

Chapter WCD 45

STATE PARKS AND STATE FORESTS,  
MISCELLANEOUS

WCD 45.01	State property	WCD 45.09	Boats
WCD 45.02	Property of others	WCD 45.10	Horses
WCD 45.03	Refuse	WCD 45.11	Unnecessary noises
WCD 45.04	Washing	WCD 45.12	Parking
WCD 45.05	Pets	WCD 45.13	Camping; state parks
WCD 45.06	Fires	WCD 45.14	Firearms
WCD 45.07	Peddling and solicit- ing	WCD 45.15	Personal conduct
WCD 45.08	Vehicular Traffic	WCD 45.16	Fees and charges
		WCD 45.17	Exceptions

(Sections 23.09, 23.11, 27.01 and 28.02, Wis. Stats.)

**WCD 45.01 State property.** (1) Except when the context provides otherwise, the provisions of this chapter shall apply to all lands, structures and property owned, leased or administered by the state of Wisconsin and under the management, supervision and control of the state conservation commission of Wisconsin.

(2) It shall be unlawful for any person to destroy, molest or deface any natural growth or natural or archeologic feature, or any state property; to enter in any way any building, installation or area that may be locked or closed to public use, or contrary to posted notice. Except in state parks, state recreation areas or as otherwise posted, the picking or harvesting of edible fruits or nuts is permitted.

**History:** 1-2-56; am. Register, October, 1957, No. 22, eff. 11-1-57; am. Register, April, 1960, No. 52, eff. 5-1-60.

**WCD 45.02 Property of others.** It shall be unlawful for any person to destroy, molest or remove the property of others. It shall be unlawful for any person other than a permittee or licensee to scavenge golf balls on any golf course.

**History:** 1-2-56; am. Register, October, 1957, No. 22, eff. 11-1-57; am. Register, April, 1960, No. 52, eff. 5-1-60.

**WCD 45.03 Refuse.** It shall be unlawful for any person to discard or leave any refuse, sewage or other waste material on the ground, or in any building or installation, or into the water or upon the ice of any lake or stream or other body of water, or to dispose of any such refuse or waste material in any manner except by burning or by placing in receptacles or other authorized locations provided for such purposes. Charcoal residue must be left in a grate or fireplace until cool, or placed in receptacles provided for such purposes.

**History:** 1-2-56; am. Register, October, 1957, No. 22, eff. 11-1-57; am. Register, April, 1960, No. 52, eff. 5-1-60.

**WCD 45.04 Washing.** (1) It shall be unlawful to wash vehicles or pets, except at authorized locations, in any state park, state recreation area, fish hatchery and improved campsite in any state forest or at any similar public use area on other lands and property under the management, supervision and control of the state conservation commission of Wisconsin.

(2) It shall be unlawful, except at authorized locations, to wash clothing in any state park, state recreation area, fish hatchery and improved campsite or similar public use area in any state forest.

**History:** 1-2-56; am. Register, October, 1957, No. 22, eff. 11-1-57; am. Register, April, 1960, No. 52, eff. 5-1-60.

**WCD 45.05 Pets.** (1) It shall be unlawful for any person to suffer his pet to enter any public building or be upon any beach or lakeshore or in any lake, stream or other body of water, in any state park, state recreation area, improved campsite in any state forest, fish hatchery or similar public use area. Where pets are permitted in the afore-mentioned areas, dogs shall be kept on a leash not more than eight feet long and all other pets shall be effectively restrained or under the owner's control at all times. No person shall suffer his pet to deprive or disrupt the enjoyment or use of any area by others.

(2) Nothing in this section shall prohibit or restrict the use of dogs for hunting purposes in any area which is open to hunting.

**History:** 1-2-56; am. Register, October, 1957, No. 22, eff. 11-1-57; am. Register, April, 1960, No. 52, eff. 5-1-60.

**WCD 45.06 Fires.** (1) It shall be unlawful for any person to build or maintain any fire or to burn any refuse except at designated fireplaces in any state park, state recreation area, improved campsite in any state forest, fish hatchery or the State Experimental Game and Fur Farm. The afore-mentioned is also unlawful when fireplaces are provided at other campsites, picnic grounds and other designated similar public use areas on state forest lands or other lands under the management, supervision and control of the state conservation commission of Wisconsin.

