



# Falls Reserve

## CONSERVATION AREA

### **2026 Camping Policies and Guide**

Park Rules, Regulations and Operation Standards

### **Falls Reserve Conservation Area**

This guide has been prepared in accordance with Maitland Valley Conservation Authority and FRCA Overnight Camping Operating Procedures subject to the Conservation Authorities Act, R.S.o. 1990, Ontario Regulation 688/21, Trespass to Property Act R.S.o. 1990, and other applicable legislation.



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## Conservation Area - Rules of Conduct & Related Legislation

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1. Falls Reserve Conservation Area (FRCA) is governed by the Conservation Authorities Act of Ontario, R.S.O. 1990, whereas permitted activities are regulated under, Rules of Conduct in Conservation Areas - Ontario Regulation 688/21.
2. All entry onto Falls Reserve Conservation Area is permitted only for activities conducted in accordance with a Day Use Permit, Overnight Camp Permit or Additional Vehicle Camp Permit and subject to Ontario Regulation 688/21, made under the Conservation Authorities Act of Ontario, R.S.O. 1990. Activities are permitted in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations or as designated by the Superintendent or by MVCA.
3. All other prohibited activities not listed within are in accordance with provisions of the Trespass to Property Act as designated by the Superintendent or by MVCA.
4. Superintendent(s) and other appointed Conservation Area staff members are officers appointed under section 30.1 of the Conservation Authorities Act and are designated as Provincial Offences Officers for the purpose of enforcement of the Rules of Conduct in Conservation Area Regulations, Trespass to Property Act and other accompanying legislation.
5. Not complying with the Rules of Conduct of Conservation Areas may result in enforcement actions by Conservation Authority Staff or Police. In addition to charges that could be laid under the law, you or any domestic animal may be evicted from all Maitland Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) properties without a refund.

**Should you observe a violation of our park rules and regulations or require assistance, please contact our Park Patrol Staff at 519-525-6315 or contact the Park Gatehouse at 519-524-6429.**

## General Camper Conduct

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**General Rule – have respect and consideration for your fellow campers and the park environment. Unnecessary excessive noise or disturbance to others is not permitted at any time.**

1. Under the Rules of Conduct in the Conservation Area Regulations, the permit holder is responsible for the conduct of themselves and all occupants at their campsite.
2. Violation of park rules and regulations may result in the cancellation of your overnight camping permit with an eviction and without refund.
3. All campers are responsible for the actions of their visitors and will be held liable for any damage, vandalism, or destruction to/of the campsite or MVCA property.
4. MVCA or park staff may evict without refund, at its sole discretion, any person(s) whose conduct or actions are harmful to the operation of the campground and the enjoyment of the public.
5. Hold harmless statement: To the fullest extent permitted by law, all campers agree to indemnify, defend and hold MVCA and its departments, employees, agents, contractors, and volunteers, harmless from and against any and all claims, damages, losses and expenses, including but not limited to court costs, attorney's fees and alternative dispute resolution costs, for any personal injury, for any bodily injury, sickness, disease or death, and for any damage to or destruction of any property (including the loss of use resulting therefrom) which 1) are caused in whole or in part by any action or omission, negligent or otherwise, of the MVCA, its employees, agents, or volunteers or MVCA's subcontractors and their employees, agents or volunteers; or 2) are directly or indirectly arising out of, resulting from, or in connection with performance of this Contract.

## Zero Tolerance

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1. Falls Reserve Conservation Area (FRCA) has a Zero Tolerance Policy towards verbal, threatening or physical abuse of staff or other park visitors. As such, privileges will be revoked at any time without refund at the sole and unfettered discretion of the Superintendent or designate. At any such occurrence those in violation shall leave the FRCA property immediately without question.

## Camping Season

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1. The camping season tentatively begins on the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Friday in April and ends Thanksgiving Monday.
2. Full FRCA staffing services will be available during our peak camping season (July and August) with reduced staffing services during our shoulder seasons in spring and fall.

## Campsite Occupancy

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1. **Only six (6) people may occupy the site overnight.** This includes all occupants (adults, children, babies and visitors).
2. **Only two (2) pets are permitted on a campsite at any time.**
3. Campsites are used for temporary “non-permanent” camping only by the camp permit.
4. Campsites are intended for use by the campers listed on the Overnight Camping Permit and the campsite may include up to a maximum of six (6) campers.
5. Anyone using the campsite that is not listed on the Camp Permit is a visitor and will be required to vacate the Conservation Area by 10:00 pm nightly.
6. Campers and visitors shall only access the campground for recreational vacation purposes, and for activities permitted under the Conservation Authorities Act or regulations created thereunder.

