



**ORDINANCE REGULATING  
THE USE OF THE PARKS AND PROPERTY  
OWNED OR CONTROLLED BY THE  
PARK DISTRICT OF OAK LAWN**

**OAK LAWN, ILLINOIS**

**October 2025**

# **AN ORDINANCE DEFINING MISDEMEANORS AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR SUCH MISDEMEANORS**

SECTION 1	Definitions
SECTION 2	Games and Sports
SECTION 3	Restricted Areas
SECTION 4	Bodily Harm
SECTION 5	Selling of Articles and Services
SECTION 6	Advertising
SECTION 7	Weapons and Exposures
SECTION 8	Fires
SECTION 9	Stone, Missiles and Golf Balls
SECTION 10	Protection of Property
SECTION 11	Protection of Trees, Shrubs, Grass
SECTION 12	Climbing
SECTION 13	Removal or Excavation of Soil and Wood
SECTION 14	Protection of Water
SECTION 15	Dumping, Polluting, and Littering
SECTION 16	Protection of Animals
SECTION 17	Animals on Park Property
SECTION 18	Snowmobiling
SECTION 19	Bicycles
SECTION 20	Driving Areas
SECTION 21	Parking
SECTION 22	Alcohol and Controlled Substances
SECTION 23	Gambling and Fortune Telling
SECTION 24	Loitering in Facilities
SECTION 25	Indecent Exposure, Profanity and Liberties
SECTION 26	Sleeping in Parks
SECTION 27	Disorderly Conduct
SECTION 28	Obscene Language
SECTION 29	Criminal Acts
SECTION 30	Begging or Soliciting Contributions
SECTION 31	Structures, Tents and Public Utilities
SECTION 32	Concerts and Amplified instruments
SECTION 33	Public Assemblies and Religious Activities
SECTION 34	Permits
SECTION 35	Disturbance and Interference of Permits
SECTION 36	Resisting and Hindering Police Force
SECTION 37	Violation and Fines of Ordinances

**• ORDINANCE RELATING TO POLLUTING, DUMPING AND ENCROACHING ON OR IN PUBLIC PARKS**

**• ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE OAK LAWN POLICE DEPARTMENT TO PATROL AND PROTECT THE OAK LAWN PARKS AND THE PATRONS ATTENDING THE PARKS**

**• ORDINANCE RESTRICTING THE USE OF MOTOR-DRIVEN AND LOW SPEED SCOOTERS ON OAK LAWN PARK DISTRICT PROPERTY**

**• ORDINANCE PROHIBITING OFF TRAIL ACTIVITIES AT WOLFE WILDLIFE**

**• ORDINANCE PROHIBITING SMOKING ON THE GROUNDS OF ANY OAK LAWN PARK DISTRICT FACILITY AND PARK WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE STONY CREEK GOLF COURSE GROUNDS**

**• ORDINANCE RESTRICTING THE USE OF AIRCRAFT/DRONES ON OAK LAWN PARK DISTRICT PROPERTY**

**AN ORDINANCE DEFINING MISDEMEANORS AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR SUCH MISDEMEANORS**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE Board of Commissioners of the Oak Lawn Park District, Cook County, Illinois:

SECTION 1. For the purpose of this ordinance, the following terms shall have the definitions given herein:

A. "District" is the Oak Lawn Park District, Cook County, Illinois.

B. "Board" is the Board of Commissioners of the Oak Lawn Park District.

C. "Director" is the Director of Parks, and Recreation, the chief administrative officer of the District.

D. "Park" is any playfield, playground, swimming pool, ice skating rink, open area, building or parts thereof or other facility and the materials and equipment therein owned, leased or in use by the District.

E. "Person" is an individual, firm, partnership, group, association, corporation, governmental unit, company or organization of any kind., except the District

F. "Vehicle" is any conveyance, whether motor powered or self-propelled, except baby carriages, and conveyances in use by the District.

SECTION 2. No person shall engage in any sport, game, amusement or exercise in any park, except in such parts thereof as are designated for that purpose by the Director.

SECTION 3. (a) No person shall enter a park or part thereof posted as "Closed to the Public", nor shall any person use or abet the use of any such Park or part thereof in violation of posted notice.

SECTION 3. (b) No person shall enter, be or remain in any field house, clubhouse, building or other structure owned or operated by the District, when closed to the public. In an open space area owned or operated by the District between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. the following day except this shall not apply to persons that are entering or leaving an open space area for the purpose of either ingress to or egress from a park field house, clubhouse, building or other structure that is open to the public nor to authorized Park or police personnel, and shall not apply during the hours of operation, as approved by the Board.

