



Central Park Policies

Central Park was established in 1852 when the land was donated to the town by Horatio N. Bigelow. The four-acre lot contains two war monuments, one for Clinton residents who served in the Spanish-American War, and the other, a Civil War monument. A sundial can also be found on the south side of the park, and the "Foster Fountain" on the north side of the park.

Traditionally, Central Park has been open to all and at all times for both passive and active use.

The Park & Recreation Commission wishes to continue this open policy; however, it has been brought to the Commission's attention in recent years that written policy has become necessary in order to establish guidelines that are enforceable by authorities when the Grounds are being used in an inconsiderate or unsafe, as well as, illegal manner. Below is a complete list and explanation of all policies and rules that will be enforced to anyone visiting Central Park. All Park policies and rules are enforced by the Clinton Parks & Recreation Commission, town employees, and police. Destruction of any town structures or resources will result in prosecution.

Posted Sign Rules:

- Dispose of all waste properly. No Littering.
 - There is no littering allowed in the park, therefore all waste must be disposed of properly in the barrels provided. Dumping of household trash in these barrels will be prohibited and considered littering.
 - If caught littering or dumping, there will be a fine enforced by the authorities.
 - First offense = \$25 fee
 - Second offense = \$50 fee
 - Third offense = indefinite No Trespassing Order
- Do not block or obstruct the sidewalks; pedestrians have the right of way.
 - Gathering on the sidewalks is prohibited. Park benches and lawn areas exist for groups to gather during day light hours.
 - No objects may be placed on sidewalks, benches, or other park structures without prior approval from the Parks & Recreation Department.
 - Recreational wheels being used in an appropriate and courteous manner are allowed on the sidewalks only if there is clear space and does not interfere with pedestrians.
 - Failing to adhere to these rules will result in the following action:
 - First offense = \$25 fee
 - Second offense = \$50 fee
 - Third offense = indefinite No Trespassing Order
- Recreational wheels allowed in a forward motion on sidewalks only.
 - Skateboards, bikes, etc. will be allowed on the sidewalks for those using them in an appropriate and courteous manner.
 - All recreational wheels being used must be traveling in a forward motion at a reasonable speed and allow pedestrians to have the right of way.
 - No tricks, stunts, etc. will be allowed on the sidewalks.



- Children who are learning to ride a tricycle will be allowed, but on the sidewalk only if there is clear space and does not interfere with pedestrians.
- “Lapping” the park on any form of bike in a fast, unsafe manner is prohibited.
- Wheels of any kind are not allowed on the grass at any time.
- Reckless behavior of any kind will be addressed in the following manner:
 - First offense = \$25 fee
 - Second offense = \$50 fee
 - Third offense = indefinite No Trespassing Order
- No climbing, hanging, or stunting on trees or park structures.
 - Tree limbs break easily, not only damaging town property, but may result in injury to those trespassing in trees.
 - Those that destroy any living plant life, including flowers and bushes, will be fined and punished accordingly by police, town employees and officials.
 - Those that destroy any structures in the park including, but not limited to: park benches, fences, monuments, memorials, staging, walkways, fountain, plaques, etc. will be fined and punished accordingly by police, town employees and officials.
 - Those caught using any form of recreation wheel to perform tricks or stunts on any park structure will be punished as set forth below:
 - First offense = \$25 fee
 - Second offense = \$50 fee
 - Third offense = indefinite No Trespassing Order
- Dogs must be held on a leash and all waste must be removed by owner.
 - “DogiPot” stations have been installed on two sides of the park. Dog owners may use these bags and trash receptacles to dispose of their dog’s waste.
 - Failing to leash your dog at all times while in the park and/or cleaning up after your pet will result in fines and consequences outlined below:
 - First offense = \$25 fee
 - Second offense = \$50 fee
 - Third offense = indefinite No Trespassing Order
- Sitting on park fences, monuments, or structures is not allowed.
 - Park benches are the only structures that any visitor to the park should be sitting or resting on. All other structures are not designed for this purpose and could result in injury if this rule is ignored.
 - Reckless behavior of any kind will be addressed in the following manner:
 - First offense = \$25 fee
 - Second offense = \$50 fee
 - Third offense = indefinite No Trespassing Order
- No gathering allowed in the park after dark.
 - Groups of any size gathered in the park after dark will be asked to leave by police. Gathering is described as any more than one person staying in the park for an extended period of time in a stationary or walking form.
 - Those passing through the park will be allowed at their own risk as there is limited lighting on walkways in the park after dark.
 - First offense = \$25 fee
 - Second offense = \$50 fee
 - Third offense = indefinite No Trespassing Order



