



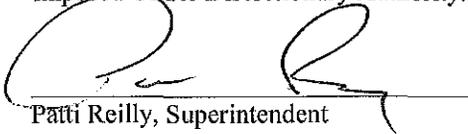
National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Governors Island  
National Monument

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New York, New York  
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**Superintendent's Compendium**  
Of Designations, Closures, Permit  
Requirements and Other Restrictions  
Imposed Under Discretionary Authority.

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Patti Reilly, Superintendent

June 22, 2015  
Date

In accordance with regulations and the delegated authority provided in Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations ("36 CFR"), Chapter 1, Parts 1-7, authorized by Title 16 and now Title 54 United States Code, Section 3, the following provisions apply to all lands and waters administered by the National Park Service and within the boundaries of Governors Island National Monument. Unless otherwise stated, these regulatory provisions apply in addition to the requirements contained in 36 CFR, Chapter 1, Parts 1-7.

Written determinations, which explain the reasoning behind the Superintendent's use of discretionary authority, as required by Section 1.5(c), appear in this document identified by italicized print.

Governors Island consists of 172 acres. The National Park Service (NPS) is responsible for managing 23 acres of Governors Island as a National Monument. The Trust for Governors Island (Trust), an instrumentality of the City of New York, is responsible for managing the remaining 150 acres of Governors Island, providing public access to the Island, and dedicating a certain percentage of acreage for public park areas and other public benefit uses. The Trust is responsible for fire and emergency services. There are no fences or other barriers separating NPS and the Trust properties. Many of NPS and the Trust public park areas are adjacent to one another and visitors routinely move through both parties' properties. The Island's public programs and visitation, whether co-sponsored jointly by NPS and The Trust, sponsored individually or have third party sponsors, may involve both parties. The NPS and The Trust operate under a Cooperative Management Agreement.

**36 CFR §1.5 – VISITING HOURS, PUBLIC USE LIMITS, CLOSURES, AND AREA DESIGNATIONS FOR SPECIFIC USE OR ACTIVITIES**

**(a)(1) The following visiting hours, public use limits, and closures are established:**

Visiting Hours:

**Park administrative offices** are open from 7:30 am through 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday, all year round. They are closed on weekends and federal holidays. There are rare occasions when the island is closed because there is no access provided or available or when

there is insufficient staff to staff the office. Prior appointment or notification may be required during the non-public access season.

**Public Season** - The Island has a public access season typically lasting from Saturday of Memorial Day Weekend in May – to the final Sunday in September as set by the Trust for Governors Island.

During the public season, the park grounds are open from the first public access ferry at 10 AM until the last public access ferry 6 PM weekdays or 7 PM weekends and Monday federal holidays. Park facilities at Fort Jay, Castle Williams, and Building 140 open with the 10 AM ferry. Fort Jay and Castle Williams close at one hour before the last scheduled ferry.

**Off Season** - During the non-public season (October – May), the park is open Monday through Friday from 10:00 am through 4:00 pm. Escorted access is available by reservation and dependent on staffing.

*These visiting hours were determined to be necessary for the management of the park.*

Public Use Limits -- Pursuant to §1.5(d) to implement a public use limit, the Superintendent may establish a permit, registration, or reservations system:

- The following buildings have the following occupancy limits, provided areas have been determined to be safe and not undergoing construction projects. These limits are for standing individuals. Limits may be lower if there is equipment or other items present:
  - Fort Jay Porches:
    - 202 a                    25 people
    - 202 c                    25 people
    - 210 C&D                20 people (part temporarily closed)
    - 210 A&B                35 people
    - 214 A&B                35 people
    - 214 C&D                35 people
  - Fort Jay Areas:
    - Courtyard              1000 people
    - Barbican                500 people
    - Magazine                80 people
  - Castle Williams        120 people
  
- All school groups with students under the age of eighteen shall be accompanied by a minimum of one chaperon for every fifteen students. Chaperones must be a minimum of eighteen years of age. Students found without their chaperone will be escorted to Security.
- Passenger buses are only permitted by reservation.

*These public use limits are necessary for the safety and security of park visitors and staff, preservation of the park's natural, cultural, and historic resources and for the proper management of the park.*

Closures:

- Access to park buildings may be limited during periods of construction, demolition or pending demolition. The following buildings are currently closed:
  - Buildings 251, 513 A, B, C – Currently closed as slated for demolition as per the park’s General Management Plan approved in 2009.
- Fort Jay Currently closed to the public, the interiors of quarters, outbuildings and garages: Quarters 202, 206, 210, 214; Outbuildings 203, 207, 213; Garages 204, 205, 208, 209, 211, 212, 217 and 218.
  
