



Agenda
Parks and Recreation Commission Workshop Meeting
Thursday, June 26, 2025
Richland Community Center
500 Amon Park Drive

Regular Workshop - 6:00 p.m.

Call to Order:

Attendance:

Discussion Items:

1. Park Hours and Public Safety in Parks
 - Chris Waite, Parks & Public Facilities Director

Commissioner Comments:

Adjournment

The Richland Community Center is ADA accessible. Requests for sign interpreters, audio equipment, and/or other special services must be received 48 hours prior to the meeting by calling the City Clerk's Office at 509-942-7389.



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION WORKSHOP AGENDA ITEM COVERSHEET

Meeting Date: 6/26/2025

Agenda Category: Discussion Items

Prepared By: Chris Waite, Parks & Public Facilities Director

Subject

Park Hours and Public Safety in Parks

Department

Parks & Public Facilities

Recommended Motion

Discussion only.

Summary

This workshop agenda item will begin a discussion about park hours and park safety, including signage, lighting, and community expectations. Staff will review recent community feedback and current park rules, and present comparisons with neighboring and similar cities. The goal is to gather input on possible updates to improve safety and ensure parks remain welcoming and accessible for everyone. This topic is a 2025 Parks and Recreation Commission goal and is also informed by ongoing community feedback.

Fiscal Impact

None.

Attachments

1. Park Hour Comparison
2. Current Park Hours RMC

Pacific Northwest Park Hours, Acreage, and City Population

City	Population (2023)	Park Hours	Park Acreage	Municipal Code
Kennewick	85,158	Some parks: 6AM - 9PM All other parks: 6AM - Half an hour after sunset	855 Acres	10.08.040 - City Park Regulations
West Richland	18,456	April 1 - September 31: 5AM - 11PM October 1 - March 31: 6AM - 8PM	90+ Acres	12.12.010 Public parks - Hours of Operation
Pasco	80,038	6AM - 10PM	317+ Acres	9.100.050 - Hours/closure
Yakima	96,750	6AM - 10PM	401 Acres	13.20.030 - Park Curfew Imposed
Walla Walla	33,339	5AM - 11PM	618 Acres	9.17.185 - Park Closing Hours
Spokane Valley	108,235	April 15 - October 15: 6AM - 9PM October 16 - April 14: 6AM - 7PM	373 Acres	6.05.030 - Hours of Operation
Lakewood	62,303	7AM - 8PM (Not listed for all parks)	641 Acres	8.76.400 - Presence in parks during hours the park is closed
Shoreline	61,353	Open 45 minutes prior to sunrise, closed 45 minutes after sunset	400+ Acres	8.12.350 - Presence in city parks during hours when the park is closed
Sammamish	65,116	Open 30 minutes prior to sunrise, closed 30 minutes after dusk	676 Acres	7A.02.020 - Park hours
Lacey	58,326	7AM - "Dark"	1,200 Acres	Rules for All Lacey Parks & Trails
Corvallis, OR	61,087	6AM - 10PM	2000+ Acres	Section 5.01.140 - Hours of Park
Albany, OR	57,053	5AM - 11PM	880+ Acres	7.28.240 Park operating policy
Idaho Falls, ID	68,001	5AM - 11PM	1,936 Acres	Title 8, Chapter 3 - Parks
Coeur d'Alene, ID	56,894	5AM - 11PM	630 Acres	4.25.100: Public Property Hours
Twin Falls, ID	54,943	6AM - 11PM	1650 Acres	8-3-9 Park Operating Policy

9.22.075 Park hours.

City property, which consists of dedicated or designated public parks, shall be available for use and activities during the hours of 5:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. unless a more restrictive time period is posted. It shall be unlawful for any person to be present in or use these public facilities from 11:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. or during any posted restricted time period. Any person violating any provision of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, unless such use falls within permitted exceptions as provided herein:

- A. Activities for which a permit is issued by the parks and recreation department of the city.
- B. Fishing during the hours the park is closed so long as the person fishing has the appropriate state licensing.
- C. Putting boats into and taking boats out of the river.
- D. Camping in areas which have been set aside per Chapter [8.10](#) RMC.
- E. Individuals utilizing paved walking trails for walking, jogging, and nonmotorized cycling activities. [Ord. 58-94; Ord. 31-03; Ord. 20-11 § 1.20; Ord. 2022-07 § 1; Ord. 2022-14 § 1; Ord. 2022-23 § 1].