



Parks and Recreation Board Meeting

Cravath Lakefront room 2nd floor 312 West
Whitewater Str, Whitewater, WI, 53190 *In Person
and Virtual

Wednesday, August 19, 2026 - 5:30 PM

Citizens are welcome (and encouraged) to join our webinar via computer, smart phone, or telephone.
Citizen participation is welcome during topic discussion periods.

<https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/227141404736830?p=iDIRxdsCAqopFy5vBR>

Please note that although every effort will be made to provide for virtual participation, unforeseen technical difficulties may prevent this, in which case the meeting may still proceed as long as there is a quorum. Should you wish to make a comment in this situation, you are welcome to call this number: (262) 473-0108.

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A committee member can choose to remove an item from the agenda or rearrange its order; however, introducing new items to the agenda is not allowed. Any proposed changes require a motion, a second, and approval from the Committee to be implemented. The agenda shall be approved at each meeting even if no changes are being made at that meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

Items on the Consent Agenda will be approved together unless any committee member requests that an item be removed for individual consideration.

1. Park Board meeting minutes from June 24, 2026

HEARING OF CITIZEN COMMENTS

No formal Committee action will be taken during this meeting although issues raised may become a part of a future agenda. Participants are allotted a three minute speaking period. Specific items listed on the agenda may not be discussed at this time; however, citizens are invited to speak to those specific issues at the time the Committee discusses that particular item.

To make a comment during this period, or during any agenda item: On a computer or handheld device, locate the controls on your computer to raise your hand. You may need to move your mouse to see these controls. On a traditional telephone, dial *6 to unmute your phone and dial *9 to raise your hand.

CONSIDERATIONS / DISCUSSIONS / REPORTS

2. Director's Report
3. Update from Sub Committee on Food Pantry Lease Progress.

- [4.](#) Discussion and Possible Action on request for partner designation by Touch A Paw Cat Shelter.
- [5.](#) Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Bicycle Helmet Requirements for Children Under Age 16.
- [6.](#) Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Review and Potential Updates to City Park Rules and Regulations
- [7.](#) Discussion on updating park signage.
- [8.](#) Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Review and Potential Updates to the Heat and Inclement Weather Policy.
- [9.](#) Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Review and Potential Updates to Bark Park Rules and Regulations.
- [10.](#) Discussion on planned improvements to the Bark Park.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

A quorum of the Common Council may be present. This notice is given to inform the public that no formal action will be taken at this meeting.

Anyone requiring special arrangements is asked to call the Office of the City Manager / City Clerk (262-473-0102) at least 72 hours prior to the meeting.



Parks and Recreation Board Minutes DRAFT
Wednesday, June 24, 2026 – 5:30 pm
Armory
146 W. North Street
Whitewater, WI 53190
Hybrid Meeting

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Present: Chad Ahrens, Kathleen Flemming, Neil Hicks, Steve Ryan, Dan Fuller, Mike Kilar, Deb Weberpal

Absent: Mike Dowden and Stephanie Hicks

Staff: Kevin Boehm and Michelle Dujardin

2. Approval of Agenda

Motioned to approve Agenda by Neil Hicks. Seconded by Dan Fuller. Ayes: Chad Ahrens, Kathleen Flemming, Neil Hicks, Steve Ryan, Dan Fuller, Mike Kilar, and Deb Weberpal

Absent: Mike Dowden and Stephanie Hicks

3. Approval of Consent Agenda

Motioned to approve Consent Agenda by Deb Weberpal. Seconded by Mike Kilar. Ayes: Chad Ahrens, Kathleen Flemming, Neil Hicks, Steve Ryan, Dan Fuller, Mike Kilar, and Deb Weberpal. Absent: Mike Dowden and Stephanie Hicks

4. Hearing of Citizens Comments

No Citizens Comments

5. Considerations/Discussions/Reports

Boehm: 4th of July Parade Update, DDP Yoga to happen at Cravath Lakefront Park, swim lesson next session taking place, new program Splash N Dash happening at WAFC, adult softball programs being offered, and skate park is now repaired and open for use.

Dujardin: Lakes update includes; fishing stocking took place at both lakes, DNR completed fish survey on both lakes, all season piers have been completed, and cravath lakefront park fountain installed.

6. Discussion and Possible Action on approving Digital Community Sign Policy

Boehm reviewed policy.

Motioned to approve Digital Community Sign Policy as presented by Deb Weberpal. Seconded by Neil Hicks. Ayes: Chad Ahrens, Neil Hicks, Steve Ryan, Dan Fuller, Mike Kilar, and Deb Weberpal. Absent: Mike Dowden, Kathleen Flemming, and Stephanie Hicks

7. Update from Sub Committee on Food Pantry Lease Progress

Ryan noted great discussion has taken place with more meetings planned in the next couple weeks. Boehm noted no consensus has happened yet, but things are moving forward in a positive motion.

8. Ordinance 2026-0-15 an ordinance repealing Chapter 2.52.100 Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Commission.

Boehm recommends dissolution of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee and reassignment of its responsibilities to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and the Department of Public Works Committee as outlined in the memo.

Motioned to approve as presented by Steve Ryan. Seconded by Deb Weberpal. Ayes: Chad Ahrens, Neil Hicks, Steve Ryan, Dan Fuller, Mike Kilar, and Deb Weberpal. Absent: Mike Dowden, Kathleen Flemming, and Stephanie Hicks

9. Discussion and possible action on amending Chapter 11.40 Bicycles

Boehm noted this chapter has not been updated since 1973. Boehm asked Board to review and bring back feedback.

10. Future Agenda Items

Neil Hicks inquired about attendance of School District Representative

11. Adjournment

- a. Adjournment at 6:22pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Dujardin

Michelle Dujardin



Park and Recreation Board Meeting Agenda Item

Meeting Date:	August 19, 2026
Agenda Item:	Discussion and Possible Action on Request for partner designation by Touch A Paw Cat Shelter
Staff Contact (name, email, phone):	Kevin Boehm, kboehm@whitewater-wi.gov , 262-473-0122

BACKGROUND

(Enter the who, what when, where, why)

On July 8, 2026, I received a letter from Touched By A Paw requesting to become a partner organization with the City of Whitewater Parks Department. Touched By A Paw is a nonprofit 501(c)(3), no-kill, volunteer-run cat rescue and shelter.

The request did not identify what specific programs, activities, or facilities the organization intends to use the partnership for. Currently, the City's **Facility Rental and Reservation Policy** is the only Parks and Recreation document that addresses partnership organizations.

Staff is bringing this request to the Park Board for discussion and direction regarding whether Touched By A Paw should be recognized as a partner organization and, if so, how that designation should apply under the existing policy.

PREVIOUS ACTIONS – COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

(Dates, committees, action taken)

Facility Rental and Reservation Policy was updated 7/8/2024.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

(If none, state N/A)

None unless the organization intends to rent City facilities. If approved as a partner organization, the City could waive up to 100% of applicable facility rental fees.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff has no recommendation and is seeking direction from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board as to whether Touched By A Paw is eligible for partner organization designation and, if approved, what level of discount should apply as identified in the Facility Rental and Reservation Policy.

Page 2 of the Facility Rental and Reservation Policy states:

“Note: To be added or considered as a partner organization, please submit a letter of request to the Parks & Recreation Director. Decisions will be based on charitable contributions to the community and/or services provided to youth in our local community and made by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board at their next scheduled meeting.”

Based on the policy, the Advisory Board should consider the organization's charitable contribution to the community and/or services provided to local youth when determining eligibility for partner designation and any applicable facility rental discount.

ATTACHMENT(S) INCLUDED

(If none, state N/A)

Item 4.

