The County Board of Ramsey County ordains:

CHAPTER I — PURPOSE/DEFINITIONS

SECTION A — PURPOSE
This ordinance has been enacted pursuant to Chapter 383A, Laws of Minnesota, as amended, which authorizes the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners to enact ordinances to govern the conduct of members of the public during their use and enjoyment of the Ramsey County Parks and Recreation system so as to further the safety, health, enjoyment and welfare of all persons in the use thereof, and to protect public property and resources for posterity.

SECTION B — DEFINITIONS
1. “Agent” shall mean any unpaid volunteers and any person employed or hired by a contractor, concessionaire, or other person or firm to perform in a park or on other open space property at the request or under contract with the County of Ramsey.
2. “Amusement contraptions” means any contrivance, device, gadget, machine or structure designed to test the skill or strength of the user or to provide the user with any sort of ride, lift, swing or fall experience including, but not limited to, bally-throwing contest device, pinball-type devices, animal ride devices, dunk tank, ball and hammer devices, trampoline devices and the like.
3. “Board” shall mean and refer to the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners.
4. “Controlled substance” means any drug, substance or immediate precursor in schedules 1 through 5 of Minnesota Statutes, Section 152.02.
5. “Department” shall mean and refer to the Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Department.
6. “Director” shall mean and refer to the Director of Parks and Recreation — that person authorized by the Board to direct and administer the Parks and Recreation Department.
7. “Employee” shall mean any full-time, part-time, permanent or temporary worker in the employ of the Department. “Employee” shall also include unpaid volunteers and any person employed or hired by a contractor, concessionaire, or other person or firm to perform work in a park or on open space property at the request of or under contract with the County of Ramsey.
8. “Motor vehicle” means a self-propelled vehicle or vehicle propelled or drawn by a self-propelled vehicle which is operated on a highway, on the ground, in water, or in the air. Motor vehicle does not include any vehicle which operates exclusively upon railroad tracks.
9. “Motorized recreation vehicle” means any self-propelled, off-the-road or all-terrain vehicle including, but not limited to, snowmobile, mini-bike, amphibious vehicle, motorcycle, go-cart, trail bike, dune buggy, off-road bike, or all-terrain vehicle.
10. “Natural resources” shall mean all flora and fauna within a park and the physical factors on which they depend, including air, water, soil and minerals.
11. “Park” shall mean and refer to any park, open space, arena, golf course, special-use area, trail corridor or any other area owned, improved, maintained, operated, or otherwise controlled by the Board for recreation or natural resource preservation purposes.
12. “Park waters” shall mean and refer to any lake, pond, river, stream or other body of water located wholly within the boundaries of a Ramsey County park or any public shoreline owned by or under the authority of the Board, including those waters lying within 300 feet of the waterfront immediately abutting park lakeshore.
13. “Peace officer” shall be as defined in Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 626.84, subdivision c.
14. “Permit” shall mean the written permission that must be obtained from the Department to carry out certain activities.
15. “Person” or “persons” shall mean individuals, firms, corporations, societies, or any group or gathering whatsoever.
16. “Pet” means any animal that is domesticated or kept as a companion.
17. “Roller-skate” is the act of riding or propelling oneself by human power or gravity on wheeled devices that are worn on a person’s feet or stood upon by a person. “Roller-skates” specifically include, but are not limited to, traditional roller-skates, in-line roller-skates, roller-skis, skateboards and scooters.
18. “System” shall mean and refer to the Ramsey County Parks and Recreation system which includes the sites and facilities owned, maintained and operated or otherwise under the authority of the Board, pursuant to Chapter 383A, Laws of Minnesota.
19. “Weapon” means any device including, but not limited to, firearms, bows, slings and spring guns from which a shot or a projectile of any type is discharged or propelled by means of an explosive, gas, compressed air, elastic or other means.
20. “Wildlife” shall mean any living creature, not human, wild by nature, including but not limited to mammals, birds, fish, amphibians, insects, reptiles, crustaceans and mollusks.

Wine” means a vinous beverage containing not more than 14 percent alcohol by volume.
SECTION G – GAMBLING
It shall be unlawful for any person to gamble or participate in any game of chance for a consideration of items of value, except as may be permitted by the Board in accordance with Minnesota Statutes.

