

Alcohol Use at Park Facilities

Reference Number PAR 01.00.04

Purpose

To maintain the Parks and Recreation Department's goal of inclusive, family-focused use of parks, the general prohibition against consumption of alcohol will be maintained in park facilities. The purpose of this policy is to provide provisions for exceptions to this prohibition for special requests by responsible parties that do not conflict with other park uses.

Scope

This policy applies to all individuals or groups, commercial or non-commercial, that propose to serve or consume alcohol in city park facilities for special organized events through a written agreement. This policy does not apply to the opening or consuming of any alcohol on park property during everyday park use, which is strictly prohibited in accordance with BMC 8.04.150.

Policy Level

Departmental

Definitions

Agreement - refers to a written agreement between the city and the applicant setting forth the terms and conditions for using city park facilities.

Applicant/Renter - refers to both commercial and non-commercial individuals, groups or businesses.

City - refers to the City of Bellingham Parks Department

Commercial - refers to all individuals, groups or businesses who charge admissions, class fees, sell tickets, food or other items, solicit funds or donations, offer other for-profit activities or promote a commercial business.

Facilities - includes all City of Bellingham Parks and Recreation Department managed buildings, shelters, gazebos, amphitheater, open space areas, trails, game fields, stadiums and courts.

Non-Commercial - refers to all other individuals, groups, or businesses that do not charge admissions, do not charge class fees, do not sell tickets, food or other items, do not solicit funds or donations, do not offer other for-profit activities or do not promote a commercial business. 501(c) organizations are considered non-commercial if they are not conducting commercial activities as described above. If 501(c) organizations conduct activities fitting the definition of "commercial" then these organizations will be considered "commercial".

Special Events - refers to one-time activities scheduled in park facilities approved by the city through a special events reservation request form and agreement.

Policy/Conditions

1. City May Approve Alcohol in Parks for Special Events Only

Alcohol consumption, service, or open containers in Parks is strictly prohibited.

Exceptions include special events approved in writing by the Park Director and ongoing contractual agreements in compliance with the remaining sections of this policy.

2. City Requires Written Agreements

Written agreements are required and may include the following:

- name and contact information of applicant
- type of event
- number of attendees
- duration of events
- other approvals required
- names and business license of servers
- insurance requirements
- fence plan
- site security plan

Agreements will not result in any loss of the City's administrative rights, jurisdiction or authority.

3. City Requires Damage Deposit

Applicants must provide a damage deposit in the amount set forth in the terms of a written agreement between the city and applicant.

Provisions for the damage deposit shall also be included in the written agreement between the City and applicant.

4. City Requires Certificate of Liability Insurance and Endorsement

City requires applicants to provide a certificate of liability insurance and endorsement for any event where alcohol is opened, served or consumed.

The certificate of liability of insurance must provide coverage in an amount specified by the City Attorney, include liquor liability and list the contracting party as the insured. The certificate of liability insurance must name the City of Bellingham as additional insured and include an endorsement and must be in a form acceptable to the city. The applicant's insurance must be primary.

The certificate of liability insurance and endorsement must be submitted at least fifteen (15) calendar days prior to the event.

5. City Requires Compliance with Other Laws and Codes

Alcohol use at park facilities is subject to compliance with all city, state and federal codes and laws.

When requested, applicants must provide written documentation of all approvals to the city.

Opening, serving and consuming alcohol shall also comply with the Washington State Liquor Control Board rules and regulations.

6. City Requires Additional Restrictions

Approval by the Washington State Liquor Control Board is required in advance of the special event. Approval must be provided to the city in writing.

Alcohol use in open areas must be fully fenced with a monitored and controlled entrance/exit. Entrances must be compliant with fire and safety egress laws.

7. City Reserves the Right to Deny Approval

Any request may be denied approval for any reason as determined by the Park Director.

Status	Active
Level	Departmental
Chapter	Parks, Recreation and Cemetery
Section	
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Revised	
Approved By	James King, Parks & Recreation Director
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