



# CITY OF HAGERSTOWN, MARYLAND

Department of Parks and Engineering

To: Event Organizers  
From: Rodney Tissue, Director of Parks and Engineering *Ron*  
RE: **Guidelines for Organized Rallies/Demonstrations in the parks of the City of Hagerstown**  
Date: July 20, 2018

For organized rallies, demonstrations, meetings, walks, marches or other activities in the parks of the City, in addition to the laws of the City and the State of Maryland, please note that the following guidelines apply:

1. Parks are public forums so First Amendment protected conduct is allowed but public safety is our top priority.
2. For smaller activities in the parks of less than approximately 50 people, the City does not issue any permits but we request the organizers provide the Parks Division staff a) their contact information (organization), b) date, time and location of the event, and c) anticipated number of participants. If the event will involve approximately 50 people or more, the City may require the organizer to rent a pavilion or an entire park and pay the applicable fees. The Parks staff will notify the Hagerstown Police Department about the event.
3. Signs cannot be placed/staked on park property. A sign may be displayed on a legally parked vehicle, displayed on clothing or held by a person.
4. Ingress/egress of vehicular/pedestrian traffic may not be blocked or impeded in any way by the activity. Participants shall not obstruct the passage of pedestrians or vehicles.
5. All applicable sections of Chapter 173 "*Peace and Good Order*" of the Code of the City of Hagerstown shall apply and be followed by event participants. Per Section 26, event participants are prohibited from "aggressive soliciting". The Code is viewable at: <https://www.ecode360.com/9907390>
6. All applicable sections of Chapter 155 "*Noise*" of the Code of the City of Hagerstown shall apply and be followed by the event participants. The Code is viewable at <https://www.ecode360.com/9907364>
7. The City reserves the right to consider placing reasonable time/place/manner restrictions on the activity.
8. Organizers are encouraged to contact the Hagerstown Police Department to advise them of the event.
9. Standard Park Rules (attached) apply.

Attachment: *Park Rules (7/20/18 and any subsequent revisions)*

Parks and Recreation Division  
351 North Cleveland Avenue • Hagerstown, MD 21740  
Ph: 301.739.8577 Ext. 169 • Fax: 301.790.0171

Engineering Division  
1 East Franklin Street • Hagerstown, MD 21740-4817  
Ph: 301.739.8577 Ext. 125 • Fax: 301-733.2214

## ORGANIZED RALLIES/DEMONSTRATIONS

(Hagerstown Police Department will be notified)

For organized rallies, demonstrations, meetings, walks, marches or other activities in the parks of the City, in addition to the laws of the City and the State of Maryland, please note that the following guidelines apply:

1. Parks are public forums so First Amendment protected conduct is allowed but public safety is our top priority.
2. For smaller activities in the parks of less than approximately 50 people, the City does not issue any permits but we request the organizers provide the Parks Division staff a) their contact information (organization), b) date, time and location of the event, and c) anticipated number of participants. If the event will involve approximately 50 people or more, the City may require the organizer to rent a pavilion or an entire park and pay the applicable fees. The Parks staff will notify the Hagerstown Police Department about the event.
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## CROWD CONTROL GUIDELINES

(National Fire Protection Association)

NFPA 1 FIRE CODE (2018 edition) chapter 20, section 20.1.5.6 – Crowd Managers

Section 20.1.5.6.1 – Assembly occupancies shall be provided with a minimum of one trained crowd manager or crowd manager supervisor. Where the occupant load exceeds 250, additional trained crowd managers or crowd manager supervisors shall be provided at a ratio of 1 crowd manager or crowd manager supervisor for every 250 occupants.

Section 20.1.5.6.2 – The crowd manager and crowd manager supervisor shall receive approved training in crowd management techniques.

Section 20.1.5.6.3 – Duties and responsibilities of the crowd manager and crowd manager supervisor shall be documented within a written emergency plan as required.

