



## **Rules, Regulations and Guidelines for Firewood Collection on County Park Property**



In order to provide maximum utilization of Rock County's natural resources, the following rules are set up as the policy of the Rock County Parks Division. When the Rock County Park system has dead or hazardous trees that must be removed, Rock County citizens are able to apply for a \$25.00 Firewood Collection Permit. All or part of the trees may be turned over to the public for use as firewood. The following are rules and guidelines that permit holders must follow to ensure the safe and organized removal of firewood on County property.

- ✓ Permittees must be a Rock County citizen and be able to prove it. Parks Division will copy each permit holder's driver's license for county records.
- ✓ Permittees must sign a firewood permit policy waiver form and their laminated permit. They will be issued their personal permit after the County has received payment of \$25.00.
- ✓ Firewood may only be used for personal consumption and may not be sold for commercial use or bartered for other services.
- ✓ Permittees will have an email or access to an email account as a means for county staff to communicate notifications of firewood availability. Notifications will be sent to all permit holders at the same time.
- ✓ Available wood is first come first serve. If more than one permit holder is on site, they must share the wood equally amongst other permittees.
- ✓ There is NO saving firewood. If a permit holder needs to leave the site it's best not to leave wood in manageable pieces (firewood size).
- ✓ Permittee can only take downed wood specifically stated in email notification. No additional cutting or taking of live/dead standing wood is permitted whatsoever.
- ✓ Use of heavy equipment such as tractors or skid steers is prohibited on county property and shall not be used to collect firewood.
- ✓ Permittees are advised to not take firewood outside of county and to not move any firewood to a non-quarantined county. For additional information on quarantined counties and state and federal regulations go to: <https://datcpservices.wisconsin.gov/eab/>
- ✓ Permittee must have possession of the county issued permit at all times while collecting firewood on county property.
  - Any person who is not issued, or does not have a permit in their possession will be considered in violation of Rock County Parks Ordinance- Chapter 5.01(6)(a).
- ✓ Permittees must observe standard safety precautions at all times and display a conscientious attitude towards County officials, park staff, park patrons, and other permit holders.

- ✓ If asked by county staff, permittees must inform the Community Coordinator (contact info at bottom of page) of when they were at the park collecting firewood and approximately how much they took.
- ✓ Permittees must clean up after themselves (e.g. fix ruts, clean up slash or debris accumulated from their cutting, clean sticks out of road(s), clean up wood chips, etc.). Treat the area as if it were your own.
  - Rock County has the right to immediately cancel or revoke a permit by oral or written notice, as well as deny a new permit because of negative or undesirable past experiences.
- ✓ County staff and/or cameras maybe on site to monitor taking of wood.
- ✓ In special and rare circumstances, separate permits may be made available for use of ATV's by request of permit holder to assist in firewood collection in hard to reach areas. Note: County Park staff will always fell trees and in most cases will place them in noticeable and convenient locations. Separate and special use permits will rarely be issued.
- ✓ If ample amount of wood has not been made available to permit holders, the County will carry-over the previous year's permit to the current year. County Park staff will determine whether an ample amount of wood has been made available for permit holders. This will be based on the amount of opportunities given to permit holders for firewood collection that calendar year.
- ✓ Firewood permits are not transferable and payment is not refundable.

**If interested in obtaining a Firewood Permit or would like more information regarding the Rules, Regulations and Guidelines for Firewood Collection, contact The Parks Department at (608) 757-5450 or visit the Dept. of Public Works main office at 3715 Newville Rd. Janesville, WI 53545.**

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

PERMIT# \_\_\_\_\_  
(FOR OFFICE INPUT ONLY)

PAID  DL



**Rock County Parks**  
**Firewood Collection**  
**Permit Liability**  
**Waiver Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City, \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Name & Relationship \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Please read the following information then sign your name and date. You must sign this document if participating in the firewood collection permit program and to receive your issued permit.**

**Acknowledgement of Risks:** I understand that firewood collection involve inherent risks. I am aware that certain dangers may occur during this Rock County Parks activity. I acknowledge that the following describes some, but not all, of the risks of participating in the activity: 1) Traveling in uneven terrain 2) Inclement weather, lightning, extremes of temperature 3) Exposure to the elements, hypothermia, and/or drowning 4) The presence of insects and animals 5) Allergic reaction to insects 6) Heat or sun related injuries or illnesses including sunburn, sunstroke or dehydration.

**Express Assumption of Risk and Responsibility:** I agree to assume responsibility for the risks of the activity. I fully understand that the risks and dangers may be caused by forces of nature; my own actions or inactions; and the actions or inactions of others participating in Rock County's firewood collection. The Instructors have permission to seek and/or administer emergency care for the participant in the event that the participant cannot respond at the time of emergency.

**Liability Waiver:** I fully release and discharge Rock County and its officers, agents and employees from any and all claims and damages, including claims and damages arising from injuries, death, or property damage, which may arise out of, or occur in connect with my participation in the outdoor program, except for those resulting from the intentional or reckless acts of Rock County or its officers, agents and employees.

**Photo Release:** I hereby irrevocably release, consent and allow Rock County Parks and its agents to use my photograph/ likeness/voice as it pertains to my participation in the outdoor program, in any manner for promotional efforts without expectation of any reimbursement in connection with this use.

Permittee Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**\* \*PERMIT ACTIVE FOR CALENDAR YEAR AND MUST BE RENEWED YEARLY\* \***