

The East End Park is a vibrant and active public space in the Village of Woodstock. Because the Park is nestled by the Ottawaquechee River in an area that is both commercial and residential, renters and their guests should be mindful of their surroundings and respect both the neighborhood as well as other users. The Park may not be completely closed to the public during any event.

WHO NEEDS TO GET A RENTAL PERMIT?

A Park rental permit is required if one or more of the following applies:

1. A group of individuals of fifteen (15) or more who use the Park area for a one-time event.
2. Reservation and use of the Park for a specific time and date on a continued scheduled basis, such as fitness classes, arts and crafts classes, clubs, and other recurring activities.
3. Use of Park area for an event open to the public.
4. Business functions--examples include, but are not limited to:
 - Sales meeting
 - Personal sports coach
 - Commercial film or photography shoot (A single professional photographer with a portable camera does not require a permit.)
 - Business reception
 - Product demonstration
 - Food booth
5. A sports tournament or event where individuals or teams are charged a fee to participate or spectate.
6. Any other commercial or fund-raising purposes, including, but not limited to, the sale of goods and services, solicitation of monies, sale of tickets or games of chance, and the use of the Park to conduct an activity where the exchange of money for a product or service does not occur directly in the Park, such as mass media advertising.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO RENT?

- Woodstock and non-Woodstock residents, nonprofit groups and charitable organizations, clubs and classes, business organizations.
- An individual applicant must be at least 18 years of age.
- On-Site Liaison
An on-site liaison person must be identified and must be present and available via cell phone at all times during set-up, tear down, and during the event. This person must have the authority to make decisions on behalf of the event organizer and must be accessible to Town staff, Police and any other identified authorizer.

PROCESS

Timing

- Applications for permits may be submitted up to 6 months in advance of the event, but no less than 30 calendar days in advance of event.
- Applications for permits for Weddings & Receptions may be submitted up to 1 year in advance but no less than 30 calendar days in advance of event.
- FORMS: Permit Application and Site Plan are due at time of application. (Site Plan template provided)
- PAYMENT: Payment of Application Fee is due at the time the application is submitted. Payment of the Function Fee and Security Deposit, along with the Certificate of Insurance, are due 14 days prior to use. A late fee of 10% will be applied if all fees and required documents are not received 14 days prior. **SEE SEPARATE FEE SCHEDULE.**
- Fees are payable by cash, local check, or credit card (prevailing fee will be applied).

Approval

- TRUSTEE APPROVAL: Applications are reviewed once a month at the monthly meeting of the Village Trustees. At the discretion of the Trustees, approval may be granted administratively by the Municipal Manager's office, if all conditions are met and no further review is advised.

Applications for permitted Park use, whether commercial, not-for-profit or private, will be based on the following criteria:

- a. Application is complete with all required information.
- b. Proof of liability insurance accompanies the application.
- c. The proposed activity does not conflict with other public Park uses, impede care and maintenance of the Park, or detract from general Park visitor use or enjoyment.
- d. The renter agrees to adhere to all rules, regulations and processes, and if any past use, has demonstrated observance of these.
- e. There are no previous fees or charges outstanding.

EVENT HOURS

- Events are allowed between the hours of 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, and 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

SITE PLAN

- A picture is worth a thousand words! A site plan is required for all events. This plan should be clearly presented and include the date it was prepared (any revised plans must include the date).
- The plan must include the location of all aspects of the event as described in the application. This includes clearly indicating the locations of stages, tents, power supply, hoses, sound systems, vendors, security, water, portable toilets, trash bins, recycling bins and any other structure brought on site.
- All fencing, gates, entrances and exits, including emergency exits and fire lanes must also appear on the site plan. The access road to the river cannot be obstructed because it is emergency access to the river for the Fire Department.
- Parking for more than the spaces available in the public Park & Ride lot must be described.

INSURANCE

- Renters are required to provide a Certificate of Insurance, demonstrating liability coverage for the specified event, specifying the Village of Woodstock as an additional insured.
- Renters who do not maintain liability coverage should investigate TULIP: Tenants' and Users' Liability Insurance Policy that provides special event liability coverage. It is designed for third-party users who do not carry liability insurance and is offered at a low cost. It is event-specific and can also cover vendors, performers and exhibitors, if needed.
It protects both the institution user (the third party) and the institution against claims by third parties who may be injured or experience damage to property as a result of participating in an event. Events may range from low-risk events such as seminars, receptions, or weddings to high-risk events including festivals and fairs, sports events, or concerts.

SETUP/CLEANUP

- The Park must be maintained in a neat and orderly condition at all times on the date of the activity and, to the extent reasonably possible, during the setup and cleanup time for such activity.
- Vehicles are only allowed at the lower level of the Park for unloading/loading purposes, and only on the access road and gravel area—not on the lawn. Any damage done to the grass or other areas of the Park is the responsibility of the applicant.

