

Town of Litchfield – Code of Ordinances
Ordinance Governing the Town Beach of the Town of Litchfield
_____, 2021

Section 1. Authority.

This ordinance is adopted pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §§ 7-148(c)(3)(A), 7-148(c)(6)(A), 7-148(c)(7)(H), and 7-148(c)(10)(A), as amended.

Section 2. Amendments to Code of Ordinances.

The Code of Ordinances of the Town of Litchfield, Chapter 10. Parks and Recreation, Article IV. Town Beach Rules, is hereby amended to read as follows:

“ARTICLE IV. TOWN BEACH RULES

Sec 10-101. Purpose.

The purpose of this article is to provide a comfortable, pleasant and safe beach area for those entitled to use it pursuant to General Statutes §§ 7-148(c)(3)(A), 7-148(c)(6)(A), 7-148(c)(7)(H), and 7-148(c)(10)(A).

Sec. 10-102. Permit required for use.

(a) Resident parking/use passes shall be required of Town of Litchfield Residents:

- (1) Residents of the Town of Litchfield shall be as designated as a taxpayer of either real estate or of motor vehicle(s) to the Town of Litchfield.
- (2) To obtain a parking/use pass to the Litchfield Town Beach the following shall be necessary:
 - i. The applicant shall create a household account on the Park and Recreation online registration site and purchase a membership for the Town Beach pass.
 - ii. The applicant shall present a paid tax bill/receipt at the Town of Litchfield Park & Recreation Office with the vehicle registration plate number if registering with a motor vehicle or current property tax bill/receipt when picking up the pass. One parking pass shall be given per “household”, defined as a single physical street address. In the case of apartment and condominium units, each unit shall constitute a “household”. The permit number on pass shall correspond with their membership number.
 - iii. There shall be a \$15 yearly fee per household; qualifying individuals aged 65 years and over shall receive a free pass (with correct identification).

- (3) The parking/use pass shall be affixed to or placed in the windshield of permittee's vehicle in such a manner so as to be readily visible while parked at Town Beach. Parking/use pass is valid for one year, from July 1st to June 30th following year. Non-resident but current tax payer may obtain parking/use pass under the above conditions.

(b) Non-Resident Passes: A limited number of daily passes shall be available for purchase of \$30/vehicle/day for non-residents. These daily passes shall be available on the Park and Recreation online registration site. The applicable invoice shall be shown on the vehicle's dashboard in a manner readily visible from outside the vehicle as proof of daily pass purchase. The parking/use pass shall be visibly displayed in registered vehicles at all times while using the facility. Daily passes are only good for date purchased.

(c) For Purposes of Ice Fishing Only: For the duration of the ice fishing season, the following shall apply:

- (1) Parking shall be in the designated areas only.
- (2) Residents of the Town of Litchfield, as designated above, may use the parking/use pass previously obtained for summer use.
- (3) Non-residents shall use the Town Beach for ice fishing purposes only. A non-resident parking/use pass shall be obtained from the Park & Recreation online registration site for a fee of \$30.00 for the current ice fishing season. The applicant must present a valid vehicle registration with the vehicle identification number when picking up parking/use pass.
- (4) The parking/use pass shall be displayed in a readily visible manner in the vehicle while parked at Town Beach.

Sec.10-103. Park use and beach safety.

(a) Parking: Parking shall be allowed only in sign designated areas. There shall be five (5) designated spots for boat and trailer parking with visible parking/use pass.

(b) The speed limit shall be 10 miles per hour.

(c) Children under 12 twelve years of age must be accompanied by an adult unless under the supervision of a member of their family who is sixteen 16 years of age or over.

(d) No pushing, running, playing tag or other horseplay is permitted on the floats or docks.

(e) All persons swim at their own risk, no lifeguard on duty.

(f) Swimming is permitted only in the designated beach area.

(g) Use of the dumpster is for beach trash only. There shall be no dumping of household, commercial, industrial, business, or other trash. Violators shall be fined \$250.00 per occurrence. Each object, or if contained in a trash bag, each bag, unlawfully disposed of in the dumpster, shall constitute a separate "occurrence".

(h) All cooking fires shall be out before leaving. No open fires: fires must be contained in a grill.

(i) No Bonfires shall be allowed.

(j) The use or possession of alcoholic beverages in any town park is prohibited.

(k) Glass of any kind, metal cans or toys capable of inflicting injury are prohibited on the beach.

(l) Littering is prohibited; use trash cans consistent with the above provisions.

(m) No overnight parking of any vehicle is allowed, including, but not limited to, campers.

(n) Gates open at sunrise and close at dusk.

(o) Animals: Domesticated dogs shall be on a leash and the owner is responsible for cleaning up after their dog. Violators shall be fined \$100.00 per occurrence. Horses and other animals, except for domesticated dogs and service dogs, are not allowed.

(p) Use of the beach area for group special events is limited solely to non-profit organizations with a primary business address in the Town of Litchfield. Such non-profit organizations with a primary business address in the Town of Litchfield wishing to use the beach area for special events must register through the Park and Recreation online registration site for rental permission and approval of the date at least ten (10) days prior to the event.

Sec. 10-104. Boating.

(a) Boat launching is permitted.

(b) All boats and skiers shall keep out of the swimming area.

(c) No boat may be operated at a speed in excess of five 5 miles per hour within three hundred (300) feet of the beach and/or launch area.

(d) Ski tow ropes shall be picked up before entering or leaving the dock area.

(e) No overnight parking or boats left at the beach.

(f) Gates open at sunrise and close at dusk.

Sec. 10-105. Violations; penalties.

(a) Any person violating any part of this article shall be punished as provided in section 1-10 of this code, unless another such fine is specifically provided for in this article.

(b) Any motor vehicle found to be in violation of the rules and regulations of this article and/or without a town beach parking/use pass visible in the vehicle shall be fine a maximum of not more than \$100.00 and removed from the beach for the day. Multiple violations shall result in loss of parking/use pass for 365 calendar days from the date of revocation.”

Secs. 10-106 — 10-115. Reserved.

Section 3. Effective Date

This ordinance shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication of a summary of its provisions in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Section 7-157(b).

Approved by Town Meeting: _____, 2021.

Published in the _____ on _____, 2021.

Effective date: _____, 2021.

Litchfield Town Records: Volume _____, Page(s): _____.