

# **HOUSTON COUNTY ORDINANCE #9:**

## **Park Rules and Regulations Wildcat Park**

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Wildcat Park is leased by Houston County from the United States Army Corps of Engineers and must be operated in accordance to the Corp's guidelines. See [CFR Title 36, Part 327](#) for additional information.

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## Chapter I – Purpose & Authority

### Section A -Purpose

The Houston County Board of Commissioners deems it reasonable, necessary, and desirable to enact ordinances specifying rules and regulations in order to provide: for the safe and peaceful use of park lands and trails; for the education and recreation of the public; for the protection and preservation of the property, facilities, and natural resources; and for the safety and general welfare of the public.

### Section B - Statutory Authority

The Houston County Board of Commissioners, under Minnesota Statutes, Section 398 in performing its primary duty of the acquisition, development, operation and maintenance of county parks, trails, and related facilities and-providing the means for public access to rivers, streams and other natural features; is granted full power and authority to acquire and establish the above facilities and to operate, maintain, protect, and improve all parks owned operated or leased by the County. As aid to the accomplishment of these duties, the Board is granted the authority to enact ordinances and to declare that the violation thereof shall be a misdemeanor.

## Chapter II - Public Use

### Section A - Park Hours/Check in - Check out Times/Park Season

The hours that the Wildcat Park picnic and campground area is open to the public is 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Wildcat Park boat ramps are open for public use from daylight to 11:00 p.m. daily.

All visitors entering the park are required to register in the Park Office and are subject to all rules, regulations and ordinances applicable to Wildcat Park.

It shall be unlawful for any person to enter or remain in Wildcat Park after 11:00 p.m. and before 8:00 a.m. the next day, unless as a registered overnight guest. The Park Manager may, at his/her discretion, allow entrance for direct access to specific locations, such as boat ramps, within the park so that guests may engage in specific approved activities. Between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m., motor vehicle travel by registered overnight guests shall be restricted to entering their registered place of lodging, or exiting their lodging area for specific locations, as above, or to leave the park.

Check-out time for campers is 12:00 p.m. on the last day registered. Campsite must be cleaned prior to check out. Check in time is after 12:00 p.m. on the first registered day.

The park/camping season is the period of time which Wildcat Park is available for public use and is from May 1<sup>st</sup> through September 30<sup>th</sup>. The park/camping season may be extended at the discretion of the Park Manager.

A specific Reservation and Refund policy is attached as Appendix “A”.

## **Section B – Permits**

1. Permits shall be required for camping or the exclusive use of park shelters.
2. Permits are issued by the Park Manager or designated representative and must be obtained before occupying any campsite or shelter.
3. Permits for camping must also be displayed on the site identification post.
4. Permits are not transferable.
5. For Park Shelter use, the permittee or a permittee's designated representative shall be in attendance at all times.
6. A permittee shall be bound by this ordinance and any park rules or regulations that are in effect at the time.
7. It shall be unlawful for a person to violate any provision of a permit.
8. Any permit granted pursuant to this ordinance may be revoked upon any violation by the permittee, or associated individual(s), of any provision of the permit, State Statute, County Ordinance, or park rule or regulation.
9. The permittee shall be liable for any loss or damage to County Park property or injury to any person by reason of the negligence of the permittee or associated individual(s).
10. It shall be unlawful for any person to refuse to vacate any area designated as reserved by a permit.

## **Section C - Fees and Damages**

1. The County Board shall set fees for the use of designated areas or facilities and activities within Wildcat Park.
2. It shall be unlawful for any person to use an area or facility or engage in an activity which a fee has been established by the County without payment of such fee.
3. The Park Manager may assess damages to person or persons responsible for any loss, damage or injury sustained by Wildcat Park.

## **Chapter III – Regulation of General Conduct**

### **Section A - Proper Attire/Exposure**

It shall be unlawful for any person to intentionally expose his or her own genitals, pubic area, buttocks, or female breast below the top of the areola, with less than a fully opaque covering while in a County Park, if five (5) years of age or older.

