

**ORDER AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF
RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR COUNTY PARKS
FORT BEND COUNTY, TEXAS**

THE STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF FORT BEND §

On this the 7 day of June, 1994, the
Commissioners' Court of Fort Bend County, Texas, upon motion of
Commissioner Prestage, seconded by Commissioner
O'Shicles, duly put and carried,

IT IS ORDERED that County Judge Roy L. Cordes, Jr. be, and
he is hereby, authorized to execute *Rules and Regulations for
County Parks in Fort Bend County, Texas*, being incorporated
herein by reference for all purposes as though fully set forth
herein word for word.

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**RULES AND REGULATIONS
FOR COUNTY PARKS IN
FORT BEND COUNTY, TEXAS**

AS PER ORIGINAL

AUTHORITY

Section 1: These rules and regulations are adopted by Commissioners' Court of Fort Bend County, Texas, acting in its capacity as the governing body of Fort Bend County, Texas. Authority of Fort Bend to adopt these rules and regulations is pursuant to Chapter 320, Texas Local Government Code and the order adopted by the Commissioners' Court on June 7, 1994, which adopted the provisions of said Chapter 320, Texas Local Government Code for any and all public parks owned or to be acquired by Fort Bend County. The powers and duties provided in Chapter 320 will be exercised and performed by the Commissioners' Court.

ADMINISTRATION

Section 2: The Commissioners Court hereby designates the Park Superintendent, along with the Fort Bend County Sheriff, the Fort Bend County Constable and their respective Deputies to enforce these rules and regulations.

AREA COVERED

Section 3: These rules and regulations apply to all county parks located within Fort Bend County, Texas.

DEFINITIONS

Section 4: As used in these rules and regulations:

- (a) "Alcoholic beverage" means any beverage containing more than one-half of one percent (.5%) of alcohol by volume which is suitable for use as beverage, either alone or diluted.
- (b) "Commissioner Court" means the Commissioners Court of Fort Bend County, Texas.
- (c) "County" means Fort Bend County, Texas.
- (d) "Explosives" means any chemical compound or mixture that is commonly used or intended for the purpose of producing an explosion.
- (e) "Light truck" means any truck with a manufacturer's rated carrying capacity not to exceed two thousand (2,000) pounds and is intended to include those trucks commonly known as pickup trucks, panel delivery trucks, and carryall trucks.
- (f) "Park" means a park owned, operated or maintained by Fort Bend County for recreation and enjoyment by the general public.
- (g) "Park Superintendent" means the Park Superintendent of any Fort Bend County Commissioner's Precinct.
- (h) "Peace officer" means a peace officer as defined in Article 2.12 of the Code of Criminal Procedure of the State of Texas, as amended.
- (i) "Pet" means a domesticated animal kept for pleasure rather than utility.
- (j) "Road" is any road maintained or controlled by the County for public passage for vehicles within a park.
- (k) "Special event" means an organized activity intended for more than fifty (50) persons to share a common purpose as a group.
- (l) "Vehicle" means every device in, upon, or by which any person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a road except devices moved by human power.
- (m) "Weapon" means a pistol, rifle, bow and arrow, shotgun, gas gun or gas pistol, B.B. gun, or B.B. pistol, pellet gun or pellet pistol, sling or sling shot.
- (n) "Wildlife" means living things that are neither human nor domesticated.

HOURS OPEN

Section 5: No person shall enter into or remain within a park at any time other than during such time as such park is open to the public as designated on the sign posted at or near the entrance to such park.

VEHICLES

Section 6:

- (a) No person shall operate a vehicle within a park except on the roads or parking lots. Operation of a vehicle on the shoulder of a road will be limited to driving thereon for the purpose of parking on the shoulder of the road or driving a parked vehicle from the shoulder of the road to the paved portion of the road.
- (b) No person shall operate a truck within a park. This provision does not apply to light trucks nor trucks making deliveries of materials, supplies and equipment purchased or rented by the County.
- (c) No person shall operate a vehicle in a park at a speed in excess of the posted speed limit.

AS PER ORIGINAL

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(d) No person shall cause a vehicle to be parked within a park except in a designated parking area. Vehicles parked on the shoulder of a road in designated areas must be parked parallel to the road.

(e) No person shall cause a vehicle to remain within a park after hours unless one of the officers named in Section 2, above, is notified provided, however, that in no event shall any person cause a vehicle to remain within a park in excess of twenty-four (24) hours at any given time. Vehicles remaining within a park for which notification has not been received will be towed and placed in storage by the proper law enforcement officer at the owner's expense.

WILDLIFE

Section 7:

- (a) No person shall willfully harm, harass, trap, confine, catch, or possess any wildlife within a park.
- (b) Fishing shall be permitted within all County parks except as specifically prohibited by Commissioners Court.

PLANT LIFE

Section 8: No person shall willfully destroy or remove any tree, shrub, vine, wildflower, grass, fern, moss, leaves, cones or dead or downed wood within a park.

FIRES

Section 9: No person may light, build or maintain a fire within a park other than within a campstove and/or barbecue pit. This rule does not apply to the lighting, burning or smoking of a cigar, cigarette or pipe used for the smoking of tobacco.

WEAPONS

Section 10: No person other than a peace officer may carry or possess a weapon within a park except at specifically designated shooting ranges and archery ranges.

EXPLOSIVES

Section 11: No person may possess gunpowder or other combustibles, explosives or fireworks within a park. Provided, however, that this provision does not apply to gasoline and other petroleum products intended to be used as fuel for cooking.

ANIMALS

Section 12: No person may bring into or possess in a park any animal other than a dog or domestic cat. Any person bringing a dog or domestic cat into a park shall keep such dog or domestic cat confined to a vehicle or secured by a leash not exceeding six (6) feet in length. No person shall bring into or keep a horse in a park except in areas or trails designated for horses.

GLASS BEVERAGE CONTAINERS

Section 13: No person shall use any glass beverage containers in a park.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Section 14: No person shall consume an alcoholic beverage in a park when the use thereof has been prohibited by the County Commissioner of the Commissioner's precinct which said park is located.

USE OF LOUDSPEAKERS

Section 15: No person shall use any loudspeaker, public address system or amplifier within a park without prior written permission for the Park Superintendent.

DUMPING AND LITTERING

Section 16: All persons shall dispose of trash only in the receptacles provided therefor. No person shall bring into a park any trash, refuse or waste material.

SOLICITING

Section 17: No person shall solicit funds or donations, or sell or offer to sell services or goods, or distribute circulars in a park. This rule does not apply to the following:

- (a) Persons soliciting donations or conducting fundraising events for and on behalf of non-profit organizations, who have secured prior written permission from the Park Superintendent;
- (b) Concessionaires or lessors and persons employed by concessionaires or lessors when selling goods and services, or charging for amusements pursuant to a written contract authorized by the Commissioners Court; and
- (c) Fees for the use of specific park facilities as may be established by Commissioners Court from time to time.