1. Request from Touched by a Paw.



Touched By A Paw

182 W. Main St. Whitewater, WI 53190 262-473-4769

July 8, 2026

Whitewater Parks & Recreation
Director

Re: Partner Organization
Letter of Request

Touched By A Paw is a non-profit, 501c(3), (donations are tax deductible), no-kill, all volunteer cat rescue and shelter. We receive no government funding. We depend solely on private donations and fundraising events. These events enable Touched By A Paw to continue to rescue, shelter, and provide medical needs for the stray, injured, homeless, abandoned cats and kittens. We have adopted out thousands of cats and kittens in our thirty-five years since Touched By A Paw began. We also have fostered many cats for homeless people and helped them find places to live and jobs. Their cats were returned to them when they were no longer homeless.

When I opened Touched By A Paw Cat Rescue in May of 1991, the City of Whitewater had a huge population of stray cats. The Whitewater Police Department told me they were living out of dumpsters, and now they rarely see stray cats. That's because Touched By A Paw live trapped hundreds of cats, spayed and neutered them and placed cats on farms and tame cats were placed through adoption.

This year we received a Google award for the best animal rescue in Whitewater. Previously we had been a partner with Whitewater Parks and Recreation.

Thank you for consideration in restoring partnership for Touched By A Paw Cat Rescue and helping us to continue our good work for the City of Whitewater.

Sincerely,

Janna Burhop
Janna Burhop, Director
tbapcats@sbcglobal.net

People helping cats help people.



CITY OF WHITEWATER POLICY		TITLE: Facility Rental & Reservation
POLICY SOURCE: Parks and Recreation Department	Parks and Recreation Board Approval Date: 11/10/08 Revised: 11/02/09 Revised: 11/01/10 Revised: 01/20/20 Revised: 06/19/24	TEXT NAME: G:\Park & Rec\Policy\ Facility Rental & Reservation Policy

I. PURPOSE

The Whitewater Parks and Recreation Department schedules, maintains, rents, and reserves indoor facilities, park shelters, and outdoor athletic facilities to the general Whitewater community and surrounding area. These facilities, which include the Downtown Armory, Starin Community Building, Cravath Lakefront Community Center, ball diamonds, soccer fields and tennis courts, are located in City parks and also on City property. The Parks and Recreation Department will schedule these facilities for its own programs, the Whitewater Unified School District, the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater and other private and not-for-profit groups and organizations. These other groups and organizations include, but are not limited to: Traveling Basketball, Traveling Baseball, and the Whitewater Soccer Club. The following policies and procedures have been developed to facilitate the scheduling of athletic facilities by all organizations.

II. SCHEDULING PRIORITIES

The Whitewater Parks and Recreation Department will determine capacity limits for all facilities consistent with established and accepted standards to maintain facilities for continued use. These capacities will be utilized when scheduling activities and may impact the availability of facilities for reservations.

The Whitewater Parks and Recreation Department schedules and reserves facilities according to the following priorities:

1. All Whitewater Parks and Recreation programs (games, scheduled practices, matches, camps, and instructional programs) will be the first programs scheduled at facilities that are managed/maintained by the City.
2. Whitewater Unified School District programs/athletic events will be the second programs scheduled at facilities managed/maintained by the City.
3. Private and/or not-for-profit groups and organizations which reserved facilities managed/maintained by the City will have their programs and events scheduled after all Parks and Recreation and School District programs have been scheduled.

III. GROUP CLASSIFICATIONS

Group 1 No Charge

Partner Organizations will not be charged a facility rental fee for their facility usage provided that their facility use is for the purposes of holding an organization meeting, practice, game, etc. Partner organizations provide a charitable good to the Whitewater community.

Exception: Partner List members holding an event serving food or drink will require paying the entire rental fee. Exclusions: Optimist Breakfast w/ Santa & Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast

Any event serving alcohol will be required to pay 100 % of rental fee.

Partner List:

Tax Funded Organizations:

City of Whitewater
Whitewater Unified School District
Chamber of Commerce
Downtown Whitewater
Whitewater Tourism Council
Whitewater Arts Alliance
Whitewater Historical Society

Local Community Program Providers:

National Multiple Sclerosis Society
Special Olympics
Relay for Life (ACS)
4th of July Committee
Local Registered Political Parties
Walworth County Health Services
Whitewater 4H / Boy Scouts / Girl Scouts
AWANA
Alcoholics Anonymous
Versiti Blood Center of Wisconsin
American Red Cross Blood Drive
Walworth ARC
Treyton's Field of Dreams

Local Civic/Charitable Groups:

Kiwanis Club (Breakfast/Noon/Circle K)	Knights of Columbus	Lions Club
League of Women Voters	Optimist Club International	

****Note:** To be added or considered as a partner organization, please submit a letter of request to the Parks & Recreation Director. Decisions will be based on charitable contribution to the community and/or services provided to youth in our local community and made by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board at their next Scheduled meeting.

Group 2 No Charge

Sports Organizations that are providing a recreation program or activity that the Parks Department does not or cannot otherwise provide, will be given use of the facility for that program at no charge if the following conditions are met.

- While the organization may choose to provide a club level program, they must also provide a recreation level program. A recreation level program is any program provided to promote and develop interest in a particular activity. The program must be instructional and /or recreational or competitive in nature and open to the entire community to participate.

- All participants must be able to participate. If participants are not allowed the opportunity to participate in the activity, the activity is not recreation in nature and therefore exempt from waiver of fees.
- A written 3 Year agreement between the organization and the City will be presented to and approved by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board prior to authorized use of any facility for reduced rate. This agreement must include:
 - Schedule of facility use. General dates of use are acceptable, specific game information is not necessary. Example: April 15-June 31, September 21-October 15
 - Phone, email, and mail contacts for the responsible persons of the organization.
 - Description of how the program meets the definition of a recreation program as listed above.
 - Fee Schedule
 - Itemized specific needs from the City
 - Description on criteria for reduced fee structure for low income community members to allow all to participate regardless of economic status.
- Insurance must be provided in the amount of \$500,000 with the City of Whitewater listed as additionally insured.
- The organization will be formed, financed, developed, governed and administered wholly by the organization.
- The City will be responsible for the overall maintenance of the facility. The organization will be responsible for providing all necessary maintenance required to provide the program. These items may include but are not limited to line painting, chalking, nets, specialized equipment, etc. If the organization requires the City to provide any of these items or labor, the organization will reimburse the City fully.

Group 3 50% of Listed Fee

Non-partner civic or charitable group holding an event, meeting, or practice without food & beverage that is free to the public to attend. University of Wisconsin-Whitewater Recognized Organizations, Groups, Schools, Athletic Events not serving food or beverages that are free to the public.

Group 4 Listed Fee

Any non-partner event or any partner event serving food and/or alcohol, or charging admission. All group 4 reservations will not receive a key for the facility. A rental attendant will meet them at the facility and open the building, explain regulations, and answer questions.

IV. FEES & CHARGES

A \$200 damage deposit is required for these facilities

A \$350.00 Damage deposit required for Armory Gym

Indoor Facilities	Capacity	Hourly Resident Fee	Hourly Non-Resident Fee
Cravath Lakefront Community Center	100	\$44.50	\$55.00
Starin Park Community Building	100	\$33.00	\$41.50
*Armory Gym & Kitchen	300	\$33.00	\$41.50

Armory Dance Studio	25	\$33.00	\$41.50
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The facilities listed below are rented for a minimum of an entire day, from 6am – 11pm. No damage deposit is required for park shelter reservations.

