

**R-25-03-13 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL APPROVE THE
2025 CITY OF GROTON RECREATION DEPARTMENT USER FEES
(APPROVED MARCH 3, 2025)**

WHEREAS, the City of Groton offers a variety of leisure services and facilities to the citizens of all age groups; and

WHEREAS, the City of Groton has established fees and charges to help underwrite the program costs; and

WHEREAS, the Beach and Parks Committee has reviewed the user fees and recommends the proposed fee structure as follows:

INTRODUCTION

*For purposes of this document, City resident shall mean; City residents or City taxpayers whose registration does not show a City of Groton address.

The City of Groton offers a variety of leisure services to the citizens of all age groups. A significant portion of the services has been underwritten through general fund appropriations.

Some programs instituted between fiscal years have been supported with fees paid by the participants. As a result, inconsistencies among programs serving the same constituents have developed.

The City of Groton Parks and Recreation Department is charged with the responsibility of planning, conducting, and supervising of recreational programs and activities as well as the operational, maintenance and management of these facilities.

Community recreational and park services are a municipal responsibility; however, the magnitude of the service and its economic impact should be reviewed annually to determine a reasonable ratio of community desires in accordance with the City of Groton's ability to financially support these services. The City of Groton should establish fees and charges to underwrite the program costs.

There are certain programs that should not have a participant charge, particularly when the specific program serves large numbers of people for a nominal total cost, for example, the City Day picnic.

1. BASIC SERVICES

The City of Groton should support the concept that the general fund should provide the cost of basic park and recreation services based on the following:

- a. Qualified staff to promote and expand leisure services.
- b. Positive recreational experiences which contribute to the individual's physical, social, emotional, creative, cultural and educational growth and development in order to enrich the quality of life.

- c. Development and maintenance of park and recreation facilities such as playgrounds, parks, athletic fields, picnic areas, beach, tennis courts, nature and fitness trails.

2. **EXTENDED SERVICES**

Extended services are services in excess of basic services. For example a specialist performing a professional service, programs requiring an instructor or specialist that costs more per hour than the authorized department pay structure.

3. **EASTERN POINT BEACH FEES**

The recommendation is that each January the beach rates be reviewed on the past year's figures and rates set to reflect a 25% to 50% recovery.

Vehicles

Vehicles eligible to enter Eastern Point Beach will be as follows:

- Registered passenger vehicles not exceeding 12 passenger capacity
- Pick-up trucks
- Motorcycles

Trailers, mobile homes, etc. are prohibited.

Parking Permits

Seasonal Rates

All fees are non-refundable

City Residents/City Taxpayers 62 years old and older*	\$20.00
City Resident/City Taxpayer/City Employee	\$40.00
City Resident/City Taxpayer (additional Vehicle)	\$30.00
Town of Groton Taxpayers 62 years old and older*	\$40.00
Town of Groton Taxpayers	\$80.00
Non-resident 62 years old and older*	\$55.00
Non-resident	\$100.00
Special Pass City resident/City taxpayer 62 years and older**	\$20.00
Special Pass for resident/City taxpayer with a disability under 62 years of age***	\$40.00
Military Discount with ID	\$5.00

* To be eligible for this rate, an individual must be 62 years of age on or before Labor Day.

** (Available only to a City resident with no motor vehicle in the household determined on a case-by-case basis by the Director of Parks and Recreation.)

*** Available only to a City resident with no motor vehicle in the household determined on a case-by-case basis by the Director of Parks and Recreation and documentation of disability

Daily Rates

Weekday	\$30.00
Weekends/Holidays*	\$40.00
5:00pm – 8:00pm	½ price parking daily for Non-Residents, City Residents – Free (except on Special Events)

(*The holidays are Memorial Day, July 4th and Labor Day)

New parking permits will be issued by the showing of a current and valid motor vehicle registration. City of Groton residents or City taxpayers whose registration does not show their City of Groton address must show proof of residence (examples: tax bill or current lease agreement). The permit **must be adhered** to the driver’s side of the vehicle on the inside of the windshield. The permit on the vehicle must match the registration number of the vehicle it was purchased for.

