

# RULES AND REGULATIONS



GREENE COUNTY, IOWA

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

RULES AND REGULATIONS

This brochure is intended to help you use and enjoy your County parks, preserves and access areas. The rules and regulations governing the use of the recreation areas are intended to protect the recreation area visitor and the area itself from abuse and misuse. In addition to the rules and regulations adopted by a Conservation Board, state laws apply to conduct in County Parks, Preserves and Access Areas. Section 461A.35 and 461 A.57 of the State Park Law applies to County Parks, Preserves and Access Areas unless they have been modified by the Conservation Board. The traffic laws of the State of Iowa apply to County Park, Preserve and Access Area roads in the same manner as they do on state highways. Other sections of the law concerning alcoholic beverages and destruction of public buildings, apply in all county parks, preserve and access areas.

## CONSERVATION AND PUBLIC PARKS

### AND RECREATION AREAS

The following portions of the State Code entitled **Conservation and Public Parks and Recreation Areas** apply to County Parks, Preserves and Access Areas.

461A.35 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 state park, preserve, or stream or any other lands or waters under the jurisdiction of the Conservation Commission for any purpose whatsoever, except upon the terms, conditions, limitations and restrictions as set forth by the Conservation Commission.

461 A.36 SPEED LIMIT. The maximum speed limit of all vehicles on county park and preserve drives, roads and highways shall be 15 miles per hour. All driving shall be confined to designated roadways. Whenever the Conservation Board shall determine that the speed limit hereinbefore set forth is greater than is reasonable or safe under the conditions found to exist at any place of congestion or upon any part of the park roads, drives or highways said commission shall determine and declare a reasonable and safe speed limit thereat which shall be effective when appropriate signs giving notice thereof are erected at such places of congestion or other parts of the park roads, drives or highways.

#### Comments on speed limit.

**In addition to the speed limit provision provided for in this section of the Code the Conservation Board may at its discretion establish other speed limits under the authority of 321.236 of the Code of Iowa. Using the authority provided for in the State Traffic Code the Conservation Board has established a universal 15 mile per hour speed limit on all county park, preserve and access area roads in Greene County.**

461A.37 EXCESSIVE LOADS. Excessively loaded vehicles shall not operate over state park or preserve drives, roads or highways. The determination as to whether the load is excessive will be made by the County Conservation Director or his representative and will depend upon the load and the road condition.

461A.38 PARKING. All vehicles shall be parked in designated parking areas, and no vehicle shall be left unattended on any state park or preserve drive, road or highway, except in the case of an emergency.

461A.39 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 in injury to state property.

461A.40 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. No person shall collect wood from within the park

boundaries to be used as firewood. No lumber containing nails, screws, or other hardware may be used for firewood. In the event that the State Fire Marshall proclaims an open burn ban in Greene County, the GCCB may elect to further restrict open fires.

461A.41 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, or disturb or injure any structure or natural attraction, except that upon written permission of the commission certain specimens may be removed for scientific purposes.

**For exceptions to 461 A.41 see Section 4 of the county park and recreation area rules and regulations.**

461 A.42 Use of firearms prohibited - exceptions. The use by the public of firearms, fireworks, explosives and weapons of all kinds is prohibited in all county parks and preserves, except preserves or portions of preserves designated as hunting areas by the County Conservation Board. However, any person may use a bow and arrow with attached bow fishing reel and ninety-pound minimum line attached to arrow to take rough fish under rules and regulations prescribed by the Department of Natural Resources.

**For exceptions to 461A.42 see section 5 of the county park and recreation area rules and regulations.**

461A.43 LITTERING GROUNDS. No person shall place any waste, refuse, litter or foreign substance in any area or receptacle except those provided for that purpose.

461A.44 PROHIBITED AREAS. No person shall enter upon portions of any county park or preserve in disregard of official signs forbidding same, except by permission of the County Conservation Director or his representative.

