
CITY OF SEYMOUR
ORDINANCE 2025-108

REPEAL AND RECREATE CHAPTER 54 PARKS AND RECREATION

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEYMOUR DO ORDAIN THAT CHAPTER 54 PARKS AND RECREATION BE REPEALED AND RECREATED

Chapter 54 Parks and Recreation is repealed and recreated to read as follows:

Sec. 54-1. Applicability.

This chapter shall apply to all city parks.

Sec. 54-2. Penalty.

Any person who shall violate any provision of this chapter shall be subject to a forfeiture of not less than \$2.00 and not more than \$500.00.

Sec. 54-3. General park regulations.

- (a) *Hours.* No person shall be allowed on park lands nor utilize park facilities between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. except by specific permit issued by the City Clerk-Treasurer-Treasurer. No person shall be permitted in a park when the park is closed to the public.
- (b) *Fires.* No fires shall be permitted except in established fireplaces or grills. All fires shall be doused with water and completely put out after use.
- (c) *Debris.* No person shall place or leave any rubbish or debris within any park of the city except in designated receptacles.
- (d) *Reservations.* Reservations may be made by individuals or organizations and groups for use of the park shelter or designated area of the park upon application to the office of City Clerk-Treasurer.
- (e) *Speed limit.* The speed limit on all streets and roadways in a park shall be ten miles per hour.
- (f) *Gates.* No person may enter any section of a park at any time when that section of the park is fully enclosed by a fence and the gate is padlocked.
- (g) *Vehicles.* No person may operate a motor vehicle, motorcycle or motor-driven bike in a park except on the street, road or parking lot. Motor vehicles as defined in this section shall not include minibikes, all-terrain vehicles or snowmobiles. No person may operate minibikes, all-terrain vehicles or snowmobiles in a city park except on a designated, marked trail.
- (h) *Camping.* No person shall camp in any city park except by specific permit issued by the City Clerk-Treasurer.
- (i) *Dogs and cats.* Dogs and cats are also prohibited from the Seymour Lake Park fenced in swimming area. Working dogs and service dogs under ADA or public safety employment are exempt from this section.
- (j) *Special event* means (a) any event not within the normal and ordinary use of park system that may interfere with or differ from the normal and ordinary use thereof; (b) that may have a greater impact on the city's services or resources than normal park use. Examples of this type of special event include but are not limited to citywide celebrations and festivals and large corporate-sponsored events.

Sec. 54-4. Park operating policy.

- (a) *Hours.* Except for unusual and unforeseen emergencies, parks shall be open to the public every day of the year during designated hours. The opening and closing hours for each individual park shall be posted therein for public information.
- (b) *Closed areas.* Any section or part of any park may be declared temporarily closed to the public by the Chief of Police or Director of Public Works at any time for any interval of time to address police matters or emergency maintenance needs. Additionally, any section or part of any park may be declared temporarily closed to the public, either temporarily or at regular and stated intervals, daily or otherwise, and either entirely or merely to certain uses, as the Common Council shall find reasonably necessary.
- (c) *Special Event Classification:* The city reserves the right to make a final determination of a special event classification. A special event includes but is not limited to the following characteristics:
 - 1) Attendance
 - (a) Closed to the general public with participation by members or invitees only.
 - (b) Open to spectators with event participation requiring registration
 - (c) Open to the general public
 - 2) Crowd size on any given day (adults and children)
 - (a) Small - less than 150
 - (b) Medium – 150-1000
 - (c) Large - greater than 1000
 - 3) Hazards
 - (a) Low - no physical activity by participants, no alcoholic beverages
 - (b) Medium - limited physical activity by participants with no severe exposure of hazards to spectators (i.e., dances, flea markets, etc.)
 - (c) High - major physical activities by participants with moderate exposure of hazards to spectators (i.e., bounce house, carnival rides, races (people, animals, or vehicles), and alcoholic beverages.
- (d) *Special Event Permit.* A special event permit shall be obtained from the Common Council in order to reserve any park facility for citywide celebrations and festivals and large corporate, association or organization-sponsored events.
 - (1) *Application.* A person seeking issuance of a special event permit hereunder shall file an application with the City Clerk-Treasurer at least ninety (90) days prior to the event. The application shall state the following:
 - a. The name and address of the applicant.
 - b. The name and address of the person, persons, corporation or association sponsoring the activity, if any.
 - c. The day and hours for which the permit is desired.
 - d. The park or portion thereof for which such permit is desired.
 - e. An estimate of the anticipated attendance.
 - f. An attached list of sponsors and vendors, as well as a map showing the locations of booths, tents, port-a-potties, and other special and temporary facilities

