



AERIAL SPORTS DEPARTMENT POLICY

PURPOSE:

To provide and manage various aerial sports activities in St. Louis County Parks.

POLICY:

It is the policy of the St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation to accommodate non-motorized hang gliding and hot air ballooning activities in County Parks where such activities are safe and not in conflict with other park facilities.

PROCEDURE:

Hang Gliding

1. Non-motorized hang gliding is permitted in the large, open clearing within the "loop road" north of Lenz Shelter in Sioux Passage County Park.
2. Hang gliding is permitted in the open meadow (battlefield area) east of Gregg Road near Grant Shelter in Jefferson Barracks County Park.
3. Permits are not required for this activity as long as it remains an individual pursuit. When associated with a special event, however, a permit or authorization is required by telephoning 314-615-7641.
4. Hang gliding may be prohibited if there is a conflict with other activities within or adjacent to the designated hang gliding areas.
5. Participants are expected to wear appropriate safety equipment.
6. Off road activity in conjunction with this sport is seldom necessary and should be investigated when observed.

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Hot Air Ballooning

1. Hot air balloons are permitted to take off and land in any County Park during daylight hours when the parks are open
2. Reservations are required for activities after daylight hours, for organized events, or for three (3) or more balloons in a park area at the same time. They must obtain a letter from the Chief Park Ranger granting this permission. The Chief Park Ranger can be reached by telephoning 314-963-7707.
3. Off-road vehicle activity in conjunction with this sport is common but should be restricted to only essential vehicles (vehicles carrying/receiving the basket, burner, balloon) required for the launching/retrieving of the balloon. Balloon vehicles may not drive around closed gates to launch balloons. Retrieval accommodation is more tolerant.
4. Balloon pilots are urged to use discretion when selecting landing sites so as to minimally interfere with other park activities. Takeoffs may not interfere with any park activity.
5. Ballooning may be restricted or prohibited if there is a conflict or potential conflict with other activities.

Director

Date

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