Starting at 8:00 p.m. daily there will be no charge for entrance to the beach, except during Special Events.

Bus Trips:

Bus loads are limited to no more than three (3) per day. Reservations are required in advance by contacting the Parks & Recreation office at 446-4128. The charge for buses will be \$100.00 per bus per day, but does not permit the bus to park on the property. There will be no charge and/or limit for City of Groton Recreation program buses.

Temporary Parking Permits:

A temporary parking permit is available free of charge for current parking permit holders whose vehicle is in the repair shop for up to five (5) days. These permits are available by bringing a written statement from the repair shop, written on their letterhead, which details which vehicle is being repaired and the number of days the vehicle will be in the shop. Letters are to be presented at the Parks and Recreation office Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm to request the temporary parking pass.

Walk-ins

Children 17 years old and under – **FREE**

City of Groton Residents/City of Groton Residential Taxpayers with ID – **FREE**

Residents that do not have a picture ID can show a current lease agreement or tax bill and can obtain a picture ID at the Parks and Recreation Office. City of Groton Residents/City of Groton Residential Taxpayers may walk-in with their guests at no cost.

Non-Resident/ Non Taxpayer Walk Ins - **\$5.00**

Guest Pass:

City of Groton Residents/City of Groton Residential Taxpayers can purchase a walk in guest pass for up to 4 people - **\$30.00. This is for WALK-IN purposes ONLY**

That would be left at the Gatehouse upon arrival at the beach and picked up on their way out.

This does not include business or commercial property.

Families of crew members of submarines returning home or departing may be allowed access to Eastern Point Beach at no cost to view the boats only when the Parks and Recreation Office has been notified by the designated personnel on the Sub Base via email alert.

Special Events

In the event that there is a Special Event held in the area which will have an impact on the parking at Eastern Point Beach, the following criteria will be in place at the discretion of the Beach and Parks Committee.

1. There will be no rental of the Zbierski House on the dates of the Special Event and any scheduled rain dates
2. Beach Hours of Operation could be extended from 6:00 am to 10:00 pm. There will be staff at the facility during these hours.
3. Parking Fee will be \$50.00 for those without a Season Beach Pass, no matter what day of the week the Special Event falls on.
4. All the approved Rules and Regulations of Eastern Point Beach will be in full effect.

4. **RECREATION PROGRAMS**

Adult Programs. The fees are calculated to break even. Fees pay for 100% of the program.

Youth Programs. The fees are calculated on an individual program basis taking into consideration special instructors and/or special equipment and supplies to recover 50% to 75% of the costs in fees.

Summer Playground. The City of Groton operates a large summer playground program at Thames River Magnet School. The rates charged are as follows:

	City Resident Fee	Non-City Resident Fee
Full Day 6-14 year olds		
Early Bird Weekly Rate (Deadline is Memorial Day)	\$50.00	\$85.00
Weekly Rate after Memorial Day	\$60.00	\$95.00
Half Day 4-5 year olds		
Early Bird Weekly Rate (Deadline is Memorial Day)	\$30.00	\$45.00
Weekly Rate after Memorial Day	\$40.00	\$55.00

- a. **Recreation Trips.** Trips beyond the City of Groton boundaries (educational, cultural, professional sports, etc.) are part of a comprehensive leisure program. Participants in these programs pay all costs to include bus, admission fees, meals, etc.

5. **FACILITY RENTALS**

Pavilions. The City presently has six (6) pavilions at Washington Park. The rates are as follows:

	Large Pavilions #1,3 & 5 Per Rental (up to a 4 hour timeframe)	Regular Pavilion #2, 4 & 6 Per Rental (up to a 4 hour timeframe)
City resident	\$ 60.00	\$ 30.00
Non-resident	\$120.00	\$ 60.00
City business	\$120.00	\$ 60.00
Outside business	\$170.00	\$120.00

* All members of the Military will receive a 10% discount off the rental of the Pavilions at Washington Park upon presenting valid proof of military service.