SECTION H – POSSESSION AND USE OF FIREARMS/DANGEROUS WEAPONS/FIREWORKS
It shall be unlawful for any person to:
1. Possess within park property, fire or discharge, or cause to be fired or discharged across, in or into any portion of the park, any gun or firearm, spear, bow and arrow, crossbow, sling shot, air or gas weapon, or any other dangerous weapon or projectile, except for purposes designated by the Board in areas and at times designated by the Board;
2. Possess, set off or attempt to set off or ignite any firecracker, fireworks, smoke bombs, rockets, black powder guns or other pyrotechnics without authorization from the Director; or
3. Possess or carry in any park, any airgun, bow and arrow, knife with a blade three (3) or more inches in length, slingshot, dart or projectile thrower, or any other dangerous or illegal weapon.

Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent the recreational use of bow and arrows on officially established target ranges. Any unauthorized or illegal weapon within a park shall be subject to seizure by a peace officer.

SECTION I – AUDIO DEVICES
It shall be unlawful for any person to operate or play any musical instrument, radio, television, record or tape player, loudspeaker, public address system or sound amplifying equipment of any kind in any park in such a manner that the sound emanating therefrom is audible beyond fifty (50) feet of the set or instrument and, subsequently, interferes with use of the park by others or disturbs the residents of adjacent properties.

SECTION J – LOITERING
It shall be unlawful for any person to:
1. Enter any comfort station or restroom, washroom or toilet facilities set apart or designated for the opposite sex, except a minor in the custody and under the supervision of a parent or guardian, or a person attending to or assisting a handicapped person; or
2. Lurk or loiter in or around the toilet or other system facility, except to use or wait for an accompanying person using such facility for the purpose for which it is intended.

SECTION K – PARADES/ENTERTAINMENT/PUBLIC MEETINGS
It shall be unlawful for any person to conduct processions, parades, pageants, ceremonies, exhibitions, celebrations, training exercises, speeches, entertainment or other public gatherings through or in any park, except with written authorization of the Director.

SECTION L – COMMERCIAL USE/SOLICITATION/ADVERTISING/PHOTOGRAPHY
It shall be unlawful for any person to:
1. Solicit, sell or otherwise peddle any goods, ware, merchandise, services, liquids or edibles in a park, except by authorized concession or written authorization from the Director;
2. Operate a still, motion picture, video or other camera for commercial purposes in a park without written authorization from the Director; or
3. Expose, distribute or place any sign, advertisement, notice, poster or display in a park without written authorization from the Director; or
4. Distribute or disseminate any leaflets, pamphlets, circulars, handbills, advertisements or other written or printed material without the written authorization of the Director.

SECTION M – SOLICITING DONATIONS
It shall be unlawful for any person to beg or solicit alms, donations or contributions within a park.

SECTION N – FIRES
It shall be unlawful for any person to:
1. Start or maintain a fire in any park, except small (not larger than three feet in diameter) recreational fires in fireplaces or fire rings provided for that purpose;
2. Start or maintain cooking fires, except in grills provided for that purpose. Private grills may be used in designated areas provided that all ashes and residue therefrom are disposed of in containers provided for such disposal;
3. Leave a fire unattended or fail to fully extinguish a fire; or
4. Scatter or leave unattended lighted matches, ashes, tobacco, paper or other combustible material.

SECTION O – AVIATION
It shall be unlawful for any person to use park property for a starting or landing field for aircraft, hot air balloons, parachutes, hang gliders or other flying apparatus without written authorization from the Director.

SECTION P – AMUSEMENT CONTRAPITIONS
It shall be unlawful for any person to bring in, set up, construct, manage or operate any amusement or entertainment contraption, device or gadget without written authorization from the Director.

SECTION Q – ENGINE-POWERED MODELS AND TOYS
It shall be unlawful for any person to fly or use any fuel or electric powered model aircraft, boat, car or rocket, or like-powered toy or model without written authorization from the Director. This section shall not apply to models or toys which are powered by hand-wound springs, rubber, or other elastic materials, or by inertial flywheels.