Outdoor Facilities	Capacity	Daily Resident Fee	Daily Non-Resident Fee
Cravath Lake Picnic Shelter	100	\$66.00	\$82.50
Trippe Lake Shelter (beach)	100	\$76.50	\$96.00
Trippe Lake Picnic Shelter	100	\$55.00	\$68.00
Starin Park Shelter (2)	100	\$55.00	\$68.00
Frawley Family Amphitheater		\$113.50	\$144.50

Athletic Facilities	Per Hour Resident Fee	Per Hour Non-Resident Fee
Starin Little League, North Diamond or Southern Lakes Diamond	\$20.00	\$25.00
Starin Treyton's Field of Dreams	\$120.00	\$150.00
Starin Ball Diamond Complex (All 4 fields)	\$160.00	\$200.00
Moraine View Soccer Field	\$20.00	\$25.00
Moraine View Fields (All 7)	\$120.00	\$150.00
Any City Park (not listed above)	\$53.00	\$66.00

Full payment is required at the time of the reservation.

All groups must reserve the building for times needed including set-up and clean-up.

In most cases, the contracted cleaning company will arrive at your scheduled completion time.

Groups 1-3 must pick-up keys during normal business hours.

Long Term Rental Discount

Rental Groups interested in special rates based on continuous use must enter request 10 days prior to the month they are requesting use to the Parks and Recreation Director, who shall present an agreement to the Parks and Recreation Board for their approval at the next scheduled monthly meeting.

V. RULES & REGULATIONS

- All facility reservations must be made and completed in full a minimum of 10 days prior to the event. The Parks and Recreation Director can waive the 10-day minimum for special circumstances.

- For groups 1-3, remember to check the site when you arrive! If there are any damages/problems please call 262-473-0122 immediately and leave a detailed message. The exact time of your call and your concerns will be documented.
- Separate permits are required for renters that are serving alcohol, using amplified sound systems (outdoor rentals only), or anyone selling merchandise or booth space. These permits can be obtained from the City Clerk's office.
- All park regulations shall be observed. Municipal Buildings open at 8:00 am and close by 11:00 pm unless approved by the City Clerk at the time the contract is signed. Parks are open at 6:00 am and close at 12:00 am (midnight). The renter will forfeit \$100 of the damage deposit if they are in violation of the park curfew ordinance.
- Payment for the reservations is due in full before the facility is reserved. Photo ID is required with completed facility requests form AND payment of damage deposit, as renter you are responsible for any damages.
- For Groups 1-3, keys are not distributed on weekend days. You must stop by City Hall before your event, Monday – Friday during normal business hours. Failure to pick up a key will result in a \$50 charge from your security deposit. Failure to return the keys within 5 days of the rental or lost keys the renter will forfeit \$500 of the damage deposit.
- Consumption of alcohol is by permit only and in compliance with applicable ordinances and regulations. Permits/requests to have alcohol in a City facility should be submitted with payment at least 2 weeks prior to the event date. Only the applicant may request an alcohol permit, and photo ID is required with the application. Failure to obtain the proper permits the renter will forfeit \$500 of the damage deposit.
- Applicant shall be liable for any loss, damage or injury sustained by virtue of the activity conducted. Damages fees are as follows: replace rectangular table \$150, replace folding chair \$50, replace stackable chair \$150, replace 60" round table \$350. Building maintenance will be estimated at a rate of \$50/hour. Carpet cleaning will result in a \$300 charge and any floor refinishing or resurfacing will range in cost from \$300-\$550.
- Handicapped accessible entrance doors are not allowed or able to be propped open. Please do not try and force the doors to stay open. Any damage done to the doors by keeping them open will be assessed to your damage deposit.
- No smoking is allowed in the City of Whitewater Buildings. Failure to comply the renter will forfeit \$500 of the damage deposit.
- Decorations are not to be attached in any way to the suspended ceiling at the Community Building. An eye-bolt is available in the ceiling of the West Room for hanging decorations. In all City facilities renters should avoid placing tape on the walls, if tape is needed the Parks and Recreation Department will supply special tape to be used on the walls. No crepe paper is allowed in any rental facility.
- Please keep our facilities clean. It is the renter's responsibility to: bring your own dishtowels/cloths, wipe down tables and chairs and restore to the original locations, wipe down counters, appliances, and other surfaces, vacuum/clean floors and walls of any spills, clean any garbage from around the outside of the facility that your group may have caused, take all garbage with you after your event. Failure to remove garbage from the site is a \$100 charge against the damage deposit. Garbage can be taken to the dumpster located behind the Downtown Armory at 116 W North Street.
- Tent structures must be approved by the Parks and Recreation Director at time of facility request and comply with Diggers Hotline, Building Code and Fire Code requirements. No approval will be given and installation denied if compliance is not met.
- Photo ID Required with facility request AND payment of damage deposit.

- The Whitewater Parks and Recreation Department reserves the right to deny programs and/or special events which conflict with existing programs, use facilities for an event the facilities were not intended, or cause undue hardship on the facility and/ or surrounding area. The availability of facilities for class 1 may be limited based on requests and other rentals. Groups 1-3 can provide the damage deposit or sign a “financial responsibility and damage deposit” form.



Park and Recreation Board Meeting Agenda Item

Meeting Date:	August 19, 2026
Agenda Item:	Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Bicycle Helmet Requirements for Children Under Age 16.
Staff Contact (name, email, phone):	Kevin Boehm, kboehm@whitewater-wi.gov , 262-473-0122

BACKGROUND

(Enter the who, what when, where, why)

A member of the Common Council requested that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board consider the creation of an ordinance requiring children under the age of sixteen (16) to wear a protective helmet while operating or riding bicycles, electric bicycles, electric scooters, skateboards, scooters, roller skates, in-line skates, and similar recreational devices within the City of Whitewater.

The proposed ordinance would apply to public roadways, sidewalks, bicycle paths, park trails, and other public rights-of-way within the City. Helmets would be required to be properly fitted and fastened and meet recognized national safety standards.

The proposed language would also place responsibility on a parent or legal guardian to not knowingly permit a child under age sixteen to operate or ride one of the identified devices without the required helmet. Violations could be addressed through a warning, citation, or other appropriate remedial action as determined by the enforcing officer.

The proposed ordinance is being presented to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for review and discussion regarding whether the City should establish a helmet requirement for minors and, if so, whether the proposed provisions and enforcement approach are appropriate.

PREVIOUS ACTIONS – COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

(Dates, committees, action taken)

None

FINANCIAL IMPACT

(If none, state N/A)

None

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff has no specific recommendation and is seeking direction from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board regarding whether the City should establish a helmet requirement for minors as proposed.

If the Board supports moving the ordinance forward, staff recommends that the proposed language be reviewed by the City Attorney and Police Department prior to consideration by the Common Council.

Enforcement Consideration: Staff notes that enforcement of the proposed helmet requirement may be limited based on current Police Department staffing levels.

ATTACHMENT(S) INCLUDED
(If none, state N/A)

City of Whitewater – Proposed Ordinance Update (Corrected & Verified)

11.40.070 – Obedience to Vehicle or Traffic Regulations and Riding Regulations

For the purpose of this chapter, bicycles, electric bicycles (E-bikes), electric scooters, and electric personal assistive mobility devices (EPAMDs) shall obey all rules dealing with vehicular traffic as set forth in Wisconsin Statutes Chapters 340 through 348, which are hereby adopted by reference, together with all future amendments. In addition to owners or operators obeying all vehicular traffic regulations, they shall obey the following:

(a) Definitions and Classification of Devices.

- 1. Bicycle: As defined in Wis. Stat. § 340.01(5).
- 2. Electric Bicycle (E-bike): As defined in Wis. Stat. § 340.01(15ph).
- 3. Electric Scooter: As defined in Wis. Stat. § 340.01(15ps).
- 4. Electric Personal Assistive Mobility Device (EPAMD): As defined in Wis. Stat. § 340.01(15pm).
- All such devices are subject to rights and duties in Wis. Stat. §§ 346.80–346.806 and §§ 346.803–346.804.

