

1977 No. 217

OPEN SPACES
The Royal and other Parks and Gardens
Regulations 1977

Laid before Parliament in draft

Made - - - - 14th February 1977

Coming into Operation 1st March 1977

The Secretary of State for the Environment, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 2(1) of the Parks Regulation (Amendment) Act 1926(a) as extended by section 7(5) of the Crown Estate Act 1961(b) and now vested in him (c) and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, hereby makes the following regulations:—

Interpretation, citation and commencement

1.—(1) In these regulations:—

“constable” includes a park constable within the meaning of section 3 of the Parks Regulation Act 1872(d) as amended by the Parks Regulation (Amendment) Act 1974(e);

“hackney carriage” includes a vehicle which is in use for the same purpose but which is not lawfully permitted to stand or ply publicly for hire;

“Palace” means Buckingham Palace, Hampton Court Palace or St. James’s Palace;

“Park” means an area of land described in Schedule 1 to these regulations;

“Park road” means a road, which is for the time being open to vehicular traffic, in a Park,

“the public speaking area” means that part of Hyde Park bounded by Cumberland Gate and North Carriage Drive on the north, Stanhope Walk on the west, Grosvenor Walk on the south, and the Broad Walk on the east, including the area known as Speakers’ Corner;

“the riding ways” means—

(a) in relation to Hyde Park, the Park roads therein and the horse rides known as the New Ride, the North Ride, Rotten Row and the Serpentine Ride, and

(a) 1926 c. 36.

(b) 1961 c. 55.

(c) 1942 c. 23, S.R. & O. 1945/991; S.I. 1962/1549, 1970/1681 (Rev. XV, p. 232: 1945 I, p. 1414; 1962 II, p. 1676; 1970 III, p. 5551).

(d) 1872 c. 15.

(e) 1974 c. 29.

(b) in relation to St. James's and The Green Parks, the Park roads therein and the horse rides known as Constitution Hill Ride and the Mall Ride.

(2) The Interpretation Act 1889(a) shall apply for the interpretation of these regulations as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

(3) Any reference in these regulations to any enactment shall be construed as a reference to the enactment as amended extended or applied by any subsequent enactment.

(4) These regulations may be cited as the Royal and other Parks and Gardens Regulations 1977 and shall come into operation on 1st March 1977.

Restriction on use of a Park

2. No person, without the written permission of the Secretary of State, shall—
- (a) be in a Park, or any part thereof, at a time when that Park or part thereof is not open to the public,
 - (b) except in an emergency, land a helicopter or other aircraft in a Park or enter a Park therefrom, or
 - (c) permit any animal of which he is in charge to be in any Park or part thereof in contravention of a notice exhibited by order of the Secretary of State.

Acts prohibited in a Park

3. Subject to the provisions of regulation 6, no person using a Park shall—
- (1) intentionally or recklessly interfere with the safety, comfort or convenience of any person using a Park in accordance with these regulations;
 - (2) collect or solicit money or any other gift;
 - (3) do any act which pollutes or is likely to pollute water in any fountain, lake or pond;
 - (4) use language which publicly imparts or purports to impart information concerning racing or betting or publicly indicates that such information can be obtained elsewhere;
 - (5) solicit persons to be passengers in a hackney carriage;
 - (6) fail to keep any animal of which he is in charge under control or on a lead—
 - (a) after having been required by a constable to do so, or
 - (b) in contravention of a notice exhibited by order of the Secretary of State;
 - (7) permit any animal of which he is in charge to foul any pathway or mown lawn;
 - (8) fail to remove any animal of which he is in charge from a Park or place in that Park after having been required by a constable to do so;
 - (9) fail to comply with any direction for the regulation or control of horses or pedal cycles given by a constable or by a notice exhibited by order of the Secretary of State;
 - (10) ride any animal or drive or ride any vehicle in any manner that endangers or is likely to endanger any person;

(a) 1889 c. 63.