## **Section B -Drug and Alcohol Use**

It shall be unlawful, when in Wildcat Park, for any person to:

1. Serve, possess, consume, sell, barter, furnish, give, purchase or attempt to purchase any alcoholic beverage in violation of State Statutes;
2. Use or possess non-intoxicating or intoxicating malt liquor in containers having a capacity of two gallons or more;
3. Be under the influence of alcohol or other controlled substance;
4. Use or be under the influence by reason of inhaling any substance defined or considered as an "inhalant"; or
5. Serve, possess, consume, sell, barter, furnish, give, purchase or attempt to purchase any controlled substance, except the possession or consumption of such substance with a lawful prescription.

## **Section C - Gambling**

It shall be unlawful for any person to gamble or participate in any game of chance in a County Park.

## **Section D – Disorderly Conduct/Nuisance/Private Property**

It shall be unlawful, when in a County Park, for any person to:

1. Commit any act that constitutes disorderly conduct. "Disorderly Conduct" is defined by Minnesota Statutes and includes:
  - (a) Engaging in brawling or fighting; or
  - (b) Disturbs an assembly or meeting, not unlawful in its character; or
  - (c) Engages in offensive, obscene, abusive, boisterous, or noisy conduct or in offensive, obscene, or abusive language tending reasonably to arouse alarm, anger, or resentment in others;
2. Commit any act that constitutes a nuisance. A "Nuisance" means anything which is injurious to health, or indecent or offensive to the senses, or an obstruction to the free use of property, so as to interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of life or property;
3. Place or park vehicles, equipment or property in a manner or location that interferes with traffic or other park visitor's enjoyment of the County Park or specific facilities therein; or
4. Leave or store personal property.

## **Section E -Littering**

It shall be unlawful for any person to:

1. Deposit, scatter, drop, or abandon in a County Park any bottles, cans, glass or broken glass, sewage, waste, refuse or any other materials, except in receptacles provided for such designated purposes; or

2. Bring into a County Park any materials listed in Chapter III, Section E, subd. 1 or hazardous waste, yard waste, solid or liquid waste for the purpose of disposal in receptacles provided in the County Park or dispose of animal carcasses, trash, refuse, rocks, wood, or other debris on any County Park property.

### **Section F – Possession/Use of Fireworks/ Firearms/Dangerous Weapons**

It shall be unlawful, when in Wildcat Park, for any person to:

1. Possess, set off or attempt to set off or ignite any firecrackers, fireworks, smoke bombs, rockets, black powder guns or other pyrotechnics or explosive device;

2. Have in their possession or use any rifle, shotgun, pistol or revolver which loaded or blank cartridges may be used; or

3. Have in their possession or use any BB gun, air gun, paint ball gun, spring gun, sling shot, bow or any other weapon that is considered dangerous.

### **Section G - Interference with Employee Performance of Duty**

It shall be unlawful for any person to impersonate a county or park employee or to interfere with, harass, or hinder any county or park employee in the discharge of his/her official duties.

## **Chapter IV – Regulations Pertaining to General Parkland Operation**

### **Section A - Commercial Use/Solicitation/Advertising**

It shall be unlawful for any person to:

1. Use any County Park or park property for commercial purposes;

2. Solicit, sell or otherwise peddle any goods, wares, merchandise, services, liquids or edibles in a County Park without written permission from the Park Manager; or

3. Expose, distribute or place any sign, advertisement, notice, poster, or display in a County Park without permission from the Park Manager.

### **Section B – Noise/Amplification of Sound**

It shall be unlawful, when in a County Park, for any person to:

1. Operate or permit the use or operation of any loudspeaker, sound amplifier or other device for the production or reproduction of sound;

2. Use, operate or permit the use or operation of any radio, phonograph, television set or other machine or device for the production or reproduction of sound in such a manner as to be disturbing or a nuisance to reasonable persons of normal sensitivity within the area of audibility; or
3. Willfully make or continue, or cause to be made or continued, any loud, unnecessary or unusual noise which disturbs the peace or is an annoyance to any reasonable park visitor of normal sensitivity.
4. Quiet Time: 10:00 PM to 8:00 AM

The standards which shall be considered in determining whether a violation of the provisions of this section exists shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (1) level of noise;
- (2) the intensity of the noise;
- (3) whether the nature of the noise is usual or unusual;
- (4) the level and intensity of the background noise, if any;
- (5) the type of area within which the noise emanates;
- (6) the intensity of human use of the area during the time at which the noise emanates;
- (7) the time of the day or night the noise occurs; and
- (8) the duration of the noise.

