

**Fond du Lac County  
County Code of Ordinances  
Chapter 43 – Fairgrounds**

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- Sec. 43.01     *PURPOSE.*     This Chapter prescribes rules and regulations for the establishment, protection, development, and management of county fairground facilities so as to provide to Fond du Lac County residents and visitors recreational benefit. These rules are necessary to promote and protect the safety of all persons using the fairground facilities, to preserve and maintain the facilities, and to protect the property of the landowners whose property adjoins or is impacted by the facilities. These rules also endeavor to provide that those who use the facilities contribute to the care and upkeep of the facilities. Please note: all references made in this Chapter to Wisconsin State Statutes will be considered as amended from time to time, by the legislature.
- Sec. 43.02     *SCOPE.*     Except as provided otherwise herein, the provisions of this chapter shall apply to all land and county owned structures operated by the Fond du Lac County Fairgrounds Department in conjunction with the County Board and the UW-Extension, Education, Agriculture, and Recreation Committee (UW-EEAR). Please note: any person that has been issued a Special Event agreement by the Department, or Committee, may have certain rules and regulations that supersede the provisions of this chapter.
- Sec. 43.03     *DEFINITIONS.* Note, this Chapter abides by Sec. 1.2 of the County Code of Ordinances as a cross reference for definitions. For the purposes of this Chapter:
- (1)     **"Alcohol Beverages"** is as defined by Wis. Stat. Ch. 125.
  - (2)     **"Camping"** means the use of any RV, as defined in (11) herein, for temporary residence or sleeping purposes.
  - (3)     **"Campsite"** means a portion of a campground, which is designated for use by a camping unit.
  - (4)     **"Committee"** means the UW-Extension Education, Agriculture, and Recreation Committee (UW-EEAR Committee).
  - (5)     **"Department"** means the Fond du Lac County Fairgrounds Department. The Fairgrounds Supervisor (FS) will represent the Department unless otherwise specified, or the FS has designated another staff member to represent the Department.

- (6) **"Facilities"** means the county fairgrounds, fairgrounds building, fairgrounds grandstand area, county park, or any area of the fairgrounds/park sectioned off by a fence or other device that are managed by the Department which are the subject of this Ordinance.
- (7) **"Family"** means up to two adult individuals related as spouses or domestic partners and their children or stepchildren or similar relationship and residing at the same address.
- (8) **"Group"** means a camping party of not more than five non-related persons occupying one campsite.
- (9) **"Motor Vehicle"** shall include any motorized automobile, truck, all-terrain vehicle, utility-task vehicle, snowmobile, motorcycle, trailer, wagon, moped, airplane, golf cart, Segway, or any other motorized mode of transportation not listed.
- (10) **"Person"** includes any individual, firm, partnership, corporation, limited liability companies (LLCs), limited liability partnerships (LLPs), or other associations of persons, both singular and plural.
- (11) **"RV"** means a camping unit that classifies as a recreational vehicle (i.e. travel trailer, fifth-wheel, motor home, pop-up camper, pick-up camper, or any wheeled camping unit).
- (12) **"Special Events"** any type of event that requires the issuance of a Special Events agreement by the Department.
- (13) **"Transaction Fee"** means a non-refundable fee for reserving campsites, or renting land or structures within a facility.
- (14) **"Winter season"** means the period from November 1 to April 1 annually.

Sec. 43.04 *DESIGNATION OF ALL STRUCTURES LOCATED ON THE FAIRGROUNDS PROPERTY SUBJECT TO THIS CHAPTER.*

- (1) The boundaries of all structures shall be designated by the Committee.
- (2) The facilities subject to this Chapter are:
  - a. County Fairgrounds, fairgrounds building, fairgrounds grandstand area, or an area of the fairgrounds sectioned off by a fence or other device; Blue Line Family Ice Center Parking Lot; and
  - b. County Park or any area of the park sectioned off by a fence or other device.
- (3) The non-county owned facilities located on the Fairgrounds property that are not subject to this Chapter are:
  - a. Blue Line Family Ice Center (550 Fond du Lac Ave);
  - b. Fairgrounds Park Pool (439 Martin Ave);
  - c. The American Legion (500 Fond du Lac Ave); and
  - d. US Army Department (474 Fond du Lac Ave).

