Park and Beach Usage Policies

The City of South Haven allows use of public beaches and parks for events sponsored by private groups or individuals. These include wedding ceremonies, family reunions, birthday parties or organized picnics. There is no cost for use of the park or beach, but we ask that you respect the area.

THE PARKS AND BEACHES CANNOT BE RESERVED OR GUARANTEED.

The beaches and parks are public property, and the City of South Haven will not restrict the public from using of any portion of them; because public property is being used, no reservations are taken. **All areas are on a "first come, first serve" basis. Therefore, members of the public may be observing your event.**

The City of South Haven will not put-up reserved signs or block off any area. "Roping off" or otherwise limiting access to a section the beach or park for events is not allowed. Other beach or park patrons will not be required to move to accommodate any events.

Below is a list of City Parks and Beaches:

Beaches	Parks
Dyckman Access	Stanley Johnston
Newcome Access	Elkenburg Park
Oak Street Access	Riverfront Park
Packard Park	Kids Corner
Woodman Access	Optimist Tot Lot
North Beach	Cable Street Tot Lot
South Beach	Hartman Park
Van Buren Access	Dyckman Park
Blue Stairs Access	Historic Monroe Park
	Ellen Avery

Location maps can be found on the City's website: **www.southhavenmi.gov**

Park Rules/Beach Rules

- Park Hours – Sunrise – 10pm
- No animals allowed on beach
- No overnight camping
- No littering
- Campers or trailers are prohibited
- Noise Ordinance enforced
- Curfew enforced
- No alcohol allowed
- No glass allowed on beach
- No open flames

Policies/Guidelines to follow when planning an event:

The City of South Haven will not put-up reserved signs or block off and area. "Roping off" or otherwise limiting access to a section the beach or park for an event is not allowed. Other beach patrons cannot be required to move to accommodate the event.

Participants

- No more than 30- 40 people at Van Buren Overlook

- I try to discourage weddings over 150 people (we just don't have space for parking, etc.).

Decorations

Decorations brought in for the ceremony must be removed after the ceremony. Decorations can be things such as flowers, arches, chairs, etc.

- Decorations that can not be used:
  - Decorations with an open flame
  - Chinese lanterns, etc.
  - Glass
  - Anything that will end up in Lake Michigan or littering the beach

All decorations must be removed immediately following the event

Shade Tents

- Shade tents shall not be larger than 10'x10'
- Limit two tents (or one 10'x20')
- We request tents not be used at the Van Buren Overlook access site

Music

- Music may be allowed but please consider others around you
- Remember the City does have a Noise Ordinance (please refer to City Code Section 30-30)

The following should be considered when planning an event:

- The pay and park program at the beach is in effect daily from May 15th – September 15th until 6:00 p.m.
- The city cannot guarantee parking spaces or offer parking waivers for attendees of an event. We **do not** allow people to prepay for parking spots.
- The city recommends avoiding scheduling events during regular Special Events/Festivals or holidays.

******Guidelines/Policies are subject to change at any time******