



2023 Proposed Fee Changes

Dane County Parks is proposing to keep the majority of permit, shelter and camping fees the same for 2023. The last fee increases were pre-COVID, most increases were five (5) years ago or more. Fee history from the last 10 years is included for reference.

Proposed changes include a fee increase for two cooperative permits: lake access and dog, an increase in the mountain bike trail permit, one new permit level for commercial lake access users, a new discount for veterans and military members, a new application fee for special event permit requests and an overhaul of the way fee-based education classes are charged.

These proposed fees are brought before Park Commission to solicit initial feedback. The plan is to hold a public hearing and set 2023 fees on Wednesday, September 14, 2022.

Cooperative Lake Access Permit – a partnership between the Cities of Madison and Monona and Dane County

The last increase for this cooperative permit was in 2018.

	Current 2022		Proposed 2023	
	Annual	Daily	Annual	Daily
Dane County Resident	\$40	\$8	\$50	\$10
Resident Senior	\$21	\$8	\$25	\$10
Non-Resident	\$50	\$8	\$60	\$10
Non-Resident Senior	\$28	\$8	\$30	\$10
Disabled	\$21	\$8	\$25	\$10
Military/Veteran*	n/a	n/a	\$25	\$10
Additional Vehicle (max 2 per household)	\$18	n/a	\$20	n/a
Replacement of lost permit	\$18	n/a	\$20	n/a
Daily non-motorized (canoe, kayak, raft)	n/a	\$7	n/a	\$7

*military-veteran rate proposed to be added this year

Cooperative Dog Park Permit – a partnership between the Cities of Madison, Middleton, Sun Prairie and Dane County

The last increase for this cooperative permit was in 2018. Dane County Parks opened the Anderson Farm Dog Park this year and the 2023 capital budget request includes funding to start phasing in improvements at existing dog parks.

	Current 2022	Proposed 2023
Annual	\$35	\$43
Daily	\$5	\$8
Senior	\$17	\$20
Disabled	\$17	\$20
Military/Veteran*	n/a	\$20
Additional	\$17	\$20
Replacement of lost permit	\$17	\$20

*military-veteran rate proposed to be added this year

Mountain Bike Trail Permit

The last increase for this cooperative permit was in 2011.

	Current 2022	Proposed 2023
Annual	\$16	\$20
Daily	\$5	\$8
Senior	\$12	\$15
Disabled	\$12	\$15
Military/Veteran*	n/a	\$15
Replacement of lost permit	\$12	\$15

**military-veteran rate proposed to be added this year*

New Permit Level for Commercial Lake Access Users

Commercial boat launch users are defined as any watercraft being used for business purposes, such as construction and demolition services, boat dealers and boat repair services, watercraft rental companies, pier and hoist installers, etc... Fishing guide services are excluded from this category and should continue to use the resident/non-resident lake access permit. These commercial users takes up more space at the lake access site and block launch lanes for time periods that are significantly longer than an average lake access site user.

Commercial Annual	\$300
Commercial Annual Additional Vehicle(s)	\$200
Commercial Daily	\$50

This will be a cooperative permit with the City of Monona and possibly the City of Madison, pending their own approvals.

If this new permit level is approved, rules will be put in place for these commercial lake access permit holders limiting the time they can block lake access sites. If they consistently exceed the time limit, their permit may be revoked.

Veteran and Military Members Discount

Offer a discounted rate for veterans and military members at the same rate as seniors and disabled persons, for all of the same types of permits currently offered at these rates: dog, lake access, cross-county ski, horse trail, mountain bike trail, and campsite reservations. Proof required. Proof of veteran status is a DD214 or VA ID, or WI Driver's License with Veteran Identifier; proof of military service is current orders or military ID.

New Application Fee for Special Event Permit Requests

Add a \$25 application fee for all special event permit requests. This will be assessed as a "deposit" for the \$75 special event permit, not in addition to the existing special event permit fee. It will be due at the time of application. Once the event is approved, the remaining \$50 for the special event permit will be assessed. In addition to the special event permit fee, additional fee are determined based on an event's specific requests, frequently added fees include vending or alcohol permits and shelter reservations.

Special event permits are required for publically advertised events that charge a fee to participate, for events that request to do things outside of regular allowable activities, and for events that sell merchandise, food or alcohol.

Many special event permit requests are submitted and then are later cancelled because the requestor changes their mind or does not communicate with staff after the event was approved. These events take a lot of time to prepare, approve, communicate on, and keep track of administratively. If the applicant decides not to move forward with the event, the application fee will not be refunded.

This special event permit application fee will not apply for Friends and Partner Groups special event permit requests. All fees will continue to be waived for these groups.

Fee-Based Education Classes

Fee-based education classes are publically advertised classes that charge a participant fee (either per class or per session) and have an educational focus. These groups include homeschool groups, preschool groups, fitness classes, etc... To hold these classes in a Dane County Park, these programs currently pay one \$75 special event permit fee, per location, per calendar year. If the group is not reserving a shelter, there are no additional fees. Most of these groups use shelters if they are not reserved by another group, but choose not reserve them for exclusive use. Some of these groups meet weekly, some several times a week, most meet year round.

These groups are charging their participants, in some cases significant fees, but only paying Dane County Parks \$75 to use a park, nearly daily, for an entire calendar year. This type of programmatic park use has grown significantly over the last few years and fitting these groups into the existing permit system is relatively new and it is not working.