Section 20.1.5.6.4 – The training for the duties and responsibilities of crowd managers shall include the following:

- (1) Understanding crowd manager roles and responsibilities
- (2) Understanding safety and security hazards that can endanger public assemblies
- (3) Understanding crowd manager techniques
- (4) Introduction to fire safety and fire safety equipment
- (5) Understanding methods for evacuations and movement
- (6) Understanding procedures for reporting emergencies
- (7) Understanding crowd management emergency response procedures
- (8) Understanding the paths of travel and exits, facility evacuation and emergency response procedures and, where provided, shelter-in-place procedures
- (9) Familiarization with the venue and guest services training.
- (10) Other specific event-warranted training.

Note: These are basic guidelines only. If you anticipate more than 250 people, you must call the City of Hagerstown Fire Marshal at 301-739-8577, ext 105, before submitting the Facility Use Application for our approval.



## CITY OF HAGERSTOWN, MARYLAND

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### Park Rules

*(Last Revised Feb 2022)*

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The following rules govern the use of the City of Hagerstown park properties and facilities by members of the public. These rules define the general privilege of use relating to the parks and recreation facilities and do not create rights of use. The Parks and Recreation Division retains the authority to modify these rules at any time, and the Parks management is at their discretion to revoke, suspend, or modify any person's privileges of use upon good cause.

1. Pets are permitted in designated areas only and must be on a lead and in full compliance with the Washington County animal control laws. Pets are not allowed in pavilions, on athletic fields, courts or playgrounds.
2. The use of any tobacco products, e-cigarettes, or vaping is prohibited in all of the parks of the City of Hagerstown.
3. Alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs and weapons are prohibited.
4. The sale of goods or services or the solicitation of donations in exchange for goods or services is prohibited unless such activity is approved by the City in advance or as part of a City-approved event.
5. Any motorized vehicles, motorized scooters, mopeds or any other like recreational motorized devices are prohibited.
6. Bicycles, skateboards, rollerblades, etc, are only permitted in designated areas.
7. Noise level restrictions will be enforced. No form of amplified sound is permitted except in Band Shells, University Plaza, or approved stages.
8. Inappropriate or indecent conduct, harassment and/or language that can create a public nuisance are prohibited.
9. Only the use of City provided grills is acceptable. All other grills or fires are prohibited.
10. Swimming is prohibited in any body of water except Antietam Creek.
11. Fishing is prohibited in any body of water except at Pangborn Park and Antietam Creek. Boating is only permitted on the Antietam Creek. State laws must be adhered to.
12. Tents, pop-up canopies and tarps are prohibited unless authorized in advance by the City. Inflatables are prohibited.
13. Metal detectors are prohibited.
14. Glass containers, gambling, and overnight camping are all prohibited.
15. Operation of hot air balloons, model aircraft, rockets and drones, remote controlled vehicles and all watercraft, etc, are prohibited.
16. Litter and refuse are to be placed in proper receptacles by the User. Confetti is prohibited.
17. Firearms, bows and arrows, devices creating a fire hazard, hunting, trapping, disturbing the wildlife, etc, are prohibited. Paintball activities are prohibited.
18. Interference with employee and/or volunteer duties is prohibited.
19. Parking or driving on turf or unauthorized areas is prohibited.
20. Alteration or installation of equipment (volleyball nets, etc) is prohibited.
21. Defacing of property (indoors or outdoors) is prohibited. Staples, nails, etc are prohibited.
22. Any other conduct that may jeopardize the safety of others is prohibited.
23. Being present on park property other than during the posted hours of operation of "sunrise to one-half hour after sunset" is prohibited unless such activity is approved by the City in advance or as part of a City-approved event.

**In addition to facing any applicable civil or criminal penalties, any person who violates any of the foregoing rules may be issued a Letter of No Trespass and be prohibited from entering onto City of Hagerstown park properties.**

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Department of Public Works  
Parks and Recreation Division  
351 North Cleveland Avenue • Hagerstown, MD 21740  
Ph: 301.739.8577 Ext. 169 • Fax: 301.790.0171