



Dutchess County  
Department of Public Works  
Parks Division  
Rules and Regulations

SUE SERINO  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

ROBERT H. BALKIND, P.E.  
COMMISSIONER

Adopted: October 10, 2025

## **A Message from the Commissioner of Public Works**

*Dear Residents, Visitors, and Guests,*

*It is my pleasure to introduce the newly revised **Parks Rules & Regulations** for Dutchess County's eleven exceptional park facilities. This document reflects our ongoing commitment to maintaining safe, accessible, and enjoyable public spaces for all who live in or visit our community.*

*From the southern reaches of the County—featuring Bowdoin Park, with its scenic Hudson River views and family-friendly amenities, and Heritage Financial Park, home of the beloved Hudson Valley Renegades—to the northern beauty of Wilcox Memorial Park, our parks offer something for everyone. Along the riverfront, Quiet Cove Park provides a peaceful retreat with stunning water views, while our extensive network of over 40 miles of rail trails invites walkers, runners, and cyclists to explore the County's natural beauty in every season.*

*Our parks are open 362 days a year, closing only on Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Days. These revised rules are designed to help all users—residents, guests, and visitors alike—enjoy our parks safely and respectfully, while preserving their beauty and accessibility for future generations.*

*Thank you for taking the time to review this important document. Your cooperation and shared stewardship are what make our parks such treasured community assets.*

*Warm regards,*

*Robert H. Balkind*

**Robert H. Balkind, P.E.**

Commissioner of Public Works

Dutchess County Department of Public Works

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These Rules and Regulations apply to the following Dutchess County Parks and Facilities:

**Bowdoin Park** - Town of Poughkeepsie

**Heritage Financial Park** - Town of Fishkill

**Lake Walton Preserve** - Town of East Fishkill

**Quiet Cove Riverfront Park** - Town of Poughkeepsie

**Upper Landing Park** - City of Poughkeepsie

**Wilcox Memorial Park** - Town of Milan

**William R. Steinhaus Dutchess Rail Trail (WRSDRT)**

**Empire State Trail-Maybrook Extension (ESTME)**

**Harlem Valley Rail Trail (HVRT)**

**Marcus J. Molinaro Northside Line (MJMNL)**

**Heritage Financial Park**-Town of Fishkill

# Dutchess County Department of Public Works

## Parks Division - Rules and Regulations

### Section I: Purpose

Dutchess County operates several parks which provide facilities and programs for the recreation, education and relaxation of its residents and visitors to Dutchess County. For optimal enjoyment of these parks, and to enhance and promote the safety and well-being of all park visitors, the Dutchess County Department of Public Works-Parks Division (Parks), has developed rules and regulations governing visitors' use and conduct.

### Section II: Definitions

Unless otherwise expressly defined, whenever used in these Rules and Regulations, the following words or phrases shall have the following meanings:

- a) **Park**- a property that encompasses all land, water, wildlife, vegetation, structures, signs, and equipment administered or operated by the Dutchess County Department of Public Works-Park Division.
- b) **Park Facility or Facility**- any man-made building, structure, camp site or Park amenity.
- c) **County**- the County of Dutchess.
- d) **Commissioner**- the Commissioner of Public Works of the County of Dutchess.
- e) **Designee**- any Park staff or representative with delegated authority given by the Commissioner to enforce these rules and regulations
- f) **Foot Path**- any path or trail designated or maintained for pedestrians, whether paved or unpaved.
- g) **Rail Trail**- a linear facility that is substantially longer than it is wide.
- h) **Permit**- a written authorization issued by the Commissioner or his/her Designee, in accordance with these Rules and Regulations.
- i) **Person**- any individual, family, group, corporation, unincorporated association, firm, partnership, or other entity or business organization of any kind.
- j) **Group**- consists of ten (10) or more people.
- k) **Service Animal**- a dog that is individually trained to perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability.
- l) **Pet**- any domestic or tamed animal kept traditionally in a homestead environment, or a caged pet.
- m) **Public Gathering** - a public gathering refers to ten people or more assembled in a specific location for a shared purpose, often in a place accessible to the general public.

