



ORDINANCE NO. 2013-O-04

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 16 OF THE
WARRINGTON TOWNSHIP CODE OF ORDINANCES**

Part I

OPEN SPACE, PARKS AND RECREATION

Section 16-1 Definitions

- A. Except where the context clearly indicates otherwise, the following terms used in this article shall have the following meanings:

AMENITY

A natural or created feature or structure that enhances the aesthetic quality, visual appeal or makes more attractive a particular property, place or area for the enjoyment of the public using open space, parks and recreational facilities.

FACILITY

Refers to areas and amenities within the open space, parks and recreational boundaries which are available for public use.

FACILITY USE PERMIT

Refers to the written authorization issued by the Township of Warrington for the use of a requested facility or activity within open space, parks and recreational areas.

OPEN SPACE

Any parcel or area of land or water improved or essentially unimproved and set aside, dedicated, designated or reserved for public use.

OPEN SPACE GREEN

An open space area not occupied by any structures or impervious surfaces.

OPEN SPACE PUBLIC

Open space owned and maintained by Warrington Township for the use and enjoyment of the general public.

PARK

A tract of land designated and used by the public for active and passive recreation.

PERSON

Any individual, corporation, partnership, association, unincorporated association or any other group who may apply for a facility use permit.

PLAYGROUND

An active recreational area with a variety of facilities, including equipment for younger children as well as court and field games.

RECREATION ACTIVE

Leisure-time activities usually of a formal nature and often performed with others requiring equipment and taking place at prescribed places, sites or fields

RECREATION PASSIVE

Activities that involve relatively inactive or less energetic activities such as walking, sitting, picnicking and table games.

RECREATION FACILITY

A place or structure designed and equipped for the conduct of sports and leisure-time activities.

Section 16-2 General supervision; adoption of rules and regulations.

All Township open space, parks, trails and recreational areas and other Township owned parcels shall be operated and maintained under the general supervision of the Board of Supervisors and the Warrington Township Park and Recreation Board. The Park and Recreation Board shall recommend adoption of the rules governing the open space, parks and recreational areas to the Board of Supervisors.

All trails traversing public open space, parks and recreational areas will be supervised by the Parks and Recreation Board

It shall be the duty of the Parks and Recreation Board, assisted by the Warrington Township Police Department, to enforce the provisions of this Article.

Section 16-3 Hours

The parks and playgrounds shall be open between the hours of sunrise and sunset. At sunset all activities in the parks and playgrounds shall cease and all persons in the parks and playgrounds shall leave as soon as possible.

The use of parks, playgrounds and active recreational areas beyond sunrise and sunset can continue in accordance with a facility use permit or by authorization by the Park and Recreation Board. No person shall enter or leave a park or playground except by the entrances provided for that purpose.

Section 16-4 Facilities

The reserved use of Township open space, parks, recreational areas and or facilities such as recreation fields and other facilities by organized groups or individuals shall be scheduled at the discretion of the Park and Recreation Board or its designee and a facility use permit shall be issued specifying the date, time and location of the use and such use shall be subject to any conditions that may be imposed under this Article.

Application for a facility use permit shall be made upon the official forms designated by the Township and shall be accompanied by the required fee(s). An applicant must be at least eighteen (18) years of age. Applications for a facility use permit are available at the Township building.

Persons or organizations to whom facility use permits are issued will be held responsible for the actions and conduct of all those associated with the authorized facility use. Groups or persons in receipt of a facility use permit may not prevent other park system users from making use of available facilities.

The Township reserves the right to revoke permits for any seasonal dates and times requested and not used.

All groups using the facilities with a facility use permit must provide appropriate insurance to the township as per the application.

No gathering or meeting of any kind assembled through advertisement shall be permitted in any open space, parks or recreational areas without the prior written permission of the Parks and Recreation Board.

Section 16-5 Personal conduct

No person shall improperly conduct him or herself within the open space, parks and recreational areas so as to annoy any other person using the facility.

No person or group shall possess or consume any drugs, alcoholic and/or intoxicating beverages in the open space, parks or recreational areas. No intoxicated person shall be permitted.

No gambling or obscene or indecent act shall be permitted in any open space, parks and recreational areas.

No abusive, indecent or threatening language or any conduct that may annoy others shall be permitted.

No person shall damage, deface, graffiti, destroy or remove any park property, including but not limited to signs, structures, equipment, natural growth or other amenities.

No person shall climb any tree or break, cut down or remove or in any manner injure or deface any ornamental tree, plant, shrub, fern, flower, flower bed or turf in any open space, park or recreational areas. Nor shall any person remove, disturb, interfere with or take any of the

blossoms or fruit growing upon any tree, shrub or bush in the open space, parks or recreational areas.

No person shall enter a lavatory in a park or playground set apart for the opposite sex.

