Niagara Parks Pavilion Regulations

Niagara Parks administers and maintains over 1,325 hectares (3,274 acres) of parkland along the Niagara River Corridor. These parklands include parks and picnic areas, historical and archaeological sites, golf courses, restaurants, gift shops, attractions, a horticultural school and kilometers of recreational trails along the scenic Niagara Parkway.

Many services and facilities are provided for a minimal fee. Among these are picnic areas complete with covered pavilions, tables, electrical outlets and washrooms. Several conditions apply to the use of picnic areas and pavilions under the jurisdiction of The Niagara Parks Commission (NPC). We ask that these conditions are read carefully and respectfully adhered to when visiting Niagara Parks properties:

Reservations

Must be made by phone with payment by credit card (only) at the time of booking. Picnic Pavilions may be reserved seasonally from April to October (weather permitting) between 10am and dusk. Pavilion tables will be assigned by NPC staff and reservation information will be posted in the Pavilion. Tables in the Pavilion must not be moved and seating arrangements must not be changed.

BBQ’s are available at several picnic sites and may be reserved for a fee. It is illegal to bring any BBQ inside the pavilion area or to place on a picnic table located within a pavilion.

If a group has permission to bring in a BBQ with propane, please obey the following rules:

- No single vehicle is permitted to carry more than 4 (four) propane cylinders. Propane cylinders are a portable means of storing and transporting propane. Cylinders are regulated by Transport Canada and bear a TC stamp on the collar.
- It is illegal to fill propane cylinders or tanks to more than 80% capacity, allowing room for volume changes due to temperature variations.
- Propane cylinders must be equipped with a pressure relief valve that opens and closes to prevent excessive internal pressure due to abnormal conditions.
- Cylinders must be marked and stamped onto the collar of cylinders identifying the original date of manufacture and any subsequent re-testing dates.
- Portable cylinders must be inspected and requalified every 10 years – it is against the law to fill an outdated cylinder. The requalification of a cylinder must be done by organizations that have the appropriate equipment, training and certification to do so, and have been certified by Transport Canada to do the work.
• Never throw your propane cylinder in the garbage. To dispose of your old cylinder, drop it off at a municipal transfer station or depot that accepts propane cylinders. Do not leave the cylinder, you must take it with you.

Confirmation of Reservation

Please remember to carry your Pavilion Reservation Confirmation to the pavilion the day of your picnic. Pavilion space for picnics will be held for one hour after time of booked reservation.

Limitations

 NPC reserves the ability to move functions within the Park. The NPC commits to ensuring that groups are provided with an alternate location or an alternate date at the same location, should this action be required.

Refunds

Please note the permit fee is for a specific date and time. There are no rain dates and permits are non-refundable in the event of cancellation.

Use of Property

Catering

The sale of any food, beverage or product is strictly prohibited on NPC property without written permission granted by the Niagara Parks Commission. Commercial catering firms are not permitted at any Niagara Parks location. In Queenston Heights Park, NPC can supply a complete range of food items for your group picnic. Arrangements can be made with Queenston Heights Restaurant in coordination with your pavilion booking.

Alcoholic Beverages

Alcoholic beverages are prohibited on NPC property under Section 31, sub-section 2, of the Liquor Licence Act of Ontario which reads as follows: “No person shall consume liquor (alcohol) in any place other than a residence, or a premises in respect of which a licence or permit is issued.”

Tents and Canopies

Tents and canopies are not permitted in the park if they require any form of staking into the ground. No stakes of any kind or length may be used in the park without expressed, written permission from Niagara Parks and the Ontario One Call process for locates completed.
Litter and Clean Up

It is the responsibility of each picnic group to appoint its own clean up committee and to ensure that the grounds and pavilions are left clean. Remember, other groups may be coming in after yours and we ask for your cooperation in helping to keep the parklands clean.

Dogs

Niagara Parks loves dogs as they make great friends and support active, healthy living. For the safety of your pet and others, please ensure dogs are on a leash and kept under direct control always. Please “stoop and scoop” - you are responsible to clean up after your pet.

Public Address Systems

In consideration of the many groups and individuals using the Pavilions and the Park on the same day as your picnic, the operation of a P.A. system is prohibited. Permission may be obtained to use a public-address system at Queenston Heights Bandshell or Old Fort Erie Bandshell for public events such as church services, band concerts, etc. Please note: church services must be completed by 11 a.m.

Inflatable Structures

Inflatable structures must be sandbagged in accordance with Niagara Parks safety standards and supervised by an adult (18+years) at all times. Insurance in the amount of $5 (five) million dollars must be provided to the Niagara Parks by the Inflatable company with the Niagara Parks added as a co-insured. A copy of the insurance statement must be received before final confirmation of a reservation is issued.

The insurance forms may be submitted by mail, fax or email to:

The Niagara Parks Commission
Rapidsview Complex, PO Box 150,
7369 Niagara River Parkway
Niagara Falls, Ontario
Fax 905-357-7195
Email: picnics@niagaraparks.com
Parking

There is no provision for parking vehicles adjacent to the pavilions at McFarland Park, Queenston Heights Park and Niagara Glen Park. Vehicles will be admitted to the pavilion area for the purpose of dropping off persons with a disability only. Please keep this to a 5-minute maximum. Drop off times are between 10 am to 12 pm only. Buses will not be permitted. Please coordinate vehicle entry into pavilion area with the attendant and/or police officer on duty. Please drive slowly and with caution to ensure the safety of others in the picnic areas. These access roads and pathways are heavily congested with walking traffic.

Kingsbridge Park

Parking charges apply mid-May to Labour Day, including Saturday, Sunday and holiday Mondays.

McFarland Park

Parking Machines $2.25 per hour.

Niagara Glen Park

Parking Machines $1.25 per hour max $10.00

Bus and/or Commercial Vehicles Permit

All Buses or Commercial Vehicles are required to obtain a permit while traveling throughout NPC property. Daily or Annual permits are available at bus management locations (e.g. Table Rock Center, Maid of the Mist, Rapidsview Parking Lot, Whirlpool Aero Car, the Butterfly Conservatory, or Floral Clock), or on-line at niagaraparks.com/bus

Security

Unfortunately, our extensive grounds and large number of visitors are sometimes attractive to thieves and vandals. We strongly urge guests to lock all valuables in car trunks - do not tempt crime by leaving possessions in view. If a security issue does arise, please contact the Niagara Parks Police at (905) 356-1338.

Abuse and Harassment to Niagara Parks Staff will not be tolerated.

In order to provide a pleasant experience for all of the users of our parklands, we ask that simple courtesy be the guideline. Enjoy your picnic in the Park!
Enquiries

Any enquiries regarding Niagara Parks picnic facilities should be directed to picnics@niagaraparks.com or phone: (905) 357-7808 ext 3354.