### **Section C – Firewood/Fires**

Gathering firewood disrupts the forest and soil cycle and is not permitted.

Only approved firewood will be allowed for use in Wildcat Park. Approved firewood is: firewood purchased from the Park Manager or an approved vendor; firewood that originated from within 50 miles of the campground; or is kiln-dried wood such as unpainted, unstained dimension lumber or kindling that is free of any metal or foreign substance.

It shall be unlawful, when in Wildcat Park, for any person to:

1. Start a fire, except a recreational fire or a fire for culinary purposes within containment structures (fire rings, grills, portables stoves) placed in designated, areas;
2. Leave a fire unattended or fail to fully extinguish a fire;
3. Drop, throw or otherwise leave unattended lighted matches, burning tobacco products, or other burning or combustible material; or
4. Dispose of ashes or embers except in containers designated for that purpose.

### **Section D - Pets in Parks**

It shall be unlawful for any person owning, having control or custody of any pet, excluding animals certified to and assisting persons with disabilities, to:

1. Bring a pet into or have a pet in Wildcat Park without it being caged or under physical control on a leash no more than six feet in length;

2. Cause or allow any pet to roam or be at large in any park;
3. Permit a pet to disturb, harass, or interfere with any park visitor, park visitor's property, or park employee;
4. Allow a pet to damage park property, resources, or facilities;
5. Tether a pet to a tree, plant, building or park equipment, or leave a pet unattended in a County Park;
6. Bring a pet into Wildcat Park without possessing and using an appropriate device for cleaning up pet feces and disposing of the feces in a waste receptacle; or
7. Permit any pet or domestic animal to graze or browse in any park.
8. Notwithstanding Section D, paragraphs 1 through 7, horses are specifically not permitted in Wildcat Park.

**Section E - Unlawful Occupancy**

It shall be unlawful for any person to occupy a campsite without first obtaining the appropriate permit; or to enter or occupy any part of the park area after the posted closing time or before the posted opening time, or contrary to any posted notice.

**Chapter V. – Protection of Property, Structures and Natural Resources**

**Section A – Destruction/Defacement of Park Property/Signs**

It shall be unlawful for any person to:

1. Intentionally deface, vandalize, tamper with, remove or otherwise cause destruction to park property; or
2. Intentionally deface, destroy, cover, damage, tamper with or remove any placard, notice or sign, or parts thereof, whether permanent or temporary, posted or exhibited by the County or the Park Manager.

**Section B - Disturbance of Natural Resources**

It shall be unlawful, when in a County Park, for any person to:

1. Intentionally remove, alter, injure, or destroy any tree, plant, or other vegetation, soil, mineral or other natural resource;
2. Intentionally remove materials from, alter, or destroy an archeological site or resource, or site of scientific significance or interest;
3. Dig trenches, holes, or other excavations;

4. Allow a pet to act in violation of Chapter V. Section B, subdivision I, 2 or 3;
5. Divert, impound or alter a watercourse; or
6. Introduce, release, abandon or dispose of any plant or animal.

### **Section C - Disturbance of Wildlife**

It shall be unlawful, when in Wildcat Park, for any person to:

1. Kill, trap, hunt, injure, pursue, feed or in any manner disturb or cause to be disturbed, any species of wildlife, except fishing in designated areas pursuant to the State game laws;
2. Intentionally remove, alter, injure, or destroy habitat used by any species, including but not limited to nests, dams, or burrows; or
3. Allow a pet to act in violation of Chapter V. Section C, subdivision 1 or 2.

### **Section D - Release of Harmful or Foreign Substances**

It shall be unlawful for any person to:

1. Place any debris, pollutant or other agent in or upon any County Park lands or body of water in or adjacent to a County Park, or any tributary, stream, storm sewer, or drain flowing into such waters; or
2. Discharge wastewater or any other wastes in a County Park, except into designated containers, drain or dumping stations.

