

By the authority granted unto the Decatur County Conservation Board by the laws of the State of Iowa, the following Rules and Regulations were adopted on the 12th day of February, 1991.

1. DEFINITIONS:

- A. The term "Board" shall mean the Decatur County Conservation Board.
- B. The term "Beach" or "Beach Area" means that portion of the county parks or recreation areas designated for swimming activity, including the water area contiguous to the beach.
- C. The term "Director" shall mean the Director of the Decatur County Conservation Board.
- D. The term "authorized representative" shall include Park Rangers and other persons designated from time to time by the Director.
- E. The term "area" shall mean all or any part of the land and/or water owned, leased, managed or by other means under the control of the Board.
- F. The term "camp" or "camping" shall mean the use of a shelter such as a tent, trailer, motor vehicle, tarpaulin, or sleeping bag for temporary residence at a campground.
- G. The term "campground" shall mean any area designated by the Board for camping.
- H. The term "campsite" shall mean a segment of a campground designated by the Board for camping by a camping unit or camping party.
- I. The term "camping unit" shall mean the portable shelter used by one to six persons.
- J. The term "camping party" shall mean any individual, family, or informal nongovernmental group of not more than six (6) occupying one campsite.
- K. The term "family" shall mean a parent or parents with their unmarried children and not more than two (2) lineal relatives or not more than two (2) minor guests.
- L. The term "special use permit" shall mean any use permit, issued and signed by the Director or his authorized representative, pursuant to authority issued by the board.
- M. The term "official signs" shall mean signs provided for in the Iowa State Highway Commission Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Iowa Streets and Highways and other signs designated from time to time by the Board.
- N. The term "noise" shall mean any loud, confused or senseless shouting or outcry; a sound lacking in agreeable musical quality or which is noticeably unpleasant.

2. PROHIBITED DESTRUCTIVE ACTS:

It shall be unlawful for any person to use, enjoy the privileges of, destroy, injure or deface plant life, trees, buildings, or other natural or material property, or to construct or operate for private or commercial purposes any structure, or to remove any plant life, trees, buildings, sand, gravel, ice, earth, stone, wood or other natural material, or to operate vehicles, within the boundaries of any county park, preserve, or stream or any other lands or waters under the jurisdiction of the Board for any purpose whatsoever except upon the terms, conditions, limitations and restrictions as set forth by the Board.

3. SPEED LIMIT:

The maximum speed limit of all vehicles on County Park and preserve drives, roads and highways shall be 15 miles per

hour, except where otherwise posted. All vehicles shall be driven on designated roadways.

4. EXCESSIVE LOADS:

No vehicle exceeding the restriction of class "A" license as defined by the Motor Vehicle Law shall be permitted upon any roadway or drive in the areas without written permission by the Board.

5. PARKING:

All vehicles shall be parked in designated areas, and no vehicle shall be left unattended on any county park or preserve drive, road or highway, except in case of emergency.

6. HITCHING TO TREES:

No horse or other animal shall be hitched or tied to any tree or shrub, or in such a manner as to result injury to any property whatsoever.

7. FIRES:

No fires shall be built, except in a place provided therefore, and such fire shall be extinguished when site is vacated unless it is immediately used by some other party.

8. REMOVING PLANTS, FLOWERS, OR FRUIT:

No person shall, in any manner, remove, destroy, injure or deface any tree, shrub, plant or flower, or the fruit thereof, of disturb or injure any structure of natural attraction, except that upon written permission of the Board certain specimens may be removed for scientific purposes. It shall, however, be lawful to collect the fruit of all but and berry producing plants and mushrooms for non-commercial home use, provided that the collector does not otherwise damage the parent plant.

9. USE OF FIREARMS:

The use by the public of firearms, air rifles, fireworks, explosives and weapons of all kinds is prohibited in all county parks and preserves, except in areas hereafter designated by the Board as hunting areas or specifically set apart as a firing, archery, or trap shoot range.

10. LITTER GROUNDS:

No person shall place any waste, refuse, litter or foreign substance in any area or receptacle except those provided for that purpose. Using government refuse receptacles for dumping household, commercial, or industrial refuse brought as such from private property is prohibited.

11. PROHIBITED AREAS:

No person shall enter upon portions of any park or preserve in disregard of official signs prohibiting same, except by permission of the Board, its Director or his authorized representative.

12. ANIMALS ON LEASH:

No privately owned animal shall be allowed to run at large in any county area except by permission of the Board or its Director. Every such animal shall be deemed as running at large unless the owner carries such animal or leads it by a leash or chain not exceeding six (6) feet in length, or keeps it confined in or attached to a vehicle or cage. It shall be lawful to permit dogs to run at large (except where otherwise posted) for the purpose of training, hunting, or exercising them in or on all areas designated as hunting areas by the Board. The use of equine animals and Llamas is limited to roadways or to trails designated

for such use. All animals are prohibited within designated beach areas.

13. CLOSING TIME:

All areas shall be closed to public use between the hours of 10:30p.m. and 5:00 a.m. unless otherwise specified by the Board, in which case official signs will be erected giving the public notice of such change. The Board, its Director or his authorized representative may issue special use permits to allow groups or persons to observe other hours. The provisions of this section shall not apply to authorized camping by registered guests in the designated camping area.