(b) Classification and Age Restrictions for Electric Bicycles.

- Electric bicycles are classified and regulated per Wis. Stat. § 346.806:
- Class 1: Pedal-assist, ceases assistance at 20 mph.
- Class 2: Throttle-assist, ceases assistance at 20 mph.
- Class 3: Pedal-assist, ceases assistance at 28 mph.
- No person under 16 years of age may operate a Class 3 electric bicycle. (§ 346.806(3)(a))
- All operators of Class 3 electric bicycles shall wear a protective helmet. (§ 346.806(3)(b))

(c) Protective Helmets for Minors.

- Any person under sixteen (16) years of age operating or riding upon a bicycle, electric bicycle, electric scooter, skateboard, scooter, roller skates, in-line skates, or similar play vehicle upon any public roadway, public sidewalk, public bicycle path, park trail, or other public right-of-way within the City shall wear a properly fitted and fastened protective helmet.
- Such helmet shall meet or exceed the impact standards for protective bicycle helmets established by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), the Snell Memorial Foundation, the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), or any successor national safety standard.
- The parent or legal guardian of any person under sixteen (16) years of age shall not knowingly permit such person to operate or ride upon any device described in this subsection unless the required helmet is properly worn.
- Failure to wear a helmet as required under this subsection shall constitute a municipal ordinance violation subject to enforcement by warning, citation, or other remedial action as determined appropriate by the enforcing officer.

(d) Operation of Electric Scooters.

- Operators have the same rights and duties as bicyclists (§ 346.803(1)).
- Scooters may not exceed 15 mph (§ 346.94(18s)(a)).

- Scooters may not operate on roadways posted over 25 mph, except to cross or briefly travel where necessary (§ 346.94(18s)(a)2).
- No license, registration, or insurance is required (§ 340.01(15ps)).
- Local authorities may regulate or prohibit scooter use on sidewalks or streets (§ 346.94(18s)(b)).

(e) Operation of EPAMDs (Segways).

- Operators have the same rights and duties as pedestrians when on sidewalks or crosswalks and the same rights and duties as bicyclists when on roadways (§ 346.804(1)).

- Local authorities may restrict EPAMD operation on sidewalks or roads for safety (§ 346.804(2)).

(f) Attaching to Motor Vehicles.

- No person riding upon a bicycle, electric bicycle, electric scooter, coaster, wagon, roller skates, sled, or toboggan shall attach to any motor vehicle.

(g) Seating and Passenger Limits.

- Operators shall ride only upon or astride a permanent and regular seat where applicable, and shall not carry more persons than the device is designed for.

(h) Carrying Objects.

- No person shall carry any package, bundle, or article that prevents keeping at least one hand upon the handlebars.

(i) Lane Position.

- Operators shall ride as near to the right side of the roadway as practicable and exercise due care when passing standing or moving vehicles (§ 346.80(2)(a)–(c)).

(j) Hand and Turn Signals.

- When turning or stopping, operators shall give the required signal continuously during not less than the last 100 feet traveled before turning or stopping, except that a bicyclist is not required to signal continuously if the hand is needed to control the bicycle (§ 346.34(1)(b)).
- Signals may be given by hand and arm or by signal lamp; when given by hand and arm, the method shall conform to § 346.35.

(k) Riding Two Abreast.

- Operators may ride two abreast if such operation does not impede the normal and reasonable movement of traffic (§ 346.80(3)(a)).

(l) Nighttime Equipment (Lamps & Reflectors).

- During hours of darkness, a bicycle operator (or the bicycle) must display a white front lamp visible from at least 500 feet (§ 347.489(1)).
- A bicycle, electric scooter, or EPAMD shall be equipped with a rear red reflector having at least 2 square inches of surface area, or for scooters/EPAMDs, a strip of red reflective tape of at least 2 square inches; a red rear lamp visible from 500 feet may be used in addition (§ 347.489(1)).

(m) Brakes.

- No person may operate a bicycle, electric scooter, or EPAMD upon a highway, bicycle lane, bicycle way, or sidewalk unless it is equipped with a brake in good working condition adequate to control movement and stop when necessary (§ 347.489(2)).

(n) Safe Passing by Motor Vehicles.

- The operator of a motor vehicle overtaking a bicycle, electric bicycle, or electric scooter proceeding in the same direction shall exercise due care, leaving a safe distance of not less than three feet until safely past (§ 346.075(1)).

(o) Racing.

- Racing on any street is prohibited unless authorized by permit.

(p) Sidewalk Operation.

- Bicycles may be operated on sidewalks only where permitted by local ordinance; bicyclists must yield to pedestrians and give an audible signal when passing (§§ 346.94(1), 346.804).
- Electric scooters and EPAMDs may be operated on sidewalks unless restricted by statute or local ordinance; operators must yield to pedestrians and give an audible signal when passing (§§ 346.805, 346.94(18s)).

(q) Incorporation by Reference.

- All applicable provisions of Wis. Stats. Chapters 340–348 governing these devices are incorporated by reference, including any future amendments.

(r) Safe and Appropriate Speed.

- No person shall operate a bicycle, electric bicycle, electric scooter, or electric personal assistive mobility device (EPAMD) at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under the conditions then existing, having regard for actual and potential hazards, pedestrian traffic, surface conditions, visibility, weather, and the character of the roadway, sidewalk, bicycle lane, trail, or shared-use path being traveled.
- Operators shall reduce speed and exercise due care when approaching or passing pedestrians, children, animals, intersections, congested areas, or other users of public ways.
- No person shall operate a bicycle, electric bicycle, electric scooter, or EPAMD:
- Upon a sidewalk at a speed greater than ten (10) miles per hour;
- Upon a shared-use path or recreational trail at a speed greater than fifteen (15) miles per hour unless otherwise posted;
- In any congested pedestrian area at a speed greater than is safe for existing conditions.
- The City may establish and post alternative speed limits for specific trails, sidewalks, parks, or shared-use facilities where warranted for public safety.

Chapter 11.40 BICYCLES¹

Sections:

11.40.010 Registration required.

It is unlawful for any person to operate a bicycle upon any street within the city unless the bicycle has first been properly registered and tagged as hereinafter provided.

(Prior code § 12.18(1)).

11.40.020 Registration—Form.

Every owner or operator of any bicycle within the city shall, within ten days after acquiring same, file with the chief of police, or duly designated officer, a complete description of such bicycle, upon a blank form to be provided for the purpose which such filing of description shall constitute a registration of such bicycle for the purposes of this chapter. Such registration shall be serially numbered and be kept on file by the chief of police in his office as a public record, and show the make, model and serial number of the bicycle, if any.

(Prior code § 12.18(2)).

11.40.030 Identification tag required—Fee.

(a) Immediately upon the registration of a bicycle in his office, the chief of police, or duly designated officer shall assign to such bicycle an identification tag, serially numbered to correspond with the registration of such bicycle. The owner shall be responsible for affixing the tag to such bicycle and for keeping the tag affixed. The fee for the identification tag shall be three dollars.

(b) All tags issued shall be effective for as long as the applicant retains ownership of the bicycle.

(Ord. 1387 § 1, 1997: Ord. 1040 § 1, 1984: Ord. 664 § 1, 1970: prior code § 12.18(3)).

11.40.040 Inspection.

The chief of police may inspect each bicycle presented to him for registration, and he shall have the authority to register any bicycle found by him to be in unsafe mechanical condition.

(Ord. 846 § 1, 1975: prior code § 12.18(4)).