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- g. An attached security plan for review and approval by the city chief of police, fire chief, and EMS supervisor
 - h. Any other information which the Common Council shall find reasonably necessary and appropriate to require for a fair determination as to whether a special event permit should be issued hereunder.
- (2) *Standards for issuance.* A special event permit shall be issued hereunder in accordance with the regulations of the Common Council and when it is found:
- a. That the proposed activity or use of the park will not unreasonably interfere with or detract from the general public enjoyment of the park.
 - b. That the proposed activity and use will not unreasonably interfere with or detract from the promotion of public health, welfare, safety and recreation.
 - c. That the proposed activity or use is not unreasonably anticipated to incite violence, crime or disorderly conduct.
 - d. That the proposed activity will not entail unusual, extraordinary or burdensome expense or police operation by the city.
 - e. That the facilities desired have not been reserved for other use on the day and hour required in the application.
- (3) *Effect of Special Event Permit.* A permittee shall be bound by all park rules and regulations and all applicable ordinances fully as though the same were inserted in said permits.
- (4) *Liability of permittee.*
- a. A person or persons to whom a special event permit is issued shall be liable for any loss, damage or injury sustained by any person by reason of negligence of the person or persons to whom such permit shall have been issued.
 - b. The special event sponsor is required to obtain insurance for Special Events that include alcohol, bounce house, carnival rides etc. or have more than 150 people per day attending the event. The special event sponsor must submit a certificate evidencing general liability insurance coverage. If required, permit holders shall submit a general liability insurance policy certificate (minimum \$1,000,000.00 coverage - additional amount may be required depending on the nature of the activity) including personal injury and blanket contractual coverage as well as auto liability and workers compensation if applicable. The certificate shall name the City of Seymour as an additional insured party.
- (5) *City Services.* All requests by applicants for city services must be made at the time of application. The applicant shall be responsible for equipment rental fees or material costs incurred by the city for the sole purpose of applicant's event. The applicant may be responsible for reimbursement to the city for any personnel provided for the event as determined by the Common Council. Reimbursable costs shall be calculated to include wages, overtime, and fringe benefits. An invoice shall be sent to the applicant within fifteen (15) days following the event. Payment is due within thirty (30) days of invoice. The city reserves the right to require full or partial payment of estimated costs in advance.
- (6) The event sponsor shall provide sufficient staffing to provide assistance with crowd control, parking, and street closures. A determination as to these needs will be made by the departments as part of the review process.
- (7) *Revocation.* The Common Council may revoke a permit upon a finding of violation of any rule or ordinance or upon good cause shown.

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- (8) *Renewal.* Once the special event permit terms for an event are established, it shall not be necessary for the Common Council to approve the special event permit. Rather, approval shall be made by the Director of Public Works, Police Chief, Fire Chief, and EMS Director unanimously subject to any changes in fees or policies of the city.

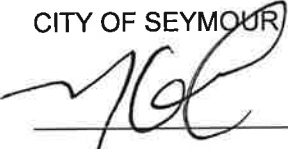
Sec. 54-5. Possession and use of weapons restricted.

- (a) *Shooting.* No person other than a sheriff, constable, police officer or deputy shall fire or discharge any firearm, rifle, spring or air gun of any description or shoot any tipped arrows in any city park.
- (b) *Possession.* No person other than that person authorized to fire a weapon in subsection (a) of this section shall carry any firearm, rifle, spring or air gun in any city park.

Adopted this 15th day of December 2025

Published: January 2, 2026

Effective: January 3, 2026

CITY OF SEYMOUR


Mary Greuel, Mayor

ATTEST:



Christy Stover, Clerk-Treasurer