

LOWER PLATTE SOUTH NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT  
COMMUNITY WETLANDS MANAGEMENT AREA REGULATIONS

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\*\*\*RESTATED AUGUST 2010\*\*\*

**001. GENERAL REGULATIONS**

The rules and regulations contained in this section shall apply to all persons entering, using, residing in, visiting, or who are otherwise within the boundaries of any District owned or controlled Community Wetland Management Area administered by the District. These rules are effective January 1, 1999 and were restated in March 2003.

**DEFINITIONS**

The following definitions shall apply to all regulations contained in this section.

- (a) District shall mean the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District.
- (b) Manager shall mean the General Manager of the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District.
- (c) Law Enforcement Officer shall mean any duly constituted and credentialed officer, including but not limited to any Nebraska Game and Parks Commission conservation officers or deputy conservation officer, local police officer, member of the State Patrol, sheriff or deputy sheriff.
- (d) Community Wetland Management Area shall mean all District owned or controlled designated community wetland management area administered by the District within the corporate limits of a city or village.

**001.01 ABANDONED PROPERTY**

- 001.01A Abandonment of any vehicle or other personal property is prohibited and such property may be impounded by the Manager or Law Enforcement Officer.
- 001.01B Leaving any vehicle or other personal property unattended for longer than 24 hours without prior permission of the Manager is prohibited, and any such property so left may be impounded by the Manager or Law Enforcement Officer.
- 001.01C In the event unattended property interferes with the safe or orderly management of the District Community Wetland Management Area, it may be impounded at the expense of the owner.
- 001.01D Disposing of household or commercial garbage or trash brought as such from private property is prohibited.

**001.02 CAMPING**

- 001.02A For the purposes of these regulations, camping is defined as temporary lodging out of doors for hunting, fishing or other outdoor activity and presupposes the occupancy of a shelter designed for such purposes, such as a sleeping bag, tent, trailer, or other

vehicle modified for such use. Camping is prohibited on District Community Wetland Management Areas.

001.02B Group type camping by youth groups, civic groups, clubs, organizations and other similar groups is prohibited on District Community Wetland Management Areas.

**001.03 CLOSURES**

001.03A The District may establish a reasonable schedule of visiting hours for all portions of the District Community Wetland Management Area and close to the public, use of all or any portion of the District Community Wetland Management Area when necessary for the protection of an area or the safety and welfare of a person, or persons, or property by the posting of appropriate signs indicating the extent and scope of such closure. Community Wetland Management Areas are open one hour prior to sunrise through one hour after sunset.

001.03B All persons shall observe and abide by officially posted signs designating closed areas and visiting hours.

**001.04 FIRES AND FIREWORKS**

001.04A Fires are prohibited in District Community Wetland Management Areas, including but not limited to open fires, fires in fireplaces, grills or fire rings, as well as privately owned devices such as gasoline or propane stoves, charcoal grills, or similar devices. Fires used for the management of vegetation, noxious weeds, or other plant species are allowed at the discretion and authorization of the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District.

001.04B The use of fireworks of any kind on District Community Wetland Management Areas is prohibited.

**001.05 FISHING, HUNTING AND TRAPPING**

001.05A Fishing is allowed in District Community Wetland Management Areas.

001.05B Hunting or the use or possession of firearms, bow and arrow, or other projectile devices is prohibited in District Community Wetland Management Areas unless authorized by a permit pursuant to 001.08A. Firearms carried by credentialed law enforcement officers is allowed.

001.05C Trapping is prohibited in District Community Wetland Management Areas.

001.05D The use of and / or possession of paintball weapons of any type shall be prohibited in District Community Wetland Management Areas.

**001.06 DISORDERLY CONDUCT**

001.06A Disorderly conduct is prohibited.

001.06B Disorderly conduct is committed when a person causes public alarm, nuisance, jeopardy or violence, or recklessly creates a risk thereof by:

001.06B1 Engaging in fighting or threatening, or violent behavior; or

001.06B2 Using language, an utterance, or gesture, or engaging in a display or act which is obscene, physically threatening or menacing, or done in a manner which is likely to inflict injury or incite an immediate breach of the peace; or

001.06B3 Making noise which is unreasonable, considering the nature and purpose of the actor's conduct, location, time of day or night, and other factors which would govern the conduct of a reasonably prudent person under the circumstances; or

001.06B4 Creating or maintaining a hazardous or physically offensive condition.

001.06C Persons committing disorderly conduct may be evicted from the area.

**001.07 CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL**

001.07A Consumption of alcoholic beverages in District Community Wetland Management Areas is prohibited, except that such consumption is permitted in assigned, rented, or leased District owned structures used as temporary or permanent residences or in privately owned structures situated on such lands and used as temporary or permanent residences.

001.07B Presence in a District Community Wetland Management Area when under the influence of alcohol or drugs to a degree that may endanger oneself or another person, property, or may cause unreasonable interference with another person's enjoyment of the area is prohibited.