Section 16-6 Disposal of waste

All waste, animal waste and garbage shall be disposed of in receptacles designated for such purpose. The burning of trash or garbage is prohibited. It is unlawful to transport trash, garbage or any other disposal matter to any park for the purpose of disposal.

There shall be no littering in any open space, park or recreational areas including along the public trails.

Section 16-7 Motor vehicles

No person shall operate, stop or park any motor vehicle except on park roads, parking areas or other areas so designated for such use; nor shall any person operate any motor vehicle, including but not limited to an automobile, motorcycle or mini-bike in a reckless or negligent manner in excess of the posted speed limit or in such a manner as to become a nuisance to other recreational users.

The speed limit in all Township open space, parks and recreational areas shall be fifteen (15) miles per hour.

Section 16-8 Firearms and hunting

No person other than an officer of the law shall carry any firearm within the limits of the open space, parks and recreational areas unless licensed to do so.

Hunting, shooting, trapping, injuring, killing or otherwise disturbing of any birds or animals in any Township open space, park or recreational areas and the damaging, destroying or removal of any nest or habitat is strictly prohibited.

No person shall disturb the water fowl in the streams, pools or ponds or birds, nests or eggs or fish (other than by fishing in areas where fishing is permitted) in any part of the open space, parks and recreational areas.

Section 16-9 Building of fires

No person shall set or maintain any fire in the open space, parks or recreational areas except in grills or fireplaces maintained for that purpose and located by authority of the Parks and Recreation Board.

Section 16-10 Pets/Animals

Dogs and other domestic animals are allowed only in designated areas and must be tethered on leash no longer than six (6) feet. Dogs and other domestic animals are strictly prohibited in all

play areas including but not limited to ball fields, tennis courts, basketball courts and playgrounds within any open space, park or recreational area.

All animal droppings shall be immediately removed from the open space, park and recreational areas by the person in ownership or control of the animal.

Section 16-11 Notices

No person shall deface or destroy any notice or sign posted at any place within the open space, park or recreational areas by authority of the Parks and Recreation Board, nor shall any person post any notice or placard at any place within the open space, parks and recreational areas other than by authority of the Parks and Recreation Board or the Board of Supervisors.

Section 16-12 Dangerous athletic equipment

No person shall use javelins, arrows, discus, lawn darts or similar athletic equipment dangerous in character unless the use has been expressly permitted by the Parks and Recreation Board.

Section 16-13 Sound equipment

No person shall use any sound amplification equipment in the open space, parks and recreational areas except by special permission from the Parks and Recreation Board.

Section 16-14 Explosives and fireworks

No person shall have in his or her possession or ignite any fireworks as defined in the BOCA Fire Prevention Code.

The discharge or possession of any rocket, firecracker or other fireworks or any explosive substance within the park system is prohibited unless authorized by a permit.

Section 16-15 Golf

The playing or practicing of golf is prohibited except in areas specifically designated for that purpose by the Parks and Recreation Board.

Section 16-16 All terrain vehicles (ATV's)

The use of all terrain vehicles (ATV's) is prohibited in all open space, parks and recreational areas.

Section 16-17 Skateboarding

Skateboarding is prohibited in all open space, parks and recreational areas.

Section 16-18 Sale of items

No person or business shall set up any booth, table, stand or vehicle for the sale of any article, merchandize or food whatsoever within the limits of the open space, parks and recreational areas without the consent of the Board of Supervisors, which shall have the authority to refuse

such consent in the instance upon the recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Board. All requests must be in writing to the Parks and Recreation Board. The police will be notified of any permits or authorities.

Section 16-19 Solicitation

Solicitation is prohibited and enforced by the Warrington Township Police Department.

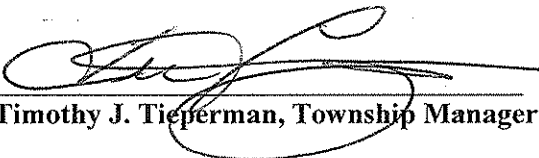
Section 16-20 Penalties

Any person, firm, association or corporation who shall violate any provision of this Article, upon conviction thereof in an action brought before a District Justice in the manner provided for the enforcement of summary offenses under the Pennsylvania Rules of Criminal Procedure, shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not more than \$1,000 plus costs and in default of payment of said fine and costs, to a term of imprisonment not to exceed ninety (90) days. Each day that a violation of this Article continues or each section of this Chapter which shall be found to have been violated shall constitute a separate offense.

ORDAINED and ENACTED this 12th day of March, 2013.

WARRINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

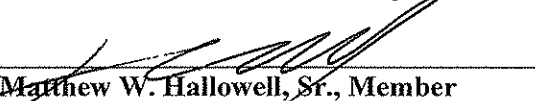
ATTEST:



Timothy J. Tieperman, Township Manager


Gerald B. Anderson, Chairperson


John R. Paul, Vice-Chairman


Marianne Achenbach, Secretary-Treasurer


Matthew W. Hallowell, Sr., Member


Shirley A. Yannich, Member