



Chico Area Recreation and Park District “Helping People Play”

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Chico Area Recreation and Park District
Park Rules and Regulations

Article I - Introduction

The Chico Area Recreation and Park District (CARD) is very proud of its parks and facilities. Throughout the year, our beautiful parks and facilities host a wide variety of activities, such as community-wide events, recreation programs, sporting events, family picnics, weddings, and quiet relaxation. CARD takes pride in ensuring that its parks and facilities are maintained at a high level of service. The following rules and regulations have been developed to make sure that CARD's parks and facilities remain beautiful, inviting, and safe for the community.

We ask for your cooperation to ensure that the integrity of our community's parks and facilities remain intact. If you have specific questions, please call the CARD Office at (530) 895-4711.

Article II - Definitions

- A. District. The word "District" or "CARD" shall mean the Chico Area Recreation and Park District.
- B. Facility or Facilities. The terms "Facility" and "Facilities" shall include any and all of CARD's parks, pools, picnic areas, playgrounds, and community centers, including, but not limited to:

Community Parks

1. Community Park
2. DeGarmo Park
3. Hooker Oak Park
4. Wildwood Park
5. Humboldt Avenue Skate Park

Neighborhood Parks

1. Oak Way Park
2. Peterson Park
3. Rotary Park
4. Baroni Park
5. Hancock Park
6. Ceres Park
7. Alamo/Henshaw Park
8. Dorothy F. Johnson Center Park

Community Centers

1. Pleasant Valley Recreation Center
2. Dorothy F. Johnson Neighborhood Center
3. CARD Community Center/Creekside Rose Garden
4. Lakeside Pavilion
5. Chico Creek Nature Center

Special Purpose Facilities

1. Sycamore Field
2. Pleasant Valley Pool
3. Shapiro Pool
4. Community Park Field House
5. DeGarmo Dog Park

Article III - General Provisions

All persons entering upon any Facility owned and/or maintained by CARD shall comply with all applicable Federal, State, County, and Local Laws and Regulations, including these Rules and Regulations, and any other Rules and Regulations established by the District.

A. Hours of Operation

1. No person shall enter or remain in any Facility while closed to the public, unless permitted by written agreement with the District. Whenever a threat to public health or safety exists in any Facility, CARD may close it or any part of it to the public for such duration as CARD deems necessary to ensure the safety and well-being of the public. Hours of operation are as follows:
 - a. Community Parks are open between 7:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m., with the exception of the Humboldt Avenue Skate Park, which is open from 8:00 a.m. to dusk.
 - b. Neighborhood Parks are open from 7:00 a.m. to dusk.
 - c. Special Purpose Facilities are open during District activities, or when permitted by written agreement with the District, with the exception of the following facilities:
 - i. Sycamore Field falls under the hours of operation established for Bidwell Park.
 - ii. DeGarmo Dog Park is open from 7:00 a.m. to dusk, with the exception of Wednesdays when the dog park is closed from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. for maintenance.
 - iii. All picnic sites are closed Thursdays for maintenance.
2. Community Centers are open during District activities or when permitted by written agreement with the District.
3. When conditions so require for the preservation and protection of a Facility, or a portion thereof, or for the safety of persons using the Facility, a Facility, or portion thereof, may be closed by posting signage thereat indicating that the Facility, or the affected portion thereof, is closed. No person shall go upon or allow any animal or child in his or her custody to enter into or use such Facility, or the affected portion thereof, so long as it is closed.
4. Any person who trespasses on any Facility may be arrested or issued a citation. This includes the following:
 - a. Entering any Facility when it is closed, whether it is enclosed or unenclosed.
 - b. Willfully opening, tearing down, or otherwise destroying any part of a Facility, including without limitation any fence, gate, chain, bollard, barrier, or landscaping.
 - c. Removing, injuring, unlocking, or tampering with any lock on any gate, fence, or structure of a Facility.
 - d. Refusing or failing to leave any Facility immediately upon request by District staff, representatives, contracted security personnel, or law enforcement.