The proposed fee structure will switch from an annual permit to school-year based sessions:

- Winter/Spring (January – May)
- Summer (June – August)
- Fall (September – December)

The proposed fee structure has two levels: one for recurring programs and one single-day events. Both levels have fee tiers based on participant numbers. In addition to these tiered fees, the group will pay a \$25 application fee per session, in addition to the session cost below.

Recurring Fee-Based Education Programs	
Cumulative Participant #s*	Cost per Session
1-50	\$75
51-100	\$150
100-250	\$300
251-500	\$600
501-1,000	\$1,000
1,000+	\$1,200

Single Event Fee-Based Education Programs	
Participant #s	Cost per Session
1-10	\$10
11-25	\$25
26-50	\$45
51-100	\$75
101-200	\$125
200+	\$150

**Participant #s are calculated on a total number basis, for example if a program runs 1 time per week over 7 weeks and there are 10 participants each time, the number of participants is 70, even if it is the same participants attending each weekly program.*

Dane County Parks - Fee History

Cooperative Permit Programs highlighted in yellow

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Dog Permit Fees										
Annual	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 32	\$ 35	\$ 35	\$ 35	\$ 35	\$ 35
Daily	\$ 5	\$ 5	\$ 5	\$ 5	\$ 5	\$ 5	\$ 5	\$ 5	\$ 5	\$ 5
Senior	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 16	\$ 17	\$ 17	\$ 17	\$ 17	\$ 17
Disabled	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 16	\$ 17	\$ 17	\$ 17	\$ 17	\$ 17
Additional	\$ 14	\$ 14	\$ 14	\$ 14	\$ 16	\$ 17	\$ 17	\$ 17	\$ 17	\$ 17
Replacement	\$ 14	\$ 14	\$ 14	\$ 14	\$ 16	\$ 17	\$ 17	\$ 17	\$ 17	\$ 17
Lake Access Fee - Permit is good through March 31 of the next year										
Annual (Resident)	\$ 35	\$ 35	\$ 35	\$ 35	\$ 37	\$ 40	\$ 40	\$ 40	\$ 40	\$ 40
Daily	\$ 8	\$ 8	\$ 8	\$ 8	\$ 8	\$ 8	\$ 8	\$ 8	\$ 8	\$ 8
Non-Motorized/Non-Trailerred	\$ 7	\$ 7	\$ 7	\$ 7	\$ 7	\$ 7	\$ 7	\$ 7	\$ 7	\$ 7
Annual (Non-Res)	\$ 45	\$ 45	\$ 45	\$ 45	\$ 47	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50
Senior (Resident)	\$ 18	\$ 18	\$ 18	\$ 18	\$ 20	\$ 21	\$ 21	\$ 21	\$ 21	\$ 21
Senior (Non-Res)	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 27	\$ 28	\$ 28	\$ 28	\$ 28	\$ 28
Annual (Disabled)	\$ 18	\$ 18	\$ 18	\$ 18	\$ 20	\$ 21	\$ 21	\$ 21	\$ 21	\$ 21
2nd Vehicle	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 17	\$ 18	\$ 18	\$ 18	\$ 18	\$ 18
Replacement	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 17	\$ 18	\$ 18	\$ 18	\$ 18	\$ 18
Tenney Lock Fee										
Annual	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30
Daily	\$ 5	\$ 5	\$ 5	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10
Addtl/Replacement	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12
Trail Permit Fees										
Annual Ski	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30
Daily Ski	\$ 7	\$ 7	\$ 7	\$ 7	\$ 7	\$ 7	\$ 7	\$ 7	\$ 7	\$ 7
Senior Ski	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 15
Disabled Ski	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 15
Replacement Ski	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12
Annual Mt. Bike	\$ 16	\$ 16	\$ 16	\$ 16	\$ 16	\$ 16	\$ 16	\$ 16	\$ 16	\$ 16
Daily Mt. Bike	\$ 5	\$ 5	\$ 5	\$ 5	\$ 5	\$ 5	\$ 5	\$ 5	\$ 5	\$ 5
Senior Mt. Bike	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12
Disabled Mt. Bike	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12
Repl. Mt. Bike	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12
Annual Horse	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 20
Daily Horse	\$ 8	\$ 8	\$ 8	\$ 8	\$ 8	\$ 8	\$ 8	\$ 8	\$ 8	\$ 8
Senior Horse	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12
Disabled Horse	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12
Replacement	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12
Combined Trail	\$ 42	\$ 42	\$ 42	\$ 42	\$ 42	\$ 42	\$ 48	\$ 48	\$ 48	\$ 48
State Trail Annual	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25
State Trail Daily	\$ 4	\$ 4	\$ 4	\$ 5	\$ 5	\$ 5	\$ 5	\$ 5	\$ 5	\$ 5
Disc Golf										
Annual	\$ 48	\$ 48	\$ 48	\$ 48	\$ 48	\$ 48	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50
Daily	\$ 8	\$ 8	\$ 8	\$ 8	\$ 8	\$ 8	\$ 8	\$ 8	\$ 8	\$ 8
Tournament/Day	\$ 170	\$ 170	\$ 170	\$ 170	\$ 170	\$ 170	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ 200
Tournament Half Day (4-hours)							\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100
Aeromodeling										
	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30
Limited Archery Access										
Application fee						\$ 3	\$ 3	\$ 3	\$ 3	\$ 3
Permit fee	\$ 14	\$ 14	\$ 14	\$ 14	\$ 14	\$ 14	\$ 14	\$ 14	\$ 14	\$ 14

Amt set
by DNR