## Campsites

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1. Maitland Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) reserves the right to designate which campsites will be made available to campers for overnight camping.
2. MVCA further reserves the right to require that campers and their visitors relocate to a different campsite when deemed necessary by the Superintendent or designate.
3. MVCA may, at its sole discretion, deny campers and their visitors access to the allocated campsite for any legitimate reason or in the case of any emergency situations.
4. MVCA reserves the right to move the camping unit and any camper belongings from the campsite due to an emergency and until any emergency is mitigated.
5. **A maximum of two (2) vehicles are permitted to park on a campsite.**
6. Campers and their visitors shall not install or erect any portable playgrounds, portable wading pools, portable hot tubs, or portable play equipment of any kind on the campsite.
7. Outside lighting must be kept to a minimum at the discretion of the Superintendent or designate.
8. MVCA is not responsible for any loss or damage due to theft, fire, vandalism, weather event, tree damage or any other cause to camping or personal belongings. It is the responsibility of the overnight camper to ensure that their property is always adequately insured for property and liability insurance.

## Campsite Reservations

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1. All campsite reservations require full payment of camping fees for the entire duration of stay and non-refundable reservation fee at the time of booking.
2. \$16.00 non-refundable fee is applied for each campsite reservation processed.
3. Campsite reservations can be made online at <https://maitlandvalley.goingtocamp.com/>, by phone at 519-524-6429 (1-877-FALLSCA), or in-person at FRCA during the camping season. Campsite bookings are only available for the current camping season beginning in the new year. Please note, during the winter off-season when the park is closed to camping, staff may not be available to accept phone bookings.
4. If multiple reservations are made for the same time frame, each campsite must be reserved under a separate name, address and contact of the individual that will be occupying the campsite. Once a reservation is made only the individual named on the reservation may make a reservation change, cancel or check in to the campsite. Up to three (3) separate reservations may be made at a time.
5. Campsite permit holders must be at least 18-years of age. The permit holder must be the primary campsite occupant. The permit holder is responsible for all occupants and visitors on the site.
6. Any reservations reassigned from one person to another will be charged an administration fee.
7. A **maximum of six (6) people are permitted on each campsite**. This includes adults, children, babies and visitors.
8. A **maximum of two (2) dogs are permitted on each campsite** and must be secured on a leash no more than 2 metres (6 feet) in length. Barking dogs are prohibited. The owner is responsible for their dog and must prevent or stop all barking behaviour in the Conservation Area as it can be a disturbance to other campers.
9. Campers are to check in to the campsite prior to 8:00 p.m. on scheduled arrival date unless arrangements have been made directly with the park staff for a later arrival.
10. Reservations are held until 12:00 p.m. (noon) on the day after your scheduled arrival date at which point the reservation is considered a “No Show” and no refunds are issued.
11. **Check in time is after 2:00 p.m. Please no early arrivals.** Park staff require time to prepare each campsite for the next arrivals.
12. **Check out time is before 12:00 p.m. (noon) on your departure date. Please no late departures.** Park staff need time to prepare each campsite for the next arrivals.
13. Renewing or extension of campsite permit - If you want to renew or extend any campsite permit, the campsite renewal must be done prior to 12:00 p.m. on permit expiry date.
14. A 3-night minimum stay is required when the reservation includes either a Friday and Saturday, or a Saturday and Sunday, for the following holiday weekends:
  - Victoria Day long weekend
  - Canada Day long weekend when July 1st falls on a Friday, Saturday, Sunday, or Monday
  - Civic Holiday long weekend
  - Labour Day long weekend
  - Thanksgiving long weekend
15. A 2-night minimum stay is required when the reservation includes a Friday or Saturday night during summer weekends in July and August.
16. Maximum overnight stay for overnight campsites is 28 nights.
17. Any administration fee or refund is at the full discretion of the Park Superintendent.

## Campsite Changes and Cancellations

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1. Once a reservation has been confirmed by either phone, internet or in-person, any changes or cancellations are subject to administration fees.
2. **Changes or cancellations to your reservation can be made by logging into your account at <https://maitlandvalley.goingtocamp.com/> and editing your booking**, or by calling 519-524-6429 (1-877-325-5722). Please have your booking number ready when calling (INMV or FRMV number).
3. The following minimum fee(s) will be applied for administration of a booking:
  - \$16.00 Reservation Fee for each campsite reservation
  - \$16.00 Change Fee for each change of a reservation
  - \$30.00 Cancellation Fee for each cancellation of a reservation
4. Change of a reservation within six (6) days of arrival date: Forfeit one (1) night of camping fee (applied for a reduction of nights booked). All changes after this point are made through park staff.
5. Change of a reservation dates within six (6) days of arrival date whereas full booking is moved to another date within the same camp season: A re-booking Reservation Fee is applied. Booking is cancelled by staff with NO REFUND of booked camping fees paid and a new booking is made in place of cancelled booking.
6. Cancellation of a reservation within six (6) days of arrival date: Forfeit one (1) night of camping fee.
7. Cancellation of a Summer Weekend Reservation within six (6) days of arrival date: Forfeit two (2) nights of camping fee. Applied when booking falls on a Friday or Saturday night of any weekend during July and August.
8. Cancellation of a Holiday Weekend Reservation within six (6) days of arrival date: Forfeit 3 nights of camping fee. Applied to bookings held on a Friday or Saturday night of the following weekends:
  - Victoria Day long weekend
  - Canada Day long weekend when July 1st falls on a Friday, Saturday, Sunday, or Monday
  - Civic Holiday long weekend
  - Labour Day long weekend
  - Thanksgiving long weekend
9. Cancellation of a reservation that was booked within six (6) days of arrival date: A Cancellation Fee applies.
10. Any changes made to the reservation after a camp permit is issued on arrival will be subject to administration fees.
11. No refund for shortened stay, inclement weather, or other unforeseen event.
12. Any administration fee or refund is at the full discretion of the Park Superintendent.

