

Chapter 92. County Parks¹

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Subchapter A. Park Rules

92.001 Soliciting

- (a) No soliciting is allowed.
- (b) No one may rent or sell any item or service except under an approved concession contract.

92.002 Noise Limit

- (a) Visitors will not create excessive noise, excessive being a level which disturbs other visitors or adjacent residents.
- (b) All generators and/or amplified music must be turned off between the hours of 10 p.m. and 7 a.m.

¹ Chapter 92 was adopted by Travis County Commissioners Court 3/28/1995, Item #3.

92.003 Minors²

- (a) Adults are responsible for their minor children's actions.
- (b) No person under the age of 18 shall be admitted into McGregor/Hippie Hollow Park. Any authorization or consent to the nude display of children and the nude display of adults with children present under the age of eighteen in this park will be treated as a violation of the law and park rules. Violators and parties to such violations will be investigated and prosecuted if possible.

92.004 Alcohol Consumption³

- (a) Public display of the consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited.
- (b) Sale of alcoholic beverages is prohibited in any park.
- (c) Intoxicated persons will not be allowed in the parks.
- (d) Visitors who become intoxicated will be removed from the parks.
- (e) Alcoholic beverages are prohibited at youth events.

92.005 Pets⁴

- (a) All pets must be kept under the owner's direct control and attached to a person or fixed object at all times by a leash not to exceed six feet in length.
- (b) Pets shall not be left unattended or constitute a nuisance.
- (c) Noisy, vicious, or dangerous animals are not permitted, as determined on site by park staff.
- (d) Pets are not allowed in Hamilton Pool Preserve, Pogue Springs Reserve, Wild Basin Preserve, Hippie Hollow Park, Tom Hughes Park, or on the Point at Bob Wentz Park (Horse Patrol is exempt).
- (e) Other pets and animals, such as barnyard animals, exotics, llamas, mules, donkeys, goats, and what would be considered a wild animal will not be allowed to be brought into any park.

92.007 Horses⁵

- (a) Horses are allowed at Pace Bend Park and Webberville Park only with coggins papers.
- (b) Northeast Metropolitan Park Equestrian Areas are for special groups only. Coggins papers and prior approval is required.

² 92.003 amended 7/11/1995, Item # A3.

³ 92.004 amended 6/27/2006, Item #19.

⁴ 92.005 Pets replaced 6/27/2006, item #19.

⁵ 92.006 Horses amended 6/27/2006, Item #19.

92.008 Weapons, Firearms, and Fireworks

No person shall possess or discharge weapons, firearms, or fireworks in any County park.

92.009 Glass Containers

No person shall bring into or use glass containers in any area of the parks.

92.010 Swimming

- (a) All swimming is at your own risk. No lifeguards are provided.
- (b) Swimming and other water contact are not allowed at Hamilton Pool Preserve when bacteria levels exceed safe standards, and when signs are posted.

92.011 Animals

Visitors are prohibited from disturbing, feeding, harming, collecting, or releasing animals in the parks.

92.012 Natural Materials

- (a) No person shall destroy, disturb, or remove from County parkland any timber, shrubs, other vegetation, rock, sand, gravel, caliche, or other similar substance, material, or geologic feature.
- (b) Plants may not be brought into the parks.
- (c) Cutting and/or gathering firewood is prohibited.

92.013 Archaeological, Paleontological, and Historical Features

Archaeological, paleontological, and/or historical features of any character located in, on, or under County parkland may not be disturbed.

92.014 Property

- (a) Visitors are prohibited from carving, painting, or otherwise marking any tree, fence, rock, building, etc.
- (b) Visitors are prohibited from altering any barrier, fence, traffic control device, or other County property.

92.015 Solid Waste

- (a) No garbage or other solid waste may be dumped or littered in the parks.
- (b) Garbage associated with park use must be deposited in containers provided.

92.016 Fires

- (a) Permitted.
 - (1) Fires are permitted in camp stoves, grills, or fireplaces.
 - (2) Ground fires are permitted in designated areas only and must be maintained in a safe and controlled manner at all times.
 - (3) Visitors must furnish proof of adequate firewood in order to receive a (free) campfire permit.
- (b) Prohibited.
 - (1) Visitors without the proper permit will not be allowed to have a campfire.
 - (2) Fires may be prohibited during hazardous conditions.
 - (3) No fires, stoves, or cooking of any kind are permitted in Hamilton Pool Preserve or Wild Basin Preserve.
 - (4) No ground fires are allowed in any day use park.

