



South Windsor Parks and Recreation

Park Rules and Regulations

Park Usage:

- Parks are open from sunrise to sunset unless otherwise specified. School grounds are available for public use with an issued permit after school hours until sunset, unless there are scheduled school activities.
- Areas of the parks that are open to the public are available for use by the members of the general public on a first come, first serve basis unless there is a permit issued for the area. Rental Permits are provided for Park Facility Reservations and grant exclusive access to the area listed on their permit.
- No individual or group may block, restrict, interfere with, or unreasonably limit public access to park facilities or amenities. *Unless outlined in a Rental Permit.*
- Fields, trails, courts, and facilities may be used by the public when not reserved, scheduled, or otherwise restricted. *Unless it conflicts with any park rules or regulations.*
- Public recreational use of fields and courts is permitted during posted park hours when facilities are not reserved or otherwise restricted or violating any park rules or regulations. Use of court lights by the public is allowed *(where applicable)*.
- Fields, courts, and park areas may be closed at any time due to weather, maintenance, unsafe conditions, or field preservation needs.
- Individuals or groups may not host any event, program or trainings at any park location, *unless prior authorization given through South Windsor Parks and Recreation.*
- Organized Groups of **ten** or more may not congregate within the parks without a Group Permit unless, during town events or at facility rentals.
- Motor vehicles must park in designated areas and may not be driven off established driving surfaces. The speed limit is **15 mph** unless otherwise posted.
- E-bikes must comply with Connecticut State law and may only operate on designated paved pathways and roadways unless otherwise posted.
- All trash must be placed in appropriate receptacles or removed from the park. Littering is prohibited.
- All federal, state, and local laws apply

Park Rentals:

- Locations available to rent include:
 - Nevers Park Rotary Pavilion
 - Veteran's Memorial Park Pavilion
 - John J. Mitchell Fairgrounds
 - School Facilities must be reserved through the Board of Education website.

- Park Fields are not available for rent by private individuals or groups. All Parks and Recreation, Board of Education and Town Sanctioned Sports Leagues have priority usage for all park fields.
- Organized Groups of **ten** or more are prohibited from hosting gatherings at the parks, fields or park facilities without a group permit. Visit our Facilities page at recreation.southwindsor.org for more information.
- Visit our Rental page at recreation.southwindsor.org for more information on group event rentals.
- The use of parks and park facilities by any person or organization charging fees or requesting donations/tips is prohibited *unless prior authorization given through South Windsor Parks & Recreation Department*.
- Visitors must be respectful of facility rentals and sporting events. Usage of items listed with the rented area during rental times is prohibited. For a list of amenities included in rentals, visit the Rental tab on our website recreation.southwindsor.org.
- All local town, police, fire, and other municipal ordinances and regulations governing use of facilities as adopted by the Town Council are hereby made part of these conditions.
- ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – Alcohol consumption is prohibited on Town of South Windsor park properties unless specifically approved by South Windsor Parks & Recreation through a permitted event.
 - ONLY beer and wine are permitted at the PAVILION AT NEVERS PARK.
 - ABSOLUTELY NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE PERMITTED AT THE VMP PAVILION.
- Rental or Group Permits may be revoked at any time based on violation of any of Park or town rules, ordinances or laws.

Pets at the Park

- Pets must be on a leash at all times unless within the bounds of the Bark Park.
- All pet owners visiting the parks must clean up after their pets and dispose of waste in proper receptacles.
- All dogs must be registered with their local town and have rabies vaccination.
- No dog showing aggression towards other dogs or humans are allowed in the parks.

Drones/Photography/Videography

- The use of drones, unmanned aircraft systems (UAS), commercial photography, videography, and filming on Town of South Windsor park properties may require prior approval from South Windsor Parks & Recreation.
- Drone operators must comply with all FAA regulations, state laws, and local ordinances. Drone operation may be restricted in certain areas or during scheduled events, athletic activities, or high-traffic times.
- Photography and video recording may not interfere with public use of the park, organized programs, staff operations, or the safety and privacy of park patrons.
- Commercial filming, organized photo shoots, or media productions may require permits, proof of insurance, and additional approvals.
- South Windsor Parks & Recreation reserves the right to prohibit or discontinue any drone use, photography, or video recording deemed unsafe, disruptive, intrusive, or inconsistent with park rules and operations.

