## **2022 CODE AMENDMENTS**

## Official Code of Cobb County Part I. – Chapter 90

Package I
Version I - distributed on August 11, 2022

Board of Commissioners Work Session August 23, 2022 – 1:30 pm

Board of Commissioners Public Hearing Dates September 13, 2022 – 9:00 am September 27, 2022 – 7:00 pm

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## **Chapter 90 – PARKS AND RECREATION**

**ARTICLE III. – PARK RULES** 

Division 1.—Generally

Section 90-63 of the Official Code of Cobb County, Georgia, is amended to read as follows: Sec. 90-63.- Restricted or prohibited uses of park facilities.

- (a) *Pyrotechnics prohibited.* It shall be unlawful for any persons to attempt to or to possess, display, use, set off or ignite any firecracker, fireworks, smoke bombs, rockets, or other pyrotechnics.
- (b) Reserved Smoking in county owned or maintained parks. Smoking or vaping shall be prohibited within the boundaries of any park, sports complex, recreation area or facility owned, leased, or operated by Cobb County, including any open area within such park, sports complex, recreation area or facility. Designated smoking areas may be approved in the sole discretion of the Cobb PARKS Director.
- (c) Dogs in off-leash areas or dog parks. An owner or custodian of a dog is not required to have the dog on a leash in a park or portion of a park which has been designated as an "off-leash area" with the following restrictions:
  - (1) No owner or custodian of a dangerous, vicious or guard/protection canine, as defined in section 10-10 of the animal control ordinance, shall permit the canine to be in an off-leash area at any time.
  - (2) No person shall allow an animal other than a canine to enter or remain in an area that has been designated as an "off-leash area."
  - (3) The owner or custodian of a canine in an "off-leash area" shall ensure that such dog is under control at all times.
  - (4) An animal control officer or other officer empowered to act by law may order that a canine be put on a leash and/or order that a canine be removed from an off-leash area at any time.
- (d) Discharging of firearms in parks. It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge a firearm in any park or recreation facility except for law enforcement personnel carrying out their duty.
- (e) Camping prohibited. It shall be unlawful for any person to camp overnight in any park or recreation facility unless such person has first obtained a permit to camp in the park or recreation facility from the parks director, or the director's authorized assignee, at sites or areas specifically designated by the county for camping within the park or recreation facility and then only in accordance with such rules, regulation and restrictions established by parks department.
- (f) Use of detection devices prohibited. It shall be unlawful for any person to use any electronic device for the detection of metals, minerals, artifacts, lost articles, or for treasure hunting in any park or recreation facility without written authorization from the parks director or the director's authorized designee.
- (g) Improper personal conduct prohibited. It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in any violent, abusive, lewd, profane, vulgar, wanton, obscene or otherwise disorderly speech or conduct that is or may be disturbing or annoying to other persons, or that could cause injury to other persons while in a park or recreation facility, which conduct may include, but is not limited to loitering, fighting,

- throwing or breaking articles, indecent exposure, inappropriate sexual acts, urinating or defecating in public, or public drunkenness.
- (h) Use or possession of controlled substances prohibited. No person shall possess or use any drug or any other controlled substance, as defined in the laws of this state, except as permitted by the laws of this state, in any park or recreation facility.
- (i) Use of e-bikes on trails. An e-bike is defined as an "electronic assisted bicycle", so long as the e-bike's motor is under 1,000w, has a maximum speed of 20 miles per hour and has operable pedals.

No person shall use a class II e-bike (bicycle equipped with a throttle-actuated motor, that ceases to provide assistance when the e-bike reaches 20 miles per hour) or class III e-bike (bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling, and that ceases to provide assistance when the e-bike reaches 28 miles per hour) on any hard surface or soft surface trail in a county park or facility that is managed by parks department.

Class I e-bikes (bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling, and that ceases to provide assistance when the e-bike reaches 20 miles per hour) will only be allowed on the Silver Comet Trail, Bob Callan Trail and Noonday Creek Trail.