

Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District  
Rules and Regulations  
Papio Trails System

Under authority of the provisions of L.B. 861, Chapter 232-90 and 91 of the Eighty-eighth Session of the Nebraska Legislature, the following Rules and Regulations are adopted by the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District to govern the administration, use, operation, maintenance and protection recreational trails under the control of said District. Under other provisions of L.B. 861, any person

- a) who camps, picnics, hikes, backpacks, or engages in any other unauthorized activity on the recreational trail on land not designated as a camping, picnicking, hiking, backpacking, or other similar area by the District or fails to observe the posted conditions governing use of such land; or
- b) who lights any type of fire, uses any fireworks, smokes tobacco in any form, or leaves unattended or unextinguished any fire of any type in any location within the trail system, when not permitted by the District; or
- c) who brings upon, possesses, grazes, maintains, or allows to run at large any pet, domestic animal, or poultry in the trail system when not permitted by the District; or
- d) who hunts, fishes, traps, harvests fur, or uses firearms, bow and arrow, or any other projectile weapon or device in the trail system when not permitted by the District; or
- e) who swims, bathes, boats, wades, uses any flotation device, or engages in any other water-related recreational activity in the trail system when not permitted by the District; or
- f) who, without the permission of the District, damages, destroys, uses, or removes any public, real or personal property in the trail system, constructs or installs any privately owned structure in the trail system, or enters or remains upon all or any portion of the trail system when appropriate signs or public notices prohibiting such activity have been erected or displayed; or
- g) who abandons any motor vehicle, trailer, or other conveyance in or on the trail system; or
- h) who sells, trades, or vends any goods, products, or commodities of any type in the trail system when not permitted by the District; or
- i) who cuts down, or removes in any way, any tree, shrub, bush or plant,

shall be guilty of a Class V misdemeanor, which, according to law, is punishable by a maximum fine of one hundred dollars.

The Rules and Regulations contained hereafter shall apply, and be administered to all persons entering, using, visiting, or who are otherwise within the boundaries of the trail system controlled by the District. These Rules and Regulations are effective as of April 11, 1991.

#### A. DEFINITIONS

- 1) District: The Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District
- 2) Board: The Board of Directors of the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District
- 3) General Manager: The chief executive of the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District, hired by the Board of Directors.
- 4) Law Enforcement Officer: Any duly constituted and credentialed local, state, or federal law enforcement officer.
- 5) Trails Area or System: All recreational trails and trail systems on land owned or under easement to, and administered by, the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District.
- 6) District Employee: An employee of the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District

#### B. RULES AND REGULATIONS

##### 1) Hours of operation

- a) The trails will be open daily between the hours of 5:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m.
- b) The District may establish a reasonable use schedule for all portions of a trail area and close to public use all, or any portion of a trail area, when necessary for the protection of an area for the safety and welfare of persons or property, by the posting of appropriate signs.

##### 2) Permitted Activities

- a) The following activities are permitted on the trail system: walking, jogging, biking, roller skates, in-line roller skates, skateboards, and cross country skiing.

##### 3) Dogs, Cats and Pets

- a) Dogs, cats, and other pets are prohibited unless they are crated, caged, or on a leash of no more than 6 (six) feet in length.
- b) Dogs, cats, or other pets running at large and observed in the act of killing, injuring, or molesting humans or wildlife may be disposed of by any District employee or law enforcement officer, in the interest of public safety and the protection of

wildlife.

- c) All equestrian activity is prohibited on the trail area without prior written authorization by the District.

4) Other Livestock

- a) Grazing or ranging domestic animals or poultry is prohibited without prior written authorization by the District.

5) Motorized Vehicles

- a) All motorized vehicles shall be prohibited on the trail area except wheelchairs operated by the mobility impaired, emergency vehicles and equipment, and District maintenance vehicles.

6) Intoxication: Consumption of Alcohol

- a) Consumption and/or possession of alcoholic beverages within the trail system owned and operated by the District is prohibited.