SECTION R – UNLAWFUL OCCUPANCY
It shall be unlawful for any person to enter in any way, any building, installation or area that may be under construction, locked or closed to public use; or to enter, remain in, or be upon any building, installation or area after the posted closing time or before the posted opening time, or contrary to the posted notice in any park.

SECTION S – INTERFERENCE WITH EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE OF DUTY
It shall be unlawful for any person to impersonate any employee or agent of the Department or interfere with, harass or hinder any employee or agent in the discharge of duties.

SECTION T – PETS IN PARKS
It shall be unlawful for any person to:
1. Cause or allow any pet to roam or be at large in any park;
2. Permit a pet, except guide animals to assist a blind or impaired person, to enter any beach area, picnic area, nature interpretive area, wildlife refuge, golf course, park building or park shelter;
3. Bring a pet into an authorized area of a park unless caged or on a leash not more than six (6) feet in length, except in a designated pet exercise or training area;
4. Permit a pet to disturb, harass or interfere with any park visitor, park visitor’s property or park employee;
5. Tether any animal to a tree, plant, building or park equipment;
6. Have custody or control of any pet in a park without possessing and using an appropriate device for cleaning up pet feces and disposing of the feces in a sanitary manner; or
7. Permit any pet or domestic animal to graze or browse in any park.

SECTION U – UTILITIES
It shall be unlawful for any person to locate, construct or erect any sewer, gas pipe, water pipe, hydrant, lamp post, telephone or electric post, conduit, pump, lift station or other utility feature in any park without approval of the Board. Every person, firm or corporation who receives a contract or permit to do work shall, after such work has commenced and until same has been completed, isolate the construction area by security fencing, warning lights and signs, or other appropriate measures that will protect the public from exposure to danger and prevent unnecessary accidents.

SECTION V – LOST AND FOUND ARTICLES
Lost or misplaced articles, money or personal property which are found in any park shall be delivered or turned over to the Ramsey County Sheriff's Patrol Station or to the nearest on-duty peace officer. Property will be disposed of in accordance with Minnesota Statutes 345.15.

SECTION W – PEACE OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES
It shall be unlawful for any person to:
1. Willfully resist, refuse or fail to comply with any order, direction or request lawfully given by any peace officer, department employee or agent acting under the authority of the Board and in accordance with this ordinance; or
2. Interfere with or, in any manner, hinder any Department employee, agent or peace officer during the performance of assigned duties.
SECTION X -- POSTED REGULATIONS, DIRECTIONAL SIGNS AND GRAPHICS
It shall be unlawful for any person to disregard or fail to comply with any posted regulations, directional signs and graphics, barriers or other control devices located within any park.

SECTION Y -- ENCROACHMENTS
It shall be unlawful for any person to encroach on park property with such items as fences, gardens, other personal property, or to disturb the natural landscape, vegetation or structures on park property or otherwise use park property for private use. All setbacks and other local zoning regulations are in effect and apply against properties adjacent to a County Park as they would against property adjacent to private property.

CHAPTER IV -- REGULATION OF RECREATION ACTIVITY
SECTION A -- PICNICKING
It shall be unlawful for any person to:
1. Assume exclusive use of a reservation picnic site or shelter without a permit;
2. Use a portion of a reservation picnic area or shelter without a permit if the area is reserved by a permitted group;
3. Conduct picnic activity at reservation picnic sites contrary to a permit, or otherwise violate provisions of a permit; or
4. Set up temporary shelters, tarps, canopies and other such devices without a permit.

SECTION B -- SWIMMING
It shall be unlawful for any person to:
1. Bathe, wade or swim in any park waters, except in such areas specifically designated for such use;
2. Intentionally expose his or her genitals, pubic area, buttocks or female breasts below the top of the areola with less than a fully opaque covering while wading, swimming or using any beach or other area within a park, if ten (10) years of age or older;
3. Take glass bottles or glass containers of any kind into a designated beach area;
4. Start or maintain a fire or grill in a designated beach area;
5. Scuba dive in a designated swimming area, except by written authorization from the Director; or
6. Bring into or use at any beach any innertube, life raft or other inflatable or buoyant object intended to support a person, except U.S. Coast Guard approved life jackets or vests when properly attached.

