

4700 NE 78th Street Vancouver, WA 98665-0906

# **Frequently Asked Questions**

## Picnic shelter reservations

## Q: Which parks have reservable picnic shelters?

These parks all have picnic shelters that can be reserved for events and gatherings. When not reserved, the shelters are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Picnic shelters at all other county parks are not reservable.

- Captain William Clark Regional Park (two reservable shelters)
- Fairgrounds Community Park (two reservable shelters)
- Felida Community Park (one reservable shelter)
- Frenchman's Bar Regional Park (two reservable shelters)
- Hazel Dell Community Park (two reservable shelters)
- Hockinson Meadows Community Park (two reservable shelters)
- Lewisville Regional Park (13 reservable shelters)
- Orchards Community Park (one reservable shelter)
- Pacific Community Park (one reservable shelter)
- Salmon Creek Regional Park/Klineline Pond (two reservable shelters)
- Vancouver Lake Regional Park (two reservable shelters)

## Q: When are the picnic shelters available to reserve?

Reservations for most parks can be made for events occurring between April 1 and Oct. 31. Picnic shelters at Vancouver Lake Regional Park are available to reserve Memorial Day weekend through Oct. 31. Picnic shelter reservations may be made up to eleven months in advance (334 days) and no later than seven days before your event.

#### Q: How do I make a picnic shelter reservation?

Reservations can be made online or by phone. Online reservations can be made by visiting https://clark.wa.gov/public-works/picnic-shelter-reservations-and-events.

Phone reservations can be made by calling 564.397.2285 and selecting option 1. Phone reservations can be made during business hours (8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, except holidays). During seasons when we experience high call volumes, if you are not able to reach a live representative, please leave a voicemail and allow two to three business days to receive a response.

## Q: How much does it cost to reserve a picnic shelter?

Picnic shelter reservation fees currently range from \$50 to \$150 per day, depending on the size of the shelter. The fees help pay for maintenance and operation of the shelters.

Q: I'm interested in hosting an event at a park with non-reservable picnic shelters. Is there a way to find out if an event is already scheduled at that park for the date I'm interested in?

Yes. Call 564.397.2285 or email parksreservations@clark.wa.gov to find out if there are any special events scheduled in a park with non-reservable picnic shelters on the date you wish to have an event.

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## Parking fees

## Q: Which parks have parking fees?

Clark County charges daily parking fees year-round at four county regional parks:

- Frenchman's Bar Regional Park
- Lewisville Regional Park
- Salmon Creek Regional Park/Klineline Pond
- Vancouver Lake Regional Park

Daily parking fees at these four parks are:

- \$2 for motorcycles
- \$3 for vehicles
- \$6 for vehicles with trailers
- \$8 for buses or motor homes

## The parking fee can be paid via:

- The fee booth when fee collection staff are present (seasonal).
- A self-pay station (accepts cash, coin, credit/debit cards, contactless payment, Visa and MasterCard).
- The Flowbird Mobile app (download app, enter payment/vehicle info to create an account, select zone/location (park name) and pay).
- Text message.

## Q: If I visit these parks frequently, can I get a discount on parking?

Clark County offers an annual parking pass. The pass costs \$30 and can be used an unlimited number of times during the year it was purchased, at any Clark County park with a daily parking fee. Passes can be purchased online, by phone, or (seasonally) in person at Frenchman's Bar, Lewisville, and Vancouver Lake regional parks when staff are present at the fee booths.

There is no charge for people who walk or bicycle into any of these four parks. Washington State Parks Disabled Veteran Lifetime Pass holders are also exempt from parking fees.

## Q: Will my Washington State Parks Discover Pass work at the regional parks?

No. The Clark County Regional Park parking pass is the only pass that can be used at the county regional parks. Washington State Parks Disabled Veteran Lifetime Pass holders are exempt from county regional park parking fees.

## Q: Will I be charged a parking fee to drop someone or something off in the park?

No. You will not be charged a parking fee if you are dropping off or picking someone up. You are only required to pay the daily fee if you are parking your vehicle.



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## Special events in parks

## Q: Do I need a permit for my event?

Depending on the type of event, you may need to get a park use permit from Clark County. Examples of events that would require a park use permit:

- Weddings.
- Baptisms.
- Any gathering using amplified music or a loudspeaker.
- Any gathering using inflatable bounce house(s).
- Any public events, like athletic competitions, charity activities, car shows and concerts.

#### Q: What is a park use permit?

A park use permit gives you permission to host a special event and or bring special items and equipment to the park. The permit also describes any approved special services, like parking contracts or other staff assistance. A park use permit is not a reservation and may not grant you exclusive use of a non-reservable area, unless otherwise specified by the permit.

### Q: How do I apply for a park use permit?

Call 564.397.2285 to apply for a park use permit. Permit applications are accepted during business hours (8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, except holidays). During seasons when we experience high call volumes, if you are not able to reach a live representative, please leave a voicemail and allow two to three business days to receive a response.

## Q: Is alcohol allowed in the parks?

Alcohol consumption or possession is not allowed in parks, except with a park use permit. Permits allowing alcohol consumption are only granted for a small number of parks. For a full list of requirements to be granted a park use permit to have alcohol at an event, please call 564.397.2285.

## Q: Is amplified music allowed in the parks?

Amplified music is allowed in public parks on a case-by-case basis, with an approved park use permit. Non-amplified music (acoustic, boom box, iPod with small speakers) may be allowed without a permit. For more information or to apply for a permit, call 564.397.2285.

