



## PONY RIDES DEPARTMENT POLICY

### **PURPOSE:**

To regulate pony rides in St. Louis County Parks.

### **POLICY:**

It is the policy of the St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation to permit pony rides as a part of an approved special event or as a service contracted by a reservation permit holder as part of a picnic or party

### **PROCEDURE:**

#### **Administration**

1. The Department neither provides pony rides nor is under concession contract with a vendor. When pony rides are desired for Department sponsored events, individual contracts must be entered into. If the Department does contract for pony rides at special events, additional insurance requirements must be met and are available from the Insurance Office of the Division of Purchasing.
2. Pony rides are permitted as a special condition of a reservation at no extra charge. The presence of ponies should be indicated on the reservation. Use of this service is restricted to the group covered by the reservation.

#### **Rules – Park Requirements**

1. Riding areas will be approved by Park staff. Routes should vary to minimize impact on lawns. Ponies should not be used within 100 feet of shelters or other public use facilities.
2. When not being ridden, ponies are to be confined and supervised in an area not readily accessible to the public. This site will be determined by Park staff. Staff will also designate areas for the parking of pony related vehicles and equipment.
3. The Department reserves the right to restrict the use of specific animals based on their apparent medical or behavioral observations or general physical appearance.

## PONY RIDES DEPARTMENT POLICY – PAGE 2

### Rules – Vendor Requirements

1. Carousel devices are not permitted.
2. The vendor is responsible for the clean up of the area, including animal droppings.
3. At least two (2) people must be on duty to supervise each six (6) ponies used. At least one (1) employee must be 21 years of age or older and one (1) individual must be experienced in handling animals.
4. No partially trained animals may be used. Ponies which have developed bad habits such as biting, kicking, running away, balking or rearing up may not be used.
5. Ponies must have properly trimmed hooves. The front cinch must be 3 ½ to 7 inches wide. Saddle girths must be checked for snugness several times a day.
6. Spotters must walk at the side of disabled users and small child rider, being certain to support the head and back with one hand. No child under the age of one (1) year old or without adequate muscle coordination may be allowed to ride. Spotters may not be parents or guardians. The child should hold the saddle horn.
7. The vendor must be able to provide proof of insurance.

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Director

Date

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