



Mackinac Island State Park Commission
Rule and Policy

Motor Vehicles

Act 451 P.A. 1994, Section 76504 (4)
Administrative Rule, R318.122 and R318.145 (1)
Minutes: November 9, 1978, p. 1744
and See Individual Policies
Revised: March 19, 2003, p. 3449
January 30, 2004, p. 3509
September 24, 2004, p. 3550
May 22, 2009, p. 3804
September 27, 2013, p. 4125
December 11, 2013, p. 4135
September 29, 2017, p.
September 25, 2020, p.
January 17, 2024, p. 4929
January 23, 2025, p.

Preamble

Motor vehicle means any device that is self-propelled, or partially self-propelled, by which a person or property may be transported or drawn. The absence of motor vehicles in Mackinac Island State Park is uniquely effective in retaining the historic character of this National Landmark historic site. By statute the Commission is prohibited from making any rule “permitting the use of motor vehicles except motor vehicles owned by the state, a political subdivision of the state, or by a public utility, and used in the exercise of its franchise.” [Act 415 P.A. 1994, Sec. 76504 (4)] By rule, the Commission may issue temporary permits for the operation of motor vehicles over roads situated on state park lands [R318.122 and R318.145 (1)].

General Policy

Golf Courses: Permission has been granted to Grand Hotel and Wawashkamo Golf Courses to use mechanized equipment necessary for the maintenance of the courses with the understanding that such equipment shall be hidden from public view when not in use (Minutes of December 1, 1972, p. 1361). The use of motor-driven golf carts, only for the purpose of playing the game, is permitted on the golf courses from May 15 to October 1, but carts must be transported to and from the course by dray. Temporary permits are required. Use of golf carts on roads or other properties in the park is not permitted (Minutes of June 1969, p. 1180).

Snowmobiles: In order to provide residents winter access to the mainland for health, safety, education and work convenience, temporary permits for the use of snowmobiles on designated roads in the state park are issued in accordance with an annual snowmobile use resolution approved by the Commission. Recreational use of snowmobiles is not permitted in Mackinac Island State Park.

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Mopeds: Mopeds are self-propelled, motor-driven bicycles and are prohibited from use in Mackinac Island State Park (Attorney General's letter, May 31, 1977, Minutes p. 1665-6).

Motorized Wheelchairs: Electric, battery-powered motorized wheelchairs are motor vehicles, for which permission is granted for operation in Mackinac Island State Park on a temporary basis, only for reason of medical necessity. In cases of continuing or questionable use, documentation of medical necessity may be required as a prerequisite for continued operation. Motorized wheelchairs shall be kept fully out of public view when not in use. (Minutes, July 10, 1993, p. 2775).

Electric Assist Tricycles/Bicycles: Use of Class 1 electric assist tricycles/bicycles for persons with disabilities as that term is defined in 42 USC 12102 is permitted in Mackinac Island State Park in accordance with MISPC procedures.

Motorized Lawn Mowers and Lawn Tractors: Use of motorized equipment for mowing and similar routine landscape maintenance is permitted in Mackinac Island State Park in accordance with lease requirements. Temporary permits are required. Equipment shall be kept fully out of public view when not in use.

State and Municipal Vehicle Use: During the non-tourist season, from October 15 - May 15, state and municipal vehicles may be used in the park in the normal performance of governmental functions, and permits may be issued for public utility vehicles as needed. During Shoulder Seasons from May 15 to May 31 and September 16 to October 14 public vehicles may be used in areas of minimal visitor use or at times when few visitors are present. During Tourist Season from June 1 to September 15 every effort shall be made to keep public vehicles out of public view and for use only in extraordinary circumstances, such as fire, ambulance, and police emergency, between 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. Any essential maintenance or extraordinary construction projects should be scheduled between 10:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. (Minutes September 1978, p. 1744). The state park, City of Mackinac Island and Department of Public Works should keep each other informed about intended use of governmental motorized vehicles.