SECTION 4. No person shall hinder, interfere with or cause or threaten to do bodily harm to any employee of the District while such employee is engaged in performing his duties in and on behalf of the District.

SECTION 5. No person shall expose or offer for sale any article or thing, nor shall any person station or place any stand, cart, or vehicle for the transportation, sale, or display of any such article or thing in any Park, except a regularly licensed concessionaire or other person acting under an official permit of the Board: nor shall any person within any Park or on its borders announce, advertise, or call the public attention in any way to any article, or service for sale or hire.

SECTION 6. No person shall paste, glue, tack or otherwise affix or post any sign, placard, advertisement, or inscription whatever, not erect or cause to be erected any sign whatever on any structure or thing in a Park, except as authorized by the Director.

SECTION 7. No person shall bring or have in his possession, or set off or otherwise cause to explode or discharge any gun, pistol, revolver, cracker torpedo, rocket, or other fireworks or explosives of inflammable materials, including any substance, compound, mixture, or article that in conjunction with any other substance or compound could cause injury to human or animal life, in any Park.

SECTION 8. No person shall light, build or attempt to light or build a fire in any Park except in such areas of a park and under such regulations as may be designated by the Director.

SECTION 9. No person shall throw any stone, brick or other missile in or upon any Park. Nor shall any person hit a golf ball in any Park except Oak Lawn Stony Creek Driving Range or such portions of any Park as is designated for such purpose by the Director.

SECTION 10. No person shall deface, disfigure, break, cut, tamper with or displace or remove in or from any Park building or part thereof, table, bench, fireplace, coping, lamp post, fence, wall, paving or paving material, water line or other public utility or parts or appurtenances thereof, or any sign, notice of placard, whether temporary or permanent, equipment, facilities or other Park property or appurtenances whatsoever, either real or personal.

SECTION 11. No person shall damage, cut, carve, uproot or injure any tree, or injure the bark, or pick the flowers or seeds of any tree or plant in any Park: nor shall any person attach any rope, wire, or other contrivance to any tree or plant, in any Park. Nor shall any person dig in or otherwise disturb grass areas, or in any other way injure or impair the beauty or usefulness of any park.

SECTION 12. No person shall climb any tree nor climb wall, stand or sit upon any wall, building, fountain, fence, railing in any Park nor upon any other Park property not designated or customarily used for such purposes.

SECTION 13. No person shall remove any soil, rock, stones, trees, shrubs, or plants, down timber or other wood or materials from any Park, nor make any excavation by tool, equipment, blasting, or other except under the direction of the Director.

SECTION 14. No person shall throw, discharge, or otherwise place or cause to be placed in the waters of any swimming pool, fountain, pond, lake, stream or other body of water in or adjacent to any Park or any tributary, stream, storm sewer, or drain flowing into such waters, any substance, matter or thing, liquid or solid, which will or may result in the pollution or the hindrance of the use of said water.

SECTION 15. No person shall bring in or dump, deposit or leave any bottles, broken glass, ashes, paper, fill, boxes, manure, cans, dirt, rubbish, waste, garbage or refuse, or other trash or litter in any Park except to deposit the same in receptacles provided therefore.

SECTION 16. No person shall hunt, molest, harm, frighten, kill, trap, chase, tease, shoot, or throw stones, rocks or other missiles at any animal, or bird in any Park, nor shall any person remove or have in his possession a bird or wild animal or the eggs or nest of any bird or wild animal in any Park.

SECTION 17. No person shall bring a dog into any park with the exception of Wolfe Wildlife Refuge and the designated area of the dog park, Bailey's Crossing. All dogs in Wolfe Wildlife must be leashed. Only patrons holding memberships in the dog park may enter and exit Columbus Manor Park with their leashed dogs when accessing the dog park. Dogs may be taken off leash only when in the confines of the designated dog park area. Patrons are responsible for cleaning up after their dogs at the dog park and at Wolfe Wildlife. Violators are subject to fine by the Oak Lawn Police Department.

SECTION 18. No person shall bring, drive, use or ride a snowmobile or go-cart in any Park, nor bring, drive, use or ride any other similar vehicle prohibited from being brought, driven, ridden, or used in any Park by the Director. Patrons shall not be allowed to bring gasoline powered equipment into any park (generators, scooters, etc.).

SECTION 19. No person within any Park shall ride another person on a bicycle nor leave any bicycle unattended without first locking it, nor park any bicycle in any place within a Park except in a bicycle rack.

SECTION 20. No person shall drive any vehicle in any Park, except upon paved roads or parking areas designated for such purposes, and only then in accordance with posted signs as to speed, direction, parking, stopping, lane markings and traffic controls.

