

TOWN OF TICONDEROGA

Ticonderoga Park Policy

Ticonderoga Parks & Recreation Committee



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Section 1 – Forward

Park and recreational facilities within the Town of Ticonderoga are provided for the use and enjoyment of Town residents, guests, and visitors. The Town desires to keep park facilities open and available to the public as much as possible. The Town also desires to ensure park uses and users do not negatively impact the general public's access to or enjoyment of park facilities. The specific standards established in this policy are intended to help accomplish this general policy.

Ticonderoga Town Parks do not include the sports and other facilities associated with the Ticonderoga Central School District (football fields, track field, Alexandria ball field, elementary school playground, etc.).

1.1 Mission Statement

The Town of Ticonderoga established the Ticonderoga Parks & Recreation Committee to address all issues relating to the Town's Parks & Recreation program. This Committee discusses issues and provides recommendations to the Town Board. The mission statement of the Ticonderoga Parks and Recreation Committee is as follows:

Mission

The mission of the Ticonderoga Parks, Recreation, Historic Lands, Cemeteries and Beach Committee is to enhance our town's quality of life by providing safe and well-maintained parks and public places and preserving open space and historic resources.

It is our goal to continue preserving, enhancing, and protecting our park system, while providing a variety of year-round opportunities and facilities for our citizens and visitors, to enrich the quality of life for present and future generations in a safe and secure environment.

1.2 Parks within the Town of Ticonderoga

The Town of Ticonderoga includes several parks for the use and enjoyment of its residents and visitors. General policy for these areas may be found in Section 2. Specific policy for any specific park may be found in the section for that particular park if applicable. Parks include:

- Percy Thompson Bicentennial Park
- Carillon Park
- Veterans Park

- Champlain Legacy Park
- Artillery Park
- Pocket Park
- Recreational Park
- Ticonderoga Dog Park
- Ticonderoga Town Beach
- Miscellaneous Recreational Facilities

1.3 Definitions

The following definitions apply throughout this policy. Also see Local Law #1 of 2021 (Amended) Regulating the Use of Town Owned Real Property.

Town Property

Town Property means both real and personal property owned by the Town and located in the municipal bounds of the Town of Ticonderoga, Essex County, New York.

Town Park

A Town Park is Town Property consisting of any park, playground, athletic field, swimming pool, beach, Town-owned land and land under water owned by the Town of Ticonderoga and any recreation area under the jurisdiction of the Town Board, whether the same be now or hereafter owned or acquired by the Town of Ticonderoga in fee or otherwise, including all land under, and space above, the surface of the ground except as noted by other entities or restrictions.

Motor Vehicle

Every vehicle which is propelled by any power other than muscular power, except electrically driven invalid chairs being operated or driven by an invalid and vehicles run only upon rails or tracks. The term "motor vehicle" shall include, without limitation, automobiles, motorcycles, trucks, mopeds, minibikes, all-terrain vehicles, and snowmobiles.

Non-Motorized Vehicle

Every vehicle which is not classified as a motor vehicle. The term "non-motorized vehicle" shall include, without limitation, skateboards, bicycles, and rollerblades.

Camping

Camping (as defined in Local Law #1 of 2021 Amended Regulating the Use of Town Owned Real Property) means the act of sleeping, setting up a tent, camp, camper, or other temporary or permanent improvement, intended to be used or used to stay, sleep, or reside at or on Town Property.

Hunting

Hunting (as defined in Local Law #1 of 2021 Amended Regulating the Use of Town Owned Real Property) means the act of killing or attempting to kill any animal by way of use of a firearm such as a handgun or rifle, bow including compound or long, knife, cross bow, traps or any similar device or weapon, or any trapping of animals. The killing, attempting to kill or trapping of a wild animal on Town Property by a police officer, or any other duly appointed officer under New York law acting within the scope of employment shall not be considered hunting. Fishing in waters adjacent or within Town property shall not be considered hunting.

Permit

A permit to do any act shall authorize the same only insofar as it may be performed in strict accordance with the terms and conditions thereof. Any violation by its holder of any terms or conditions shall constitute grounds for revocation by the Town Board or its authorized representative. Applications for all permits shall be made in writing to the Town Board or in such manner as the Town Board may direct.

