

CHAPTER 140

ACTIVE PUBLIC PARK DISTRICT

140.01 Purpose.

140.02 Use Regulations.

140.01 PURPOSE.

The Active Public Park District is established to provide recreational facilities for the community within a park-like setting and atmosphere; to promote certain healthy and beneficial outdoor leisure time activities for park users which do not present a significant risk of harm to others; and to afford reasonable access for the public to outdoor athletic, social and educational activities. Unlike the Passive Public Park District, this district recognizes that certain outdoor activities may require modification and alteration of natural terrain and disturbances of natural habitat. The Active Public Park District is created to achieve a balance between the public's need for active outdoor recreational facilities and the preservation of open space.

140.02 USE REGULATIONS.

- (a) Permitted Uses: Only the following uses shall be permitted in the Active Public Park District as designated on the township zoning map.

All uses permitted in a Passive Public Park District.

Picnic grounds, barbecue pits and similar cooking facilities.

Shelters, observation decks, platforms, pavilions, storage sheds, patios, and restroom facilities.

Pedestrian walkways, sidewalks, and bicycle trails.

Jogging trails, tennis courts, and bicycling paths.

- (b) Prohibited Uses: The following uses, though not exclusive, are specifically prohibited within an Active Public Park District.

Any activity involving operating, riding, or the use of the following:

All-terrain vehicles, motorbikes, snowmobiles, horses.

Golf courses.

Survival games.

Any activity involving the use of firearms, including hunting, skeet-shooting and target practice.

Crossbow or archery.

Dumping of trash, waste or other materials of any kind.

Fireworks.

Any use not listed as either permitted or conditional shall be prohibited.

- (c) Conditional Uses: Only the following conditional uses shall be allowed and must be approved by the Board of Zoning of Appeals.

Playgrounds.

Ball games, including hardball, softball, soccer, football, lacrosse, rugby, and other similar athletic activities.

Sports playing fields, dugouts, fences, backstops, goal posts, hard surface tennis courts and other similar structures or facilities necessary to carry on any permitted or conditional use. Accessories for existing uses are exempt.

Swimming pools, lakes, and ponds.

Ice skating rinks.

All conditional uses permitted in the Passive Public Park District.

The location and dimensions of all signs shall be in accordance with Chapter 173.

Governmental buildings and uses.

(d) Conditional use considerations: The Board of Zoning Appeals may refuse to approve a conditional use on the grounds that it fails to provide unity of development with other properties, fails to protect the public from a dangerous arrangement of vehicles, fails to adequately protect or buffer other property from any conflicting uses or districts, or is not consistent with the purposes of the Active Public Park District. The provisions of section 117.12 shall apply as well.

(e) Application Requirements.

None of the conditional uses authorized for an Active Public Park District may be allowed until a site plan and an application for a conditional zoning certificate have been submitted and approved pursuant to Chapters 109 and 117 of this resolution. In addition to the conditions set forth in said chapter, the site plan and application shall include the following information:

The location and dimensions of off-street parking, loading and unloading spaces shall be in accordance with Chapter 169.

Plans for compliance with soil sedimentation, erosion control and storm water management regulations enforced by the Geauga Soil and Water Conservation District or this resolution.

Proposed regulations to govern any conditional uses.

Park rules as submitted by the applicant.

(f) Maximum height of buildings and structures: The maximum height of any building or structure, with the exception of wireless telecommunications towers as outlined in Chapter 186 of this resolution, shall not exceed twenty-four (24) feet above the finished grade level.

(g) The minimum lot area shall be two acres.

(h) The maximum lot coverage shall be 10 percent.

(i) The minimum setback of any building, structure, or use shall be 100 feet from any property line in accordance with 117.13 (b) (1).

(j) The storage of maintenance or park related equipment, as well as any central trash collection areas, shall be in a fully enclosed building or structure.

(k) Where an active public park adjoins a residential district, a dense 50-foot-wide buffer of trees shall be installed and maintained so as to screen the park on a year round basis.

(l) The minimum distance between buildings on a lot shall be 20 feet.

- (m) Proof of compliance with the regulations of the applicable governmental agency regarding water and sewage facilities, if any, shall be provided.
- (n) Minimum lot frontage shall be 60 feet.