## Overnight Camp Permit Fees

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**Falls Reserve Conservation Area is supported solely by fees generated at the park.** 100% of all park revenue supports FRCA operations, improvements, and infrastructure. FRCA is not a Provincial Park or provincially funded area.

1. Fees for the upcoming season are set each October and reviewed by the Maitland Conservation Membership. Fees are posted publicly and open for public comment and feedback. Final approval of fees occurs at the November meeting of the Maitland Conservation Membership. Once approved, new fees come into effect January 1<sup>st</sup> of the new year.
2. For a complete list of park fee, please visit: <https://mvca.on.ca/camping/frca-fees/>

3. Fees for individual overnight campsites may vary based on the campsite amenities available.
4. Payment of overnight campsite fees is due in full, prior to occupancy of the campsite.
5. Overnight camp permit fees are not transferrable. Renting, subletting, or assigning others the use of the campsite without notifying or confirming with the Superintendent or designate is prohibited.
6. Under the regulation a Permit Fee is required for any activity or purpose when a person enters or occupies the Falls Reserve Conservation Area property. A person who holds a Camp Permit issued by the MVCA shall produce the permit for inspection at the request of the officer.

## Refunds

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**Many factors may cause a camper to shorten their stay. Some of these factors are beyond the park's control. Shortening your stay has financial implications for the operations of the park and limits camping opportunities for other campers.**

1. Refunds of any kind will not be issued at the gatehouse by our park staff other than refunds in-line with our reservation, cancellation or change policies.
2. Requests for refund on overnight camping can only be done through an email to [falls@frca.on.ca](mailto:falls@frca.on.ca) to the attention to the Park Superintendent. A detailed explanation for this refund request is required along with the booking number included in the email. Please be advised that all refunds are at the discretion of the Park Superintendent and will be review on an individual basis and are subject to the Camping Reservation, Changes and Cancellation Policy.
3. Refunds will not be issued in cash.
4. No refunds given on daily entrance fees or daily Additional Vehicle Permit (AVP) fees and Permits are not transferable.
5. No refunds given when shortening your stay on holiday weekends or minimum stay requirements.
6. No refunds given on terminated permits due to eviction from the park.
7. No refunds given due to inclement weather, insects, pests, mild illnesses, personal equipment complications, work related affairs, appointments.

## Camp Vehicles & Additional Vehicles

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1. All vehicles that enter the Conservation Area must have a valid permit.
2. Only one vehicle entry is included with a Camp Permit.
3. A maximum of two (2) vehicles are allowed to park on one campsite.
4. All additional vehicles parked on the campsite or other area of the Conservation Area require an Additional Vehicle Permit (AVP), available for purchase at the park gatehouse on arrival.
5. Additional vehicles include a motor vehicle, motorcycle, motorboat, watercraft, or any trailer that exceeds 10-feet in length at the discretion of the Superintendent or designate.
6. Gooseneck or dump type trailers are prohibited camp equipment in the Conservation Area.
7. If a utility trailer is being use for sleeping accommodations or used to transport camp equipment into the Conservation Area in place of a Camp Unit RV, the utility trailer is included with the Camp Permit at no additional fee. The utility trailer then becomes one of the three (3) allowed shelter units or one of the two (2) allowed vehicles parked on the campsite. A maximum of five (5) combined pieces of camp equipment per campsite is at the discretion of the Superintendent or designate.

## Camp Unit RV & Permitted Sheltered Equipment

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1. A maximum of three (3) sheltered equipment are permitted on a campsite. These shelters can include a Camp Unit RV, tent, or dining shelter.
2. Only one (1) Camp Unit RV is permitted on the campsite. Either a RV camper, RV trailer, RV fifth wheel trailer and RV motor home. Refer to “Camp Units RV”.
3. Location of Camp Unit RV on campsite is at discretion from the Superintendent.
4. Camp Unit RV are to be towed into the park only by licenced passenger vehicles. The use of tractors or other pieces of equipment to transport a Camp Unit RV is prohibited.