- No swimming in, wading in, or climbing on fountain.
 - All park structures were donated in honor of other Clinton residents and are not designed to be climbed on.
 - The water in the Foster Fountain is not safe for swimming, wading, or drinking and therefore strictly prohibited (for contact?) by all.
 - Dogs, children, litter, branches, money, etc. should never be thrown or placed into the fountain. The fountain must remain clear of all objects at all times to function properly.
 - Reckless behavior of any kind will be addressed in the following manner:
 - First offense = \$25 fee
 - Second offense = \$50 fee
 - Third offense = indefinite No Trespassing Order

Additional Park Policies:

- All passive activities are acceptable so long as they are legal and, in the judgment of the Parks & Recreation Department, Town Officials, or the Police, not offensive or inconsiderate to others.
- All active activities, such as ball catching, Frisbee, and the like, is acceptable, but in addition to such use being considerate of others, it must meet common sense limits for consideration of the safety of those playing and anyone that might be affected by the play.
- All active playing fields in Town are positioned and built with careful consideration to safety issues regarding players, spectators, passers-by, abutters and especially public roads; none of these precautions are 'designed into' Central Park so exercise of good judgment is essential.
- Active play should be kept clear of the sidewalks, park structures, buildings and roads.
- Those that wish to use Central Park for private and public events must seek permission from the Clinton Parks & Recreation Commission prior to use. A fee is charged according to the size of your event, and all listed policies and rules are enforced during these events as well. Special events will also have additional rules and policies that must be followed.
- Inappropriate language, music, or any other form of verbiage that is seen as offense or inappropriate to all park users will not be tolerated. Respect and courtesy are expected of all those using the park. Those that act in a way that makes others feel uncomfortable will be asked to leave the park.

Town Wide

- Gathering in public parks and playgrounds is prohibited between dawn and dusk.
- Any unauthorized motor vehicle in any park or playground between dusk & dawn shall be towed at the owner's expense.

The following are not permitted: anytime:

- Damage, injury, defacement, or destruction of any property, including but not limited to any tree, shrub, plant, rock, building, cage, pen, monument, fountain, flag, poles, lawn, fence, bench, or artifact.
- To litter, deposit trash or debris or any other materials, except within proper waster containers.
- To remove any bench or any other municipal item.
- To operate or drive any motor vehicle upon any part of the park except designated roads or parking areas.
- To start fires on any property.
- To allow a dog in any park or playground unless the person having control of the dog has it on a leash. No person shall allow their dog on play areas, playfields, courts, pools, or any other structure. All persons in control of a dog are responsible for removal of dog feces.
- To fish or hunt on any park property, except at such places and times as shall be authorized.
- To erect or maintain a tent, shelter, camp, or other structure in any park without the prior written



consent of the parks & recreation department.

- To disobey any legal request or order of the Police, or any agent or employee of the Town of Clinton.
- To use or possess a firearm, explosive device, bow & arrow, blowgun, sling shot, B.B. gun, paintball gun, spear or trap, or any other such device.
- To possess or consume alcohol unless permitted in accordance with a permit issued by the Town of Clinton.

Enforcement:

- Any passive or active use of the grounds that is regarded by the Parks & Recreation Department, Town Officials, or the Police, in their sole discretion, as inconsiderate, offensive or unsafe is cause for the participants to be requested to redirect their activity, or to cease, or to be removed from the grounds.
- Whoever violates any of the policies, regulations or rules listed herein, the violation of which is subject to a specific fine, may be penalized by noncriminal disposition as provided in General Laws, Chapter 40D, Section 21D. However, nothing herein shall limit or restrict any enforcing person's authority to seek criminal prosecution for the violation of any such policy, rule or regulation.
- All special events taking place in the park that fail to follow the written procedures and rules for such events will be fined or penalized accordingly by the Clinton Parks & Recreation Commission and/or Police.

Thank you,

Clinton Parks & Recreation Commission

Clinton Police