- Any equipment installed on the Park in connection with the activity must be installed no sooner than 24 hours prior to the scheduled date of the activity and must be removed no later than 24 hours after the scheduled date of the activity. However, any equipment which can be installed and removed on the day of the activity must be installed and removed on that date. This standard will apply separately to any alternate date not immediately following the scheduled date.
- No structures or tents may be erected within fifteen feet of the trunk of any tree in the Park.
- No setup or cleanup activity may be carried out before 7:00AM or after 10:00PM without special arrangements.
- All contractors, suppliers and other persons involved in any way with the event must be advised of these critical times and are required to schedule work accordingly.
- Consideration must be given as to whether an applied for activity, if permitted, would unreasonably restrict the public access to and use of the Park.

TEMPORARY STRUCTURES (Tents etc.)

- The location of larger structures such as tents, stages, and portable toilets must be included on the site plan.
- Equipment, such as tents, must be secured using cement blocks or sand bags (i.e., not pegs, spikes or ropes to trees) unless specifically approved, since there are underground utilities in the Park. The organizer will be charged for any damage resulting from unauthorized setup methods.
- Vehicles are only allowed at the lower level of the Park for unloading/loading purposes, and only on the access road and gravel area—not on the lawn.
- No structures or tents may be erected within 15 feet of the trunk of any tree in the Park.
- Tent size is limited by the available space between the labyrinth and the bottom of the stairway—See designated area on Site Plan template.
- Tents are limited to those that can be secured without stakes or tying to trees.
- If a proposed tent is larger than 15' x 15', this permit is conditional upon review, inspection and approval by the Fire Department.
- Tents must meet the CPAI-84 standard for flame resistant materials. A manufacturer's label must be attached to the tent stating that it does meet this requirement. If a label is not attached, it will be the user's responsibility to produce documentation from the manufacturer that the tent meets this standard prior to its acceptance.

SIGNS

- No signs or equipment may be attached to or installed on trees or signs in the Park or on traffic signs, parking meters, or light poles in the Park.
- Marking the ground, trees, or structures in any way is prohibited.
- Traffic signs at the Park must not be obstructed.
- Sponsor Signs and Banners: Sponsorship acknowledgment is often required by organizers in order to secure funding for not-for-profit events. The Village requires that this acknowledgment be restricted to playing a supportive role in event presentation and therefore the size and number of banners and signs are limited only to what is necessary. The primary and most visible information must be event-related. The area of signage allocated to sponsor identification may not be greater than 40%.
- The location of all sponsorship acknowledgement including sponsor vehicles and tents, must be shown on the site plan. The times when sponsor or media representatives will be present on site must also be provided. Sponsor products unrelated to the event must not be sold, though samples may be handed out as a form of promotion.

FOOD TRUCKS AND TRAILERS

- Food Trucks or Trailers must be parked ONLY on the upper parking lot (not on the lawn).
- Food vendors are required to have the appropriate safety and inspection certifications.
- Refer to Vermont state health requirements:
https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/ENV_FL_TempFoodStandRequirements2015.pdf

ELECTRICITY and GENERATORS

- Electricity is only provided at two receptacle locations, at the pergola and at the bottom of the amphitheater. The maximum load is 20 amps per circuit and two circuits are available. Liability for any equipment that exceeds that load is the responsibility of the renter.
- The Village must approve all uses of temporary lighting. Depending on the level and complexity, a certified electrician may be required to certify that installation and mountings are safe and secure. Temporary lighting must be directed away from the abutting street and properties.
- Use of a generator is permitted.

VEHICLES & PARKING

- To ensure the public's safety and protect structures and planting beds, the following are prohibited within the Park: skateboards, rollerblades, bicycles, scooters, Segways, personal motorized devices (such as a hoverboard), and horse-drawn carriages. Driving these vehicles or unauthorized vehicles of any type is prohibited in the Park. Motorized personal devices required by persons with impaired mobility are permitted. Park visitors with a bicycle, skateboard, scooter, etc. must dismount and walk with it while in the Park.
- A bicycle rack is provided. Bicycles, and other vehicles must not be tied, locked, or otherwise attached to any tree or plant.
- Parking must be limited to public areas designated, unless written permission is obtained from a private landowner.
- Parking is the responsibility of the renter. If sufficient spaces are not available at the Park, the Woodstock Elementary School or Woodstock Union High School parking lots may be used in the evenings and on weekends. The renter is responsible for providing any shuttle service offered.
- When sufficient parking is not available on site, parking for more than the available spaces at the Park must be described on the site plan.
- The renter may be required to provide adequate volunteers for the purpose of directing patron parking.

ACCESSIBILITY

- Many people with disabilities enjoy using the Park. Designated handicap parking spaces are provided at the upper parking level; from that area users can access the pergola and viewing area. An additional handicap parking space is designated at the lawn level. All renters must keep those spaces clear for handicap access.

