

**Parks – Recreation  
Chapter 665**

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**Parks – Regulations**

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### **Article 1 - Short Title**

**665.1.1** **Citation**

This Chapter may be cited and known as the “Parks By-law”.

### **Article 2 – Definitions**

**665.2.1** **Authorized Parking area – defined**

“Authorized parking area” means an area of park or recreation area designated, set aside for or established, for the parking of motor vehicles which may have posted regulations with respect to the use of the area.

**665.2.2** **Bicycle – defined**

“Bicycle” includes a unicycle and tricycle.

**665.2.3** **City- defined**

“City” means The Corporation of the City of Woodstock.

**665.2.4** **Control – defined**

“Control” means any form of control over premises by the City as a result of ownership, lease, management, joint management, supervision or other legally permitted occupation.

**665.2.5 Director of Parks and Recreation - defined**

“Director of Parks and Recreation” means the Director of Parks and Recreation of the City or designate.

**665.2.6 Designated – defined**

“Designated” means an area defined or constructed for a specific use which may include posted conditions.

**665.2.7 Hiking Trail – defined**

“Hiking trail” means that part of a park that has been marked posted or blazed for the purpose of hiking or running by the public, is not pavement, concrete or stone dust and on which the use of in-line skates, skateboards, bicycles, power-assisted bicycles, motor vehicles and motorized snow vehicles is prohibited. Hiking trails may or may not be accessible to motorized wheelchairs depending on topographic restrictions.

**665.2.8 Liquor- defined**

“Liquor” shall have the same meaning as defined in the Liquor License Act R.S.O. 1990, c. L-19 as amended.

**665.2.9 Motorized Recreational Vehicle – defined**

“Motorized Recreational Vehicle” means a motorized snow vehicle, motorized all-terrain vehicle, golf cart, e- scooter, a farm tractor, road building machine, air drone and any other vehicle propelled or driven otherwise than by muscular power, but does not include a personal mobility device used by a person to assist with their disability.

**665.2.10 Motor Vehicle –defined**

“Motor vehicle” has the meaning attributed to it in the *Highway Traffic Act* R.S.O. 1990. C. H.8, as amended.

**665.2.11 Multi-use Trail - defined**

“Multi-use Trail” means the part of the park that has been improved with a hard surface asphalt, concrete or stone dust and is intended for a variety of use including pedestrian, in-line skating, skateboards, bicycles, power-assisted bicycles.

**665.2.12 Naturalized park area –defined**

“Natural park area” means an area which may be an entire park or part of a park, preserved in its natural or near natural state or an area created to remain thereafter in a natural state as open space and available for use by the public. For the purposes of this definition, natural shall mean established by nature or a selection process favoring survival of organisms best adapted to their environment.

**665.2.13 Officer – defined**

“Officer” means any Municipal Law Enforcement Officer appointed by the Council of The Corporation of the City of Woodstock or any Police Officer with the Woodstock Police Service.

**665.2.14 Park – defined**

“Park” means any land or premises under the Control of the City that is used for park or recreational purposes including but not limited to green spaces, trails, water features, riparian buffers, wooded areas and land covered by water and all portions thereof that is or hereafter may be established, dedicated, set apart or made available for use as a public open space, including any building, structures, facilities, erections and improvements located in or on such lands.

**665.2.15 Powered-assisted bicycle- defined**

“Power –assisted bicycle” has the meaning attributed to it in the *Highway Traffic Act* R.S.O. 1990 c. H.8 as amended and is commonly referred to as an electric bicycle or e-bike, and for greater certainty, has affixed to it pedals that are operable, and for greater certainty an e-bike and an e-scooter are defined as follows:

“e-bike” shall mean a “power-assisted bicycle” that has the appearance of a bicycle; and

“e-scooter” shall mean a “power-assisted bicycle” that has the appearance of a scooter/moped

**665.2.16 Refuse – defined**

“Refuse” means refuse, garbage and debris and includes, but is not limited to, paper wrappers, food and beverage containers, discarded food and cigarettes, disposable eating utensils, newspaper, drink containers of all kinds, diapers, broken glass, balloons, grass clippings and inert fill of any kind.

**665.2.17 Recreation area – defined**

“Recreation Area” means an area or building or combination of both, under the Control of the City and includes but is not limited to any basketball court, tennis court, pickle ball court, arena, skating rink, swimming pool, wading pool/spray pad, play area, community centre, skateboard-bike facility, sports fields, a park, including a school and school grounds for the purpose of offering recreation to the public.

**665.2.18 Run at Large – defined**

“Run at large” means to be found in any place other than the premises of the owner of the dog and not under the physical control of any person by means of a leash held by the said person.

**665.2.19 Trained Service Animal – defined**

“Service Animal” is an animal for a person with a disability, if it is readily apparent that the animal is used by the person for reasons relating to his or her disability; or if the person provides a letter from a regulated health professional confirming that the person requires the animal for reasons relating to the disability. O Reg. 191/11 s. 80.45(4).