Sec. 43.05 *COMMON USE REGULATIONS.* The following regulations shall be common to all facilities:

- (1) No person shall be present at any facility between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. unless registered for camping, or by specific permission given by the Department.
  - a. Subsection (1) does not apply to any person operating special events which states facility hours have been specified in the form of a special event agreement issued by the Department.
  - b. No motor vehicle or RV shall be left in any facility after 10:00 p.m. without the specific permission of the Department, unless otherwise specified in Sec. 43.07.
- (2) All facilities shall be open to the public throughout the year. No person shall loiter or otherwise park or be present upon a facility unless the person is engaged in a special event or camping.
- (3) All facilities shall be maintained by the Department throughout the winter season, except the county park.
- (4) The location of all public and private utilities, structures, lines, and pipes within any facilities shall be subject to the control of the Committee, and their construction, erection, repair, or relocation shall be undertaken only after written consent thereto is received from the Committee and the Department. There shall be no private construction unless authorized by the Committee.
- (5) It is unlawful for any person to peddle or solicit business of any nature, to distribute handbills or other advertising matter, or to post signs, posters, or decorations on any facility, or to engage in any commercial, or non-profit, enterprise for any purposes whatsoever unless first authorized by the Department.
  - a. No person shall in any manner display or cause to be displayed any sign, placard, picture or other depiction concerning any political candidate or proposal, any commercial display, any non-profit display, showing or event, or any religious activity at any facility, unless first authorized by the Department.
- (6) Musical bands or disc jockeys (DJ's) are not permitted at any facility, unless provided specific permission by the Department in the form of a special event agreement.
- (7) It is unlawful for any person to disturb, vandalize, damage, deface, remove, or destroy any trees, shrubs, plants, rock, gravel, sand, dirt, or other natural material, to carve, paint, or mark on any rocks, archeological or geological features, signs, walls, or structures, to drive nails into trees, or to move, injure, or deface in any manner to any structure including buildings, signs, fences, tables, or any other facility's property except with the approval of the Committee. This prohibition shall not include the picking of edible fruits, nuts, and fungi. This subsection applies to all state-owned property that is operated or managed by Fond du Lac County, under Wis. Stat. § 23.095, the penalties for any violations shall be consistent with Wis. Stat. § 23.095(3).
- (8) It is unlawful for any unauthorized personnel to enter any buildings, installation, or area which may be under construction, locked, or closed to public use and/or to tamper with, use or damage any water control structure, or culvert or to enter or be upon any building, installation, or area after the posted closing time or before the posted opening time or contrary to other posted notices at any facility.
- (9) The washing of cars, persons, pets, cooking utensils or clothing, as well as the cleaning of fish and game is prohibited alongside all ponds, or any picnic grounds, playgrounds, recreation areas, parking lots or roadways; or within fifty (50) feet of any pump, fountain, or drinking water outlet at any facility, except as may be designated for those purposes.