## Section III: Rules and Regulations Applicable to All Park Facilities

Notwithstanding anything set forth in these Rules and Regulations, all laws, statutes or ordinances of the State, County or local municipalities shall apply to the conduct of all persons or activities within the Parks and may be enforced by any duly authorized law enforcement office, the Commissioner or designee.

### **A. General:**

1. All Park visitors shall comply with lawful instructions made by Parks employees and/or law enforcement personnel.
2. All Park visitors shall comply with Park signage instructions in addition to the Rules and Regulations herein.
3. No person shall attempt to prevent Park staff from performing their duties by means of intimidation, physical force, or interference.
4. No person shall engage in activities whether on adjacent property or any Park which may infringe upon the rights of or cause injury to other persons, unless the activity is permitted

### **B. Prohibited Activities:**

The following activities are specifically **prohibited** in all Parks except as otherwise authorized by the Commissioner, his/her Designee, or authorized law enforcement.

#### **1. Motorized Vehicles:**

- (a) No person shall clean, polish, wash, grease, lubricate, repair, or perform any other types of vehicle maintenance.
- (b) No person shall operate any aircraft, snowmobile, motorboat, all-terrain vehicle, motorcycle, motor cross bike, trike, moped, Segway, balancing scooter, all-terrain vehicle (ATV), buggy, motor scooter, or Class 3 e-bike operated by electric motor throttle.
- (c) No person shall operate a motor vehicle in an unsafe manner.
- (d) No person shall drive on grass unless otherwise instructed or allowed to based on park staff direction.

#### **2. Shrubs, Flowers, Trees, Grass, Turf, Soil, or Rock Formations:**

- (a) No person shall pick, cut, break, dig, deface, injure or remove such in any way.
- (b) No person shall climb, rappel any rock formation, tree, structure, or any other such natural feature.

#### **3. Park Facilities:**

- (a) No person shall damage, deface, misuse, injure, break, destroy, tamper with, cut, chop, carve, write upon, mutilate, injure, set fire to, deface, paint, or damage any Park Facility or portion thereof.
- (b) No person shall refuse to comply with any lawful order by the Commissioner or his/her Designee, or law enforcement, to disperse from a Park Facility.
- (c) No person shall establish or maintain any camp or other temporary lodging or sleeping place without a Permit.
- (d) No person shall loiter in or near port-a-lets or rest room facilities.
- (e) No person shall move any picnic table unless authorized to do so by Parks staff.

No person shall use commemorative benches or other Park amenities as memorial sanctuaries. Additionally, no items or structures, including, but not limited to, wreaths, plantings, rocks, and tree hangings, shall be placed on or near any Park Facilities. All such items are subject to removal and disposal by parks staff.

4. Wastepaper, Garbage, Confetti, and Refuse:

- (a) No person shall scatter or deposit waste, including but not limited to, wastepaper, garbage, and confetti, except in appropriate receptacles.
- (b) No person shall discharge, scatter, or deposit any type of waste, garbage, trash, litter, debris, toxic material, or any other material, in any pond, storm sewer, lake, river, stream, fountain or trail.

5. Animals, Birds, and Fish:

- (a) No person shall remove, disturb or possess any nest, game, wildlife, or eggs of same.
- (b) No person shall molest, trap, hunt, capture, kill, bury, or injure any wildlife.
- (c) No person shall abandon any animal or bird.
- (d) No person shall disturb or feed wildlife.

6. Lake, Streams, and Fountains:

- (a) No person shall remove or disturb any vegetation.
- (b) No person shall wade, swim or dive, except as authorized in designated swimming areas.
- (c) No person shall remove or disturb any protected habitat.

7. Weapons and Explosives:

- 1. No person shall carry, possess, or discharge a firearm or weapon, including but not limited to, a bow, crossbow, or any instrument or weapon with propelling force of which is a spring, rubber or air or uses any ammunition. This includes, but is not limited to gas guns, slingshots, missiles or missile throwing devices, arrows, knives (except for culinary use), shotguns, lasers, or other dangerous weapons or explosives.

8. Smoking:

- (a) Smoking and vaping are prohibited in all Parks.

**C. Regulated Activities:**

The following activities are permitted **subject to the regulations** indicated herein.

