

PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT
Bylaw No. 2606, 2026

A bylaw to regulate the use of community parks and establish fees

WHEREAS the Regional Board of the Peace River Regional District has established a service for the provision of community parks within the electoral areas of the Regional District;

AND WHEREAS under the *Local Government Act*, a regional district may, by bylaw, regulate and prohibit in relation to a regional district service and provide for a system of licences, permits, or approvals, and impose fees and charges in relation to that service;

AND WHEREAS the Regional Board considers it necessary and desirable for the protection of public assets, environmental features, and the safety, health, and quiet enjoyment of park users to establish regulations and fees governing the use of its community parks;

NOW THEREFORE the Regional Board of the Peace River Regional District, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. This bylaw shall be cited as “Community Parks Regulation and Fees Bylaw No. 2606, 2026.”
2. If any portion of this bylaw is declared invalid by a court, the invalid portion shall be severed, and the remainder of the bylaw is deemed valid.
3. The headings used in this bylaw are for convenience only and do not form part of this bylaw and are not to be used in the interpretation of this bylaw.
4. A reference in this bylaw to an enactment is a reference to an enactment of the Province of British Columbia, revised, consolidated, or replaced from time to time.
5. A reference in this bylaw to a bylaw, policy or form of the Peace River Regional District is a reference to the bylaw, policy or form as amended, revised, consolidated or replaced from time to time.

DEFINITIONS

6. In this bylaw,

Authorized Personnel means a bylaw enforcement officer, peace officer, Regional District employee, contractor, or agent authorized by the Regional District to administer or enforce this bylaw;

Camping means the use of a park for overnight accommodation or habitation, including the use of tents, recreational vehicles, trailers, or other sleeping equipment;

Commercial Activity means the sale or offering for sale of goods or services for compensation;

Dawn means the time that is thirty (30) minutes before local sunrise;

Dusk means the time that is thirty (30) minutes after local sunset;

General Manager means the General Manager of Community Services for the Regional District, or their designate;

Licence means a written authorization issued by the Regional District for the use of all or part of a park, but does not include a Special Event Permit.

Off-Road Vehicle means a motorized vehicle designed or adapted primarily for travel on unpaved or natural terrain, but does not include an assistive device;

Natural Area means a park or portion of park space where the primary role is the protection of an undisturbed or relatively undisturbed area of land with characteristics of a natural or native plant community;

Park means the lands and facilities owned, operated, or managed by the Regional District that are listed in Schedule A;

Permit means a Special Event Permit or other authorization issued under this bylaw, but does not include a Licence;

Special Event means an organized gathering, activity, or function conducted in a park that is intended to attract participants or spectators;

Special Event Permit means a permit issued authorizing a person to advertise and hold a Special Event;

Vehicle means a device in, on, or by which a person or property is or may be transported, other than a device powered solely by human force;

Waste means discarded or abandoned material, including garbage, refuse, or rubbish.

GENERAL USE AND CONDUCT

7. Parks are open to the public between dawn and dusk unless otherwise posted.
8. A person shall not enter or remain in a park when it is closed to the public.
9. A person who uses a park does so at their own risk.
10. A person shall not engage in conduct in a park that:
 - a. unreasonably interferes with the use or enjoyment of the park by others;
 - b. endangers any person or property.
11. Without limiting the general prohibition on conduct, a person shall not:
 - a. obstruct access to park facilities;
 - b. interfere with another person's use of a park;
 - c. damage or remove any property in a park, including vegetation, natural features, structures, or equipment;
 - d. interfere with Authorized Personnel acting under this bylaw;

- e. construct, place, or install any structure in a park except where authorized by a permit, licence or agreement; or
- f. abandon property in a park.

NOISE

12. A person shall not make or cause noise that unreasonably disturbs others in a park.
13. Without limiting the general prohibition on unreasonable noise:
 - a. a person shall not use amplified sound in a park unless authorized by a permit, licence or agreement; and
 - b. a person shall not make noise between 11:00 pm and 7:00 am that unreasonably disturbs others.

CAMPING

14. A person shall not camp in a park except where authorized by a permit, licence, agreement or posted signage.

COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY

15. A person shall not carry on commercial activity in a park unless that activity is authorized by a permit, licence, or agreement.

VEHICLES AND OFF-ROAD VEHICLES

16. A person shall not operate a vehicle in a park except on a roadway or in a parking area designated for that purpose.
17. A person shall not operate a vehicle in a park at a speed greater than any posted speed limit.
18. A person shall not operate an off-road vehicle in a park except where such activity is authorized by signage or by a permit.
19. A person shall not operate an off-road vehicle in a park:
 - a. so as to enter or pass through, or disturb or damage, a watercourse; or
 - b. in a manner that disturbs or damages a natural area.
20. A person shall not wash, clean, repair, or perform maintenance on a vehicle in a park except where reasonably necessary to address an emergency and to enable the vehicle to be removed from the park.
21. Nothing in this bylaw shall be interpreted to prohibit the use of assistive devices.

