



## **Public Gathering Permit Policy**

### Division of Community Services

#### **Why permits are required:**

Public Safety: Large events can pose safety risks, such as overcrowding, fire hazards, or accidents. A permit ensures that organizers plan for safety measures like crowd control, first aid, and emergency response. Security and engineering considerations often are relevant.

Logistics and Planning: A permit allows local authorities to assess and approve the use of public space for specific activities, ensuring that the event doesn't interfere with other uses of the space or cause disruptions. On the positive side, a permit can lead to help.

Insurance and Liability: A permit often requires event organizers to obtain insurance coverage to protect against accidents or damages. This ensures that the city or local government isn't held liable for any issues arising from the event not the fault of the local government.

Compliance with Local Laws: A permit ensures that the event follows zoning laws, noise ordinances, and other local regulations. It might also specify limits on alcohol consumption, food sales, or amplified sound.

Fairness and Equity: Public spaces are for everyone, so the permit process ensures that one group's event doesn't unfairly limit access to others or monopolize the space. Permits aren't about restriction – they're about coordination and safety.

Apply at least 30 days in advance to give staff time to review your request and help avoid delays or cancelations.

## **Park Rules:**

### General Use:

Parks are open only during posted hours (often dawn to dusk).  
No overnight camping.  
Follow all posted signs and regulations.  
Do not damage trees, plants, benches, or facilities.

### Cleanliness:

Dispose of trash in proper bins.  
No littering.  
Clean up after yourself and your group.

### Pets:

Dogs must be on a leash (except in designated off-leash areas).  
Owners must clean up after pets.  
Pets may be restricted from playgrounds or certain areas.

### Noise:

No excessive noise or amplified sound without a permit.

### Fires & Cooking:

Fires only in designated grills or fire pits.  
Open flames may be prohibited.  
Charcoal disposal rules may apply.

### Alcohol & Substances:

Alcohol is prohibited.  
Illegal drugs are not allowed.  
Smoking may be restricted to designated areas or banned entirely.

### Vehicles & Equipment:

Motor vehicles only in designated parking areas.  
Bicycles allowed only on marked paths.  
No motorized scooters or ATVs.  
No horses.

### Events & Gatherings:

Permits required for:  
Large gatherings  
Organized sports leagues  
Amplified music

### Safety & Conduct:

No weapons.  
No disorderly conduct, fighting, or harassment.