## Campsite Visitors

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1. **A maximum of six (6) people are allowed to occupy each campsite.**
2. All visitors to the campsite must check in and register at the park gatehouse on arrival.
3. Visitors are permitted in campsite areas only when accompanied by the registered campers of that site.
4. Campground visitors are permitted between 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. daily. No new visitors will be admitted after 8:00 p.m. Campground hours may be restricted, as necessary.
5. Additional Vehicle Permits (AVP) fees are not transferable.

## Dogs and Cats “Pets or Domestic Animals” at the Campsite

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1. **Only two (2) pets on a campsite at any time.**
2. **All pets must always be on a leash with a maximum length of two (2) metres.** The person in charge of a pet that is not secured must capture and secure the animal at the request of an officer.
3. Pet owners must clean up after their pets.
4. No pets shall be left unattended or disturb other persons at any time. A barking dog is considered a disturbance to other people in the Conservation Area.
5. No pets shall be at large (off leash); damage property or vegetation; chase or harass wild animals or birds; injure or attempt to injure a person or other pet or domestic animal.
6. Any aggressive or inappropriate behaviour, including excessive barking, growling, or whining, by any pet will result in immediate removal of the pet from the Conservation Area.
7. Pets are not allowed in washrooms, showers or Conservation Area ponds.
8. Pet owners must be considerate of others using river areas or the Maitland Falls.
9. As a pet owner, if you feel you cannot meet these Pet or Domestic Animal rules, we ask that you leave your pet at home or at a kennel.

## Campground Etiquette

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1. All campers, family members and visitors at a campsite are responsible for their behaviour. Actions must not interfere with the enjoyment of others at the Conservation Area. Campers and visitors will be held liable for any damage, vandalization, or destruction to/of the campsite or MVCA property.

2. **Verbal or physical abuse or threatening behaviours or actions toward MVCA personnel, campers and visitors will not be tolerated and will result in immediate eviction, without a refund, from all MVCA properties.**
3. Excessive noise or disturbance is NOT permitted at any time. Any fighting, yelling, intoxication or use of obscene or vulgar language shall not be tolerated.
4. No detachable or external amplified speakers are permitted.
5. If police are called to a campsite due to the actions of a camper, their family members, or visitors, the camper may be considered in violation of park rules and could face eviction

## Quiet Time and Radio/Audio Free Zones

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1. **Falls Reserve Conservation Area has a quiet time between 10:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m.**
2. All radio, music, audio or electronic devices must be turned off between 10:00 p.m. and 10:00 am.
3. Loud music, audio, excessive noise, or other disturbance is prohibited at all times. Staff may at anytime request any radio, music, audio or electronic devices be turned off at their discretion or if disturbing other campers. Campers and visitors that do not observe the “Quiet Time” or cause disturbance to others may be evicted without refund.
4. Indoor radios, televisions, and other entertainment devices must not be audible outside the camping unit, as this constitutes a disturbance during quiet hours and may negatively affect other campers’ enjoyment of the Conservation Area.
5. **Radio, music, audio or electronic devices are prohibited in Radio / Audio Free Zones.**

## Alcohol, Cannabis, Smoking & Vaping

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1. **Alcohol** – The consumption of alcohol is only permitted on registered overnight campsites within the Conservation Area. **Open alcohol is prohibited in all other areas of the Conservation Area** including but not limited to: roadways, pathways, trails, day-use areas, washroom/shower facilities, pavilion or other area not listed.
2. **Cannabis** – All Ontario cannabis use legislation applies within the Conservation Area. The use of cannabis shall not interfere with the enjoyment of other campers at the Conservation Area. Respect and consideration of others is encouraged. Anyone knowingly or unknowingly disturbing others with the use of cannabis will be asked to take all measures to prevent this disturbance. Anyone NOT willing to comply with respectful cannabis use around others will be asked to leave the Conservation Area. Cannabis is not permitted to be grown on MVCA lands.
3. Conservation Areas may have alcohol and cannabis bans in effect during the Camping Season which prohibits the possession or consumption of alcohol and/or cannabis anywhere within the Conservation Area. Anyone found to be in possession of/or consuming alcohol and/or cannabis during a ban will be immediately evicted from the Conservation Area for a period of three (3) days on the first offence.
4. **Smoking/ Vaping** – All Ontario smoking and vaping legislation applies within the Conservation Area. All washroom facilities, buildings, playgrounds, and sporting areas are smoke free.
5. **Smoking / Vaping or Cannabis use is prohibited:**
  - a) within an enclosure area.
  - b) within 20 metres of playgrounds, or event area.
  - c) within any enclosed public area including picnic shelters, pavilions, or inside any washrooms or other public building.