1. Recreational Activities:

- (a) Picnicking, swimming, splash pad water play, playground recreation, pickleball, disc golf, cross country skiing, sledding, snowshoeing, birding, hiking, bicycling, jogging, cross country (XC) running, softball, baseball, volleyball, soccer, kayaking, fishing, camping, horseshoe pitching, basketball, rollerblading, boating (subject to limitations) and similar forms of recreation are permitted only in areas designated for such use.
- (b) Drones may be recreationally flown and operated in parks other than Bowdoin Park, where such operation is prohibited. Operation of drones must be in accordance with all applicable local, state and federal drone laws, specifically, those found in the FAA Part 107 guidelines ([Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems \(UAS\) Regulations \(Part 107\) | Federal Aviation Administration](#)).

Operation of drones may not:

- (i) disturb or interfere with live wildlife;
- (ii) be flown under the influence of drugs or alcohol;
- (iii) be flown near or over critical infrastructure.

\*Violation of this section may result in being banned from flying drones in Parks.

- (c) Any recreational object that produces loud noises or deemed hazardous will not be permitted in Parks, except in those areas which may be designated for such use by the Commissioner and or Designee.
- (d) Fishing is permitted in designated areas in accordance with New York State Department of Environmental Conservation rules and regulations.

2. Noise:

- (a) Amplified music may be played at a volume so as not to disturb others.

3. Fires:

- (a) Fires are permitted only in fireplaces, grills, campground fire rings, or similarly designated areas. All fires must be thoroughly extinguished prior to vacating said area.
- (b) Matches, charcoal, and all flammable materials must be thoroughly extinguished before being disposed of.
- (c) The Commissioner or his/her Designee may prohibit fires in designated areas when necessary for the protection of persons or Park property.
- (d) Fires and grills are not permitted on Rail Trails unless otherwise approved by the Commissioner or his/ her Designee.

4. Domestic animals:

- (a) Domestic animals only are permitted but must be controlled at all times on a leash no longer than six feet.
- (b) Service animals are permitted in all locations regardless of other pet restrictions (leash required), unless such presence poses a risk of danger to the public or Park property.
- (c) Animal feces must be picked up and disposed of in appropriate trash receptacles.
- (d) Proof of current rabies and/or distemper inoculations shall be made available upon request of Park personnel.

5. Merchandising:

- (a) No person shall rent or sell any commodity, article, material, equipment, or service without a permit.

6. Sale or distribution of Food and Refreshments or any other Commodity:

- (a) No person shall sell or distribute any food or refreshments to the general public without an appropriate permit.
- (b) Except for food and refreshments provided to guests at a rented facility event, only concessionaires approved by the Dutchess County Parks Director or his/her Designee are permitted.

7. Charging of Admission:

- (a) Permit holders engaged in a business or nonprofit enterprise may charge the public for admission to said event; however, such charge is subject to the approval of the Commissioner or his/her Designee.

8. Public Gatherings:

- (a) Permit requirement: A permit is required for public gatherings including but not limited to assemblies, demonstrations, parades, picnics or any other organized activities.
- (b) Location restrictions: The size of the gatherings and the specific location within the Park may affect permit requirements. Larger gatherings or those in more sensitive areas may have additional restrictions.
- (c) Noise levels: Public gatherings must avoid disturbing other park visitors. Amplified sound systems may be restricted or require additional permits.
- (d) Cleanliness: Organizers are responsible for ensuring that the area is left clean and free of litter after an event, which includes placing in trash receptacles. This may include providing trash bags, recycling bins and arranging for cleanup crews.
- (e) Safety and Security: Adequate measures must be taken by organizer to ensure the safety and security of all participants and park visitors. This may include the organizer providing security personnel or coordinating with local law enforcement.

9. Alcoholic Beverages:

- a) Groups of 10 or more, in which any members consume alcohol, must obtain an alcohol permit through Dutchess County Parks.
- b) Requests for an alcohol permit must be submitted by application to Dutchess County Parks at least four (4) weeks prior to the desired usage date. An alcohol permit may be issued to individuals ("permittees") twenty-one (21) years of age or older in accordance with New York State law.
- c) It shall be the responsibility of the permittee to ensure that no persons under the legal age of 21 consume any alcohol brought into the Parks pursuant to the alcohol permit. Consumption of alcohol is not allowed in parking areas, on park roads, or within any vehicle, while on the Parks property. An alcohol permit may be revoked by Dutchess County Parks at any time the Commissioner or his or her Designee deems necessary.
- d) For groups of fewer than 10 persons, alcohol is permitted without a permit if used responsibly.
- e) Consumption of alcohol is not allowed in parking areas, park roads or within vehicles. An alcohol permit may be revoked by Dutchess County Parks administrative staff at any time if the permittee is deemed to not be in compliance with the alcohol policy.

