

Town of West Greenwich

INCORPORATED 1741

MAILING ADDRESS
VICTORY HIGHWAY
R.F.D. 2
WEST GREENWICH
RHODE ISLAND 02816

No. 11

ORDINANCE REGULATING PRIVATELY OWNED CAMPING AREAS IN THE TOWN OF WEST GREENWICH

Adopted April 13, 1966
Amended November 9, 1988

For the purpose of promoting the public health, safety, morals, orderly development and general welfare of the Town of West Greenwich, and to encourage the development of orderly and well managed camping areas in the Town of West Greenwich, it is ordained by the Town Council of the Town of West Greenwich, as follows:

Section 1. License required for camping area. No person shall maintain or operate a camping area within the Town of West Greenwich without a license for the same except as provided herein.

Section 2. Procedure for applying for license.

- a. Application for a camping area license shall be made in writing to the Town Council and shall be filed with the Town Clerk at least four (4) weeks prior to the special or regularly scheduled Town Council meeting at which hearing on such application is sought.
- b. Such application shall contain the following information:
 - (1) The name and address of the applicant.
 - (2) The name and address of the owner of the land on which the camping area is to be established.
 - (3) A description of the facilities intended to be installed on the proposed camping area and the services to be available to persons camping there.
- c. Such application shall be accompanied by the following:
 - (1) A plat of the proposed camping area showing its area and the name and addresses of all property owners adjoining or within 200 feet of the proposed camping area.
 - (2) Application fee of \$50.00 to defray the expense of administering this ordinance.
 - (3) Certificate of the Town Health Officer that the facilities intended to be installed on the proposed camping area and the services to be available to persons camping there will be adequate to meet water supply needs, sewerage and garbage disposal needs and that the proposed camping area will otherwise present a healthy environment for camping.

- (4) Certificate of the Town Forest Warden that the fire prevention facilities intended to be installed on the proposed camping area are adequate, that the fire prevention measures intended to be followed at the proposed camping area are adequate and that the proposed camping area will otherwise present a safe environment for camping.
- d. The Town Clerk shall refuse to accept any application not containing the information specified in Paragraph (b) of this Section or not accompanied by the plat, fee and certificates specified in Paragraph (c) of this Section.
- e. Upon receipt of a proper application the Town Clerk shall send, by regular mail, notice of such application and the date, time and place of the hearing thereon to each of the property owners adjoining or within 200 feet of the proposed location, as shown on the plat accompanying the application. Such notice shall be sent at least three (3) week prior to the Town Council meeting at which such application is to be considered. The Town Clerk shall also cause the application to be advertised in a newspaper of general circulation in Kent County once a week during the two (2) weeks prior to the Town Council meeting at which such application is to be considered.

Section 3. Standards to govern issuance of license. No license shall be granted unless the following standards are met:

- a. The proposed camping area must have an area of at least ten (10) acres.
- b. No camping facilities or camp sites on the proposed camping area shall be located within 200 feet of any adjoining landowner's dwelling house.

Section 4. Hearing on issuance of license. Issuance or denial of license. Hearing on the issuance of a camping license shall be held at special or regularly scheduled Town Council meetings. After hearing the license shall be granted forthwith if the standards outlined in Section 3 are met and the proposed location of the camping area is found to be compatible with the character and land use of the surrounding neighborhood.

Section 5. Terms of licenses. Any license granted under this ordinance shall be on the following terms.

- a. The license shall not be transferable.
- b. The license shall be revocable by the Town Council for violation of any of the provisions of this ordinance or upon evidence presented by the Town Health Officer or Town Forest Warden that the camping area is unhealthy or unsafe or that adequate health and safety measures are not being followed.
- c. The license shall also be revocable by the Town Council for any violation, committed on the premises, of the provisions of any other ordinance or statute or for maintaining or allowing the maintenance of a nuisance on the premises.

- d. The licensee shall permit inspection of the camping area at reasonable times by the Town of West Greenwich Police.

Section 6. Expiration and renewal of licenses Annual license fees.

All licenses issued under the authority of this ordinance shall expire on December 31 of each year. Such licenses shall be renewed by payment of an annual license fee of \$10.00 to the Town Clerk on or before December 31 of each year.

Section 7. Operation of licensed camping areas. Camping areas shall be open and operated only for an eleven (11) month continuous period during each calendar year. The one (1) month period during which operations shall cease and the camping areas closed shall be specified on the annual license granted by the Town Council. Said one (1) month closing period shall be determined at the hearing for license application or renewal.

Section 8. Penalties Any person violating each or any of the provisions of this ordinance shall be fined \$20.00. Each day's violation shall be considered as a separate offense. The Town Council may also revoke the camping area license, as specified in Section 5.

Section 9. Definitions. For the purpose of this ordinance the following definitions shall apply:

"Person" means any natural person, firm, trust, partnership, association or corporation.

"Camping area" means any tract or parcel of land set aside for use by persons paying a fee to camp there in tents, similar portable structures, vehicles designed for use in camping or camping trailers, so-called.

Section 10. Severability. The provisions of this ordinance are severable and if any of its provisions are adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional this shall not affect or impair any of the remaining provisions.

Section 11. Effective date. This ordinance shall take effect upon its passage and all ordinances and parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.