11.40.050 Registration—Revocation.

The chief of police shall have the right to cancel the registration of and remove the identification tag from any bicycle being operated upon any street in the city in an unsafe manner, or in violation of any state law or in

¹ For the statutory provisions regulating bicycles and play vehicles, see WSA §§ 346.77 to 346.82.

violation of any provisions hereof, or of other local ordinance and such cancellation or registration and removal of tag shall be in addition to other penalties provided hereunder.

(Prior code § 12.18(5)).

11.40.060 Sale or dismantling—Report required.

Within ten days after any bicycle registered hereunder has changed ownership, or been dismantled and taken out of operation, such information shall be reported to the chief of police by the person in whose name the bicycle has been registered. When ownership of any bicycle is changed, the identification tag shall be surrendered to the chief of police and a new identification tag shall be issued as provided in Section 11.40.030.

(Prior code § 12.18(6)).

11.40.070 Obedience to vehicle or traffic regulations and riding regulations.

For the purpose of this chapter bicycles shall be classified as vehicles and are therefore required to obey all rules dealing with vehicular traffic.

In addition to owners or operators obeying all vehicular traffic regulations they shall obey the following:

- (a) No person shall operate at any time a bicycle while under the influence of an intoxicant or controlled substance.
- (c) No person riding upon a bicycle, coaster, wagon, roller skates, sled, toboggan, or any toy vehicle shall attach the same or himself to any other motor vehicle on a city street.
- (d) Any person operating a bicycle shall not ride other than upon or astride a permanent and regular seat attached thereto and no bicycle shall be used to carry more persons at one time than the number for which it is designed and equipped with proper seats.
- (e) No person operating a bicycle shall carry any packages, bundle, or article which prevents the operator from keeping at least one hand upon the handlebars at all times.
- (f) Except when preparing to make a left-hand turn with the proper hand signal, every person operating a bicycle upon a road or street shall ride as near to the right side of the roadway as practicable, exercising due care when passing a standing vehicle or one proceeding in the same direction.
- (g) Persons riding bicycles upon a street or roadway shall ride single file at all times.
- (h) No person may operate a bicycle during the hours of darkness unless such bicycle is equipped with or the operator is wearing a lamp emitting a white light visible from a distance of at least five hundred feet to the front of such bicycle. Such bicycle shall also be equipped with a red reflector that has a diameter of at least two inches of surface area on the rear so mounted and maintained as to be visible from all distances from fifty to five hundred feet to the rear when directly in front of lawful upper beams of head lamps on a motor vehicle. A lamp emitting a red light visible from a distance of five hundred feet to the rear may be used in addition but not in lieu of the red reflector.
- (i) Racing on any street is prohibited.
- (j) No person shall operate a bicycle unless it is equipped with a brake which will enable the operator to make the braked wheels skid on dry, level, clean pavement and with a bell or other device capable of giving a signal audible for a distance of at least one hundred feet, but a bicycle shall not be equipped with nor shall any person use upon a bicycle any siren or whistle.
- (k) Riding bicycles on sidewalks is prohibited in the central business district.

(Ord. 846 § 2, 1975: prior code § 12.18(7) and (8)).

11.40.090 Operation without registration or in reckless manner prohibited.

Any person who operates any bicycle not properly registered or carrying a proper identification tag is required herein, upon any street in the city, or who operates such bicycle in an unsafe manner, or in violation of any state law or in violation of any of the provisions of this chapter or other local ordinances shall upon conviction thereof be subject to the penalty provided in Section 11.40.100.

(Prior code § 12.18(9)).

11.40.100 Penalty for violations.

Any person who violates any provisions of this chapter shall, upon conviction thereof, forfeit not less than five dollars nor more than twenty-five dollars, together with the costs of the action and in default of the payment of such forfeiture and costs, shall be imprisoned in the county jail of the proper county until such forfeiture and costs are paid or for a term not to exceed five days.

(Ord. 983 § 42(part), 1982).

11.40.110 Parent or guardian responsibility.

- (a) No parent or guardian of any child under the age of eighteen years shall authorize or knowingly permit such child to violate any of the provisions of this chapter.
- (b) Any person who violates subsection (a) of this section shall pay a forfeiture of not less than five dollars nor more than twenty-five dollars and the costs of prosecution or in default in payment thereof be imprisoned in the county jail of the proper county for no more than five days.
- (c) If any child under the age of eighteen years has had his bicycle operating privileges in the city suspended and if such child rides a bicycle registered to him or to his parent or guardian during such period of suspension, the parent or guardian shall be deemed to have violated this section.

(Ord. 983 § 42(part), 1982; Ord. 678 § 2, 1970: prior code § 12.18(11)).



Park and Recreation Board Meeting Agenda Item

Meeting Date:	August 19, 2026
Agenda Item:	Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Review and Potential Updates to City Park Rules and Regulations
Staff Contact (name, email, phone):	Kevin Boehm, kboehm@whitewater-wi.gov , 262-473-0122

BACKGROUND

(Enter the who, what when, where, why)

The City of Whitewater Parks and Recreation Department's current Park Rules and Regulations establish general rules governing the use of City parks, facilities, and trails. During a recent review of the policy, questions arose regarding the use of electric bicycles, electric scooters, and other personal electric mobility devices. The current Motorized Vehicles section specifically references motorcycles, minibikes, snowmobiles, dune buggies, go-carts, all-terrain vehicles, and other recreational or motor vehicles, while also broadly stating that motorized vehicles are not allowed on City trails. The policy does not specifically address e-bikes, e-scooters, or similar devices.

Rather than addressing only the e-bike issue, staff reviewed the Park Rules and Regulations more broadly and identified several areas that may warrant discussion and possible modernization. Staff is not proposing specific revisions to each section at this time. Instead, the document is being presented to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for review and recommendations before staff works with the City's legal team on any formal amendments.

Areas identified for potential discussion include:

- **Motorized Vehicles:** Clarify the use of e-bikes, e-scooters, and other personal electric mobility devices in City parks and on City trails, including where they may be permitted and whether operating restrictions or speed limits should apply. The current rules do not specifically address these devices.
- **Alcoholic Beverages:** Review the current language to ensure it accurately reflects where alcohol is permitted, where permits are required, and current City practices. The existing language provides different treatment for Starin Park, Cravath Lake Park, Trippe Lake Park, and municipal buildings and may benefit from clarification.
- **Animals:** Review terminology and requirements concerning animals, pets, leashes, and service animals, including whether the language should be updated to reflect current requirements and practices.
- **Camping:** Clarify the current provisions requiring a special permit from the Common Council while also providing authority for the Parks and Recreation Director to permit tents and trailers.
- **Mechanical Rides/Dunk Tanks:** Consider whether this section should be broadened to address current temporary recreational attractions such as inflatables, amusement devices, climbing walls, dunk tanks, and similar equipment.
- **Penalties and Enforcement:** Review existing forfeiture amounts and enforcement provisions to ensure they remain appropriate and consistent with current City ordinances and enforcement practices.

- **Administrative Procedures:** Determine whether operational details, such as specific shelter reservation dates, should remain within the Park Rules and Regulations or be addressed through administrative procedures that can be updated separately.

The Board may also wish to consider whether additional subjects that are not currently addressed should be incorporated into the Park Rules and Regulations. Examples could include drones, smoking and vaping, cannabis, generators, commercial activities, organized events, trail etiquette, and newer recreational or mobility devices.

Staff is seeking input from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board regarding which areas should be revised, clarified, added, or removed. Following Board direction, staff would work with the City's legal team to prepare appropriate revisions for future consideration.

PREVIOUS ACTIONS – COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

(Dates, committees, action taken)

None

FINANCIAL IMPACT

(If none, state N/A)

None

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board review the current Park Rules and Regulations and provide direction regarding areas that should be updated, clarified, added, or removed.