(2) It shall be unlawful for any person to leave any fire unattended, or to throw away any matches, cigarettes, cigars, or pipe ashes without first extinguishing them, or to start any fire contrary to posted notice on any lands or property under the management, supervision and control of the state conservation commission of Wisconsin.

**History:** 1-2-56; am. Register, October, 1957, No. 22, eff. 11-1-57; am. Register, April, 1960, No. 52, eff. 5-1-60.

**WCD 45.07 Peddling and soliciting.** It shall be unlawful for any person to peddle or solicit business of any nature whatever, or to distribute handbills or other advertising matter, to post unauthorized signs on any lands, structures, or property under the management, supervision and control of the state conservation commission of Wisconsin, or to use such lands, structures or property as a base of commercial operations for soliciting or conducting business, peddling or providing services within or outside of such lands, structures or property unless first authorized in writing by the state conservation commission of Wisconsin or its duly authorized agents.

**History:** 1-2-56; am. Register, October, 1957, No. 22, eff. 11-1-57; am. Register, April, 1960, No. 52, eff. 5-1-60.

**WCD 45.08 Vehicular traffic.** (1) No person shall operate any vehicle at a speed in excess of 25 miles per hour unless different limits are indicated by official traffic signs in any state park, state recreation area, improved campsite in any state forest, or other public use areas on state forest lands or other lands under the management, supervision and control of the state conservation commission of Wisconsin.

(2) No unauthorized person shall operate any vehicle upon any service road or other road closed to public travel.

Register, August, 1963, No. 92

(3) No person shall operate any vehicle the gross weight of which is in excess of the posted weight limit.

**History:** 1-2-56; am. Register, October, 1957, No. 22, eff. 11-1-57; am. Register, April, 1960, No. 52, eff. 5-1-60.

**WCD 45.09 Boats.** (1) It shall be unlawful for any person to operate a motorboat of any kind in any manner on the following specified water:

(a) Lakes of the Dalles in Interstate Park, section 31, T34N, R18W, and section 36, T34N, R19W, town of St. Croix Falls, Polk county, Wisconsin.

(b) Interfalls Lake in Pattison state park, sections 21, 22, 27 and 28, T47N, R14W, town of Superior, Douglas county, Wisconsin.

(c) Mauthe Lake in Kettle Moraine state forest, sections 11, 12, 13 and 14, T13N, R19E, town of Auburn, Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin.

(d) Crystal Lake in Northern Highland state forest, sections 27 and 28, T41N, R7E, towns of Plum Lake and Boulder Junction, Vilas county, Wisconsin.

(e) All waters in Governor Dodge state park in Iowa county, Wisconsin.

(f) Zander's Lake in Browntown public hunting grounds, section 3, T1N, R6E, Green county, Wisconsin.

(g) Lake Seven in Kettle Moraine state forest, section 7, T13N, R20E, town of Scott, Sheboygan county, Wisconsin.

(h) Silver Lake in Kettle Moraine state forest, sections 27, 33 and 34, T6N, R17E, town of Ottawa, Waukesha county, Wisconsin.

(i) Horicon Marsh wildlife area, Dodge county, during the open season on migratory waterfowl, except the Main Ditch, Burnett Ditch, and the east branch of the Rock River to its outlet at Malzahn's Bay.

(j) All state-owned lands and waters within the boundaries of the Germania wildlife area, Marquette county.

(k) On all ditches, streams and flowages, except the Little Eau Pleine River, within the boundaries of the Mead wildlife area, in the counties of Marathon, Portage and Wood.

(2) On the waters of Devil's Lake in Devil's Lake state park, sections 13, 24 and 25, T11N, R6E, town of Baraboo, Sauk county, Wisconsin, it shall be unlawful for any person to operate a motorboat:

(a) In a careless, negligent or reckless manner so as to endanger the life, property or person of others.

