



# Town of Orleans

## Parks & Beaches: RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. Absolutely prohibited at any time: **ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, LITTERING, OPEN FIRES**
2. **BEACHES:** Children 12 years of age or younger must be accompanied by a responsible person 16 years of age or older.  
**PARKS:** Children 8 years of age or younger must be accompanied by a responsible person 16 years of age or older.
3. No animals or pets will be permitted in playground areas at any time. For additional dates, locations and restrictions, please refer to the 'Dogs on Beaches' document on our town website.
4. Parties, gathering or entertainment of 10 or more persons in beach or park areas are prohibited except by written permission of the DPW/Natural Resources Director who shall designate areas to be used.
5. Use of town playing fields by groups must have written approval by the DPW/Natural Resources Director or his/her designee and shall abide by a separate written policy.
6. No kiteflying (including drones), ball playing, tossing of frisbees or other objects will be permitted on the beach or in the water except in an area designated by a lifeguard.
7. Bicycles are prohibited on the beaches during the period of Memorial Day through Labor Day.
8. Fishing, surf-casting, windsurfing and surfboarding shall be permitted only in specified areas. Separate regulations shall apply to the conduct of windsurfers and surfboarders.
9. Scuba diving, skin diving, and all other methods of underwater swimming are prohibited in designated swimming areas.
10. Use of rafts, tubes, inflatables, and other similar types of flotation devices are prohibited in the waters off Nauset Beach. Use of rafts, tubes, inflatables and other similar types of flotation devices or umbrellas may be prohibited at any beach at the discretion of lifeguards.
11. No selling, advertising, or giving away of goods or services will be permitted at any park and beach areas or in the parking lots except by concessionaires under contract with the Town or by written permission of the Park Commission.
12. Closures: The Town of Orleans reserves the right to close areas to swimming for health and safety reasons.
13. The erection of tents, and/or parking of trailers and/or overnight camping or sleeping in park or beach areas is prohibited.
14. No person shall walk or drive over sand dunes or vegetated areas at beach area (use designated trails only). Removal of sand, brush, or plants is prohibited in all park and beach areas.
15. Hours: Unless otherwise authorized, the following areas are closed to the general public during these hours:  
**Crystal Lake, Pilgrim Lake, Skaket Beach:** 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.      **Nauset Beach:** 12:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m.  
All other beaches and park areas shall be closed to the general public from 1/2 hour after sunset to 1/2 hour before sunrise unless to participate in or observe an authorized entertainment, e.g. fishing, concerts, etc.
16. Vehicles shall operate at a speed no greater than 15 MPH in any park or beach area and all MA Motor Vehicle laws shall apply.
17. Parking of vehicles in park or beach areas for more than 16 consecutive hours is prohibited except by permission of the DPW/Natural Resources Director.
18. All vehicles entering Nauset and Skaket Beach parking areas when an attendant is on duty must come to a full stop and be identified at the toll house.
19. Off Road Vehicles: Separate rules and regulations shall apply to the use of ORVs on Nauset Beach. Copies are available at the Town Offices and Police Stations of Orleans and Chatham, Nauset Beach during the season, and at the Orleans DPW & Natural Resources office. ORVs are prohibited from other beach areas except to store and retrieve fishing gear.
20. Park and beach officials and lifeguards must be obeyed in the enforcement of the above regulations and in any other situation in which the judgement of the lifeguard must be exercised for the protection and safety of persons using the beach facilities.

**Authority for the enforcement for the above regulations shall rest with the Natural Resources Manager and the Chief of Police. Any violation of the above regulations may result in expulsion and/or a fine of not more than \$300.00 for the above offenses.**