



**Lake Park and
Lake Park Marina
Policies and Procedures**

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1) Statement of Purpose

- a. The purpose of Lake Park is to provide a means of storm water retention and detention for the City of Des Plaines, to provide boating, sailing, fishing, walking, biking, and jogging opportunities to the residents of Des Plaines; and to provide green, open space that complements the system of parks, recreational facilities, and programs of the District and is an asset to the Community of Des Plaines.

2) Statement of Authority

- a. The recreational services and maintenance of Lake Park shall operate as a division of the Parks and Golf Operation Department of the Des Plaines Park District. Lake Park shall be operated and maintained in accordance with the policies established by the board.

3) Operating Philosophy

- a. The Lake is to be managed so that the major needs of the community are met in a cost-effective manner.
- b. The financial goal of Lake Park operations is to cover all operating costs through user fees and concession sales. Lake Park is an Enterprise Fund.
- c. Operations are expected to generate excess revenues to cover operating expenditures that are necessary to conduct programs or services. Capital projects will be funded from the Capital Fund.

4) Budget Statement

- a. Fees will be assessed for programs and activities that occur at Lake Park. The pricing philosophy shall be that all direct costs associated with the activities be covered through program fees, as well as a percentage of the administration and overhead costs. Non-residents will be assessed for higher fees than residents. Residents of Park Ridge and Rosemont shall be considered residents of the Des Plaines Park District for all Lake Park Programs, per our intergovernmental agreements.
- b. Management has the ability to adjust pricing to stay competitive or increase revenues.

5) Operating Season

- a. The operating season of Lake Park shall be approximately from the beginning of April to the end of October. The season may begin or end earlier or later than stated date as the weather permits.

6) Hours of Operation

- a. The hours of operation at Lake Park activities shall be established to best accommodate the public needs and interests within safe operating procedures.

7) Special Events

- a. Special events may be planned at various times through out the season by Lake Park Staff. Dates and times of these functions are independent of the established dates and times.

8) Fees and Charges

- a. The Park District shall annually establish fees and charges based on the fact that Lake Park is a facility of the District and that preferred rates can be offered to residents of Des Plaines, Park Ridge, and Rosemont. A photo identification card must be presented as proof of residency in the Districts.
- b. All program fees or rental fees shall be paid in advance or when services are rendered.
- c. Summer boat fees 2017:
 1. **Daily Launch Fee** For users who prefer to pay a daily fee to use Lake Opeka:
Resident: \$10 Non-resident: \$20
 2. **Lake Park Annual User Fee** Includes use of Lake Opeka for the entire boating season, April 1st–October 31st:
Resident: \$70 Non-resident: \$115
 3. **Boat Mooring Fee** An all-inclusive fee that includes mooring slip and use of Lake Opeka for the entire season, April 1st-October 31st:
Resident: \$205 Non-resident: \$365
- d. Winter Boat Storage Fees 2017–18:
 1. Resident fee: \$170 for Des Plaines, Park Ridge, or Rosemont residents.
 2. Non-resident fee: \$195.

9) Boat Launching

- a. All U.S. Coast Guard and Illinois State regulations must be observed.
- b. All boaters must be registered with the State of IL and the State sticker must be visible on the boat.
- c. All boaters must register with the Des Plaines Park District.
- d. All boaters must wear a Coast Guard approved personal flotation device.
- e. Launching is only allowed from the designated launching area.
- f. All children under the age of 12 must be accompanied by a responsible adult over the age of 17 to launch and operate a boat.
- g. Boaters must sign in and out at the Lake Park Clubhouse each day of use. Failure to do so will revoke the boater's use of the lake with no refund.

10) Boat Storage

- a. Boat storage slips shall be offered on a rental basis to interested boaters.
- b. Proof of ownership must accompany all applications for slip rentals. A copy of your title and driver's license must be turned in at time of registration.
- c. All boats stored in summer slips must be approved and paid for by March 31st. Summer slips are valid from April 1st-October 31st. All 'summer boats' must be removed from the marina by October 31st. There is a charge of \$3.00 per day up to November 30th for any 'summer boats' remaining in the marina that have not paid for winter storage. Boats remaining after Nov. 30th will lose their slip for the year. Boats will be deemed abandoned property and towed by the Des Plaines Park District to a secured area at the owner's expense of \$100. After an additional 90 days, the boat will be disposed of. If the owner claims the boat within the 90 days, they are responsible for paying the \$90 in late fees and the \$100 towing fee. It will be the owner's responsibility to set up a time with the Manager of Golf and Facilities to pick up their boat.
- d. All boats stored in winter slips must be approved and paid for by October 31st.

- e. Winter slips are valid from November 1st – March 31st. All ‘winter boats’ must be removed from the marina by March 31st. There is a charge of \$3.00 per day up to April 30th for any ‘winter boats’ remaining in the marina that have not paid for summer storage. Boats remaining after April 30th will lose their slip for the year. Boats will be deemed abandoned property and towed by the Des Plaines Park District to a secured area at the owner’s expense of \$100. After an additional 90 days, the boat will be disposed of. If the owner claims the boat within the 90 days, they are responsible for paying the \$90 in late fees and the \$100 towing fee. It will be the owner’s responsibility to set up a time with the Manager of Golf and Facilities to pick up their boat.
- f. Boats must be secured properly. Each boater is responsible for any damage caused to another boat or park district property.
- g. Boats that take up more than 1 slip must pay for those additional slips.