(11) in contravention of a notice exhibited by order of the Secretary of State, or after having been required by a constable not to do so—

- (a) play any game or engage in any form of sport or exercise,
- (b) use any kite or model aircraft or any mechanically propelled or operated model, or
- (c) skate or otherwise go on any ice;

(12) fail, when in the public speaking area in Hyde Park, to comply with a direction given by a constable to move from some place in that area or to leave the area;

(13) fail to move any chair, stand or platform in the public speaking area in Hyde Park in accordance with a direction given by a constable;

(14) fail to comply with a reasonable direction given by a constable to leave a park or any part thereof.

Acts in a Park for which written permission is required

4. Unless the Secretary of State's written permission has first been obtained, no person using a Park shall—

- (1) interfere with any plant;
- (2) go on any flower bed or shrubbery, or on any area of a Park access to which is prohibited by a notice exhibited by order of the Secretary of State;
- (3) use or operate a metal or mineral detector or any device for locating objects below ground level;
- (4) (a) attach any article to, climb or interfere with any tree, railing, fence, statue, seat, building or structure, or
(b) interfere with any notice or sign;
- (5) carry on any trade or business in a Park, offer anything for sale or hire or expose or have in his possession anything for the purpose of sale or hire therein;
- (6) use language which publicly intimates that any article, commodity, facility or service can be obtained in a Park or elsewhere;
- (7) exhibit any notice or advertisement or any other written or pictorial matter;
- (8) play or cause to be played a musical instrument;
- (9) use any apparatus for the transmission, reception, reproduction or amplification of sound, speech or images by electrical means, except apparatus designed and used as an aid to defective hearing or apparatus used

In a vehicle so as not to produce sound audible to a person outside that vehicle;

(10) discharge any weapon which is a firearm within the meaning of section 57 of the Firearms Act 1968(a), or project any missile manually or by artificial means;

(11) camp or erect or cause to be erected any tent or enclosure;

(12) wash or dry any piece of clothing or linen;

(13) make or give a public speech or address except in the public speaking area in Hyde Park;

(14) unless for the purpose for which it is provided, interfere with or remove any lifebelt, lifeline or lifesaving aid or fixture;

(15) organise or take part in any assembly, display, performance, representation, parade, procession, review or theatrical event;

(16) take photographs of still or moving subjects for the purpose of or in connection with a business, trade, profession or employment or any activity carried on by a body of persons whether corporate or unincorporate;

(17) intentionally obstruct or otherwise interfere with free passage on any road, riding way or path;

(18) fish, take any egg, or intentionally injure or worry any animal or bird;

(19) cause or permit any animal or bird of which he is in charge to chase, worry or injure any other animal or bird;

(20) if over the age of twelve years—

(a) enter any children's playground (unless in charge of and accompanied by a person not over that age), or

(b) go on any playground equipment in a children's playground;

(21) boat or bathe, unless—

(a) in a place for the time being marked by buoys or other means as appointed for that purpose, and

(b) in accordance with any direction for the control of bathing or boating given by a constable, or by a notice exhibited by order of the Secretary of State;

(22) sail any model except on Adam's Pond in Richmond Park, on the Heron Pond in Bushy Park, on the Rick Pond in Hampton Court Park, or on the Round Pond in Kensington Gardens;

(23) feed or touch any deer or pelican;

(24) ride any animal except—

(a) in Bushy Park,

(b) on the road between Blackheath Gate and St. Mary's Gate in Greenwich Park,

- (c) on the riding ways in Hyde Park or St. James's Park and The Green Parks,
- (d) on the road between Queen's Gate and Coalbrookdale Gate in Kensington Gardens,
- (e) on the roads in The Regent's Park, or
- (f) in Richmond Park;

(25) cause or permit any animal to be in a place for the time being marked by buoys or other means as reserved for bathing or to be in any boat on any water in a Park;

(26) drive or ride any vehicle off a Park road except—

- (a) for the purpose of parking that vehicle in a place reserved for that purpose by the Secretary of State;
- (b) an invalid carriage, or (if ridden by a person not over the age of twelve years) a foot-propelled vehicle;

(27) drive or ride any vehicle which is constructed, adapted or in use for the purpose of a trade or business except as specified in Part I of Schedule 2 to these regulations;

(28) drive or ride any vehicle on a Park road in excess of the speed specified in relation to that road in Part II of Schedule 2 to these regulations;

(29) tow or leave any caravan;

(30) unless in an emergency, cause any vehicle to wait, or leave any vehicle unattended, in a place other than one for the time being appointed for the parking of a vehicle of that description by the Secretary of State.