**665.2.20 Vehicle – defined**

“Vehicle” includes a Motor Vehicle, Motorized Recreation Vehicle, skateboard, bicycle, Power-Assisted Bicycle and any vehicle drawn, propelled or driven by any kind of power including muscular power but excludes a child’s wagon, a baby carriage, a child’s stroller, wheelchair or similar device (motorized or otherwise) used by an individual due to a disability.

**Article 3 - By-Law Application and Administration**

**665.3.1 By-law applicability – defined**

This by-law applies to all Recreation Areas, Parks located within the City together with their internal and adjacent avenues, boulevards, drives, streets and approaches.

**665.3.2 Emergency – maintenance vehicles – accepted**

Notwithstanding any provision of this by-law, vehicles operated on behalf of an ambulance service, fire department, police department, Hydro and the City, shall have full access to all parts of a Park and/or a Recreation Area at all times where such access is possible.

## **Article 4 - General Prohibited Activities**

### **665.4.1 Activities – prohibited**

In any Park or Recreation Area no person shall:

- (1) Drive, ride or operate any Vehicle or a skateboard upon a roadway in any direction other than the direction indicated on signs posted by the City;
- (2) Drive, ride or operate a vehicle in violation of a sign posted by the City; (See set fine)
- (3) Drive, ride or operate a vehicle at a rate of speed in excess of the posted speed limit or in excess of 20 kilometers per hour in unposted areas;
- (4) Drive, ride or operate any Motor Vehicle, E-Scooter or horse drawn conveyance on a Multi-Use Trail; (See set fine)
- (5) Drive, ride use or operate a Bicycle, E-Scooter, Motor Vehicle, and Skateboard on a Hiking Trail;
- (6) Operate a Motor Vehicle except on a roadway or in an Authorized Parking Area;
- (7) Park a Motor Vehicle in a place other than an Authorized Parking Area;
- (8) Drive, operate, park, or leave unattended a Motor Vehicle in any part of a Park or Recreation Area between 11:00 pm and 6:00 am of the following day except at times where the Director of Parks and Recreation has authorized use of the Park or Recreation Area beyond 11:00 pm;
- (9) Make a sound or noise or cause a sound or noise to be made of such a volume that it is likely to disturb or annoy another occupant of the Park or Recreation Area;
- (10) Make an unusual or profane sound or noise or cause an unusual or profane sound or noise that is likely to disturb or annoy another occupant of the Park or Recreation Area;

- (11) Make verbal comments or physical gestures that would be likely to disturb or annoy another occupant of the Park or Recreation Area or likely to cause another occupant of the Park or Recreational Area to feel threatened;
- (12) Urinate or defecate except in a designated washroom facility;
- (13) Engage in conduct that endangers their own health and safety or the health and safety of another person;
- (14) Take pictures, record video or record audio of any person without the consent of the person, or, where the person is a minor, without consent of a parent or legal guardian;
- (15) Consume, serve, sell or possess liquor without proper approval of the City and the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario;
- (16) Play or practice golf or strike any golf ball by any means whatsoever;
- (17) Enter or remain in a Park or Recreation Area between 11:00 pm and 6:00 am of the following day without a permit, except that a person may enter or remain in a Park or Recreation Area during the times the Director of Parks and Recreation has authorized use of the Recreation Area or Park beyond 11:00 pm;
- (18) Operate a Motorized Snow Vehicle;
- (19) Climb, break, peel bark from, cut, remove, burn, deface or otherwise damage any tree, shrub or bush or pick, destroy or remove any flower, plant, roots, grass or rock;
- (20) Cause or permit any animal under their care, control or ownership to damage any tree, shrub, bush, flower, plant or roots;
- (21) Post any sign or poster on any tree, bush, shrub or amenity;
- (22) Remove, break, deface, or otherwise damage any monument, display, cage, seat, bench, picnic table, fence, posted sign, lock, barrier or any other equipment of the City located therein;

- (23) Deposit Refuse or cause Refuse to be deposited in or on a Park or Recreation Area save and except in Designated garbage/ recycling containers designed for collection of Refuse;
- (24) Cause or permit any animal under their care, control or ownership to swim in or enter into or urinate or defecate any swimming pool or wading pool or spray pad intended for human use only;
- (25) Enter into or traverse through a wooded area except on a designated trail;
- (26) Fish in violation of provincial or federal statutes or regulations or where there is posted signage prohibiting fishing in accordance with the *Trespass to Property Act* R.S.O. 1990 c. T. 21 as amended or any successor legislation;
- (27) Remove or pump water out of any reservoir, pond, river, or lake located in or adjacent to a Park or Recreation Area;
- (28) Discharge or permit the discharge of any water from private properties, including pool water and water from a roof drainage system, onto, into or over any Park or Recreation Area with the exception of natural over land flow from adjacent properties;
- (29) Encroach on municipally owned lands or erect fences on municipally owned lands without the written consent of the City and any such object encroaching shall be removed by the abutting owner forthwith at their expense;
- (30) Permit a dog under their ownership care or control to Run at Large except in a designated leash free area;
- (31) Cause or permit any animal under their care control or ownership to enter into a sports field, court, garden or playground area;
- (32) Interfere with a picnic, organized gathering or special events authorized by a City-issued permit or rental agreement;
- (33) Disturb, wound, kill or injure any vertebrate or invertebrate animal; (See set fine)



