill in or under any shelter or on an adjacent patio or on any deck or on any picnic table;
- (E) All fires shall be completely extinguished by the person starting or using the same, before leaving the immediate vicinity of such fire. No person shall dump hot ashes or fire from portable picnic grills onto any grass, plants or into any body of water.

10.05 FIREWORKS

No person shall possess or discharge fireworks on the lands or waters of the park without first obtaining a written permit from the Executive Director and a valid fireworks exhibitor license from the State of Ohio. Persons so authorized to possess or discharge fireworks on the lands or waters of the park must act in accordance with sections 3743.50 to 3743.55 of the Ohio Revised Code. The term “fireworks” shall include all devices and substances subject to Chapter 3743 of the Ohio Revised Code.

10.06 AUDIO DISTURBANCES

Except in connection with a public assembly or event for which a permit has been issued pursuant to these Rules and Regulations, no person shall operate or play an audio device in the park, including without limitation, radios, televisions, musical instruments, amplifiers, or public address systems, in a manner that can be heard from a distance of 100 feet away from the audio device.

10.07 SLACKLINING AND HAMMOCKS

No person on any area owned, administered or controlled by the Stark County Park District shall hang a hammock or slackline unless all of the following apply:

- (A) Trees must be a minimum of 12 inches in diameter to be used as an anchor point;
- (B) Trees cannot be altered in any way to allow slacklining or hammock attachment;
- (C) Slacklines and hammocks shall not be placed more than 4 feet above the ground;
- (D) Slacklines and hammocks shall be attached to trees only;
- (E) Slacklines and hammocks shall not interfere with normal park activities;
- (F) Slacklines and hammocks shall not be left unattended;
- (G) Slacklines and hammocks shall not be within 30 feet of structures, roads, trails or playgrounds;
- (H) Use area must have a clear, flat natural surface.

10.08 CAMPING

No person shall camp or establish or maintain any camp or temporary lodging or overnight sleeping place within any park, including in any vehicle or watercraft, except in designated camping areas or as authorized by permit. Sleeping in vehicles or watercraft is prohibited from sunset to sunrise outside of designated camping areas or without a permit.

Amended January 7, 2025; Effective February 3, 2025

10.09 HIDDEN OBJECT GAMES

No person shall engage in hidden object gaming (geocaching, letterboxing) on any area owned, administered or controlled by the Stark County Park District unless the following rules are followed:

- (A) Geocaches must be registered on www.geocaching.com;
- (B) Hidden objects must be placed along an official trail and must be placed within 25 feet of the trail;
- (C) Hidden objects cannot be placed in conservation areas or ecologically sensitive areas such as wetlands, ponds or wildflower areas;
- (D) Hidden objects must be in an area that is free of obvious dangers that could cause harm to a person;
- (E) Hidden objects cannot be placed in any area that requires digging or climbing;
- (F) Hidden objects should be monitored by the owner and any problems with it resolved within 30 days of notification;
- (G) Hidden objects shall be family-friendly. Hidden objects shall not contain food, wildlife attractants, firearms, drugs, alcoholic beverages or any other item harmful to juveniles as defined in ORC 2907.01(E);
- (H) Any object that is not in compliance with these conditions or that is determined to be a nuisance will be removed and discarded without notice.

10.10 DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS

(A) No person shall discharge in or into a park any firearm or air or gas gun.

(B) This section does not apply to individuals lawfully hunting within a designated public hunting area.

10.11 THROWING OR SHOOTING MISSILES

(A) No person shall throw, shoot or propel an arrow, missile, pellet, stone, metal or other similar substance capable of causing physical harm to persons or property, in or on any public place, in or on the property of another, or from any private property into or onto any public place or the property of another.

(B) This section does not apply to authorized ranges or instruction nor when otherwise lawfully authorized.

(C) This section does not apply to individuals lawfully hunting within a designated public hunting area.

10.12 FROZEN BODIES OF WATER

(A) No person shall operate any vehicle on a frozen body of water within the park.

(B) No person shall enter onto a frozen body of water within the park unless they are actively engaged in the following activities:

(1) Ice fishing

(2) Ice skating