

**CHAPTER 3.20**  
**CONSERVATION BOARD LANDS RULES AND REGULATIONS**

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**3.20.010 PURPOSE:** This ordinance is adopted to preserve, protect, and promote the lands and waters under the direction of the Pottawattamie County Conservation Board and to provide for peaceful, orderly use and public safety of citizens using these lands and waters. (*Ordinance #92-3/July 17, 1992*)

**3.20.020 APPLICATION OF PROVISIONS:** The provisions of this chapter shall apply to all lands, waters, and properties under the jurisdiction of the Pottawattamie County Conservation Board, unless specifically exempted by the Pottawattamie County Conservation Board. Any exempted area will have applicable alternative regulations posted on site. (*Ordinance #92-3/July 17, 1992*)

**3.20.030 PROHIBITED DESTRUCTIVE ACTS:** It shall be unlawful for any person to destroy, remove, injure or deface plant life, natural features, wild animals, buildings, or other property, or to construct or operate for private or commercial purpose any business or structure, or to remove sand, ice, earth, stone, wood, or other natural material, within the boundaries of areas under Conservation Board jurisdiction. Legal hunting of some animals is allowed on areas so designated. Mushrooms and berry picking is allowed on areas so designated. (*Ordinance #92-3/July 17, 1992*)

**3.20.040 USE OF MOTOR VEHICLES. ALL-TERRAIN / OFF-ROAD VEHICLES and GOLF CARTS ON AREAS:** All driving and parking shall be confined to roadways or parking areas (gravel, sealcoat, asphalt or concrete surfacing). No vehicle shall be permitted to obstruct the roadway. Vehicles shall be parked in designated parking areas. The use of all-terrain and/or off-road vehicles at Arrowhead Park, Botna Bend Park, Hitchcock Nature Center, Narrows River Park and Old Town Park in Pottawattamie County must follow Chapter 12; All-terrain and Off-road Vehicles, Sections 12.01 – 12.08 of county ordinance #2020-03 adopted

09/11/2020 and municipality ordinances adopted within the county. Use in the parks shall be restricted to roadways and parking areas. Golf carts must have all required equipment and comply with all regulations to operate on roadways (street legal) and parking areas in the county parks identified above. Individuals operating golf carts must have a valid driver's license. All other wildlife and habitat areas prohibit the use of all-terrain and off-road vehicles except accessing parking areas on adjacent county roads. The maximum speed limit shall be twenty (20) miles per hour within conservation areas, unless posted otherwise. (*Ordinance #2021-06/October 19, 2021*)

**3.20.050 DOMESTIC ANIMALS:** No privately-owned animal shall be allowed to run at large. Animals must be controlled by a leash not exceeding six (6) feet in length or confined in a vehicle. Where riding horses is permitted, they shall be kept bridled and under control of the rider. (*Ordinance #92-3/July 17, 1992*)

**3.20.060 FIRES:** No fire shall be built, except in designated area, and such fire shall be extinguished when the site is vacated. Board staff may prohibit all fires in an area. (*Ordinance #92-3/July 17, 1992*)

**3.20.070 FIREARMS, FIREWORKS, ETC.:** The possession and use by the public of firearms, fireworks, explosives and weapons of all kinds is prohibited. Firearms may be used in areas designated by said Board as hunting areas or specifically set apart as a firing or trap shoot range. (*Ordinance #92-3/July 17, 1992*)

**3.20.080 LITTERING:** No persons shall place any waste, refuse, litter, or foreign substance in any area or receptacle except those provided for that purpose. Receptacles are provided to accommodate waste from park use. Therefore, only related park-use waste will be accepted. No person shall place personal or non-park waste into area receptacles or onto Board lands. (*Ordinance #92-3/July 17, 1992*)

**3.20.090 PROHIBITED AREAS:** No person shall enter any portion of County Conservation areas in disregard of official signs forbidding same, except by permission of the Board or its authorized staff. (*Ordinance #92-3/July 17, 1992*)

**3.20.100 HOURS OF USE:** Except by arrangement or permission granted by the County Conservation Board or staff, all persons shall vacate county conservation areas between the hours of 10:30 P.M. and 6:30 A.M. of the following day, or as posted at each area. (*Ordinance #92-3/July 17, 1992*)

**3.20.110 FEES:** The County Conservation Board may establish fees and admissions for the use of all areas, facilities, buildings and services. Persons unwilling to meet such fees can be excluded from the given conservation area. (*Ordinance #92-3/July 17, 1992*)

**3.20.120 CAMPING AREAS:** No person shall camp in any portion of a county area except in portions prescribed for that purpose. Any person who camps on any county area shall register name and address with the Park Ranger and advise when the camp is vacated. No person shall be permitted to camp in a park or preserve longer than a period of two (2) weeks consecutively. After a two (2) week consecutive stay, person shall vacate all camping areas in that park and not return to camp in that

park for a period of at least seventy-two (72) hours after departure. Park officers are given authority to refuse camping privileges and to rescind any and all permits for just cause. No vehicle or trailer shall be left unattended for a period longer than twenty-four (24) hours in any area. Any such vehicle or trailer left unattended for a period of twenty-four (24) hours may be towed away at the expense of the registered owner. (*Ordinance #93-4/April 16, 1993*)

**3.20.130 BOATING REGULATIONS:** Boating is allowed on those bodies of water specifically designated. All boats must be seaworthy. The Board may fix speed,

wake or horsepower limits for all boats operating on water located within or running through any county area. (*Ordinance #92-3/July 17, 1992*)

**3.20.140 DISORDERLY CONDUCT:** No person shall use language or conduct that is threatening, abusive, insulting, profane, or indecent or be guilty of any act that constitutes a breach of peace in any county area under the jurisdiction of the County Conservation Board. (*Ordinance #92-3/July 17, 1992*)

**3.20.145 CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL:** Beer (with an alcohol content 5% or less by weight) and wine (with an alcohol content 17% or less by weight) may be consumed in camping areas of county parks and recreation areas. Drinking of these beverages is not permitted on roads, in common areas or in parking areas. Keg beer is not permitted. Hard liquor (such as whiskey, vodka, etc.), wine with an alcohol content of more than 17 percent by weight or other alcoholic liquors are not to be consumed in any county parks and recreation areas. Only persons renting the park shelters at the Narrows River Park shall be permitted to consume or possess alcoholic beverages at the Narrows River Park. Alcoholic beverages may not be consumed outside of the rented park shelters at the Narrows River Park. (*Ordinance #2016-05/September 2, 2016*)

**3.20.150 VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES:** The penalty for violating the provisions of this Chapter shall be as set forth in Chapter 1.75. (*Ordinance #98-6/July 24, 1998*)