

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION BY POSTING

PITTSFIELD CHARTER TOWNSHIP ORDINANCE #266

The Ordinance will amend Chapter 16 Parks and Recreation, Article II Use of Parks, of the Pittsfield Charter Township Code which is summarized as follows:

An ordinance to amend the township code to improve safety for park patrons and clarify prohibited activities in public parks.

Ordinance #266 was introduced at the Township Board of Trustees on June 14, 2005, and was considered an amendment to Chapter 16 Parks and Recreation, Article II Use of Parks. The Ordinance was subsequently adopted as an amendment to Chapter 16 Parks and Recreation at the regular meeting held on June 28, 2005. This ordinance shall take effect upon this publication by summary.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the complete text of the ordinance has been posted at the Township Clerk's Office, and at the following locations: Pittsfield Administration Building, 6201 W. Michigan Ave.; Lillie Park North, Corner of Platt Rd. and Ellsworth Rd.; Utilities Building, 4467 Concourse Drive; Pittsfield Community Center, 701 W. Ellsworth Rd.; Montibeller Park, 4305 Ellsworth Rd.; and at www.pittsfieldtp.org under "Official Notices" "Ordinance 266, second reading".

s/Feliziana Meyer, Clerk
Pittsfield Charter Township
734-822-3120

First Reading: June 14, 2005
Ordinance Posted & Notice Published: June 23, 2005
Second Reading: June 28, 2005
Ordinance Posted & Notice Published: July 7, 2005

PITTSFIELD CHARTER TOWNSHIP
WASHTENAW COUNTY, MICHIGAN

ORDINANCE NO. 266
SECOND READING

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE TOWNSHIP CODE TO IMPROVE SAFETY FOR
PARK PATRONS AND CLARIFY PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES IN PUBLIC PARKS.

PITTSFIELD CHARTER TOWNSHIP ORDAINS:

Section 1. That the Pittsfield Charter Township Code, Chapter 16, Article II, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Chapter 16 PARKS AND RECREATION

ARTICLE II. USE OF PARKS

Sec. 16-31. Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Commission means the township park commission.

Motor vehicle means every vehicle that is self propelled, except a motorized wheelchair or other similar vehicle not exceeding 1,000 pounds gross weight operated by a physically afflicted or disabled person.

Parks means areas of land owned or controlled by and within the township that are developed or used for public recreation purposes, including landscaped tracts, picnic grounds, playgrounds, athletic fields, agricultural fields, and nature preserves.

Snowmobile means any motor-driven vehicle designed for travel primarily on snow or ice of a type which utilizes sled-type runners or skis, or an endless belt tread or any combination of these or other similar means of contact with the surface upon which it is operated.

Sec. 16-33. Hours of operation.

All parks shall be open daily to the public during the hours from sunrise until dark. It shall be unlawful for any person to be present in any park during any hours in which the park is not open to the public.

Sec. 16-34. Motor vehicles and motorized devices.

It shall be unlawful to operate a motor vehicle in any park excepting on a street or driveway. It shall be unlawful to park or leave a motor vehicle any place in a park other than a designated public parking area. It shall be unlawful to operate a motor vehicle in any park at a speed in excess of 15 miles per hour. The use of remote-controlled planes and boats, or any other motorized device, except a wheelchair for the disabled, is prohibited.

Sec. 16-35. Snowmobiles.

Notwithstanding other provisions of this article, it shall be unlawful to operate a snowmobile in a park; except that a duly constituted law enforcement officer of the township, county, or state, or an authorized township employee, may operate a snowmobile in a park.

Sec. 16-36. Fires.

It shall be unlawful to kindle or maintain a fire in any park except in picnic stoves, fireplaces or other outdoor fire containers furnished by the commission, or in portable stoves or barbecue grills designed and constructed so as not to create a fire hazard. In any park it shall be unlawful to burn garbage or refuse that smolders or gives off noxious odors. In any park it shall be unlawful to dispose of any flaming or glowing coals, ashes or substances likely to ignite other substances except by depositing them in containers furnished by the commission and/or designated for such purpose.