- (10) It is unlawful for any person to abandon personal property at any facility within Fond du Lac County. All abandoned or unclaimed property will be addressed, in a joint effort between the Department and Fond du Lac County Sheriff's Office, in accordance with Wis. Stat. § 66.0139.
- (11) It is unlawful for any person to dispose of any personal household garbage, sewage, bottles, cans, paper, or other waste material in any manner except by placing the same in clearly marked receptacles provided for such purposes or to dump any refuse at any facility. Any such garbage and refuse shall be incidental to recreational use of the facility only.
- (12) Charcoal residue shall not be discarded onto any grounds nor into any containers other than those designated for such purpose.
- (13) It is unlawful to operate any vehicle in any areas that aren't established roads, or parking areas, unless specified in a special event agreement issued by the Department. It is unlawful to park any vehicle in any areas that aren't established parking areas, unless specified in a special event agreement issued by the Department.
- (14) No person other than County employees shall park in designated employee parking areas as posted.
- (15) It is unlawful within any facility for any person to start, tend, or maintain any fire or to burn any refuse, except at designated fireplaces, or grills unless otherwise posted; and it is also unlawful for any person to leave unattended or abandon any fire, to discard any matches, cigarettes, cigars, pipe ashes, or embers without first extinguishing them. It is unlawful to have a bonfire or campfire in any upright cooking grill. All persons having fires in any grill or ground fire pit in any facility shall be responsible for completely extinguishing fires prior to leaving a campsite or picnic area for any reason.
- (16) It is unlawful for any person to possess, fire, discharge, explode, or set off any squib, cracker, or other explosive, projectile, or pyrotechnic device containing powder or other combustible or explosive material except by permission of the Department.
- (17) It is unlawful for any person to park, stop, or leave standing, whether attended or unattended, any motor vehicle in any manner which is:
  - a. Blocking, obstructing, or limiting the use of any road, trail, or parking lot;
  - b. Outside of any area provided for such purpose;
  - c. Contrary to posted notice; or
  - d. Parked in a designated handicap stall without proper permit.
- (18) Any person that owns pet animals, must abide by the following regulations while using any facility designated in this Chapter:
  - a. No person shall allow their pet animal to enter any structure at any facility, unless specified in a special event agreement issued by the Department or given specific permission by the Department.
  - b. Dogs shall at all times be kept on a leash of eight (8) feet or less. Other pet animals shall be effectively restrained or under the owner's control at all times.

- c. Pet owners, shall clean up and properly dispose of all fecal matter deposited by their animals.
  - d. No pet animal shall be tied up to any trees, benches, tables, or other equipment at any facility at any time. For the purposes of this section, “other equipment” will be defined with the following examples: fire hydrant, trash/recycle receptacle, etc.
  - e. Any guide dog, signal dog, or other animal that is individually trained to accompany persons with disabilities and law enforcement K-9 animals, are allowed at all facilities and any structure at a facility.
- (19) It is unlawful for any person to take, catch, kill, hunt, trap, pursue, or otherwise capture any wild animals or birds in any facility or to use firearms or archery equipment at any facility.
- (20) It is unlawful for any person to consume alcohol beverages at any facility between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m.
- a. Subsection (20) does not apply to a person that has a campground reservation at the Fairground Campground but these persons still must obey the designated quiet hours for both campsites.
  - b. Subsection (20) does not apply to any person that has been issued a special event agreement by the Department which states the hours of consuming alcohol beverages have been specified.
  - c. Subsection (20) also abides by Sec. 6-1 through 6-4 of the County Code of Ordinances.
  - d. Any person requiring an alcohol beverage permit must abide by the procedures referenced in Sec. 43.09(3)(d-e).
- (21) No person shall possess or dispose of any glass containers or bottles at any facility, unless specified in a special event agreement issued by the Department or given specific permission by the Department.

**Sec. 43.06      *WEAPON REGULATIONS.***

- (1) Subject to section (1)(a), no person other than a sheriff, police officer, or deputy, shall: fire, discharge or shoot any dangerous weapon or airgun; nor shall any person engage in trapping or hunt with bow and arrow, or crossbow, within any facility. Any individual who is legal to possess a firearm may openly carry a dangerous weapon, or conceal carry a dangerous weapon if issued a concealed carry permit, at any facility. It is the responsibility of the individual to understand and comply with all federal, state and local firearms laws and regulations, including laws authorizing or prohibiting concealed carry, before entering a County facility.
- a. Subsection (1) does not apply to the discharge of a “dangerous weapon” or “airgun” if the actor’s conduct is justified or, had it been subject to a criminal penalty, would have been subject to a defense described in Wis. Stat. § 939.45.
  - b. For purposes of this section, “dangerous weapon” is defined by Wis. Stat. § 939.22(10).

