



2024 Picnic Rules & Regulations

RESERVATION OF PICNIC DATES AND AREAS

Online reservations begin **February 19th, 2024 at noon.**

Facilities will open on **April 1st, 2024.**

Facilities will close for the season on **October 27th, 2024.**

To obtain a picnic permit:

- Must be 21 years of age
- Permit holder must remain at grounds during the scheduled picnic

Pavilion use is by **PERMIT ONLY.**

Open grove and picnic table areas are for groups of 25 or fewer people (including children) and do not require a permit. No permits will be issued for groups using open grove areas.

Under no circumstances will dates be held without a completed application and payment.

CONDUCT

Permit holders and attendees are subject to the General Rules & Regulations of the Mercer County Park Commission (MCPC). Violation of these rules and regulations subject the permit holder and attendees to fines, penalties, costs, event cancellation, and exclusion from future park activities as provided.

If premises or any portion thereof shall be damaged by the act, default, or negligence of the permit holder, patrons and/or guests, the permit holder will pay to the Commission upon demand such sum as shall be necessary to restore grounds/premises to the previous condition.

FAILURE TO COMPLY MAY RESULT IN IMMEDIATE PERMIT TERMINATION AND REMOVAL FROM PREMISES WITHOUT REFUND.

ASSUMPTION OF LIABILITY

Permit holder assumes all liability and agrees to hold harmless and indemnify the MCPC for any causes of action, lawsuits or claims arising out of the parties' use or presence at the facility.

EXEMPTIONS

- Must be recognized as a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization located in Mercer County.
- Proof of non-profit status must be provided through email to picnics@mercercounty.org.
- Exemptions apply **Monday through Wednesday** only.
- Group is permitted **one** exempt picnic per calendar month.

CANCELLATIONS

The Recreation & Events Department must be given 30-day advance written notice of any decision to cancel your picnic and to request a refund. Cancellations of less than 30-day advanced notice are NOT eligible for a refund. Please submit a written request along with a copy of the picnic permit and proof of payment to picnics@mercercounty.org.



PICNIC RULES AND REGULATIONS CONT.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

In the event of inclement weather (weather conditions are severe enough to prevent safe use of the picnic area) on the day of the picnic, the permit holder is responsible for contacting the MCPC email at picnics@mercercounty.org within 48 hours after their picnic date to reschedule (if available) or request reimbursement. The MCPC will try to accommodate the permit holder with another date if available or issue a refund. No refunds will be given if the MCPC is not notified within the 48-hour timeframe.

MERCER COUNTY PARK COMMISSION RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CLOSE FACILITIES:

- **IN ADVANCE OF SEVERE WEATHER**
- **STATE OF EMERGENCY DECLARATIONS**
- **STRUCTURAL DAMAGE FROM WEATHER EVENTS**
- **REFUNDS WILL BE ISSUED WHEN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES OCCUR**

Day of permit: Should MCPC allow an event to occur and weather conditions become adverse, permit holders and attendees continue to use the facility, shall be at their own risk.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Alcoholic beverage consumption is limited to PERSONAL amounts of beer and wine only. Beer must be in cans or kegs, and wine is allowed in boxes only. Glass containers (of any kind) are strictly prohibited in picnic areas. No one under the legal drinking age in New Jersey shall be permitted to possess or consume alcoholic beverages on park grounds under this permit. Consumption is restricted to designated picnic areas only.

The permit holder assumes alcohol compliance enforcement for alcohol and rules pertaining to the consumption of beer and wine. The permit holder will

oversee the individual consumption of alcohol and will indemnify and hold harmless the MCPC for any consequences due to alcohol consumption.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WILL RESULT IN IMMEDIATE PERMIT TERMINATION AND REMOVAL FROM PREMISES WITHOUT REFUND.

RECYCLABLES AND TRASH

All recyclables and trash must be placed in proper containers. Users must dispose of the trash in the dumpsters at each picnic area.

INFLATABLES/BOUNCE HOUSES

- Permitted in reserved picnic areas only.
- User assumes **ALL INSTALLATION LIABILITY**
- **Certificate of Liability Insurance** in the amount of one million dollars liability naming the County of Mercer AND Mercer County Park Commission as additional insured is required from the rental company.
- Insurance Certificate must be emailed to picnics@mercercounty.org five days prior to the scheduled picnic.
- Inflatables containing water ARE NOT PERMITTED.

VEHICLES/DELIVERIES

Vehicles must park in designated parking areas.

Vehicles used for delivery of food and beverages must be moved to designated parking areas within 30 minutes of the event starting time issued on the permit.

No food or beverage solicitation (sales) are allowed on the premises.



PICNIC RULES AND REGULATIONS CONT.

PICNIC AREA INSPECTIONS/COMPLIANCE

Mercer County Park Rangers will be on-site to inspect the picnic area at the beginning and the end of the event with the picnic permit holder. Please ensure that you have your picnic permit on hand.

Upon completion of the event, a Mercer County Park Ranger may again inspect the picnic area to determine if the grounds are left in the appropriate condition.

THE FOLLOWING ARE PROHIBITED IN DESIGNATED PICNIC AREAS

- Disorderly conduct
- Gambling
- Sale of alcoholic beverages or food
- Glass bottles of any kind
- Pools of any kind
- Egg-tossing
- Water balloons
- Chalk
- Pony rides
- Deep fryers
- Drones

Tents that require stakes in the ground (pop-up tents with a maximum size of 10' x 10' are the only type permitted).

No person shall call or hold any meetings or give any concert or public entertainment of any kind within a County Park or Recreation Area without first having obtained written permission in advance Mercer County Park Commission Recreation and Events and their representatives; no later than one month before the proposed date of use.

Permit holders must obtain Mercer County Park

Commission permission for the use of:

- Loudspeakers
- Public address systems
- Amplifiers/Amplification equipment
- DJ Equipment

ALL SOUND/MUSIC SHALL BE KEPT AT GROUP DECIBEL LEVEL AND IS RESTRICTED TO THE PICNIC AREA.

Mercer County Park Commission reserves the right to request DECREASED volume.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WILL RESULT IN IMMEDIATE PERMIT TERMINATION AND REMOVAL FROM PREMISES WITHOUT REFUND.

MAXIMUM NUMBER OF ATTENDEES ACCOMMODATED

Under no circumstances should the number of attendees exceed the accommodations levels outlined below:

**Mercer County Park East – 300
people Mercer County Park West –
150 people Princeton Country Club –
200 people Rosedale Park- 300
people
Valley Road – 300 people**

PICNIC RULES AND REGULATIONS CONT.



EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

Dial 911

PARK RANGER ASSISTANCE

Call (609) 443-8956

Sunrise to Sunset, Seven days a week

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Call (609) 989-6111

Monday through Friday 4 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday 24 hours a day

ALL PICNIC AREAS ARE OPERATED AND MAINTAINED
BY THE MERCER COUNTY PARK COMMISSION
RECREATION AND EVENTS CENTER
1638 OLD TRENTON ROAD
WEST WINDSOR, NJ 08550

PICNIC RULES AND REGULATIONS CONT.

