

VIGO COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT - PARK POLICIES

Alcohol & Illegal Drugs

- The consumption, display, or sale of alcohol and/or illegal drugs on Vigo County parkland is prohibited.

Beaches

- See "Swimming"

Boating

- Boats may only use trolling motors.
- Each boat occupant must have a U.S. Coast Guard approved life jacket or flotation cushion.
- All State of Indiana regulations apply unless otherwise posted by VCPRD.

Campgrounds

- Campgrounds are open May 1-October 15 at Fowler Park, Hawthorn Park, and Prairie Creek Park.
- Campground expectations, as detailed in the Camping Information pamphlet, must be obeyed at all times. Campers in violation of Campground expectations may be required to vacate the campground and Vigo County parkland by the Parks and Recreation Department Superintendent and/or designee without refund.

Child Supervision

- Children under the age of thirteen (13) must be supervised at all times by a parent or other responsible caretaker age eighteen (18) or older, except with special permission: approved gathering, program, etc.

Firearms/Fireworks

- Possession of firearms and weapons is prohibited except when permissible under Indiana State Law. Fireworks are prohibited on Vigo County parkland.

Fires

- Fires are permitted in grills or designated areas. All fires must be extinguished prior to leaving the site.
- Open fires are prohibited on Vigo County parkland, except by special permission of the Parks and Recreation Department Superintendent.

Fishing

- Indiana state law requires fishing licenses. (See Indiana Department of Natural Resources for requirements)
- Trout lines, bush lines, jug fishing, or netting on Vigo County parkland is prohibited.
- All State of Indiana regulations apply unless otherwise posted by VCPRD.

Harassment

- Harassment of any person on the basis of race, sex, color, ancestry, national origin, religion, and/or sexual orientation is prohibited on Vigo County parkland. This includes unwanted sexual advances and/or unwelcome or offensive sexual comments/communication.

Hours of Operation

- Vigo County parkland shall be open 6:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m. (May 1-October 15) and dawn until dusk (October 16-April 30).
- No person may be on Vigo County parkland outside of the hours of operation, except with special permission: rental, camping, program, etc.

Intrusion

- No person within Vigo County parkland is to be intruded upon. "To intrude" includes both physical intrusion and sound intrusion (music and other loud noise).

Natural Resource Protection

- Trees, plants, wildlife, birds, fossils, and other natural resources are to be left undisturbed.
- Mushrooms, persimmons, walnuts, and wild berries may be collected.
- Feeding geese or other wildlife is prohibited on Vigo County parkland.

Parking/Permitted Vehicles

- Vehicles must be parked in designated parking areas.
- Motorized vehicles (mopeds, scooters, motorcycles, golf carts, etc.) are allowed on park roads only if driven responsibly by a LICENSED DRIVER. NO go-carts or four-wheelers.

Personal Property

- The Vigo County Parks and Recreation Department is not responsible for any items lost or stolen while visiting the park. Do not leave vehicles unlocked or personal items out in the open.

Pets

- Pets must be kept on a leash no longer than six feet.
- Pets must not be left unattended and may not be tied to a tree or other fixture.
- Service dogs are welcome at all Vigo County parkland and/or facilities.
- Pet waste must be properly disposed of by owner in a trash receptacle.
- Owners will be held accountable for the conduct of their pets.

Picnic Areas

- Picnic tables may not be moved from the shelters or designated locations.

Playgrounds

- Playground equipment must be used as designed. Climbing on the outside of equipment or using the equipment for a purpose other than it was designed may result in a serious injury and ultimately in the removal of that piece of equipment.

Shelters

- Shelters may be reserved by private parties at the Administrative Office at the Vigo County Government Building.
- All shelters are first-come-first-served unless reserved.

Smoking

- Smoking, including electronic cigarettes, is prohibited both inside and within 50 feet of any Vigo County facility/structure. Including, but not limited to, shelters, playgrounds, restrooms, Log Barn and cabins.
- Smoking, including electronic cigarettes, is prohibited during programs or special events.
- Hooka's or group smoking devices are prohibited.

Special Rules

- Each Vigo County Parks and Recreation facility/parkland may develop special policies specific to the facility/parkland. Visitors shall comply with all rules and regulations of the specific facility/parkland.

Speed Limits

- Speed limits must be adhered to while on Vigo County parkland. Violation of the speed limit is subject to appropriate legal infractions.

Swimming

- Swimming is permitted only designated areas and at designated times as posted.
- All swimming locations are "swim at your own risk".
- Children under the age of thirteen (13) must be supervised at all times by a parent or other responsible caretaker aged eighteen (18) or older.
- Bathing in any water body on Vigo County parkland is prohibited.
- Glass bottles or containers at designated swimming locations are prohibited.
- Personal floatation devices are prohibited.
- Appropriate swimwear is required.

Trails

- Bicycles or motorized vehicles are prohibited on hiking/foot-trail only trails.
- Motorized vehicles are prohibited on bike or multi-modal trails.
- Construction or alteration of trails and trail surfacing is prohibited.

Trespass

- Individuals present on Vigo County parkland outside of designated hours without special permission are considered Trespassers.
- Portions of Vigo County parkland are subject to closure and will be signed appropriately. Under these conditions, park hours do not apply, entry is prohibited.

Vandalism

- No Vigo County Parks and Recreation Department equipment, land, and/or facilities are to be altered, destroyed, or moved. Responsible parties will be subject to appropriate legal infractions.

Vendors/Solicitation

- Vending (sale of goods or services), solicitation, advertising, leaflet distribution, and/or sign posting is prohibited on Vigo County parkland, except by special permission of the Parks and Recreation Department Superintendent.

Waste Disposal

- Place all trash in receptacles, littering will not be tolerated.
- No dumping is permitted on Vigo County parkland.
- Wood and wood mulch may be disposed of on Vigo County parkland only with the permission of the Parks and Recreation Department Superintendent.