10. Motor Vehicles:

- (a) Registered motor vehicles may only be operated on park roadways and designated parking lots. Motor vehicle operation on footpaths and rail trails is prohibited, except as necessary for Park or law enforcement personnel.
- (b) Registered motor vehicles shall be parked in designated areas only. Vehicles parked in non-designated areas are subject to ticketing or towing at the owner's expense.
- (c) Parking shall not exceed Park operating hours, except when authorized by a permit obtained for overnight stays at Bowdoin Park's Maple Knoll Lodge or Wilcox Memorial Park Campground.
- (d) Motor vehicles shall comply with Park posted speed limits.



## Section IV: Enforcement:

- (a) No person shall refuse to comply with any reasonable order relating to the regulation, direction or control of traffic, or to any other order lawfully given by the Commissioner or his/her Designee.
- (b) The Commissioner may set such other regulations to promote the health, safety and general welfare of persons and the orderly administration of the Parks.
- (c) The rights of Park users to enjoy the Park shall at all times be recognized and respected by all persons. If an individual, family or group causes discomfort or disruption to other Park users or to Park staff, they may, at the discretion of the Commissioner or his/her Designee be reassigned to another area of the Park or be asked to leave the Park. This action could lead to the banning of the individual, family or group from the Park for the remainder of the season, or longer.

## Section V: Policies

All information is subject to change:

### 1. Facility Rental Policy:

Park Facilities are available to reserve on a first-come, first-served basis by calling the Park office at 845-298-4600 or by visiting the County's website at [www.dutchessny.gov](http://www.dutchessny.gov).

- (a) All reservations made in the name of a business, organization or nonprofit are required to submit proof of insurance at least 4 weeks prior to the reservation date and must be approved by the County prior to issuance of a permit.
- (b) Accepted methods of payment include credit/debit cards, check and cash. Full payment is due upon booking.
- (c) Proof of residency cannot be a PO Box. Valid Dutchess County address is required for in county rates.
- (d) Alcohol permits are in addition to the facility rental and require additional insurance.
- (e) Rentals are from 9:00 AM until half an hour prior to park closing time. Park closing time changes seasonally.
- (a) Dutchess County Parks reserves the right to cancel a reservation at any time, dependent upon emergency needs or complications due to facility issues or natural weather events. In these cases, full refunds to the renter/program registrant will be provided by the County.
- (f) Failure to follow Park Facility Rental policies will result in removal with no refunds and applicant will be prohibited from renting in the future.

### 2. Refund Policy:

- (a) Cancellation fee is \$50. No refunds within seven days of reservation date.
- (b) No refunds due to inclement weather. If a facility system failure should occur that would cause closing of a facility/program/event for the balance of that session/program, then partial refund may be given and is decided on by the Parks Director on a case-by-case situation.
- (c) Any check that was received and is returned for insufficient funds will result in an additional \$35 charge.

### 3. Emergency Closing Policy:

- (a) Dutchess County Parks and/or facility may close upon the declaration of an emergency by the Dutchess County Executive, or by order of the Commissioner or his/her Designee.

(b) In these cases, full refunds to the renter/program registrant will be provided by the County.

4. Discounted Rate Policy:

(a) The County Executive or the Commissioner or his/ her Designee, at their discretion and upon furnishing reasonable advance notice, can establish temporary discount rates from time to time as deemed appropriate.

5. Pet Policy:

Dutchess County Parks recognizes that your pets are an important part of person's recreation experience. Pet owners are always responsible for adherence to this Pet Policy.

(a) All pets shall be vaccinated as required by Law, and proof of vaccination must be made available upon request of Park staff.

(b) At Wilcox Memorial Park no more than two pets may be permitted on any one campsite.