(b) At a speed greater than eight miles per hour within 500 feet of shore, or on any other part of said waters between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and the following 8:00 a.m.

(c) Towing a person on water skis, aquaplane or similar device between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and the following 8:00 a.m.

(d) Without a competent person in the boat in addition to the operator who shall watch for the safety of any person on water skis, aquaplane or similar device being towed by said boat.

(e) At a speed greater than 20 miles per hour between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

(3) On the waters of Yellowstone Lake in Lafayette county, Wisconsin, it shall be unlawful for any person to operate a motorboat in a careless, negligent or reckless manner so as to endanger the life, property, or person of others, or to operate a motorboat at a speed greater than six miles per hour when within 200 feet of the shoreline, or to operate any motor boat in any area where notices are posted prohibiting the operation and use of motorboats. On the afore-mentioned waters, no person shall operate a motorboat towing a person on water skis, aquaplane, or similar device between the hours of 8:00 p.m. and the following 10:00 a.m., or without a competent person in the boat in addition to the operator who shall watch at all times for the safety of any person on water skis, aquaplane, or similar device being towed by said boat. It is unlawful for any person to operate, anchor, moor or beach any houseboat or pontoon boat on the waters of Yellowstone Lake or on the land within the boundaries of the Yellowstone conservation area. It is unlawful for any person to leave any boat unattended whether anchored, moored or beached on the waters of Yellowstone Lake or on lands within the boundaries of the Yellowstone conservation area except within such areas as are designated and posted for such purposes.

(4) The term "motorboat" means any boat propelled by machinery, whether or not such machinery is the principal source of propulsion.

(5) All boats, including every description of watercraft, used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on water are prohibited from the following specified waters: (a) On the Pinnacle Rock public fishing pond, section 16, T15N, R3W, town of Jefferson, Monroe county, Wisconsin.

(b) Mt. Hope Pond, section 4, T6N, R4W, town of Woodman, Grant county, Wisconsin.

(c) Sabine Pond, section 18, T11N, R1W, town of Marshall, Richland county, Wisconsin.

(d) Salmo Pond, section 5, T7N, R7E, town of Cross Plains, Dane county, Wisconsin.

(e) Token Creek Spring Pond, section 34, T9N, R10E, town of Windsor, Dane county, Wisconsin.

(f) Or within the limits of any swimming beach area, as designated by chrome yellow and green buoys alternately banded, fronting any state park, state recreation area, improved campsite in any state forest or other similar public use area on state forest lands or any other designated area on lands under the management, supervision and control of the state conservation commission of Wisconsin.

**History:** 1-2-56; am. Register, October, 1957, No. 22, eff. 11-1-57; am. Register, April, 1960, No. 52, eff. 5-1-60; am. (3), Register, February, 1962, No. 74, eff. 3-1-62; cr. (1) (i), (j) and (k), Register, August, 1963, No. 92, eff. 9-1-63.

**WCD 45.10 Horses.** It shall be unlawful for any person to ride a horse in a careless, negligent or reckless manner so as to endanger the life, property or person of others, or to ride, lead or have a horse in any manner on any beach, foot trail, picnic ground, campground, golf course, fish hatchery or other similar special public use area or contrary to posted notices.

**History:** 1-2-56; am. Register, October, 1957, No. 22, eff. 11-1-57; am. Register, April, 1960, No. 52, eff. 5-1-60.

Register, August, 1963, No. 92

**WCD 45.11 Unnecessary noises.** It shall be unlawful for any person to operate any sound truck, loud-speaker, motor, motorboat, motor vehicle or other mechanical device that produces undue or unnecessary noises without first obtaining a written permit from the state conservation commission of Wisconsin or its duly authorized agent.

**History:** 1-2-56; am. Register, October, 1957, No. 22, eff. 11-1-57; am. Register, April, 1960, No. 52, eff. 5-1-60.

**WCD 45.12 Parking.** (1) No person shall park, stop or leave standing, whether attended or unattended, any vehicle or watercraft:

(a) In any manner as to block, obstruct or limit the use of any road, trail, waterway or winter sport facility, or

(b) Outside of any area provided for such purposes when it is practical to use such areas, or

(c) Contrary to posted notice.