### **Section E - Interference of Park Property**

It shall be unlawful for any person to encroach on park property with such items as fences or gardens, or to disturb the natural landscape, vegetation, or structures on park property or otherwise use park property for private use. All setbacks and other local zoning regulations are in effect and apply against properties adjacent to a County Park as they would against property adjacent to private property.

## **Chapter VI – Regulation of Recreational Activities**

### **Section A – Camping**

Permits are required for camping and must be obtained before occupying any campsite. Permits must also be displayed on the site identification post.

Campsites are assigned by the Park Manager on a first come/first serve basis.

Check-out time for campers is 12:00 p.m. on the last day registered. Campsite must be cleaned prior to check out. Check in time is after 12:00 p.m. on the first registered day.

Quiet time is from 10:00 PM to 8:00 AM.

Only one (1) camping unit is allowed per site. For the purposes of this section, any of the following groups is considered to be a “camp unit”:

- (a) One tent occupying one unit site;
- (b) Two connected tents occupying only one unit site and used by only one family;
- (c) One camper/trailer equipped to be lived in or slept in;
- (d) One car, truck, bus or other vehicle used for living or sleeping quarters; or
- (e) A sleeping bag, hammock or similar device used for sleeping, with no other shelter.

Any special situation regarding “camp units” not covered above shall be handled by the Park Manager. Exceptions would include a large family (Mom, Dad and kids) requiring a tent in addition to a camper/trailer.

A specific campsite policy is attached as Appendix “B”.

In addition to the camp unit, overnight campers shall be allowed *up to* two (2) vehicle units per campsite provided such vehicle units do not restrict traffic flow, cause a safety hazard or interfere with another camper’s use of their registered site. For the purposes of this section, any of the following groups is considered to be a “vehicle unit”:

- (a) The motor vehicle used to pull the camper/trailer;
- (b) A boat trailer;
- (c) An additional motor vehicle belonging to the person camping or their guest.

***Houston County reserves the right to regulate all parking and may request that vehicle units described above be parked in designated areas.***

It shall be unlawful, when in a County Park, for any person to:

1. Camp except in areas provided and designated for that purpose;
2. Camp in a designated camping area without a camping permit;
3. Occupy campsites in a park contrary to a camping permit, without payment of appropriate fees, or otherwise violate provisions of the permit; or
4. Camp overnight in a park if under 21 years of age unless accompanied by a parent or authorized adult.

A small number of specific sites will be designated as Monthly or Seasonal Camping sites. Campers occupying seasonal sites are responsible for mowing and maintaining their site or the County will do it and charge a fee to the camper.

## **Section B – Picnic Shelters**

Permits are required for exclusive use of picnic shelters and must be obtained before occupying any shelter. A refundable security deposit is required at the time the picnic shelter permit is obtained. The permittee or a permittee's designated representative shall be in attendance at all times and have physical possession of the permit. The permittee shall be responsible for the shelter clean up or forfeit their security deposit.

The hours for the exclusive use of picnic shelters is from 8:00 a.m. until sunset.

No park shelters shall be rented to any person under the age of 21 years.

Youth organizations using the facilities during the week for day camps, workshops, etc. shall be allowed use at one-half of the normal daily rate.

It shall be unlawful, when in Wildcat Park, for any person to:

1. Assume exclusive use of a reservation picnic site/shelter without a reservation permit;
2. Use a portion of a reservation picnic area without a reservation permit if the area is reserved by another group; or
3. Set up temporary shelters, tents, tarps, canopies and other such devices.

## **Section C –Boating**

All people that enter from the river via boat or other water transportation are subject to all rules, regulations and ordinances applicable to Wildcat Park.

It shall be unlawful, when in Wildcat Park, for any person to:

1. Launch or land a motorized watercraft except at locations and times designated for that purpose;
2. Leave unattended any boat or other watercraft except in park areas designated for that purpose;
3. Operate, launch or remove any watercraft in violation of any Minnesota Statute or Rule.

