

TITLE 25

Recreational Areas

Chapter 1 County Parks, Boat Landings, and Snowmobile Trails

Chapter 1

County Parks, Boat Landings, and Snowmobile Trails

25-1-1 Dedication of Parks

25-1-2 Dedication of Boat Landings

25-1-3 Snowmobile Trails

25-1-4 County Park and Boat Landing Administration

Sec. 25-1-1 Dedication of Parks.

Columbia County sets aside and dedicates the following as county parks:

- a) Wyona Park in Town of Wyocena
- b) Richmond Memorial Park (also known as Gibraltar Park) in Town of West Point
- c) Governor's Bend Park in Town of Fort Winnebago
- d) Owen Park in Town of Caledonia
- e) Lake George Park in Town of Pacific
- f) Park Lake Park in Town of Wyocena
- g) Whalen Grade Disadvantaged Fishing Pier in Town of Dekorra

Sec. 25-1-2 Dedication of Boat Landings.

Columbia County sets aside and dedicates the following locations as county boat landings:

- a) Landing within Park Lake Park
- b) Landing within Lake George Park
- c) Landing within Wyona Park

Sec. 25-1-3 Snowmobile Trails.

Columbia County administers a Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) recreation aids grant providing funding for approximately 180 miles of safe, well maintained snowmobile trails known as the Columbia County Snowmobile Trails.

Sec. 25-1-4 County Park and Boat Landing Administration.

a) General Provisions.

- 1) Affected Areas. This section governs all lands and water designated as a park or boat landing and shall not include snowmobile trails.
- 2) Definition. The term "person" shall include any individual, firm, partnership, corporation, and association of persons and the singular number shall include the plural.
- 3) Season. All county parks and boat landings shall be closed from November 1st to April 15th of each year, except for persons fishing or snowmobiling on designated trails.
- 4) Closed Hours. All county parks and boat landings shall be closed between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. of the following day except to persons fishing, transporting watercraft to or from boat landings, or utilizing snowmobiles on designated snowmobile trails.
- 5) No reservations Needed. The lawful use of the parks and boat landings shall be on a "first come" basis.
- 6) Governing Committee. The Highway Committee shall govern county parks and boat landings as established in the Standing Rules of the Board of Supervisors.
- 7) Maintenance and Operation. The Highway Committee shall have the responsibility to provide for the maintenance and operation of existing parks and boat landings. The committee shall have control over the budget provided for this purpose.
- 8) New Parks and Boat Landings. Any new park sites and boat landings shall be created through a cooperative effort between the Planning and Zoning Committee and the Highway Committee, and approved by the Executive Committee of the County Board.
- 9) Budget. The county shall annually appropriate an amount sufficient to fund the maintenance, operation, or improvement of county parks and boat landings.

b) Prohibited Conduct.

- 1) Trespass. It shall be unlawful for any person to be in any county park or boat landing during the closed season as defined in Section 25-1-4 (a)(3) or during closed hours as defined in Section 25-1-4 (a)(4), except persons fishing, transporting watercraft to or from boat landings, or utilizing snowmobiles on designated snowmobile trails.
- 2) Peddling and Soliciting. It shall be unlawful for anyone to peddle or solicit business of any nature whatever, or to distribute handbills or other advertising matter, to post unauthorized signs or decorative matter on any lands, structures, or property, or use a park or boat landing as a base of commercial operations for soliciting or conducting business, peddling, or providing services within or outside of such lands, structures, or property unless first authorized.