**001.08 PERMITS, SPECIAL OCCASIONS**

001.08A Sports events, pageants, reenactments, entertainments and the like, characterized as public spectator attractions or participant activities, are prohibited unless written permission has been given by the General Manager. Such permits shall be issued only after a finding that the issuance of such permit will not be inconsistent with the purposes for which the District Community Wetland Management Area is established and maintained and will cause the least possible interference of the use of the District Community Wetland Management Area by the general public. The permit may

contain such reasonable conditions and restrictions as to duration and area occupied as are necessary for the protection of the District Community Wetland Management Area and public use thereof.

- 001.08B Public meetings, assemblies, gatherings, demonstrations, parades, religious services and other expressions of views are prohibited unless written permission therefore has been given by the District.
- 001.08C The filming of still or motion pictures of lands, wildlife and facilities owned or controlled by the District for commercial purposes is prohibited unless written permission therefore has been given by the District.
- 001.08D Applications for a Special Occasion Permit shall be received by the District not later than thirty (30) days prior to the requested special activity and shall set forth the following: The name of the applicant, the date, time, duration, nature and place of the proposed activity, an estimate of the number of persons expected to attend, and a statement of equipment and facilities to be used in connection therewith.
- 001.08E As a condition of the permit issuance, the District may require filing of a bond with satisfactory surety payable to the District to cover costs such as restoration, rehabilitation and cleanup of the area used, and other costs resulting from the permittee's activity. In lieu of a bond, a permittee may elect to deposit cash equal to the amount of the required bond.

**001.09 GEOCACHING ACTIVITIES, PERMITS**

- 001.09A Cache Permits: Placement of a cache on Lower Platte South Natural Resources District (LPSNRD) property must be secured with a Special Occasion Permit.
  - 001.09A1 The person applying for a permit must provide a valid address, telephone number, e-mail address, vehicle license number and the web site address on which the cache will be posted.
  - 001.09A2 The location of the cache must be pre-approved by the General Manager whose main concern will be public safety and the prevention of undesirable impacts to natural and cultural resources. The General Manager will advise of any off limits areas, other permitted caches and possible prescribed burn areas for the calendar year.
  - 001.09A3 Once the cache is placed, the applicant must return to the LPSNRD office to record the exact cache location, including GPS coordinates, which will be added to the permit.
  - 001.09A4 All permits will be in effect for the calendar year. A new permit will need to be applied for and authorized each year. NOTE: If during the effective

period of a permit, a permit holder wants to change the location of the cache, a new permit must be issued and the effective permit cancelled.

- 001.09A5 Upon the expiration of a permit, the permit holder is responsible for removing the cache and for removing the cache location from all web sites and any information source. If the permit holder fails to remove the cache, it will be removed by LPSNRD staff and held for ten (10) days after which staff will dispose of the cache. Confiscation and disposal by staff will be recorded and filed.
- 001.09B Cache containers and contents.
  - 001.09B1 Cache containers must be non-breakable, waterproof and have some form of latch or other closing mechanism to prohibit content exposure to wildlife. Cache containers must be marked “Geocache Container” on the outside of the container.
  - 001.09B2 Caches may not contain inappropriate or dangerous items. Such items include, but are not limited to; food, medications, personal/hygiene products, pornography, weapons of any type, etc. Log books are encouraged in lieu of exchange items.
  - 001.09B3 All caches are subject to random inspection by LPSNRD staff. Staff has the authority to immediately remove any item held in a cache deemed unacceptable. Non-permitted caches will be removed by area staff and held for 30 days. An attempt will be made to locate the cache owner. If the cache is not claimed in 30 days, staff will dispose of the cache.
- 001.09C Cache Locations. The location of a cache must be pre-approved by the General Manager.
  - 001.09C1 Physical caches are prohibited inside or attached to any LPSNRD facility or structure. Caches may not be placed in locations that may lead to the creation of spur trails. Caches may not be placed in dangerous, inappropriate, or protected areas and habitats, on cliffs, underground or underwater.
  - 001.09C2 No digging is permitted. Caches cannot be buried, nor may soil, vegetation or stones be disturbed to place a cache.
- 001.09D Compliance
  - 001.09D1 The use of metal detectors in cache searches is expressly prohibited.
  - 001.09D2 If geocaching activities as a whole are found to have negative impact on LPSNRD resources or if safety becomes an issue in geocache searches, the

General Manager may ban geocaching from certain areas of LPSNRD property. Failure to comply with LPSNRD guidelines will result in the revocation of effective geocaching permits. Continued failure to comply with these guidelines will prevent the issuance of any further geocaching permits to the non-compliant group or individual.

VISIT: [www.geocaching.com](http://www.geocaching.com)

#### **001.10 PETS, LIVESTOCK AND OTHER ANIMALS**

001. 10A It is unlawful to permit dogs, cats or other pets to range at large in any District Community Wetland Management Area, except by specific provisions as listed below.