461 A.45 ANIMALS ON LEASH. No privately owned animal shall be allowed to run at large in any county park or preserve or upon lands or in waters owned by or under the jurisdiction of the commission except by permission of the board. 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 feet in length, or keeps it confined in or attached to a vehicle. Owners must pick up animal waste immediately and dispose of properly. Penalty or fine - \$100. Any dog tied to a leash must be attended at all times.

**For exceptions to 461A.45 see section 6 of the county park and recreation rules and regulations.**

461A.46 CLOSING TIME. Except by arrangement or permission granted by the Director or his authorized representative, all persons shall vacate county parks and preserves before ten-thirty o'clock p.m. Areas may be closed at an earlier or later hour, of which notice shall be given by proper signs or instructions. The provisions of this section shall not apply to authorized camping in areas provided for that purpose, or fishing areas provided for that purpose.

**For exception to 461A.46 see section 8 of the county park and recreation area rules and regulations.**

461A.47 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 a basis of the cost of providing and reasonable value of such privileges.

461A.48 CAMPING AREAS. No person shall camp in any portion of a county park or preserve except in portions prescribed or designated by the board.

461A.49 TIME LIMIT No camping unit shall be permitted to camp for a period longer than that designated by the commission for the specific county park or preserve, and in no event longer than for a period of two weeks, except by special permit.

461A.50 REGISTERING - VACATING. Any person who camps in any county park or preserve shall register his or her name and address with the park custodian and advise the custodian when the camp in vacated.

461A.51 CAMPING REFUSED. Custodians are given authority to refuse camping privileges and to rescind any and all camping permits for cause.

461A.57 PENALTIES. Any person violating any of the provisions of the foregoing sections numbered 461A.35 to 461 A.56, inclusive shall upon conviction, be fined not to exceed one hundred dollars or be imprisoned in the county jail not to exceed thirty days.

350.5 RULES AND REGULATIONS - OFFICERS. The county conservation board may make, alter, amend or repeal rules and regulations for the protection, regulation and control of all museums, parks, preserves, parkways, playgrounds, recreation centers, and other property under its control. No rules and regulations adopted shall be contrary to, or inconsistent with, the laws of the state of Iowa. Such rules and regulations shall not take effect until ten days after their adoption by said board and after their publication once a week for two weeks in at least one paper circulating in the county and after a copy thereof has been posted near each gate or principal entrance to the public ground to which they apply. After such publication and posting, any person violating any provision of such rules and regulations which are then in effect shall, upon conviction, be fined not more than one hundred dollars or be imprisoned in the county jail not more than thirty days. The board may designate the executive officer and such employees as he may designate as police officers who shall have all the powers conferred by law on police officers, peace officers, or sheriffs in the law enforcement of the laws of the state of Iowa and the apprehension of violators thereof.

350.10 STATUTES APPLICABLE. The provisions of sections 461 A.35 through 461 A.57, inclusive, shall apply to all lands and waters under the control of any county conservation board, in the same manner as if such lands and waters were state parks, lands or waters. Wherever used in said sections the words "state conservation commission", "conservation commission" and "commission", shall include a county conservation board, and the words "state conservation director" shall include a county conservation board or its executive officer with respect to any lands or waters under the control of a county conservation board. However, the provisions of said sections may be modified

or superseded by rules and regulations adopted as provided in section 350.5.

## RULES AND REGULATIONS

**SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS:** Pursuant to the authority of Chapter 350.5 of the Code of Iowa, the Greene County, Iowa, Conservation Board hereby promulgates and places into effect the following regulations. The following terms as used in these regulations, shall for the purpose of these regulations have the meanings assigned hereto, unless a different meaning is clearly indicated.

A. 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

B. The term **“authorized representative”** shall include Park Rangers and other persons designated from time to time by the Director.

C. The term **“Board”** shall mean the Greene County, Iowa, Conservation Board.

D. The term **“camping unit”** shall mean a tent, trailer or motor vehicle specifically designed for such use as a temporary residence at a camp site. An additional children’s tent shall be allowed if occupied by members of the same family who are under the age of 18.

