

### Proposed Amendment to the Code of Ordinances

for Introduction March 27, 2017

#### Sec. 14-121. Establishment and purpose of rules and regulations.

The rules and regulations as set out in this article are hereby established for the management and protection of the parks and other public lands, defined as areas operated as recreational areas or conservation areas, owned by the Town of Falmouth and for the protection of the persons lawfully entitled to use same.

1. *Park hours of operation.*

- a. Parks and public lands shall normally be open to the public from sunrise until sunset unless otherwise posted. The public is prohibited from being in parks when they are closed to public use except as authorized by the town manager or designee.
- b. The town manager or designee is authorized to close any park or portion thereof at any time for the protection of park property or the public health, safety or welfare.
- c. Notwithstanding a. above, the Woods Road Community Forest shall be closed to the public from December 1 to March 30 each year per Department of Environmental Protection Order L-13859-L3-M-M as a maintained wintering deer yard.
- d. River Point Conservation Area is closed to pets and animals.

6. *Pets/animals.*

- a. Pets and animals are permitted off-leash in parks and on public lands, trails and other designated areas as long as they are within voice command of their custodian, with the following exceptions. When required to be on leash, it shall be no longer than ten feet and held by a person physically able to control the animal.
  - 1) during any scheduled/organized activity or event;
  - 2) within 300 feet of any trailhead or parking area; and
  - 3) prohibited in designated child play areas;
  - 4) Prohibited during the breeding season of April 1 to September 30 at the Hadlock Community Forest, North Falmouth Community Forest and Suckfish Brook Conservation Area.
- a. ~~All dogs must be on a leash, cord or chain, not longer than ten feet, held by a person physically able to control the dog, during any scheduled/organized activity or event. Animals are not permitted in designated child play areas. Dogs are permitted to use trails and other designated areas off-leash as long as they are within voice command of their custodian.~~