## **Section D – Fishing**

It shall be unlawful, when in a County Park, for any person to:

1. Fish in violation of any Minnesota Statute or Rule;
2. Fish in an area designated as a "no fishing" area; or
3. Clean fish without disposing of the fish carcass in the appropriate waste receptacle.

## Chapter VII - Regulation of Motor Vehicles, Traffic and Parking

### Section A - Vehicle Operation

It shall be unlawful, when in Wildcat Park, for any person to:

1. Operate, park, or leave any vehicle except upon roadways, parking areas, or other designated locations;
2. Operate, park, or leave a vehicle in violation of posted regulations, Minnesota Statutes, county or municipal traffic codes, or orders or directions of peace officers or park employees authorized to direct traffic;
3. Operate a vehicle at speed in excess of 10 miles per hour, or in excess of posted speed limits; or
4. Operate a vehicle in a reckless or careless manner or that emits excessive or unusual noise, noxious fumes, dense smoke or other polluting matter.

### Section B - Parking Vehicles

Permits shall be required for overnight parking at Wildcat Park and must be obtained before occupying any overnight parking spot. Permits must also be visibly displayed.

The County reserves the right to regulate all parking and has established a per night fee for overnight parking.

It shall be unlawful, when in Wildcat Park, for any person to:

1. Park or leave a vehicle, camper or boat trailer standing except in a designated area and then only in a manner so as not to restrict normal traffic flow and/or cause a safety hazard;
2. Park or leave a vehicle, camper or boat trailer standing after posted closing hours without a valid camping permit or parking permit; or
3. Allow a vehicle, camper or boat trailer to remain illegally parked, or disabled vehicles to remain for more than 72 hours. Illegally parked or disabled vehicles, campers or boat trailers may be towed away and impounded at the owner's expense.

### Section C - Motorized Recreational Vehicles

With the exception of employees of the County and/or Park Manager who are performing official duties, it shall be unlawful for any person to operate a motorized recreational vehicles within Wildcat Park. This includes, but is not limited to motorcycles, mini-bikes, snowmobiles and all terrain vehicles.

## Chapter VIII – Enforcement

### Section A - Park Patrol Authority/Authorized Agents

1. Law enforcement authorities where any County Park property is situated shall have jurisdiction to patrol and enforce any Houston County Park Ordinance on County Park property. They also shall have jurisdiction to enforce any violation of state law or local laws which occur on County Park property.
2. The Park Manager or designee may enforce the provisions of this ordinance and eject from Wildcat Park persons acting in violation of this ordinance.

### Section B -Additional Rules and Regulations

The Parks Committee or County Board shall have the right to issue rules and regulations relative to this ordinance. No person shall violate rules and regulations that may be established by the Parks Committee or County Board.

### Section C - Fines and Penalties

Violations of the provisions of this ordinance or failure to comply with any of its requirements, or rules and regulations established by the Parks Committee or County Board, shall constitute a misdemeanor and shall be punishable as defined by law.

### Section D - Permit Revocation

1. If any person is found guilty in a court of competent jurisdiction for the violation of any provisions of this ordinance, the conviction may operate as a revocation of any permit or permission granted by the County, including seasonal camping, without further action.
2. The Park Manager or designee shall have the authority to immediately revoke for good cause any permit or reservation issued.

## Chapter IX – Miscellaneous

### Section A – Exemptions

All park employees, contractors, emergency and enforcement personnel while acting in the performance of their assigned duties are exempt from the provisions of this ordinance.

### Section B – Repeal

All ordinances pertaining to the regulation of Wildcat Park enacted prior to this ordinance are hereby repealed.

### Section C –Enactment

This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication

according to law.

**Section D – Notification**

It shall be the responsibility of Houston County to provide for adequate notification of the public, which shall include placement of signs at key locations within the park outlining essential elements of the ordinance.

**Section E – Severability**

The provisions of this ordinance shall be separable and the invalidity of any section, paragraph, sub-paragraph, subdivision, or other part thereof shall not make void, impair, invalidate or affect the remainder hereof.

**Section F - Amendment**

This ordinance or the fees described herein may be amended from time to time by the Houston County Board of Commissioners.

