



CITY OF APPLETON

Department of Parks & Recreation

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TO: Parks and Recreation Committee

FROM: Dean R. Gazza

DATE: May 12, 2025

RE: Action: Approve change to park rules to prohibit alcohol beverages within 20' of any pavilion or playground within a park.

Our department works closely with monitoring behaviors that occur in our parks. An increase in alcohol consumption around park patrons, especially children can be problematic around pavilions and playgrounds.

Pavilions and associated restrooms are open to the public and get substantial usage, but often people congregate around the pavilions to consume beverages. In addition, it is not uncommon to find empty containers and other waste, not properly disposed of which can cause a hazard. To provide an improved environment for park patrons and children we recommend prohibiting alcohol beverages within 20' of any park pavilion or playground within a park.

We also recommend terminating the need to obtain a permit to consumer fermented malt beverages and wine within a park. We have determined that this practice has been ineffective and time consuming for the police department staff. The permit has not deterred or limited those who choose to drink without a permit and enforcement is challenging.

Below is the proposed addition to this section of the current rule:

The possession and consumption of fermented malt beverages and wine is prohibited within 20' of any pavilion or playground within a park.

Please contact me at 832-5572 or at dean.gazza@appleton.org with any questions.