

Topstone Park Policies – Revised 07/06/20

For residents to use Topstone Park safely this summer, Park and Recreation has outlined a plan that allows patrons to enjoy the facility. We are attempting to balance capacity guidelines, social distancing, and avoid disappointing residents who would be turned away at the gate after we have reached capacity. The plan requires advanced reservations only! We will turn away anyone at the gate who doesn't have a confirmed advanced reservation for use of Topstone Park! – Please note the new 4:00pm walk up policy for “residents only” detailed on the next page.

The plan is subject to change as we move forward and is contingent upon our residents' compliance with these new policies when visiting Topstone Park as well as guidance from state and local government.

We know that this is not ideal but given the circumstances, we hope you will understand and follow our plan.

Topstone Park opened daily as of June 17.

Here is an overview of the plan with more details below.

- Residents may pay a daily fee upon entry.
- Seasonal Passes may be purchased as of June 26 and credit for days paid for can be deducted from your pass in the period of 6/17-7/3.
- Social Distancing will be required.
- Masks will be required of all patrons (only upon entry and while using shared facilities)
- Advanced reservations are required and only accepted by email.
- Day of “drive up to the park” usage is not allowed (see 4pm resident exception on next page)
- Boats will not be available for use.
- Bathrooms will be cleaned during the day and each night, however, cleaning supplies (disinfectant and paper towels) will be available for patrons to use.
- The Park is only available for those 18 and older unless accompanied by an adult.

Daily Fee

The daily fee for entry to Topstone is \$5 per person. (see the non-resident info on the last page)

Season Passes

Due to the uncertainty of accommodating everyone, Park and Recreation started the season without an option for season passes. Seasonal Passes may now be

purchased by residents only as of June 26 and credit for days paid for can be deducted from your season pass (for the period of 6/17-7/2). You may only deduct the fees paid for people on your pass (not your guests). There is a spot on the form to list your visits and deductions.

Social Distancing

Park and Recreation is initiating a capacity of 40 patrons as the number which allows for social distancing. The CDC guideline for social distancing at beaches requires 15 feet between each group. This allows 3 feet for people to walk between groups and still provides 6 feet away from others. Tables will be moved 15 feet apart from each other, and patrons will be asked to set up 15 feet away from any other group.

Masks

For the safety of all, Park and Recreation will require all patrons (ages 2+) to wear masks upon entry to the Park. Once at their spot on the beach, patrons may remove them. Before using the shared bathrooms or changing rooms, masks should be used until you return to your beach location. A medical condition is the exemption for not wearing a mask. Please notify a staff member if you are using this exemption.

Advanced Reservation – [Amended 7/6/20](#)

Reservations must be made by Redding residents, in advance and only by email (to the special email address listed below).

Due to capacity constraints, this will prevent patrons from being turned away at the gate.

We will turn away anyone at the gate who doesn't have a confirmed reservation for use of Topstone Park except after 4:00pm!

– We have decided to make an exception after 4:00pm. Most days have been filling up fast especially for the time period 1-4 pm/ 2-5pm. After 4pm we tend to have room for at least 15 on many days. Starting Tuesday, July 7th we will allow "residents only" to show up at the park hoping to get in without a reservation. If you CAN make a reservation by the deadlines below, we suggest you do as space may not be available. Disappointing the kids is never fun. Make sure you bring your ID as this is only for residents.

Residents may request up to 3-hour blocks of time during our regular park operating hours; 10:00am-7:00pm weekdays and 11:00am-7:00pm on weekends.