SECTION C -- FISHING
It shall be unlawful for any person to:
1. Fish in a park in violation of any provisions of Minnesota Statutes;
2. Fish in a prohibited area;
3. Take any fish, frog, turtle or crayfish by spearing, archery, netting, trapping from park waters or from any shoreline, pier or dock under the jurisdiction of the Board;
4. Fish in a reckless or careless manner so as to create a nuisance or to endanger the safety of other park users;
5. Cut a hole in the ice of any park waters, except where ice fishing is permitted and then only when said hole is less than ten (10) inches in diameter.
6. Erect a permanent or portable ice fishing shelter on any park waters without a permit;
7. Move an ice fishing shelter onto or off of the ice from any park, except from access points designated by the Director; or
8. Leave an ice fishing shelter unattended on park land.

SECTION D -- BOATING
It shall be unlawful for any person to:
1. Launch or land any watercraft upon any waters within a park, except in designated areas;
2. Leave any watercraft unattended, except in designated areas;
3. Operate any watercraft in a designated swimming area or other prohibited area;
4. Operate any watercraft in park waters in violation of Minnesota Statutes, 86B, "Waters and Watercrafts";
5. Launch, dock or operate any watercraft within 100 feet of any designated swimming area;
6. Tow a person on water-skis, surfboard, kneeboard or inner tube in a designated swimming area or enter a designated swimming area on such device;
7. Operate any watercraft in violation of rules and regulations limiting watercraft type, horsepower size, type of motor, direction of travel or speed;
8. Operate any watercraft in such a manner that its wash or wake will endanger, harass or unnecessarily interfere with any person or property; or
9. Launch or remove any watercraft from park waters without inspecting the watercraft and trailer for aquatic vegetation, removing and properly disposing of said vegetation in containers provided.

SECTION E -- BICYCLING
It shall be unlawful for any person to:
1. Operate a bicycle, except on paved bike trails and roadways, and except as close to the right hand side of the paved bike trail or roadway as conditions permit;
2. Operate a bicycle on unpaved trails, except at areas and times designated for that purpose;
3. Operate a bicycle in violation of Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 169, "Highway Traffic Violation";
4. Ride or operate a bicycle, except in a prudent and careful manner or at a speed faster than is reasonable and safe with regard to the safety of the operator and other persons in the immediate area.

SECTION F -- GOLF
It shall be unlawful for any person to:
1. Hold a tournament under the jurisdiction of the Board without having procured a permit;
2. Drive, put or, in any other manner, play or practice golf, except in areas specifically designated for such use; or
3. Enter or exit any golf course, except through designated access points.

SECTION G -- GAMES
It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in any potentially dangerous games involving thrown or propelled objects such as baseballs, horseshoes or similar objects, except in areas specifically designated for such use.

SECTION H -- CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING
It shall be unlawful for any person to:
1. Cross-country ski in any park, except on designated trails at designated times when weather conditions permit;
2. Cross-country ski in any park in violation of Minnesota Statutes, Section 85.41 -- Cross-Country Ski Passes;
3. Cross-country ski on park trails contrary to rules and regulations established by the Director or in violation of any posted trail sign; or
4. Use cross-country ski trails during the cross-country ski season for any activity other than cross-country skiing.

SECTION I -- HORSEBACK RIDING
It shall be unlawful for any person to ride or drive a horse in any park, except in areas specifically designated for such use.

SECTION J -- CAMPING
It shall be unlawful for any person to establish or maintain any camp or other temporary lodging or sleeping place in any park, except by written authorization from the Director, and then only in areas specifically designated for such use.

SECTION K -- ROLLER-SKATING
It shall be unlawful for any person to:
1. Roller-skate in a park, except on paved bike/hike trails unless posted otherwise;
2. Roller-skate in a park, except in a prudent, careful manner and at a speed that is reasonable and safe with regard to the safety of the operator and other persons in the immediate area;
3. Roller-skate in any park building or shelter, except by written authorization from the Director; or
4. Roller-skate in any parking lot, except incidental travel between a motor vehicle and an authorized use area.

