Foothills Park’s Oak Grove Picnic Area Reservation Information

We are pleased that you have chosen to have your group picnic with us in Foothills Park. To assist you in planning your event and ensure that you and your party have a safe and enjoyable time, please note the information below. Please call 650-329-2423 or visit http://cityofpaloalto.org/openspace for more information.

RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS
- Foothills Park is open to Palo Alto residents and their accompanied guests only.
- The reserving party must be a resident of Palo Alto and must attend the event.
- There must be one (1) Palo Alto resident for every 15 non-resident guests. Children are included in both resident and non-resident counts.

ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE
- The Oak Grove picnic area is yours to use for the day. The park is open from 8:00 a.m. and closes at a specific time based on sunset. See our website or call the rangers for closing times.
- Event cleanup must be finished one half hour before park closing.
- All members of your party, including guests, caterers, musicians, etc., must exit the park before park closing. See our website or call the rangers for closing times.
- Equipment may not be left overnight either before or after your event.

GUESTS
- Please submit a guest list to the park one (1) week in advance of your event. A guest list form is available on our website.
- The guest list must list all residents and all non-residents expected to attend, with one resident per 15 non-residents, children included.
- Number of guests in Oak Grove cannot exceed 150 persons, children included.

FIRES, BARBECUES, AND GRILLS
- Only charcoal may be used in the barbecues. Burning wood is prohibited.
- Personal grills, whether gas or charcoal, are not permitted.
- Caterers may provide their own means of cooking. Ask the ranger staff in advance what is allowed.

DOGS
- Dogs may not enter the park on weekends and city holidays. They may not be left in a car. See below for a list of city holidays.
- For weekday events, dogs are permitted. They must be leashed and under physical control at all times.

PARKING
- Park only in designated areas or off the roadway. Two vehicles, including emergency vehicles such as fire trucks, must be able to pass side-by-side where you park.

TRAILS AND ROADS
- Stay on lawns, roads and marked trails only. Marked trails appear on our trail maps. If they are not on the map, they are not an official trail.
- Please stay off unmarked trails.

OTHER
- No smoking anywhere in the park, including within vehicles.
- Remote controlled devices such as drones, cars and boats are not permitted.
• Generators and items requiring generators are not allowed.
• Amplified music is allowed but it is not to be heard outside your immediate area so others using the park are not disturbed.
• Inflatable structures, dunk tanks, horseshoes, and petting zoos are not permitted.
• Please remember that Foothills Park is a nature preserve. If you are considering a non-typical park use, please call park staff in advance to inquire if it is allowed or appropriate.

CANCELLATIONS
• Cancellations must be made in writing and received two weeks before the event. A cancellation Fee (1/3 of total charges) is non-refundable unless the city cancels the permit, wherein a full refund will be made. No refund is given if cancellation is less than two weeks.

PARK HOURS
• Foothills Park is open every day at 8:00 a.m. and closes at a specific time based on sunset. See our website or call the rangers for closing times.
• Last entry to the park is one half hour before closing.
• All visitors must exit the park before park closing.

DOGS AND CITY HOLIDAYS
Dogs may not enter Foothills Park on weekends or these city holidays:

New Year’s Day, January 1
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, 3rd Monday in January
President’s Day, 3rd Monday in February
Memorial Day, last Monday in May
Independence Day, July 4
Labor Day, first Monday in September
Columbus Day, 2nd Monday in October
Veteran’s Day, November 11
Thanksgiving, 4th Thursday and Friday in November
Christmas, December 25