Temporary Motor Vehicle Permits

Upon advance application to the Mackinac Island State Park Manager or his designee and payment of the established temporary motor vehicle application/administration fee, temporary permits may be issued for use of vehicles in Mackinac Island State Park where health, safety and welfare of the public is best served by permitting vehicle use. MISPC staff shall maintain procedures defining considerations used in making permit determinations, application procedures, and appeal procedures. Applicants shall be required to demonstrate that public liability and property damage insurance are in effect.

Written application shall be received not less than two weeks in advance of requested start of use. Application for a temporary motor vehicle permit shall be made on the designated MISPC form, with the original delivered to the state park office with the required fee, in person or by mail. Facsimile copies (FAX) are not accepted.

Temporary Motor Vehicle Permits shall be issued for the minimum period required to complete the approved use, may be conditioned for time and route, and shall be valid for no longer than 6 months (180 days), excepting snowmobiles, commercial golf carts and lawn tractors which may be issued for the period January 1-December 31 or any portion thereof. Renewal requires a new application and fee. Applicants shall be required to display at all times during the permit period the Temporary Motor Vehicle Permit sticker issued by the state park upon approval of the application.

Temporary permits shall be issued under the following schedule:

- a. May 15 to May 31, Shoulder Season, vehicles should be used only in areas of minimal visitor use or at times when few visitors are present, such as in wooded areas of the park and/or after 6:00 p.m. and before 9:00 a.m. Applications must be approved by the Deputy Director or Director upon recommendation of the Park Manager.
- b. June 1 to September 15, Tourist Season, all motor vehicles should be kept out of public view and used between 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. only in extraordinary circumstances of health, safety and public welfare. Applications must be approved by the Director or his designee upon recommendation of the Park Manager.
- c. September 16 to October 14, Shoulder Season, vehicles should be used only in areas of minimal visitor use or at a time when few visitors are present, such as in the wooded areas of the park and/or after 6:00 p.m. and before 9:00 a.m. Applications must be approved by the Deputy Director or Director upon recommendation of the Park Manager.
- d. October 15 to May 15, Non-Tourist Season, temporary motor vehicle permits may be given for major construction and other appropriate uses in compliance with procedures. Applications must be approved by the Park Manager or his designee.

Temporary Motor Vehicle Permit Fee

All applicants for Temporary Motor Vehicle Permits shall pay a non-refundable fee which helps cover the expense of permit applications, monitoring of compliance and park road repair and maintenance. Application fees shall be waived for non-recreational snowmobiles, motorized wheelchair use and use of electric assist tricycle/bicycles for qualified persons with certified disabilities. Application fee does not apply to vehicles owned and operated by the state or subdivision of the state including the City of Mackinac Island or its Department of Public Works, nor does it apply to contractors operating on state park roads on behalf of those entities and to public utilities.

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Motor Vehicle Permit Fee: Effective January 23, 2025

No Fee: Non-recreational snowmobile, motorized wheelchair, electric assist tricycle/bicycle

<u>Vehicle type</u>	<u>Fee</u>
Golf carts, motorized lawn mowers, lawn tractors	\$55 Annual Fee*
Automobile, van, pickup truck	\$250
Panel Truck, stake truck, 5-yard dump truck, backhoe, excavator, bucket truck, forklift	\$300
Bulldozer, grader, front end loader, crane, 10-yard dump truck, Redi-mix truck (4 cub yard maximum), single bottom tractor-trailer, dumpster truck	\$400
Modular home unit with towing vehicle, propane tanker truck	\$750
Hazardous Material Escort Fee	\$150

*Effective June 1, 2009, not changed in 2014, 2018, 2024, or 2025

Revocation

In accordance with Park Rules, the Commission reserves the right to revoke any permit at any time, giving notice in writing to the permit holder and setting forth the reasons for the revocation. [Rule 318.122(1)]

[See “Procedures, Motor Vehicle Permits,” for application form, operational requirements, approval process and appeal process.]