



**PARKS AND RECREATION – RULES**  
**(Van Buren Township Ordinances Chapter 62)**

**Sec. 62-5. Entry pass and fees.**

At Van Buren Park, all motor vehicles (including motorcycles) must obtain and have affixed in the lower left-hand corner of the windshield of the vehicle, a valid entry pass issued by the township. (Ord. No. 05-07-19(1), eff. 5-30-19)

**Sec. 62-6. Penalty.**

Any person who violates this article is guilty of a misdemeanor and be punished as provided in section 1-13. (Ord. No. 05-07-19(1), eff. 5-30-19)

**Sec. 62-8. Park hours and season.**

Parks shall be open to the public from 10:00 a.m. to dusk (Monday through Friday) and from 8:00 a.m. to dusk (Saturday and Sunday), unless otherwise permitted by the director in writing or unless otherwise posted. (Ord. No. 05-07-19(1), eff. 5-30-19)

**Sec. 62-9. Closing of parks.**

Any park or section thereof may be declared closed to the public by the director at any time and for any interval of time, either temporarily or at regular stated intervals.

It shall be unlawful for any person to use, occupy, frequent, loiter in or be in any park, or any portion of the park, in the township unless the park is officially open to the general public. (Ord. No. 05-07-19(1), eff. 5-30-19) (Ord. No. 05-07-19(1), eff. 5-30-19)

**Sec. 62-11. Tents and bounce houses.**

(a) No tents larger than ten feet by ten feet shall be permitted in any park. Tents ten feet by ten feet or smaller must be approved by the director.

(b) **No bounce houses are permitted in any park.** Other inflatables must be approved by the director. Conditions for obtaining approval are available at the parks department. (Ord. No. 05-07-19(1), eff. 5-30-19)

**Sec. 62-12. Alcohol.**

It shall be unlawful for any person to possess any open intoxicants or consume any alcoholic liquor, including spirits, beer or wine, in any recreational facility or park operated by the township during any function, sporting event, or other event. The prohibition in this section shall not be applicable to the following circumstances:

- (1) The consumption of any alcoholic beverages purchased on the premises from a duly licensed vendor, or
- (2) The consumption of any alcoholic beverages at or within 15 feet of a pavilion provided the pavilion is being used pursuant to a valid reservation and a valid permit for alcoholic beverages are obtained from the township as part of the pavilion registration application. (Ord. No. 05-07-19(1), eff. 5-30-19) PARKS AND RECREATION § 62-12 Supp. No. 13 CD62:5

**Sec. 62-13. Tobacco.**

To promote a healthy atmosphere for all patrons, tobacco use (including, but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, pipes, electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, and vaporizers) is prohibited within 25 feet of any playground, pavilion, gazebo, garden, beach, or building entrance. (Ord. No. 05-07-19(1), eff. 5-30-19)

**Sec. 62-14. Beaches.**

(a) The beach at Van Buren Park is open from Memorial Day - Labor Day.

(b) The beach closes one hour before Van Buren Park closes.

(c) There is no lifeguard on duty at the beach. Swim at your own risk.

(d) The dock at the beach is owned by the University of Michigan. The dock is not for public use. Trespassing is prohibited. (Ord. No. 05-07-19(1), eff. 5-30-19)

**Sec. 62-15. Swimming and wading.**

(a) It shall be unlawful to swim, bathe, wade or scuba dive from any township-owned beach except at such times and places as may be posted or designated for such purposes.

(b) Persons must abide by posted swim rules.

(c) Boats and other watercraft shall not be allowed within the designated swim area.

(d) No rafts or other inflatable toys are permitted at the beach. Only personal flotation

devices (PFDs) are permitted.

(e) Boats are prohibited within 200 feet of the beach shoreline. Boats are prohibited from mooring at the beach. (Ord. No. 05-07-19(1), eff. 5-30-19)

**Sec. 62-16. Disposal of refuse.**

It shall be unlawful to bring, carry through, or put into any park, any rubbish, refuse, garbage or other material. All refuse and rubbish shall be deposited in receptacles so provided. Where receptacles are not provided or are provided and are full, all such rubbish or waste shall be carried away from the park by the person responsible for its presence.

