

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians

Natural Resource Commission

Camping Regulations

R500-01:NRC-04

Section 1. Purpose; Findings

1.01 Purpose.

The purpose of these regulations is to protect Tribal land and resources while encouraging those under its jurisdiction to enjoy outdoor activities.

1.02 Findings.

The Natural Resource Commission finds that:

- a. The Constitution of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians vests the Tribal Council with the power to exercise the inherent powers of the Band by establishing ordinances and resolutions governing the conduct of its members and other persons within its jurisdiction to promote, protect, and provide for public health, peace, morals, education, and general welfare of the Band's members (Article IV, Section 7(a));
- b. The Constitution further vests in the Tribal Council the power to delegate its legislative and rulemaking authority to regulatory commissions and subordinate organizations to manage its affairs; and
- c. Tribal Council created this Natural Resource Commission as a subordinate regulatory commission to oversee and regulate the wise utilization of natural resources within its jurisdiction in Ordinance #06-500-01, adopted by Resolution #12-0229-052.

Section 2. Adoption, Amendment, Repeal, Severability

2.01 Adoption.

The Natural Resource Commission adopts a resolution to recommend these regulations to Tribal Council by resolution NRC-?????-??.

2.02 Amendment.

The Natural Resource Commission or Tribal Council may amend these regulations according to the Administrative Procedures Act, Ordinance #04-100-07.

2.03 Repeal.

The Natural Resource Commission or Tribal Council may repeal these regulations according to the Administrative Procedures Act, Ordinance #04-100-07.

2.04 Severability.

If any provision of these regulations or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications that can be given effect without the invalid provision, and to that end, the provisions of these regulations are severable.

Section 3. Definitions

3.01 Camping:

Means any of the following:

- The erection of a tent;
- The opening or setting up of a tent-style camper;
- The parking and occupancy of a travel or house trailer; and/or
- Sleeping in any type of motor vehicle, sleeping bag, or sleeping in any other manner between 10:00 PM and 6:00 AM.

3.02 Campsite:

Means the area occupied as defined under “Camping” Section 3.01.

3.03 Conservation Enforcement Officer:

Means any sworn LRBOI Public Safety Officer, Conservation Officer, or Law Enforcement Officer authorized by tribal regulation or statute to enforce tribal conservation-related regulations, including camping.

3.04 Designated Campground:

Means an area recommended by the Natural Resource Commission and designated by the Tribal Council, located at the LRBOI Gathering Grounds powwow area behind the Little River Trading Post.

3.05 Designated Campsite:

Means a campsite at a designated campground.

3.06 Undesignated Camping:

Means camping in areas other than Designated Campgrounds under the management of the LRBOI Natural Resource Department that are capable of withstanding low-impact rustic camping over large areas. These are undeveloped wild areas with little or no amenities.

3.07 Natural Resource Department (NRD):

Means the Natural Resource Department of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.

3.08 LRBOI Tribal Court:

Means the Tribal Court for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.

3.09 Tribal Member:

Means an enrolled member of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.

3.10 LRBOI Justice Center:

Means the building located at 3031 Domres Rd. Manistee, MI. 49660

3.11 ORV:

Means a motor-driven off-road recreation vehicle capable of cross-country travel without the benefit of a road or trail, on or immediately over land, snow, ice, marsh, swampland, or other natural terrain.

Section 4. Camping Regulations

Permits Required:

Camping on Tribal lands requires a valid permit issued to a Tribal Member. Permits must be displayed prominently at the campsite. Permits are waived during Cultural Events such as Powwow, Language Camp, Sacred/Funeral Fires, other sanctioned traditional ceremonies, or community events.

4.03 Designated Campgrounds:

Campers must use designated campgrounds unless specifically authorized for undesignated camping by a Conservation Enforcement Officer.

Tribal Members who wish to camp in designated campsites must:

- Obtain permit at LRBOI Justice Center prior to setting up camp.
- Provide the names of all individuals in the camping party and expected duration of stay.
- Follow any additional guidance or restrictions issued by the Conservation Enforcement Officer at the time of check-in.

Designated Campground Rules:

1. No ATVs or off-road vehicles allowed (except Powwow staff golf carts/Gators).
2. All dogs must be leashed (max six feet) and under control.
3. Owners must clean up after pets.
4. No homesteading; max 14-day stay with permit.
5. Quiet hours: 10:00 PM – 6:00 AM.
6. Check-out: 11:00 AM.