B. Care of Property and Facilities

No person shall destroy or abuse any Facility or other public property under the charge and control of CARD. This includes injuring, defacing, altering, writing upon, destroying, removing, or tampering with in any way, any Facility or personal property or equipment owned by or under the jurisdiction or control of CARD, including, without limitation, any buildings, signs, gates, fences, equipment, markers, trash receptacles, materials, utilities, water lines, sprinklers, etc.

C. Trees, Plants, Flowers, Shrubs, and Grass

No person shall deface, destroy, injure, cut, or remove any natural condition or part of the landscape of any Facility, including, but not limited to, flowers, shrubbery, plants, vines, trees, grass, wood, or rocks, except with prior written permission from the District.

D. Littering, Polluting, and Dumping

1. Littering means the willful or negligent throwing, dropping, placing, depositing, or sweeping of any waste matter on land or water in other than appropriate storage containers or areas thereat designated for such purpose.
2. No person shall do any of the following:
 - a. Litter in any Facility. All persons shall use receptacles provided for the disposal of refuse.
 - b. Deposit household or commercial refuse in any receptacle at any Facility.
 - c. Engage in unlawful dumping in or at any Facility.
 - d. Deposit or dump any yard clippings, rocks, dirt, mulch, or wood chips in or upon any Facility unless permitted by prior written agreement with the District.

E. Abandoned and Unattended Property

No person shall within or adjacent to any Facility, store or leave unattended personal property or belongings of any kind or nature, unless permitted by prior written agreement with CARD. Any property so abandoned and/or unattended may be impounded and disposed of by CARD in accordance with law.

F. Sanitation

1. No person shall do any of the following:
 - a. Urinate or defecate at, in, or on any Facility, or in or upon any park building, monument or structure thereon, other than in a restroom or portable building specifically designed for such purpose.
 - b. Fail to cooperate in maintaining restrooms at any Facility in a neat and sanitary condition.
 - c. Fail to cleanup feces deposited by their pet.

- d. Use any fountain, drinking fountain, pool, sprinkler, or any other water contained in a Facility, for the purpose of washing or cleaning himself or herself, his or her clothing, or other personal belongings. This shall not apply to those areas within a Facility that are specifically designated for personal hygiene purposes (i.e., bathroom, etc.), provided, however, that no person shall wash his or her clothes or personal belongings in such areas.

G. Animals

1. Dogs and other domestic animals must be on a leash of no longer than six feet in length and sufficient strength and durability that they cannot be broken by the animal. Animals must also be under the full and complete physical control of their owner or custodian and be within his or her sight at all times while on District property. Dogs are allowed off-leash only in designated off-leash areas.
2. Any dog brought to a Facility must be licensed by the jurisdiction in which the owner resides and be fully vaccinated. Proof of current vaccination against rabies and proof of current licensing must be provided upon the request of any police officer, contracted security personnel, District employee, or representative.
3. No person shall allow any dog or other animal to do any of the following:
 - a. Enter environmentally sensitive or restricted areas at a Facility.
 - b. Interfere with, bother, or disturb others at any Facility.
 - c. Engage in fighting with other dogs or animals, or allow a dog or animal to harass, threaten, or injure any person, animal, or wildlife.
 - d. Damage District property or property belonging to persons other than the owner or custodian of the animal.
 - e. Leave a Facility without cleaning up after the animal, including any feces left by it.
 - f. Bring or keep a noisy, vicious, or dangerous dog or other animal to any Facility.
 - g. Secure an animal to any stationary object at any Facility.
 - h. Leave a dog or other animal in an unattended vehicle at any Facility without adequate ventilation, or in such manner as to subject the animal to extreme temperatures that adversely affect the animal's health or welfare.
4. Dogs and other animals, other than service animals that assist persons with disabilities, are not permitted in community centers, pool areas, and/or gymnasiums owned and/or maintained by CARD.
5. Any unaccompanied dog or animal found with or without a license or identification tag may be seized and impounded by animal control.
6. Animals such as ponies to provide pony rides for an event, petting zoos, horses, and/or other stock animals are prohibited from entering upon any Facility unless permitted by prior written agreement with the District. Horses are allowed on designated trails.