- c. For purposes of this section “air gun” is defined by Wis. Stat. § 939.22(2), and is prohibited.
- d. For purposes of this section, “bow” and “crossbow” are defined by Wis. Stat. § 29.001(17) and (19m), and is prohibited.
- e. For purposes of this section, a person with a concealed to carry license will be defined as a ‘licensee’, which is defined by Wis. Stat. § 175.60(1)(d), and will be regulated under Wis. Stat. § 941.23.
- f. For events for which a Class “B” license has been issued under Wis. Stat. Ch. 125, compliance with State Law Wis. Stat. Sec. 941.237 is required.

Sec. 43.07      *CAMPGROUND REGULATIONS.*      The following regulations apply to the Fond du Lac County Fairgrounds as administered by the Committee and enforced by the Department with the assistance of the Fond du Lac County Sheriff’s Office:

- (1) Camping shall be allowed only at designated campsites and overflow areas as approved by the Department or an individual designated by the Department. A person interested in camping at either of these facilities must complete a campsite reservation with the Department or an individual designated by the Department.
- (2) Online reservations may be accepted for person and group campsites as of the first day of January for the coming year. Please note the following:
  - a. Payments must be made in full at the time of the reservation.
  - b. Cancellations requested prior to seven (7) days of the first night of the reservation will be refunded in the form of a coupon code to be used at a future camping visit at the Fond du Lac County Fairgrounds for the same year or next calendar year.
  - c. Cancellations requested within 4-6 days of the first night of the reservation will result in a forfeiture of the first night’s camping fee. Any camping fees for subsequent nights will be refunded in the form of a coupon code to be used at a future camping visit at Fond du Lac County Fairgrounds for the same year or next calendar year.
  - d. Reservations cancelled within 3 days or less of the first night of the reservation will result in a forfeiture of all camping and reservation fees.
  - e. The transaction fee is non-refundable.
- (3) No person shall camp and no camping unit shall remain at the Fond du Lac County Fairgrounds for a period in excess of fourteen (14) days in any four week period during the camping season; the camping season is determined at the discretion of the Department. Thereafter, the camping unit must be removed from the property for at least seven days before the camping party is eligible to return. Extensions may be granted for camping reservations at the discretion of the Department or an individual designated by the Department.
- (4) All camping reservations expire at 3:00 p.m. on the last day of the reservation’s duration. Any extensions for camping reservations must be obtained prior to 10:00 a.m. on the expiration date of the reservation. Check-in for camping reservations begin at 3:00 p.m. unless otherwise arranged with a campground host or the Department.

- (5) Reserved campsites must be occupied by a member of the group by 8:00 p.m. on the first day of the reservation otherwise the reservation will be forfeited, unless otherwise arranged with the Department or an individual designated by the Department.
- (6) No person may obtain a camping reservation for use by a group of which that individual is not a member.
- (7) Except as may be approved by the Department, it is unlawful for more than one group or family to occupy a single campsite.
- (8) No campsite may be left unoccupied by a group for more than 24 hours.
- (9) No person shall camp on any lands under the management, supervision, or control of the Department, unless it is land designated as a campsite.
- (10) Registered campers are able to use the dump station facility, if accessible, as part of their camping fee. All other persons must pay the non-guest fee prior to using a facility's dump station, if accessible.
- (11) Campsite occupancy will be restricted to only independent camping units. Not more than one RV, or not more than one RV and one tent.
- (12) No registered camping party shall move from its assigned campsite to another campsite without prior approval of the Department or an individual designated by the Department.
- (13) No camping party shall set up or take down its camping unit between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and the following 6:00 a.m. except with authorization of the Department or an individual designated by the Department, or in case of an emergency.
- (14) Quiet hours shall be observed between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. No music, loud noises, or operation of loud vehicles shall be allowed during the designated quiet hours' time frame.
- (15) No person may park any motor vehicle outside the parking area designated at each campsite. No person may park more than 2 motor vehicles in the parking area of any campsite; vehicles must remain on the designated parking areas.
- (16) With the exception of registered campers, no person shall be allowed in the campground area designated between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and the following 6:00 a.m. except in case of an emergency.
- (17) The violation of any law or county ordinance by any member of a camping party shall constitute cause for revocation of the camping reservation for the campsite in question.
- (18) The Committee shall have the authority to add or remove campsites at the Fond du Lac County Fairgrounds at any time they see fit.
- (19) The Department may adopt additional rules and regulations of the use of the campground which shall take effect upon approval by the Committee and upon posting on the campgrounds.