7. Max 8 people per campsite; permit must be posted visibly.
8. Pull-through sites for large campers/motor homes only.
9. Fires must be attended or fully extinguished.
10. Destruction of Tribal property prohibited.
11. LRBOI not responsible for lost/stolen items.
12. LRBOI not responsible for damage to property.
13. Abandoned property becomes LRBOI property after 2 weeks.
14. First come, first served; obtain permits at the LRBOI Justice Center.
15. Obey posted speed limits.
16. Conservation Enforcement Officers may refuse service.
17. No alcohol or illegal drugs allowed.
18. Disturbing the peace prohibited.
19. Pets must be leashed, under control, cleaned up after; aggressive pets prohibited; no pets in sacred areas; service animals permitted.
20. Sex offenders prohibited (per Ordinance #11-400-11).

4.04 Undesignated Camping:

Tribal Members who intend to camp in undesignated areas must:

- Obtain a permit from LRBOI Justice Center prior to camping.
- Identify the general location of the intended campsite.
- Acknowledge and agree to comply with all environmental and safety regulations.

Undesignated Camping Rules:

1. Max 14-day stay, then vacate for 48 hours before returning. Permit must be posted visibly.
2. Vehicles must remain on established roads/trails; no off-road travel.
3. Fires allowed if conditions permit; must be attended, use local wood, fully extinguished; no fires during bans/Red Flag Warnings.
4. All trash and waste must be packed out; sites must be left clean.
5. Do not feed or harass wildlife; secure food.
6. Quiet hours: 10:00 PM – 6:00 AM.
7. Pets must be leashed, under control, cleaned up after.
8. Alcohol and illegal drugs prohibited.
9. In emergencies, call 911 or contact a Conservation Enforcement Officer.
10. Compliance required; violations may result in fines, permit revocation, or removal.

4.05 Campfires:

Campfires allowed only in designated fire rings/pits. Campers must follow fire safety regulations and ensure fires are fully extinguished before leaving. Campers shall follow fire danger warnings by the NRD, Conservation Enforcement Officer, or USFS and shall not burn during “Red Flag Warnings.”

- Keep fires small.
 - Use only dead/down local wood; do not move firewood.
 - Fires must be attended by an adult.
 - Fires must be fully extinguished before leaving.
- Failure to comply will result in fines, eviction, and civil infractions.

4.06 Waste Disposal:

All waste must be packed out or disposed of in provided receptacles. Campsites must be clean upon permit expiration. Permit holders will be cited and charged for cleanup of trash or items left behind.

4.07 Wildlife Protection:

Do not feed wildlife; store food securely; harassment of wildlife is prohibited.

4.08 Quiet Hours:

10:00 PM - 6:00 AM; campers must minimize noise.

4.09 Noise Control:

- Loud noises and generators prohibited during quiet hours.
- Group activities must end by 10:00 PM.
- Continued disturbance will result in fines/eviction.

4.10 Vehicle Use:

Vehicles must remain on designated roads/trails; off-road travel is prohibited.

4.11 Length of Stay:

Max 14-day stay; vacate for 48 hours before returning.

4.12 Group Size:

Max 8 people per campsite.

4.13 Emergency Procedures:

Call 911 or contact a Conservation Enforcement Officer if needed.

4.14 Pets:

- Leash required (max six feet).
- Clean up after pets; dispose of waste.
- No aggressive pets; no pets in sacred areas.
- Service animals permitted.

4.15 No Alcohol and Zero Drug Tolerance:

Alcohol and illegal drugs prohibited; violations result in fines/eviction.

4.16 Sex Offender Restrictions:

Registered sex offenders prohibited from permits and camping areas; violations will result in removal. Sex offenders prohibited per Ordinance #11-400-11.

4.17 Responsibility of Permit Holders:

Permit holders must ensure compliance with regulations; violations may result in additional legal consequences.

4.18 Public Notification – Signs and Notices:

Signs prohibiting registered sex offenders will be posted at campgrounds with no exceptions.

Section 5. Enforcement and Penalties**5.01 Enforcement:**

Enforced by **Conservation Enforcement Officers** and designated officials; violations may result in fines, eviction, or other penalties.

5.02 Civil Infraction:

Camping without a permit or in violation may result in a civil infraction in LRBOI Tribal Court, with fines up to \$1,000.

5.03 Reparation:

Unauthorized cutting or damage to vegetation or wildlife will result in additional reparations.

5.04 Restitution:

Damage or litter requiring cleanup will result in fines and restitution.

5.05 Appeals:

Penalties may be appealed to the LRBOI Tribal Court within 14 days, with a response within 30 days.

5.06 Waiver:

Nothing in these regulations waives the inherent sovereign immunity of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.

Section 6. Amendments**6.01 Amendments:**

These regulations may be amended by the Tribal Council or the Natural Resource Commission as needed to protect Tribal lands and resources.