H. Prohibition on Glass

Glass bottles or other glass containers or items are prohibited in CARD Facilities unless permitted by prior written agreement with the District. This shall not apply to glass bottles or containers used in the care and feeding of infant children.

I. Firearms and Other Weapons

1. Except as set forth in Section 2. below, no person shall possess, use, carry, discharge, or cause to be discharged any gun, firearm, or weapon, including without limitation any air or gas weapon, spring gun, spear, bow and arrow, crossbow, sling shot, animal trap, knife with blade over five inches long, explosive, or any other form of weapon potentially dangerous to wildlife or human safety while at or upon any CARD Facility. No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any such gun, firearm, or weapon onto or across any Facility from outside park boundaries.
2. Only persons authorized by the State of California in accordance with their official duties, or in writing by the General Manager, shall be authorized to possess any firearm(s) or weapon(s) at or upon any CARD Facility.

J. Prohibited Conduct

1. No person while at or upon any Facility shall do any of the following:
 - a. Harass or otherwise disturb others.
 - b. Accost another person for the purpose of begging or soliciting.
 - c. Be under the influence of intoxicating liquor or dangerous drugs in such a condition that the individual is unable to exercise care for his or her own safety, or the safety of others.
 - d. Engage in loud or disturbing conduct, or any act tending to constitute a breach of the peace.
 - e. Climb upon any wall, fence, shelter, tree, shrub, fountain, or other vegetation, or any structure, statue, or artwork not specifically intended for climbing purposes.
 - f. Engage in any form of gambling or game of chance for money.
 - g. Obstruct vehicular or pedestrian traffic.
 - h. Engage in fighting or assault of any person.
 - i. Engage in any form of sexual activity.
 - j. Appear in public in such a manner that one's genitalia are unclothed or exposed.
 - k. Use a bench, picnic table, or other sitting area so as to interfere with its use by other persons, including storing any materials thereon.
 - l. Engage in a course of conduct or commit acts that endanger the safety of others, or District property.
 - m. Operate a bicycle, motor vehicle, or similar vehicle in a manner that endangers any other person or property.

K. Camping

No person shall camp overnight or possess camping gear at or within any Facility unless permitted by prior written agreement with the District. Camping gear includes sleeping bags, tents, beds, bedrolls, shelters, or other articles associated with overnight camping.

L. Fires

No person shall build, light, or maintain a fire of any nature at or within any Facility except in permanent fixed barbecues or designated areas. Exceptions to this requirement must be obtained in writing from CARD.

M. Barbecues

Barbecue grills are available for use at certain Facilities. Only charcoal briquettes from manufactured sources can be used in said devices. The use of portable propane barbecue devices will be allowed in designated picnic areas at a Facility so long as they are placed in an area that will not scorch, burn, or otherwise damage lawns or table tops and that is at least 30 feet from any flammable material such as grass, weeds, wood chips, brush or buildings. All propane barbecue devices must be from manufactured sources, in good working condition, and used only for their intended uses. Barbecues shall be operated at all times in a manner that does not endanger facilities. After using the barbecues, the fire must be thoroughly extinguished. Live coals must be disposed of in a safe manner and not placed on the grass or into trash receptacles.

N. Smoke-Free Parks

Smoking is prohibited in all CARD Facilities. "Smoking" means inhaling, exhaling, burning or carrying any lighted pipe, cigar, cigarette, weed, plant, or other combustible organic or chemical substance, the smoke from which is specifically designed or intended to be inhaled or drawn into the nose or mouth. In addition, "smoking" includes the use of any e-cigarette or vapor device, of any product name or descriptor, which releases gases, particles or vapors into the air as a result of combustion, electrical ignition, or vaporization intended to be drawn into the nose or mouth (excluding any United States Food and Drug Administration approved nebulized medication).

O. Drugs/Possession of Drug Paraphernalia

Absolutely no drugs, illegal substances, or drug paraphernalia are allowed in or on any Facility.