- The park is closed to the following activities:
  - No animals/pets are permitted on the island except for licensed service dogs.
  - The floating barge at Pier 102 is closed to fishing.
  - Climbing over, under or around railings, gates, doors, stanchions and lines, barricades or other physical barriers used to control public access is prohibited.
  - Climbing on cannons and the walls of Fort Jay.
  - Vehicular parking, except for special activities, the conduct of official business, and if authorized by the Superintendent or their designee.
  - Segway personal transporters are prohibited.
  - Swimming, wading, and bathing is prohibited in the park.

*These closures are necessary for the safety and security of park visitors and staff, preservation of the park’s natural, cultural, and historic resources and for the proper management of the park.*

**(a)(2) The following areas are designated for a specific use or activity and/or the following conditions or restrictions are imposed on a specific use or activity:**

Areas Designated for a Specific Use or Activity:

- The Fort Jay Parade Grounds, Magazine, Courtyard, Barbican, and Parking Area 504 across from Castle Williams have been designated for special events and incidental business activities for which the Superintendent or his/her designee may issue permits.
- Pier 102 – The fixed Pier 102 is a designated fishing area. The floating barge at Pier 102 is closed to fishing.
- Artistic Installations and Performances- Sites throughout the national monument may be available for use as artistic venues for installations and performances, subject to the following conditions:
  - The issuance of a special use permit or as part of a valid agreement.
  - The proposed site is generally open to the public.

- The performance or installation will not limit the public's access to the site.
- The installation or performance will not damage any park resources in any way, nor will any part of the installation or performance cause undue encumbrance or interference with routine upkeep and maintenance of any site within the national monument.
- No aspect of the installation or performance will require undue coordination or labor on the part of NPS employees in its installation, maintenance, supervision, or de-installation.
- The installation or performance is considered by the authorizing official from the National Park Service to be appropriate for all audiences.

Conditions and Restrictions on Specific Uses or Activities:

- Bicycles are permitted on all park roads, except the bridge to and the roads within Fort Jay, where bikes must be dismounted and walked. See also 36 CFR § 4.30.
- Persons and packages are subject to searches at any time for public safety. Failure to allow an authorized person to perform a search will be cause for removal from the national monument.
- Passenger vehicles must shut down their engines when not underway.
- Employees of the Park may park private vehicles in designated locations on the island subject to the approval of the Superintendent.
- Agents and contractors of the Park may park work vehicles in designated areas, provided they conform to island protocols.

*These designations, conditions, and restrictions are necessary for the safety and security of park visitors and staff, preservation of the park's natural, cultural, and historic resources and for the proper management of the park. Idling bus engines adds unnecessary exhaust fumes to the air and diminishes the enjoyment by visitors.*

Use of unmanned aircraft and recreational aerial devices:

Launching, landing, or operating an unmanned aircraft from or on lands and waters administered by the National Park Service within the boundaries of Governors Island National Monument is prohibited except as approved in writing by the superintendent.

The term "unmanned aircraft" means a device that is used or intended to be used for flight in the air without the possibility of direct human intervention from within or on the device, and the associated operational elements and components that are required for the pilot or system operator in command to operate or control the device (such as cameras, sensors, communication links). This term includes all types of devices that

meet this definition (e.g., model airplanes, quadcopters, drones) that are used for any purpose, including for recreation or commerce.

*This restriction is imposed service-wide to protect public health and safety from aerial hazards, protection of environmental or scenic values, and protection of natural or cultural resources – more specifically trees in the historic landscape and historic structures, and the avoidance of conflict among visitor use activities – recreational activities taking place in open spaces.*

**(a)(3) The following restrictions, limits, closures, designations, conditions, or visiting hour restrictions imposed under §(a)(1) or (2) have been terminated:**

None.

### **36 CFR §1.6 – ACTIVITIES THAT REQUIRE A PERMIT**

Activities requiring a permit are listed above under **Public Use Limits** and throughout this document under the specific 36 CFR Section that authorizes or requires the issuance of a permit.

### **36 CFR §2.1 – PRESERVATION OF NATURAL, CULTURAL AND ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES**

**(a)(5) Walking on, climbing, entering, ascending, descending, or traversing an archeological or cultural resource, monument, or statute is prohibited, except in the following areas and/or under the following conditions:**

- Walking in the Castle Williams courtyard, casemates, and roof is limited to the areas designated by walkways/stanchions or signs or when attending a ranger or volunteer led program.
- Walking, climbing, entering, ascending or traversing the ramparts or cannons in Fort Jay is prohibited.
- Walking, climbing, entering, ascending or traversing the stairs, the second and third levels, cells or rooms closed by signs, locked or secured doors, barricades or stanchions in all interior spaces of Castle Williams without NPS designated escort is prohibited.