Use of Community Facilities Agreement

An agreement between the applicant and the Town. Permission for special use of the park can be granted after the appropriate paperwork has been filled out in the Town Clerk's Office and signed by the Chair of the Parks and Recreation Committee (see Use of Community Facilities Application on Town website). Contact the Town Clerk for the application and information regarding applicable fees.

Person

Any natural person, corporation, association, society, organization, firm, or partnership. A park user is defined as a person.

Police Officer

A law enforcement individual assigned to duty by the Ticonderoga Town Board or other proper authority, as well as sheriffs, deputy sheriffs and members of the State Police.

Section 2 – General Policy

The following policies apply to all parks within the Town of Ticonderoga. Additional prohibitions or exceptions may apply only to those parks in which they are identified. All parks are open for use year-round unless specifically noted. All persons using Town park facilities must keep them neat, clean and in good repair. Park users should be courteous to other park users. All park users shall abide by the policies contained herein. The Town assumes no responsibility for loss of personal property.

2.1 Hours of Operation

Standard park operating hours are dawn to dusk. However, a Town Park shall be opened and closed at such time or times as may from time to time be designated by the Town Board in its discretion by resolution and for special events. Notwithstanding the closing time established by the Town Board, any police officer may close the Town Park at an earlier hour if deemed necessary in the interests of public safety.

2.2 Permits & Use

All parks are freely accessible to the public except for large, planned events and celebrations which may impact general use and/or result in the commitment of Town resources. For such events, all persons will submit a request for use (aka Use of Community Facilities Agreement) to the Town Clerk. Approval is subject to the Parks & Rec Committee Chair and payment of any applicable fees.

2.3 Hunting & Trapping

No hunting shall be permitted on any Town Property, including Town parks. Hunting on Town Property may only be permitted by:

- (i) resolution of the Town Board of the Town of Ticonderoga for purposes of prevention of damage or destruction to property as may be determined in the sole and absolute discretion of the Town Board, or
- (ii) the Ticonderoga Highway Superintendent for purposes solely of protection of Town highways and solely limited to lawful trapping permits (see Local Law #1 of 2021 Amended Regulating the Use of Town Owned Real Property).

2.4 Open Fires & Fireworks

No person shall make or cause any fire to occur on any Town Property, including but not limited to campfires or any other fire. The use of Town installed barbeque grills or pits shall be permitted during daytime hours from sunrise to sunset provided that any person using such barbeque grills

or pits shall keep and maintain the usage of same in a safe manner and not permit unattended fires or large fires to exceed the confines of such barbeque grills or pits, and further provided that only charcoal manufactured for use in barbeque grills or pits shall be used in such barbeque grills or pits. No firewood shall be used in any barbeque grills or pits (see Local Law #1 of 2021 Amended Regulating the Use of Town Owned Real Property).

Sanctioned fireworks in Town parks are limited to the Percy Thompson Bicentennial Park with appropriate permit and authorization. The Town of Ticonderoga Highway Department will establish the fence barrier for these events. Cleanup is the responsibility of the Town unless specific arrangements are made between the Town and the person conducting the event.

2.5 Overnight Camping & Tenting

Camping on Town Property may only be permitted by resolution of the Town Board in connection with any event held on such Town Property for which the camping shall be incidental to such event, such as Fourth of July or similar festivities as the Town Board may require (see Local Law #1 of 2021 Amended Regulating the Use of Town Owned Real Property).

2.6 Refuse & Garbage

All persons shall clean up all trash and debris that their use of the park creates and leave park facilities in a neat, clean, and tidy state. No person shall leave, throw, lay, drop, or discharge into or on any land or water in any Town Park any cans, bottles, refuse, garbage, rubbish, or waste. Papers, cartons, or any other type of litter must be placed in receptacles provided for that purpose.

2.7 Alcoholic Beverages

No person shall bring into any Town Park any beer, ale, or other alcoholic beverage except by permit. See “Town of Ticonderoga Facility Use Alcohol Regulations” on the Town website.