(Ord. No. 05-07-19(1), eff. 5-30-19)

**Sec. 62-17. Fire.**

(a) No fires (including but not limited to bonfire, campfire, grill use, and lanterns) are permitted in any park except that, use of a grill may be approved if requested as part of the pavilion rental application. § 62-13 VAN BUREN CODE Supp. No. 13 CD62:6

(b) If grill use is permitted in conjunction with an approved pavilion rental application, it shall be unlawful to:

(1) Use a grill unless the fire is continuously under the care and direction of a competent person from the time it is kindled until it is extinguished and

(2) Dump any burning or hot ash into any trash receptacle or elsewhere in a park unless the receptacle shall be marked as being a receptacle for such material.

(Ord. No. 05-07-19(1), eff. 5-30-19)

**Sec. 62-18. Motor vehicles.**

It shall be unlawful to:

(1) Drive any vehicle in excess of 15 miles per hour.

(2) Drive any vehicle on any area except the park roads or parking areas, designated as open to public travel, or such areas as may on occasion be specifically designated by signs as temporary driving areas. This provision shall not apply to emergency, service and authorized vehicles.

(3) Park a vehicle anywhere except on a designated parking area.

(4) Leave a vehicle standing or parked in established parking areas or elsewhere in the park and recreation areas during hours when the park and recreation area is closed.

(Ord. No. 05-07-19(1), eff. 5-30-19)

**Sec. 62-19. Prohibited vehicles.**

It shall be unlawful to operate or possess within the boundaries of any park property any off-road motor-driven vehicle, including, but not limited to, a mini bike, dirt bike, dune mobile, dune buggy, all-terrain vehicle, snowmobile, converted snowmobile, amphibious vehicle, golf cart, go cart, or similar motorized device.

It shall be unlawful to operate, drive, push, or otherwise propel any motor-driven vehicle on any portions of any leisure services facility property covered by grass or other natural vegetation. All motor-driven vehicles must remain on the roadways or in the designated parking areas. (Ord. No. 05-07-19(1), eff. 5-30-19)

**Sec. 62-20. Music.**

It shall be unlawful, at any time of day, to play any musical instrument, radio, mechanical record, tape player or other device in such a manner as to cause the sound emanating therefrom to interfere with the enjoyment of the park by others.

(Ord. No. 05-07-19(1), eff. 5-30-19) PARKS AND RECREATION § 62-20 Supp. No. 13 CD62:7

**Sec. 62-21. Animals.**

It shall be unlawful to take any dog into any park except when kept on a leash not more than six feet in length and kept under the immediate control of the owner or person having custody of the animal. All other animals are prohibited at the parks, unless the animal is a service animal. It shall be unlawful to take any dog on a public beach, in public buildings or areas otherwise posted, unless the animal is a service animal. (Ord. No. 05-07-19(1), eff. 5-30-19)

**Sec. 62-22. Picnicking.**

(a) The director shall designate those areas of a park where picnicking is permitted. No

person shall picnic outside of a designated area.

(b) A picnic area shall be used on a first come, first served basis, unless the area is designated for permitted use.

(c) Picnickers must remove all trash, including, but not limited to boxes, paper, cans, bottles, garbage and other refuse from the picnic area.

**Sec. 62-22. Picnicking continued...**

(d) Picnic groups of 25 or more persons must file an application with the department to reserve a pavilion.

(e) No person or organization except the permitted person or organization shall use the designated picnic pavilions during times posted for rental use only.

(f) Applications will be accepted to reserve pavilions on a first come, first served basis beginning on the first business day of January of each year for township residents and the first business day of March of each year for non-residents. Applications shall be sworn and shall state:

- (1) The name of the person or organization wishing to reserve a pavilion;
- (2) If the activity is proposed to be conducted for, or on behalf of, or by any organization, the name, address, and telephone number of the organization and the head of the organization;
- (3) The name, address, and telephone number of the person who will be the contact person for the organization and will be responsible for its conduct;
- (4) The name, address, and telephone number of the person making the application for reservation;
- (5) The date and time of the reservation;
- (6) Whether an alcohol permit is requested;
- (7) The location of the pavilion for which a reservation is desired;
- (8) And an estimate of the size of the group.

