



Overnight Camping Rules, Policies and Regulations

Falls Reserve Conservation Area
80900 Falls Reserve Line, Benmiller ON
519-524-6429

Governing Rules and Regulations

- Ontario Regulations pursuant to the Rules of Conduct in Conservation Areas are made under the Conservation Authorities Act and are available online at [Rules of Conduct in Conservation Areas](#). Rules are enforced by Maitland Conservation Provincial Offences Officers, Park Patrol Officers, and Park Staff, who have the authority to charge or evict any person(s) from the Conservation Area who is found in violation of an offence or park rule. If you observe a park violation, please contact our **Park Patrol at 1-519-525-6315** or contact the **Park Gatehouse at 1-519-524-6429**.
- Regulations on angling activities are listed in the Ministry of Natural Resources' Ontario Fishing Regulations Summary available online at [Ontario Fishing Regulations Summary](#). Fishing Regulations are enforced by MNR Conservation Officers. If you observe an angling violation, please contact **MNR TIPS at 1-877-847-7667**.
- All Federal, Provincial, Municipal and Conservation laws/regulations apply while on Maitland Conservation owned properties including Falls Reserve Conservation Area. Violation of these laws/regulations may result in fines and/or eviction without a refund.
- All activities in the Conservation Area are subject to the discretion of the park Superintendent or Designate.

Zero Tolerance

There is a zero-tolerance policy in place at Falls Reserve Conservation Area. Customers who are verbally or physically abusive towards staff, including abuse relating to park policies, rules or fees, will not be provided further services or be issued a permit or allowed to enter the Conservation Area. In addition, they will be asked to leave the park immediately without refund.

Camper Conduct

Under the Rules of Conduct in the Conservation Area Regulations, the permit holder is responsible for the conduct of themselves and all occupants under the camp permit. Violators may be charged with an offence under the regulations or immediately evicted from the conservation area, subject to the actions of any occupant of the registered permit.

General Rules and Respect

1. Have respect and consideration for your fellow campers and the park environment.
2. No excessive noise or disturbances are permitted at any time.
3. **All campgrounds have quiet hours from 10:00 p.m. to 10:00 a.m.** No radios, audio devices, musical instruments, or other amplified sound, etc. is permitted during quiet times.
4. No radios, audio devices, musical instruments, or other amplified sound, etc. is permitted in the Radio/ Audio Free Zones and Campsites.
5. Generators are prohibited. Generators for medical needs can be discussed and

considered on a case-by-case basis by the Superintendent or designate.

6. Excessive noise and/or behaviour that may disturb other persons is prohibited. Please remember that loud voices, group laughter, and vulgar or insulting language disturbs other campers. Please, always be considerate of others.
7. Abusive or insulting language is prohibited. Any abusive tone towards park staff or other persons is not tolerated and will result in termination of camp permits and eviction from the Conservation Area.
8. Possession or consumption of alcohol in conservation area day-use areas is prohibited, including pavilions, day-use areas, trails and washrooms.
9. Possession or consumption of alcohol is permitted on a registered campsite only.
10. The smoking of tobacco, or non-tobacco products such as but not limited to, vapes, cannabis, cigars, cigarettes, e-cigarettes, hookah/water pipes etc. is allowed in the CA. The Smoke Free Ontario Act applies to all types of smoking within the park.
11. Smoking of tobacco or non-tobacco products such as but not limited to, vapes, cannabis, cigars, cigarettes, e-cigarettes, hookah/water pipes etc. shall not interfere with the enjoyment of others in the conservation area. Anyone informed by park staff or visitors that they are disturbing others by use of the above, must take every measure to prevent any further disturbance. Anyone not willing to comply with this reasonable responsibility will be asked to leave the conservation area.
12. The use of illegal narcotics and drugs, soliciting or selling illegal narcotics, or illegal drugs within the Conservation Area is strictly prohibited and will be reported to the Police.
13. The use of drones is strictly prohibited.

Campsite Condition

14. It is the responsibility of the permit holder to always keep the campsite clean and litter free. Scattered litter is unacceptable and may result in termination of campsite permits.
15. No excavations, alterations, additions, or modifications to Conservation Area property are permitted. Any costs incurred are at the expense of the permit holder.
16. No person in the Conservation Area shall cut, remove, injure or destroy any plants, shrubs, trees, flowers or other growing item.
 - Do not chop trees with an axe or other tool. Please do not strip bark.
 - Do not use fasteners such as nails or screws or attach wires to trees and shrubs.
 - Temporary use of rope around trees is permitted if the rope is loosely tied and not restricting the tree in any way.
 - Temporary ropes shall not hang lower than 7-feet off the ground and must be removed when not in use or at departure.
 - Campers are prohibited from cutting or trimming trees or limbs.
 - Lights, decorations, or any other item affixed to trees is prohibited.
17. Campers should be aware that trees may be impacted by pests or disease which can weaken the tree's structure. While Maitland Conservation maintains an inspection program, campers are encouraged to be aware of overhead hazards and report these concerns to park staff to evaluate and deal with.

