



City of Worcester – Department of Public Works & Parks – Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division Rules & Regulations

The DPW & Parks – Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division of the City of Worcester, by virtue or the authority delegated to it under chapter 45 of the General Laws of Massachusetts and every other power thereto enabling, hereby makes and publishes the following rules and regulations which shall not only be limited to the following and DPW & Parks – Parks, but Recreation & Cemetery Division reserves the right to make additional changes or expansions without notice at any given time.

Within the limit of lands under the management of the City of Worcester – Department of Public Works and Parks, Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division, it shall be unlawful for any person/organization:

1. No group outing/picnics will be guaranteed in any park, playground, or beach under the jurisdiction of the DPW & Parks, Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division unless a written permit from the DPW & Parks, Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division has been obtained.
2. Permit request for fields will only be issued between 9:00AM and 3:30 PM, Monday – Friday (Non-Holidays business days). There will be no refunds or credits issued for any reason, no information will be given, nor permit will be issued over the telephone. The City of Worcester DPW & Parks, Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division has a fee schedule, policies, rules, and regulations governing all parks. The DPW & Parks, Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Division reserves the right to deny permits to those individuals and organizations that have in the past shown disregard for the policies, rules & regulations.
3. Groups of 15 or more are required to obtain a permit
4. All event permit holders have the right to use the vendors/concessionaires of their choice. Daily vendor/concessionaire that have been assigned a park cannot vend unless written permission is given to the Parks office from the event permit holder.
5. To use permit given for something other than for the designated event/vending/sport specified on application.
6. Failure to have all proper permits submitted prior to the event may be fined and may incur additional cost that may occur.
7. To destroy, or misuse park property, or to injure or climb trees, lawns, shrubs, plants in any park, playground, beach, or other areas under the jurisdiction of the DPW & Parks, Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division.
8. The use of but not limited to confetti, rice, artificial flowers, paint, etc. are not allowed at any park due to environmental impact, safety of wildlife, and the debris that is left. A fine and cleanup cost may be assigned to those who disregard this rule.
9. To deface, remove or destroy any sign or notice or protective device placed in a park, playground, and or beach.
10. To commit any unlawful act of violence or disturbance toward other people or to disturb the animals, birds, fish etc. or commit any act of nuisance in any park, playground, beach area, recreation area or facility.
11. To obstruct, hinder, or impede the movement/work of employees of the DPW & Parks – Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division.
12. To fail to comply in any public park (including boundary road thereof) or other public place (including any parkway) under the control of the DPW & Parks – Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division any reasonable direction given by any police officer or by any DPW & Parks – Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division employee or contained in any notice posted by the DPW & Parks – Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division.
13. To throw, deposit or leave any rubbish or litter in any park, playground, or beach area, except in container placed for such purpose. Household trash, hazardous waste, debris, or any other material **cannot** be thrown/dumped into any park or park container violates the City of Worcester Ordinance, Chapter eight of the Revised Ordinances of 2008, Section 6A.
14. To feed waterfowl & animals is prohibited in any park, playground, or beach. Chapter fifteen- Fines and Penalties of the City of Worcester Ordinance.
15. To play golf or to practice it with putter or other club or stick of any kind upon or within any public park, playground, or beach except in those areas purposely set aside for this activity or in conjunction with any organized city recreation program.
16. To take any animal into any park, playground, or beach in violation of the City of Worcester ordinance.
17. To operate a phonogram, bullhorns, radio, loudspeaker, amplifier, or otherwise create noise at a level that violates the City Noise Ordinance, Part I, Chapter 9, Section 1A, of the Revised Ordinances of 2008 Part One – as Amended Through July 18, 2023 of the City of Worcester. Any phonogram, bullhorn, radio, speaker, loudspeaker, or amplifier in any of the City of Worcester Public Parks, playgrounds, playing fields, or public property or building shall not be plainly audible at a distance of

50 feet or more from said Public Park, playground, playing field, public property or building a permit/permits from the City of Worcester will be required.