Sec. 16-37. Preservation of property, natural resources and wildlife.

It shall be unlawful to injure, deface, destroy or cause to be injured, defaced or destroyed any building, structure, facility, equipment, sign or other public property within a park. It shall be unlawful to injure, damage, remove or attempt to remove any tree, shrub, flower or plant, or any rock, soil or mineral within a park. It shall be unlawful to kill, harm, pursue or disturb any wild bird or animal within a park.

Sec. 16-38. Animals.

It shall be unlawful to bring into, harbor, keep or permit a dog or pet within a park except in a street, driveway, designated picnic area, designated spectator seating area, or designated trail, and only while tethered by a leash and under the immediate control of the person having custody of such dog or pet; but this shall not make unlawful a blind person being guided by a dog in other areas of a park. All dog owners must promptly pick up and properly discard dog feces. Notwithstanding other provisions of this section, it shall be unlawful to bring into, harbor, keep or permit a horse or a dangerous animal within a park.

Sec. 16-39. Firearms, weapons and explosives.

It shall be unlawful to bring into, possess, discharge, or use within a park, or discharge into or over a park, any rifle, BB gun, shotgun, pistol or other firearms, bow and arrow, slingshot, pellet gun, air rifle, paint ball gun, trap, fireworks or explosive, except by peace officers of this state or any political subdivision of this state or other persons specifically authorized by the United States government to possess such instrumentalities in the course of official duties.

Sec. 16-40. Selling; soliciting; advertising.

It shall be unlawful to solicit, vend, sell, peddle or offer for sale or advertise by any means any commodity, article or service in a park; but the provisions of this section shall not make unlawful any such activity when conducted by the township or any department or agency of the township, or by persons authorized by contract with the township.

Sec. 16-41. Signs; handbills.

It shall be unlawful to glue, tack or otherwise post, erect or distribute in a park any sign, placard, advertisement or inscription.

Sec. 16-42. Refuse disposal.

It shall be unlawful to throw, deposit or abandon refuse, garbage, rubbish, trash, or any waste articles in a park excepting in designated receptacles. It shall be unlawful to destroy glass containers and leave glass pieces on any surface in a park. Dumping hazardous waste, construction debris, furniture, appliances, tires, or any other item not directly related to a permitted park use, is prohibited.

Sec. 16-43. Ponds and lakes

No person shall swim, wade, fly fish, ice skate, or otherwise enter into or on a body of water in a park. Fishing without a license or in violation of any MDNR regulation is prohibited. The use of boats or any floating device is prohibited.

Sec. 16-44. Camping and structures

It shall be unlawful to camp, construct a sleeping tent, picnic tent, temporary dwelling, moon bouncer, tree stand, or any structure. Umbrellas and similar portable devices for individual protection from sun and rain are permitted.

Sec. 16-45. Rental of facilities; special use permits

The Commission may approve regulations for the reservation and rental of park facilities. It may also approve regulations for the issuance of permits for activities which would otherwise be prohibited by this Article including but not limited to geocaching, letterboxing, road rallies, contests, demonstrations and private tournaments. The regulations shall take effect following approval by the Township Board and newspaper publication. A violation of those regulations shall be subject to the penalties of Section 16-47.

Sec. 16-46. Exemptions.

Nothing in this article shall make unlawful any act or omission on the part of any peace officer or any duly authorized officers, agents, employees, representatives or contractors of the township or the commission reasonably required in their official duties, as a part of the training of township employees, or in the management, operation and maintenance of a park.

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified Clerk of the Charter Township of Pittsfield, Washtenaw County, Michigan, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the proceedings taken by the Township Board at a Regular meeting held on the 28th day of June, 2005.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my official signature this 29th day of June, 2005.

s/Feliziana Meyer
Pittsfield Township Clerk