- 3) Littering, Vandalism, Disorderly Conduct. The ordinances of Columbia County prohibiting littering, criminal damage to property, and disorderly conduct shall be enforced in the parks and boat landings of Columbia County.
- 4) Vehicular Traffic.
 - a. It shall be unlawful to operate any vehicle at a speed in excess of 15 miles per hour in any county park or boat landing.
 - b. It shall be unlawful to operate or park any motor vehicle of any kind in any county park or boat landing except upon paved portions or gravel portions which are intended for use as roadway or parking areas.
 - c. It shall be unlawful to operate any unlicensed motor bike in any county park or boat landing.
 - d. It shall be unlawful to operate any snowmobile on other than snowmobile trails in any county park or boat landing.
 - e. It shall be unlawful for any person, without the written authorization of the Columbia County Highway Commissioner, after consultation with the Columbia County Corporation Counsel, other than law enforcement personnel or emergency staff, to operate a motor vehicle in the posted areas of Richmond Memorial Park (Gibraltar Park). In every instance where authorization is given, the Columbia County Sheriff shall be provided with a copy of the authorization at the time it is issued.
 - f. Any vehicle found in a park during the closed season or during closed hours and not associated with a lawful use in that park during that time is subject to being towed away on direction of law enforcement personnel. The owner of said vehicle shall be liable for the expense of towing and any storage costs resulting therefrom.
- 5) Fires, Fireworks, Firearms.
 - a. Fires.
 1. It shall be unlawful for any person, without written authorization of the Columbia County Highway Commissioner, to start, tend, or maintain any fire, or to burn any refuse, except at designated fireplaces, fire rings, or grills within any county park or boat landing, except that fires for cooking or heating may be made in portable stoves, heaters, or grills at designated campgrounds and picnic areas.
 2. It shall be unlawful for any person to leave any fire or coals unattended, or to throw away any matches, cigarettes, cigars, pipe ashes, or any coals without first extinguishing them, or to abandon any fire or coals, or to start, tend, or use in any manner any fire contrary to posted notice in any county park or boat landing.
 3. There shall be no fires at Richmond Memorial Park (Gibraltar Park).

- b. Firearms. It shall be unlawful for any person to have in his possession or under his control any firearm, airgun, or gas operated gun as defined in the Wisconsin Statutes, unless the same is unloaded and enclosed in a carrying case, or any bow, crossbow, or slingshot unless the same is unstrung or enclosed in a carrying case in any county park or boat landing.
 - c. Hunting and Trapping. It shall be unlawful for any person to take, catch, kill, hunt, trap, pursue, or otherwise disturb any wild animals or birds in any county park or boat landing.
- 6) Pets. It shall be unlawful for any person to allow pets to enter any public building, bathing beach, picnic grounds, or playgrounds within any county park or boat landing, or to run at large at any time on county park or boat landing grounds. In other county park or boat landing areas, pets are permitted provided they shall at all times be kept on a leash not more than 6 feet long. All pets shall be effectively restrained or under the owner's control at all times. No person shall allow his pet to deprive or disrupt the enjoyment or use of any area by others. Pet excrement shall be immediately removed by the owner.
- 7) Camping. It is unlawful for any person to erect, place, or use a shelter, such as a tent, trailer, motor vehicle, tarpaulin, bed roll, or sleeping bag for temporary residence or sleeping purposes in any county park or boat landing.
- 8) Glass Beverage Containers. No person shall bring glass bottles nor possess such bottles in any county park, beach, or boat landing.
- 9) Alcoholic Beverages. It is unlawful for any person to consume or be under the influence of an intoxicant in Richmond Memorial Park (Gibraltar Park). Intoxicant includes fermented malt beverages and intoxicating liquors as defined in the Wisconsin Statutes.
- 10) Climbing and Repelling.
- a. It is unlawful for any person to climb or repel Gibraltar Rock, contained in Richmond Memorial Park (Gibraltar Park), without written authorization of the Columbia County Highway Commissioner, after consultation with the Columbia County Corporation Counsel, and such authorizations shall be limited to training experience for government military personnel, and local fire and police department personnel.
 - b. Any person requiring emergency rescue or medical treatment due to injuries sustained from climbing, falling or repelling upon Gibraltar Rock shall, regardless of authorization, maintain responsibility for any and all costs and fees attendant to said injuries or resulting therefrom, and any and all penalties and/or civil forfeitures which may be assessed.
- c) Enforcement.
- 1) Any person who violates the prohibited conduct section shall be subject to the penalties as contained in the Penalty Section.
 - 2) A law enforcement officer of Columbia County, or any municipality therein, may issue a citation for violation of any county ordinance which occurs in a county park or boat landing.

- 3) Injunction. In the event of a continuing or recurrent violation of a county ordinance by a person in a county park or boat landing, the Corporation Counsel, or designee, may proceed to enjoin such activity. There is established a uniform system of numbering properties, as shown on the maps on file in the Columbia County Planning and Zoning Department, for use in the unincorporated areas of Columbia County, Wisconsin. The maps and all other explanatory matter thereon are hereby adopted and made a part of this section.