(c) Pets shall never be left unattended.

(d) Owners must always pick up pet waste of their own pets.

(e) Pets showing aggression to people or other animals must be removed from the Park.

(f) Pets are not permitted in buildings, pavilions, swimming, or splash pad areas, or as otherwise posted.

(g) Exceptions to this policy shall apply to Service Animals in accordance with the Americans with Disability Act (ADA).

## Section VI: Additional Parks Information

1. Operating Hours:

(a) Park hours are seasonal and vary from park to park. Rail Trails are open from dawn to dusk unless otherwise noted.

(b) No person shall be permitted within Parks prior to opening hours or after closing hours as set and established by the Commissioner, except by permission of the Commissioner or his/her Designee.

2. Permits:

(a) Permits are required for functions/events within Parks. In order to facilitate a thorough review, request for Permits shall be submitted to the Parks Office at least four (4) weeks prior to the desired date unless authorized by the Commissioner or his/her Designee.

(b) Types of permits:

(i) Facility Rental:

(ii) Special Rental: any rental not included in these definitions.

(iii) Partnership(s): any endeavor undertaken jointly by a private entity and Dutchess County Parks.

(iv) Public gatherings

(v) Filming and photography.

(vi) Alcohol.

(vii) Fireworks.

(c) Parks may reject a permit for the following reasons:

(i) another activity or use has been previously scheduled for the same time at the Facility or area requested;

- (ii) the proposed activity or use is not compatible with the recreational environment or character of the Facility or area requested;
  - (iii) Parks can reasonably anticipate that the proposed activity or use cannot be accommodated with safety for all park patrons or may result in damage to park or Facility's or property;
  - (iv) the proposed activity or use cannot be accommodated without requiring Park to spend additional funds to provide for operational, supervisory, maintenance or law enforcement personnel, equipment or services;
  - (v) the proposed activity or use will cause undue interference with the activities of other park patrons;
  - (vi) or a material condition of the permit has not been met by the applicant.
- (d) An applicant may appeal denial of a permit application by writing the Commissioner of Public Works.

### 3. Camping (Wilcox Memorial Park):

#### (a) Registration

- (i) Applicant must meet the minimum age (21) requirement for the campground.
- (ii) Billing address must match mailing address to qualify for resident rate.
- (iii) Proof of Dutchess County residency required for resident rates. A PO Box is not considered proof of residency. A street address must be provided.

#### (b) Occupancy

- (i) Sites 1 - 10 are RV sites only.
- (ii) Sites 11 – 27 are tents/ pop-ups only.
  - A maximum of (2) sleeping tents and (1) screen tent OR (1) RV pop-up, (1) sleeping tent, and (1) screen tent is allowed on each site.
- (iii) Applicant may not stay longer than 14 consecutive days.
- (iv) Six people maximum can stay overnight at each campsite.
- (v) Visitors are permitted from 8:00 AM to Park closing time. No more than 5 guests are permitted to visit a campsite at any given time.
- (vi) Two vehicles per campsite. Vehicles must display camping reservation on their dashboard. Additional cars must park in main parking area by park office.
- (vii) Parked vehicles should not obstruct traffic or damage vegetation. No parking on roadways.
- (viii) Quiet hours are 10:00 PM to 8:00 AM.
- (ix) Generators can be used from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM and 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM.
- (x) Keep camping equipment within designated areas and keep campsites clean. Trash and recycling must be brought to refuse area.
- (xi) Fires are allowed in fire rings only, and campfires cannot be left unattended. Do not cut down any standing tree for firewood. Only

local firewood (from no more than 25 miles away) is allowed to be brought into Wilcox Memorial Park, and chainsaws are prohibited.

Any violation of campground Park Rules and Regulation may result in eviction with no refund. Persons violating the rules and regulations may be prohibited from future rental of Facilities within Dutchess County Parks and law enforcement action may be taken.

4. Lodging (Bowdoin Parks Maple Knoll Lodge and Cabin Reservation):

(a) Registration:

- (i) Applicant must be 25 years or older to make Maple Knoll Lodge and Cabin reservations.
- (ii) Billing address must match mailing address to qualify for resident fee.
- (iii) Proof of Dutchess County residency required for resident rates. A PO Box is not considered proof of residency. A street address must be provided.