- Residents may have up to three reservations at anytime, no more than 14 days in advance.
- The dates may not be consecutive to allow all access.
- Only two advanced dates can be on a weekend but not the same weekend.
- Once you have used the first date you may, of course, request an additional date.
- The deadline to reserve the next date is 3:00pm the day before if you want a response by 7:00pm
- You can always ask for the next day before 3:00pm (regardless of how many other reservations had been made). If we are not at capacity, we can allow it if you request it before 3:00pm.
- **ON WEEKDAYS ONLY - We are now accepting registration for the same day up until 10:00am on weekdays Monday through Friday. We will get you a confirmation by 12:00pm.** Remember - If you reserve by 3pm the day before you will get an answer by 7pm

To make a reservation request, send an email to:

topstonereservations@townofreddingct.org with the following information:

- Your name (the person making the request)
- Your address
- Your email address (don't use a work email if you can't check it later)
- A cell number to call (if we need to reach you)
- The block or time you wish to visit the park (maximum 3 hours)
- Amount of people that will be at the Park with you
- If you are flexible with your times, please let us know

You will receive an auto-reply so that you know your request was received and another email indicating your request has been approved.

Email us anytime with the subject line **TOPSTONE RESERVATION REQUEST** but no later than 3:00pm if you want a reply by 7:00pm to use the Park the next day. Day of registrations are only accepted by 10:00am Monday – Friday Of course, waiting until the day before or the day of makes it less likely to secure that time slot. A staff member will check this email address daily (7 days a week) between 3-7pm and weekdays until 10:00am. You will get a response no later than 7:00pm if it was received before 3:00pm and by noon if it was received weekdays by 10:00am. No reservations can be

made for the same day on weekends. The latest you can make a request for the Saturday or Sunday is 3:00pm the day before, and we will get back to you by 7:00pm. To avoid disappointment, reserve your spots in advance.

Reservations can be made for up to 8 people in your family unit or group only (unless you have a larger family in our computer system). Our goal is to accommodate as many families and individual patrons as possible each day.

Upon arrival to the park

When you pull up, a staff member will be at the outer gate asking if you have a reservation. Remain in your car. You will be asked to show your driver's license as proof of residency. Staff will then hand you a copy of the Park's rules and remind you to have yours masks on until you settle in your spot.

Payment needs to be made by check or cash only at the beach entrance. If you wish to pay in advance by credit card, you must request so 5 days in advance. We will call you to get the credit card info when our offices are open but we will not take credit card payments at the Park.

Boats and Sports

Our Boats, Basketball and Tetherball will not be available for use. However, if you have a reservation you may bring your own Kayak provided you have your own lifejacket and you don't share it with others.

Hiking

Hikers are welcome to use the Park but for now they should park outside the main gate. We are trying to allow those who have reserved the beach to spread out their cars. We might allow hikers to park their car in the main inner lot after a week or so.

Bathrooms, Chairs and Tables

Bathrooms will be cleaned nightly and high touch surfaces will be disinfected throughout the day. Paper towels and cleansers will be available to adults for use before using the bathroom and picnic tables. Parents will need to bring their children to the bathroom each time.

Patrons should bring beach chair, as Topstone will not provide the shared plastic Adirondack chairs this summer.

Overnight Camping and Birthday Parties

Camping and Birthday Parties will not be allowed this summer at Topstone Park.

Age

No youth under 18 may be at the park without an adult 18 or older being responsible for them.

Non-Residents Use of Topstone

On July 1, we will accept reservations from non-residents to use the beach if capacity exists. Reservations from non-residents may be made two days in advance only, rather than the 14 days that are allowed residents. The fee for use for non-residents is \$15 per person. There will be no non-resident passes sold this season.

Adjustment of Policy / Compliance with staff

Park and Recreation reserves the right to adjust our policies at any time. Usage of the park is contingent on following the direction of park staff at all times. Patrons may be asked to leave for non-compliance of these guidelines.

Inherent Risk

By entering our facility, you are acknowledging the inherent risk involved in being at a public facility.

All who enter our facility acknowledge that they are engaging in activities that involve the risk of serious injury including permanent disability, illness, including but not limited to exposure to Covid-19, death and severe social and economic losses which might result not only from their own actions, inactions or negligence but the actions, inactions or negligence of others, the conditions of the premise or of any equipment used. Further, there may be other risks not known or not reasonably foreseeable at this time. All who enter our facility assume all foregoing risks, both known and unknown, and accept personal responsibility for the damages following such injury, illness, including but not limited to exposure to Covid-19, permanent disability and/or death.