Firewood

18. Dry firewood is available at the gatehouse.
19. Campers are prohibited from gathering tinder and wood from within the park.

20. Painted or treated wood, wood pallets or skids shall not be used as camp firewood. The contaminated smoke can disturb other campers.
21. Firewood brought in from other areas may harbour invasive pests and carry disease. Buy your firewood locally.
- All firewood must come from within Huron County.
 - Bulk loads of firewood (pickup truck, trailer, etc.) are prohibited from entering the CA without prior written notice given to the Superintendent.
 - No third-party firewood deliveries.

Fireworks

22. Possession or igniting of fireworks or sparklers in the Conservation Area is prohibited.

Park Garbage and other Waste

23. No littering. Please dispose of all park trash at garbage/recycling areas. Pick up after your pet.
24. Garbage and Recycling bins and trash receptacles are provided in the park.
- Only bagged camping garbage and recycling is accepted.
 - Brown trash receptacles for trash.**
 - Green bins for trash.**
 - Blue bin receptacles for recycling.**
25. Items not accepted at our garbage bins.
- furniture, mattresses, appliances, construction materials, oversized items, electronics, fire pit ash, BBQs, bikes, batteries, vehicle or RV parts, etc.
26. Items placed in or around garbage bins or left on vacated campsites become the property of Maitland Conservation.

Please do your part to keep our park clean and reduce disposal costs.

27. Wastewater of any kind (including greywater or blackwater) shall not be dumped from the camp unit (RV) in any place except into the provided sewer wastewater connection at the campsite or the wastewater dumping station.
- Campers must ensure there is no leaking of wastewater from any outlets, valves, plumbing, etc.
 - Campers are encouraged to keep all wastewater valves closed except when opened for appropriate disposal.
 - Wastewater sewer connection hoses shall be limited in length where possible to ensure no wastewater leakage.

Pets in the Conservation Area

28. Dogs and cats are the only permitted pets (domestic animals) allowed in the Conservation Area.
29. As a pet owner, it is your responsibility to prevent or stop nuisance pet behaviour from disturbing other persons and to comply with all Conservation Area rules.
- All pets are to be secured by a leash that is 2 metres (6 feet) or less at all times.
 - Pets will be considered "at large" if it is off leash or is on a leash that is more than 2 metres (6 feet) in length.
 - Make sure your pet stays on marked trails. This protects sensitive habitats and wildlife - and your pet!
 - No person shall allow their pet to chase or harass wild animals or birds.
 - No person shall allow their pet to injure, or attempt to injure, a person or pet.
 - No person shall allow their dog to bark excessively.

- No person shall allow their dog or cat to disturb others (excessive barking or whining, wandering “at large” around the campground, etc.).
 - Only 2 pets are allowed per campsite.
 - Pets shall not be left unattended at any time. This includes at the campsite, in a vehicle/trailer/tent or any other area in the Conservation Area.
 - Pets are not allowed in park buildings including washroom or shower facilities.
 - Pets are not allowed to swim or wade in the fishing pond.
 - Clean up after your pet and dispose of pet waste appropriately. Do not toss pet waste baggies in treed areas or leave pet waste bags along the trails, in firepits or any area other than trash receptacles.
 - Pet owners shall provide adequate and appropriate care, food, water, shelter, exercise, attention and veterinary care as required to meet the pet’s needs.
 - Any aggressive pet behaviour will result in immediate removal from the park.
30. As a pet owner, if you cannot meet all these rules, we ask that you leave your pet at home or at a boarding facility. It can be a significant inconvenience if you are required to have your pet removed from the Conservation Area due to rule violations.

Wild Animals

31. Feeding of wild animals is prohibited within the Conservation Area.

32. No person shall kill, trap, pursue, or disturb a wild bird, reptile or animal.
33. Most wild animals avoid human activity but may become a nuisance if you do not keep your campsite clean. The best way to prevent wild animals from visiting your campsite is to keep it clean!
34. Here are a few simple tips that will help prevent most wild animal encounters at your campsite:

- a. Never feed wild animals such as chipmunks, squirrels, raccoons, skunks, birds, coyotes, bears or other.
- b. Pack away your cooler and food. While on your campsite, your cooler and dry food should be SEALED AND CLOSED. At nighttime or when you leave your campsite, store food in your vehicle. Raccoons can open cooler latches with their nimble paws. Place food in your trunk or vehicle with the windows rolled up and your food covered.
- c. Clean dirty dishes right after your meal and dispose of dishwasher away from the campsite.
- d. Dispose of garbage frequently at the park waste facility. Do not dispose of food scrapes or garbage in the fire pit.
- e. Keep your tent or sleeping area odour free (shampoo, toothpaste etc.).
- f. Never cook or eat in your tent.
- g. Do not keep captive critters on your campsite. Baitfish and worms will attract wild animals.
- h. Never leave pet food out and available for wild animals.