SECTION 21. (a) No person shall park any vehicle in any Park, driveway, parking area of a Park between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. the following day, except that this restriction shall not apply to a vehicle parked by a person who is lawfully in a field house, clubhouse, building or other structure adjacent to such driveway or parking area while said Park facility is open to the public nor shall said restriction apply to vehicles of authorized Park and Police personnel.

SECTION 21. (b) No person shall leave any vehicle anywhere in a Park more than 24 hours because of mechanical failure nor shall any person fail to notify and attempt to obtain the services of a mechanic for any vehicle that has failed to function within one hour of such failure.

SECTION 22. (a) No person shall be under the influence of intoxicating alcoholic liquors at any time in any Park.

SECTION 22. (b) No narcotic drugs or controlled substances shall be sold, delivered, given away or used by anyone or at any time in any Park.

SECTION 23. No person shall tell fortunes, gamble or participate in or abet any game of chance or use any gambling device in any Park.

SECTION 24. No person, except for children under four (4) years of age, shall enter into, loiter or remain in any toilet, restroom, bathhouse, pavilion or structure or section thereof, of any Park that has been designated by the Director for the use of the opposite sex.

SECTION 25. No person shall expose any part of the body to the public in an indecent or lewd manner, nor speak or make advances in a profane or obscene way, or make any indecent or obscene gestures in any Park. Nor shall any person take, or attempt to take any immoral, improper or indecent liberties with any child or adult of either sex in any Park.

SECTION 26. No person shall make use of the Park as a place to sleep during the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. of any day nor shall any person swing, occupy or use any hammock in any Park, except such portions thereof as is designated for such purpose by the Director.

SECTION 27. No person shall make, aid or countenance or assist in making any loud or raucous noise, riot or disturbance tending to a breach of the peace in any Park, or be guilty of any disorderly conduct therein or thereon, or collect, with other persons, in bodies or crowds for unlawful purposes, or for any purpose to the annoyance or disturbance of the other persons using a Park or residents adjacent to a Park.

SECTION 28. No person shall use abusive, insulting or obscene language, or language calculated to occasion a breach of the peace, in any Park.

SECTION 29. No person shall commit in any Park any act prohibited by the Criminal Code of the State of Illinois as set forth in Chapter 38 of the Illinois Revised Statutes.

SECTION 30. No person shall beg or solicit any alms or any contribution in any Park. Nor shall any person solicit, collect any donations or charge any fees for any service, whether private or public except fees as charged by the Park and approved by the Board, without first having obtained a written permit from the Board.

SECTION 31. No person shall construct or erect any building, tent or structure of whatever kind in any Park, whether permanent or temporary in character, or run or string any public service utility into, upon or across any Park, without first having obtained an official permit from the Board.

SECTION 32. No person shall conduct any musical concert, play upon any amplified instrument nor set up or use any communication system in a Park without first obtaining an official permit from the Board.

SECTION 33. No person shall hold or attempt to hold any meeting, assembly, demonstration, celebration, parade, rally, religious worship, or any sponsored entertainment, social, recreational or athletic event for 10 or more people without first obtaining an official permit from the Board.

SECTION 34. No person issued an official permit by the Board shall fail to produce the permit and exhibit it upon request of the Director or Park employee, or Board member or police officer.

SECTION 35. No person shall disturb or interfere with any person or party occupying any Park, under the authority of an official permit of the Board.

SECTION 36. No person shall resist any police officer of the District in the discharge of the said officer's duty, or fail or refuse to obey any lawful command of any police officer, or in any way hinder or prevent such police officer from discharging his duty, or offer or endeavor so to do, or in any manner assist any person in custody to escape or attempt to escape from such custody, or rescue any person in custody.

SECTION 37. Any person violating any clauses or provision of any section of this ordinance shall be fined not more than Two Hundred Dollars (\$200), for each offense upon conviction thereof.

**AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO POLLUTING, DUMPING  
AND ENCROACHING ON AND IN PUBLIC PARKS  
OF THE OAK LAWN PARK DISTRICT,  
COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

WHEREAS, the Oak Lawn Park District is an Illinois Municipal entity operating within a territory predominantly in the Village of Oak Lawn, Cook County, Illinois: and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the District to establish ordinances, rules and regulations to provide for the government, protection and preservation of the property, facilities and resources of the parks; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Park Commissioners of the Oak Lawn Park District deem it necessary to establish rules, and regulations prohibiting dumping in its parks and other property, and to provide penalties for the violation of such rules and regulations.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Park Commissioners of the Oak Lawn Park District, Cook County, Illinois, as follows,