ANIMALS

22. A person may bring a dog into a park only if the dog is
 - a. under control;
 - b. on a leash not exceeding 2 metres in length; and
 - c. not permitted to endanger any person, animal, or property.

23. A person who has control of a dog in a park shall immediately remove any excrement deposited by the dog and dispose of it in an appropriate receptacle.
24. A person must not ride, lead, or have charge of a horse or livestock animal in a park unless:
- a. in an area designated by the Regional District for that purpose; or
 - b. authorized by a permit, licence or agreement.
25. A person riding, leading, or having charge of a horse or other livestock animal in a park must:
- a. keep the animal under control;
 - b. collect all excrement deposited by the animal and:
 - i. remove it from the park; or
 - ii. deposit it in a receptacle provided for that purpose;
 - c. not permit the animal to:
 - i. endanger any person, animal, or property; or
 - ii. damage park infrastructure or unreasonably interfere with other park users; and
 - d. comply with signage or park designations.

WASTE AND LITTER

26. A person shall not deposit waste in a park except in a receptacle provided for that purpose.
27. A person shall not deposit or release any substance into a body of water in a park that may contaminate or pollute the water.
28. A person shall not release or dispose of sewage, grey water, or waste from a holding tank in a park except at a sanitary disposal facility provided or designated for that purpose.
29. A person shall not urinate or defecate in a park except in a toilet facility provided or designated for that purpose.

FIRES

30. A person shall not start or maintain a fire in a park except where:
- a. the fire is contained in a fire pit or facility designated for that purpose; and
 - b. the fire is not prohibited under any applicable enactment.

WILDLIFE, FIREWORKS, AND WEAPONS

31. A person shall not:
- a. harass, injure, trap, or kill wildlife in a park, or permit an animal in their custody or control to do so; or
 - b. feed wildlife in a park.
32. A person shall not carry or discharge a firearm in a park.
33. A person shall not ignite, use, or discharge fireworks or any explosive device in a park.

ALCOHOL AND CANNABIS

34. A person shall not consume alcohol or cannabis in a park except where authorized by a permit, licence or agreement.

35. A person shall not sell or provide alcohol or cannabis in a park except where authorized by a permit, licence or agreement.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR MINORS

36. A person who has care or control of a minor in a park shall not permit the minor to contravene this bylaw.

PARK CLOSURES

37. The General Manager may close all or part of a park where necessary for public safety, environmental protection, maintenance, repair, or events, or in response to any urgent circumstance requiring immediate action to protect persons or property.

38. A person shall not enter or remain in any park that has been closed.

AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL

39. This bylaw does not apply to a person acting in the course of their duties on behalf of the Regional District, or to a person engaged in emergency response, to the extent necessary to carry out those duties.

PROPERTY REMOVAL

40. Authorized Personnel may remove any property left in contravention of this bylaw or that creates a safety hazard, obstruction, or interference with the use of a park.

41. Property removed under this bylaw may be stored and returned to its owner upon payment of the costs of removal and storage.

42. Property that is not claimed within a reasonable period may be disposed of by the Regional District.

43. Authorized Personnel may immediately dispose of any property that is reasonably believed to be waste, perishable, unsafe, hazardous, or without apparent value.

44. Where a vehicle, including an off-road vehicle, is removed under this section, the Regional District may cause the vehicle to be towed and stored at the expense of the owner or person responsible.

SPECIAL EVENT PERMITS

45. A person shall not hold a special event in a park without first obtaining a permit.

46. A person may apply for a permit by submitting an application to the Regional District, in the form required by the Regional District, not less than 30 days before the proposed event or within such shorter period as the Regional District may accept, and by paying the applicable fee.

47. Upon receipt of an application for a permit and payment of the applicable fee, the General Manager may

- a. issue or refuse a permit;
- b. impose terms and conditions on a permit that the General Manager considers appropriate to ensure the safe and proper use of the park; and
- c. authorize an exemption, in whole or in part, from one or more provisions of this bylaw.