General

5. Where a constable has reasonable ground for belief that a person has contravened any one or more of these regulations, that person shall give on demand his name and address to that constable.

6.—(1) The provisions of this regulation shall have effect—

- (a) where an officer, servant or agent of the Secretary of State is acting in the performance of his duty to secure the proper management of a Park or the preservation of order and prevention of abuses therein, or
- (b) where a constable or a member of the armed forces or of any fire brigade or ambulance service is acting in the performance of his duty.

(2) Any such person mentioned in (1) above does not, by reason of any failure to comply with any notice exhibited by order of the Secretary of State, contravene regulation 3(6), (9) or (11)(c) above, and is for the purpose of regulations 2 and 4 above hereby granted permission to do any act mentioned in those regulations.

Revocation of previous Regulations

7. The regulations cited in Schedule 3 are hereby revoked provided that such revocation shall have the like effect as if these regulations and the regulations revoked thereby were Acts of Parliament.

SCHEDULE 1

Regulation 1(1)

PARKS, GARDENS, RECREATION GROUNDS, OPEN SPACES AND OTHER LAND TO WHICH THE REGULATIONS APPLY

1. Abingdon Street Garden, being the garden constructed on the sites of properties formerly known as 17-28 (both inclusive) Abingdon Street, London, S.W.1, the garden surrounding the adjoining Jewel Tower, and the lawn surrounding the King George V Memorial;
2. Bushy Park;
3. Greenwich Park, being those parts of the Park which are for the time being under the control or management of the Secretary of State;
4. Grosvenor Square Garden;
5. Ham House Grounds, being those parts of the grounds of Ham House which are for the time being under the control or management of the Secretary of State;
6. Hampton Court Gardens;
7. Hampton Court Green;
8. Hampton Court Park;
9. Hyde Park;
10. Kensington Gardens;
11. The Natural History Museum Gardens;
12. Osterley Park Grounds, being those parts of the grounds of the mansion known as Osterley Park which are for the time being under the control or management of the Secretary of State;
13. Parliament Square Gardens;
14. Primrose Hill;
15. The Regent's Park;
16. Richmond Park;
17. St. James's and The Green Parks;
18. Tower Gardens;
19. Victoria Tower Gardens.

SCHEDULE 2

THE DRIVING AND RIDING OF VEHICLES ON A PARK ROAD

PART I

Regulation 4(27)

*Vehicles constructed, adapted or in use for the purpose of a trade or business
which may be driven or ridden on a Park road*

1. A hackney carriage.
2. A vehicle in use for the purpose of transacting business with any person either residing in a Palace or Park or using land therein under licence from the Secretary of State.
3. A vehicle in use for the purpose of the repair or removal of any other vehicle which is broken down in a Park.

PART II

Regulation 4(28)

Speeds at which vehicles may be driven or ridden on a Park road

1. On the Park roads in Bushy Park, Greenwich Park, Hyde Park (except for the Serpentine Road), The Regent's Park, Richmond Park and St. James's and the Green Parks, at a speed not exceeding 30 m.p.h.
2. On the Serpentine Road in Hyde Park, and on the Park road from Kingston Gate leading to the Home Park Golf Club in Hampton Court Park, at a speed not exceeding 15 m.p.h.
3. On any Park road (other than one mentioned in paragraphs 1 or 2 above) at a speed not exceeding 10 m.p.h.