SECTION 1: It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, corporation or organization, other than Oak Lawn Park District personnel:

- a. To dump, discharge or leave, in or on any Oak Lawn Park District property, any type of rubbish, trash, construction debris, landscape debris (including but not limited to, lawn clippings and leaves) or household garbage, with the exception of waste generated as part of an authorized activity if such waste is promptly and properly disposed of in proper receptacles at the conclusion of the activity.
- b. To dump in any Park District roll-off box, dumpster or other District waste receptacle, any type of rubbish, trash, construction debris, landscape debris (including, but not limited to lawn clippings and leaves) or household garbage, unless such waste was generated during an authorized activity and if such waste is promptly and properly disposed of in proper receptacles at the conclusion of the activity.
- c. To dump or leave bird seed or other feed which tends to attract birds, insects or animals on Park District property.
- d. To discharge onto any Park District property, and sump pump effluent.
- e. To empty or drain onto any Park District property water or other contents of any privately-owned swimming pool.
- f. To place or grow any vegetable garden, flower garden or composting area or materials, or to plant, any other plants upon Park District property, or any portion thereof, except in areas approved and designated by the Board of Park Commissioners.
- g. To construct, erect or place swing sets, gyms, playground equipment, railroad ties, landscape ties, wood piles, fences, shed or other structures upon any Park District property, or any part thereof.
- h. Permit holders for the shelters at Centennial Park, Memorial Park, Wolfe Wildlife (109th), and Worthbrook Park (east shelter) may use the provided grills. Only permit holders may use the provided grills or their own charcoal grills adjacent to the shelter during hours listed on their permit only, and must properly dispose of charcoal in provided charcoal ring. Grilling away from the shelters and by non-permit holders is prohibited. Propane grills are prohibited.

SECTION 2: Any person, firm, corporation or organization violating any clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be fined not less than Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) nor more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) for each offense upon conviction and in addition the Park District may seek an order from any court of component jurisdiction, that the offender can be required to make restitution for damages resulting from the violation of any provision of this ordinance. Each day any violation of any provision of this ordinance shall continue shall constitute a separate offense.

SECTION 3: SEVERABILITY. If any section, paragraph or provision of this Ordinance shall be held to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, the invalidity or unenforceability of such section, paragraph or provision shall not affect any of the remaining provisions of this ordinance.

SECTION 4: REPEAL OF PRIOR ORDINANCES. All prior Ordinances and Resolutions in conflict or inconsistent herewith are hereby expressly repealed only to the extent of such conflict or inconsistency.

SECTION 5: EFFECTIVE DATE. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon its passage and approval.

Revised this 14th day of June 2021.

Passed this 8th day of April 1991.

**ORDINANCE OF THE OAK LAWN PARK DISTRICT  
COOK COUNTY ILLINOIS  
AUTHORIZING THE OAK LAWN POLICE DEPARTMENT  
TO PATROL AND PROTECT THE OAK LAWN PARKS  
AND THE PATRONS ATTENDING THE PARKS**

WHEREAS the Oak Lawn Park District is a duly organized and existing Park District created under the provisions of the laws of the State of Illinois and is now operating under the provisions of the Park District Code of the State of Illinois.

WHEREAS the Board of Commissioners, the duly elected governing body of the Oak Lawn Park District, has determined that a true and very real need exists for the patrol and protection of the parks, patrons and facilities of the Oak Lawn Park District.

WHEREAS the Oak Lawn Police Department has the responsibility to guard and protect all of the residents of and all the property in the Village of Oak Lawn.

WHEREAS the Oak Lawn Police Department has a reputation as one of the finest police in the State of Illinois.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Oak Lawn Park District as follows:

The Oak Lawn Police Department is hereby authorized and directed to patrol and protect all of our parks, facilities and the patrons attending the parks and to use whatever means are available to them under the law to achieve that purpose.

This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval in the manner provided by law.

Passed this 10th day of September 2007.

**ORDINANCE OF THE OAK LAWN PARK DISTRICT  
COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
RESTRICTING THE USE OF MOTOR-DRIVEN AND LOW SPEED SCOOTERS  
ON OAK LAWN PARK DISTRICT PROPERTY**

WHEREAS the Board of Park Commissioners of the Oak Lawn Park district, Cook County, Illinois recognizes the dangers in the use of motor-driven scooters and

WHEREAS the Board of Park Commissioners of the Oak Lawn Park District deems it necessary to establish ordinances and regulations for the safety and protection of this constituents.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Oak Lawn Park District, Cook County, Illinois as follows:

SECTION 1: No person shall operate a motor-driven or low-speed scooter on any Oak Lawn Park District property. Such operation is expressly prohibited and shall not be considered a permitted use of any District property, including, but not limited to, public sidewalks, trails, and rights-of-way.

