

Agenda Item: 11.

Memorandum

To: PPO Subcommittee
From: John Winkler
Date: July 6, 2012
Re: Amendment 2 to District Policy Manual Appendix K - Papio-Missouri River NRD Recreation Areas Rules and Regulations

Amendment 2 to District Policy Manual Appendix K - Papio-Missouri River NRD Recreation Areas Rules and Regulation is submitted for your approval to include the West Maple Canoe Access and general updates to paragraph 5 - Boating and Other Watercraft or Vessels and paragraph 7 - Fires.

Management recommends that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board that the Amendment 2 to District Policy Manual Appendix K – Papio-Missouri River NRD Recreation Areas Rules and Regulations be approved subject to changes deemed necessary by the General Manager and approved as to form by District Legal Counsel.

AMENDMENT 2 TO APPENDIX K

PAPIO-MISSOURI RIVER NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT RECREATION AREAS RULES AND REGULATIONS

**Chalco Hills Recreation Area –
Elkhorn River Access at Graske Crossing
Prairie View Recreation Area – Elkhorn Crossing Recreation Area
Platte River Landing Recreation Area
Waterford Recreation Area
West Maple Canoe Access**

WHEREAS, Nebraska Revised Statutes Sections 2-3290, et seq., provides that the board of directors of a natural resources district which owns land or has a lease or an easement permitting the use of land for public recreational purposes may adopt and promulgate rules and regulations governing the public use of such land, as provided in sections 2-3292 to 2-32,100; and,

WHEREAS, in accordance with said Section 2-32,101, the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District relies entirely upon the law enforcement officers identified therein for enforcement of Nebraska laws and the District's own rules and regulations within the District's recreation areas, to-wit:

Chalco Hills Lake and Recreation Area in Sarpy County
Elkhorn River Access at Graske Crossing in Douglas County
Prairie View Lake and Recreation Area in Douglas County
Elkhorn Crossing Recreation Area in Douglas County
Platte River Landing Recreation Area in Douglas County
Waterford Recreation Area at PL 566 Site D-17 in Douglas County
West Maple Canoe Access in Douglas County

5. Boating and Other Watercraft or Vessels

- A. ~~Watercraft shall not be left unattended in recreation area waters except at designated mooring, anchoring or beaching locations. The term watercraft shall mean canoes, kayaks, air boats and other mono-hull and multi-hull boats, tanks, tubes and other vessels and devices, whether powered or not, that are intended or used by persons for flotation or water-borne transportation.~~
- B. Docks installed adjacent to boat ramps in a recreation area shall be used only for ~~the~~ launching and recovery of watercraft and the embarking and disembarking of passengers. The mooring of watercraft at such docks for any other reason, ~~or for a period of time greater than that reasonable to accomplish the permitted~~

~~activities~~, is prohibited. Watercraft shall not be left in recreation area day use parking areas at any time between the hours of 10 o'clock P.M and 6:00 o'clock A.M. Unattended watercraft shall not remain beached, moored, anchored or parked in any part of the recreation area, or in waters within the legal boundaries thereof, for longer than thirty (30) consecutive minutes at a time.

C. Persons using watercraft within the legal boundaries of the recreation area shall at all times carry or otherwise have in their possession a U.S. Coast Guard approved PFD (personal flotation device) appropriate for such activity.

G-D. The sport of wind surfing is permitted at Chalco Hills Recreation Area only.

D-E. All motorized vessels and watercraft in a recreation area are restricted to a no-wake speed limit, except river corridors governed by state or federal regulations (i.e. Platte River Landing, Elkhorn River Access at Graske Crossing, Elkhorn Crossing, West Maple Canoe Access).

E-F. The operation of ~~vessels or other~~ watercraft in a recreation area in a careless, negligent or reckless manner, so as to endanger any property or person (including the operator and/or user(s) ~~thereof the vessel or watercraft~~), is prohibited.

F-G. Vessels or other watercraft may be operated on recreation area waters, except in prohibited or controlled areas, in accordance with all posted regulations, including buoys, and applicable federal, state and local laws, as regulated by authorized enforcement officers. All vessels or watercraft so required by applicable federal, state and local laws shall display an appropriate registration on board whenever the vessel is operated on recreation area waters.

G-H. Vessels or other watercraft in a recreation area are not to be used as a place of habitation or residence.

H-I. The use of jet skis on recreation area waters is prohibited, except river corridors.

I-J. In the Elkhorn River Access at Graske Crossing and the West Maple Canoe Access, only hand propelled craft ~~will be allowed to may~~ use the boat ramp.

J-K. ~~No~~There shall be no landing, embarkation, disembarkation, loading, unloading, repair, operation or use of any watercraft, or any ~~such vessel's~~ engine or other component ~~thereof~~, in a recreation area, or in waters within the legal boundaries thereof, at any time between the hours of 10:00 o'clock, P.M., and 6:00 o'clock, A.M.

K-L. ~~No~~There shall be no movement, parking, loading, unloading, repair, operation or use of any automobile, truck, motorcycle, or other vehicle, or any engine or other component thereof, in the day use area parking lot or on the boat ramp of a recreation area at any time between the hours of 10:00 o'clock, P.M., and 6:00 o'clock, A.M.

11. Fires

- A. Fires in a recreation area are prohibited except in District-provided fireplaces and grills located in designated picnic grounds, and except in commercially-manufactured stoves or lanterns using gasoline, propane, butane gas, or similar fuels. No ground fires or burn barrel ground fires will be allowed anywhere in the recreation area including the campground.

- B. Fires must be kindled in such manner that no trees, shrub, grass, or other combustible matter will be set on fire or caused to be set on fire.
- C. Only natural wood (including commercially-manufactured fire place logs and charcoal) may be burned in a Recreation Area fireplace or grill.
- D. Wood products containing creosote or other chemical additive, CCA treated lumber, food waste, trash, green vegetation, plastic, rubber, metal, paper products (other than paper used in kindling (starting) a fire, and other man-made products not approved elsewhere in these rules, may not be burned in a Recreation Area fireplace or grill.
- E. Natural wood burned in a park fireplace or grill must be cut to such a length as to fit entirely within the confines of the fireplace or grill in which it is being burned.
- F. Fires must be observed and controlled at all times, and not be allowed to burn to a height or volume that poses a danger to others or to any private or public property from flames, hot embers, or ash.
- G. Fires will be maintained at all times so as to not create undue smoke or simulate smudge pots.
- H. Fires may not be kindled or started by the use of gasoline, diesel fuel or any other combustible liquid or fuels except starters, liquids or other materials manufactured for the express purpose of facilitating starting of fires in fireplaces, stoves, grills and the like.
- I. When no longer needed, the fire shall be completely extinguished. Leaving a fire unattended is prohibited.
- J. Throwing or dropping a lighted cigarette, cigar, pipe heel, match, or other burning materials is prohibited.
- K. The kindling of fires in a recreation area may be prohibited by the Park Superintendent by posting signs when an increased fire hazard makes such action necessary.
- L. The Park Superintendent, during such period of time as he may prescribe, may prohibit smoking in any recreation areas, including roads and trails, by the posting of appropriate signs.
- M. Fires in a recreation area are prohibited after closing hours (except at campsites at the Elkhorn Crossing Recreation Area), in the absence of a Special Use Permit by from the District.

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