

**The City of Hartford Code of Ordinances regarding Rules and Regulations in
Parks and Recreation Facilities are provided for your convenience by Riverfront Recapture.
Please contact the City of Hartford for the most recent Code of Ordinances.**

ARTICLE II. CONDUCT AND USE REGULATED

Sec. 26-31. Unlawful conduct generally.

It shall be unlawful for any person to annoy other persons or to disturb the animals, birds or fish, or commit any act of nuisance in any park, except that fishing is permitted at Batterson Lake.

(Code 1977, § 25-20; Ord. No. 39-90, 6-25-90)

Sec. 26-32. Injuring property or plants.

It shall be unlawful for any person to misuse or abuse park property, or to injure or gather trees, shrubs or plants in any park.

(Code 1977, § 25-21; Ord. No. 39-90, 6-25-90)

Cross references: Injuring public property generally, § 25-7.

Sec. 26-33. Injuring official signs and notices.

It shall be unlawful for any person to deface or injure any sign or notice placed in any park by the city.

(Code 1977, § 25-22; Ord. No. 39-90, 6-25-90)

Cross references: Injuring public property generally, § 25-7.

Sec. 26-34. Litter and rubbish.

No person shall throw or deposit or leave any litter or rubbish in any park.

(Code 1977, § 25-23; Ord. No. 39-90, 6-25-90)

Sec. 26-35. Games.

It shall be unlawful for any person to throw balls or play active games in parks where prohibited.

(Code 1977, § 25-24; Ord. No. 39-90, 6-25-90)

Sec. 26-36. Wading and swimming.

It shall be unlawful for any person to wade or swim in any pond or lake in the parks of the city, except Batterson Park Lake, where wading and swimming shall be limited to the public beach area as designated by the director of parks and recreation, and only when lifeguards are on duty.

(Code 1977, § 25-25; Ord. No. 15-84, 4-9-84; Ord. No. 39-90, 6-25-90; Ord. No 33-91, 6-10-91)

Sec. 26-37. Dogs.

It shall be unlawful for any person to take any dog into any park except on a leash, except that no dogs, other than guide dogs for the blind, deaf or mobility impaired pursuant to G.S. § 23-346a, are allowed in the Batterson Park swimming and picnic area.

(Code 1977, § 25-26; Ord. No. 39-90, 6-25-90)

Sec. 26-38. Sales, solicitations and advertising.

It shall be unlawful for any person to sell or offer for sale any article in any park, or to advertise or solicit for any purpose, other than a noncommercial purpose, or display any sign unless prior approval is obtained from the director of parks and recreation.

(Code 1977, § 25-27; Ord. No. 39-90, 6-25-90; Ord. No. 33-91, 6-10-91)

Sec. 26-39. Firearms and fireworks.

It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge or have any firearms or fireworks in any park. This section shall not apply to fireworks displays by municipal authorities.

(Code 1977, § 25-28; Ord. No. 39-90, 6-25-90)

Cross references: Fireworks generally, § 13-241 et seq.

Sec. 26-40. Fires.

Except where cooking facilities are provided, it shall be unlawful for any person to make a fire in any park except by permission of the director of parks and recreation.

(Code 1977, § 25-29; Ord. No. 39-90, 6-25-90; Ord. No. 33-91, 6-10-91)

Cross references: Fire protection and prevention generally, Ch. 13.

Sec. 26-41. Alcoholic beverages prohibited generally; exceptions.

It shall be unlawful for any person to have alcoholic beverages or to be intoxicated in any park, except that such beverages may be consumed in the Bushnell Park Carousel Pavilion at private functions during which the pavilion is closed to the public, and except that beer and wine may be sold and consumed at the golf facilities located in Keney Park and Goodwin Park in the city and, except that, upon adoption of a resolution by the council, alcoholic beverages may be sold and consumed at the Pond House at Elizabeth Park and the Pump House Galley at Bushnell Park in connection with food service or events, and, except that, upon adoption of a resolution by the council, beer and wine may be sold in any park in connection with events held therein. Such beer and wine must be sold by a vendor approved by the director of parks and recreation, licensed by the bureau of licenses and inspections and under a permit issued by the state liquor control commission at a site and location within such parks to be determined and approved by the council. The provisions of chapter 35 of the Code shall not apply to the sale of alcoholic beverages, including beer and wine, authorized under the provisions of this section.

