

Park Rules and Regulations

The following shall be adhered to by all persons who visit Big Island Nature Park:

- Park Hours:** Open to the public from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. daily.
- Fires:** Open fires, including campfires and charcoal grills, are prohibited everywhere in the Park including the swimming beach. Propane grills are allowed.
- Overnight Camping:** No overnight camping is allowed in the Park.
- Motorized Vehicles:** The operation and use of motorized vehicles in the Park is prohibited, including automobiles, dune buggies, motorcycles, scooters, all-terrain vehicles, snowmobiles, hang-gliders, aircraft, or any other types of motorized vehicles; except for use by the City or its designees as necessary for park operations, maintenance, emergency vehicles or handicap accessibility.
- Bicycles:** The operation of mountain bikes or other bicycles within the Park is prohibited.
- Commercial Activity:** No person shall sell or by any means advertise for sale any goods, wares, merchandise, liquids, edibles or services of any kind, nature or description in the Park. Solicitation is prohibited.
- Sign Posting:** The posting, distribution and display of private signs, notices, posters or advertisements is prohibited within the Park property.
- Use of Docks:** The city docks serving Big Island Nature Park are for day use only, and are solely for the purpose of loading and unloading boats. Boats left unattended at the docks are at the boat owner's risk. No overnight docking is allowed. It is unlawful for any person to dive, jump or fish from or otherwise use a city dock or the adjacent area in a manner so as to disturb or endanger any other person. It is unlawful to lounge, sunbathe or otherwise loiter on the docks.
- Fishing:** It is unlawful to fish at the swimming beach or from the city docks.
- Swimming Beach:** The swimming beach at the southeast end of the Park is not attended. Life guards are not provided. Swimming in Lake Minnetonka is at the individual's own risk.
- Sanitation:** It is unlawful to litter or dump trash in the Park. Garbage and recyclables shall remain in the possession of the Park user and shall be removed from the Park upon leaving the Park.
- Picnicking:** Picnicking in the Park is allowed subject to the following: No person or group shall assume exclusive use of a picnic site or shelter. No person or group shall set up temporary shelters, tents, canopies and other such devices without authorization by permit.
- Permits:** A Permit shall be obtained from the City of Orono for holding any special event, activity or use in Big Island Nature Park. A list of such events, activities and uses is on file in the office of the City Clerk. A permit is required for any use that could potentially have a detrimental effect on Park property or other Park users. Contact the City Offices at 952-249-4600 for more information.
- Reservations:** It is the policy of the City of Orono that no facilities within Big Island Nature Park shall be reserved nor designated for exclusive use by any individual, group or organization.
- Conduct:** Park visitors shall not use offensive language, make unreasonable noise, discharge weapons or fireworks, or engage in offensive gestures or conduct constituting disorderly conduct under state law. No person shall engage in nudity or sexual conduct, or audibly express obscenities, in the Park. No person shall mark, paint, write or post bills upon, deface or in any other way damage, destroy, alter, injure or remove any structure, equipment, sign or placard, natural or cultivated plantings, or other thing that is situated in the Park.
- Firearms, etc.:** Firearms, explosives, slingshots, bows and arrows, paintball guns and other weapons are prohibited in the Park at all times. Discharge of firecrackers or fireworks or detonation of explosive devices of any kind in the Park is prohibited.

Park Rules and Regulations (continued)

Alcohol/Drugs: The sale, possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages in the Park is prohibited. State laws apply to possession and use of drugs.

Noise/Amplification: The operation or use of loudspeakers, sound amplifiers, or other devices for the production or reproduction of sound is prohibited in the Park. The operation or use of any radio, phonograph, television or other machine or device for the production or reproduction of sound in such a manner as to be disturbing or a nuisance to reasonable persons of normal sensitivity within the area of audibility is prohibited in the Park. Live bands are prohibited in the Park.

Animals & Pets: Dogs and cats brought into the Park shall be under the owner's physical control and effectively restrained by means of a leash or chain no more than six (6) feet in length, and shall be kept from disturbing persons, wild animals and wildfowl. Pets are prohibited in the swimming beach area. The owner of a pet shall have in his possession at all times equipment for the removal of any feces deposited by such pet; and, upon such deposit being made, shall use such equipment for the immediate removal and sanitary disposition of such feces.

Natural Resources: All plant and animal life within the boundaries of Big Island Nature Park is protected. Patrons shall not intentionally alter, destroy, or remove any live or dead vegetation, except upon approval by the City of Orono and the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District. No person may kill, harm, harass, pursue, hunt, trap, remove, feed or in any manner disturb any species of wildlife, except fishing is allowed in designated areas pursuant to the State game laws, except upon written approval of the City of Orono and the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District. No person shall intentionally remove, alter, injure, or destroy habitat used by any species, including but not limited to nests, dams or burrows.

Cultural Resources: All sites, objects, buildings, artifacts, implements, and locations of historical, archaeological, geological, scientific or educational interest of every character located in, on, or under the surface of Big Island Nature Park are protected. No person may remove, excavate, take, dig into, or destroy any site, object, building, artifact, implement or location of archaeological, geological, scientific or historical interest without having first obtained written permission from the City of Orono.

Visitor Information

Park Hours: 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. daily

"Carry In, Carry Out" Doctrine:
Whatever you bring to the park you must take out the park, including trash and pet waste.

Big Island **DOES NOT** have:

- toilet facilities
- drinking water
- lifeguards
- trash receptacles



Contacts



952-249-4600
www.ci.orono.mn.us

952-471-0590
www.minnehahacreek.org

Big Island Park Recreational Map & Park Rules

Located on 56 acres at the east end of Lake Minnetonka's Big Island, Big Island Park is the newest addition to the City of Orono's park system.



Big Island Park is designed for passive recreational activities, as required by the conservation agreement between Orono and the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District.

Picnicking, hiking, non-supervised swimming, fishing and cross-country skiing are some of the allowed activities in the Park. Be prepared for the elements and respect the many natural features of this Park during your visit.

