



POLICY NAME: Temporary Swimming Program to be Piloted at Poet’s Beach: Special Park Rules

Policy Category: Park Uses

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Introduction

PP&R wishes to implement a temporary swimming beach program at Poet’s Beach, which is located on the west side of the Willamette River north of the Interstate 5 Marquam Bridge, and is part of South Waterfront Park. This program continues the following modifications that were implemented in the 2018 program:

- No Lifeguards will be on duty.
- Reduced Park Ranger presence.
- No picnic tables will be on site.
- No portable toilets will be on site.
- No Park Hosts on duty.
- No surveying of the public will occur.

The temporary program will extend from July 11, 2019 through August 25, 2019. The Poet’s Beach program will consist of:

1. An existing sandy beach and an in-water swimming area delineated by a rope with floats. The swim area will be located away from boat traffic, and temporary marker buoys will warn boats that they are approaching a swim area.
2. On-land space in South Waterfront Park with amenities including: trash cans, signage, and bicycle racks.

The program will be operated by Portland Parks & Recreation.

PP&R holds a public facilities license from Oregon Department of State Lands, which has jurisdiction over the waterway. The license allows PP&R to enforce its rules for the duration of the lease. Because a swimming beach program is unique to PP&R’s portfolio, PP&R wishes to implement special rules in the areas that encompass the Poet’s Beach swimming beach program during the duration of the program:

1. Within the in-water and beach area, and
2. Within the on-land portions of South Waterfront Park.

Policy Statement:

The following special park rules will apply during this temporary program:

1. Swimming must occur in the designated in-water area within the boundaries marked by ropes, buoys or signs.
2. Persons who swim, whether inside or outside the designated in-water swimming area, do so at their own risk.

3. No lifeguard is on duty. Persons who swim do so at their own risk.
4. Children younger than ten years old must have a responsible adult supervising them at all times.
5. PP&R requires bathing suits, and babies must wear diapers designed for swimming.
6. Do not swim if you have had diarrhea in the past two weeks, or a disease communicable by water. Swimmers who are not toilet trained must wear a swim diaper. Immuno-compromised individuals should use caution when using a public swimming beach.
7. No bicycles are permitted on the beach. PP&R provides bicycle parking on the on-land portions of South Waterfront Park.
8. Inner tubes, air mattresses and other beach toy-type items may be used only in in-water and beach areas. Please keep face masks, fins, snorkels, and floating toys inside the ropes.
9. Barbecues are not permitted within the beach area.
10. The Poet's Beach swimming beach and all Portland Parks are smoke- and tobacco-free. Smoking and tobacco are defined to include, but are not limited to: bidis, cigarettes, cigarillos, cigars, clove cigarettes, e-cigarettes, nicotine vaporizers, nicotine liquids, hookahs, kreteks, pipes, chew, snuff, smokeless tobacco, and marijuana.
11. Possession and consumption of alcohol are not permitted.
12. Possession or use of glass or other breakable containers is prohibited within the designated in-water and beach areas.
13. Animals are prohibited within the designated in-water and beach area. This prohibition does not apply to service animals while performing their qualifying services, nor to animals while in the course of the official performance of police or rescue activities.