

# Deer Lake Farms Nature Preserve/Beach 2026 Rules and Regulations

**Beach Chairperson: Marc Bertelsen 269-414-9063 [Marcbertelsen001@netscape.net](mailto:Marcbertelsen001@netscape.net)**

The Nature Preserve is a privately owned common area for Deer Lake Farms Homeowners Association members. The commons include the beach frontage and surrounding area along Deer Lake through to Dark Lake Park off of Deer Hill Dr. Rules apply to all subdivision common areas. Unauthorized use by non-members is considered trespassing and is not permitted. During the season, DLFA has authorized security to provide inspections to enforce the listed rules and regulations. **Please cooperate with the security personnel** – they are there on our behalf to maintain order and preserve the serenity of our beach.

To protect the Association's investment and to prevent use by non-authorized individuals, the following rules and regulations are in effect:

## **Hours of Operation**

The official season runs from **Memorial Day weekend through the first weekend of October**. Gates to the Nature Preserve are usually **opened by 9:00 a.m.** and closed **at dark** seven days a week, weather permitting. The beach must be vacated **at dark**. Gates will be locked promptly at this time. Please cooperate with our security personnel. If for any reason, you cannot exit by dark, please alert Marc Bertelsen @ 269-414-9063 so he can notify security.

## **Displayed ID Tags/Sign-In Required**

Each homeowner whose **annual Association dues are paid in full** will be issued two ID tags for the 2025 season. Your individual DLFA lot# will be on the ID tags. Tags are to be shown when you enter the beach area as a means to identify you and your guests. Individuals not authorized to be at the beach or who do not have their tags will be asked to leave by security or by Association members. Homeowners are to remind their family members that they must have the 2025 ID's while at the beach. **NO EXCUSES!**

## **Guests**

A member must be present with any guests using the beach. Subdivision minors under the age of 16 who are not accompanied by a parent who is a member of the Association are limited to having 2 guests at the beach. Residents who are teenagers are expected to bring the appropriate ID tag with them. Friends or relatives of Association members will be asked to leave unless accompanied by a member with an ID tag.

## **Large Groups/Parties**

Residents may use the beach for group activities, subject to the following:

- a) The maximum size of the group is limited **to thirty (30) on weekdays and twenty (20) on weekends**. In addition, some tables must always be available for regular subdivision residents and their families.
- b) For **groups of ten or more, advance arrangements must be made** with the **Beach Chairperson, Marc Bertelsen** to assure there are no conflicts with the proposed date.
- c) When advance arrangements are made, the **Beach Chairperson shall be notified of all planned activities at the beach**. The Beach Chairperson, or the President in the absence of the Beach Chairperson, at any time, may refuse permission, or direct that activities stop, if such activities are, in the opinion of the Beach Chairperson or President, hazardous or dangerous, or could potentially create a liability situation for the subdivision or jeopardize the subdivision's insurance coverage.
- d) **No physical alteration of the beach or beach accessories** shall be allowed, including removal of the swim lines, moving of the raft or buoys, or removal of trees or vegetation.
- e) Please remember that the number of tables and barbecue grills is limited. Cooperation in sharing them will ensure everyone has access. Please keep the tables out of the water and clear them off when not in use.
- f) **Security, Beach Chairperson, or the DLF President are authorized to terminate authorization** for use of the beach by the group in the event of violation of any of the beach rules.
- g) The **beach must be clean of party debris** (trash, balloons, etc.). Bag your garbage and place it in the dumpster. If moved, please return tables to their original position.

## **Vehicles**

**No motorized vehicles (cars, ATVs, golf carts, motorcycles, etc) are allowed within the inner gate.** Please be mindful when parking to ensure the maximum number of cars can utilize our limited parking area. Please be sure not to block the walking entrance to the beach path.

## **Kayak Launching**

The area first seen when you approach the parking lot (to the right of the beach) is a launch site for non-motorized watercraft. It can be used for fishing as well. Jet-skis and other motorized crafts are not to be launched at this site. All members of Deer Lake Farms have access rights to the launch site at the public beach on Holcomb, **even if their lot is full.** You may bring your trailer back to our parking lot if desired. Boats belonging to residents may only be temporarily beached at our nature preserve on the no-wake side (on the right of the peninsula) of the beach. Do not store your boats in the launch area.

## **Beverage Containers (NO GLASS)**

Please restrict beverage containers to plastic bottles and cans to minimize the risk of injury from broken glass.

## **Fires/Smoking**

All fires must be contained to the grills and managed at all times. **NO OPEN PIT FIRES ALLOWED. If you or your family members or guests start an open fire, your beach privileges will be terminated for the remainder of the year. SMOKING WITHIN THE ENTIRE NATURE PRESERVE/BEACH IS PROHIBITED** due to fire potential and littering of cigarette butts. This includes e-cigarettes and vaping.

## **Trash**

A dumpster is available in the parking area, which will be emptied weekly. Please pitch in and help keep the beach area clean. Trash bins are kept in the wooden trash containers to prevent animal access. Please take home your leftovers, bottles, and cans when leaving and pick up any trash on the property. Do not leave garbage outside of the wooden containers – if they are full, take your trash home with you or place it in the dumpster. If we all pitch in to keep the beach clean, it will look great for all of us to enjoy. Also, please do not place your household trash in the dumpster.

## **Pets**

**Pets are not permitted on the beach.** For residents who enjoy taking their dogs for walks or swims, please use the above-mentioned **Kayak Launching** area and keep your dog on a leash. You are responsible for picking up any nature droppings your dog may leave.

## **Swimming Raft/Bird Droppings**

Since there is no lifeguard on duty, **swimming is at your own risk.** Please keep in mind that boats have been observed quite close to the swim area markers. To ensure your safety, it is recommended that you stay within the marked areas and close to the raft at all times.

## **Reporting Problems/Calling Police**

If security is on duty, please notify the guard of beach rules violations or unsafe conditions. The Oakland County Sheriff's Department has assured us that they will respond promptly to any security problems we have at the beach. To request a patrol car or to report trespassers or vandalism, call the **Oakland County Sheriff's dispatch office (248) 858-4950.** They will also be called if anyone refuses to leave the beach after dark. As always, if there is an emergency, call 911. Protection of our Nature Preserve is all of our responsibility – we all need to take part in addressing issues and reporting non-compliance or suspicious activity.

## **Questions/Concerns/Volunteer Help**

Please feel free to call or email our Beach Chairperson, Marc Bertelsen **269-414-9063**, **Marcbertelsen001@netscape.net** if you have questions or concerns, or wish to volunteer to assist with beach maintenance or security. Help and ideas for improved beach operation are welcome.

**FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH BEACH REGULATIONS WILL RESULT IN THE LOSS OF BEACH PRIVILEGES.**