

70.8 PARK USE POLICY

The Port Jefferson Free Library as the owner and manager of the “Park at 114” adopts the following rules and guidelines to provide a safe and enjoyable experience for all visitors to the park.

The Library reserves the prerogative to limit access and /or use of the “Park at 114” to specific invitees and/or uses. Library programs and events take precedence over all other activities in the Park and may require park users to exit the park immediately upon request by Library Staff. The Library Director is authorized to develop prescriptions and amend these guidelines pertaining to the utilization of the Park or sections thereof.

Visitors must abide by all posted signage and are subject to the laws, regulations and ordinances of the State of New York, and the Village of Port Jefferson. Village Ordinances are enforceable by the Port Jefferson Village Police Department. All Port Jefferson Free Library Rules and Policies are in effect for all Library properties including the “Park at 114.”

1. General & Hours of Operation

- Use of the “Park at 114” is at your own risk;
- the Park is open daily during daylight hours, when the Library is open, weather permitting;
- in accordance with the Library’s Unattended Minor Policy, parents or adult caregivers are required to remain with their children ages 0 – 12 while in the Park. Children in grades six and up may use the Park unattended provided they maintain proper Library deportment;
- the Park may be closed for special events approved by the Library;
- the Library reserves the right to close the Park at any time in the interest of public safety or for maintenance as needed;
- unauthorized use of the Park may be considered criminal trespass;
- pets are not allowed in the park; Wildlife are not to be fed; trapping and hunting are prohibited;

- no person shall use a bench or other sitting area so as to interfere with its use by other persons, including storing any materials thereon;
- no overnight camping or sleeping is permitted in the Park;
- use of firearms or weapons of any kind is prohibited;
- bicycles, scooters, electric scooters, electric bikes, skateboards, hoverboards and the like are not permitted.

2. Commercial Activities and Gatherings

- vending, sale of food, drink or novelties, commercial activity of any kind, including photography and distribution of printed material is prohibited without Library approval;
- soliciting money or donations (other than at a permitted special event), distributing advertising pamphlets or brochures, or any promotional, commercial or political material of any kind or offering samples of items is prohibited;
- a gathering of more than 12 people in the park requires permission from the Library Director.

3. Trails, Trees, Park Grounds and Water Features

- trees, plants and fauna shall not be introduced or disturbed, including climbing or affixing any items to trees, including hammocks, tape, nails or staples;
- visitors are prohibited from picking, damaging, removing or defacing flowers, plants, grass, trees, shrubbery, or any other property in the Park;
- structures of any kind, including tents, may not be erected on Park property; personal-shade structures less than 3' x 3' are permitted; bounce houses, water slides and water-play structures are prohibited.

4. Food, Music, Alcohol

- open flames are prohibited in the Park; barbecues and grills are also prohibited;
- no littering or dumping are permitted. Please take out what you bring in;
- amplified music is only permitted at the discretion of the Director;

- smoking, consumption of alcohol or the possession of illegal drugs is prohibited on Library property;
- the Park space is established for passive use; no sports whose play intrudes upon the quiet enjoyment of the Park are permitted without the express approval of the Library Director; sports equipment brought into the Park must not pose a risk of interfering with other Park users;
- the Library reserves the right to dis-allow sports and games it determines are unsafe or from which damage may result to the Park or Library property including but not limited to; golf, disc golf and archery are not permitted in the Park.

5. Miscellaneous

- drone and aerial craft operation is limited to approved media outlets and Library program use;
- balloons are not allowed to be utilized in the Park;
- fireworks, noisemakers, confetti, silly string, and glitter are not allowed in the Park
- glass containers are prohibited;
- games of chance are prohibited;
- use of metal detectors is permitted if trees, gardens, flowerbeds, and irrigation lines are avoided; the history of the "Park at 114" is to be respected; Any historical artifacts found at the Park must be returned to the Library for proper historical preservation.

Policy adopted by the Port Jefferson Free Library Board of Trustees on 4/29/2024