

Issued: July 31, 2023

Interim Park Rule for Groveland Beach Park Aug. 4-6, 2023

Safe access and utilization of parks spaces is of the utmost importance to the City of Mercer Island. Safety guidelines establish reasonable space requirements for outdoor venues, especially concerning factors like crowd density, emergency access, and facilities. Seafair weekend has traditionally seen overwhelming crowds descend on Groveland Beach Park and the adjacent neighborhood with the potential to impact public safety, health, welfare, and patron enjoyment.

Overcrowding can lead to safety hazards and discomfort for attendees. City of Mercer Island staff from Police, Fire, Parks, Recreation, Public Works and the City Manager's Office evaluated park attributes such as parking, ingress/egress, topography, and emergency access. Based reasonably thereon, the designated Parks & Recreation Director has issued the following rule pursuant to MICC 9.30.220 intended to enhance public safety, welfare and convenience by allowing for adequate space and movement of attendees and emergency personnel throughout Groveland Beach Park.

The maximum capacity for recreational use by the general public at Groveland Beach Park shall be limited to five hundred (500) people starting on August 4, 2023 through August 6, 2023. No more persons from the general public shall be allowed into the park for recreational use while the park is at maximum capacity, as calculated by onsite City staff.