**Under, §2.1(a) collecting natural materials from the park is generally prohibited. However, pursuant to §2.1(c), the following fruits, nuts, berries or unoccupied seashells may be gathered by hand for personal use or consumption, in accordance with the noted size, quantity, collection sites and/or possession and consumption restrictions:**

- Collection of apples, one half of a 5 gallon container per day.
- Collection of fruits and berries, 1 quart per week.

*Based on information from individuals knowledgeable in the field of park resources, integrated pest management and review of state and federal law, the Superintendent has determined that the gathering, use, or consumption of the preceding natural products at the indicated quantity will not adversely affect park wildlife, the reproduction potential of plant species, or otherwise affect park resources.*

### **36 CFR §2.3 – FISHING**

**(a) Fishing shall be in accordance with the laws and regulations of the State within whose exterior boundaries the park area or portion thereof is located.**

See 36 CFR §1.5 (a)(2) for designated fishing area.

### **36 CFR § 2.4 – WEAPONS, TRAPS AND NETS**

**Park visitors are prohibited from carrying, possessing, and using firearms on Governors Island. This restriction complies with 16 U.S.C. § 1a – 7b (P.L. 111-24 Section 512) and state and local law.**

**(a)(1), Possessing, carrying, or using a trap or net is generally prohibited.**

### **36 CFR § 2.5 – RESEARCH SPECIMENS**

**(a) Taking plants, fish, wildlife, rocks or minerals is prohibited except in accordance with other regulations of Chapter I of 36 CFR or pursuant to the terms and conditions of a specimen collection permit.**

### **36 CFR § 2.10 – CAMPING AND FOOD STORAGE**

**(a) Camping is subject to the following conditions:**

Camping is prohibited, unless performed as part of a park sponsored or organized interpretive or living history program.

### **36 CFR § 2.12 – AUDIO DISTURBANCES**

**Other than for administrative purposes or pursuant to the terms and conditions of a permit, the following are prohibited:**

**(a)(2) Operating a power saw in developed areas**

**(a)(3) Operating any type of portable motor or engine, or device powered by a portable motor or engine in non-developed.**

**(a)(4) Operating a public address system, except in connection with a public gathering or special event for which a permit has been issued pursuant to §2.50 or §2.51.**

### **36 CFR § 2.13 – FIRES**

**(a)(1) The lighting or maintaining of fires is prohibited, except in the following areas and/or receptacles, and under the conditions noted:**

#### **Designated Areas, Receptacles, and Conditions for Fires:**

- Fires are only authorized by a special use permit dictating location and manner.
- Locations – on the ground in open areas 50 feet or more from structures.
- No fire pits are to be constructed, all fires are to be above ground.
- Fire suppression materials, such as extinguishers or water buckets, must be present.
- During periods of high fire danger, low humidity, high winds, or “red flag” conditions as declared by the National Weather Service, fires are not permitted.

### **36 CFR § 2.15 – PETS**

**(a)(1) Possessing pets in public buildings, public transportation vehicles, swimming beaches, and the following structures and/or areas is prohibited:**

- No pets are permitted on the island, except for licensed service dogs. See also 36 CFR § 1.5 of this document.

### **36 CFR §2.19 – WINTER ACTIVITIES**

**(a) Skiing, snowshoeing, ice skating, sledding, innertubing, tobogganing, and similar winter sports are prohibited on park roads and in parking areas open to motor vehicle traffic.**

### **36 CFR §2.20 – SKATING, SKATEBOARDS and SIMILAR DEVICES**

**Using roller skates, skateboards, roller skis, coasting vehicles, or similar devices are prohibited, except in the following designated areas:**

- Such is permitted on the only island road under NPS jurisdiction - Wheeler and Hay Road from Building 515 – Hospital to the intersection of Carder Road at Castle Williams.

### **36 CFR §2.21 – SMOKING**

**(a) The following portions of the park, or all or portions of buildings, structures or facilities are closed to smoking as noted:**

- All federal lands within the established boundary of the national monument

*This designation is based on Executive Order 13058, published in the August 13, 1997 Federal Register. It is consistent with public use regulations for surrounding Trust for*

*Governors Island lands. It is also designed to protect park resources and reduce the risk of fire.*

### **36 CFR §2.35 –ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES**

**(a)(3)(i) The following areas and facilities within the park are closed to consumption of alcoholic beverages, and/or to the possession of a bottle, can or other receptacle containing an alcoholic beverage that is open, or has been opened, or whose seal has been broken or the contents of which have been partially removed:**

No public consumption is permitted, except under the terms of a special use permit.