SECTION L -- SNOWMOBILING
It shall be unlawful for any person to:
1. Operate a snowmobile in any park or on any public trail or lake surface under the jurisdiction of the Board, except in areas and on trails and lakes specifically designated for such use;
2. Operate a snowmobile in any park or on any public trail or lake surface under the jurisdiction of the Board contrary to, or in violation of, Minnesota Statutes, Section 84.81-84.90, "Snowmobile Laws," and Chapter 5: Natural Resources 51-59, "Snowmobile Rules and Regulations" (all rules and regulations therein pertaining to "public land and water" shall apply on park property and park waters);
3. Operate a snowmobile in excess of speed limits specifically posted for such use or to speed in excess of 15 miles per hour within 100 feet of any person fishing, fish house, pedestrian, skier, skating rink, sliding or other area where such operation would conflict with or endanger another person’s property;

4. Operate a snowmobile within 150 feet of any residential shoreline on sanctioned lakes within Ramsey County, except at a speed of 15 miles per hour or less for the purpose of ingress and egress from the lake or for the purpose of parking such vehicles near the shoreline;

5. Operate a snowmobile to tow any person, sled or other conveyance, except for by the use of a rigid tow bar attached to the rear of such snowmobile (disabled snowmobiles shall be exempt); or

6. Operate a snowmobile in violation of any posted sign.

SECTION M – OTHER WINTER ACTIVITIES
It shall be unlawful for any person to ice skate, sled, coast, snowshoe or ski in a park, except at designated times and places.

CHAPTER V – REGULATION OF MOTORIZED VEHICLES, TRAFFIC AND PARKING

SECTION A – MOTORIZED RECREATION VEHICLE
It shall be unlawful for any person to operate a motorized recreation vehicle within a park, except in such areas and times as designated by the Board.

SECTION B – VEHICLE OPERATION
It shall be unlawful for any person to:
1. Operate a motor vehicle within a park, except on roadways, parking areas, parkways or other areas designated for such use;
2. Operate a vehicle at a speed in excess of 15 miles per hour or posted speed limits;
3. Operate a vehicle within a park in violation of posted regulations, Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 169, County or Municipal Traffic Code, Orders or Directions of Peace Officers or Department Employees Authorized to Direct Traffic;
4. Drive or operate a vehicle on or along any roads, drives or parking lots which have been restricted, closed or posted with appropriate signs or barricades. The Director shall have the authority to order roads, drives or parking lots within any park closed during the process of construction, reconstruction or repair, or when, in the opinion of the Director, weather conditions render travel unsafe or unduly destructive.
5. Operate a vehicle in a careless or reckless manner;
6. Operate a vehicle which emits excessive or unusual noise, noxious fumes, dense smoke or other pollutants;
7. Fail to yield right of way to pedestrians and other trail users;
8. Wash, grease, change oil, service or repair any vehicle in a park, except disabled vehicles which shall be expeditiously made operational and removed;
9. Drink, consume or possess an open bottle or container of an alcoholic or intoxicating beverage in or on any motor vehicle when such vehicle is in a park; or
10. Cause any taxi, limousine or vehicle for hire to stand in a park for the purpose of soliciting or taking passengers other than those who have requested or were carried to the site by said vehicle, unless licensed by the Board.

SECTION C – PARKING VEHICLES
It shall be unlawful for any person to:
1. Park or leave a vehicle standing, except in a designated area and then only in a manner so as not to restrict normal traffic flow;
2. Leave a vehicle standing after posted closing hours, except by written authorization from the Director;
3. Park a vehicle adjacent to any curb painted yellow in any park;
4. Park in a space designated for handicapped parking only, except with handicapped vehicle license or permit;
5. Park or leave a vehicle without a trailer in a parking space designated for vehicles with boat trailers; or
6. Park a vehicle with a boat trailer, except in designated boat trailer parking areas.

Vehicles illegally parked, disabled or abandoned may be towed away and impounded at the owner’s expense. Said vehicle may be sold, if unclaimed after 90 days, to pay towing and storage fees.

CHAPTER VI – ENFORCEMENT

SECTION A – PEACE OFFICERS
1. Peace officers shall, in connection with their duties imposed by law, diligently enforce the provisions of this ordinance and may issue citations, arrest, arrest with warrant and eject from parks, persons acting in violation of the ordinance.