

## PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS

### **Article II Town Beach Regulations**

[History: Adopted by the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Northwood 5-25-2010 as Ord. No. 10-07] Revised April 26, 2022

#### **102-8. Authority**

These Regulations are adopted pursuant to the authority granted under RSA 41:11-a.

#### **102-9. Purpose.**

The purpose of these Regulations is to promote the safe and orderly use of the Northwood Lake (Lake Shore Drive), Mary Waldron (Bow Lake Road) and Bennett Bridge (Bennett Bridge Road) Town Beaches for the benefit of Northwood residents, property owners and their guests.

#### **102-10. Repeal of previous regulations**

These Regulations shall supersede and replace all previous Town Beach Regulations, including, but not limited to, such admission policies and written rules which may heretofore been adopted.

#### **102-11. Rules.**

##### A. Hours of Operation.

- 1) The Town Beaches and parking areas are closed between the hours of 8:30 p.m. and 6:30 a.m. These hours may vary, however, due to weather conditions or maintenance needs. Any person found within the Beach areas after hours may face immediate expulsion in addition to any other penalties that may be imposed as a violation.
- 2) The Town of Northwood makes no guaranteed as to the availability of lifeguards or the protection of users and visitors from weather, injury, drowning or personal conduct during any specific hours of operation.

## B. Parking

- 1) During the period Memorial Day to Labor Day of each year, parking at the Town Beaches is limited to the following:

Parking is by permit only at Mary Waldron, Bennett Bridge, and Northwood Lake Beaches. The permit is the Northwood Town Facility permit decal that must be displayed on the windshield or dashboard of the vehicle. The decals are available at the Northwood Town Clerk's Office. Applicants must provide a valid motor vehicle registration and proof of residency.

- 2) Any unauthorized vehicle left on a Town beach property after hours may be towed at the expense of the owner.

## C. Beach Activities.

- 1) All visitors are required to treat Town Beach properties with respect and in a manner consistent with their intended purpose.
- 2) It shall be a violation of these Regulations to damage Town equipment and property, including trees or other vegetation, or dispose of trash in an improper manner, including on the beaches and in the water.
- 3) There shall be no loud music played or excessive noise making allowed.
- 4) The Recreation Department staff members are authorized to restrict, limit, prohibit or delegate specific areas for any beach activity (such as ball playing, Frisbee tossing, kite flying, etc.) to the extent deemed reasonable and in the best interest of the visitors to the Town Beaches. The failure of a person to comply with the direction of a Recreation Department staff member shall be a violation of these Regulations.
- 5) The Town reserves the right to restrict or limit group outings of more than eight (8) people under such terms and conditions which may be established by the Recreation Commission. Written requests for organized group outing activities must be submitted at least one (1) month in advance to the Recreation Department.

#### D. Swimming Activities.

- 1) The Town of Northwood provides designated swim areas and roped swim lines and floating docks for the convenience of beach visitors. The use of such facilities, however, may be restricted at any time for any reason, including, but not limited to weather, lack of staff, or unsafe behavior as may be determined by a Recreation Department staff member (such as running, pushing, diving, horseplay, lack of swimming ability, or faking an emergency). Failure to comply with any order or directive of a Recreation Department staff member shall be a violation of these Regulations.
- 2) Swimming with support devices will be allowed at the Recreation Department staff member's discretion.
- 3) There shall be no jumping or diving from the shoreline, from Bennett Bridge or from the wall at Bennett Bridge Beach.
- 4) There shall be no back diving from the floating docks

#### E. General Safety.

- 1) Children under the age of fourteen (14) and younger must be accompanied and supervised by an adult (18 years or older).
- 2) Visitors are asked to report all injuries, equipment defects, facility malfunctions, restroom issues, acts of vandalism, observations of rules violations or missing persons to a Recreation Department staff member immediately.
- 3) No person shall kindle any fires unless permission is granted by the Board of Selectmen or Recreation Commission and with a proper fire permit.

#### F. Prohibitions.

- 1) No person shall throw, leave or discard any trash, rubbish or garbage.  
Carry in - carry out.
- 2) There shall be no smoking anywhere on Beach properties, except in the privacy of a motor vehicle. Failure to comply with this rule, or properly dispose of cigarette waste, shall be a violation of these Regulations
- 3) There shall be no motor vehicles allowed on the beaches.

- 4) There shall be no domesticated animals or pets allowed on Beach properties except for certified service dogs with a doctor's note. Patrons with service dogs must make arrangements to properly dispose of waste.
- 5) There shall be no watercraft (boats, canoes, kayaks, inflatable rafts, windsurfers, surfboards, jet skis, etc.) stored, launched, driven or moored on the Northwood and Bennett Bridge Beaches, or in the designated swim areas or within twenty-five feet (25') of a swim line.
- 6) There shall be no watercraft (boats, canoes, kayaks, inflatable rafts, windsurfers, surfboards, jet skis, etc.) stored or moored on the Mary Waldron Beach, or in the designated swim areas. Watercraft may be launched from the designated boat launch area at Mary Waldron Beach.
- 7) Storage of private property on any Beach facility is strictly prohibited and will be subject to removal.
- 8) Glass bottles or containers of any type are not allowed any Town Beach property.
- 9) No person shall use, consume, carry or bring any alcoholic beverages or any unlawful drugs upon or within the Beach properties.
- 10) Feeding of ducks, geese or any other birds or wildlife is prohibited.
- 11) There shall be no washing with soap on the beaches or in water.

#### **102-12. Exemptions.**

The following activities are exempt from these Regulations:

- 1) Maintenance activities authorized by the Town.
- 2) Public safety (police and fire-rescue activities).
- 3) Recreation activities authorized by the Town.
- 4) Concession activities authorized by the Town.
- 5) Winter use of the Northwood Lake Town Beach for access to Northwood Lake when frozen.

### **102-13. Violations.**

- A. Failure to comply with any of these Regulations shall be considered a violation subject to the penalties set forth herein.
- B. Each continuation of a violation after notice and each rule infraction shall constitute a separate offense.

### **102-14. Enforcement.**

- A. These Regulations shall be administered and monitored by any and all employees of the Northwood Recreation Department who have been duly appointed by the Board of Selectmen with responsibilities for oversight and maintenance of the Town Beaches, including, but not limited to, the Recreation Director, Beach Coordinator, and Lifeguards. The authority to administer and monitor shall consist of the following:
  - 1) Documenting and reporting violations to the Police Department.
  - 2) Educating visitors about these Regulations.
  - 3) Seeking voluntary compliance and/or expulsion from the Beach facilities.
- B. These Regulations shall be enforced by any duly certified Northwood Police Officer. Enforcement shall consist of (1) an order to vacate the premises; (2) the issuance of a citation; (3) demand for restitution; (4) the revocation of a Town permit decal; (5) the issuance of a summons; (6) arrest; and/or (7) any combination of these actions at the discretion of the enforcement official based upon the severity and egregiousness of the violation(s).

### **102-15. Fines and penalties.**

Any person violating the provisions shall be subject to a penalty not to exceed \$1,000 for each offense.

### **102-16. Effective date.**

This Ordinance shall become effective upon passage.