

Preserve RULES & REGULATIONS

Proposed Margaret Peak Nature Preserve Rules Summary

1501:17

Adapted from Division of Natural Areas and Preserves of State of Ohio

(edited by Richard Knechtges 10/3/07, 1/11/08, 10/17/08, 3/25/09)

Chapter 1501:17-1

Visitation 1501:17-1-01

Exceptions.

The following rules are applicable to Margaret Peak Nature Preserve under the supervision and control of Eaton Township in Lorain County, Ohio or its designated custodian. However, nothing herein shall be interpreted or construed in such a manner as to prevent or delay authorized personnel of Eaton Township or its designated custodian in the completion of necessary duties or while on patrol or emergency service.

HISTORY: Eff 7-11-77; 7-25-95

1501:17-1-02 Definitions.

As used in these rules, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated, except where the context otherwise requires:

((C) "Custodian" means Eaton Township, any division thereof, agency, or individual who is so designated by the Eaton Township Trustees to administer and manage the nature preserve.

(D) "Nature preserve" means an area which is formally dedicated and administered under Chapter 1517. of the Revised Code.

((J) "Vehicle" means every contrivance on wheels or runners capable of being used as a means of transportation on land.

(K) "Motor vehicle" means any vehicle propelled or drawn by power other than muscular power.

(L) "Person" means any individual, firm, partnership, corporation, company, association, or any combination of individuals, or any employee, agent, or officer thereof.

(M) "Camping" means utilization of a sleeping bag, tent, trailer, or other mobile equipment, for the purpose of occupying a portion of state land for transient and temporary outdoor living away from home.

(N) "Picnicking" means the consumption in the out-of-doors of any food or beverage by an individual or group of individuals except for consumption of hydration liquids during trail excursions.

(O) "Areas and facilities" means all trails, parking lots, restrooms, well shelters, observation blinds, towers or vistas, boardwalks, piers, docks, bridges, benches, or roadways and any lands the Eaton Township Trustees designate for public use.

Compliance to Rules, Signs, Orders Required

It shall be the responsibility of any individual entering the preserve to be aware of and obey all Preserve Rules of Conduct, and that failure to comply with those rules, posted or not, may result in the issuance of a citation(s), expulsion from preserve grounds, or arrest.

(HISTORY: Eff 7-11-77; 4-27-84; 7-25-95

1501:17-1-03 Visitation of nature preserve; restrictions.

No person shall be within the confines of the nature preserve without the written permission of the Eaton Township Trustees except in areas and facilities provided for general public use. Such written permission shall be displayed upon request.

When a trail or trail system is present for general public use, no person shall leave the trail or trail system, except with written permission of the Eaton Township Trustees.

HISTORY: Eff 7-11-77; 4-27-84; 7-25-95; 6-13-98

1501:17-1-04 Open hours, closed hours.

No person shall be present on the nature preserve from sunset to sunrise, without first obtaining the written permission of the Eaton Township Trustees.

No person shall be permitted to enter or remain within any area of the nature preserve when that area has been closed by the Eaton Township Trustees or their designated custodian.

HISTORY: Eff 7-11-77; 7-25-95

Chapter 1501:17-3 Preservation of Property

1501:17-3-01 Preservation of property.

No person shall injure, deface, disturb or destroy any part of any nature preserve including but not limited to any tree, flower, shrub, rock or other natural feature, or any building, sign, equipment, or any other property found therein.

HISTORY: Eff 7-11-77; 7-25-95

1501:17-3-02 Collecting prohibited; exceptions.

No person shall collect, remove, or otherwise disturb ice, soil, sand, gravel, rocks, fossils, minerals, plants, plant materials, animals or any other substance from the nature preserve. Collecting of materials for research purposes may be permitted upon written application to and approval by the Eaton Township Trustees. A permit shall be valid not to exceed one year, but may be renewed at the discretion of the Eaton Township Trustees.

HISTORY: Eff 7-11-77; 7-25-95

1501:17-3-03 Introduction of plants and animals prohibited.

No person shall introduce or bring any plant or animal or their reproductive bodies into the nature preserve without written permission of the Eaton Township Trustees or their appointed agent.

HISTORY: Eff 7-11-77; 7-25-95

1501:17-3-04 Hunting and fishing prohibited, exceptions.

No person shall hunt, pursue or trap game birds, game quadrupeds, or fur bearing animals or take or catch any fish on any lands or waters within the nature preserve except in management hunts or fishing authorized and conducted by the Eaton Township Trustees.