SOUND and NOISE

- Music, either amplified or non-amplified, at a public or private event is prohibited between the hours of 10:00 PM and 7:00 AM Sunday through Thursday and 11:00 PM and 7:00 AM Friday and Saturday. [Village of Woodstock noise ordinance 5303]
- Amplified sound for private rentals is limited to a portable music player or sound system, with maximum decibel level of , as specified in Village ordinance. No special permit is required for this level of sound. Amplified sound of any other type must be identified in the permit application.

- Absolutely no amplified sound (including sound checks) is allowed before 7:00 AM, or after 10:00 PM.
- Amplified sound must be directed away from the abutting street and properties.
- The proposed location of the sound system and location of all speakers must be identified on the Site Plan.

RESTROOMS

- There are no restrooms on site. For rentals for more than 50 people and lasting more than one hour, portable toilets are required, and must be arranged and paid for by the renter.

SANITATION, TRASH & RECYCLING

- For rentals for more than 50 people, portable toilets are required, and must be arranged and paid for by the renter.
- “Carry in & out” is required for all trash and recyclables. Please do not overfill the on-site trash receptacles allowing animals and birds access, which quickly becomes a mess.
- Renter is responsible for the removal of all trash, litter, debris, etc. associated with the event. The renter must make arrangements to supply an adequate number of trash receptacles, and to have trash and other materials removed from the Park periodically when full and immediately upon conclusion of the event.
- Recyclables generated at the event (e.g., aluminum cans, glass, plastic, cardboard, etc.) must be collected and appropriately disposed.
- Renter is responsible for compost—that is, to provide a food waste receptacle and to remove all compostable materials at the end of the event.
- Renter is responsible for leaving the facility in an “as good or better condition” than the site was found prior to the start of the event. If the renter fails to perform adequate clean up and/or damage should occur to Park property, the renter will be billed at full cost recovery rates plus overhead for cleanup and repairs.

SALES or HANDOUTS of FOOD, BEVERAGES, and MERCHANDISE

- Food, beverage and merchandise sales require approval in advance and must be described in your application (vendor name, products, location). Only event-related products may be sold on site. Sponsor products must not be sold during the event unless they too relate directly to the event (e.g., running shoes at a half-marathon).

ALCOHOL

- Alcohol consumption in the Park is prohibited except with the prior approval of the Village Trustees. Permits for serving or consuming alcohol at any event must be obtained. All applicable Woodstock and state laws, ordinances, rules, and regulations apply.

PHOTOGRAPHY—Personal

- No permit is needed to photograph in the Park if using only handheld equipment or a tripod. If other equipment is planned—or there are any other questions about photography in the Park—please consult the Municipal Manager’s office.

PHOTOGRAPHY—Commercial

- A permit is needed for commercial photography or filming so that it can be completed without damaging landscapes or interfering with the experience enjoyed by all visitors. If photography is part of an event, such as Weddings & Receptions, photography is included in the permit.

PHOTOGRAPHY—Drone

- Drone photography is permitted at the Park, with liability insurance and following FAA regulations.

SAFETY and SECURITY

- The site layout and installation should reflect considerations for safety hazards for your event. For example, electrical cords should be taped down and tripping hazards marked. Fire hazards must be avoided.
- A minimum access corridor of 20' in width must be maintained on a street, or anywhere else designated by the Fire Department, to allow access by emergency vehicles. No materials that cannot be quickly removed or displaced (e.g., barricades) can be situated in this corridor.
- The renter has a large degree of responsibility for the behavior of event participants and is responsible for ensuring that appropriate security is in place. The event should be designed to avoid risk of unintended police callouts. Specific costs of such callouts may be assessed to the renter if risk has been identified and inadequately addressed.
- Security personnel should be experienced and capable of handling the situations which they may face. They should be in position at all scheduled times and have emergency protocol and communication in place. Site design and event management (e.g. ticket sales) should also minimize risk of security problems.

DAMAGE

- The renter is responsible for leaving the facility in an “as good or better condition” than the site was found prior to the start of the event. If the renter fails to perform adequate clean up and/or repair should damage occur to Park property, the renter will be billed at full-cost recovery rates plus overhead for cleanup and repairs. At the option of the Village Trustees, any repair required may be arranged by the Board or by the renter.

DOGS

To ensure clean, safe spaces for a wide variety of users, on-leash and clean-up policies will be enforced within the Park.

- Leashed dogs are welcome.
- “Clean up after your pet” practices are required. Dog owners are required to pick up after their dogs and use the trash receptacles provided.

FIRES & FIREWORKS

- BBQs, portable gas grills, heat-generating equipment or materials may not be used in the Park.
- Fireworks are not allowed.

CHECKLIST

- Application fee and security deposit paid?
- Site Plan template completed and submitted?
- Certificate of Insurance submitted?
- Parking plan required?
- Portable toilets required?
- Applicable state health and safety permits obtained?
- Liquor license obtained, if needed?
- Name of On-site Liaison with contact information listed?