

Power/Bassett Island Camping Policy (Effective May 12, 2025)

Grand Traverse County Parks and Recreation (GTCPR) maintains several facilities that are vital to enhancing the quality of life in our community. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that Power Island campsites are available and safe for both community members and visitors.

Reservations: Reservations for Power Island campsites are accepted on a first-come, first served basis and will open for each season on a date determined by the Director.

Permits: A campsite may be reserved for no more than fourteen (14) consecutive nights. A site must have been vacated by a customer at least two (2) nights before another permit may be issued to the same customer.

Assignment of Site: A customer is required to select a campsite when making a reservation. Sites are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Choices might be limited due previously made reservations. Once a campsite has been reserved and assigned, the customer is required to only use that site. Customers may not change campsites, once reserved.

Camping Accident Waivers: The customer whose name is on the camping reservation must initial/sign accident waivers on behalf of everyone in his/her camping party. The customer is required to share the information in the waiver to everyone in the camping party.

Campsite Occupancy

1. Each site is limited to six (6) individuals, aged ten (10) years or older. Children under ten (10) years are not included in the six-person limit; however, no more than four (4) children under ten (10) years of age may be permitted on each campsite.
2. Any child under the age eighteen (18) years must be accompanied by a parent or a legal guardian. Children shall not be left unattended.
3. No more than two primary shelters (tents) per site are permitted.
4. The individual renting a site must be present at Power/Bassett Island during the rental period.

Check-in: Check-in begins at 3:00 pm on the start date of the campsite reservation, as indicated on the GTCPR-issued permit.

Check-out: Check-out is 12:00 pm (Noon) or earlier on the end date of the campsite reservation, as indicated on the GTCPR-issued permit.

Renewals: Before 10:00 am on the date that a GTCPR camping permit will expire, a customer may request its renewal at the Park Ranger's Quarters. If sites are available, the permit will be renewed by the Park Ranger on behalf of GTCPR.

Raincheck: A "raincheck" may only be granted when there is a Small Craft Advisory/Warning or Gale Advisory/Warning for Grand Traverse Bay on the original date of the reservation, as defined by the [National Weather Service](#). If a raincheck is necessary due to **weather conditions**, customer shall contact GTCPR within 3

business days of the original reservation to reschedule the reservation to another date, based on campsite availability. The rescheduled date must be within the current year. No refunds will be provided.

Quiet Hours: Quiet hours are between 11:00 pm to 7:00 am. Please keep in mind that the sounds from the island carry across the bay and can disturb the mainland neighbors.

Pets: Notwithstanding any other park rule, household pets are permitted on the island when confined on a leash or if confined to a tent or carrier. All other Park Rules, Township and County ordinances, and state laws related to pets must be followed.

Water Outlet: A hand pump for water is available near the boat dock.

Trash: All trash is to be packed out of the island upon your departure.

Cancellation Policy: When a reservation is cancelled one week or more prior to a reservation, a refund of the cost of the reservation, minus 25 percent of that total cost, will be refunded to the customer. Reservations cancelled six (6) days or less prior to the start date of a reservation are not eligible for a refund.

Fire: Fires are permitted on the island only in fire pits and grills. Firewood is available for purchase from the Park Ranger. To avoid the risk of introducing invasive species to the island, no one is permitted to bring firewood to the island. Dead and downed trees and wood found on Power and Bassett Islands may be used for firewood. Cutting down trees and damaging vegetation or trees is not permitted in the park.

Fireworks: Fireworks are not permitted on the island.

Behavior: No person shall engage in any violent, abusive, boisterous, loud, illegal, obscene, or similar disorderly conduct that interferes with another person's use or enjoyment of the park or staff's ability to carry out assigned duties.

Discharge of Arms: Discharging firearms, air guns, slingshots, or arrows is not permitted in the park, unless approved in writing by the GTCPR Director.

GTCPR reserves the right to cancel or modify the use of any campsite for any reason including, but not limited to:

1. when Grand Traverse County begins work or special maintenance involving the campsite
2. when, at its sole discretion, GTCPR determines that the health and safety of participants are threatened, due to pending conditions including, but not limited to, heavy rains, lightning, high winds, muddy conditions, pesticide spraying or other natural conditions.
3. failure by a customer to adhere to this policy or any other applicable policy or ordinance.

GTCPR reserves the right to charge or pursue legal action against a user group and/or any persons responsible for any unusual wear and tear/damage to park property, or if any user group and/or persons violate any provision of the policy. (Refer to GTCPR Park Rules).