Approved by the Houston County Board of Commissioners on April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

Signed this 27th day of April, 2021

*Signature on file*

\_\_\_\_\_

Robert Burns – Board Chairperson

Attest:

*Signature on file*

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Donna Trehus – County Auditor-Treasurer

## APPENDIX “A”

### Reservation and Cancellation Policy

#### RESERVATIONS

1. Reservations for campsites must be made directly with the Park Manager and the earliest that they can be accepted is after the 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.
2. Reservations may be made in person, over the phone or by mail, but will be accepted only when accompanied by advance payment in full. Making a reservation only guarantees a site.
3. Campsites are assigned by the Park Manager on a first come/first serve basis. Specific sites can only be reserved in person or by making arrangements with the Park Manager.
4. Reservations will be accepted for a minimum of two nights on weekends. **Holiday Weekends (Memorial Day, Independence Day and Labor Day) require a three-night reservation.** However, any sites that remain available on the weekend may be rented out for one night at a time, per the discretion of the park manager.
5. Campers must pay for *and register* with the Park Office before occupying any reserved campsite.
6. Check-out time for campers is 12:00 p.m. on the last day registered. Campsite must be cleaned prior to check out. Check in time is after 12:00 p.m. on the first registered day.
7. The person reserving a campsite must be at least 21 years of age and will be the person responsible for the campsite.
8. Re-registering for a campsite must be completed prior to noon (12:00 p.m.) and only if re-registration does not conflict with a prior reservation.
9. Houston County reserves the right to make adjustments in how reservations can be made or how reserved sites are assigned.

#### CANCELLATIONS

1. All monies, except the reservation fee of \$10.00, will be refunded for a cancellation request received by the Park Manager **at least seven (7) days prior** to the date the site is to be occupied.
2. All monies, except the reservation fee of \$10.00, and one night’s camping fee, will be refunded for a cancellation request received by the Park Manager **less than seven (7) days prior** to the date the site is to be occupied.
3. **No refunds** will be made on cancellation requests received after the site was to be occupied.
4. **No refunds** will be made for any part of a 2 day reservation or a 3 day holiday weekend once the site has been occupied for a portion of that time.
5. Refunds are processed by the Park Manager.

6. Any extraordinary circumstances requiring a decision regarding refunds will be made by the Park Manager.

## APPENDIX “B”

### Campsite Policy

- All campers are expected to abide by park and health code rules/regulations and strive to maintain a high standard of conduct.
- All campers are expected to maintain their campsites in a neat and orderly manner. Your receipt/permit must be available for verification of registration while at the campsite.
- Quiet time in the campground is from 10:00 p.m. until 8:00 a.m. All non-campers and quests must be out of the campground by 11:00 p.m.
- No extension cords between campsites are allowed.
- Plastic tarps are allowed as woodpile or tent cover ONLY.
- Only lawn furniture intended for outdoor use is permitted. Car/bus seats, old chairs and couches are not permitted.
- Refrigerators/freezers or other household appliances are not allowed outside a camping unit on a campsite.
- To facilitate grounds keeping, vegetable/flower/garden plots are not allowed.
- No additional structures (ie. fences, decks, patios, storage sheds, flag poles, umbrella clothes lines ) are to be erected outside of the camping unit.
- Season campers are responsible for mowing and maintaining their site or the County will do it and charge a fee.
- Pets are allowed, however, they must be on a leash, are not to be left unattended and waste must be disposed of properly.
- Only approved firewood is allowed. Approved firewood is: firewood purchased from the Park Manager or an approved vendor; firewood that originated from within 50 miles of the campground; or is kiln-dried wood such as unpainted, unstained dimension lumber or kindling that is free of any metal or foreign substance.
- Firewood supply must be kept in a neat pile. No pallets and other box type wooden structures are not allowed to be burned.
- Do not place or burn garbage in fire rings.
- All interpretations of these rules are within the authority of the Park Manager.

## APPENDIX “C”

### Seasonal Site Policy

Wildcat Park is leased by Houston County from the United States Army Corps of Engineers and must be operated in accordance to the Corp's guidelines. See [CFR Title 36, Part 327](#) for additional information. While these rules limit the length which a person may camp to 14 days during any 30 consecutive day period, the County has negotiated the ability to maintain a small number of seasonal campsites at Wildcat Park.