48. An applicant whose permit application is refused, or whose permit is issued with terms and conditions, may request reconsideration of the decision by submitting a written request to the Regional District within 14 days of receiving notice of the decision.
49. A request for reconsideration must set out the reasons for the request and may include any additional information the applicant wishes to be considered.
50. Upon reconsideration, the Regional District may:
 - a. confirm the decision;
 - b. vary the terms and conditions of the permit; or
 - c. issue a permit.
51. The General Manager must not issue a permit unless the applicable fee has been paid.
52. Where the General Manager imposes terms and conditions on a permit, the permit must not be issued unless the applicant:
 - a. agrees in writing to those terms and conditions; and
 - b. complies with any requirements imposed by the General Manager as a condition of issuance.
53. The General Manager may suspend or revoke a permit where:
 - a. the terms and conditions of the permit are not complied with;
 - b. the activity authorized by the permit poses a risk to public safety or property; or
 - c. false or misleading information was provided in support of the application.
54. The General Manager may refuse to issue a permit where the General Manager considers that the event may:
 - a. pose a risk to public safety; or
 - b. conflict with another permitted use of the park.
55. Except where authorized by a permit, licence or agreement, a person shall not in a park:
 - a. sell or offer for sale any goods or services;
 - b. post or affix any sign, notice, or advertisement; or
 - c. conduct any organized activity that restricts other persons from using or enjoying all or part of the park, including by charging an admission fee.
56. Nothing in this bylaw restricts the Regional District from entering into agreements for the use of a park on terms and conditions it considers appropriate.
57. Nothing in this bylaw prevents the Regional District from authorizing, by permit, licence or agreement, activities associated with an agricultural exhibition, fair, livestock showcase, or similar events, including activities that would otherwise be prohibited under this bylaw.
58. A person participating in an activity authorized by a permit, licence, or agreement must comply with any conditions of the permit, licence, or agreement and any rules posted in relation to that activity.

LICENCES

59. Without limiting any other authority of the Regional District, the Regional District may issue a licence for the use of all or part of a park on the terms and conditions the Regional District considers appropriate.
60. A licence issued under this section may authorize the licensee to host events, permit third parties to conduct activities or events, or undertake other uses of a park in accordance with the terms of the licence.
61. The prohibitions and requirements in this bylaw apply to a licensee and to any person acting under the authority of a licence, except to the extent that the activity is expressly authorized by the licence.
62. A person acting under the authority of a licence must comply with the terms and conditions of the licence and any rules posted in relation to the authorized use.

FALL FAIR AND OTHER EXHIBITIONS

63. Selected provisions of this bylaw do not apply to activities conducted by the Regional District, or a person or organization authorized by the Regional District, where such activities are expressly authorized as part of an agricultural exhibition, fair, livestock showcase, or similar event.
64. A person must comply with any rules or conditions posted in relation to such activities.

ENFORCEMENT

65. Authorized Personnel may prohibit a person from returning to a park for a period not exceeding 72 hours where reasonably necessary to prevent further contraventions or to protect public safety.
66. Authorized Personnel may, for the purpose of enforcing this bylaw:
- a. require a person to cease any activity that contravenes this bylaw;
 - b. require a person to leave a park where the person is contravening this bylaw or where the person's conduct poses a risk to public safety or property;
 - c. require a person who is contravening this bylaw to provide their name and address and, if requested, produce identification verifying that information; and
 - d. require a person to produce a permit, licence, or agreement or other authorization authorizing an activity that would otherwise contravene this bylaw.

OFFENCES

67. A person who contravenes this bylaw commits an offence and is liable to the penalties provided for by law, including any applicable penalties set out in the Peace River Regional District Bylaw Notice Enforcement Bylaw No. 2573, 2025, as amended or replaced from time to time.
68. Each day that a contravention continues constitutes a separate offence.

SCHEDULES

69. Schedules attached to this bylaw form part of the bylaw and include:
- a. Schedule A – Community Parks List
 - b. Schedule B – Fees and Charges

70. This bylaw comes into force when adopted.

READ A FIRST TIME THIS 25th day of June, 2026.

READ A SECOND TIME THIS 25th day of June, 2026.

READ A THIRD TIME THIS 25th day of June, 2026.

ADOPTED THIS 25th day of June, 2026.

Original signed by

Brad Sperling, Chair

(Corporate Seal has been affixed to the original bylaw)

Original signed by

Tyra Henderson,
Corporate Officer

I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of the "Community Parks Regulation and Fees Bylaw No. 2606, 2026", as adopted by the Peace River Regional District Board on June 25, 2026.

Original signed by

Tyra Henderson,
Corporate Officer

Schedule A
Community Parks List

The following lands are designated as Community Parks for the purposes of this bylaw:

1. Iver Johnson Memorial Community Park
2. North Peace Park

**Schedule B
Fees and Charges**

Item	Fees
Special Event Permit	
Application fee (non-refundable)	\$50
Special Event fee (daily rate)	
- Small Event (portion of park rented)	\$500
- Large Event (full park rental)	\$1,000
- Large Event (full park rental with waste management and water provision)	\$2,100
Additional Charges	
Third party costs incurred on behalf of users of the facility may be charged back on a cost recovery basis	Cost Recovery
Damage Deposit	
50 people or less	\$500
51 people or more	\$750
Prices are inclusive of GST and PST	