

RULE IMPACT STATEMENT
TITLE 725: OKLAHOMA TOURISM AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
CHAPTER 30. DIVISION OF STATE PARKS

SUBCHAPTER 4. PUBLIC USE AND RECREATION

725:30-4-18. Alcoholic beverages and controlled substances

(a) Brief description: This rule addresses alcoholic beverages and controlled substances and deletes language regarding 3.2 beer and language that duplicates Oklahoma law.

b) Persons affected, cost impacts and benefits: Consumption of higher alcohol content beer and other alcohol beverages will be allowed in accordance with state law. There are no cost impacts on park users. The benefit is a broader choice of beverages can be consumed in a park.

c) Economic impact, probable costs and benefits, small business effect: These changes allow consumption of a broader spectrum of beverages by park users but retain the need for appropriate conduct by park users in a park setting. There are no anticipated economic impacts on individuals or small businesses. Compliance costs will not likely change in that they will be associated with any inappropriate behavior that arises.

d) Measures to minimize compliance costs, effects or risks to public health, safety or the environment: This rule is intended to assist park staff in developing consistency in operations. This rule does not affect or reduce risks to public health, safety or the environment.

**SUBCHAPTER 12. RESERVATIONS AND USE OF CABINS, GROUP CAMPS,
SHELTERS, RESERVED/ASSIGNED CAMPING FACILITIES, AMPHITHEATERS,
COMMUNITY BUILDINGS AND MEETING ROOMS.**

725:30-12-1 Definitions

a) Brief description: This rule addresses definitions and adds golf tournaments as a function space type which can create a group reservation. The definition of 'Group reservation' is modified to provide for a smaller number of accommodations along with a scheduled function in order to have a different standard for smaller properties which have fewer rooms/ cabins. A golf tournament is included as an example of a function which clarifies that a tournament, with the appropriate number of accommodations booked, can be handles as a group reservation. The definition of a 'Holiday period' is changed since holidays do occur on other than weekends. The period of days associated with a holiday is very popular for public use. New definitions are added for 'Improved financial condition' and 'New accommodation'. The dates that define the season are expanded to match what the Department and Oklahoma State Parks define as the season for seasonal employment purposes.

b) Persons affected, cost impacts and benefits: Adjustments to definitions assist park staff in treating various groups in a similar fashion at each property based on size of the group. Adopting a definition for how a new accommodation will be handled assists Oklahoma State Parks if new types of lodging are developed and integrated into the system. A new

accommodation can be handled in a similar fashion as some other existing accommodation that exists. This will help park staff and park users to understand how the new item will be handled. The definition of 'Improved financial condition' provides guidance to Oklahoma State Parks staff and information to park users regarding a standard that is significant to decision making relative to operation of the Department and the Division.

c) Economic impact, probable costs and benefits, small business effect: As a public entity, Oklahoma State Parks seek to provide services to the general public. Outdoor recreation provides benefits to the health and well-being of the public. In periods of decreasing state funding allocations, the need for actions that favorably impact revenue receipts may be needed in order to avoid closure or reduction of availability of park facilities and services. Closure of park facilities impacts park users negatively and can have a negative economic impact on small businesses in the vicinity of a park which reduces services or is closed. Considering improved financial conditions in decision making will help maximize revenue in heaviest use periods which may reduce the need for state funding over time. Rate adjustments for services provided to park users could occur. User rate increases will have limited or no impact on small businesses.

d) Measures to minimize compliance costs, effects or risks to public health, safety or the environment: This rule is intended to assist park staff in developing consistency in operations. This rule does not affect or reduce risks to public health, safety or the environment.

725:30-12-2. Cabins

a) Brief description: This rule provides that individual reservations are accepted up to eleven months in advance. This provides a park user with a specific number of months in advance to make a reservation. Single night reservations during non-holiday periods can now be made without a percentage of accommodations being held out. Group cabin reservations may be accepted more than a year in advance with certain approvals.

b) Persons affected, cost impacts and benefits: This rule adjustment will help park users by allowing the park manager to make more accommodations available. Group rentals may be made more than a year in advance of requested date to achieve a positive financial result for the Department, which could negatively impact some small groups or individuals requesting reservations during the highest demand periods.

c) Economic impact, probable costs and benefits, small business effect: This rule may create a positive financial impact for the Department by maximizing the use of available facilities. There is no anticipated expense associated with this rule and no adverse economic impacts on small businesses.

d) Measures to minimize compliance costs, effects or risks to public health, safety or the environment: This rule is intended to assist park staff in developing consistency in operations. This rule does not affect or reduce risks to public health, safety or the environment.