Based on the Board's recommendations, staff will work with the City's legal team to develop proposed revisions to the Park Rules and Regulations and bring the updated document back for future review and consideration.

ATTACHMENT(S) INCLUDED

(If none, state N/A)



PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

PARK RULES AND REGULATIONS

***Park Hours:** 6:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m.

***Trail Hours:** Open 24 hours per day

***Park Rest Rooms:** Open April 1 - October 31

***Reservation of Shelters:**

Shelters may be reserved the weekend closest to April 15 through the weekend closest to October 31. If not reserved, shelters are available on a first come, first-served basis.

***Damage to Property:**

Persons shall not in any manner mar, injure, deface, or destroy any tree, shrub, or plant standing or growing in the park, nor any fence, guide post, sign, table, bench, building, or any other thing of value in any public park, grounds, or place, nor shall they disturb or interfere with any wildlife within the parks.

***Alcoholic Beverages:**

No alcoholic beverages are allowed in any city park other than Starin Park. The City Clerk may issue permits allowing the consumption of alcoholic beverages in Cravath Lake Park, Trippe Lake Park, Starin Park Community Building and other municipal buildings as deemed appropriate. A permit may be granted by the Common Council pertaining to the consumption of alcoholic beverages in parks other than Starin Park, Cravath Lake Park and Trippe Lake Park.

***Glass Beverage Containers:**

All glass beverage containers are prohibited within the parks.

***Sale of Food and/or Merchandise:**

Food and/or merchandise shall not be sold in any city park except by concessions agreement or permit with the Whitewater Parks and Recreation Department. No concessions agreement or permit shall be issued that will conflict with existing concessions agreement or permit.

***Motorized Vehicles:**

It is unlawful for any person to operate a motorcycle, minibike, snowmobile, dune buggy, go cart, all-terrain vehicle or other recreational vehicle or motor vehicle in any park in the City of Whitewater. This section does not prohibit a person from legally operating a motor vehicle on public roads within parks; from parking on park property adjacent to public roads in the park; or from operating motorboats on lakes that are part of a park.

It is unlawful for any person to operate a bicycle within Indian Mounds Park.

Motorized vehicles are not allowed on city trails.

***Amplification of Sound:**

Use of amplification systems within the parks for the purpose of public entertainment must obtain a Public Entertainment permit through the City Clerk's office if said amplification system is not part of an authorized recreation program. It is the responsibility of the group using/reserving the facility/park to keep the noise level acceptable so as not to annoy or disturb the surrounding area of the park.

***Fires:**

All fires must be contained within grills or designated cooking devices. Coals must be thoroughly extinguished and cooled prior to being placed in a trash receptacle.

***Animals:**

Any person owning, keeping, or in charge of any animal shall not permit such animal to be in Indian Mounds Park or the Municipal Building property in the city at any time. This will not be applicable in cases in which a person is being assisted by a service dog. Animals are permitted in all other municipal parks and open space. Owners are required to keep their pet on a leash and clean up after their animals and follow proper pet etiquette.

***Archery:**

Archery is prohibited in all parks except as part of an authorized recreation program.

***Golf:**

The use of golf equipment is prohibited in all parks.

***Slow-No-Wake Areas:**

Trippie and Cravath Lake are areas designated as slow-no-wake. This means that speed at which a boat moves as slowly as possible while still maintaining steerage control. This is to provide safe and healthful conditions for the enjoyment of aquatic recreation consistent with public rights and interests.

***Fireworks:**

Fireworks are prohibited except for programs that have obtained the necessary City of Whitewater permits for such activity.

***Camping:**

Camping is prohibited in all parks except by special permit of the Common Council. Tents and Trailers are allowed by permission of the Parks and Recreation Director.

***Littering:**

No person shall place or leave any garbage, paper or refuse in any park, except in a park container or receptacle provided. No person shall bring garbage, paper or refuse from outside a park and deposit it in a park receptacle or container.

***Mechanical Rides/Dunk Tanks:**

Use of mechanical rides or dunk tanks within the parks must be approved with written permission from the Director of Parks and Recreation.

VIOLATION OF THE ABOVE RULES IN REGARDS TO POSSESSION OF ALCOHOL IN PARKS SHALL BE PUNISHABLE BY FORFEITURE OF NOT LESS THAN \$150 NOR MORE THAN \$300 FOR THE FIRST OFFENSE AND FOR SUBSEQUENT OFFENSES, NOT LESS THAN \$200 NOR MORE THAN \$350 TOGETHER WITH THE COSTS OF PROSECUTION.

VIOLATION OF OTHER REGULATIONS IS PUNISHABLE BY FORFEITURE OF NOT LESS THAN \$50 NOR MORE THAN \$150 TOGETHER WITH THE COSTS OF PROSECUTION.

ANY VIOLATION MAY ALSO RESULT IN EXPULSION FROM ALL CITY PARKS FOR A PERIOD OF UP TO ONE YEAR.

IN ADDITION TO THE RULES AND REGULATIONS LISTED ALL CITY, STATE, AND FEDERAL LAWS APPLY.



PARK RULES



PARK HOURS



6:00 am–12:00 am
except Indian Mounds
Park (Sunrise–Sunset)
and Brewery Hill Park
(6:00 am–Dusk)

TRAIL HOURS



Open
24 hours
per day

PARK REST ROOMS



Open
April 1–
October 31

NO ALCOHOL



No alcoholic
beverages allowed
except by permit
in designated
areas.

NO GLASS CONTAINERS



All glass beverage
containers are
prohibited.

NO MOTORIZED VEHICLES



No motorcycles,
minibikes,
snowmobiles, ATVs,
go carts, dune
buggies or other
motorized vehicles.
Bicycles not allowed
in Indian Mounds Park.
Motorized vehicles
not allowed on trails.

PETS WELCOME



Pets must be
on a leash.
Clean up after
your pets.
Pets not allowed in
Indian Mounds Park
or municipal
buildings (except
service animals).

FIRES



Fires must be
contained in grills
or designated
cooking devices.
Coals must be
cool before
disposing.

NO AMPLIFIED SOUND



Amplified sound
requires a permit
from the
City Clerk's Office.
Please be
respectful of
others.

NO DAMAGE TO PROPERTY



Do not injure,
deface or destroy
trees, plants,
structures or other
property. Do not
disturb wildlife.



SHELTER RESERVATIONS

Shelters may be reserved the weekend
closest to April 15 through the weekend
closest to October 31. If not reserved,
shelters are available on a first come,
first-served basis.



SALE OF FOOD OR MERCHANDISE

Requires a permit
from the
City Clerk's Office.



THANK YOU FOR HELPING KEEP
WHITEWATER'S PARKS
CLEAN, SAFE & ENJOYABLE FOR EVERYONE!



TO REPORT ISSUES OR CONCERNS,
PLEASE CALL
262-473-0520



PLAYGROUND RULES



**NO CLOTHING
WITH DRAWSTRINGS,
HOODS OR TOGGLES**
These can get caught
and cause serious injury.
Please remove before
playing.



NO GLASS
For everyone's safety,
no glass bottles or
containers allowed
in the playground.



**NO BICYCLE
HELMETS**
Helmet straps can
get caught and cause
serious injury.
Please remove before
playing.



**USE EQUIPMENT
SAFELY**
Use equipment
properly. Report
any unsafe equipment
to Parks & Recreation.



**EQUIPMENT MAY
BE HOT**
Playground equipment
can get hot.
Use caution on
sunny days.



**DO NOT USE
WHEN WET**
For your safety,
do not use
playground
equipment when
it is wet.



**DO NOT USE
WHEN GROUND
IS FROZEN**
Frozen ground can
increase the risk of
serious injury.



**ADULT SUPERVISION
RECOMMENDED**
Adult supervision
is recommended
for children.



THANK YOU FOR HELPING KEEP
WHITEWATER'S PLAYGROUNDS
SAFE, CLEAN & FUN FOR EVERYONE!