(b) Occupancy and inventory:

- (i) 24 people maximum can stay overnight at Maple Knoll.
- (ii) Maximum capacity of Maple Knoll is 60.
- (iii) Cabins can only be reserved with Maple Knoll rental (only offered seasonally).
- (iv) Quiet hours are 10:00 PM to 8:00 AM.
- (v) Pets are not permitted within Maple Knoll or cabins.
- (vi) No additional canopies, camping tents, inflatables or bouncy houses.
- (vii) Any violations of Park Rules and Regulations may result in eviction with no refund of security deposit given. Applicant may be prohibited from future rental of Facilities within Dutchess County Parks.

5. Disc Golf (Wilcox Memorial Park):

- (a) For individual play, no fee or pre-registration required.
- (b) Tournaments must have a facility use agreement on file and pay all necessary fees, provide required insurance and make reservations for facility use.
- (c) Do not throw when other players or park users are within range.
- (d) Always give general park users the right of way.
- (e) Allow faster groups to play through when possible.
- (f) Do not alter the course in any way.
- (g) Return lost discs to lost and found box.

6. Rowboat and Paddle Boats (Wilcox Memorial Park).

- (a) Only 2 people allowed in 2-person paddle boats at a time.
- (b) Only 4 people allowed in 4-person boats at a time.
- (c) Up to five people in row boats at a time.
- (d) No swimming in the boating lake.
- (e) No standing in boats.
- (f) No switching seats on the boats while in use.
- (g) No fishing off the dock during times when boat rental is available.
- (h) All waterfront occupants must wear US Coast Guard personal flotation devices (PFD) life jackets.
- (i) Renters must be aged 13 years or older.

7. Splash Pads (Wilcox Memorial Park and Bowdoin Park):
- (a) For individual play, no fee or pre-registration required.
  - (b) Be respectful of others.
  - (c) All persons using the splash pads do so at their own risk.
  - (d) Children under 13 years of age must be accompanied by an adult (18 years or older) and must be always supervised by that adult.
  - (e) Undo roughness, horseplay, climbing on features that are not intended to be climbed on, and other undue disturbances are strictly prohibited.
  - (f) Proper swim attire required. Water shoes recommended.
  - (g) Infants must wear swim diapers or rubber pants without diapers.
  - (h) Wheeled vehicles, except strollers, walkers are not permitted in the splash pad area.
  - (i) Pool toys, beach toys, chairs, or sports equipment are prohibited.
  - (j) Sand, dirt, grass, or sticks may not be brought onto splash pads.
  - (k) No glass containers of any kind are permitted. No food, drinks or gum on splash pads.
  - (l) Splash pads are designed for recreation purposes and not for bathing. Soaps, detergents and shampoos are strictly prohibited.
  - (m) No animals permitted in the splash pad area. No exceptions.
  - (n) Do not drink or spit splash pad water.
  - (o) Persons with sore or inflamed eyes, colds, nasal or ear discharges, oils or other acute or obvious skin or body infections or cuts cannot use the splash pad until ailments are healed.
  - (p) Splash pads may close due to weather, maintenance, or operational concerns.
  - (q) Splash pads cannot be reserved.
8. Swimming (Wilcox Memorial Park):
- (a) Children under 13 years of age must be accompanied by an adult (18 years or older) and must always be supervised by that adult.
  - (b) Be respectful of others.
  - (c) Swim only in designated areas and stay where lifeguards can see you.
  - (d) Swimming is prohibited when lifeguards are not on duty.
  - (e) Swimmers and beachgoers must obey rules, park staff, and lifeguards.
  - (f) Park staff and lifeguards have the right to restrict behavior of patrons.
  - (g) Keep the beach area and around the lifeguard chair clear.
  - (h) Be careful of underwater hazards. No diving allowed.
  - (i) Do not feed the geese or other wildlife.
  - (j) Undo roughness, horseplay, and other undue disturbances are strictly prohibited.
  - (k) Swimmers must stay within lifelines and stay off boys and lines.
  - (l) Proper swimming attire required. Water shoes recommended.
  - (m) Only US Coast Guard approved life jackets can be worn.
  - (n) Infants must wear swim diapers or rubber pants without diapers.
  - (o) No sand, dirt, grass, sticks, or rock throwing.
  - (p) No fishing in beach/swimming area.
  - (q) No glass containers of any kind are permitted.
  - (r) No beverages of any type are allowed in the water.
  - (s) Swimming lake is designed for recreational purposes and not for bathing. Soaps, detergents and shampoos are strictly prohibited.