- d) within any motor vehicle or dwelling unit that occupies any child 15 years of age or younger.
- 6. **The use or possession of any other narcotic, or illegal substance is prohibited in the Conservation Area.**

## Solar Panels

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1. Solar panels may be erected, but the total surface area cannot exceed 16 square feet.
2. Solar panels are limited to 12-volt applications.
3. 120-volt solar panel applications are prohibited due to safety concerns.

## Generators

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The use of generators is not permitted except for the following circumstances:

- a) Generator use will only be granted for medical reasons or other exceptional circumstances with the approval of the Superintendent.
- b) In the event of a power outage the use of a small quiet generator type may be used for only the duration of the power outage at the approval of the Superintendent. Continuous or prolonged generator use can be a disturbance to others and limited use should be considered during quiet times.
- c) **Generator use is prohibited in Radio & Audio Free Zones.**

## Satellite Dishes

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1. Satellite dishes are only permitted if attached to the camp unit or on a movable tripod/stand.
2. Satellite equipment shall not be placed on any other area other than the reserved campsite.
3. Tree limbs shall not be removed to accommodate satellite view of sight.

## Smoke & Carbon Monoxide Detectors

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1. Campers must comply with Ontario Fire Code smoke and carbon monoxide alarm requirements.
2. All alarms should be tested before sleeping in a camp unit and then monthly as well as after any absence of more than a few days.
3. Replace alarms as required by legislation. Having working alarms in your Camp Unit RV is the law.

## Decorations & Lighting at the Campsite

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1. Flood lighting at the campsite is prohibited.
2. Low impact trailer or exterior lighting is allowed at the discretion of the Superintendent or designates.
3. All site decorations are at the discretion of the Superintendent or designates.
4. Decorations or lighting deemed unsafe or unsightly, are at the Superintendent or designates sole discretion in determining its acceptable use in the Conservation Area.

## Clotheslines and Ropes in Trees at the Campsite

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1. Portable temporary clotheslines are allowed but shall not be strung lower than 7 ft. (2.1 m) from the ground at any point and must be removed while not in use to prevent personal injury.
2. Any ropes tied in trees must be completely removed at departure. Ropes left tied in trees or around a tree limb will damage or kill the tree.

## Prohibited at the Campsite

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1. Signs offering sale or transfer of items is prohibited.
2. Signs displaying inappropriate material or crminating in nature are prohibited.
3. Personal portable swimming pools, wading pools, hot tubs and outdoor spas are prohibited.
4. Personal portable playgrounds, swings or similar equipment are prohibited.

## Flags & Flagpoles

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1. Flags may only be attached to the camping unit, or personal camp equipment.
2. Flagpoles that are extended more than 8 feet are prohibited on campsites.
3. Flags must be appropriate for public display and are at the discretion of the MVCA or Superintendent.

## Wild Animals - Bird Feeders and Feeding Wildlife

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1. Campers are prohibited from feeding any wild animal in the Conservation Area.
2. Bird feeding and bird feeders are prohibited.
3. At FRCA it is prohibited to kill, trap, pursue or disturb a wild bird, reptile or animal.
4. Most wild animals avoid human activity but may become a nuisance when campers don't keep their campsite area clean. The best way to prevent a wild animal from becoming a nuisance is to keep the campsite clean and put food safely away.

### Tips

- Never feed wild animals such as chipmunks, squirrels, raccoons, skunks, birds or other.
- Pack away your cooler and food when you're not at the campsite and at nighttime.
- Clean dirty dishes right after meals and dispose of dishwater away from the campsite.
- Dispose of food scraps at waste disposal site right away. Do not dispose of food scraps or garbage in the firepit.
- Never cook or eat in your tent.
- Do not keep captive critters at the campsite. Baitfish and worms for fishing will also attract wild animals.
- Never leave pet food out and available as it will attract wildlife.

## Fire Pit

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1. Each campsite is provided with a fire pit that is owned by the Conservation Area. **Tampering with or removal of a fire pit is prohibited.** If you require firepit maintenance please contact park staff.
2. No digging or excavating in-ground is allowed unless approved by the Superintendent.

## Picnic Tables

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1. The campsite is provided with one picnic table that is owned by the Conservation Area. **Tampering with or removal of any picnic table is prohibited.** If you require picnic table maintenance, contact park staff. Switching out another campsite picnic table is prohibited.

## Campsite Cleanliness

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1. **Campsites must always be kept neat and clean and comply within the standards established by the Superintendent.**
2. Litter or scattered items on the campsite are prohibited. It is the responsibility of the camper to ensure that the campsite and adjacent area is garbage and litter free.
3. The use of pesticides and herbicides within the Conservation Area is prohibited.
4. The use of rodent control methods such as poisonings (e.g., rodenticide) is prohibited.
5. Equipment or structures in poor condition, or considered unsafe or unsightly, may be restricted from use at the Conservation Area at the sole discretion of the Superintendent or their designate.
6. Failure to keep and maintain a neat, clean and litter free campsite could result in termination of your camp permit and overnight campsite privileges.