(Code 1977, § 25-30; Ord. No. 13-82, 6-14-82; Ord. No. 19-84, 5-29-84; Ord. No. 26-85, 5-13-85; Ord. No. 39-90, 6-25-90; Ord. No. 33-91, 6-10-91; Ord. No. 4-01, 4-23-01)

Cross references: Alcoholic beverages generally, Ch. 4.

Sec. 26-43. Vehicles and traffic.

It shall be unlawful for any person to drive any commercial vehicle into any park except on business of the department of parks and recreation, or to give instruction to any person in driving an automobile or to learn to drive an automobile in any park, or to drive any automobile at a rate of speed exceeding twenty-five (25) miles per hour, or to drive or propel any automobile, bicycle or other vehicle except on regular park roads, or to park any car off any park road, except in areas designated for public parking.

(Code 1977, § 25-31; Ord. No. 39-90, 6-25-90; Ord. No. 33-91, 6-10-91)

Cross references: Motor vehicles and traffic generally, Ch. 22.

Sec. 26-44. Horseback riding.

Persons riding horses in any park shall:

- (1) Ride on bridle trails only, keeping off the roads, meadows and woodland;
- (2) Ride at a walk at intersecting roads and trails;
- (3) Keep horses under control at all times and refrain from yelling, reckless riding, racing, stunt riding, or beating or tormenting their horses;
- (4) Be courteous and considerate, especially on passing or overtaking other riders;
- (5) Not tie horses to trees or shrubs or cut or break shrubs for whips.

(Code 1977, § 25-32; Ord. No. 39-90, 6-25-90)

Cross references: Animals and fowl, Ch. 6.

Sec. 26-45. Opening and closing hours for parks, playgrounds and other recreational facilities.

- (a) No person or vehicle shall enter or remain in any park, playground or other recreation facility under the direction or control of the director of public works or the director of human services, before dawn or after dusk except as provided in subsections (b) and (d) of this section. For purposes of this section, dawn shall mean a half-hour before sunrise and dusk shall mean a half-hour after sunset.
- (b) Any person or entity who wishes to enter or remain in any park, playground or other such recreation facility before dawn or after dusk, respectively, must obtain a special event permit pursuant to the provisions of the City of Hartford Special Events Policy and Procedures Manual. In the event of exigent circumstances, the director of public works or the director of human services may designate other opening or closing times for any park, playground or other recreation facility under his/her direction and control if in his/her opinion such other opening or closing time is in the best interest of the city.
- (c) The opening and closing time for each park, playground and recreation facility under the direction and control of the director of public works or the director of human services shall be prominently displayed at each such facility and the chief of police shall be notified of such opening and closing times and any exceptions thereto.
- (d) The director of public works in coordination with the director of human services shall establish rules and regulations pertaining to the opening and closing times of pond houses, recreational facilities/centers, lighted areas and any other structures located in any park or playground.
- (e) Subsections (a), (b) and (d) of this section shall not apply to any park, playground or other such recreation facility that is subject to an agreement with the city that contains any provision regarding opening and closing times or that is subject to rules or regulations regarding opening and closing times that are promulgated by appropriate entities.
- (Code 1977, § 25-33; Ord. No. 19-79, 6-25-79; Ord. No. 39-90, 6-25-90; Ord. No. 33-91, 6-10-91; Ord. No. 61-02, 11-25-02)

Sec. 26-47. Penalty.

A person who violates any provision of this chapter shall be summoned or brought to community court pursuant to P.A. 97-199. A person who is summoned or brought before the community court cannot invoke any of the appeal rights provided by section 1-5 of the Hartford Municipal Code. The superior court judge assigned to the community court may impose a penalty of community service, a fine up to ninety dollars (\$90.00) or a jail sentence up to twenty-five (25) days to any person who is convicted of violating any provision of this chapter.

(Ord. No. 32-97, 11-24-97)