E. The term **“campground”** shall mean any area designated by the Board for camping.

F. The term **“campsite”** shall mean a segment of a campground designated by the Board for camping by a camping unit or camping party.

G. The term **“Department”** shall mean the County Conservation Board.

H. The term **“Director”** shall mean the Director of the County Conservation Board.

I. The term **“family”** shall mean a parent or parents with their children.

L. 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.

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 **“special use permit”** shall mean any use permit, issued by the Department, pursuant to authority delegated by the Board, and signed by the Director or his authorized representative.

**SECTION 2: SCOPE:** The provisions of these regulations shall apply to all areas.

**SECTION 3: FEES AND CHARGES:**

- A. Fees or charges made for services or for the use of land, facilities, equipment, materials or supplies on any area to be collected by the Board or authorized concessionaires shall be prescribed and approved by the Board.
- B. It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to enter or use any facilities for which entrance fees or user fees are prescribed without payment of same, except those persons on official business or authorized by special use permits.

**SECTION 4. COLLECTION OF FRUITS AND NUTS:** Section 461A.41 of the Code of Iowa entitled "Removing plants, flowers of fruits" is hereby modified under the authority of Section 350.10 of the Code of Iowa as follows: It shall be lawful to collect the fruit of all nut and berry producing plants or mushrooms for non-commercial home use, provided that the collector does not otherwise damage the parent plant.

**SECTION 5. USE OF FIREARMS:** Section 461 A.42 of the Code of Iowa entitled "Use of firearms prohibited exceptions" is hereby modified under authority of Section 350.10 of the Code of Iowa as follows: It shall be lawful to hunt or pursue game birds or wild animals in or on all areas designated from time to time as hunting areas by the Board. The Department shall post all such areas with official signs to constructively notify the public that this activity is lawful. Also, no person shall exhibit, display, carry, or show any firearm in the county parks Spring Lake, Hyde Park, Squirrel Hollow, Seven Hills Park and Henderson Park.

**SECTION 6. TRAINING AND EXERCISING DOGS:** Section 461A of the Code of Iowa entitled "Animals on leash" is hereby modified under the authority of Section 350.10 of the Code of Iowa as follows: It shall be lawful to permit dogs to run at large for the purpose of training or exercising them in areas or portions of areas designated as hunting areas by the Board. Pets shall be attended at all times.

**SECTION 7. HUNTING RESTRICTED:** It shall be unlawful to hunt, pursue or in any manner molest any birds or wild animals or to use or carry firearms, fireworks, explosives and weapons of all kinds, except as otherwise provided by law, in or on any area not designated as a hunting area by the Board.

**SECTION 8. CLOSING TIME:** All areas shall be closed to public use between the hours of 10:30 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. unless otherwise posted except the North Raccoon River Access Areas for the purpose of fishing.

**SECTION 9: CAMPING:**

- A. Violation of any state law or any county park rule or regulation by any member of a camping party is cause for revocation of camping privileges and the entire camping party may be required to leave the area.
- B. Campers must have the camping unit on the site

before registering and must register the unit within ½ hour of setting up camp. A camping party may hold additional campsites for another camping party by paying all required fees for the campsite

and physically occupying the campsite with a camping unit.

- C. The term "camping unit" shall mean a tent, trailer or motor vehicle specifically designed for such use as a temporary residence at a camp site. An additional children's tent shall be allowed if occupied by members of the same family who are under the age of 18.
- D. No camping unit or camping party shall occupy any camp site for more than fourteen consecutive days. After 14 days the camping unit must vacate the park overnight. Extensions may be granted for emergencies or unusual circumstances.
- E. All camping units must back on to rock pads where provided, with the exception of motor homes. The camping unit, including awnings, slide outs and vehicles must be parked between numbered sign posts.
- F. Only two licensed vehicles for travel will be allowed at a designated campsite. Visitor and extra vehicles must be parked at picnic area or beach parking lot.
- G. Camp visitors will vacate campgrounds by 10:30 p.m. Registered campers must be in the camping area by 10:30 p.m. It is unlawful for a vehicle to be driven in the camping area or park grounds from 10:30 p.m. to 5:30 a.m. Park gates shall be shut and secured at 10:30 p.m. and open at 5:30 a.m.
- H. All campers shall maintain quiet and avoid excessive noise in the campgrounds between the hours of 10:30 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.
- I. Campers must restore their campsite to the same approximate condition as existed upon arrival.
- J. Check out time at all campgrounds is 4:00 p.m.
- K. All pets must be kept on a six foot leash and attended at all times. Pet waste must be picked up immediately.
- L. Only vehicles legally licensed for road use will be allowed on park roads.