§ 62-21 VAN BUREN CODE Supp. No. 13 CD62:8

(g) The director shall reserve a pavilion when:

- (1) The reservation will not unreasonably interfere with or detract from the general public enjoyment of the park;
- (2) The reservation will not unreasonably interfere with or detract from the promotion or the public health, safety, welfare, and recreation;
- (3) The reservation is not unreasonably anticipated to incite violence, crime, or disorderly conduct;
- (4) The reservation will not entail unusual, extraordinary, or undue burden on the department of public safety of the township;
- (5) The reservation will not create noise to the extent that it will unreasonably disturb persons within the township;
- (6) The pavilion has not been previously reserved for other use on the date and time requested on the application; and
- (7) The application for reservation has been accompanied by the application fee, in an amount to be set by board resolution, to cover the township's administrative cost in reviewing and evaluating the application.

(h) Within seven days after receipt of an application, the director shall apprise an applicant in writing of his or her reason(s) for denying an application for reservation if the application is denied. Any aggrieved person shall have the right to appeal within five days to the township board, which shall consider the application under the standards set forth in subsection (g) above. The township board shall render a decision on the appeal within two weeks. The decision of the board shall be final.

(i) The person or organization that reserves the pavilion shall be liable for any loss, damage, or injury to any person or property whatsoever by reason of negligence, gross negligence, or recklessness by the person or organization who reserved the pavilion or any guest(s) of the person or organization.

(j) The director shall have the authority to cancel a reservation for any of the following reasons:

- (1) Fraud, misrepresentation, or false statements contained in the application for reservation;
- (2) The failure to comply with any federal, state, county and local laws and regulations;
- (3) The transfer or attempted transfer of the reservation to any other person or organization not set forth in the application for reservation; or
- (4) Failure of the applicant or designee to be present for the entire specified use.

(k) Application fees must be paid at the time of application and are non-refundable.  
(Ord. No. 05-07-19(1), eff. 5-30-19) PARKS AND RECREATION § 62-22 Supp. No. 13 CD62:9

**Sec. 62-23. Explosives and fireworks.**

It shall be unlawful to bring into or possess in any park fireworks, explosives, or other incendiary devices. (Ord. No. 05-07-19(1), eff. 5-30-19)

**Sec. 62-24. Preservation of property.**

It shall be unlawful to:

- (1) Mark, deface, disfigure, injure, tamper with or displace or remove any park property or appurtenances whatsoever, either real or personal.
- (2) Fail to cooperate in maintaining restrooms and washrooms in a neat and sanitary condition.
- (3) Dig or remove any soil, rock, sand, stones, trees, grass, shrubs or plants or other wood or materials, or make any excavation by tool, equipment, blasting or other means or agency.
- (4) Damage, cut, carve, mark, transplant or remove any plant, or injure the bark, or pick the flowers or seed of any tree or plant, or in any other way injure the natural beauty or usefulness of any area.
- (5) Climb, stand or sit upon monuments, planters, trees, fountains, railings, fences or upon any other property not designated or customarily used for such purpose.
- (6) Attach any rope or cable or other contrivance to any tree, fence, railing, bridge, bench or other structure.
- (7) Throw, discharge or otherwise place or cause to be placed in the waters of any fountain, pond, lake, stream or other body of water in or adjacent to any park or any tributary stream, storm sewer, or drain flowing into the water, any substance, matter or thing, liquid or solid, which will result in the pollution of the waters.
- (8) Tie or hitch an animal to any tree or plant.
- (9) Molest, harm, frighten, kill, trap, pursue, chase, tease, shoot or throw any object at any animal, wildlife or bird.
- (10) Engage in sexual acts in any area of any park, including, but not limited to, in any pavilion, vehicle, or restroom.
- (11) Feed any wildlife.
- (12) Store, stockpile, or abandon any vehicle, including but not limited to, recreational vehicles, or part of a vehicle, including, but not limited to, tires, or in any manner perform maintenance to any vehicle.
- (13) Discharge any projectile or weapon, including, but not limited to, a firearm, bow and arrow, air rifle, bb gun, or pellet gun, in any park.

(Ord. No. 05-07-19(1), eff. 5-30-19) § 62-23 VAN BUREN CODE Supp. No. 13 CD62:10