92.017 Metal Detectors⁶

Metal detectors are prohibited in any park.

92.018 Vehicles

- (a) Motorized vehicles are confined to designated roadways and parking areas.
- (b) Vehicles which are not licensed for street use are prohibited.
- (c) Only two vehicles are allowed per designated campsite.
- (d) All vehicles and boat trailers in the improved campsite areas of Pace Bend Park must park in designated areas only. There is a limit of two vehicles per site.

92.019 Boat Launching

All trailered or motorized watercraft must be launched at designated boat ramps or boat launch areas only.

92.020 Abandoned Vehicles

Any vehicle, boat, trailer, or other property abandoned in a County park is in violation of State Laws and/or County rules and may be removed and stored at the owner's expense.

⁶ 92.016 added 6/27/2000, Item #19.

92.021 Violations and Evictions from Parks

Any violation of park rules may result in confiscating of park permit(s) and eviction from the park for no fewer than 48 hours.

92.019 Sale of Open Space⁷

- (a) To ensure that Travis County is in compliance with debt financing laws and grant restrictions, the Travis County Transportation and Natural Resources Department will provide the Travis County Auditor's Office the following documentation before any sale or contract that will result in compensation from real property:
 - (1) the financing source for the County's original purchase of the property;
 - (2) the original purchase price of the property, and, if only a portion of the property is being sold, an allocation of the value of that portion of the property;
 - (3) the sale price or compensation information being considered;
 - (4) information regarding the purchaser, including the purchaser's name and address; and
 - (5) any other information deemed necessary by the Travis County Auditor's Office
- (b) Once the Auditor's Office has reviewed the information listed in Subsection (a), it will advise the Commissioners Court, the Transportation and Natural Resources Department, and any other appropriate County departments of its findings regarding the implications of the proposed sale on the County's responsibilities with respect to any applicable debt financing laws and grant restrictions.

92.020 Use of Proceeds from Sale of Open Space⁸

To the extent it is not inconsistent with any applicable debt covenants and grant agreements, proceeds from the sale or compensation for the transfer of development rights of any real property interest originally acquired for open space parkland, parks, and preserve use, including the sale of easement rights and the sale of improvements, must be used only for capital improvements, including the acquisition of additional real property, for open space parkland, parks, and preserve projects, preferably within the same open space parkland, park, or preserve, or within the county commissioner precinct in which the original real property interest was located.

⁷ Section amended 11/16/10, Item 17, ordered effective retroactively to January 1, 2010.

⁸ Section amended 11/16/10, Item #17, ordered effective retroactively to January 1, 2010.

[Subchapters B & C Reserved for Expansion]⁹

Subchapter D. Miscellaneous

92.050 Turf Grass Policy¹⁰

The TNR Parks Division will follow these rules in allowing use of Park Fields.

- (a) Hours of Play
 - (1) The Parks Division will only allow 24 hours of sports play per soccer or multi-use field per week.
 - (2) The Parks Division will only allow game play on soccer and multi-use fields. No practice will be allowed on these fields.
 - (3) The Parks Division will only allow 36 hours of baseball or softball play per field per week.
- (b) Ground Conditions
 - (1) The Parks Division will not allow play during rain or when frost is on the ground.
 - (2) The Parks Division will not allow play until turf areas dry out after rain to allow drying for the top three inches of soil.
 - (3) The Parks Division will not allow play when the grass is dormant.
 - (4) The Parks Division will allow winter play only on over-seeded fields.
- (c) The Parks Division will allow each field, on a rotating basis, a three-week recovery period during growing season.
- (d) The Parks Division will not allow non-athletic events on the fields.

⁹ Subchapter B. Park Hours (sections 92.025 to 92.028) and Subchapter C. Park Fees (section 92.029) were repealed 9/17/2013, Item #29.

¹⁰ 92.050 added 7/18/2006, Item #19.