2.8 Sanitary Facilities

No person shall use any portion of any Town Park as a sanitary facility other than facilities designated as such by the Town.

2.9 Protection of Property

No person shall make any changes or alterations to any park facilities. This includes changes to electrical outlets, breakers, other electrical devices at park, trees, structures, etc. No person shall deface, injure, displace, remove, fill in, raise, destroy or tamper with any drive, path or walk; take or remove or carry away any soil, turf or any other material or substance; deface, injure, displace,

remove, destroy or tamper with any structure, building or any other property or equipment, real or personal, owned by the Town of Ticonderoga or under the jurisdiction and control of the Town Board in any Town Park.

2.10 Archeological Excavations

The use of metal detectors or any excavation equipment or tools is prohibited on any Town Property. No person shall make any excavation by tool, equipment, or utilize metal detectors of whatever kind, across, over or on any Town Property. No archaeological excavations without written permission from the committee and Town Board are permitted. Excavations or exploration of Town Property for purposes of any Town Board sponsored project shall be authorized but limited to the individuals or entities authorized by the Town Board (see Local Law #1 of 2021 Amended Regulating the Use of Town Owned Real Property).

2.11 General Conduct

All persons shall adhere to the following policies:

- No person shall disobey any order of a police officer, playground director, parking attendant or other person designated by the Town Board to give orders or the notices, prohibitions, instructions, or directions on any Town park sign.
- No person shall use threatening, abusive or obscene language in any Town park.
- No person shall throw stones or other projectiles in any Town park.
- No person shall enter or leave any restricted Town park area except at established entranceways or exits or at established times; nor shall persons use or gain admittance to, or attempt to use or gain admittance to, the facilities in any Town park at any time other than those authorized.

Section 3 – Percy Thompson Bicentennial Park

The following policies apply specifically to Percy Thompson Bicentennial Park.

3.1 General

All policies specified in Section 2 apply to this park.

3.2 Specific Policies

The following additional policies apply to the Percy Thompson Bicentennial Park.

- Open green space will be preserved and maintained at the discretion of the Town Board.
- The park will be available for use by persons/groups or events that have received appropriate written permission.
- Memorials are prohibited except for approved benches or trees with an appropriate small plaque attached. The Parks and Recreation Committee will determine the color, size, or style of bench or type of tree.
- Memorial stones are prohibited except for the original plaque and stone honoring Percy Thompson and others who helped develop this park. This stone shall remain at the walking path entrance to the park in front of the park's flagpole.
- The only flag to be flown in the park as a permanent display is the Flag of the United States of America (American flag).
- No animals are allowed in the park except for service animals.
- The park is restricted to foot traffic only except as noted in Section 2.
- No motor vehicle is allowed on the park's walking path and greenspace without special written permission of the Parks and Recreation Committee. Driving on the access road to the fishing pier is prohibited except for handicapped, service, town, and emergency vehicles.
- Snowmobiles are allowed only on officially marked trails.
- Use of bicycles, skateboards, and roller blades on the walking path is prohibited.
- All electrical and water lines used for events and which cross pedestrian paths must be covered to mitigate tripping hazards.
- The Gazebo is open for use by any person. Those persons wishing to use the gazebo for formal events and celebrations should contact the Town Clerk.
- Fishing is allowed from the pier and/or along the riverbank.
- Motor vehicle traffic is prohibited on the Kissing Bridge.

3.3 Children's Playground Policies

The following policy applies to the Percy Thompson Bicentennial Park Kiwanis Playground:

- Hours of Operation: sunrise to sunset.
- Age limit: Age 10 years and younger.
- Do not use play equipment improperly.
- Adult supervision is required.
- Do not use equipment when wet or the ground is frozen.
- No running, pushing, shoving, or throwing bark ground cover.
- No bare feet – please wear proper footwear.

Section 4 – Veterans Park

In cooperation with La Chute Hydro and the Town of Ticonderoga, the land east of Tower Avenue, north of the 1888 Building, and bounded by La Chute River to the north, has been designated by the Town of Ticonderoga as the Ticonderoga Veterans’ Park. This area is to be used solely to honor or memorialize those who have served our country, since its founding, as a member of the armed services.

