

The Parks & Open Space Bylaw Frequently Asked Questions

KEY MESSAGES

- Estevan is a growing community where citizens expect quality parks and green spaces in the Community.
- Estevan is one of a few municipalities without a bylaw to regulate the parks and open spaces.
- The contents of the bylaw are a direct reflection of the concerns received by the City in relation to unregulated activities in park areas.
- Regulating these activities will enhance the experience for all visitors and assist with protecting the assets that the citizens have contributed substantial funding.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q: Do I require a permit to use the Park?

A: The permit is intended for those seeking exclusive use of the park or open space for private functions, events, organized sports and/or to access personal property to conduct work on that property where the only access is through a park. These types of events may require additional City resources above and beyond normal operations. The permit allows the City to communicate the approved events and avoid conflicts.

The permit is not required for everyday activities.

Q: Why is there a fee and damage deposit?

A: A permit fee applies only to the application process and is a nominal cost of providing the additional resources requested, for providing signage for events if required and/or to inform others of the permittee's use of the area at a given time, as per bylaw.

The damage deposit applies to permitted persons only and serves to protect the public assets depending on activity. Should there be no damage incurred, the deposit is fully refunded following the event and inspection.



These fees don't cover the cost if additional city staff if requested to be onsite for the special event. Staff costs are in addition to these fees.

Q: Am I permitted to be in the park after 10 pm?

A: Yes, the City fully expects and respects a person's intent to be in the parks. The intent of the bylaw is to prohibit organized, anti-social or unruly behavior after 10:00 pm. If these situations occur, the Bylaw provides the Estevan Police Service with the ability to deal with these situations.

Q: Why have a 10 pm closing time then?

A: Most citizens have an expectation of peaceful enjoyment or "quiet" time within their neighbourhood. Those backing a park or open space are most affected when individuals stay in the park area for non-park uses such as loitering, partying, etc. The bylaw provides the ability for enforcement when situations like these arise.

Q: Does this Bylaw apply to the Skateboard Park, Ball Diamonds, Outdoor Hockey, etc.?

A: Yes, all City-owned, parks, green spaces, and open areas are subject to this bylaw. All major organized activities will have a permit in place under this bylaw. There are provisions to alter the hours of use subject to the requested activity parameters. There are no anticipated changes to those events currently conducted and the City continues to work with those groups to provide the level of service expected.

Q: This is another money grab for the City.

A: The City funds its programs and services by means of property tax, user fees and grants from other levels of government. User fees are based on an individual choosing to use the service. The fees in the bylaw are appropriately applied to an application process and damage deposit for those requesting a specific service or exclusive use of an area. Without these types of things in place, the burden falls to the rate payer.

Should you have any questions about the bylaw or would like a copy, please call the City of Estevan at 306-634-1800 or visit www.estevan.ca.

