Monroe County Alcohol Policy

§ 323-30. Alcoholic beverages. [Amended 4-28-87 by L.L. No. 2-1987, approved 5-21-87]

A. Legislative findings and conclusions. The Monroe County Legislature finds that the consumption of alcoholic beverages in certain areas of the parks within the County of Monroe contributes to the creation of a nuisance, including but not limited to raucous and other disorderly behavior which poses a hazard to citizens using those areas of the parks. Similarly, possession of open and unsealed containers of alcoholic beverages and consumption of alcoholic beverages within the indicated areas of the parks contributes to littering and resultant unsanitary conditions which pose health hazards and otherwise blights the parks to the detriment of citizens who use the park. In addition, the consumption of alcoholic beverages by park users who operate vehicles to and from the parks contributes to the incidence of driving while under the influence of alcohol which is itself an offense and which poses a hazard to all citizens using the public highways. The specific legislative purpose of this section is to maximize the safe and enjoyable use of the park by all members of the public.

B. No person shall consume any alcoholic beverage in or within fifty (50) feet of any roadway, parking lot, waterway, beach area, playground, path or trail.

C. No person shall possess an opened container of an alcoholic beverage in or within any of the areas specified in Subsection B of this section, with intent to consume an alcoholic beverage. The Legislature finds that the open condition of a container containing alcoholic beverages within the areas specified in Subsection B of this section is strong evidence of an intent to consume by the person possessing the opened container. The Legislature further finds that there is a strong correlation between possession of open containers of alcoholic beverages within the areas described in Subsection B of this section and the problems described in Subsection A of this section.

D. No person shall possess or transport or bring beer into a park in a draught dispenser without a permit from the Director of Parks, with intent to consume therein.

E. No person shall possess, transport or bring into a park more than six (6) twelve-ounce containers of beer without a permit from the Director, with intent to consume therein.

F. No person shall possess, transport or bring into a park more than thirty-two (32) ounces of liquor, other than beer, without a permit from the Director, with intent to consume therein.

G. No person shall become or be in an intoxicated condition while in the parks, and while in an intoxicated condition disturb the peace, comfort and decency of the parks.

H. No person shall possess, place in plain view of others or drink an alcoholic beverage in a location specifically designated by the Director as an area where alcoholic beverages are prohibited, or transport or bring an alcoholic beverage into such area. The Director may designate areas other than those already designated herein as non-drinking areas.

I. In any proceeding under this section, a container shall be presumed to contain an alcoholic beverage when a label affixed thereto indicates with words “beer,” “whiskey,” “rum,” “gine,” “liquor,” “sherry” or “vodka” or other commonly known types of alcohol or which label designates an alcoholic proof content.

J. The Director of Parks is hereby authorized to issue permits, as set forth in § 323-32 below, for the transportation and consumption of alcoholic beverages in county parks, and to promulgate rules and regulations, pursuant to § 323-33 below, regarding the consumption of alcoholic beverages in county parks.

K. The posting of signs in areas designated as non-drinking areas by the Director of Parks shall not be required.

L. Nonobservance of this section shall constitute a violation.