001. 10B Dogs, cats and other household type pets are permitted in District Community Wetland Management Areas, provided they are physically restrained by leash, cage, crate or other such device, except where restricted by the posting of appropriate signs, or where prohibited by special area regulations. All pet wastes must be removed and disposed of by pet owners.

001. 10C It is unlawful for anyone to exercise, run, train or hunt with dogs in District Community Wetland Management Areas.

001. 10D Grazing or ranging domestic livestock or poultry is prohibited in District Community Wetland Management Areas without prior written authorization by the District.

001. 10E Horseback riding is prohibited in District Community Wetland Management Areas.

#### **001.11 PROPERTY**

001.11A The possession, destruction, injury, defacement, removal, or disturbance of any building, sign, equipment, monument, statute, marker, or other structure, or of any animal or plant matter and direct or indirect products thereof, including but not limited to firewood, petrified wood, flower, cane, fruit, egg, nest, den, or of any soil, rock or mineral formation, artifact, relic, historic or prehistoric feature, or of any other public property of any kind is prohibited in District Community Wetland Management Areas, provided that the District and other authorized management personnel may issue special permission or authorization permitting such activities where it is in the best interest of the public and wetland resources.

001.11B The introduction of any animal or plant matter direct or indirect products thereof, including but not limited to wood, animals, flowers, cane, fruit, eggs, nests, pesticides, fertilizers, as well as any soil, rock or mineral formations is expressly prohibited without the written permission of the District, provided that the District and other authorized management personnel may issue special permission or

authorization permitting such activities where it is in the best interest of the public or wetland resources.

**001.12 SANITATION**

001.12A All garbage, papers, cans, bottles, waste materials and rubbish of any kind must be either removed from District Community Wetland Management Areas or deposited in places or containers designated for the disposal thereof.

001.12B Draining or dumping refuse or waste from any trailer or other vehicle except in places or receptacles provided for such use is prohibited.

001.12C Polluting or contaminating in any manner in any watershed, water supplies, standing or wetland waters is prohibited.

**001.13 RECREATION**

001.13A Skiing, sledding, tobogganing, snowshoing, ice skating, swimming, wading, and similar sport are prohibited in District Community Wetland Management Area.

001.13B Hiking, walking, biking or jogging on designated trails is permitted. All persons entering the District Community Wetland Management Area to hike, walk, bike or jog must remain on District provided trails.

**001.14 TRAFFIC**

001.14A It shall be unlawful for any person to operate a motorized vehicle on other than roadways, parking areas, or trails specifically designated for vehicle use. This shall include all trucks, automobiles, motorcycles, trail bikes, mini-bikes, snowmobiles, four-wheel drive vehicles, and all terrain vehicles, provided that nothing in this section shall prohibit management or emergency personnel or their agents from using these vehicles for emergency or management purposes.

001.14B It shall be the duty of each vehicle operator to obey all traffic regulatory signs as posted on each area.

**001.15 VENDING**

001.15A The vending of various goods, services, products, or commodities is prohibited on all District Community Wetland Management Areas, without the written permission of the Manager.

**001.16 STANDARDS**



001.16A The standards established in these regulations are in furtherance of the preservation and protection of the natural, scenic, historic, pastoral, fish and wildlife and wetland values of the District Community Wetland Management Areas.

001.16B Use and development of property will be in conformance with applicable Federal, State, and Local laws, regulations, and ordinances.

**001.17 EXCEPTIONS TO REGULATIONS**

001.17A Nothing in the foregoing shall be construed as prohibiting the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District or their duly appointed agents or employees from the conduct of their assigned duties in the administration, maintenance, and development of areas owned or controlled by the District.

001.17B In the event of natural disaster, state or national emergency, civil disorder, accident or other situation where in the conduct of activities otherwise permitted under these regulations may constitute a hazard to the public health, safety, or welfare, or inhibit rescue, recovery, post-disaster or development operations, General Manager of the District is herewith specifically empowered and directed to take such measures at their disposal to preserve the public health, safety and welfare and to expedite rescue, recovery and operations to include the temporary suspension of any or all activities contemplated in these regulations or any area or portion of any area owned, or controlled by the District and the temporary closure and/or evacuation of any such area.

**001.18 EASEMENTS, LICENSES AND PERMITS GRANTED BY THE DISTRICT**

001.18A The District has granted, and may from time to time grant, easements, licenses, and permits over portions of District Community Wetland Management Areas for various and sundry uses. Some of these uses, by way of illustration only, may be for utilities, water lines, pipelines, and ingress and egress by joining landowners. Any conflict between the public and the grantee of an easement, license, or permit, over the use of wetland lands shall be immediately brought to the attention of the General Manager who shall have the authority to resolve the conflict.