- (t) Do not drink or spit water.
  - (u) Persons with sore or inflamed eyes, colds, nasal or ear discharges, oils or other acute or obvious skin or body infections or cuts, cannot swim until ailments are healed.
  - (v) Swimming may close due to weather, maintenance or health and operational concerns.
9. Playgrounds (Wilcox Memorial Park and Bowdoin Park):
- (a) All people using the playgrounds do so at their own risk.
  - (b) Youth under 13 years of age must be accompanied by an adult (18 years or older) and must always be supervised by that adult.
  - (c) Proper footwear required.
  - (d) Improper use of equipment is prohibited.
  - (e) Undo roughness, horseplay, or other undue disturbances are strictly prohibited.
  - (f) Playground is open during regular hours of operation.
  - (g) No sand, dirt, grass, sticks, or rock throwing.
  - (h) No glass containers of any kind are permitted.
  - (i) Playgrounds may close due to weather, maintenance or health and operational concerns.
  - (j) Playgrounds cannot be reserved.
10. Rail Trails (WRS Dutchess Rail Trail, Empire State Trail Maybrook Extension, Harlem Valley Rail Trail, & MGM Northside Line):
- (a) Trails are open from dawn to dusk (with the exception of the MGM Northside line which is open 24/7).
  - (b) Youth under 13 years of age must be accompanied by an adult (18 years or older) and must always be supervised by that adult.
  - (c) Be courteous and considerate of others.
  - (d) Stay to the right.
  - (e) Travel at a reasonable and controlled speed.
  - (f) Announce “on your left”, then pass with care.
  - (g) Bicyclists must wear helmets.
  - (h) Class 1 and class 2 e-bikes permitted. Class 3 e-bikes are prohibited.  
For more information on e-bikes restrictions, please see: [Electric Scooters and Bicycles and Other Unregistered Vehicles | NY DMV](#).
  - (i) Stop at all road crossings. Dismount before crossings, a road.
  - (j) Dogs must be on 6-foot leash.
  - (k) Clean up after pet.
  - (l) Horses are not allowed on trail.
  - (m) Rail Trail is a carry in carry out Facility. No littering.
  - (n) Camping, campfires and transient lodging, on or adjacent to trail are prohibited.
  - (o) Please respect private property.
  - (p) Cutting and removing vegetation is not permitted.
  - (q) No hunting on over or across rail trail property.
  - (r) Authorized motor vehicles only.
11. Nature Trails (Wilcox Memorial Park, Bowdoin Park & Quiet Cove Park):
- (a) For individual use, no fee or pre-registration required.
  - (b) Use foot paths and trails at own risk.

- (c) Abide by Park rules. (closing times change seasonally).
- (d) Dogs must be on 6-foot leash.
- (e) Clean up after pet.
- (f) No littering.
- (g) Cutting and removing vegetation is not permitted.
- (h) No bikes on hiking trails.
- (i) Horses are not allowed on footpaths and hiking trails.
- (j) Tournaments, meets, and organized events must have permits on file and pay all necessary fees.

12. Sledding & Skating - Bowdoin Park:

- (a) Sledding is at your own risk.
- (b) Sledding permitted only on designated hill area with orange fencing.
- (c) Metal-edge or metal runner sleds, toboggans, snowboards, skis, and oversized tubes are not permitted.
- (d) Other equipment may be permitted at the discretion of the park staff based on safety.
- (e) Use return lane to return to the hilltop. Do not walk-up main sledding area.
- (f) Abide by hill open and closed signs.
- (g) Skate at your own risk.
- (h) Youth under 13 years of age must be accompanied by an adult (18 years or older) and must be always supervised by that adult.
- (i) Undo roughness, horseplay, and other undue disturbances are strictly prohibited.
- (j) Hockey sticks and hockey are prohibited.