HISTORY: Eff 7-11-77; 7-25-95; 6-27-96

1501:17-3-05 Firearms prohibited; exceptions.

No person, except employees or agents of the Eaton Township Trustees, shall carry or use firearms of any description, or air rifle, sling-shot, missile throwing device, within the nature preserve or discharge any firearms, fireworks, or explosive substances, or air rifle therein without written permission of the Eaton Township Trustees or their designated agent.

HISTORY: Eff 7-11-77; 7-25-95

**Chapter 1501:17-5
Safety and Sanitation**

1501:17-5-01 Disposition of refuse.

No person shall dump rubbish, garbage, refuse, or debris of any kind within the nature preserve.

HISTORY: Eff 7-11-77; 7-25-95; 6-25-00

1501:17-5-02 Kindling a fire prohibited.

No person shall kindle or authorize another to kindle a fire in the nature preserve.

(HISTORY: Eff 7-11-77; 7-25-95

1501:17-5-03 Smoking.

No person within the nature preserve shall throw away or discard any match, cigarette, cigar, or other burning object which has not been entirely extinguished before being thrown away or discarded in receptacles or facilities provided for such purpose. Smoking is prohibited within the confines of the nature preserve when such is posted due to extreme fire hazard conditions.

HISTORY: Eff 7-11-77; 7-25-95

1501:17-5-04 Pets prohibited; exception.

No person shall bring any animals, except a guide or other dog used by a blind, deaf or mobility-impaired person into the nature preserve.

HISTORY: Eff 7-11-77; 7-25-95

1501:17-5-05 Signs, posters prohibited.

No person shall erect or post any placard, sign, notice, poster, or billboard within the nature preserve without written permission of the Eaton Township Trustees or their appointed agent.

HISTORY: Eff 7-11-77; 7-25-95

1501:17-5-06 Commercial activity prohibited.

No person shall solicit alms or contributions for any purpose, whether public or private, in the nature preserve.

No person shall rent, sell, solicit or offer for sale, have in his possession with the intent to rent or sell, or expose for rent or sale any item or service in the nature preserve.

HISTORY: Eff 7-11-77; 7-25-95; 6-25-00

1501:17-5-07 Grazing prohibited.

No person shall herd, graze, drive or permit to run at large within the nature preserve any animal including but not limited to cattle, horse, mule, donkey, goat, swine, sheep, or fowl.

HISTORY: Eff 7-11-77; 7-25-95

1501:17-5-08 Obstruction of access prohibited.

No person shall obstruct or impede pedestrian to, from, or within the nature preserve.

HISTORY: Eff 7-11-77; 7-25-95

1501:17-5-09 Swimming and wading prohibited.

No person shall swim or wade in any pond, lake, stream, or any other body of water within the confines of the nature preserve.

HISTORY: Eff 7-11-77; 7-25-95

1501:17-5-10 Boating prohibited; exceptions.

No person shall embark or disembark from any watercraft within the confines of the nature preserve. Boating shall be prohibited on any lake, pond or other body of water whose entirety is within the confines of the nature preserve unless written permission is obtained from the Eaton Township Trustees or their appointed agent.

HISTORY: Eff 7-11-77; 7-25-95

1501:17-5-11 Rock climbing prohibited.

No person shall engage in rappelling or any type of rock climbing activity within the confines of the nature preserve.

HISTORY: Eff 7-11-77; 7-25-95

1501:17-5-12 Throwing objects over cliffs prohibited.

No person shall throw, toss, drop, or propel, or cause, directly or indirectly, the throwing, tossing, dropping or propelling of any object over or off any precipice, bridge, observation tower or other similar structure or natural formation within the confines of the nature preserve.

HISTORY: Eff 7-11-77; 7-25-95

1501:17-7-01 Picnicking not permitted.

No person shall picnic on any lands or waters within the nature preserve.

HISTORY: Eff 7-11-77; 7-25-95

1501:17-7-02 Camping prohibited; exceptions.

No person shall camp or stay overnight within the nature preserve without first obtaining written permission from the Eaton Township Trustees or their appointed agent.

HISTORY: Eff 7-11-77; 7-25-95

**Chapter 1501:17-9
Motor Vehicles and Horses**

1501:17-9-01 Vehicle speed limits.

No person shall operate any vehicle on the trails within the nature preserve in excess of twenty miles per hour.