## Q: Are inflatable bounce houses and dunk tanks allowed in the parks?

Inflatable bounce houses provided by a vendor on the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries' certified amusement ride operators list (click here for the list) are allowed in many parks, with an approved park use permit. Personal bounce houses are prohibited. Dunk tanks are also prohibited.

The vendor you select is required to provide us with a Certificate of Liability Insurance naming "Clark County Parks" as an additional insured. The insurance must provide at least \$1M of general liability coverage.

## Q: Do other types of activities require proof of insurance?

Yes. Whether or not your event will need proof of insurance will be discussed during the park use permit application process. Some examples of other events that require proof of insurance include:



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- Any athletic event (i.e., triathlons, races, disc golf tournaments, etc.).
- Any event with vendors or where an admission fee is charged.
- Any event with dogs (i.e., dog shows, dog agility contests/trials, etc.).

### Q: Can I have a wedding or baptism at a park?

Yes. Weddings and baptisms are defined as a special event by Clark County Code 9.05 and are permitted on a case-by-case basis. A park use permit is required to have a special event at any county park. The size of the event, the location, and other factors are considered when determining if a park use permit will be granted. This process ensures that the park is suitable/compatible for that particular event. To have a wedding ceremony in a non-reservable location of Lewisville Park, we may require you to reserve a picnic shelter. Please contact us about your ceremony location so we may collaborate with you on this process.

Public parks are best suited for smaller, more intimate wedding ceremonies and receptions. If you are expecting more than 200 people, you may want to consider using a different type of facility.

Q: Can I get a park use permit for an event in a neighborhood park or a park without a picnic shelter? Park use permits are rarely issued for these parks because they are not designed or intended to host events. These parks generally lack parking, restrooms, utilities, and other infrastructure at the level needed to support events. However, depending on the type, size, and scope of the event, a park use permit may be considered on a case-by-case basis for these locations

#### Q: What does a park use permit cost?

Park use permit fees are tier based. The final cost is determined by, but not necessarily limited to the number of event participants at an event, if the event is recurring, if there are paid participants, and/or if there are unique or one-time maintenance requests, or any necessary on-site meetings and visits.

A schedule of park use permit fees can be provided in advance of your decision to pursue a park use permit.

## Other park questions

## Q: How do I find out about the status of a planned or undeveloped park?

Please visit our website at https://clark.wa.gov/public-works/park-projects-and-funding for information about county parks.

## Q: How do I get information about, or purchase, a fishing license?

Clark County does not issue fishing licenses. For information about licensing in Washington State, please visit the state Department of Fish and Wildlife at <a href="https://wdfw.wa.gov/licenses">https://wdfw.wa.gov/licenses</a>. A fishing license does not exempt you from paying parking fees at county parks where they are charged.

#### Q: Where can I go swimming?

While swimming or water contact with rivers, lakes, ponds, etc., is permitted at all county parks, visitors should be aware of the hazards involved with swimming in natural bodies of water and how to practice swim safety. Swimming and water contact are not allowed at Lucia Falls Regional Park because the waters there are designated as a sensitive fish spawning grounds. To learn more about swimming in county parks, visit our swimming webpage.



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There are no lifeguards on duty in any county park.

#### Q: Can I camp at any of the parks?

Overnight camping is not allowed at any parks owned by Clark County.

#### Q: Can I bring my dog(s) to the park?

Unless it is otherwise posted, you may bring your dogs to most county parks. Clark County Code, section 8.15.020, requires that dogs be leashed at all times, unless you are within a designated off-leash area. Handlers must clean up after their pets.

As per Clark County Code 9.05.060, dogs are not allowed in the Klineline Pond area at Salmon Creek Regional Park. Dogs are also not allowed on the beach or grassy areas in Vancouver Lake Regional Park from April 1 to Oct. 31

## Q: Can I bring my barbeque to a park?

Yes, a personal gas or charcoal barbeque may be brought to any park as long as the barbeque is placed so it does not damage park property. Large barbeques towed on trailers are allowed on a case-by-case basis and require an approved park use permit. To apply for a park use permit or for more information, please call 564.397.2285.

## Q: Which county parks have boat launches?

- Lacamas Lake has two boat launches. One on the south side of the lake that is operated by the city
  of Camas, and one on the north side of the lake that is operated by the state Department of Fish
  and Wildlife. Both motorized and non-motorized boats are allowed on Lacamas Lake. However,
  motorized watercraft are prohibited on Round Lake east of the State Highway 500 bridge that
  divides Lacamas Lake and Round Lake. Round Lake is located on the southeast side of Everett
  Street.
- Daybreak Regional Park has a boat launch on the west side of Daybreak Road with access to the East Fork Lewis River.
- The Haapa Boat Launch provides access to the North Fork Lewis River.
- Vancouver Lake has a motorized boat launch on the south shore. It is operated by Washington
  State Department of Fish and Wildlife, but the lake is designated as a "no wake lake." Boats are
  permitted as long as they travel at low speeds that do not generate a wake. Motorized boats are
  prohibited within 200 feet of the designated swimming area. There is no boat launch at Vancouver
  Lake Regional Park. Personal watercraft such as kayaks, canoes and stand-up paddleboards can be
  launched from the park's swim beach.