



COUNTY OF KENOSHA

Department of Public Works & Development Services
Raymond G. Arbet, Director

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Responses to questions regarding: Resolution to revise Chapter 10 of the Municipal Code of Kenosha County pertaining to County Parks

Date: 2/25/22

Members of the Public Works Committee,

Please see questions and answers that were asked during the February, 2022 Public Works Committee meeting.

Item #1:

Proposed Ordinance: 10:04 (8) No person shall ride or drive any horse, launch a hot air balloon, engage in scuba diving, [possess or operate a remote controlled or other type of self-propelled model airplane, drone, rockets or to possess other airborne devices, or motorized ski bikes](#) within a county park without a written permit.

Question: How are fees administered and determined for permits?

Answer: Permits are administered and fees are determined depending on the specific activity being requested. Some permits do not have a fee such as metal detecting and scuba diving while other activities do have fees through the Special Event application process. Below are examples of available permit applications that are found on the County Parks webpage.

- Special Events are reviewed and approved using the following guidelines:
 - o Special Event Instructions:
<https://www.kenoshacounty.org/DocumentCenter/View/10022/Special-Event-Instructions-Revised-Nov-2019>
 - o Special Event Request Application:
<https://www.kenoshacounty.org/DocumentCenter/View/11692/Special-Event-Request-Revised-Oct-2020>
- Scuba Diving applications for Freedom Lake within Kenosha County Veterans Memorial Park:
 - o Scuba Diving Release Form:
<https://www.kenoshacounty.org/DocumentCenter/View/12426/Scuba-Diving-Release-Form>



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- Scuba Diving Permit Application:
<https://www.kenoshacounty.org/DocumentCenter/View/11842/Scuba-Diving-Permit-Application>
- Metal Detection Application:
<https://www.kenoshacounty.org/DocumentCenter/View/12049/Metal-Detection-Form-2022-PDF-Fillable> *Note that the proposed Chapter 10 ordinance rewrite will remove the need for individuals to request permission through a permit within 10.04 (12).*

Item #2:

Proposed Ordinance : 10.04 (10) [In the absence of a validly executed lease agreement between Kenosha County as Lessor and a lessee](#), no person, corporation or association shall conduct any activity where the attendance of the general public is limited or contingent on the payment of a fee, in any portion or facility of a park, without a written permit.

Question: Clarify intent of ordinance change pertaining to lease agreements.

Answer: The additional language added to ordinance 10.04 clarifies when a permit is required. Permits are needed when individuals or groups administer a fee for an event or activity, host a private event (such as a pavilion reservation), or limit public involvement within a park. A lease agreement defines specific permissions and is outlined within the agreement and a permit is not required if these activities are granted through the approved agreement.

Item #3

Proposed Ordinance: 10.05 (1)(f): Any other information which, in the opinion of the County Park Manager/Director the Park Director/Manager, ~~or Kemper Center Director~~ is reasonably necessary to a fair determination as to whether a permit should issue hereunder.

Question: Why was the Kemper Center Director requested to be removed from the Chapter 10 ordinances?

Answer: The Kemper Center Director is appointed through the Kemper Center, Inc. Board, which operates as a 501(c)(3) independently of Kenosha County. Kenosha County and Kemper Center, Inc. have a lease agreement that outlines specific terms and



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responsibilities between the organizations. The Kemper Center Director is not an appointed position by Kenosha County nor is considered an employee or administrator of Kenosha County.

Item #4

Proposed Ordinance: 10.07 (10): To bring or allow any animal in a beach, playground or other designated limited use areas at any time, except for **licensed service animals dogs** trained and used to assist **handicapped persons with a disability**.

Question: There is no such license that can be issued for service animals.

Answer: Corporation Counsel agreed and the word “licensed” will be removed from the updated resolution that will be brought back to the Public Works Committee on March 7th.

Item #6

Proposed Ordinance: 10.12 (11): **Absolutely no Female** dogs in heat or puppies under the age of four months are **not** allowed in the dog park.

Question: Why are female dogs in heat and puppies under the age of four months not allowed in the dog park?

Answer(s): Dogs must show proof of a rabies vaccine to enter the dog park. Dogs under the age of 4 months are not able to receive their rabies vaccine.

- A puppy receives the following recommended vaccinations:
 - o 6-8 weeks: Distemper, parvovirus
 - o 10-12 weeks: DHPP (vaccines for distemper, adenovirus [hepatitis], parainfluenza, and parvovirus)
 - o 16-18 weeks: DHPP, Rabies
- Other local dog parks have similar rules/”petiquette”
 - o Pleasant Prairie: Village ordinance No. 13-44 states, “All dogs must be licensed by their respective municipality and display said license/tag while in the dog park. Noncounty residents must have the current rabies vaccine tag as well as a dog license tag issued by the governing body where they reside.” AND “Absolutely no female dogs in heat or puppies under the age of four months are allowed in the dog park.”



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- City of Kenosha: K9 Korner Dog Park: *“Dogs must have complete and current vaccinations and licenses, and wear valid dog tags”*
 - City of Burlington: 234-2(2): *“No dog is allowed in a City dog park unless the dog has been properly vaccinated and licensed, is wearing a collar or harness, is wearing rabies and license tags, is not aggressive, and is not in heat.”*
 - Milwaukee County: *We recommend that puppies under six months old NOT use the DEA, as they have not yet received their full inoculations to protect them from distemper and parvovirus, as well as other diseases.*
 - Dr. William Carlisle who practices at Kenosha Animal Hospital (6223 39th Ave.) offered the following professional opinions regarding puppies in the dog park and female dogs in heat.
 - **Puppies under the age of 4 months:** It is highly recommended to not allow puppies within a dog park no earlier than 4-4.5 months of age. Puppies are not fully protected due to lower immunity until they receive their required/recommended vaccines which typically occurs within the first 16 weeks. A puppy’s immunity is not strong during the first few months of their life to protect against common diseases and it is difficult to regulate if a dog is a carrier with a disease within a dog park. It is also recommend that dog owners wait an additional 2 weeks beyond the puppy’s last vaccine(s) to build up a stronger immunity for vaccines.
- Dog parks are not controlled in the same manner as private dog/puppy training facilities. Owners with puppies that are not fully vaccinated cannot be reassured that all dog owners are responsible to prevent the spread of diseases between dogs in a social environment such as a dog park. If a puppy is not fully vaccinated and contracts a disease, this can cause illness or death in dogs. Dog owners that are looking to socialize their puppy are recommended to go to a reputable dog training center where they can verify all puppies have their vaccines and are around other adult dogs that are vaccinated.
- **Female dogs in heat.** Off-leash dog parks would be difficult to regulate both neutered and unneutered animals. Female dogs in heat will create situations for male dogs to act aggressive to show dominance within the dog park and may also create instances for unintentional breeding.