

**BENTON COUNTY NATURAL AREAS AND PARKS
RECREATION AREAS RULES AND REGULATIONS**

From Benton County Code Chapter 15

IT SHALL BE UNLAWFUL FOR ANY PERSON, FIRM OR CORPORATION, IN OR UPON LANDS DESIGNATED BY BENTON COUNTY, OREGON, AS COUNTY PARKS OR RECREATIONAL AREAS TO:

- (a) Build a fire or dispose of burning material, except in a stove, pit, or fireplace provided by the Natural Areas and Parks Department for such purpose. Portable cooking devices may be used in established campground and picnic areas if in safe operating condition and used in a safe manner. Fires shall not be left unattended.
- (b) Discharge or use any weapon capable of harming persons, wildlife, or property, except in those areas designated for such use or unless prior written permission is obtained from the Natural Areas and Parks Director or designee.
- (c) Ignite or discharge any fireworks as defined in ORS 480.110 unless prior written permission is obtained from the Natural Areas and Parks Director or designee.
- (d) Injure or disturb wildlife or wildlife habitat. Fishing may be permitted by the Natural Areas and Parks Department in designated areas in accordance with the rules and regulations of the State Department of Fish and Wildlife.
- (e) Harm or remove any plant, tree or vegetation; or dig up, remove or dump any soil, stones, gravel, sand, or other substances, unless prior written permission is obtained from the Natural Areas and Parks Director or designee.
- (f) Vandalize, alter, deface or remove any trail, road, parking lot, bridge, fence, building, sign, barrier, or structure or facility of any kind.
- (g) Create or erect signs, markers, or inscriptions of any type unless prior written permission is obtained from the Natural Areas and Parks Director or designee.
- (h) Dispose of any site-generated waste material except in receptacles provided or designated for that purpose.
- (i) Dispose of household or commercial garbage or other waste material brought from outside the county site.
- (j) Permit a horse or other riding animal except on roadways, designated holding areas or designated equestrian trails, and according to seasonally posted restrictions.
- (k) Operate any vehicle at a speed of more than fifteen (15) miles per hour, unless otherwise designated by signage.
- (l) Operate or park any non-motorized vehicle or motorized recreational vehicle, including motorcycles and off-road vehicles, outside of areas specifically designated for such use (including roadways and parking lots) or operate a motor vehicle in violation of Oregon law.
- (m) Camp overnight except in areas specifically designated for overnight camping, unless prior written permission is obtained from the Natural Areas and Parks Director or designee.
- (n) Smoke in any park restrooms, kitchen shelters, other park structures, or in Crystal Lake Cemetery indoor buildings and facilities.
- (o) Operate a concession, engage in the business of soliciting or selling any goods or services, or advertise in any manner without prior written permission from the Natural Areas and Parks Director or designee.
- (p) Use radios, televisions, musical instruments, public address systems, sound amplification or other noise producing devices in such a manner or at such times so as to unreasonably disturb other persons, unless prior written permission is obtained from the Natural Areas and Parks Director or designee.
- (q) Participate in a public demonstration, disturbance or riotous behavior that interferes with the reasonable use of a county site by the general public.
- (r) Interfere with vehicular or pedestrian traffic on any road, parking area, trail, or common area without prior written permission from the Natural Areas and Parks Director or designee.
- (s) Use abusive, threatening, obscene or indecent language or gestures in a manner which causes a public nuisance.
- (t) Keep or allow any unattended dog or pet, unless kept restrained in a vehicle or on a leash or under verbal control; keep or allow an unleashed dog or pet in posted leash areas, including campgrounds and Crystal Lake Cemetery. In addition, more restrictive site-specific dog and pet regulations may be posted at county sites.
- (u) Wash any clothing or other materials, or clean any fish in a lake or stream, or in any way pollute or defile any stream, spring, well or lake
- (v) Wash dogs or pets, clothing or other materials in any county facility sinks, restrooms or showers.
- (w) Stay after closing hours in a county site, other than established campgrounds, except under prior written permission from the Benton County Natural Areas and Parks Director or designee. Regular, open hours for general use of county sites are determined to be dawn to dusk.
- (x) Remain in any park, natural area, campground, recreation site or cemetery in violation of any park rules, or to remain in any park, natural area, campground, recreation site or cemetery after being asked to leave by any law enforcement officer or representative of Benton County Natural Areas and Parks Department.
- (y) Utilize items, or engage in activities, which may create community public safety issues, unless prior written permission is obtained from the Natural Areas and Parks Director or designee. Director or designee may require use of biodegradable or environmentally safe items, may require temporary signage announcing activity.
- (z) Engage in activities for which no attempt is made to mitigate potential adverse environmental or other impacts. The Benton County Natural Areas and Parks Department may regulate and require mitigation of potential adverse impacts of activities at county sites.