14. CAMPING:

The Board is hereby authorized to fix fees for camping and other special privileges which shall be in such amounts as may be determined by the Board upon the basis of the costs of providing same and the reasonable value of such privileges.

A. Violation of any state law or county park rule and regulation by any member of a camping party is cause for revocation of the camping permit and the entire camping party shall be required to leave the area.

B. Camping sites are not reservable.

C. No camping party or camping unit of any kind shall occupy any campground for more than fourteen (14) consecutive days.

D. No campsite or camping unit shall be left unoccupied by a camping party for more than twenty-four hours. Unattended camping equipment still in place beyond the twenty-four hour limit is subject to impoundment.

E. It shall be unlawful for more than one camping party or camping unit to occupy a campsite.

F. Not more than two (2) licensed vehicles are permitted to any one campsite.

G. All campers shall maintain quiet and avoid excessive noise in the campgrounds between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. These quiet hours are in effect for all areas of Little River Recreation Area open past 10:30 p.m.

H. Campers shall restore their campsite to the same approximate condition or better than when they found it.

I. Check-out time at all campgrounds is 3:00 p.m. except as follows: The Director or his authorized representative has authority to extend the check-out time to 8:00 p.m. when it is in the public interest and furthers the orderly management of the facility.

15. CAMPING AREAS:

No person shall camp in any portion of a county area except in portions prescribed or designated by the board.

16. PEDDLING AND ADVERTISING:

Peddling, hawking, soliciting, begging, advertising or carrying on of business or other commercial enterprise within any area without written permission of the Board or its Director is strictly prohibited. No person shall post, paste, fasten, paint or affix any placard, bill, notice or sign upon any structure, tree, stone, fence, thing or enclosure within any area unless written permission is obtained from the Board or its Director.

17. POSSESSION AND CONSUMPTION OF BEER AND ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES:

It shall be unlawful for any person to possess or consume beer or any alcoholic beverage between the hours of 10:30 p.m.

and 6:00 a.m. in or on any area, except within a camping unit by an adult member of any camping party. No person shall bring, use, or have in their possession on any area, beer in a keg without first obtaining a special use permit from the Director or his authorized representative and posting a one-hundred dollar (\$100.00) damage deposit. The request for the special use permit shall be made at least two (2) weeks prior to the date of the activity. It shall be unlawful for any person to possess or consume any beer or alcoholic beverage in or on any beach area under the jurisdiction of the Board.

18. SWIMMING:

It shall be unlawful to swim, wade or engage in related activities in or on any ponds or waters in or on any area, except in those areas specifically designated by the Board for swimming. Possession or use of breakable containers, the fragmented parts of which can injure a person, is prohibited in beach areas of county parks and recreation areas.

19. ATVS AND SNOWMOBILE RESTRICTIONS:

It shall be unlawful to operate any snowmobile, tote bike, air sled, swamp buggy, all terrain vehicle or any other land conveyance propelled by a gasoline or electrical engine and run on wheels, tracks or runners in or on any area, except for those trails and roads which the Board shall from time to time designate.

20. HUNTING AND TRAPPING:

It shall be unlawful to hunt, trap, pursue in any manner, molest any birds or wild animals, except as otherwise provided by law, in or on any area not designated as a hunting area by the Board.

21. BOATING:

Where ramps are provided for launching of boats, the ramp is to be promptly cleared upon launching or recovering a boat to permit others to use the facility. Gas motors or engines shall not be allowed as a means of conveyance on any waters under the jurisdiction of the Board, except where otherwise posted.

22. FEES:

The Board reserves the right to require permits and establish fees and admission for any other facility, use, show, concert, demonstration, material or service without notice.

23. EXCEPTIONS:

Nothing in these rules and regulations shall prohibit or hinder the Board, its Director, or his authorized representative or any other peace officers from performing their official duties.

24. REFUSAL TO ISSUE OR REVOCATION OF PERMITS:

The Board, its Director, or his authorized representative reserves the right to refuse to issue a permit or may revoke a permit for any group or individual for the use of all or any portion of any area for any purpose whatsoever.

25. NOISE PRODUCING DEVICES:

Creating or sustaining any unreasonable noise in any portion of all county parks and recreation areas is prohibited at all times. The nature and purpose of a person's conduct, the impact on other users, time of day, location, and other factors which would govern the conduct of a reasonable, prudent person under the circumstances shall be used to determine whether the noise is unreasonable. This shall include the operation or utilization of motorized equipment or machinery such as an electric generating

plant, motor vehicle, motorized toy, or audio device such as a radio, television set, tape deck, public address system, or musical instrument or other device causing unreasonable noise. Between the hours of 10:30 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. noise which can be heard at a distance of 120 feet or three campsites shall be considered unreasonable.

26. PENALTIES:

Any person violating any of the provisions of the foregoing sections numbers 1 thru 25 inclusive, shall upon conviction, be fined not to exceed one-hundred dollars (\$100.00) or be imprisoned in the county jail not to exceed thirty (30) days.

General Rules and Regulations For Decatur County Parks

Decatur County Conservation Board
20401 NW Little River Lake Rd
Leon, Iowa 50144
(641)446-7307

Adopted by the Decatur County
Conservation Board, April 6, 1971
As amended February 12, 1991.