*The park is closed to alcohol consumption because such activity is inappropriate considering the other uses of the park and the purpose for which the park was established and is maintained. The park was established and is maintained to serve as an educational resource and to preserve a significant cultural and historical landscape. The consumption of alcohol is therefore an inappropriate activity that could negatively impact the purposes for which the park was established and is maintained.*

### **36 CFR §2.37 – NONCOMMERCIAL SOLICITING**

**Soliciting or demanding gifts, money, goods or services is prohibited except pursuant to the terms and conditions of a permit that has been issued under §2.50, §2.51, or §2.52.**

### **36 CFR §2.38 – EXPLOSIVES**

**Other than for administrative purposes or pursuant to the terms and conditions of a permit, the following are prohibited:**

- (a) Using, possessing, storing, or transporting explosives, blasting agents or explosive materials.
- (b) Using, or possessing fireworks.

### **36 CFR §2.50 – SPECIAL EVENTS**

**(a) Sports events, pageants, regattas, public spectator attractions, entertainments, ceremonies, and similar events are allowed, provided there is a meaningful association between the park area and the events, and the observance contributes to visitor understanding of the significance of the park area, and a permit therefor, has been issued by the superintendent.**

### **36 CFR §2.51 -- DEMONSTRATIONS**

**(b) Demonstrations of 25 people or less are allowed within the park areas designated as available under paragraph (c)(2). Demonstrations of more than 25 people are allowed within designated park areas when the superintendent has issued a permit for the activity.**

**(c)(2) The following locations are designated as available for demonstrations:**

The parking area at the southwest corner of Andes and Tampa Roads.

### **36 CFR §2.52 -- SALE OR DISTRIBUTION OF PRINTED MATTER**

**(b) The sale or distribution of printed matter to more than 25 persons is allowed within park areas designated as available under §2.51(c)(2) (see above) when the superintendent has issued a permit.**

### **36 CFR §2.61 – RESIDING ON FEDERAL LANDS**

**(a) Residing in park areas, other than on privately owned lands, is prohibited except pursuant to the terms and conditions of a permit lease or contract.**

### **36 CFR §2.62 – MEMORIALIZATION**

**(b) The scattering of human ashes from cremation is prohibited, except pursuant to the terms and conditions of a permit.**

### **36 CFR §3.16 – SWIMMING AND WADING**

**Swimming or wading is prohibited subject to closures and restrictions designated in §1.5 of this document.**

### **36 CFR §4.30 – BICYCLES**

**(a) & (b) Bicycle use is permitted on all park roads and in all parking areas. Bicycles must be dismounted and walked over the bridge to Fort Jay, inside Fort Jay, and inside Castle Williams.**

*Such bicycle use is consistent with protection of the park area's natural, scenic and aesthetic values, safety considerations and management objectives, and will not disturb wildlife or park resources.*

**(h)(4) Riding a bicycle abreast of another rider is allowed on the following routes:**

By state and city laws, bicycles are considered vehicles and must keep to the right of roads, but may be ridden abreast of another bicycle when not creating a hazard and/or movement is not impeded.

### **36 CFR §5.1 – ADVERTISEMENTS**

**Commercial notices or advertisements shall not be displayed, posted, or distributed on federally owned or controlled lands within a park area unless prior written permission has been given by the Superintendent.**

### **36 CFR §5.3 – BUSINESS OPERATIONS**

**Engaging in or soliciting any business in park areas, except in accordance with the provisions of a permit, contract, or other written agreement with the United States is prohibited.**

### **36 CFR §5.4 – COMMERCIAL PASSENGER-CARRYING MOTOR VEHICLES**

**(a) The commercial transportation of passengers by motor vehicle except as authorized under a contract or permit from the Secretary or his authorized representative is prohibited in certain parks. See §5.4(a) for more information.**

### **36 CFR §5.5 – COMMERCIAL PHOTOGRAPHY**

**(a) Before any motion picture may be filmed or any television production or sound track may be made by any person other than bona fide newsreel or news television personnel, written permission must first be obtained from the Superintendent.**

**(b) Taking photographs of any vehicle or other articles of commerce or models for the purpose of commercial advertising without a written permit from the Superintendent is prohibited.**

### **36 CFR §5.6 – COMMERCIAL VEHICLES**

**(b) & (c) Using commercial vehicles on government roads within park areas when such use is in no way connected with the operation of the park is generally prohibited, and requires permission or a permit from the Superintendent.**

### **36 CFR §5.7 – CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDINGS OR OTHER FACILITIES**

**Such activities are prohibited, except in accordance with the provisions of a valid permit, contract, or other written agreement with the United States.**