## Fires & Firewood

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1. **The Conservation Area provides dry firewood available for sale at the park Gatehouse office.**
2. **Campers are prohibited from gathering tinder or wood from any part of the Conservation Area.** The natural decay of all tinder and wood provides the nutrients required to maintain healthy woodlots at FRCA.
3. Painted or treated wood, as well as wood pallets or skids, must not be used as firewood because the smoke and fumes pose health risks and disturb other campers.
4. Old lumber and wood with nails, screws or other fasteners shall not be burnt in firepits
5. Fires must be contained within an approved fire pit and always kept under control. Fires must not be left unattended. Ensure campfires are extinguished before you retire for the night or leave the site.
6. In the event of a fire ban, all campsite occupants are expected to comply with the order of the Fire Chief, Fire Marshall, or Superintendent with regards to the fire hazard order. Failure to comply may result in fines levied by the issuing authority and/or eviction from the Conservation Area.
7. Campers are prohibited from the use of chainsaws in the Conservation Area.
8. Movement of firewood from one area to another poses a great threat to Ontario woodlots. Firewood may harbour invasive pests and carry disease that will damage our forests. Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), Beech Bark Disease (BBD), Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA) are just a few of the invasive pest and diseases that are transported through firewood movement that are threatening Ontario woodlots. Campers are encouraged to buy firewood locally and burn it in the same area. **FRCA has well seasoned dry firewood available for purchase at the park Gatehouse. This firewood has been harvested using good forestry and handling practices that limit the threat for invasive pests and disease.**

## Fire Pit Use

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1. **Fire pits shall not be moved or relocated by the camper without the Superintendent's approval.**
2. Firepits are only for burning firewood and cooking.
3. The burning of old lumber and wood with nails, screws or other fasteners is prohibited. The burning of painted or treated wood, wood pallets or skids is prohibited.
4. Firepits are not for trash disposal. Please dispose of all trash or waste at our waste disposal site.

## Fire Pit Ash Disposal

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1. Park staff tend to fire pit ash cleanout as necessary between noon and 2:00 p.m. daily.
2. **Park staff will NOT dispose of any hot ashes from firepits.** Ashes must be allowed to burn down or doused with water within the contained fire pit area so ashes can be safely disposed of by park staff.
3. Disposing of ashes or other debris in woodlots or areas adjacent to campsites is prohibited.

## Firewood Retention

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1. All firewood entry into the Conservation Area is at the discretion of the Superintendent.
2. No third-party firewood sales or deliveries within or to the Conservation Area.
3. Campers may be required to provide a bill of sale on request by the Superintendent or park staff member for any firewood brought into the Conservation Area.

## Trees & Vegetation

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1. Campers are prohibited to cut, prune, trim or harm trees, shrubs or limbs or strip bark from trees. Campers shall not chop trees with an axe or other tools. Campers shall not use fasteners such as nails, screws or attach wires to trees or shrubs. This type of damage increases the potential that a tree will be impacted by fungus or disease resulting in the decline of tree health.
2. Temporary use of rope or line around trees is permitted, providing that the rope or line is loosely tied and not restricting or choking the tree in any way. Rope or line left tied tightly around a tree or limb may result in injury to the tree or cause failure of a limb or tree.
3. All ropes or lines shall not be strung lower than 7 ft. (2.1 m) from the ground at any point and must be removed while not in use to prevent personal injury.
4. All ropes and lines must be removed at departure.
5. While the MVCA maintains an inspection program for tree hazards on all campsites, campers are encouraged to be aware of overhead hazards and report these concerns to the Superintendent or other CA staff member to evaluate and tend to the matter.
6. Campers should be aware that trees and shrubs may be impacted by a variety of pests and diseases including Emerald Ash Borer, Beech Bark Disease, Hemlock Woolly Adelgid or other invasive pest and diseases. When a tree's health declines, its structural integrity may deteriorate, eventually leading to its death.

## Service Posts

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1. **Tampering with any service post is prohibited.**
2. Fastening or physically attaching any foreign items including nails or other fasteners to any electrical, water, sewer or other service post is prohibited. Any damages occurred due to fastening of foreign items will be the responsibility of the camper.
3. Service posts are property of the Conservation Area and may require servicing from time to time.
4. Campers must maintain a 3 ft. (1 m) easement around all service posts.

