ORDINANCE REGULATING THE PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS OF ISANTI COUNTY

The County Board of Isanti County Does Ordain:

Section 1. Enabling Act. The Isanti County Parks and Recreation Commission is established pursuant to and in accordance with Minn. Stat. 398.34 and 398.86. The ordinance regulating the parks and recreation areas of Isanti County is adopted pursuant to and in accordance with Minn. Stat. 398.34, subd. 2.

Section 2. Purposes. The purpose of this ordinance is to establish the Isanti County Parks and Recreation Commission, and to regulate the protection and use of Isanti County Parks. This ordinance shall apply only to these parks and recreation areas owned and controlled by Isanti County.

Section 3. Separability. Each section, paragraph, sentence, clause and provision of this ordinance is separable, and if any portion thereof is held unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the remainder of this ordinance.

Section 4. Violations. Any person, firm, company, or corporation violating any provision of this ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine not to exceed $1,000, with costs, or a sentence of not more than 90 days, or both, unless an applicable Minnesota Statute provides that the violation is a gross misdemeanor or felony. If the offense is a gross misdemeanor or felony under an applicable Minnesota statute, the fine and sentence shall be in accordance with that statute. All fines collected under this ordinance shall be deposited in the Park Fund.

Section 5. Interpretation. The provisions of this ordinance shall be liberally construed to effect its purpose.

Section 6. Enforcement. The Director of personnel of the Isanti County Parks and Recreation Commission may, in connection with their duties imposed by law, enforce the provision of this ordinance, and said Director and personnel shall have the authority to:
a. Eject from any park any person acting in violation of this ordinance.

b. In addition to immediate removal from a park following an ordinance violation, authorized park personnel may continually exclude such person from any or all Isanti County parks.

c. Seize and confiscate any property, animal, thing or device in any park used in violation of any of the provisions in the ordinance.

d. The Director of Isanti County Parks and Recreation, and Isanti County Parks and Recreation personnel specifically authorized to issue citations, as well as the County Law Enforcement officers, may issue citations for violations of this ordinance.

Section 7. Use and Occupancy Regulation for Parks and Recreational Areas.

a. Closing of Parks: the Director is hereby authorized to close any park, beach, trail, or portion thereof at any interval of time, whether temporarily or at regular stated intervals as the Director shall find necessary, for the protection of park property or for the public health, safety, or welfare.

b. Use of Trash Receptacles: Where trash receptacles are provided in any park, all refuse and trash related to park use shall be placed therein; provided, however, that residential, commercial, or construction trash or debris shall in no event be placed in such receptacles.

c. In any park, trail, or recreation area, it shall be unlawful for any person, firm, company or corporation:

(1.) To possess or discharge firearms, air rifles, BB guns or air soft guns, paint ball guns, sling shots, archery equipment, other weapons, explosives or fireworks.

a. With exception of persons who possess a valid permit to carry a concealed firearm are authorized to carry a firearm while in County Parks consistent with the requirements set forth in Minnesota Statutes Section 624.714. Permit to carry holders must carry their permit with them and shall carry or secure their firearm at all times in the parks.

b. With exception of law enforcement and military personnel under performance of duty.

c. With exception to allow the taking of wild game at Becklin Homestead County Park / Wildlife Management Area by firearms or archery through a partner program authorized by
the Isanti County Parks and Recreation Commission as approved by the Isanti County Board of Commissioners.

(2.) To engage in an act of or relating to gambling as defined in Minnesota Statute Sec 609.755(1), (2), or (3).

(3.) To engage in offensive, obscene, or abusive language, or in boisterous or noisy conduct tending reasonably to arouse alarm, anger or resentment in others, or (ii) to engage in immoral or violent conduct, or (iii) to engage in brawling or fighting, or (iv) to engage in conduct creating or tending to create a disturbance or annoyance to other park users, or that interferes with their use or enjoyment of park lands and waters, or (v) to use a public address system, play amplified music, or otherwise make noise that can be heard beyond the immediate area of said equipment.

(4.) To use or possess controlled substances; to use or possess keg beer or other bulk tap quantities; to use or possess intoxicating liquors, unless a valid Special Use Permit has been obtained.

(5.) To advertise, sell or attempt to sell, or solicit for private gain or cause, or to operate non-authorized commercial operations.

(6.) To participate in active games or sports outside designated play areas.