Strictly Prohibited:

Prohibited items and/or activities include, but are not limited to:

- Possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages except at town designated locations or events.
- Possession or consumption of any illegal substance.
- Discharge or unlawful use of firearms, weapons, or dangerous instruments is prohibited except as authorized by law.
- Hunting, trapping and/or archery.
- Remaining in parks or park facilities outside of posted operating hours unless authorized.
- Blocking entrances, exits, pathways, roadways, or emergency access points.
- Entry into closed or restricted areas is prohibited.
- Unauthorized overnight camping, sleeping, or temporary shelter structures.
- Gambling at any park or town facility.
- Smoking, vaping, or use of tobacco products is prohibited except within designated smoking areas or parking lots where permitted.
- Grilling is prohibited except in designated grilling areas or approved rental facilities.
- Open fires, (bonfires, campfires, etc.) Excluding the use of gas grills or the permanent fire pit (Nevers Pavilion)
- Climbing on water features, splash pad equipment, fences, buildings, monuments, backstops, scoreboards, or non-designated structures.
- Digging, excavation, metal detecting, ground disturbance, or removal of soil, turf, or materials without authorization.
- Removal of any trees, plant life, rocks, etc.
- Tents, canopies, bounce houses, inflatables, temporary structures, additional sporting equipment (i.e. Badminton nets, Volleyball nets), petting zoos, pony rides, or similar attractions *Unless prior authorization is given through South Windsor Parks and Recreation Department and with valid insurance.*
- Fireworks or other explosives.
- Graffiti, vandalism and/or theft of any kind. Not limited to: modifying or theft of signs, modifying or destruction of facilities/structures, modifying or destruction of park property, theft of town property, etc.
- Operation of motorized mini bikes, motorbikes, go-carts, ATV's, etc. *Unless otherwise noted.*
- Unauthorized vehicles on grass areas, trails, sidewalks, athletic fields, or playground surfaces.
- Feeding, petting, releasing or trapping of park wildlife.
- Animals off leash in non-designated areas or failure to clean up after pets.
- Overnight parking. (Town Ordinance #5-900) Commuter parking is also prohibited.
- Food trucks or other vendors, or any sale of food, beverages, or goods. *Unless prior authorization given through South Windsor Parks and Recreation Department.*
- Charging admission, a fee or accepting donations on town property. *Unless prior authorization given through South Windsor Parks and Recreation Department.*

- Use of amplified music without prior authorization given through South Windsor Parks and Recreation. Or use after park/quiet hours.
- Commercial activity, advertising, soliciting, canvassing, or distribution of materials without approval.
- Hosting events or gatherings without proper rental permits.
- Disorderly, threatening, harassing, or abusive behavior toward patrons, volunteers, or staff.
- Littering or failure to properly dispose of trash, recyclables, pet waste, or event materials.
- Any activity deemed unsafe, hazardous, disruptive, destructive, or inconsistent with the intended public use of the park is prohibited.
- Discrimination on the basis of sex, race, disability, sexual orientation/identity, age, religion or national origin.

Enforcement

- South Windsor Parks & Recreation staff, Town officials, School officials, and law enforcement personnel are authorized to enforce park rules and regulations.
- Individuals violating park rules may be directed to leave Town property immediately.
- Violations may result in suspension or revocation of park privileges, permit denial, fines, criminal prosecution, or liability for damages.
- Failure to comply with staff directives may result in removal from the property.

South Windsor Parks & Recreation reserves the right to modify park rules, restrict access, close facilities, or deny use at any time in the interest of safety, maintenance, weather conditions, or operational needs.

Additional rules, facility policies, rental requirements, and updates may be posted at recreation.southwindsor.org.