P. Alcoholic Beverages

No person shall possess, sell, or consume any alcoholic beverage at or within any Facility, unless by permit only at the CARD Community Center/Creekside Rose Garden, Lakeside Pavilion, Pleasant Valley Recreation Center, Dorothy F. Johnson Center, and DeGarmo Park. Permits to serve alcohol at these facilities may be applied for on forms prepared and provided by CARD no later than 30 days prior to the event. Alcohol may not be served or consumed unless the application has been approved and the requisite permit has been issued by the District.

Q. Soliciting

No person or group shall solicit money or other property from persons not known to such person or group at or within any Facility unless permitted by prior written agreement with the District. For the purposes of this section, soliciting shall also include the leafleting, distribution, or posting of any advertisements or other promotional items; delivering any goods or services for a fee; or stationing or placing any stand, cart, or vehicle for display of goods, merchandise, or services.

R. Concessions

No person, group, or business shall sell merchandise or services, or operate a concession at or within any Facility unless permitted by prior written agreement with the District. In the event CARD has permitted such, the person, group or business shall have in its possession at all times while selling merchandise or services such written authorization. If food or beverage items are to be served to the general public (selling or giving away), a health permit is required and must be provided upon request.

S. Vehicles/Parking

1. With the exception of authorized emergency vehicles, or unless permitted by prior written agreement issued by the District, motor vehicle(s) shall be parked at a Facility only in places specifically provided or designated for such purpose during hours of operation. As used in this section, "motor vehicle(s)" shall include any type of motor driven vehicle, including, but not limited to, house trailers, motorcycles, motorized two or three wheel vehicles, buses, and automobiles.
2. No person shall permit a vehicle to be parked or left standing for 72 or more consecutive hours at any Facility. Any vehicle parked or left standing in violation of this section may be removed as provided in the Vehicle Code of the State of California.

T. Bicycles, Skateboards, etc.

1. No person shall use any rolling device such as a bicycle, skateboard, scooter, inline skates, etc., in a manner that may cause potential harm to other people, pets, wildlife, or District property, nor on any sports field, tennis court, playground, off-leash area, or other reserved or restricted areas.
2. Bicyclists shall be permitted to wheel or push bicycles by hand on any grassy area, trail, or path reserved for pedestrian use. All non-motorized vehicles shall be operated at all times with reasonable regard for the safety of others.

U. Bounce House/Inflatables

1. Bounce houses and other inflatables may only be set up in designated areas of a Facility, and must be supervised at all times. Quiet generators must be provided as electricity will not be available.
2. Inflatables and any other items with any type of water feature, water slides, dunk tanks, or any other similar items, are prohibited at all Facilities.

V. Aviation/Drones

No person shall voluntarily bring, operate, or land any aircraft, airplane, aircraft, hot air balloon, parachute, hang glider, drone, or other aerial craft or device (with the exception of kites) in any Facility. Certain areas may be designated appropriate landing places for medical evacuation helicopters, or as permitted by prior written agreement with the District.

W. Miscellaneous Activities

1. No person shall do any of the following:
 - a. Engage in activities that endanger property, public safety, or environmental resources.
 - b. Utilize any Facility for the purpose of teaching for personal profit or financial gain an individual or group any recreational skill unless permitted by prior written agreement with the District.
 - c. Damage, injure, collect, or remove earth, rocks, sand, gravel, fossils, minerals, or any article of paleontological, archaeological or historical interest or value located on any Facility. Special permission may be granted to remove, treat, disturb, or otherwise affect plants or animals or geological, historical, archaeological, or paleontological materials for research, interpretive, educational, or park operational purposes.
 - d. Cut, carve, paint, mark, paste, and/or fasten on any tree, fence, wall, building, monument, or other District property, any bill, advertisement, directional or informational signs, or inscription whatsoever unless permitted by prior written agreement with the District.
 - e. Use airborne projectiles such as rockets, golf balls, archery equipment, javelins, or any other projectile that may harm District property or people at any Facility, except in areas specifically designated for such use.
 - f. Use a metal detector or similar device in any Facility.
 - g. Operate a still, motion picture, video, or other camera for commercial purposes unless prior authorization is received by CARD. This section shall not apply to the commercial operation of cameras as part of bona fide reporting of news.
 - h. Use electrical outlet(s) in or on any Facility for personal use unless prior authorization is received by CARD.
 - i. Bring into or possess commercial shopping carts, whether attended or not, at any Facility.