Any proposed project must come before the Ticonderoga Parks, Recreation, Historic Lands, Monuments, Beach, and Cemeteries Committee. The Committee has the authority to review and recommend or deny approval (subject to Town Board approval) to any petitioner, organization, or donor for any proposed project to erect a monument/memorial within Veterans Park. The Committee has authorization to make final recommendation regarding the location of all monuments/memorials to be erected following appropriate vetting with applicable Town departments and outside entities. Petitioners should submit a complete set of plans, including specifications and any excavation required to prepare the site. The Committee’s recommendation will be forwarded to the Ticonderoga Town Board.

4.1 General

All policies specified in Section 2 apply to this park.

4.2 Specific Policies

The following additional policies apply to Veterans Park. All monuments and memorials will comply with the following:

- Must conform with the park’s aesthetics and be consistent with the mission.
- May not reflect a political or religious statement of position.
- Final approval is subject to the completion of a signed agreement between the petitioner, the Town of Ticonderoga, and La Chute Hydro.
- All costs associated with the purchase and installation of the monument/memorial shall be paid by the donor or organization making the request.
- The maintenance of the monument/memorial shall be the sole responsibility of the donor or organization making the request.
- A single Flag of the United States of America (American flag) will provide a permanent display in the park. Additional American flags are prohibited. Other flags, if used as a permanent display within a monument/memorial, may depict recognized services of the U.S. Armed Forces or others as approved by the Committee.

Section 5 – Ticonderoga Town Beach

The Ticonderoga Black Point Beach is located on Ticonderoga Town property in the Town of Putnam, Washington County.

5.1 General

All policies specified in Section 2 apply to this park.

5.2 Specific Policies

All use of the Town Beach will comply with the following policy as well as the laws of Essex and Washington Counties and any approved intermunicipal agreements:

- The beach is open only when Town lifeguards are on duty.
- The Town may direct closure during times of inclement weather.

5.3 Children's Playground Policies

The following policy applies to the Black Point Beach Playground:

- Hours of Operation: sunrise to sunset.
- Age limit: Age 10 years and younger.
- Do not use play equipment improperly.
- Adult supervision is required.
- Do not use equipment when wet or the ground is frozen.
- No running, pushing, shoving, or throwing bark ground cover.
- No bare feet – please wear proper footwear.

Section 6 – Champlain Legacy Park

Champlain Legacy Park is located on the north side of La Chute River and across from the Kissing Bridge opposite Percy Thompson Bicentennial Park.

6.1 General

All policies specified in Section 2 apply to this park.

6.2 Specific Policies

All use of Champlain Legacy Park will comply with the following policy: N/A.

Section 7 – Recreational Park

Recreational Park is located on the east/northeast side of Burgoyne Road. The park consists of the following recreational facilities:

- Tennis and Pickleball Courts.
- Little League baseball fields #1, #2, and #3.
- Associated dugouts and facilities.
- T-Ball field.
- Disc Golf Course.

7.1 General

All policies specified in Section 2 apply to this park.

7.2 Specific Policies

All use of Recreational Park will comply with the following policy:

- Speed limit is 5 MPH on service road.
- Parking is allowed in designated areas only.
- Dogs must be leashed at all times.

Section 8 – Miscellaneous Recreational Facilities

Town park miscellaneous recreational facilities include those areas which do not constitute a park unto themselves, but which are protected via specific rules and regulations to ensure the longevity of these locations, their associated equipment, and the safety of those who use the facilities. All policies specified in Section 2 apply to these recreational facilities where applicable.

8.1 General

All policies specified in Section 2 apply to these facilities.

8.2 Ticonderoga Skating Rink

The Ticonderoga Skating Rink is located on the west side of Tower Avenue between Montcalm Street and Burgoyne Road.

8.2.1 Specific Policies

All use of the municipal Skating Rink will comply with the following policy:

- Open skating unless otherwise stated.
- The rink is open only when Town skating rink attendant is on duty.

8.3 Ticonderoga Basketball Court

The Ticonderoga Basketball Court is located on the west side of Tower Avenue between Montcalm Street and Burgoyne Road.