## Electrical, Water and Sewer Services

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1. An electrical, water and sewer service is provided at each serviced overnight campsite and included in the campsite fee.
2. **Tampering with any electrical, water or sewer service connections is prohibited.** All electrical, water and sewer services are owned and managed by the Conservation Authority. Increased use of services or tampering with services may be reflected on the camper's camp permit fees.
3. ELECTRICAL:
  - a) **Campers should ensure that their electrical connections are in good working condition and are not causing undue demand.** Electrical plugs ends should be free of corrosion. Electrical cord connections should be secure so not to cause arcing.
  - b) **Campers should ensure that they are not overloading a circuit, or the campsite's provided amperage. 30-amp campsites have a 30-amp maximum draw limit.**
  - c) All electrical power cords, electrical hardware, and electrical connections may be subject to inspection by the Superintendent or the Electrical Safety Authority.
  - d) Campers shall reimburse MVCA for any and all costs and damages as a result of improper use of electrical connections by the camper.
4. WATER:
  - a) All water provided at the campground is regulated under Public Health and is potable and safe for drinking unless otherwise posted.
  - b) Campers are encouraged to use their own back-flow preventer device at the water service connection as a preventive measure and should turn water supply OFF at the water service connection when away from the Camp Unit RV for lengths of time.
  - c) Campers shall inspect connections to ensure they remain free of leaks. **Please ensure hose connections have an adequate hose washer in place to prevent waste of water.**
  - d) Due to the MVCA's request to reduce water consumption whenever possible, washing vehicles or using water sprinklers at the campsite is prohibited.
5. SEWER:
  - a) The camper shall ensure all wastewater is contained within the piping of the sewer connection.
  - b) **The camper shall not flush sanitary wipes, or other non-flushable items into the sewer connection or wastewater dumping station as these items cause increased maintenance, malfunctions or failed operation of the wastewater system and can cause damage to the pumps and equipment within the system.**

- c) Wastewater in the park is treated through a large in-ground leaching bed, where it naturally filters through layers of soil and rock. This process allows the water to gradually replenish the groundwater aquifer, which serves as a source of drinking water. To protect groundwater quality, flushing chemicals or other toxic substances into the system is strictly prohibited.
- d) The camper is required to ensure no leakage of wastewater from any outlets, valves, plumbing and fixtures, or at sewer connections. See RV Wastewater Disposal.

## Motor Vehicle Operations

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1. Drivers must: be licensed, sober, obey the *Highway Traffic Act*, obey posted speed limits, obey instructional signs, and be aware of pedestrians. Failure to adhere may result in police involvement.
2. **Riding in the box of pickup trucks or on the outside of motor vehicles is strictly prohibited.**
3. All vehicles entering the Conservation Area require a vehicle permit.
4. **A maximum of two (2) vehicles are permitted to park on each campsite.**
5. All overnight vehicle passes expire at 2:00 p.m. on date of departure.

## Motorboats, Watercrafts & Trailers

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1. A motorboat, watercraft, utility trailer, equipment trailer, or an enclosed trailer may be parked on the campsite at the discretion of the Superintendent or designate. This approval will be subject to the suitability of each campsite to accommodate the motorboat, watercraft, or trailer in addition to camping equipment already occupying the campsite.
2. The impact of a motorboat, a watercraft, utility trailer, equipment trailer, or an enclosed trailer on the campground amenities and on neighbouring campsites will also be considered. Where dedicated parking/storage areas are provided, campers will be directed to park motorboat, watercraft, or trailer at this designated parking/storage areas if required.
3. A Watercraft Trailer Parking Permit fee will be applied to each motorboat or watercraft trailer that enters the Conservation Area. This fee does not apply to personal canoes or kayaks.
4. A Utility Trailer Parking Permit fee will be applied to each utility trailer, equipment trailer, or an enclosed trailer, which exceed 10 feet in length. This fee does not apply to small utility trailers under 10 feet in length or trailer being used to haul camping gear or used for sleeping accommodations.
5. Each watercraft or utility trailer parked on the campsite is considered parking of one (1) vehicle on the site and is at the discretion of the Superintendent or designate.

## ATV's & Golf Carts

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1. ATV's and golf carts are not allowed within the Conservation Area.
2. At the Superintendent's discretion, if an overnight camper requires the transport of an ATV or other prohibited vehicle into the Conservation Area, the ATV or other prohibited vehicle must always be contained within the transporting vehicle and out of direct public view.

## Bicycles and Bicycle Helmets

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1. Bicycles are permitted in the Conservation Area.

2. All trails in the Conservation Area are shared trails with hikers and pedestrians. Bicycle operators must yield to all trail users, hikers and pedestrians.
3. Bicycle operators must: be sober, obey the *Highway Traffic Act*, obey posted speed limits, obey instructional signs, and be aware of pedestrians and other vehicles.
4. Bicycle helmets must be worn by anyone under 18 years-of-age riding a bicycle on Conservation Area roadways.

## E-bikes & Power Assisted “Pedal-Driven” Bicycles

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1. E-bikes / Power Assisted “Pedal-Driven” Bicycles are only permitted on roadways at the Conservation Area under all Ontario legislated rules as follows: operators must be 16 years-of-age, wear a helmet, be sober, obey the *Highway Traffic Act*, obey posted speed limits, obey instructional signs, and be aware of pedestrians and other vehicles.
2. **The use of E-bikes / Power Assisted “Pedal-Driven Bicycles is prohibited on all Conservation Area trails.**

## Personal Electric Mobility Devices

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1. Throttle-activated and high-speed personal electric mobility devices are not permitted in the Conservation Area. This includes, but is not limited to: Segways, scooters and single wheel personal transporters.
2. Children’s electric or battery powered ride-on toys are not permitted in the conservation area.

