CHAPTER 85

DIVISION OF PARKS AND RECREATION

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85.016 BICYCLE TRAIL PROGRAM.

The commissioner of natural resources shall establish a program for the development of bicycle trails utilizing the state trails authorized by section 85.015, other state parks and recreation land, and state forests. "Bicycle trails", as used in this section, includes bicycle lanes and bicycle ways as those terms are used in sections 160.263 and 160.264. The program shall be coordinated with the local park trail grant program established by the commissioner of energy, planning and development pursuant to section 4.36, with the bicycle trail program established by the commissioner of transportation pursuant to section 160.265, and with existing and proposed local bicycle trails. In the metropolitan area as defined in section 473.121, the program shall be developed in accordance with plans and priorities established by the metropolitan council. The commissioner shall provide technical assistance to local units of government in planning and developing bicycle trails in local parks. The bicycle trail program shall, as a minimum, describe the location, design, construction, maintenance and land acquisition needs of each component trail and shall give due consideration to the model standards for the establishment of recreational vehicle lanes promulgated by the commissioner of transportation pursuant to section 160.262. The program shall be developed after consultation with the state trail council and regional and local units of government and bicyclists organizations.

History: 1981 c 356 s 102

85.017 TRAIL REGISTRY.

The commissioner of natural resources shall compile and maintain a current registry of cross-country skiing, hiking, horseback riding and snowmobiling trails in the state and shall publish and distribute the information in the manner prescribed in section 86A.11. The metropolitan council, the commissioner of energy, planning and development, the Minnesota historical society, and local units of government shall cooperate with and assist the commissioner in preparing the registry.

History: 1981 c 356 s 103

85.018 TRAIL USE; VEHICLES REGULATED.

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** For the purposes of this section, "trail" means a recreational trail, which is funded in whole or in part by state grant-in-aids to a local unit of government.

- Subd. 2. Authority of local government. A local government unit that receives state grant-in-aids for any trail may:
- (a) Designate the trail for use by snowmobiles or for nonmotorized use from December 1 to April 1 of any year; and
 - (b) Issue any permit required under subdivisions 3 to 5.

- Subd. 3. Motorized use; permits. Motorized use of trails shall be allowed only by permit between April 2 and November 30 of any year. Permits shall require that permit holders return the trail and any associated facility to their original condition if any damage is done by the permittee. Limited permits for special events such as races may be issued and shall require the removal of any trail markers, banners and other material used in connection with the special event.
- Subd. 4. Nonmotorized trails; winter. From December 1 to April 1 of any year no motorized vehicle shall be operated on a trail designated for nonmotorized use such as ski touring or snowshoe use.
- Subd. 5. Snowmobile trails. From December 1 to April 1 in any year no use of a motorized vehicle other than a snowmobile, unless authorized by permit, lease or easement, shall be permitted on a trail designated for use by snowmobiles.
- Subd. 6. Exceptions. The following motor vehicles are exempt from the provisions of subdivisions 3 to 5:
- (a) military, fire, emergency or law enforcement vehicles used for official or emergency purposes;
 - (b) vehicles registered to the county, state or federal government;
 - (c) vehicles authorized by permit, lease or contract;
- (d) vehicles owned by private citizens engaged in the upkeep and maintenance of the trail systems under the direction of the local unit of government which manages the trail; and
- (e) vehicles registered to or operated with the permission of a land owner on whose lands the trail system has been constructed, but only with respect to operation on the land of that owner.
- Subd. 7. Streets and highways. This section does not apply to any portion of a trail located on any street or highway as defined in section 169.01.
- Subd. 8. Enforcement. The provisions of this section may be enforced by officers of the department of natural resources as provided in section 97.50.

History: 1981 c 215 s 2

85.05 STATE PARK CAMP SITES.

Subdivision 1. Rules, fees. The commissioner may make rules for the use of state parks and charge appropriate fees for these uses, as hereinafter specified;

- (1) Provide special parking space for automobile or other motor-driven vehicle in any state park or state recreation area;
- (2) Provide special parking spurs and camp grounds for automobiles and sites for tent camping and special auto trailer coach parking spaces for the use of the individual charged for the space according to the daily rates which shall be determined and fixed by the commissioner consistent with the type of facility provided for the accommodation of guests in any particular park and with similar facilities offered for tourist camping in the area;
- (3) Improve and maintain golf courses already established in state parks, and charge reasonable fees for the use thereof;
- (4) Charge a fee for entrance to any pageant grounds which may be created in any state park for the purpose of having historical or other pageants conducted by the commissioner of any other authorized agency.