7) Disorderly Conduct

- a) Disorderly conduct, as defined in the Nebraska State Statutes, is prohibited.

8) Traffic (trailusers)

- a) Pedestrians have the right-of-way.
- b) Trailusers shall keep to the right and walk or ride in single file, whenever practical.
- c) Trailusers shall announce their presence and their intention to pass (on the left side).
- d) Trailusers shall pull off to the side of the trail when stopped.
- e) Trailusers shall obey all posted signs.
- f) Bikers shall slow to a safe speed when approaching or passing pedestrians.

9) Sanitation

- a) All garbage, papers, cans, bottles, waste materials, and rubbish of any kind must be deposited in containers designated for the disposal thereof or removed from the area.
- b) Draining or dumping of refuse or wastes from any source within the trail system is prohibited.
- c) Polluting or contaminating in any manner any watershed, water supplies, or water used for drinking purposes is prohibited.

- d) Depositing any body waste in or on any portion of the trail or other public structure except into fixtures provided for that purpose is prohibited.
- f) Using District refuse containers or other refuse facilities for dumping household or commercial garbage or trash brought as such from private property is prohibited.

10) Vending

- a) Vending, including mobile venders, of various goods and services, products, and commodities is prohibited.
- b) The sale or distribution of printed matter within the trail area without prior written authorization from the General Manager of the District is prohibited, except that printed matter may be personally handed to individuals willing to accept it.

11) Firearms, Explosives, or Fireworks

- a) The use or possession of explosives, firearms, ammunition, loaded projectile firing devices, bows and arrows, crossbows, and explosive devices of any kind, is prohibited unless in the possession of a federal, state, or local law enforcement officer, or authorized District employee. Fireworks are also prohibited without written, prior authorization by the District.

12) Standards

- a) The standards established in these regulations are in furtherance of the preservation and protection of the natural, scenic, historic, pastoral, and fish and wildlife values, and provide for the enhancement of the recreation values of the trail area.
- b) Use and development of property will be in conformance with applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and ordinances.
- c) Development, improvement, and use of the property will not materially detract from the scenic, natural, historic, pastoral, and wildlife values of the area.
- d) All new utilities will be underground when feasible.
- e) No structures or other improvements will be constructed in or encroaching upon streambeds, banks, and floodplains of live or intermittent streams. Streambeds, banks, and floodplains will not be disturbed, except as may be necessary to construct, operate, and maintain irrigation, fisheries, utilities, roads, and similar facilities or improvements. Any such necessary encroachment will avoid impeding water flow, sedimentation of streams, or entrance of deleterious materials into streams.

13) Exceptions to regulations

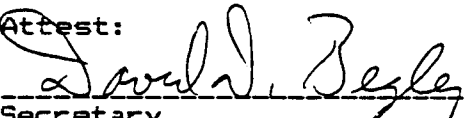
- a) Nothing in the foregoing shall be construed as prohibiting the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District or their duly appointed agents or employees from the conduct of their assigned duties in the administration, maintenance, and development of areas owned or controlled by the District.
- b) In the event of natural disaster, state or national emergency, civil disorder, accident, or other situation wherein the conduct of activities otherwise permitted under these regulations may constitute a hazard to the public health, safety, or welfare, or inhibit rescue, recovery, post-disaster, or development operations, management personnel of the District are herewith specifically empowered and directed to take such measures at their disposal to preserve the public health, safety, and welfare and to expedite rescue, recovery, and operations to include the temporary suspension of any or all activities contemplated in these regulations or any area or portion of any area owned or controlled by the District and the temporary closure and/or any such area.

14) Regulations amendments or changes

- a) The Board reserves the right to amend or change the rules and regulations for the trail area as deemed necessary.

Dated and approved by the Board of Directors of the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District this 11<sup>th</sup> day of April, 1991.

  
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Chairperson  
P-MRNRD Board of Directors

Attest:  
  
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Secretary  
P-MRNRD Board of Directors