HISTORY: Eff 7-11-77; 7-25-95

1501:17-9-02 Vehicles prohibited.

No person shall operate any motor vehicles, bicycles, in-line skates, street luges, roller skates or skateboards in the nature preserve.

HISTORY: Eff 7-11-77; 7-25-95; 6-25-00

1501:17-9-03 Saddle animals prohibited.

(A) No person shall ride, drive, lead, or keep a saddle horse or other animal used for locomotion in the nature preserve.

(B) No horse or other animal shall be hitched to any tree, shrub, or structure in any manner that might cause damage thereto.

HISTORY: Eff 7-11-77; 7-25-95

1501:17-9-04 Parking lot use.

No person shall park any vehicle in any designated parking lot or parking area on the nature preserve from sunset to sunrise, without obtaining written permission of the Eaton Township Trustees or their appointed agent.

HISTORY: Eff 7-11-77; 7-25-95

1501:17-9-05 Parking permitted; restrictions.

No person shall park any vehicle on the nature preserve except within those areas designated for such use by the Eaton Township Trustees.

HISTORY: Eff 7-11-77; 7-25-95; 6-25-00

**Chapter 1501:17-11
Prohibitions Generally**

1501:17-11-01 Disorderly conduct prohibited.

No person shall, either by word or act, indulge in any noisy, boisterous, disorderly or indecent conduct; or in any manner disturb the peace or good order of the community within the nature preserve; nor shall any person engage in any active game endangering other persons in the nature preserve; nor shall any person play at games of chance, drink alcoholic beverages, or be intoxicated, or do any indecent, lascivious, lewd or improper act therein. No person shall enter a toilet room set apart for the opposite sex.

HISTORY: Eff 7-11-77; 7-25-95; 6-27-96

1501:17-11-02 Transistor radios prohibited.

No person shall play transistor radios, transceivers, televisions, tape players, amplified musical instruments, or other sound amplifying devices within the confines of the nature preserve without written permission of the Eaton Township Trustees.

HISTORY: Eff 7-11-77; 7-25-95

1501:17-11-03 Model airplanes prohibited.

No person shall operate any model airplane, rocket, or other powered model craft on the nature preserve.

HISTORY: Eff 7-11-77; 7-25-95

1501:17-11-04 Alcoholic beverages prohibited.

No person shall bring into, possess, carry, serve, or drink alcoholic beverages within the nature preserve. The term alcoholic beverage means any beer, wine, liquor, or beverage containing any alcohol whatsoever.

HISTORY: Eff 7-11-77; 7-25-95

1501:17-11-05 Special orders posted.

Eaton Township shall post in a conspicuous location within the access areas of the nature preserve, special instructions, orders, and notices pertaining to the use of the area by the public. Such instructions, orders or notices shall pertain but are not limited to: Special hours of operation, emergency situations or other situations not otherwise covered in the rules. Declaration of posting shall originate with the Eaton Township Trustees.

HISTORY: Eff 7-11-77; 7-25-95

1501:17-11-06 Temporary closing of facilities.

The Eaton Township Trustees or appointed agent may temporarily close to public use and evacuate a facility or area within the nature preserve that is determined to be hazardous for public use due to weather, water, fire, construction, or other situations involving public health, safety or welfare.

HISTORY: Eff 7-11-77; 7-25-95

1501:17-11-07 Failure to obey.

No person shall fail or refuse to comply with any reasonable order relating to the regulation, direction or control of traffic or to any other order lawfully given by any preserve officer or law enforcement officer acting under the authority of the Eaton Township Trustees, or willfully resist, obstruct, or abuse any officer or other official in the execution of his office.

HISTORY: Eff 7-11-77

**Chapter 1501:17-13
Notice of Hearings**

1501:17-13-01 Notice of public hearings on rules.

Public notice of hearing to be conducted by the Eaton Township Trustees for the nature preserve shall be advertised in one newspaper of general circulation in the township at least fifteen days, but not more than thirty days, prior to the hearing. The notice shall state the Eaton Township Trustees' intention to consider adopting, amending, or rescinding a rule, shall include a synopsis of the proposed rule, amendment, or rule to be rescinded or a general statement of the subject matter, to which such rule relates, and the date, time, and place of a hearing on said proposed action. The notice shall also state the place from which copies of the proposed rule, amendment, or rule to be rescinded may be obtained.

HISTORY: Eff 7-11-77; 7-25-95

These rules become effective on the date adopted in 2009.