

**Chapter 163**  
**PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS**

**§ 163-1. Enactment; effective date.**

**§ 163-2. Purpose.**

**§ 163-3. Open fires forbidden.**

**§ 163-4. Functions, gatherings, activities.**

**§ 163-5. Littering.**

**§ 163-6. Camping is prohibited.**

**§ 163-7. Animal control.**

**§ 163-8. Alcoholic beverages.**

**§ 163-9. Hours.**

**§ 163-10 Vendors.**

**§ 163-11. Public nudity prohibited.**

**§ 163-12. Malicious damage.**

**§ 163-13. Violations and penalties.**

**[History: Amended by the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Peterborough on May 9, 2000 and July 7, 2015. Adopted by the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Peterborough on December 14, 1999. Previous Regulation which was adopted 8/29/80 was rescinded at the same meeting. Amendments noted were applicable.]**

**GENERAL REFERENCES**

**Alcoholic Beverages --Ch. 56**

**Alcoholic Beverages --Ch. 132**

**Alcohol and Drug Policy and Testing Procedures-Ch. 131**

**Animal control- See Ch. 9.**

**§ 163-1. Enactment; effective date.**

Pursuant to the authority of RSA 41:11 and RSA 47:17, the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Peterborough hereby enacts the following Article, effective 12:01 am. on December 15, 1999. Non-criminal penalties established herein will result from citations issued by Peterborough police officers.

**§ 163-2. Purpose.**

The purpose of these regulations is to encourage the responsible use of all public parks in the Town of Peterborough. All parks will remain unencumbered and kept in their natural and/or designated state to the greatest extent possible. Encumbrances include but are not limited to structures, memorials, or permanent fixtures, signage and landscaping. The Parks Committee has the authority for selective receptivity in accepting gifts for the parks using content-based factors including: aesthetics, history, local culture, the design intention of each park, and other factors. Applications for the construction, additions, or replacement of structures, memorials, or other fixtures and landscaping will be submitted to the Parks Committee for approval.

**§ 163-3. Open fires forbidden.**

Open fires of any kind are forbidden in any park.

**§ 163-4. Functions, gatherings, activities.**

Functions, gatherings or other unscheduled activities in park areas or beaches are prohibited except with written permission in advance from the Park Committee. Such active ties shall be limited to recognized organizations, residents, or other groups obtaining Park Committee authorization. The person named on the permit agrees to assume responsibility for the group, and shall also be responsible for cleanup of the area and for the conduct and liability of all members of the using group. Persons requesting permission for group use must be at least 18 years of age. A police officer will be on duty if necessary. A cash deposit may be required to cover clean-up expenses, if necessary, as determined by the Park Committee.

**§ 163-5. Littering.**

Littering of park or beach areas with rubbish or refuse is prohibited. The deposit of household trash, rubbish, refuse or garbage in park trash containers is prohibited.

**§ 163-6. Camping is prohibited.**

The erection of camping tents and/or parking of trailers or mobile homes in park is prohibited. No camping or sleeping after dusk is permitted in parks.

**§ 163-7. Animal control.**

Animals in parks must be restrained. Defecation must be picked up.

**§ 163-8. Alcoholic beverages.**

No alcoholic beverages are allowed in the parks except with written permission in advance from the Board of Selectmen.

**§ 163-9. Hours.**

The park areas are officially closed from 12:00 a.m. until one hour before sunrise.

**§ 163-10. Vendors.**

No commercial vendors will be allowed in the parks without the Park Committee's written approval. Vendors shall have all permits as required by the State of New Hampshire and the necessary Board of Health and Board of Selectmen permits.

**§ 163-11. Public nudity prohibited.**

Public nudity, including public nude bathing, by any person in parks is prohibited. Public nudity is a person's intentional failure to cover with a fully opaque covering that person's own genitals, pubic areas, or female breast.

**163-12. Malicious damage.**

Malicious damage and stealing of Town of Peterborough property will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

**§ 163-13. Violations and penalties.**

Any person violating this Article shall be guilty of a violation and shall be punishable by a fine of not more than one hundred dollars (\$100.). Each violation shall be deemed to be a separate offense.