**SECTION 10. NOISE PRODUCING DEVICES:** It shall be unlawful to operate or use any radio, television, stereo, musical instrument, electric generating plants, power saws, or any similar equipment in or on any area in such a manner as to create excessive noise and/or disturb other persons. Said equipment shall under no circumstances be used between the hours of 10:30 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. No live music or disc jockeys or karaoke shall be allowed in the parks.

**SECTION 11. PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEMS RESTRICTED:** It shall be unlawful to operate or use any public address system whether fixed, portable, or vehicular mounted, in or on any area except when such use or operation has been approved in writing by the Director or his authorized representative.

**SECTION 12. RECREATION USES ONLY ALLOWED:** It shall be unlawful for any person to occupy any portion of any area for washing or repairing vehicles; advertising or political campaigning; hawking, peddling, or any other commercial activity, except concessionaires acting under the authority of a lease or contract with the Board or any other purpose not primarily recreational.

**SECTION 13. USE OF HORSES RESTRICTED:** It shall be unlawful to ride, lead or otherwise allow entry of horses in trails, roads, campgrounds, beaches and picnic areas except for those trails and roads which the Board shall from time to time designate by special permit.

**SECTION 14. ATV'S, CYCLES AND SNOWMOBILES RESTRICTED:** It shall be unlawful to operate any cycle, 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 wheel, tracks or runners, and only vehicles legally licensed for road use or authorized by the Board in or on any area, except for those trails and roads which the Board shall from time to time designate.

**SECTION 15. TRAPPING RESTRICTED:** It shall be unlawful to trap or attempt to trap any birds or wild animals without a special use permit.

**SECTION 16. SWIMMING RESTRICTED:** It shall be unlawful to swim, wade or engage in related water activities at Spring Lake except at designated swimming area.

**SECTION 17. RESERVING PARK FACILITIES:** It shall be unlawful for a minor to reserve a park facility.

**SECTION 18. DOMESTIC REFUSE NOT PERMITTED:** It shall be unlawful to deposit garbage, refuse or litter from any household, business or any other place for the purpose of disposing of the same in any refuse or litter container there provided. This includes yard waste, tires, and appliances.

**SECTION 19. OFFICIAL SIGNS:** It shall be unlawful for any person to enter, use or occupy any area or facilities within said area in disregard of any official signs.

**SECTION 20. POSSESSION AND CONSUMPTION OF BEER PROHIBITED:** It shall be unlawful for any person to possess or consume beer, as defined in Section 123.1 (9) of the Code of Iowa between the hours of 10:30 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. in or on any area, except that beer may be possessed within a camping unit or out of sight between said hours by an adult member of any camping party or an adult camping at a family or group campground. Any beer possessed in violation of this rule shall be confiscated by the Director or his authorized representative and destroyed.

**SECTION 21. CUTTING OF TREES RESTRICTED:** It shall be unlawful to cut any part of a dead, live, standing or fallen tree for any purpose with a chain saw in all the county parks, preserves and access areas, without the special use permit that may be available from the Conservation Board

from time to time.

**SECTION 22. EXCEPTIONS:** Nothing in these rules and regulations shall prohibit or hinder the Department, its Supervisors, Park Rangers, or duly authorized agents or any other peace officers from performing their official duties.

**SECTION 23. TARGET PRACTICE:** It is unlawful to target practice, trapshoot or practice shooting by any other method in all county recreation areas except in those areas designated by the board for target practice.