Sec. 43.08      *SPECIAL RULES FOR USE OF MOTOR VEHICLES.*

- (1) No person shall operate any "vehicle", as defined in Wis. Stats. § 340.01(74), except on the road or parking lots located in any facility unless given specific permission by the Department.
- (2) No person shall operate any motor vehicle at a speed greater than 15 miles per hour/posted on any road located within any facility.
- (3) No all-terrain vehicles or utility task vehicles (ATV/UTV) are permitted on any part of any facility, unless specified in a special event agreement issued by the Department.
- (4) Snowmobiles are not permitted on any area of any facility, unless allowed by the Committee.

Sec. 43.09 *FEES AND CHARGES.*

- (1) **Fee Administration.** Except as otherwise provided, it shall be unlawful for any person to use any facility without payment of the fees as provided by the fee schedule on file with the Department, or for failure to properly display stickers, tags, or other indicia of payment of the fee as provided by the fee schedule on file with the Department.
  - a. Whoever enters any facility without paying an admission fee when an admission fee is being charged, shall be subject to the provisions of Section 1-8.
- (2) **Fee Adjustments.** Fees shall be set by resolution of the County Board and by the Fairgrounds Department, and may be amended by either from time to time. A fee schedule may be obtained from the Fairgrounds Department.
- (3) **Permits and Procedures.** The following activities or uses require a permit or reservation, and payment of the appropriate fee per the fee schedule, from the Department:
  - a. To use land within any facility for any commercial or business purpose.
  - b. Camping at Fond du Lac County Fairgrounds.
  - c. To use enclosed halls, shelters, or pavilions.
  - d. Permits for alcohol beverage consumption must be obtained at least thirty days before the scheduled event. Permits for alcohol beverage consumption by groups of seventy-five (75) people or more will require Deputy Reserves from the Fond du Lac County Sheriff's Office.
  - e. Permits for the consumption of alcohol beverages are not required for registered campers in campsites consisting of nine or fewer persons.

Sec. 43.10 *ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS.* In addition to the foregoing rules, the Department is hereby authorized to adopt such further temporary rules and regulations for the use of the facilities for the purpose of addressing maintenance, weather, emergency, or such other similar situations.

Sec. 43.11 *ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT.*

- (1) **Implementation.** The Department shall develop procedures, to be approved by the Committee, for the implementation of the fees provided for in this Chapter.



(2) **Enforcement.** Any person who violates any of the provisions of this chapter shall be subject to the provisions of Section 1-8. Any person must understand that:

- a. Any law enforcement officer may issue a citation or arrest any offender who is in violation of any provision of this chapter. The officer shall have, at all times, the right to enter the premises of any building, structure or enclosure in any facility for the purpose of inspection or investigation of disturbances. This chapter provides special authority to any municipal, county or state officer to act as agent of the county in inspection or investigation of disturbances.
- b. Law Enforcement officers have a duty to suppress any unlawful assembly or disturbance inside any county owned facility. The officer shall have, at all times, the right to enter the premises of any building, structure, or enclosure at any facility for the purpose of inspection or investigation of disturbances. This article provides special authority to any municipal, county or state officer to act as an agent of the county in inspection or investigation of disturbances.
- c. The Department or Special Event representative must have a copy of the agreement filed and/or in any person's possession to show proof of the event, if requested by the Fond du Lac County Sheriff's Office.

Sec. 43.12 *UW-EXTENSION EDUCATION, AGRICULTURE, AND RECREATION COMMITTEE.* For the purposes of this section, please see Section 42.15, UW-Extension Education, Agriculture, and Recreation Committee.

Sec. 43.13 *COMMITTEE MEETINGS.* For the purposes of this section, please see Section 42.16, Committee Meetings.

Sec. 43.14 *STAFF SERVICES.* For the purposes of this section, please see Section 42.17, Staff Services.