



Draft

*Jefferson County Parks Department
320 South Main Street, Room 204
Jefferson, WI 53549
(920) 674-7260*

Policy and Procedure Section I.P. **Winter Fatbike Use; Rules and Regulations** Approved by the Jefferson County Parks Committee February 3, 2014

The Jefferson County Parks Department would like to offer opportunities for Fatbike users to ride the trails in Jefferson County Parks during the winter months. We would like to allow Fatbikes to operate on all groomed trails located within Dorothy Carnes Park East for the 2014/15 seasons. This would open approximately 4.8 miles of groomed trails to fatbiking. We will use this as a test platform for others parks, and monitor user interaction and document positive and negative comments from park users. The following rules will govern the use of Fatbikes in the Parks.

Fatbike Rules of Operation

- A Fatbike will be defined as a bicycle with a minimum tread width of 3.5 inches and enough flotation to travel over groomed snow without sinking more than 1 inch.
- Fatbikes will have sufficient traction for an operator to safely control the bike in a straight line.
- Fatbikes will be allowed on marked and designated trails only. These trails will be marked at each trailhead.
- Fatbikes will only be operated during times of the year when there is a minimum of 2" of packed snow on all trail surfaces.
- Fatbikes will always yield to hikers, snowshoers, and skiers.
- Fatbikes will avoid driving across classic style groomed grooves and will stay on the flat groomed surfaces.
- Operators of Fatbikes will not be allowed to bring dogs onto groomed trails (leashed or unleashed).

Code of Ethics

Maximize your winter enjoyment by following this Winter Recreation Code of Ethics:

1. I will follow ALL posted rules and regulations.
2. I will respect all public and private property and the rights of all winter recreationists to enjoy the beauty.

Jefferson County Fatbike Trail Regulations

3. I will park considerately without blocking other vehicles or impeding access to trails.
4. I will slow down and use caution when approaching or overtaking another.
5. I will respect designated areas, trail use signs, and established ski tracks.
6. When stopping, I will not block the trail.
7. I will not disturb wildlife and will avoid areas posted for its protection or feeding.
8. I will not litter and I will pack out everything I packed in.
9. I will not interfere with or harass others, recognizing that people judge all park users by my actions.

Trail Tips

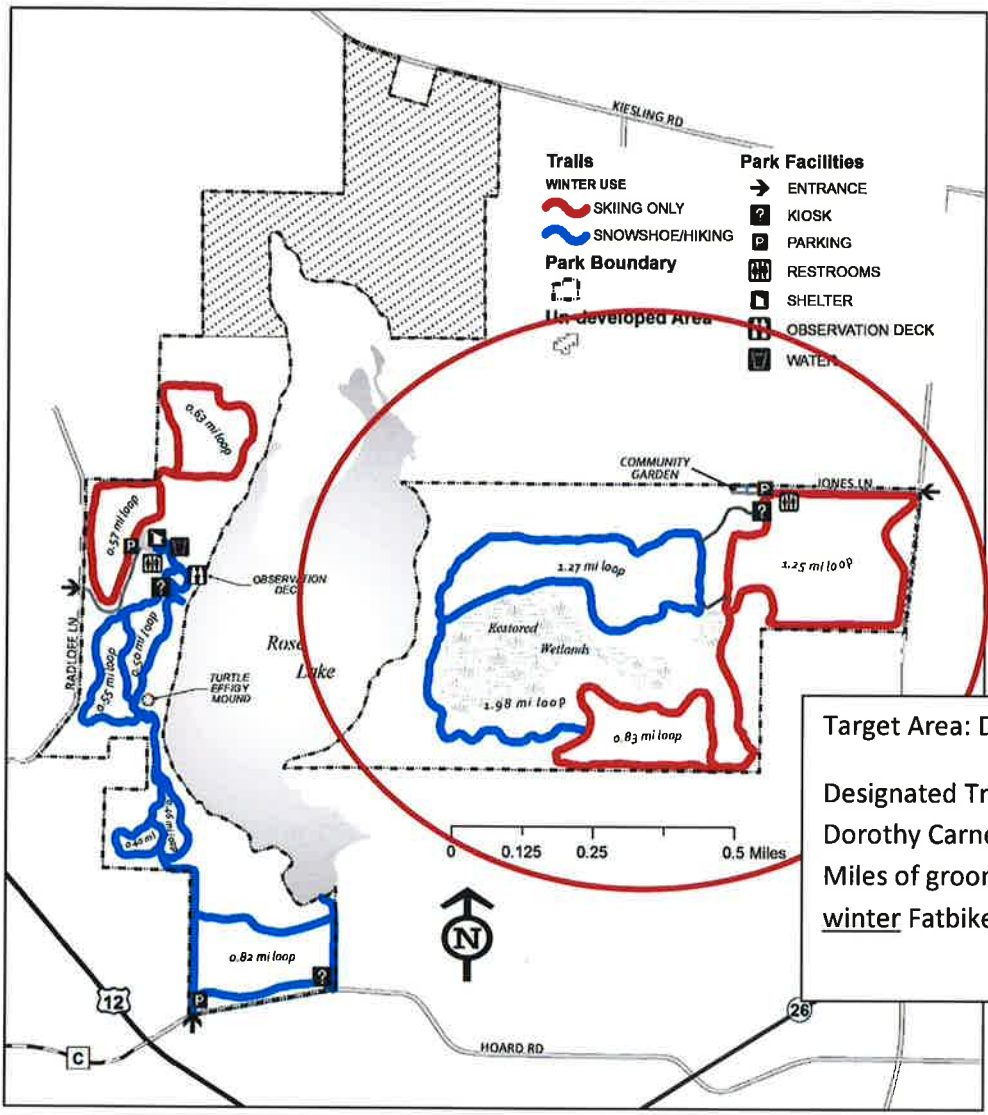
- Leave dogs at home.
- Don't walk on a groomed trail.
- When stopping, move to the side of the trail.
- Allow right of way to skiers coming downhill.
- Obey all signs and ski within your ability for safety's sake.
- Improve technique to increase your enjoyment.
- Ski in single file to the right of the trail.
- Sound a pleasant warning when passing a slower skier.
- If you fall, fill your hole.
- Ski only in the direction marked by arrows.
- Don't litter.