## Personal Assistive Mobility Devices

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1. Personal assistive mobility devices are permitted for only those persons that require the 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.

## Drones & Remote-Controlled Aircraft

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1. The possession or use of drones or remote-controlled aircraft for professional, personal or recreational use is strictly prohibited.
2. Only MVCA or those persons with a permit issued by the Authority may use drones in the CA.

## Excavations, Rocks and Conservation Area Natural Property

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1. No digging or excavating in-ground is allowed in the Conservation Area. This includes, but is not limited to:
  - Trenching for rainwater flow around campsite
  - Digging for leveling of camp equipment
  - Digging for use of metal detector or other means
2. No rock shall be moved or defaced in any way. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Painting of rocks
  - Moving rocks to place around campfire pit area
3. All natural features of the Conservation Area are the property of the Conservation Area. It is prohibited for anyone to move, deface, or destroy any natural feature of the Conservation Area.

## Fireworks and Firearms

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1. Possession or igniting of fireworks or sparklers in the Conservation Area is prohibited.
2. Possession, use or discharge of firearms in the Conservation Area is strictly prohibited.
3. Possession, use or discharge and anything that shoots any form of projectile in the Conservation Area is strictly prohibited.

## RV Wastewater Disposal

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1. A sewer wastewater service connection is provided at sewer serviced overnight campsites only.
2. 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 designated campsites or must be disposed of at the wastewater dumping station.
3. Disposal or leaking of wastewater or sewage waste onto the ground or other area is prohibited.
4. It is encouraged that Camp Unit RV wastewater valves remain closed, except when opened for appropriate disposal. It is the full responsibility of the camper to properly dispose of Camp Unit RV wastewater and ensure no leakage of wastewater from their Camp Unit RV.
5. Wastewater sewer connection hoses and piping shall be limited in length where possible and inspected regularly to ensure no leakage of any wastewater.

## Waste “Trash” Disposal

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The Conservation Area provides waste disposal services of campsite waste material only. Large items and hazardous waste are NOT acceptable material to leave at the Conservation Areas disposal site. Park dumpsters and disposal of waste material will be monitored.

### Acceptable Disposal Waste

1. Food waste, biodegradable waste, disposable food utensils and small item packaging are acceptable disposable items at the Conservation Area.
2. Campers are encouraged to separate recyclables from acceptable waste and place in the proper recycling bin provided.

### Non-Acceptable Disposal Waste

1. Discarded furniture, mattresses, appliances, construction material, BBQs, bicycles, batteries, vehicle or camping unit parts and or any hazardous items are NOT permitted for disposal at the Conservation Area.
2. Discarding these items into or beside waste bins is NOT permitted. Large non-acceptable items such as those listed above, as well as any hazardous waste, is the responsibility of the camper to dispose of properly at a municipal disposal site.

3. Campsite garbage must be bagged and deposited in the large “green” waste bins provided at the park waste disposal site. Do not leave campsite garbage at your site post or deposit campsite garbage in the washroom waste receptacles.
4. We ask everyone to help keep our Conservation Area clean and reduce waste disposal costs.

## Glossary of Terms

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“Authority” refers to Maitland Valley Conservation Authority as the legal owner of the property.

“Camper” means person who is issued a permit to camp in the campground.

“Camping season” means the length of time the campground is open, typically the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Friday in April to Monday of Thanksgiving weekend.

“Camp Unit RV” means a truck camper, camper trailer, fifth wheel, motorhome or other hard top camping unit.

“Campsite reservation” means the action of reserving a campsite for specific dates of stay.

“Campsite” means the specified parcel of land in a conservation area operated by the authority for the purpose of camping, that is identified by a campsite number, post marker or other suitable means.

“Immediate family member” means a spouse, common-law partner, child, step-child or parent of the camper.

“Land-Use” means activities permitted by agreement for human use of a portion of area defined under agreement.

“Pets or Domestic Animal” means a Dog or Cat that is kept under human control either by habit or training and lives in association with human beings.

“Quiet time” is generally from 10:00 p.m. to 10:00 a.m. daily.

“Overnight Camp Permit” means a permit to camp that is issued by the Authority. Overnight camp permits expire at 12:00 pm (noon) on date indicated on the permit.

“Overnight camping fees” are the specific site fees which are determined and approved by the MVCA Membership.

“Superintendent” means the person designated by an authority as being in charge of a Conservation Area.

“Visitor” means anyone who is not listed on the Overnight Camping Camp Permit.