Acceptable Gear and Equipment

35. One vehicle permit is included with each campsite. A maximum of 2 vehicles are permitted to park on each campsite.
36. All additional campsite vehicles must purchase an additional vehicle permit (AVP) at the fee of \$20 per day per vehicle. AVP’s expire at 12:00 p.m. (noon) on the permit departure date.
37. Up to 3 pieces of equipment are allowed on a campsite; including sleeping units, dining tent or tow-in vehicle. Only one piece of sleeping equipment can be a tent trailer, house trailer, travel trailer or self-propelled

camping unit. All equipment is at the discretion of the Superintendent/Designate.

Campsite Services

38. One picnic table and one firepit is provided on each campsite. Relocating of the firepit is prohibited.
39. Serviced campsites include one electrical service connection and one water hook-up connection. Select campsites have sewer hook-up connection.
40. Tampering with any electrical, water or sewer service connection is prohibited.
41. Services are provided at the campsite for the use of the camper. Campers are encouraged to conserve electricity and limit excessive water consumption whenever possible.
42. Campers may be responsible for damage to electrical services due to faulty electrical cords. Please ensure your electrical cords are of correct size and not faulty due to loose connection, corrosion, or faulty wires that can generate heat and cause damage to the park's electrical services.
43. Fastening or physically attaching foreign items such as nails or other fasteners to any electrical, water or other service post is prohibited.
44. These service posts are property of the Conservation Area and may require servicing from time to time. Any damages occurred due to fastening of foreign items will be the responsibility of the camp permit holder.

Motor Vehicle Operation in CA

45. All rules of the roadway under the Highway Traffic Act apply to all vehicles while on roadways within the Conservation Area.
46. In a Conservation Area no person shall operate a motor vehicle on any park roadway at a speed exceeding 20km/hr, unless posted otherwise.

47. All vehicle operators traveling on roadways are expected to obey the posted speed limits and use caution at all times.
48. For the safety of everyone in the Conservation Area, vehicle operators should reduce speed to 5km/hr while traveling on gravel sections of roadway within campground areas.
49. Riding in the box of pick-up trucks or on the outside of motor vehicles is strictly prohibited.
50. The use or possession of alcohol or cannabis while operating a motor vehicle is strictly prohibited. The OPP will be notified if impairment is suspected.
51. A maximum of 2 vehicles are permitted to park on each campsite.
52. ATVs are prohibited in the Conservation Area.
53. Golf carts are prohibited in the park.

Bicycles, E-Bikes and other Power Assisted Low-Speed Vehicles

54. All rules of the roadway apply to bicycles and E-bikes while on roadways within the Conservation Area.
55. Bicycle helmets must be worn by anyone under 18 years-of-age riding a bicycle on park roadways.
56. E-bikes are permitted at the Conservation Area. Users must follow Ontario legislated E-bike / Power Assisted "Pedal-Driven" Bicycle rules including: E-bike operators must be 14 years of age, follow all park posted signage, obey park posted speed limits with maximum speed of 20 km/hr. All operators and passengers must wear a helmet.
57. All other power-assisted, low-speed vehicles are prohibited in the Conservation Area except for personal assistive mobility devices specifically designed to improve

personal mobility.

58. Personal assistive mobility devices are permitted for those persons requiring a personal assistive mobility device specifically designed to improve mobility. Personal assistive mobility devices may be restricted in some areas of the Conservation Area for safety reasons. Park trails are NOT accessible to personal assistive mobility devices.

63. No person shall, in a Conservation Area, deface, remove, or damage any property, remove or destroy any soil or rock.

64. Campers are prohibited from gathering tinder and wood from within the park.

65. Painted or treated wood, wood pallets or skids shall not be used as camp firewood as the contaminated smoke can disturb other campers.

Campfires

59. No person shall start or maintain a fire in a Conservation Area except in a firepit or other location designated by Maitland Conservation.

60. No person who starts or maintains a fire in a Conservation Area shall leave a fire unattended or leave the site of the fire before it is completely extinguished.

a. Fire pits shall not be moved or relocated.

b. Fires must be contained within an approved fire pit and always kept under control.

c. Fires must not be left unattended.

d. Ensure campfires are extinguished before you retire for the night or leave the site.

e. Campers are encouraged to allow fire pit ashes to burn down and cool within the contained fire pit area so staff can safely empty the pit ashes.

61. No person shall, in a Conservation Area, start or maintain a fire if the Superintendent has posted a notice indicating that there is a fire hazard in the Conservation Area.

62. In the event of a fire hazard or ban, all site occupants are expected to comply with the order of the Fire Chief or Fire Marshall. Failure to do so could result in fines levied by the issuing authority and/or your eviction from the Conservation Area.