

City of Forest Grove Parks & Recreation Patron Code of Conduct Policy

Parks and Recreation is supported by the community. The community has a right to expect Parks and Recreation operated facilities and surroundings to be clean, pleasant, and safe spaces.

This conduct policy is intended to encourage behavior that supports the Parks and Recreation mission and values of serving and enhancing the lives of all members of the community. Parks and Recreation supports all individuals' freedom to recreate, learn, and grow. Behavior becomes unacceptable when it interferes with this mission, impinges on the rights of others, causes damage to facilities or equipment, or is dangerous to self or others.

Those willing to modify unacceptable behavior are welcome to participate in Parks and Recreation activities. If they are required to leave for a specified period of time due to violations of this code of conduct, they should know they will be welcomed back and treated in a fair, reasonable, and courteous manner.

Nothing in this Code of Conduct shall be construed to authorize the ejection or exclusion of a person for lawfully exercising free speech rights or other rights protected by the Oregon or United States Constitutions. However, a person lawfully exercising these protected rights but who commits an act that is not protected can be subject to ejection or exclusion as provided by this policy.

The following behaviors are prohibited: Any conduct, behavior, or activity that endangers the welfare and/or safety of other patrons will not be tolerated. Examples of such actions include, but are not limited to:

1. Engaging in physical altercations including assault and fighting.
2. Deliberately destroying, damaging, or defacing facilities, materials, or property.
3. Displaying firearms or other deadly weapons in a manner calculated to alarm or violating Section 92.09 (Firearms and Fireworks).
4. Engaging in acts of a sexual nature with self or others that include, but are not limited to, indecent exposure, sexual contact, sexual intercourse, and sexually harassing comments or behaviors.
5. Engaging in or committing any activity that would be a violation of any federal, state, or local criminal law, statute, or ordinance.
6. Taking photos and/or videos in a bathroom and/or locker room.

Consequences for violating Rules 1-6: Persons violating rules 1-6 will be asked to leave immediately and excluded from all Parks and Recreation premises without prior warning for a period of 24 hours. In addition, any person so ejected may also be excluded from some or all Parks and Recreation facilities for a period of up to 90 days as described in Municipal code 92.30. The incident will also be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

7. Refusing to comply with the direction of City staff.
8. Engaging in hazing, bullying, threatening and/or intimidating actions, rough play or harassing behavior that creates a hostile environment.

9. Bringing animals inside Parks and Recreation facilities other than trained service animals (as defined by law), except as approved by authorized City programs, or in violation of Municipal Code 92.12 (Animal Prohibited).

10. Engaging in loud, disruptive, destructive, or unsafe behavior that interferes with others' use of a Parks and Recreation facility or involvement in a Parks and Recreation activity or with the ability of the staff to perform their job duties.

11. Smoking, chewing, any use or preparation of tobacco products, or vaping on Parks and Recreation property as described in Municipal Code 92.17.

12. Using profanity.

13. Violating Municipal Code sections 92.04 (Traffic Regulations), 92.05 (Bicycles and Skateboards), 92.06 (Injury to Landscaping), 92.07 (Damaging Park Equipment), 92.08 (Use of Park Equipment), 92.10 (Fires), 92.11 (Model Airplanes and Auto Operations), 92.13 (Dumping Refuse), 92.14 (Placing Pollutants in Pools), 92.15 (Camping), 92.16 (Prohibited Use of Sports Equipment).

Consequences for violating rules 7-13: Persons violating rules 7-13 will be given up to two warnings at the discretion of City staff (however, City staff may not provide notice if the situation so warrants and such decision not to provide notice shall not impact the City's ability to eject or exclude). If behavior is not altered, then the person(s) will be asked to leave the premises for a period of 24 hours. In addition, any person so ejected may also be excluded from some or all Parks and Recreation facilities for a period of up to 90 days as described in Municipal code 92.30. Consequences for repeated behavioral infractions of the same or similar nature may result in cumulative exclusions (i.e., one day, one week, one month, multiple months). If necessary, City staff will contact law enforcement to trespass repeat offenders.

Exclusion Period: In determining the appropriate length of exclusion, the person issuing the exclusion shall consider: the seriousness of the conduct that led to the exclusion; prior instances of violations of the Code of Conduct by the person to be excluded; and any other facts or circumstances that the person issuing the exclusion deems relevant.

Exclusion Area: Forest Grove Parks & Recreation facilities include: All park properties owned and managed by the City of Forest Grove and the Forest Grove Aquatic Center. In addition, any area where a Forest Grove Parks & Recreation activity is taking place.

Exclusion Notice: The notice of exclusion shall be in writing, given to the person excluded and signed by law enforcement or the City Manager. It shall comply with Municipal Code 92.31, which includes listing the dates and areas of exclusion. It shall contain a warning of consequences for failure to comply with the notice of exclusion and information concerning the right to appeal the exclusion.

Right of Appeal: Any person receiving a notice of exclusion under Municipal Code 92.31 may file a written appeal with the Municipal Court within five (5) business days of the issuance of the notice to have the exclusion rescinded or the exclusion period shortened.