SCHEDULE 3

Regulation 7

REGULATIONS REVOKED

Title	Year and Number
The Abingdon Street Garden Regulations 1965	S.I. 1965/829.
The Bushy Park Regulations 1932	S.R. & O. 1932/765.
The Bushy Park (First Amendment) Regulations 1938	S.R. & O. 1938/1040.
The Bushy Park (Second Amendment) Regulations 1960	S.I. 1960/1231.
The Bushy Park (Third Amendment) Regulations 1965	S.I. 1965/1473.
The Greenwich Park Regulations 1952	S.I. 1952/777.
The Greenwich Park (First Amendment) Regulations 1960	S.I. 1960/1230.
The Greenwich Park (Second Amendment) Regulations 1965	S.I. 1965/1474.
The Grosvenor Square Garden Regulations 1948	S.I. 1948/1386.
The Ham House Grounds Regulations 1953	S.I. 1953/354.
The Hampton Court Gardens Regulations 1927	S.R. & O. 1927/1334.
The Hampton Court Gardens (First Amendment) Regulations 1930	S.R. & O. 1930/621.
The Hampton Court Gardens (Second Amendment) Regulations 1960	S.I. 1960/1232.
The Hampton Court Gardens (Third Amendment) Regulations 1965	S.I. 1965/1475.
The Hampton Court Green Regulations 1932	S.R. & O. 1932/766.
The Hampton Court Green (First Amendment) Regulations 1965	S.I. 1965/1476.
The Hampton Court Park Regulations 1951	S.I. 1951/1454.
The Hampton Court Park (First Amendment) Regulations 1965	S.I. 1965/1477.
The Hyde Park Regulations 1955	S.I. 1955/1750.
The Hyde Park (First Amendment) Regulations 1960	S.I. 1960/1233.
The Hyde Park (Second Amendment) Regulations 1965	S.I. 1965/1478.
The Kensington Gardens Regulations 1956	S.I. 1956/353.
The Kensington Gardens (First Amendment) Regulations 1965	S.I. 1965/1479.
The Natural History Museum Gardens Regulations 1927	S.R. & O. 1927/1341.
The Osterley Park Grounds Regulations 1953	S.I. 1953/355.
The Parliament Square Gardens Regulations 1952	S.I. 1952/775.
The Primrose Hill Regulations 1932	S.R. & O. 1932/772.
The Primrose Hill (First Amendment) Regulations 1965	S.I. 1965/1480.
The Regent's Park Regulations 1932	S.R. & O. 1932/771.
The Regent's Park (First Amendment) Regulations 1960	S.I. 1960/1234.
The Regent's Park (Second Amendment) Regulations 1965	S.I. 1965/1481.
The Richmond Park Regulations 1932	S.R. & O. 1932/773.
The Richmond Park (First Amendment) Regulations 1938	S.R. & O. 1938/1043.
The Richmond Park (Second Amendment) Regulations 1960	S.I. 1960/1235.
The Richmond Park (Third Amendment) Regulations 1965	S.I. 1965/1482.
The St. James's and The Green Parks Regulations 1955	S.I. 1955/266.
The St. James's and The Green Parks (First Amendment) Regulations 1955	S.I. 1955/1698.
The St. James's and The Green Parks (Second Amendment) Regulations 1965	S.I. 1965/1483.
The Tower Gardens Regulations 1927	S.R. & O. 1927/1348.
The Victoria Tower Gardens Regulations 1956	S.I. 1956/1038.
The Victoria Tower Gardens (First Amendment) Regulations 1965	S.I. 1965/1484.

Peter Shore,

14th February 1977.

Secretary of State for the Environment.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations apply to all the parks, gardens and other land under the control or management of the Secretary of State for the Environment which are specified in Schedule 1. A code is thus provided common to all such areas but with some differences, notably as to speed limits of vehicles (see Schedule 2).

Hitherto, each of the areas specified in Schedule 1 was the subject of one or more separate sets of regulations. Those previous regulations are now revoked by regulation 7 applying Schedule 3.

The present regulations reproduce, but with minor and drafting amendments, provisions in the previous regulations.

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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