

## BOONE COUNTY CONSERVATION PARK RULES AND REGULATIONS

(6/16/2026)

- 4.1     Park Rules**- All public areas controlled by Boone County Conservation Board shall be open at 5:30 a.m. and close at 10:30 p.m. in compliance with Section 461A.46, Code of Iowa.
- 4.2     Rules and Regulations**- Conduct of all activities such as fishing, hunting, swimming, boating, horseback riding, games, etc., shall be governed by the Conservation Board and posted in each individual area. Upon posting and publishing as required by law, said rules and regulations shall become a part of this law and are enforceable as such (Section 461A.35), Code of Iowa.
- 4.2A   Commercial Activities, Vendors, and Solicitation** – Commercial activities are prohibited on Boone County Conservation property unless authorized by the Boone County Conservation Board through a lease, concession agreement, or permit. No person or entity shall sell, offer for sale, purchase, solicit business, or provide goods or services on Boone County Conservation property without such authorization. Examples include, but are not limited to, guided recreation services, boat or fishing tours, firewood sales, food trucks, mobile food vendors, ice cream vendors, and similar commercial enterprises.
- 4.3     Vehicles and Boats**- Only licensed motor vehicles, motorcycles, and mopeds, shall be permitted to operate in county parks; said vehicles shall operate only on designated roadways.
- 4.3A     A** registered all-terrain vehicle or off-road utility vehicle may be operated in county parks on any designated roadway that a licensed motor vehicle is authorized to operate. An all-terrain vehicle or off-road utility vehicle shall not be operated off-road within county parks. Only authorized golf carts are permitted within Boone County Conservation Parks, not to include the Don Williams Golf Course.
- 4.3B     Boats** and other motorized vessels shall be operated at no greater than a no-wake speed at Don Williams Lake.
- 4.3C     Motorized vessels** shall not be operated within designated swim areas.
- 4.3D   Boat Ramps**- Magnet fishing is prohibited within 50 feet of boat ramps. Fishermen must yield to boat users on boat ramps. Playing or swimming on boat ramps is prohibited.
- 4.4     Metal Detectors**- The use of metal detectors for recreational purposes on Boone County Conservation lands under Conservation Board jurisdiction shall be subject to a letter of authorization issued from the official Board office by the Director, and shall be limited as follows.
- 4.4A     Detection equipment** shall be limited to public beaches from sunrise to sunset from Memorial Day to Labor Day.
- 4.4B     Use of Detection equipment** on county areas outside of the designated beaches shall require special permit and inspection of the requested search area by the Director or representative of the Board.
- 4.4C     The area searched** shall be left in the same condition as before digging excavation began.
- 4.4D     A statement of values and items found** shall be turned into the County Conservation Board office by permit holder after each search within five (5) days.

- 4.4E** The Director or representative of the Board may further restrict or rescind a permit for cause.
- 4.4F** The Boone County Conservation Board and its employees shall be free of all liability arising as result of or in connection with this activity.
- 4.5** **Posting of Public Lands-** The Boone County Conservation Board hereby establishes its policy concerning boundaries and posting of signs on public lands acquired by the Board, based upon policies and signage required by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources in Section 461A.19, Code of Iowa.
- 4.5A** The Boone County Conservation Board shall determine the boundary lines between county-owned property under its jurisdiction and privately-owned property when the Board deems it feasible and necessary, and shall, where deemed advisable, mark the same so that the boundaries of such county owned property may be easily ascertainable to the public.
- 4.6** **Firearms and Archery-** The use of firearms or weapons for any other reason than a legal hunt on designated hunting areas is prohibited. "Use" is defined as brandishing, bartering, striking with, firing, or attempting to fire the weapon. Target shooting is prohibited.
- 4.6A** Archery is prohibited, except during a legal hunt on designated hunting areas, or during a Boone County Conservation Board approved event or program.
- 4.7** **Campground Rules and Regulations-**
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|-------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 4.7A- Authorization     | 4.7I- Noise              | 4.7Q- Staff                     |
| 4.7B- Camping Fees      | 4.7J- Check-Out Time     | 4.7R- Youth Camping             |
| 4.7C- Camping Equipment | 4.7K- Vehicles           | 4.7S- Vegetation                |
| 4.7D- Registration      | 4.7L- Refuse Collection  | 4.7T- Handicapped Parking       |
| 4.7E- Campsites         | 4.7M- Facilities         | 4.7U- Swimming                  |
| 4.7F- Duration of Stay  | 4.7N- Shower Houses      | 4.7V- Occupied Campsites        |
| 4.7G- Abandonment       | 4.7O- Animals            | 4.7W- Inflatable Play Equipment |
| 4.7H- Quiet Hours       | 4.7P- Refusal of Camping |                                 |
- 4.7A** **Authorization-** The Boone County Conservation Board is hereby authorized to charge fees for camping and other special privileges which shall be in such amounts as may be determined by the Board upon a basis of the cost of providing reasonable value of such privileges (461A.48, Code of Iowa). It shall be unlawful to camp or occupy a campsite on any designated campgrounds under the control of Boone County Conservation Board without observing established rules and regulations.
- 4.7B** **Camping Fees-** The Boone County Conservation Board, as empowered in Section 461A.47 Code of Iowa, shall establish the fee schedule.
- 4.7C** **Camping Equipment-** Camping equipment shall be considered a camping unit when it consists of any of the following pieces or combination of pieces of equipment, with one camping unit allowed per campsite. A reservation holder may erect one additional standard-sized tent at an RV site or a tent site, for no extra charge. Rangers and the Director have the right to determine if the tents are oversized. Camping units shall be backed in on electric sites in campgrounds A and B at Don Williams.

