

## **Parks Bylaw**

The Parkland County Parks Bylaw has not been reviewed since 2002. There are many changes to the Bylaw that reflect important updated park rules as well as recognizing new activities that are now part of day-to-day life. The Bylaw has been completely re-written with new sections and headings. To that end, the Bylaw provides for friendly park spaces and responsible use of County Land.

Below you will find the summary of changes to the existing Bylaw with specific changes outlined in the chart that begins on the next page.

### **Summary of Changes in the Parks Bylaw by Sections**

- **Definitions:** The section has been significantly updated to reflect current uses and updated language.
- **Public Access and Enjoyment:** This section outlines when activities are permitted in a Park.
- **Safe and Courteous Behaviour:** This section outlines behaviour that is unacceptable as well as expected behaviour of all park user i.e. respectful, reasonable, and responsible behaviour.
- **Activities Allowed in Designated Areas Only:** This section outlines activities allowed only in designated areas; Including but not limited to tobogganing, disc golf, horseback riding, hockey and operating remote control toys.
- **Activities requiring Permits:** This section outlines park activities that must have permits. Including but not limited to placing signs in the park, art installations, selling or distributing goods, drop-in fitness classes, hot air balloons, winter storage of dock, boat lifts and swim platforms on Park land and camping or erecting a tent or other structure.
- **Reserved Areas:** These are park areas that can be reserved with a County permit. Reserved areas include but are not limited to Parks, picnic areas, campgrounds
- **Park Rules:** The chart below outlines park rules and regulations pertaining to geocaching, bicycles, E-bicycles and E-Scooters, drones, watercrafts, trails and pathways, camping, waste, fires, and vehicles.
- **Seasonal Storage:** The bylaw articulates the storing of docks, boat lifts and swim platforms on Park land between October 1 – May 31.
- **Environmental Protection** – This bylaw addresses the protection of water, wildlife, vegetation, and encroachment.
- **Enforcement and Penalties:** This bylaw addresses Offences, Enforcement and Penalties.

Section	Proposed Content
<b>Definitions</b>	Abandoned, Aircraft, Amenity, Animal Bicycle, Business Camp, Campground, Cannabis, Council, County Day-use Park, Drone E-Bicycle, E-Scooter Fire Ban, Firearm Geocaching Horse Liquor Off-highway vehicle, Off-Leash Park, Park Roadway, Pathway, Peace Officer, Permit, Person Sports Field Trail Vegetation, Vehicle, Violation ticket Wheeled Conveyance, Wildlife.
<b>Public Access and Enjoyment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parks open for public use from 5:00am – 11:00pm.</li> <li>• Pathways open 24hrs/day.</li> </ul>

Section	Proposed Content
<b>Safe and Courteous Behaviour</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No defecating or urinating in a Park.</li> <li>• No disturbing loud noise including music devices.</li> <li>• No person shall smoke or vape any substance within 5m of playgrounds, sports or playing fields, outdoor pools, outdoor theatres, spraypark or location of an approved special event</li> <li>• No open liquor while in Park.</li> <li>• No disorderly, dangerous, or offensive behaviour including drunkenness, offensive language, nudity, and violent behaviour.</li> <li>• Leave the Park tidy.</li> <li>• No defacing, destroying, injure or moving of signs, fences, picnic tables, etc.</li> </ul>
<b>Activities Allowed in Designated Areas</b>	<p>A person must not engage in the following activities in a Park, except in a designated area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Toboggan (or other sliding devices)</li> <li>• Disc Golf</li> <li>• Off-Leash Dog</li> <li>• Hockey</li> <li>• Wading or Swimming</li> <li>• Skating</li> <li>• Operating remote controlled toys</li> <li>• Off-Highway Vehicle</li> <li>• Graffiti walls</li> <li>• Discharge a Firearm</li> <li>• Cast, throw or launch stones, lawn darts, golf balls, missiles, model rockets or other dangerous objects</li> </ul>

Section	Proposed Content
<b>Activities Requiring permits</b>	<p>The following activities are only permitted with a County Permit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Placing signs</li> <li>• Conduct business</li> <li>• Sell, display, or distribute any goods or services including setting up art displays, conducting performances, hosting drop-in fitness classes</li> <li>• Organizing a gathering of more than 50 people</li> <li>• Using an amplification system</li> <li>• Hot air balloon – landing/take off</li> <li>• Off-leash dog events</li> <li>• Erecting wildlife habitat (e.g. bird houses, bat boxes)</li> <li>• Wildlife research</li> <li>• Set off firecrackers, fireworks, or any explosive device</li> <li>• Operate a model aircraft, rocket or other power assisted flying model</li> <li>• Operate a drone, micro-drone, or a Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS) for private or commercial purposes</li> <li>• Spread cremated remains</li> <li>• Winter storage of Docks, boat lifts, and swim platforms on Park land</li> <li>• Camping or erecting a tent</li> </ul>
<b>Reserved Areas</b>	<p>The County may issue a permit granting a person exclusive use of</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. A Park or portion of a Park,</li> <li>b. A Sports field or portion of a Sport field,</li> <li>c. A Campground or portion of a Campground,</li> <li>d. A Picnic Area.</li> </ol>
<b>Geocaching</b>	<p>The owner of the Cache will remove it if it is no longer active.</p> <p>Cache's may be removed by the County if they are not identifiable or potentially harmful to wildlife.</p>