As with any publicly owned facility, Wildcat Park is for everyone's equal enjoyment and use, including seasonal campsites.

Houston County, in conjunction with the Army Corps of Engineers has therefore developed a lottery system for awarding seasonal sites to interested campers.

#### **POLICY**

1. Houston County will advertise the availability of camping sites every four years, with the lottery to be held in September for the next camping season. Seasonal campers must commit to the entire 5 month season beginning May 1 and ending September 30<sup>th</sup>. There will be 35 seasonal sites, being # 1 through site #35. Only campers up to 42 feet (measurement includes hitch) in length will be allowed on seasonal sites. Trailers and mobile homes are not allowed on seasonal sites.
2. Persons interested in being considered for selection of a seasonal site will be required to submit an application to the Houston County Auditor's Office along with a certified check, cashier's check or money order (made payable to the Houston County Treasurer) in the amount of the electrical deposit, prior to the application deadline specified in the advertisement.
3. The lottery will be held at the date, time and place specified in the advertisement. All lottery applications will be placed in a container. The first applicant drawn will be afforded the opportunity to select the site of his/her choice. The lottery drawing continues until all names have been drawn, or until all seasonal sites have been filled. If there are more applicants than sites, those applicants not drawn will have their electrical deposit returned to them. In the event there are excess seasonal sites remaining, they will be made available on a first come – first served basis. Individuals will be allowed to choose which of the remaining sites they want, however, the site will not be considered reserved for them until they submit to the Houston County Auditor's Office a certified check, cashier's check, or money order (payable to the Houston County Treasurer, in the amount of the electrical deposit. No trading of sites will be allowed, except as noted in item # 5 below.
4. As indicated previously, the electrical deposit must be included with the lottery application. After the end of the camping season, those seasonal campers using less electricity than the deposit amount will be refunded the difference, while those using more will be billed for the difference. For the current camping season, refer to the Fee Schedule.
5. Applicants selected for a seasonal site will be allowed to trade, swap or switch seasonal sites with another applicant within 2 weeks of the Lottery without the approval of the Parks Committee. A form must be provided to the Park Manager with notification of the site swap and must be signed by both parties with final signature from Park Manager authorizing the change on or before September 22nd, 2021.

6. On or before January 15th, seasonal campers are required to submit to the Houston County Auditor's Office a certified check, cashier's check or money order (made payable to the Houston County Treasurer) in the amount of the five months rent plus tax for the upcoming camping season. Any applicants drawn for a seasonal site who do not remit this payment on or before January 15<sup>th</sup> will forfeit their site and will forfeit their electrical deposit.
7. The Parks Committee reserves the right to hold the lottery in any year for the next camping season, if they feel there is a need to do so. Lotteries held in addition to every fourth year will only occur if there is a vote of more than one-half of the committee members voting in favor of holding the lottery.
8. In years when there will not be a lottery drawing, the current seasonal campers will be notified in September that they have the option of renting the same site for the following year. Campers who wish to exercise this option will be required to submit the electrical deposit for the following year in the timeframe specified in the notice mailed to them. Once a deposit has been received by Houston County for a site for the following year, it will be considered nonrefundable in the event the camper decides not to rent the site for the next camping season. On or before January 15, seasonal campers are required to submit to the Houston County Auditor's Office a certified check, cashier's check or money order (made payable to the Houston County Treasurer) in the amount of the five months rent plus tax for the upcoming camping season. Any campers who have submitted an electrical deposit for a seasonal site who do not remit this payment on or before January 15<sup>th</sup> will forfeit their site and will forfeit their electrical deposit.
9. Any sites available because the current seasonal camper is not interested in renewing their site lease for the next year will be made available to the public on a first come, first served basis.
10. Houston County reserves the right to forego holding the lottery in every fourth year with the prior written approval by the United States Army Corps of Engineers.
11. Seasonal campers are not permitted to erect structures/improvements to campsites so as to become a permanent part of the campsite. In the event that such permanent structures are erected, the violator of this provision will be notified and the structure must be removed immediately. Violation of this provision will be cause for eviction.