(7.) To leave a fire unattended; or to light or maintain a fire outside designated areas; or to picnic outside designated areas.

(8.) To be present in a park or recreation area after 10:00 p.m. or before 6:00 a.m. on any day, unless a valid Special Use Permit has been obtained.

(9.) (i) to bring in or dump, deposit or leave in or on any park land or water or water contiguous to any park; any bottles, broken glass, or discarded vegetation, including but not limited to Christmas trees, ashes, paper, boxes, cans, dirt, rubbish, waste, garbage or refuse, or any other trash, or (ii) to burn or attempt to burn any of the aforementioned items.

(10.) To discharge into any lake, stream, creek, pond, or other body of water in or adjacent to a park, or any tributary, stream, storm sewer or drain flowing into such waters any substance, liquid, solid, or gas or any other matter or thing which may result in the pollution of said waters.

(11.) To remove, break, destroy, injure, mutilate, deface, or in any way damage any structure, monument, fence, flagpole, vehicle, bench, ruin, relic, geological formation, fireplace, natural growth, or any other county park property located within Isanti County Parks.
a. Natural growth, including seeds, may not be collected and/or removed, unless a valid Special Use Permit has been obtained, with exception of wild edible plants which may be harvested for personal consumption without a permit.

(12.) To use a park, trail or recreation area or any portion thereof, for group celebrations, meetings, or entertainment which are not open to the public unless an applicable Permit has been obtained.

(13.) To place advertising, decorations or any device or thing on park property unless an applicable Permit has been obtained.

(14.) To operate a motor vehicle or any device propelled by human power, including horses, except on roads or areas designated for such use.

(15.) To permit any pet or any other animal on park land and trails owned by Isanti County while not confined to a leash.

a. With exception of certified service animals under performance of their trained function.

b. To leave the waste from any pet, including horses, outside of a designated receptacle on Isanti County Park property.

(16.) To fail to obey the directions or orders of official park personnel, park ranger, park director, conservation officer, peace officer, or an Isanti County Deputy relating to the safe use of said parks, trails, recreation areas and swimming area, by or for the public.

(17.) To launch watercraft in any area outside designated public boat launch.

(18.) To injure, molest, pursue or endanger wildlife on park land and trails owned by Isanti County

(19.) To use any restroom in any park in other than a clean and sanitary manner.

(20.) To climb trees or other natural growths or flagpoles or buildings or structures, unless specifically designed and designated for that purpose.

(21.) To operate or park a motorized recreational vehicle, except in authorized areas.

(22.) To access any lake, pond, stream, or other body of water through Isanti County Park property for the purpose of hunting or trapping.

(a.) With exception of Becklin Homestead County Park / Wildlife Management Area river access.
Section 8. Permits.

a. Temporary Permits for Group Gatherings. The Director shall issue a temporary permit when the applicant shall show and the Director shall determine: (1) that the proposed use of the park will not unreasonably interfere with or detract from the general public enjoyment of the park; (2) that the proposed use will not unreasonably interfere or detract from the promotion of the public health, welfare and safety; and (3) that the proposed use is not reasonably anticipated to lead or incite violence, crime, disorderly conduct, or injury or damage to wildlife or park property. The Director shall have the authority to revoke a temporary permit upon finding a violation of any rule, regulation or ordinance, or upon good cause shown.

b. After Hour Permits. The Director shall use an After Hours Permit when the applicant shall show and the Director shall determine: (1) that the proposed use of the park will not unreasonably interfere with or detract from the general public enjoyment of the park; (2) that the proposed use will not unreasonably interfere or detract from the promotion of the public health, welfare and safety; and (3) that the proposed use is not reasonably anticipated to lead or incite violence, crime, disorderly conduct or injury or damage to wildlife or park property. The Director shall have the authority to revoke an After House Permit upon finding a violation of any rules, regulation or ordinance, or upon good cause shown.

c. Procurement of Permits. The Director of Isanti County Parks and Recreation shall procure permits for each calendar year which by appropriate language shall grant permission to use any of the above listed Isanti County park facilities during times requiring said permits.

Section 9. Hours.

Isanti County parks shall be open each day from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Presence in an Isanti County park after hours shall be by the After Hours Permit only. Such permit may be acquired from the Director of Isanti County Parks and Recreation, as indicated in Section 8 of this ordinance.

Approved and adopted by the Isanti County Board of Commissioners on this 16th day of May, 2018.

Kevin VanHooser, County Administrator