

§ 1.4.4. Event Permit. [Added 3-7-2012; amended 1-8-2014]

1.4.4 Purpose. The purpose of this Ordinance is to provide the City of Gardiner with a mechanism for regulating the dates, times, location, and conditions under which permittees are authorized to make use of City Property in a manner which is:

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- a) consistent with public health, safety, and welfare
- b) promotes the use of City Property for recreational, entertainment, or charitable events.
- c) minimize potential conflicts in the public’s use of City property for private or organizational purposes.

1.4.4.1 Definitions. For purposes of this Ordinance, the following definitions shall apply:

EVENT: An organized activity that has a predetermined start and end time with 25 or more persons. These are events that include, but are not limited to: festivals, performances, fundraisers, competitions, or other organized public events where public property will be used, as well as events that are not intended for the public such as wedding ceremonies, family gatherings, company picnics.

MINOR EVENT: Shall mean an event not exceeding four hours in duration and/or fewer than 100 people affiliated with the event (e.g., wedding ceremony, etc.). The application for a minor event must be submitted at a minimum 30 days prior to the applied for event.

MAJOR EVENT: Shall mean an event exceeding four hours in duration and/or more than 100 people affiliated with the event (e.g., community festival; carnival; street dance; charitable walk for a cause). Also, a major event clearly involves additional City services (e.g., police protection; vendors needing electrical usage; etc.). The application for a major event must be submitted at a minimum 60 days prior to the event.

RECURRING EVENT: Shall mean an event of any size occurring more than two times in a 60-day period.

CITY PROPERTY: Shall mean any land and buildings owned by the City of Gardiner, Maine including but not limited to parks, sidewalks, and streets.

- d) 1.4.4.2 Application required: All events which will make use of any city property shall require an application. No person may conduct a Major or Minor Event on City Property without an Event Permit issued by the Gardiner City Council or City Manager pursuant to this Ordinance. The City Manager, or their designee, shall be authorized to issue permits for events deemed to be a Minor Event. The City Council shall be authorized to issue permits for events deemed to be a Major Event and may consider appeals for Minor Event applications which have been denied by the City Manager (or their designee). The City Council shall refer to the fee schedule and may waive this fee for any 501(c)(3) non-profit organization if the Council deems the event to be in the best interest of the public. If granted, an Event Permit shall not confer on the grantee the exclusive right to use the City property described in the permit during the time and for the purposes described in the permit. The grantee shall have authorization to issue its own licenses and fees for participation by other individuals and/or organizations in the event.
SEvent permit application. Each Event Permit Application shall be submitted to the City Clerk no earlier than twelve (12) months prior to the proposed event and no later than thirty (30) days

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prior to the date of a minor event and two (2) months prior to the date of a major event, unless waived by the City Manager or City Council. The application shall be on a form provided by the City and shall include, at a minimum:

- (a) Dates and times of event.
- (b) Description of the event.
- (c) Designated areas of City Property to be affected.
- (d) Estimated number of people attending event.
- (e) Evidence of liability insurance with the City added as an additional insured at the discretion of the City.
- (f) Plan for post function clean up.
- (g) Plan for dealing with traffic, parking, and crowd control.
- (h) Need for sanitary facilities for the event.
- (i) List of proposed vendors if any, at the event.
- (j) Need for city services, utilities, etc. for the event.
- (k) Whether amplified sound will be used.
- (l) Such additional information as the Gardiner City Council feels necessary for determination of compliance with this ordinance and efficient operation of City property.
- (m) Proof of all State licensing and permits.
- (n) Whether overnight or similar accommodations will be necessary, including, but not necessarily limited to, camping in tents or similar arrangements. City Council may deny camping as part of the event but approve the rest of the event.

e) 1.4.4.3 Criteria for issuance of an Event permit. In considering whether to issue an Event permit, the City Manager and City Council shall consider:

1.4.4.3.1 Whether the proposed Event is consistent with the goal of promoting use of City Property for recreational, entertainment, or charitable events. This criterion shall not apply to parades, demonstrations, protests, or other First Amendment activities.

1.4.4.3.2 Whether the proposed Event can be conducted in the proposed location without endangering public health and order of the City property by:

- (a) Whether the event will have undue adverse effect on neighboring properties due to noise, litter, or other negative impacts.

(b) Past experience with the sponsoring organization/individuals.

f) 1.4.4.4 Impact on City services. Some events may necessitate the need for City services, including staff time, materials, and other resources. The City shall provide a good faith estimate to each applicant for the cost of these services and the applicant shall be responsible for these costs as a condition of the issuance of the permit. Event organizers shall be solely responsible for any damage to City property resulting from their event and, as a condition of their permit, agree that

the City may take whatever action is necessary to recoup all costs associated with repairing the damage and returning the property to its normal state.

- g) 1.4.4.5 Penalties. Pursuant to 30-A MRS sec. 3001(3), any person who violates any provision of this Ordinance or who fails to comply with terms of an Event Permit commits a civil violation and shall be subject to a penalty not to exceed \$500.00, plus an amount equal to any City costs incurred for police services, trash removal or property damage of public property. Each day such violation continues or is repeated by the same person shall constitute a separate violation. Violations of this policy shall be enforceable by the City of Gardiner. All penalties collected hereunder shall inure to the City of Gardiner. Event organizers are also expected to independently secure all other necessary permits and licenses associated with their event.
- 1.4.4.6 General.

1.4.4.6.1 No rights created. This ordinance grants no rights to and creates no property or other legal interest in any person. The City Council retains full control over City Property and may at its sole and exclusive discretion issue, issue with conditions or deny Event Permits. Decision of the City Council under this Ordinance shall be final.

1.4.4.6.2 City not liable. The holder of an Event Permit shall be solely responsible for conducting the Event in compliance with the conditions of the Permit and for maintaining public safety and order during the Event. The City of Gardiner assumes no liability or responsibility by issuing the Permit.

1.4.4.6.3 Conflict with Other Ordinances. This Ordinance shall not repeal, annul, or in any way impair or remove the necessity of compliance with any other statute, rule, ordinance, regulation, by-law, permit, or other legal requirements. Where this Ordinance imposes a greater restriction upon the use of City Property, the provisions of this Ordinance shall prevail.

1.4.4.6.4 Validity and Severability. Should any section or provision of this Ordinance be declared by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid for any reason, such decision shall not invalidate any other section or provision of this Ordinance.

1.4.4.7 Exemptions. This Ordinance shall not apply to any event sponsored, organized or conducted by any department or agency of the City of Gardiner. Scheduling of such municipal events shall be subject to the control of the City Council or their designee for events held on City Property.