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|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| A. Station wagon or van       | E. Converted bus                                                         |
| B. Any motor vehicle and tent | F. Pick-up plus topper                                                   |
| C. Any vehicle and trailer    | G. Any portable shelter or sleeping gear associated with camping         |
| D. Motor home                 | H. Director's discretion may be used to determine if it's a camping unit |

**4.7D     Registration**- Campers must register prior to establishing camp in county areas and pay established fees.

Only campers 18 years of age or older are permitted to register and occupy a site. Failure to register is a misdemeanor. (461A.5D Code of Iowa)

**4.7E     Campsites**- Campers shall erect camping equipment and camp at designated campsites only. Registered campers shall maintain campsites in a reasonable safe, serviceable, clean, and presentable condition. Non-camping equipment shall not be stored around campsite. Food shall be stored in a way that does not attract animals.

**4.7F     Duration of Stay**- No camping unit or camper shall be permitted to camp for a period in excess of 14 days within a 28-day period in a limited stay site. After 14 nights, a camping unit or camper shall be required to leave the limited stay sites within a campground until the end of the 28-day period. All limited stay sites shall be cumulative when used by a camping unit or camper. Duration of stay is not restricted in extended stay sites.

**4.7G     Abandonment**- Camping units three days in arrears on camping fees shall be considered abandoned.

**4.7H     Quiet Hours**- All campers must maintain quiet hours in the campgrounds between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. Visitors must leave area by 10:30 p.m. or be subject to a fine as unauthorized visitors after park closing hours.

**4.7I     Noise**- Loud and raucous noise of any kind is prohibited, including noise from radios, televisions, musical instruments, generators, or similar noise producing devices operated in such manner or at any time as to disturb other campers. The Director or designated Board representatives may approach the offender and request the disturbance cease.

**4.7J     Check Out**- Check out time for all campers at fee camping areas shall be 3:00 p.m. Campers remaining in the campgrounds past the check out time will be required to pay an additional day of camping fee as set forth in the fee schedule.

**4.7K     Vehicles**- Only one vehicle for travel will be allowed at designated campsites. Visitors and extra vehicles must be parked in designated areas away from campsite. Self-propelled campers may have one extra vehicle per site for transportation purposes.

**4.7L     Refuse Collection**- Garbage shall be placed in trash receptacles provided. All coals must be placed in charcoal grills or fire rings provided by county. Garbage shall not be placed or burned in fire rings or charcoal grills.

**4.7M     Facilities**- Each camping unit shall be restricted to one picnic table.

**4.7N     Shower Houses**- Campground shower houses shall be restricted to registered guests and their visitors.

(1) Electric hand dryers permanently installed shall not be used for hair drying.

- (2) Animals are prohibited in shower houses or at drinking fountains.
- (3) Children are prohibited from playing in shower houses.
- (4) It shall be prohibited to take hot water from shower houses.
- (5) Fish cleaning shall be prohibited in shower houses and at drinking fountains.

**4.7O     Animals**- Privately owned animals shall be leashed and not tied to park vegetation. Every such animal shall be kept on a leash not to exceed six (6) feet. All animal waste material shall be collected and bagged for pick-up (461A.45 Code of Iowa). Pets shall not be left unattended.

**4.7P     Refusal of Camping**- Director or designated Board representatives are given authority to refuse camping privileges and to rescind any and all camping permits for cause, including failure to follow these rules, which is within the power of the Board to protect the health, welfare, and safety of the public (461A.51 Code of Iowa).

**4.7Q     Staff**- Boone County Conservation Board staff members, when on duty, shall be granted free use of camping facilities for added surveillance and experience within a particular area by the Director.

**4.7R     Youth Camping**- Adult supervised youth groups will be permitted to camp in designated areas in the county park system. Such special areas will be restricted to tents and will require a reservation and be scheduled for use of the area. Adult supervision is required at all times.

**4.7S     Vegetation**- No person shall use park vegetation for the purpose of erecting a clothes line, or any other weight bearing structure, nor shall any vegetation be used as a clothesline 461A.41 Code of IA. Hammocks may only be hung on mature trees using tree-safe straps. The use of chainsaws is prohibited, unless granted special permission by the Director.

**4.7T     Handicapped Parking**- Handicapped campers or visitors shall be allowed to park a second vehicle at a campsite if the vehicle displays a handicapped sticker in the proper place.

**4.7U     Swimming**- Swimming shall be in designated areas only and at your own risk. No person shall be allowed to swim after dark. Alcohol, pets, and glass shall be prohibited in the beach area. The use of swimming and wading pools is prohibited.

**4.7V     Occupied Campsites**- Campsites will not be considered occupied unless campsite is paid for and occupied by a vehicle or other type of camping equipment (as explained in 4.6C Camping Equipment).

**4.7W     Inflatable Play Equipment**- Inflatable play equipment such as bounce houses, water slides, etc. are prohibited.