Section	Proposed Content
<p><b>Bicycles and Wheeled Conveyances (including E-bicycles/E-Scooters)</b></p>	<p>Must have a bell on a cycle or wheeled conveyance while in a Park.</p> <p>Forward facing lights and rear reflectors are required when using the trails at between dusk and dawn.</p> <p>Class 1 E-bicycle can be used where bicycles are permitted.</p> <p>Class 2 &amp; 3 E-bicycles are only permitted where Vehicles and Off-highway vehicles are permitted.</p> <p>No Person shall operate a e-scooter unless it is equipped with a hand brake.</p>
<p><b>Animals</b></p>	<p>Unless otherwise permitted by this Bylaw no person shall allow any animal under their control, or for which they are responsible, to be on Park land. Including but not limited to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Designated swim area,</li> <li>2. A beach area adjacent to a swim area,</li> <li>3. A public washroom, picnic shelter, public shelter, or any other public building,</li> <li>4. Playground, designated sports field, or structure, or</li> <li>5. An area where signs are posted prohibiting animals.</li> </ol> <p>No Person shall bring livestock into a Park unless with permission from the County.</p> <p>A Person may ride, walk, or bring a horse on Park land where signs do not prohibit it.</p> <p>Dogs in parks are allowed if they are leashed and 10 m away from any developed playground or picnic site;</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">A Person shall pick up waste and dispose of it sanitarily in a receptable for litter or another suitable container.</p>

Section	Proposed Content
<b>Drones</b>	<p>A Person may not operate a Drone in a Park.</p> <p>Notwithstanding, a person may operate a Drone in an area designated by the County for drone use that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Weighs less than 250 grams</li> <li>2. Complies with all provincial and federal legislation</li> </ol> <p>Notwithstanding, a person may operate a Drone with a permit issued by the County.</p>
<b>Rivers and Waterways</b>	<p>A Person must not use a watercraft in a river, lake, or pond in a Park unless the watercraft has been cleaned, drained, and dried beforehand.</p> <p>No person shall enter a river, lake, or pond, in or adjacent to a Park, by means of a watercraft, from a Park unless it is at a site designated for that purpose or with a permit issued by the County.</p> <p>No Person shall swim, wade or bathe in any lake, pond, or other similar body of water unless the area is designated by the County for this activity.</p> <p>No Dogs or other domestic animals shall enter these waterways unless it is a site designated for this purpose.</p> <p>No person shall enter a river, lake, or pond in or adjacent to a Park during a high flow or boat advisory.</p>
<b>Trails and Pathways</b>	<p>No vehicles other than a Cycle or wheeled conveyance shall be on the trails or pathways unless designated by signage.</p> <p>Every person shall use care and attention and respect other users of the trails.</p> <p>No Scooters on unimproved trails.</p> <p>Permits are required for maintenance or construction within 5 m of the trail.</p>
<b>Seasonal Storage</b>	<p>Winter storage of docks, boat lifts, and swim platforms on Park land may be permitted between Oct 1 and May 31 of each calendar year with a valid permit.</p>



## Major Bylaw Review 2023 – Public Engagement

Section	Proposed Content
<b>Camping</b>	<p>Any person who enters a designated Campground shall comply with all rules and regulations of the camping permit and must follow instructions, prohibitions, signage, or notices.</p> <p>No person shall camp for more than 14 days consecutively without permission from the County,</p>
<b>Waste</b>	<p>Must dispose of waste in Park receptacles or carry any waste produced if no receptacle is provided.</p> <p>No person shall bring commercial or residential waste/organic materials to dispose of in a Park.</p>
<b>Fires</b>	<p>Must not light a fire in a Park except in a fireplace, pit or other facility designated for that purpose.</p> <p>Must follow rules, regulations of fire safety outlined in this Bylaw.</p> <p>Must comply with fire hazard notices issued by the Fire Chief.</p>
<b>Water</b>	<p>Activities such as, but no limited to bathing, cleaning of clothes, utensils, vehicles, shall not be permitted near any bodies of water, drinking fountain, standpipe, well or pump in any Park.</p>
<b>Vegetation</b>	<p>No Person shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engage in activities that damage vegetation,</li> <li>• Remove vegetation including weeds or invasive species (without a permit),</li> <li>• Plant vegetation (without a permit),</li> <li>• Cut, irrigate, or spray vegetation.</li> </ul>
<b>Encroachment</b>	<p>No Person shall encroach onto a Park without an encroachment agreement.</p>
<b>Enforcement</b>	<p>No person shall obstruct a Peace Officer who is performing their duties.</p> <p>Ay person who refuses to leave after being asked by a Peace Officer may be removed from the Park.</p> <p>A Peace Officer may issue a violation ticket requiring the offender to make an appearance in Court.</p>