- (34) Carry out any scientific investigations or study without written approval from the Director of Parks and Recreation;
- (35) Feed any bird or animal;
- (36) Cut or damage a naturalized Park area;
- (37) Release balloons within a Park or woodlot;
- (38) Allow or cause a dog or any other domesticated or wild vertebrate animal under the person's care, control or ownership to enter a building, facility or change room, playground or sports field unless the animal is a service animal;
- (39) Deposit snow, ice, grass clippings or tree bush clippings into a Park, Recreation Area, Boulevard or Woodlot. (See set fine)

By-law 9393-20, August 13, 2020

**665.4.2 Wheel chairs – accepted**

Despite any regulation in this by-law restricting the use of Vehicles, a wheelchair or similar device (motorized or otherwise) used by an individual due to a disability may be used in all areas of Recreation Areas and Parks including all multi-use trails.

**665.4.3 Working Service Animals – accepted**

Despite any regulations in this by-law restricting animals these restrictions do not apply to working service animals.

**Article 5 - Activities – Subject to Approval**

**665.5.1 Activities – Subject to Approval**

Unless authorized by the Director of Parks and Recreation, no person shall engage in any of the following activities in a Park:

- (1) Start or maintain a fire; (See set fine)
- (2) Use a barbeque or cooking device; (See set fine)
- (3) Use a sports field for any game or practice without permission;
- (4) Camp, dwell, reside, or erect a tent or shelter, or park a trailer of any kind; (See set fine)

- (5) Operate any radio or other remotely controlled boat, drone, helicopter, airplane or other form of aircraft or watercraft; (See set fine)
- (6) Build or maintain an ice rink;
- (7) Carry on or cause to be carried on any commercial activity;
- (8) Hold or take part in a picnic, organized gathering or event of more than fifteen persons, except that in Museum Square and Victoria Park no organized picnic, gathering or event shall be permitted without a permit; By-law 9374-20, June 4, 2020.
- (9) Hold or take part in a meeting or gathering that obstructs the free passage of vehicular traffic;
- (10) Have exclusive use of any portion or all of a Park or Recreation Area;
- (11) Solicit funds for any charities, organizations or individual of any kind;
- (12) Ride or lead a horse, pony, donkey or mule in an area not designated for such activity;
- (13) Drive, lead or use a horse drawn wagon or sleigh;
- (14) Erect bird feeders or artificial homes for animals;
- (15) Operate a radio, or any other sound reproducing system in a manner that is likely to disturb annoy or interfere with another occupant of the Park or Recreation Area;
- (16) Operate any amplifying system, or loudspeaker in, or near a park.

### **665.5.2 Museum Square & Victoria Park – acceptable uses**

The city owned, open public space adjacent to the Woodstock Museum known as 'Museum Square' and the public park known as 'Victoria Park'

may only be booked by community groups or individuals who hold a permit for an event that is a benefit to the Woodstock community. All bookings must comply with Council Policy PR007 – Museum Square/Victoria Park Use. By-law 9374-20, June 4, 2020, By-law 9393-20, August 13, 2020.

## **Article 6 - Fees**

### **665.6.1 Use without payment – prohibited**

No person shall use a Park or Recreation Area without first having paid the applicable fee, if any or having made the appropriate arrangements for the scheduled payment of fees according to the practice's established by the Director of Parks and Recreation and as established in the applicable rates and Municipal Code Chapter 330 – Fees – Charges.

## **Article 7 – Enforcement**

### **665.7.1 Encroachment – Notice**

Where a contravention of section 665.4.1(29) has occurred, an Officer may send an order to the person who contravened section 665.4.1 (29) requiring them to do work to correct the contravention.

An order under this section shall set out reasonable particulars of the contravention adequate to identify the contravention, the location of the land on which the contravention occurred, the work to be done and the date by which the work must be done.

### **665.7.2 Notice – Non – Compliance**

Where an order issued under 665.7.1 has not been complied with, by the date set out in the order, the City may complete such work to remedy the contravention at the expense of the ordered person and the City may recover its costs by adding the expenses onto the owner's property taxes in accordance with section 446 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, c. 25.

### **665.7.3 Fine – for contravention**

Every person who contravenes any of the provisions of this Chapter is guilty of an offence and upon conviction is liable to a fine or penalty as provided in the *Provincial Offences Act*, as amended.

## **Article 8 – Repeal - Enactment**

### **665.8.1 Chapters - previous**

Municipal Code Chapter 666 Parks – Regulation is hereby repealed and replaced with Municipal Code Chapter 665 Parks - Recreation.

### **665.8.2 Effective date**

This Chapter shall become effective as of third and final reading of the enabling by-law. By-law 9167-17 December 14, 2017.