**SECTION 24.** It shall be unlawful for any person to consume or possess beer or other alcoholic beverages of any kind in the designated beach area of Spring Lake State Park.

**SECTION 25. THE MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT:** The maximum speed limit of all vehicles on county park, preserve, and access roads shall not exceed the posted speed limit nor exceed a maximum speed of 15 miles per hour on unposted roads.

**SECTION 26. PARK USER RIGHTS REFUSED:** Park rangers are given authority to refuse park user privileges for just cause. The park ranger and director also have authority to rescind an individual's park privileges for a period of one year for just cause. Before privileges are reinstated the individual must appear before the conservation board at a regularly scheduled meeting.

**SECTION 27. SHELTERHOUSE RESERVATIONS:** The Lakeside and Eastside shelterhouse at Spring Lake, and the shelterhouse at Hyde Park, Seven Hills Park, and Squirrel Hollow are available on a reservation basis. The fee is \$25 plus a \$50 deposit, which will be refunded if the shelterhouse and premises is cleaned up before leaving. No more than one shelterhouse reservation per month per party shall be allowed. No reservations can be made until January 1 of that year.

**SECTION 28. USE OF PAINT BALL GUNS:** The use of paint ball guns shall not be allowed in any county park. Park shall be defined as any county area with camping and picnic activity (Spring Lake, Hyde Park, Squirrel Hollow Park, Seven Hills Park, and Henderson Park.

**SECTION 29. SPRING LAKE RESTRICTIONS DURING DEER SEASON:** Spring Lake may be closed to vehicular traffic during shotgun deer season. The roads shall be closed as determined necessary by the park ranger.

**SECTION 30. USE OF TREE STANDS ON PUBLIC AREAS:** You cannot drive or otherwise place any nail, spike, pin or any other object, metal or otherwise, into any tree on a game management area to construct a blind or to make access to a blind or to a hunting location above the ground.

Portable blinds placed in trees and used for purposes other than waterfowl may be left on an area for a continuous period of time from seven days prior to the open season for hunting deer or turkey to seven days after the final day of the respective seasons.

**SECTION 31. NONTOXIC SHOT REQUIREMENTS:** Anyone hunting, or using a shotgun, is required to use nontoxic shot for all hunting (except turkey and deer) at

Pound Pits, Bristol Wildlife Area, Willow Township Wildlife Area, Squirrel Hollow Wildlife Area, and Adkins Bridge Wildlife Area.

**SECTION 32. BEER CONTAINERS REGULATED:** No person or group shall bring, use or have in their possession on any area, beer in a keg, or any other container larger than one liter except for those shelters which have been reserved and approved by the Director or his/her authorized representative. Reservation requires a \$100 deposit

**SECTION 33. CAMPING RATES FOR YOUTH GROUPS:** No camping fee shall be charged to organized, supervised youth activity groups such as scouts or church groups.

**SECTION 34. MOTOR VEHICLE RESTRICTIONS:** Motor vehicles are prohibited on Greene County areas except on constructed and designated roads and parking lots, unless specifically permitted.

**SECTION 35. SHOWER/RESTROOM HOURS:** The shower/restroom facility shall be open from 6:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Opening and closing dates shall be at the discretion of the director, with camper numbers and weather being the deciding factors.

**SECTION 36.** It shall be unlawful for any person to perform any act in violation of posted rules, regulations, or signs posted by the conservation board.

**SECTION 37. RACCOON RIVER VALLEY TRAIL:**

- A. No person shall operate a motor vehicle of any type upon the Raccoon River Valley Trail without the express permission of the Greene County Conservation Board or its Director.
- B. Hunting shall be permitted along the Raccoon River Valley Trail between Winkleman Switch and the Guthrie County line. Shooting shall be prohibited with 200 yards of a building inhabited by people or domestic livestock or a feedlot.
- C. A trail user permit is required for anyone 18 years or older to bicycle, rollerblade, jog, walk, snowmobile or in any way use the trail.