11.04.06(TBD by BOCC)

Camping on Publicly Owned Land

1. Camping on publicly owned land is allowed with the restrictions provided in this County Code.

A. Definitions

- 1. The terms "camp", "campsite or "encampment" shall mean a location on publicly owned land within Deschutes County, where one or more tents, awnings, lean-tos, sleeping or bedding materials, cooking implements or materials, or other items or structures have been erected, constructed, or placed including vehicles and recreational vehicles, and appear to be used for human habitation, including but not limited to sleeping, preparing cooking or warming fires, storing personal belongings, and urinating or defecating.
- B. Restrictions on camping on publicly owned land within Deschutes County may be suspended during periods of extreme weather or other emergency situations.
- 2. Individuals who are camping are prohibited from camping on publicly owned land except as noted below, and are required to comply with these time, place and manner regulations.

A. Time.

- 1. Camping on publicly owned land where allowed is subject to a 14-day stay limitation.
- 2. Campers must move no less than 2.5 miles from their original campsite at the conclusion of this 14-day limit.
- 3. Enforcement of time restrictions may be suspended when an individual does not have access to shelter and when an individual is engaged in case management or behavioral health services, or when necessary or appropriate to respond to an individual's disability.

B. Place.

Camping is not allowed at any time in any of the following places:

- 1. In or one mile from the boundary of any private property line.
- 2. Camping on publicly owned land and open to the public within the county, within one mile of an Urban Growth Boundary on the Deschutes County Zoning Map in effect at the time, unless at a posted, designated and developed campground. (16 U.S.C. 551A provides that States or political subdivisions thereof, such as Deschutes County, shall retain their rights to exercise civil and criminal jurisdiction within or on lands which are a part of the national forest system. 43 CFR 8365.1-7 provides the same protections regarding Bureau of Land Management lands).
- 3. Any place where camping, a camp, or camp materials create a physical impediment to emergency or nonemergency ingress, egress, or access to property, whether private or public, or on public sidewalks or other public rights-of-way, including but

- not limited to driveways providing access to vehicles, and entrances or exits from buildings and/or other real property.
- 4. Camping on publicly owned land within 1000 feet of a school or park.

C. Manner.

Camping, when and where allowed, is subject to all of the following:

- 1. Open Fires are prohibited on publicly owned land within one mile of the Urban Growth Boundary and within one mile of private property lines, including campfires, charcoal fires, cooking fires and warming fires.
- 2. Local, State, and Federal fire regulations shall be followed.
- 3. Individuals may not accumulate, discard, or leave behind garbage, debris, unsanitary or hazardous materials, or other items of no apparent utility in public rights-of-way, on publicly owned land.
- 4. Dumping of gray water (i.e., wastewater from baths, sinks, and the like) or black water (i.e., sewage) into any facilities or places not intended for gray water or black water disposal is prohibited. This includes but is not limited to storm drains or onto open ground, which are not intended for disposal of gray water or black water.
- 5. Individuals may not build or erect structures, whether by using plywood, wood materials, pallets, or other materials. Items such as tents and similar items used for shelter that are readily portable are not structures for purposes of this section.
- 6. Storage of personal property such as vehicle tires, bicycles or associated components (except as needed for an individual's personal use), gasoline, generators, lumber, household furniture, extra propane tanks, combustible material, lumber, or other items or materials is prohibited, other than what is related to camping, sleeping, resting or keeping warm and dry.
- 7. Vehicles used for camping purposes must be operational, i.e., capable of being started and driven under their own power, or ready to be towed if designed to be towed and may not be discarded or left inoperable in public rights-of-way or on publicly owned land.
- 8. Digging, excavation, terracing of soil, alteration of ground or infrastructure, or damage to vegetation or trees is prohibited.
- 3. A citation for a violation of this chapter will be a civil infraction (TBD by BOCC).
- 4. Campsites in violation of this ordinance will be addressed in accordance with the law.