725:30-12-4 Shelters

a) Brief description: This rule allows for reservations to be accepted up to eleven months in advance. This provides a park user with a specific number of months in advance to make a reservation. Allowance is made for a first come first served rental of shelters not reserved or

made unavailable. Reservations may be made on-line if a system exists for this. Park users will benefit from an on-line reservation option but still will have an opportunity to obtain a shelter rental if it is not otherwise reserved.

b) Persons affected, cost impacts and benefits: Persons wishing to use on-line reservations for shelters may be able to do so. There may be some costs to the Department to offer on-line reservation for shelters. The benefits will be ease of renting shelters.

c) Economic impact, probable costs and benefits, small business effect: We are hopeful that on-line reservations of more facilities will increase rentals and revenue to the Department. There will be some associated costs with having on-line reservations but benefits exist for ease of use. There is no anticipated impact on small business.

d) Measures to minimize compliance costs, effects or risks to public health, safety or the environment: This rule is intended to assist park staff in developing consistency in operations. This rule does not affect or reduce risks to public health, safety or the environment.

725: 30-12-5. Reserved/assigned and group camping

a) Brief description: this rule defines the period within which an on-line reservation can be made for an individual campsite reservation and identifies the processes that are available to reserve campsites for a group of recreational vehicle users. It also allows park managers to make more sites available for single night reservations during holiday periods. Sites not rented at any given time will be available on a first come first come first served basis.

b) Persons affected, cost impacts and benefits: No cost impacts are anticipated. Persons making group camping reservations will need to be aware of the process to secure a group of sites and to give proper notice of a cancellation without loss of the deposit. The benefits are the availability of a more convenient means of reserving a camping site.

c) Economic impact, probable costs and benefits, small business effect: The Department hopes to increase camping income. There will be some operating costs associated with a reservation system. There is no anticipated impact on small businesses.

d) Measures to minimize compliance costs, effects or risks to public health, safety or the environment: This rule is intended to assist park staff in developing consistency in operations. This rule does not affect or reduce risks to public health, safety or the environment.

725:30-12-6 Amphitheaters, community buildings and, meeting rooms ~~and Lake Eucha State Park~~

a) Brief description: The reservation period for these facilities is set at eleven months in advance. Groups may reserve these facilities further out in time with approval and an anticipated improved financial condition due to accommodation rentals. An application will be submitted to obtain a reservation and e-mail has been added as a means of submittal. Cancellations will require notice thirty days in advance. The Lake Eucha reference is removed from this rule.

b) Persons affected, cost impacts and benefits: The cancellation period for a reservation of one of the facilities in this grouping has been increased from 5 days to 30 days to improve the possibility of the facilities being rented by others after a cancellation occurs.

c) Economic impact, probable costs and benefits, small business effect: Rentals for a larger number of accommodations will produce greater revenue for a positive economic impact to the Department. Some costs will be associated with on-line reservations if used. There is no anticipated impact on small businesses.

d) Measures to minimize compliance costs, effects or risks to public health, safety or the environment: This rule is intended to assist park staff in developing consistency in operations. This rule does not affect or reduce risks to public health, safety or the environment.

SUBCHAPTER 20. VOLUNTEERS

725: 30-20-9. Termination of Volunteer Contact

a) Brief description: this rule is a new one which defines the right of the Department to terminate volunteer contracts and the elements that are a part of the termination process and vacating any associated accommodations.

b) Persons affected, cost impacts and benefits: This rule potentially affects person who may volunteer for the Department and that sign a related agreement. There are no projected costs associated with this new rule. The benefits are the clarification of a process for terminating volunteer contracts for those who are considering being a volunteer and for the Department.

c) Economic impact, probable costs and benefits, small business effect: Volunteers are extremely beneficial to the Department. There are no probable costs associated with this rule. The benefit is clarity and avoidance of misunderstanding. There is no anticipated impact on small business.

d) Measures to minimize compliance costs, effects or risks to public health, safety or the environment: This rule is intended to assist park staff in developing consistency in operations. This rule does not affect or reduce risks to public health, safety or the environment.

SUBCHAPTER 22. CONCESSION LEASES AND COMMERCIAL USE

725:30-22-6. Commercial use, Concessions and permits

A) Brief description: This rule makes distinctions between concessions and commercial uses by providing examples of each type of use.

b) Persons affected, cost impacts and benefits: A permit process is required for each type of use. A charge may be associated with a commercial use. Benefits of commercial use are the providing of activities and services for the public.

c) Economic impact, probable costs and benefits, small business effect: Commercial and concession uses have a positive economic benefit on the Department. There are potential positive benefits for small businesses in that most concession services in state parks are provided by small businesses.

d) Measures to minimize compliance costs, effects or risks to public health, safety or the environment: This rule is intended to assist park staff in developing consistency in operations. This rule does not affect or reduce risks to public health, safety or the environment.