X. Responsibility for Conduct of Minors

Parents and guardians shall be responsible for the conduct of their minor children and shall not permit such minor children to do any act prohibited by these rules and regulations.

Y. Noise and Audio Devices

No person shall cause a loud or excessive noise within any Facility which exceeds the decibel level allowed under local ordinance or otherwise unreasonably disturbs the peace and quiet of any neighborhood, the quiet enjoyment of property, or of any reasonable person of normal sensitivity residing or working in the area unless permitted by prior written agreement with the District.

Z. Assembly/Permits

1. Certain Facilities shall be made available for the exclusive use for activities which are appropriate as defined in the District's Master Plan for the involved park and/or facility, subject to the prior issuance of a permit by the District.
2. Permits are required for any activity with 75 or more participants, and for special events, sponsored events, or any activity advertised to the public, including but not limited to, fundraisers, entertainment, demonstrations, exhibitions, or tournaments, regardless of the number of participants.
3. Permits will not be issued to any activity that may unreasonably interfere with the enjoyment of a Facility by other users.
4. The decision of whether to approve a permit will be based on the following factors:
 - a. Whether or not the event is contrary to the purpose(s) for which the Facility or Facilities were established.
 - b. The location of the event and such location's vulnerability to damage.
 - c. Whether or not the event will unreasonably interfere with other Facility uses or users, District activities, public safety, or other activities authorized by the District.
 - d. If the event will detract from the general public enjoyment of the Facility, or result in significant conflict with other uses.
 - e. Whether the event or activities associated with the event presents a high risk of personal injury and/or property damage; or presents a clear and present danger to public health and/or safety.
 - f. The number of people expected to be in attendance.
 - g. The type of equipment to be brought onto the site.
 - h. The number of days the permittee would occupy the site.
 - i. Whether or not insurance or other permit conditions can be complied with.
5. Reservation and use of a Facility shall be in strict compliance with all applicable Federal, State, County, Local Laws and Regulations, including these Rules and Regulations, and any other Rules and Regulations established by the District.
6. CARD reserves the right to deny future reservations to anyone who does not comply with the terms and conditions of any permit and/or violates any of CARD's rules and regulations.

Article IV - Enforcement

1. In addition to all other penalties prescribed by law, violation of any of these rules and regulations shall subject the violator to ejection from the Facility in which the violation occurred for 72 hours. If any person violates this order, local law enforcement may be called, and the person may be arrested for criminal trespass.
2. Pursuant to Public Resources Code 5786.17
 - (a) Violation of any rule, regulation, or ordinance adopted by a board of directors is a misdemeanor punishable pursuant to Section 19 of the Penal Code.
 - (b) Any citation issued by a district for violation of a rule, regulation, or ordinance adopted by a board of directors may be processed as an infraction pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 17 of the Penal Code.
 - (c) To protect property and to preserve the peace at recreation facilities and other property owned or managed by a district, the board of directors may confer on designated uniformed district employees the power to issue citations for misdemeanor and infraction violations of state law, city or county ordinances, or district rules, regulations, or ordinances when the violation is committed within a recreation facility and in the presence of the employee issuing the citation.
3. No person shall refuse to leave a Facility and/or interfere with any police officer, contracted security patrol officer, employee, or representative of CARD when enforcing these rules and regulations. Anyone who intentionally acts in a manner that prevents or attempts to prevent enforcement of these rules and regulations may be ejected from a Facility and/or prosecuted for criminal trespass.
4. These Regulations shall not apply to, or restrict, any police officer, or other governmental agency while acting in the performance of any lawful duty imposed upon such officer or agent by any lawful authority.
5. Should any word, sentence, paragraph, clause or phrase of these rules and regulations be adjudged or held to be void or unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions, which shall remain in full force and effect.