18. To sell or offer for sale any goods or ware, to do any advertising of any nature, to make a fire unless approved by the DPW & Parks, Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division. To play a game or chance for money or other item in value or to distribute or advertise Tobacco, alcohol, medication, drugs, or pornographic material.
19. To discharge or have any firearms in any park, playground, or beach, except with a permit for those areas specifically authorized by the DPW & Parks, Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division.
20. To commit any trespass in any public park, playground, or beach within the city between the hours of 10:00 PM and 5:00 AM, or other set times except with a written permit from the DPW & Park, Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division. A trespass shall be any unauthorized entry in, upon, or across any property under the jurisdiction of the DPW & Parks, Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division.
21. To drive any Commercial vehicle into any park except on business of the DPW & Parks, Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division, or to give driving instruction to any person in any type of vehicle in any park or to learn to drive any vehicle in any park, or to drive or propel any automobile, motorcycle, motor bicycle, bicycle, or other motor vehicle (except on regular park roads) or to repair cars in a park, or to park any car on any road except in areas designated for parking or to park any vehicle along any roadway or to park any unauthorized automobile after dark, or to clean/wax any vehicle. Such vehicles will be towed at owner's expense.
22. To drive or propel any motorized vehicle in any park, playground, or beach except on regular roads. To drive any vehicle upon any sidewalk of any boundary road or public park or of any parkway under the control of the DPW & Parks, Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division except in accordance with a written event permit and staff supervision from DPW & Parks, Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division. Only city vehicles and DPW & Parks, Parks, Recreation & Cemetery vehicles are allowed access inside park.
23. To erect a booth, tent, sleeping tent, sleeping bag, inflatable rides, stall, camper, motor home or other structures or to sleep/camp or lodge in any park, playground, without the written permit of the DPW & Parks, Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division, or to use a tent unless stake-less and/or without the written permission of the DPW & Parks, Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division.
24. To play any active ball games in any park, playground, or beach except in areas set aside for such games.
25. To place any snow or ice removed from private property upon any park property, sidewalk, grass area, roadway, parking areas or any boundary road of a public park or of any parkway under the control of the DPW & Parks, Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division. Chapter fifteen- Fines and Penalties of the City of Worcester Ordinance.
26. To place any leaves or debris removed from private property upon any park property, sidewalk, grass area, roadway, parking areas or any boundary road of a public park or of any parkway under the control of the DPW & Parks, Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division.
27. **Alcoholic Beverages:** To possess, sell or drink any alcoholic beverages as define in Chapter 138 Section 1 of the Massachusetts General Laws while on, in, or upon any park, playground, or beach or other areas under the jurisdiction of the DPW & Parks, Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division. Except on Worcester Common as approved by the Worcester Parks & Recreation Commission and with a special liquor permit in addition to the DPW & Parks, Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division permit.
28. It is unlawful and not allowed, to smoke in any public, park, playground, or beach as per the City of Worcester Ordinance.
29. To use or possess illegal drugs while in or upon any park, playground or beach, or any other areas under the jurisdiction of the DPW & Parks, Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division.
30. To roller blade, roller skate, skateboard, or ride a bike in any designated park area unless specially identified for this purpose.
31. To boat/float on a flotation device, motorized watercraft, or winter snow/ice vehicles (snowmobiles, etc.) are not allowed on or in any body of water (ice or snow covered) within a public park unless specifically authorized by a written permit issued by the City of Worcester, DPW & Parks, Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division. No boats, flotation devices except US Coast Guard approved life jackets. No motorized watercrafts shall be launched within 150' of any public beach.
32. To ice skate on any body of water within a public park except those water bodies designated for such use. Those designated for such use are Elm Park (3 meres) and University Park Pond. At all sites the ice must be declare safe by the DPW & Parks, Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division.
33. The DPW & Parks, Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division shall first approve any field, facility, or structure improvements, desired to be made by any organizations permitted to use a public park.
34. In the event of inclement weather conditions on a given date, DPW & Parks, Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division may rescind a permit and restrict the use of any field or park at their determination such use will have a negative long-term effect on the facility.
35. Drones (UAS) and other aircraft: Drones, other unmanned aerial vehicles including remote control aircraft, and aircraft in general cannot be flown in the City of Worcester Public Parks or open spaces; unless under special permission from the City of

- Worcester, Commission of the Department of Public Works & Parks, or his designee, and with an issued approved parks permit. Please refer to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Rules & Regulations.
36. All vending/concessions must abide by the vending/ concession rules, the City of Worcester Ordinance and the Parks, Recreation, & Cemetery Division Rules and Regulations. Failure to follow all ordinances, rules and regulations may result in fines and could have vending/concession permit revoked.
 37. All vending/concessions must have been approved by the standard city process and have an official vending/concession permit.
 38. Any sport league or organization hosting, managing, or operating a sports tournament, must submit a Sports Tournament Permit Application for this particular event.
 39. Itinerant musicians, street performers, buskers are not allowed without a permit from the Parks & Recreation Commission as identified in the City of Worcester Ordinance Chapter 12, Section 26 (h)(6) of the Revised Ordinances of 2008 -Part One- as Amended Through July 18, 2023 of the City of Worcester. No person shall act or perform as an itinerant musician on any public street or private way shown in the official map of the city, or in any public park, playground, or the Worcester Common. Without submitting a permit request and the written permission of the Parks & Recreation Commission.
 40. All Parks & Recreation Commission agenda items must be submitted a minimum of 3 (three) business days before each meeting to the parks@worcesterma.gov email.
 41. **Additional policy for the use of the Common:** To commit any trespass between the hours of 10:00 PM and 5:00 AM, except with a written permit from the DPW& Parks, Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division. A trespass shall be any unauthorized entry in, upon, or across the Common during these hours; Common may be used only as a walk through. No active leisure activities are permitted on the Common, including but not limited to bicycle riding, skateboarding, roller blading, roller skating, Frisbee, unless a written parks permit is obtained through the DPW & Parks, Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division.
 42. **Closing Hours:** Parks shall be closed to the public between the hours of 10:00 PM and 5:00 AM or as posted except if authorized in a written permit from the DPW & Parks, Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division.
 43. **Waiver right:** The DPW & Parks, Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division reserves the right to waive and/or limit these rules at any time if in the best interest of the City of Worcester.

Any person violating any of the above rules shall for each offense be punished by a fine not more than \$200.00 plus any additional cost to the City of Worcester
The above Rules and regulations have been approved by the Parks & Recreation Commission