TO REPORT ISSUES OR CONCERNS,
PLEASE CALL
262-473-0520



CITY OF WHITEWATER POLICY		TITLE: Heat, Air Quality and Inclement Weather Policy
POLICY SOURCE: Parks and Recreation Department	Parks and Recreation Board Approval Date: 1/7/2013 Modified:8/19/2026	TEXT NAME: G:\Park & Rec\General Information\Policy\ Heat, Air Quality and Inclement Weather Policy

I. Purpose

It is the purpose of this policy to establish guidelines and procedures for how to handle extreme cold and heat/humid conditions in order to protect participants, spectators, and staff in Whitewater Parks and Recreation Department programs and events.

II. General Statement

The City of Whitewater Parks and Recreation Department may require that activities be altered or canceled due to inclement weather i.e., thunder and lightning, snow, wind, and extreme heat.

III. Actions

The following policy is hereby established regarding the occurrence of severe weather and extreme heat during Whitewater Parks & Recreation activities:

- A. **THUNDER & LIGHTNING:** Effectively immediately, once lightning is observed or thunder is heard during outdoor recreation activities, all athletic fields must be cleared for a period of 20 minutes. If lightning is observed (or thunder heard) again, the 20 minute period of cleared fields starts over.
- B. **SNOW:** When schools are closed or close early due to inclement weather, all recreation and parks activities for that day are cancelled. For weekend activities, if the City declares a snow emergency after 6 pm Friday or anytime Saturday, all Saturday activities are cancelled. If a snow emergency is in effect after 6 pm Saturday or anytime Sunday, all Sunday activities are cancelled. This includes activities that occur at school sites or City sites.
- C. **WIND:** When a high wind warning is issued by the National Weather Service (NWS), outdoor activities shall not operate within close proximity of trees, power lines and other potential hazards. THE NWS defines high wind warnings as sustained wind speeds of 40 mph or greater for 1 hour or longer or 58 mph or greater for any duration of time.
- D. **AIR QUALITY:** Air quality conditions shall be monitored when smoke, wildfire activity, air pollution, or other conditions may create unhealthy outdoor air quality. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Air Quality Index (AQI) for the Whitewater area shall be used as the primary guide for determining whether outdoor Parks and Recreation programs, activities, and events should be modified or canceled.

AQI 0–100 (Good to Moderate): Activities may proceed as scheduled. Staff should continue to monitor conditions when air quality is expected to deteriorate.

AQI 101–150 (Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups): Activities may proceed with caution. Participants should be provided additional rest opportunities, and strenuous or prolonged outdoor

activity may be reduced. Individuals who are unusually sensitive to air pollution, including those with respiratory or heart conditions, should be encouraged to limit participation as appropriate.

AQI 151–200 (Unhealthy): Outdoor activities should be modified, shortened, relocated indoors when practical, or canceled based on the duration and intensity of the activity and current or anticipated air quality conditions. Strenuous outdoor activities should be avoided.

AQI 201 or Greater (Very Unhealthy/Hazardous): All outdoor Parks and Recreation programs, activities, and events shall be canceled, postponed, or relocated indoors.

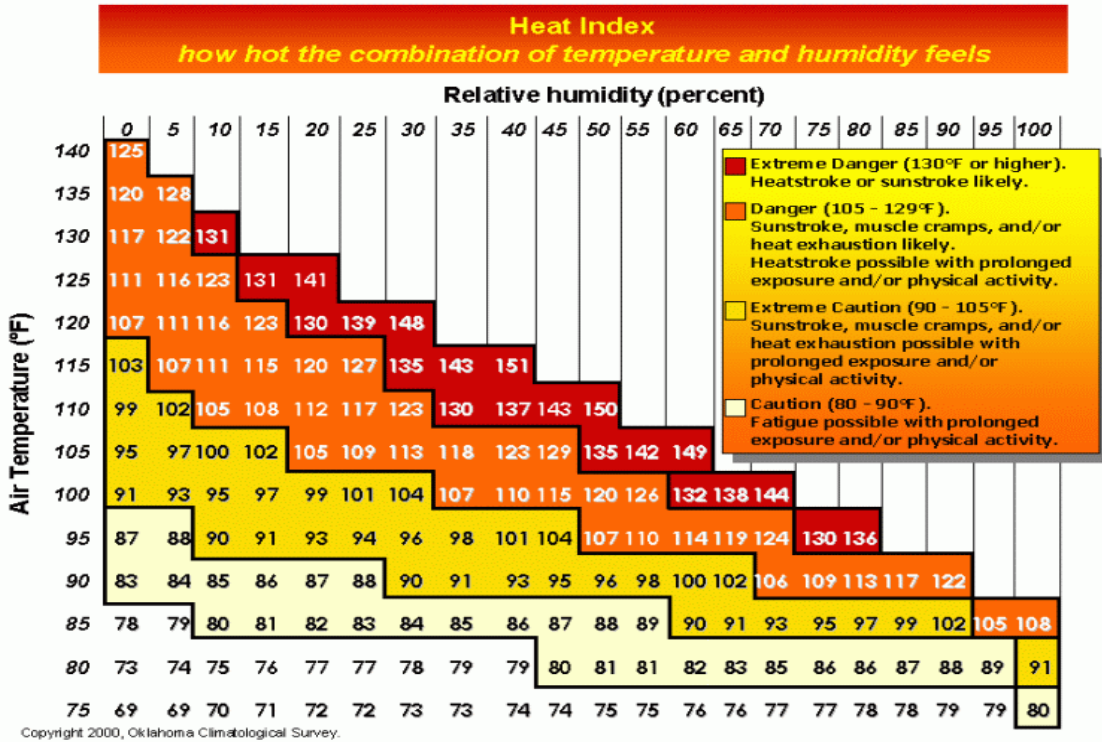
Air quality should be reviewed approximately two hours prior to the scheduled start of an outdoor activity and monitored when conditions are changing. The Parks and Recreation Director, or designee, may modify, postpone, relocate, or cancel an activity at any AQI level when local conditions, forecasts, visibility, smoke, participant population, or other circumstances indicate that continuing the activity may present an unreasonable health or safety risk.

- E. HEAT: Approximately 120 minutes prior to the start of the activity, temperature and heat index reading should be taken. ~~at the UW-W Weather page located at~~
<http://www.uww.edu/cls/geography-geology/weather>.

Programs that utilize volunteer coaches will provide heat related education materials to all coaches. The following are guidelines for coaches, program leaders and volunteers to follow with regards to Department sponsored activities for youth, including practices:

Heat Index 80-89	Use caution; monitor participants carefully for necessary action. Encourage additional fluid intake.
Heat Index 90-104	Use extreme caution; remove helmets and other equipment if not involved in contact. Fluid/shade/rest breaks must be taken every 20-25 minutes. Activity should be modified for less exertion. Consider reducing program length.
Heat Index 105	All outdoor programs are canceled. The National Weather Service office will issue a heat advisory when the heat index (combination of temperature and relative humidity) is 105 degrees or more. Indoor events in non-air conditioned buildings are also canceled.

IV. Guidelines



V. Review of Policy

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Parks and Recreation Board for any needed changes or revisions.

NOTE: A separate policy will be created for heat related concerns for programs that occur on artificial turf surfaces.