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When deemed necessary the commissioner, for the purpose of better carrying out state park pageants, may stage the pageants in any municipal park or other lands near or adjoining any state park, and all receipts from the pageants shall be used in the same manner as though the pageants were carried on in a state park;

(5) Provide water, sewer, and electric service to trailer or tent camp sites and charge a reasonable fee therefor.

Any individual age 65 or over who is a resident of the state of Minnesota who furnishes satisfactory proof of age and residence shall be exempt from payment of one-half of the fees set pursuant to clause 2 on Monday through Thursday of each week. Fees paid pursuant to this section shall be deposited in the state park maintenance and operation account in the state treasury.

- Subd. 2. Permits for motor vehicles. (a) Except as provided in clauses (b), (c), (d) and (e), no motor vehicle shall enter or be permitted to enter any state park, state recreation area or state wayside over 50 acres in area unless it has affixed to its windshield in the lower right corner thereof a permit which is provided for hereinafter. The commissioner shall procure permits for each calendar year which by appropriate language shall grant permission to use any state park, state recreation area or state wayside over 50 acres in area. Permits for each calendar year shall be provided and placed on sale before October 1 next preceding, and may be affixed and used on or at any time after that date until the end of the calendar year for which issued. Permits in each category shall be numbered consecutively for each year of issue. A fee of \$10 shall be charged for each permit issued for a vehicle licensed in Minnesota and \$15 for a vehicle licensed outside of Minnesota, except that permits of appropriate special design may be sold individually at \$3 for a vehicle licensed in Minnesota and \$4 for a vehicle licensed outside of Minnesota covering the use of state parks, state recreation areas or state waysides under such conditions as the commissioner may prescribe for a designated period of not more than two days. The fee collected shall be deposited in the state park maintenance and operation account in the state treasury. Appropriations from this account shall be for state park maintenance and operation. Permits shall be issued by employees of the division of parks and recreation as the commissioner of natural resources may designate in writing and as hereinbefore provided.
- (b) The commissioner shall issue without charge an employee's motor vehicle permit to any state employee who, for the purpose of performing official duties, must enter places where park stickers are required. The employee shall display the permit on the motor vehicle in the same manner as state park stickers are displayed. A motor vehicle displaying only an employee's permit may not enter a place where park stickers are required if the vehicle is used for purposes other than performing official duties.
- (c) The commissioner shall issue for one-half of the fees provided in clause (a) a motor vehicle permit to any individual of the age of 65 years or over who furnishes satisfactory proof of age and who is a resident of the state of Minnesota. The permit or the decal evidencing its issuance shall be valid only when displayed upon the vehicle owned and occupied by the person to whom issued.
- (d) No state park permit is necessary for entry of a motor vehicle into a state park, state monument, state recreation area, or state wayside, on one day each calendar year which the commissioner may designate as state park open house day for the purpose of acquainting the public with state parks, recreation areas, and waysides. The commissioner shall announce the date of state park open house day at least 30 days in advance of the open house.

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(e) No state park permit is necessary, nor shall any fee, including a parking fee, be charged, for entry of a motor vehicle into that part of Fort Snelling state park commonly known as Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Island.

History: 1981 c 356 s 273,274

85.051 STATE PARK DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT.

The state park development account in the state treasury is hereby continued, and consists of money credited to it from other sources including distributions pursuant to section 296.421.

History: 1981 c 356 s 275

85.22 STATE PARKS WORKING CAPITAL FUND.

[For text of subd 1, see M.S.1980]

Subd. 2a. Receipts, appropriation. All receipts derived from the sale of items in state parks shall be deposited in the state treasury and be credited to the state parks working capital fund, which fund is annually appropriated solely for the purchase of merchandise for resale. Annually, as of the close of business on June 30, the unencumbered balance in excess of \$100,000 shall be cancelled into the general fund.

[For text of subd 3, see M.S.1980]

History: 1981 c 356 s 276

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