SUBCHAPTER 29. LODGE OPERATIONS

725: 30-29.2. Definitions

- a) Brief Description: This rule adds a definition of a 'Function,' 'Group with overnight accommodations,' 'New accommodation' and a 'Reservation Fee,' and makes a small addition to the definition of improved financial condition.
- b) Persons affected, cost impacts and benefits: The new definitions are added to help direct lodge operations in dealing with customers. Users of lodge facilities may be affected based on the guidance provided to managers based on these rules. Persons making an on-line reservation for accommodations may be affected if a reservation fee is passed on to the customer using the service. There could be a cost to the customer but also a benefit in having an on-line reservation option. The Department benefits with improved definitions and possible reduced cost if reservation fees are passed on to the customers.
- c) Economic impact, probable costs and benefits, small business effect: These definition adjustments are intended to improve operation of lodge facilities, resulting in a positive economic position for the Department. A current Department cost for operating the on-line reservation system could become a customer cost. There are minimal costs associated with this rule. Benefits include expanded definitions to improve operations. There is no anticipated impact on small business.
- d) Measures to minimize compliance costs, effects or risks to public health, safety or the environment: This rule is intended to assist park staff in developing consistency in operations. This rule does not affect or reduce risks to public health, safety or the environment.

725:30-29-4. Accepting reservation requests

- a) Brief description: This rule provides that individual reservations are accepted up to eleven months in advance. This provides a user with a specific number of months in advance to make a reservation. Group reservations may be accepted more than a year in advance with certain approvals. It also clarifies that group reservations for space without overnight accommodations cannot be made more than 60 days in advance, without special permissions. The means of obtaining rate sheets is corrected.
- b) Persons affected, cost impacts and benefits: This rule adjustment will help users by making the allowed period for individual reservations to be consistently applied across state parks. Group rentals may be made more than a year in advance of requested date to achieve a positive financial result for the Department, which could negatively impact some small groups or individuals requesting reservations during the highest demand periods.
- c) Economic impact, probable costs and benefits, small business effect: This rule may create a positive financial impact for the Department by maximizing the use of available facilities. There is no anticipated expense associated with this rule and no adverse economic impacts on small businesses.
- d) Measures to minimize compliance costs, effects or risks to public health, safety or the environment: This rule is intended to assist park staff in developing consistency in operations. This rule does not affect or reduce risks to public health, safety or the environment.

725:30-29-5. Setting rates for guest rooms, meeting rooms and other public space.

a) Brief description: This rule provides corrected means of obtaining rate sheets.

b) Persons affected, cost impacts and benefits: There are no costs or benefits to persons with this change of an incorrect address and phone number.

c) Economic impact, probable costs and benefits, small business effect: This rule has no economic impact, costs or benefits. There is no anticipated expense associated with this rule and no adverse economic impacts on small businesses.

d) Measures to minimize compliance costs, effects or risks to public health, safety or the environment: This rule is intended to assist park staff in developing consistency in operations. This rule does not affect or reduce risks to public health, safety or the environment.

725:30-29-6. Special rates and promotional discounts

a) Brief description: This rule clarifies that special permissive rates and discounts for groups may be restricted in times when they are available. The discount for totally disable individuals is corrected to be permissive which matches the statute in place.

b) Persons affected, cost impacts and benefits: Persons wishing to use discounts as individual or in a group may be affected. Restricting use of discounts during heavy demand periods helps the Department maximize income and typically moves discounted uses to lesser demand periods. Persons or groups wishing to use a discount during heavy demand periods may not get the discount.

c) Economic impact, probable costs and benefits, small business effect: A positive economic impact for the Department is expected. There is no anticipated expense associated with this rule and no adverse economic impacts on small businesses.

d) Measures to minimize compliance costs, effects or risks to public health, safety or the environment: This rule is intended to assist park staff in developing consistency in operations. This rule does not affect or reduce risks to public health, safety or the environment.

725:30-29-15 Guidelines on smoking in state lodges

a) Brief description: This rule is deleted in that state law exists regarding smoking.

b) Persons affected, cost impacts and benefits: No persons are affected by the deleting this rule. There are no cost impacts, but possibly a benefit exists in eliminating an unnecessary rule.

c) Economic impact, probable costs and benefits, small business effect: There is no economic impact, probable costs or benefits associated with eliminating this rule. There is no anticipated adverse economic impact on small business.

d) Measures to minimize compliance costs; effects or risks to public health, safety or the environment: This rule is intended to assist park staff in developing consistency in operations. This rule does not affect or reduce risks to public health, safety or the environment.

Rule Impact Statement prepared: December 1, 2017