Park and Recreation Board Meeting Agenda Item

Meeting Date:	August 19, 2026
Agenda Item:	Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Review and Potential Updates to the Heat and Inclement Weather Policy.
Staff Contact (name, email, phone):	Kevin Boehm, kboehm@whitewater-wi.gov , 262-473-0122

BACKGROUND

(Enter the who, what when, where, why)

The City of Whitewater's current Heat and Inclement Weather Policy was approved in 2013 and establishes guidelines for modifying or canceling Parks and Recreation activities due to thunder and lightning, snow, high winds, and extreme heat. The policy does not currently address poor air quality or wildfire smoke.

During the summer of 2026, the Whitewater area has experienced several periods of poor air quality associated with wildfire smoke. These conditions have resulted in the Parks and Recreation Department modifying or canceling several programs, activities, and events. Because the existing policy does not provide guidance or established thresholds for air quality, staff has had to make these decisions on a case-by-case basis.

Staff is recommending that the policy be updated to include air quality and establish guidelines utilizing the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Air Quality Index (AQI). The update would provide staff with consistent criteria for monitoring conditions and determining when outdoor activities should continue, be modified, relocated, postponed, or canceled.

As part of the update, staff is also recommending changing the policy title from **"Heat and Inclement Weather Policy"** to **"Heat, Air Quality and Inclement Weather Policy"** to accurately reflect the expanded scope of the policy.

PREVIOUS ACTIONS – COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

(Dates, committees, action taken)

Heat and Inclement Weather Policy approved in 2013

FINANCIAL IMPACT

(If none, state N/A)

None

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board approve the proposed revisions to the Heat and Inclement Weather Policy, including the addition of air quality guidelines and changing the policy title to **"Heat, Air Quality and Inclement Weather Policy."**

The proposed revisions will provide staff with clear and consistent guidance for modifying, postponing, relocating or canceling programs, activities, and events when poor air quality or wildfire smoke creates potential health and safety concerns.

ATTACHMENT(S) INCLUDED

(If none, state N/A)

Welcome to the
**Whitewater
Bark Park**

Please Observe Our Rules For The Enjoyment and Safety of All!

“Help Keep Our Park Inviting and Exciting”

- 1. Membership fee and proof of vaccination (current license) is required.**
- 2. Leashes are required outside the fenced activity areas.**
- 3. You are responsible for your dog, their activities and actions; please clean up after your pet!**
- 4. Female dogs in heat are restricted from using the park area.**
- 5. A maximum of 3 dogs per responsible handler is permitted.**
- 6. Aggressive/unruly dogs are requested to use the 1 acre play area.**
- 7. Supervise your pets AND children carefully; this is NOT a playground!**
- 8. Please leave other pets at home.**

Dogs under the age of 4 months have not developed a mature immune system; for their safety, please keep these youngsters at home!

Please report any damage or vandalism to the City of Whitewater Park Department, 2620463-0542.

Contributions to this facility are appreciated and tax deductible. Please make donations payable to: City of Whitewater Bark Park

Thanks for your support of this Whitewater Community Facility!

WHITEWATER BARK PARK

PARK RULES

Help Keep Our Park Safe, Clean & Enjoyable for Everyone

DOG LICENSE REQUIRED

All dogs must have a current license and rabies vaccination as required by law.
Whitewater Municipal Code § 9.08.020 | Wis. Stat. § 174.05

STAY WITH YOUR DOG

Handlers must remain **inside the fenced dog park** with their dogs and actively supervise them at all times.

Do not leave dogs in the park while sitting in your vehicle or waiting in the parking lot.

USE THE APPROPRIATE AREA

Small Dog Area: Dogs 30 lbs. and under

Large Dog Area: Dogs over 30 lbs.

KEEP YOUR DOG UNDER CONTROL

Dogs must remain under the handler's control at all times. Aggressive, threatening, or persistently disruptive dogs **must be removed immediately**.

LEASHES REQUIRED OUTSIDE FENCED AREAS

Dogs may be off leash only within designated fenced Bark Park areas.

CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR DOG

Pick up and properly dispose of your dog's waste immediately.

MAXIMUM 3 DOGS PER HANDLER

KEEP GATES CLOSED

Use caution when entering and exiting. Do not allow other dogs to escape through the gates.

NOT PERMITTED

- Female dogs in heat
- Dogs showing signs of contagious illness
- Puppies under 4 months of age
- Animals other than dogs
- Glass containers

CHILDREN MUST BE CLOSELY SUPERVISED

This is an off-leash dog area — **not a playground**.

BE RESPONSIBLE • BE RESPECTFUL • KEEP IT SAFE

Handlers are responsible for their dogs and their dogs' actions.
Please report unsafe conditions, damage, or vandalism to the
City of Whitewater Parks & Recreation Department.



WHITEWATER BARK PARK



PARK RULES



DOG LICENSE REQUIRED

All dogs must have a current license and rabies vaccination as required by law.
Whitewater Municipal Code § 9.08.020
Wis. Stat. § 174.05



CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR DOG

Pick up and properly dispose of your dog's waste immediately.



STAY WITH YOUR DOG

Handlers must remain inside the fenced dog park with their dogs and actively supervise them at all times.

Do not leave dogs in the park while sitting in your vehicle or waiting in the parking lot.



MAXIMUM 3 DOGS PER HANDLER

No more than three dogs per responsible handler.



USE THE APPROPRIATE AREA

Small Dog Area: Dogs 30 lbs. and under
Large Dog Area: Dogs over 30 lbs.
Please use the area that is appropriate for your dog.



KEEP GATES CLOSED

Use caution when entering and exiting. Do not allow other dogs to escape through the gates.



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Dogs may be off leash only within designated fenced Bark Park areas.



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- Female dogs in heat
- Dogs showing signs of illness
- Puppies under 4 months of age
- Animals other than dogs
- Glass containers



Report Issues or Concerns

262-473-0520



*Be Responsible.
Be Respectful.
Keep It Safe.*



THANK YOU FOR HELPING KEEP WHITEWATER BARK PARK
SAFE, CLEAN & ENJOYABLE FOR EVERYONE!





City of
WHITEWATER
PARKS & RECREATION

BARK PARK

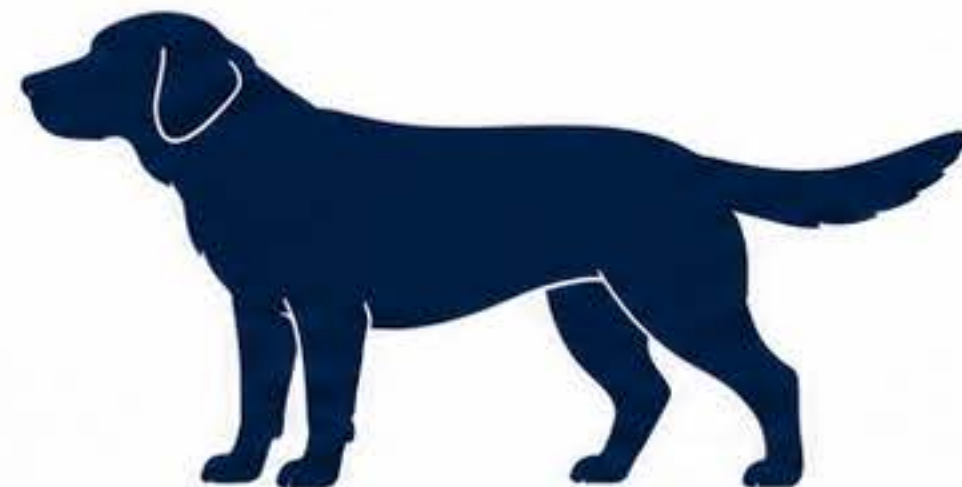


SMALL DOG AREA
30 LBS & UNDER



City of
WHITEWATER
PARKS & RECREATION

BARK PARK



LARGE DOG AREA
OVER 30 LBS