11) Sailing Lessons

- a. It shall be considered a desirable service of Lake Park to offer sailing lessons throughout the summer.
- b. Fees for lessons will be established annually.
- c. Sailing lessons by private instructors must be approved by the Park District.

12) Boat Rentals

- a. Paddle boats, kayaks, and fishing boats shall be available for rental through the club house.
- b. Patrons renting boats shall be required to sign a rental agreement.
- c. All boaters must wear a Coast Guard approved personal flotation device.
- d. There is no standing or horseplay allowed. Violators will be removed from the lake without a refund.
- e. All children under the age of 12 must be accompanied by a responsible adult over the age of 17 to rent a boat. For fishing boats: anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult 21 years or older.
- f. Boat Rental Fees

Boat Type	Resident ½ hour	Resident 1 hour	Non-resident ½ hour	Non-resident 1 hour
Paddle Boats	\$10	\$18	\$12	\$20
Kayaks	\$ 8	\$14	\$10	\$16
Tandem Kayaks	\$12	\$18	\$14	\$20
Fishing Boat	\$12	\$20	\$14	\$22

13) Fishing Permits

- a. Fishing regulated by all Illinois Department of Conservation rules and regulations.
- b. All fishermen ages 16–65 must have a license.
- c. Fishing is allowed anywhere around the lake **except** on the boating decks and alongside the golf course.
- d. Please follow all creel limit signs posted around the lake.
- e. Grass Carp are in the lake to control weed growth.

14) Rules and Regulations

- a. The staff at Lake Park has full authority to enforce all the rules of the marina.
- b. The Board may establish additional rules at Lake Park as deemed necessary.

15) Personnel

- a. The services at Lake Park shall be managed by a Lake Park Supervisor, under the direction of the Parks and Golf Operations Department.
- b. The Lake Park Supervisor has the authority to close or restrict activities on the Lake at any time if he or she determines that the lake and/or surroundings may be damaged due to weather conditions or use.
- c. Sufficient qualified personnel shall be employed to operate, control, and maintain Lake Park to the highest standard as funds are available.
- d. Personnel duties, requirements and benefits shall be in accordance with the District's personnel policy and job description.

16) Maintenance

- a. Maintenance duties shall be performed at Lake Park with minimal interference to patrons.
- b. Maintenance at Lake Park shall be performed to the highest standards as funds are available.

Boating Safety Guidelines

1) Not Wearing a Personal Floatation Device. (PFD)

- a. Most drownings are caused by capsizing and falls from the boat. Coast Guard studies show that two of three drowning victims never intended to go into the water, and when suddenly immersed, were unprepared to find a PFD or swim to safety.

2) Alcohol

- a. Persons affected by alcohol are less alert, more likely to take chances, and often lose their balance and fall from their boat.
- b. A boats hypnosis = adds to the effect of alcohol by slowing reactions almost as much as if you were legally drunk. This effect is caused by hours of exposure to sun, glare, wind, vibration, and motion. No person who appears to be under the influence of alcohol or other drugs should be permitted to participate in agency boating programs, boat rentals, or boat trips.

3) Falls Overboard and Capsizing

- a. Both falls and capsizing are often caused by overloading a boat, not maintaining a center of gravity, boating during high water conditions, improper boarding techniques, and horseplay. When these situations occur, people are often thrown years away from the boat, are injured, or attempt to swim to shore. Those not wearing P.F.D. can drown.
- b. All persons should be required to wear a P.F.D. while boating and be instructed to stay with the boat if it capsizes.

4) Lack of Safety Training and Use Guidelines for Boating Equipment

- a. It has been found that on-site agency visits and drowning investigations that many boating activities (recreation and maintenance) do not have written operations and safety guidelines. These policies should be established, and training conducted so that all patrons and staff understand the necessary safety requirements when boating.

Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs)

1) Regulations

- a. All PFDs must be:
 - i. US Coast Guard approved.
 - ii. Legibly marked with an ISCG approval number.
 - iii. Correct size for each person in the recreational boat.
 - iv. In good condition.

2) PFD Inspection and Maintenance

- a. PFDs should be inspected on a regular basis. Make sure that:
 - i. They are free of rips and tears, or holes.
 - ii. All seams and joints are securely sewn.
 - iii. Fabric, straps, and hardware are in good working condition.
 - iv. Buoyant inserts must not exhibit signs of water logging, shrinkage, mildew odor, oil absorption, or increased hardness or stiffness.
 - v. PFDs must not be altered. Any altered PFD is NOT Coast Guard approved.
 - vi. PFDs should not be used as boat fenders or kneeling pads.
 - vii. PFDs should be kept away from sharp objects which may rip the fabric or puncture the floatation pads.
 - viii. When PFDs get wet, they are allowed to dry thoroughly before storing. Always store PFDs in a well-ventilated area. Do not dry PFDs on radiators, or other sources or direct heat.

Rules of Lake Park

General Rules

- Park closes at sunset.
- Alcohol is only allowed on the golf course, clubhouse and patio of the clubhouse. No outside alcohol is permitted.
- No swimming, wading, or diving – serious injury could result!
- No personal property to be stored on property without park district permission.
- No one may enter the water by boat without signing in at the Lake Park Clubhouse. This must be done each and every time.

Fishing Rules

- Fishing regulated by all Illinois Department of Conservation rules and regulations.
- All fishermen ages 16–65 must have a license.
- Fishing is allowed anywhere around the lake **except** alongside the golf course and on the boat docks.
- Fishermen must yield to boaters on the docks. Failure to do so will result in removal from the lake.
- Please follow all creel limits posted throughout the park.