Take only pictures and leave only footprints.



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Jefferson County Fatbike Trail Regulations



Target Area: Dorothy Carnes Park East

Designated Trails will include all trails at Dorothy Carnes Park East. Estimated 4.8 Miles of groomed trails will be opened to winter Fatbike use.

Example trail courtesy sign developed and promoted by IMBA. Use of this type of sign could help to educate all trail users of winter trail use etiquette.



Joe Nehmer

From: Bill AndLaura <chlnrhue@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 31, 2014 9:30 PM
To: Phil Ristow
Cc: Joe Nehmer; Kevin Wiesmann
Subject: RE: Dog park - licenses

Joe, Phil and Kevin,

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to your questions.

Re: Do

you have an opinion as to whether there is any appreciable more risk with this dog being present at the dog park where many other dogs/people may be present than perhaps if it stayed around home?

I do not believe that this dog poses an appreciably higher risk of exposing other people or dogs to Rabies if it is allowed to be present at the dog park. In addition, I do not believe that this dog is at an appreciably higher risk of contracting Rabies while at the dog park than if it stayed around home.

Provided that the owner follows the existing rule of having the dog within sight and under control at all times, she will know with certainty there is no contact with any wildlife capable of carrying/transmitting the Rabies virus, and she can intervene, if needed, to prevent it from potentially transmitting the Rabies virus to people or other dogs via a bite.

A general comment here about Rabies vaccine requirement for issuance of a permit...When Jefferson County Dog park issues a permit, Rabies vaccination status is based on the owners word, we do not require confirmed documentation. We are fooling ourselves if we believe EVERY registered dog is up to date with Rabies vaccination. Thus, the owner of the dog we are discussing may, in a sense, be ``punished`` by her honesty, and denied a permit, while less honest owners receive permits.

Re: With bats/skunks as the vectors, my guess is all of the other dogs at the park may run those critters off anyway.

Yes and no. Yes, the other dogs are more likely to run off other animals, including skunks. However, a rabid animal's behavior may or may not be normal. It may exhibit no fear of natural enemies or people, and can even show aggression toward them.

Re: The legal standard is waivable by a vet who has done so. Logic dictates that the dogs Veterinarian is in the best position to speak for the dogs health, temperament and behavior to help the board in it's decision. A statement that the dog that is friendly and well behaved can help provide some assurance that the dog is unlikely to interact w/ other dogs/wildlife/people and be a risk.

Re: Do we need to do more to protect the other users of the park? There are different answers to this question, depending on to what level of protection we are talking about. To what legal/liability/other standard is the dog park held to, or want to be held to? An absolute guarantee of protection? There are few absolutes, and no guarantees in life. A reasonable expectation of protection? This seems to be the most logical, is it enough from a legal/liability standpoint?

If we feel we need to do more to protect other park users, the dog could be required to wear a muzzle while at the park. Some dogs tolerate them very well, others find this very stressful. If this is a consideration, consultation with the dogs Veterinarian can help determine how the dog will tolerate it.



Best Paw Forward Dog Training

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January 31, 2014

Dear Director of Jefferson County Parks System,

I am writing this letter on behalf of Rachel Fuhrman and her dog Bentley. I understand Bentley is not able to obtain the Rabies vaccination due to health issues and therefore am requesting that you consider allowing Rachel Fuhrman to enjoy the dog park with Bentley. I have known Rachel for 4 years and she has been one on my trainers here at Best Paw Forward. She is an outstanding trainer and dog owner. We all should be so lucky as to have the kind of care Rachel provides to her dogs. Bentley has been in several classes here at Best Paw Forward. He has been used as a demonstration dog many times and as a neutral dog in evaluating other dogs for the Canine Good Citizen program.

Since Rachel is such a knowledgeable and responsible dog guardian and Bentley is such a well-mannered dog, it is my professional opinion that they should be allowed access to your dog park.

Sincerely yours,

Lisa Schmick
Owner of Best Paw Forward