(2) No person shall leave, abandon or deposit any boat, skiff or other watercraft on any conservation area, wildlife area, or public hunting or fishing ground after 10 days following the close of the migratory waterfowl season or contrary to posted notice.

**History:** 1-2-56; am. Register, October, 1957, No. 22, eff. 11-1-57; am. Register, April, 1960, No. 52, eff. 5-1-60.

**WCD 45.13 Camping.** (1) It shall be unlawful to camp in any state park, state recreation area or improved campsite in any state forest without a camping permit and payment of the required fees. No person shall camp on any state forest lands without a permit, whether or not the payment of fees is required; except a permit to camp is not required by any person when:

(a) Travelling by watercraft upon the Brule River in the Brule River State Forest or the Flambeau River in the Flambeau River State Forest when not camped at an improved campsite, or

(b) Travelling by watercraft upon canoe routes and camping at posted overnight canoe campsites in the Northern Highland State Forest, American Legion State Forest or Black River State Forest.

(2) In any area where a permit and payment of fees is required, no person shall camp and no camping unit or camping equipment shall remain for a period greater than 21 days in any consecutive four-week period from June 1 to Labor Day. There is no seasonal limit on the total camping days in any state park, state recreation area, state forest or other area under the management, supervision, and control of the state conservation commission of Wisconsin.

(3) No person shall camp on any lands under the management, supervision or control of the state conservation commission of Wisconsin contrary to posted notice. No person shall set up or take down a camping unit during the hours when such acts are prohibited by posted notice.

**History:** Cr. Register, October, 1957, No. 22, eff. 11-1-57; am. Register, April, 1960, No. 52, eff. 5-1-60.

**WCD 45.14 Firearms.** (1) It shall be unlawful for any person to have in his possession or under his control any firearm or airgun unless the same is unloaded and enclosed in a carrying case, or any bow unless the same is unstrung or enclosed in a carrying case, in any state park, fish hatchery, improved campsite in any state forest, and other similar public use areas in state forests and state recreation areas, or within posted areas on state forest and other lands under the management, supervision, and control of the state conservation commission of Wisconsin.

Register, August, 1963, No. 92

(2) No person shall take, catch, kill, hunt, trap, pursue, or otherwise disturb any wild animals or birds in any state park, fish hatchery, improved campsite in any state forest or within posted areas on state forest lands and other lands under the management, supervision, and control of the state conservation commission of Wisconsin.

(3) Nothing in this section shall prohibit the use of the aforementioned weapons on designated target ranges within the areas listed in subsection (1)✓

**History:** 1-2-56; renum. from 45.13 and am. Register, October, 1957, No. 22, eff. 11-1-57; am. Register, April, 1960, No. 52, eff. 5-1-60.

**WCD 45.15 Personal conduct.** It shall be unlawful for any person to be intoxicated or to engage in any violent, abusive, loud, boisterous, vulgar, lewd, wanton, obscene or otherwise disorderly conduct tending to create a breach of the peace or to disturb or annoy others.

**History:** 1-2-56; renum. from 45.14 and am. Register, October, 1957, No. 22, eff. 11-1-57; am. Register, April, 1960, No. 52, eff. 5-1-60.

**WCD 45.16 Fees and charges.** It shall be unlawful for any person to use any facility, land or area for which a fee or charge has been established by the state conservation commission of Wisconsin without payment of such fee or charge.

**History:** Cr. Register, April, 1960, No. 52, eff. 5-1-60.

**WCD 45.17 Exceptions.** Nothing in this chapter shall prohibit or hinder the state conservation commission of Wisconsin, its supervisors, managers, foresters, wardens, rangers, or other duly authorized agents, or any peace officers from performing their official duties.

**History:** 1-2-56; renum. from 45.15 and am. Register, October, 1957, No. 22, eff. 11-1-57; renum. from 45.16 and am. Register, April, 1960, No. 52, eff. 5-1-60.