13. Kayaking & Storage Slips (Quiet Cove Park):

- (a) Kayak or canoe use only. Motor powered vessels are not permitted.
- (b) Applications must be completed and submitted to Dutchess County Parks with all required information, including a photo of the kayak or canoe being stored. All paperwork must be approved and on file before being assigned a slip.
- (c) Storage use is limited to the slip holder only and the storage space is nontransferable.
- (d) One kayak or canoe per slip.
- (e) Dutchess County Parks requires emergency contact information on file in the event of an emergency.
- (f) Operation of the kayak or canoe is solely at the operator's own risk.
- (g) All boaters enter the Hudson River at their own risk and should be strong and experienced swimmers.
- (h) U.S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation devices MUST be worn in accordance with NYS law. All people using a kayak or canoe must wear a personal flotation device (PFD). Your PFD must be in a good serviceable condition and be at the proper size to fit/support your body
- (i) Area may be closed due to inclement weather, unsafe conditions, maintenance, or construction.
- (j) Accessories must be secured and not interfere with any neighboring slips. Accessories include, but are not limited to, paddles and personal flotation devices.
- (k) All kayaks and canoes must be locked, and slip holders are responsible for purchasing their own locks.

- (l) Lost, damaged or stolen items are not the responsibility of the County.
- (m) Slip holders shall be responsible for keeping the slip area neat and clean.
- (n) Kayaks and canoes must be rinsed or wiped clean prior to storing them and turned upside down when possible.
- (o) No chemicals, lubricants, or other chemical applications shall be used on watercraft prior to replacing same back on the slips.
- (p) No kayaks or canoes shall be leaned against or placed upon other kayaks.
- (q) Adult supervision of youth under the age of 16 is always mandatory.
- (r) Climbing on slips is prohibited.
- (s) Kayaks or canoes shall be removed from the park at the end of the season. Cost of removal and storage of kayaks or canoes after this date shall be at the kayak owner's expense.
- (t) Dutchess County Parks kayak slip program has a no refund policy.
- (u) Users of kayaks or canoes are responsible for the safety of all those in his or her craft.
- (v) Operation of the kayak or canoe is solely at the operator's own risk.
- (w) Kayakers and canoeists may not enter the launch site or operate or ride as a passenger in a canoe or kayak under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- (x) Kayak boat rental space will be open from May 1st to October 31st.
- (y) Kayak boat rental space access is closed when Quiet Cove Park is closed.

14. Pickleball (Quiet Cove):

- (a) For individual play, no fee or preregistration required.
- (b) Courts are used at own risk.
- (c) Proper court etiquette and sportsmanship expected.
- (d) No animals are allowed on courts.
- (e) No skateboards, scooters, rollerblades, skates or bicycles allowed on courts.
- (f) Chairs or other items that could mark up the surface are not allowed on courts.
- (g) Courts are for pickleball play only unless approved by the Commissioner or his/her Designee.
- (h) Organized leagues, instruction, and tournaments must be coordinated through Dutchess County Parks.
- (i) Tournaments must have a permit on file and pay all necessary fees.

15. Heritage Financial Park (operated by the Hudson Valley Renegades):

- (a) Outside food or beverages are prohibited. Exceptions are made for medical reasons.
- (b) Bags are not allowed into the Stadium except for diaper bags or medical items. All bags are subject to search prior to entry.
- (c) Undo roughness, fighting or any other undue disturbances or violent behavior are strictly prohibited.
- (d) The Hudson Valley Renegades and law enforcement reserve the right to remove any person from the facility at any time.
- (e) No animals, except for service animals, are permitted in the stadium area. Exceptions may be made for special events.
- (f) Guests in need of medical attention should immediately notify a stadium staff member for assistance.
- (g) All persons attending stadium games do so at their own risk. Batted balls and bats can be inherently dangerous. The Hudson Valley Renegades, the County and



participating baseball teams are not liable for a guest injured by a thrown or batted ball or bat that enters the seating area.

- (h) Reaching over the rails onto the playing surface to retrieve foul balls is prohibited.
- (i) The throwing of any object is strictly prohibited.
- (j) Fans must sit in ticketed seats and cannot enter the playing field.