SECTION 2: For the purpose of this ordinance:

•A motor-driven scooter is defined as any electric or gas driven wheeled scooter, motor driven cycle or other similar motor-driven vehicle for which the State of Illinois does not issue a title document, license plate, or registration document.

•A low-speed electric scooter is a device weighing less than 100 pounds, equipped with two or three wheels, handlebars, and a floorboard on which a person may stand. Powered solely by an electric motor and human power, and capable of reaching a maximum speed of no more than 10 miles per hour, with or without human propulsion.

SECTION 3: Said motor-driven and low speed scooters may be impounded by the Park District or the police department.

SECTION 4: Further, any person violating this ordinance shall be fined not less than Two Hundred (\$200.00) dollars nor more than One Thousand (\$1000.00) dollars for the conviction of each offense thereof.

SECTION 5: This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

Revised October 2025

Passed this 8th day of November 2004

**ORDINANCE OF THE OAK LAWN PARK DISTRICT  
COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
PROHIBITING OFF TRAIL ACTIVITIES AT WOLFE WILDLIFE**

WHEREAS the Board of Park Commissioners of the Oak Lawn Park District deems it necessary to establish ordinances and regulations for the safety and protection of their constituents.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Oak Lawn Park District, Cook County, Illinois as follows:

Patrons must remain on paths at all times at Wolfe Wildlife. Off trail activities are prohibited.

This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

Passed this 9th day of September 2013.

**ORDINANCE OF THE OAK LAWN PARK DISTRICT  
COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
PROHIBITING SMOKING ON THE GROUNDS OF  
ANY OAK LAWN PARK DISTRICT FACILITY AND PARK WITH  
THE EXCEPTION OF THE STONY CREEK GOLF COURSE GROUNDS**

WHEREAS, the Board of Park Commissioners of the Oak Lawn Park District deems it necessary to establish ordinances and regulations for the safety and protection of their constituents.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Oak Lawn Park District, Cook County, Illinois as follows:

Smoking is prohibited on the grounds of any Oak Lawn Park District facility and park with the exception of the golf course grounds. Smoking means either the carrying, smoking, burning, inhaling, or exhaling of any kind of lighted pipe, cigar, cigarette, hookah, weed, cannabis, herbs, or any other lighted smoking equipment; and or the use of any electronic cigarette including; vaping, e-cigars, and e-hookah. Consuming marijuana or marijuana products is prohibited on the grounds of any Oak Lawn Park District facility and park including but not limited to the golf course grounds. Staff, while on duty at the Oak Lawn Park District, is not allowed to smoke on any park district property.

This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

Revised this 21st day of October 2019

Passed this 9th day of February 2015

**ORDINANCE OF THE OAK LAWN PARK DISTRICT  
COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS RESTRICTING THE USE OF  
AIRCRAFT/DRONES ON OAK LAWN PARK DISTRICT PROPERTY**

WHEREAS, the Oak Lawn Park District is an Illinois Municipal entity operating within a territory predominantly in the Village of Oak Lawn, Cook County, Illinois: and

WHEREAS, the Board of Park Commissioners of the Oak Lawn Park District, Cook County, Illinois recognizes the dangers of Aircraft/Drones to be flown in the park system and

WHEREAS, the Board of Park Commissioners of the Oak Lawn Park District deems it necessary to establish ordinances and regulations for the safety and protection of their constituents

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Oak Lawn Park District, Cook County, Illinois as follows:

No person shall fly, cause to be flown, or permit any model power aircraft/drone of any kind to be flown in the park system without a permit. Unauthorized flying of a model power aircraft/drone can be subject to prosecution.

Except as expressly authorized by such permit, no person shall fly, cause to be flown, or permit any aircraft/drone of any kind to be flown over the park system at any time at an elevation less than the minimum safety requirements established by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) or other appropriate governmental authority or less than is responsible and proper, or land, cause to be landed, or permit any aircraft/drone to land in the park system, except when required by unavoidable emergency. Prior approval by the Federal Aviation Administration is required if there is an airport within 5 miles of the fly zone. In no case shall any person permit any aircraft/drone of any kind to be flown over the park system at any time so as to endanger the safety of any person or property. With the exception of District sanctioned events.

This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

Passed this 14th day of March 2016.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Ryan Donahue, President  
Melissa Mottl, Vice President  
Melinda Stalker, Secretary  
Jim Buschbach Jr., Commissioner  
Andrea Zum, Commissioner

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Tom Hartwig, Director

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