Tennis Courts (lighted). The Parks and Recreation Department supervises six lighted courts at Washington Park. All league play will be charged \$20.00 per court per four (4) hour session. The participants shall be expected to pay for the cost of any extended services.

Ball Fields Fee Structure:

Group 1	<u>All youth groups regular season games.</u> Little League and Babe Ruth	No fee
Group 2	<u>All other Youth Baseball Programs</u>	\$55.00 per game weekdays \$75.00 per game weekends
Group 3	<u>Youth League District or State Tournaments.</u> Includes one game field setup and preparation.	No fee
	City employee on site to prepare fields for series of games: Saturdays \$60.00 per hour Sundays \$80.00 per hour	
Group 4	<u>University of Connecticut, Avery Point.</u>	No fee
Group 5	<u>Adult Leagues.</u>	\$55.00 per game weekdays \$75.00 per game weekends
Group 6	<u>Adult Tournaments.</u>	\$250.00 per day

Group 7 Charity Tournaments. Fee*
 Examples: Fundraisers for charities like Jimmy Fund and United Way.
 * To be determined on a case by case basis by the Director of Parks and Recreation

Group 8 Baseball Camps.
 \$250.00 full day
 \$125.00 half day

Auditorium Rental:

Rental of the facility is for the **Auditorium of the City Municipal Building**

RENTAL RATES:

Fees and Deposits

- Group 1 **City, Town, State, and Federal Government Groups:**
 Example: Beach and Park Committee, EPHD Committee.
 No fee
- Group 2 **Civic, Charitable or Non-Profit Groups:**
 Example: AA, Church group, Quilters Club, Cub Scouts
 \$25.00 for three hours
- Group 3 **Individual Private Parties:**
 City Resident: \$50.00 per hour
 Non-resident: \$75.00 per hour
- Group 4 **Businesses:**
 City: \$200.00 per hour
 Outside City: \$300.00 per hour

DEPOSITS:

The booking date will be guaranteed **only when the security deposit of \$100 cash and the hourly rental fee are paid. The hourly fee is due TWO WEEKS PRIOR to your event.** The security deposit will be due to ensure the building is left clean and that all conditions of the permit have been met. Deposits will be refunded **the next business day in our office after your event** provided all conditions of the permit have been satisfactorily met. Deposits will be forfeited after 1 year from the date of the event if not picked up from our office.

Zbierski House:

The overall policy of the Parks and Recreation Department is to allow as many groups or organizations use of the facility as possible. If conflicts arise, the Department will use its discretion in making reservations that promote the widest public use of the facility. This policy may affect Friday through Sunday use especially.

A **one-hundred dollar (\$100.00)** cash security deposit will be held at the Parks & Recreation office for each Zbierski House reservation until verification of clean up.

There will be a maximum of 20 parking spaces allotted with any Zbierski house rental at a cost of \$5.00 per vehicle when the beach is officially open. During the summer season, rentals on Saturday, Sunday and Holidays will be limited to one (1) party during hours of operation (8am-6pm) and for one (1) party after 6:00 pm.

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|---------|--|
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No fee |
| Group 2 | <u>Civic, Charitable or Non-Profit Groups:</u>
Example: AA, Church group, Quilters Club, EPPOA.
\$25.00 for three hours |
| Group 3 | <u>Individual Private Parties:</u>
City Resident: \$30.00 per hour
Non-resident: \$60.00 per hour |
| Group 4 | <u>Businesses:</u>
City: \$100.00 per hour
Outside City: \$200.00 per hour |

**Special Permit for the Sale and/or Consumption of Alcohol within the Zbierski House
1 Beach Pond Rd, Groton CT 06340**

This permit allows for the sale and/or consumption of alcohol (beer and wine ONLY) within the Zbierski House or on its porches. Alcohol is not allowed to be taken onto other areas of the Eastern Point Beach property. Alcohol will only be permitted after 6:00pm on Friday, Saturday and Sundays during the Beach Season No alcohol is to be served, consumed, or sold without a special permit. No kegs, beer balls, or other containers of alcohol in excess of 1 liter are allowed at any time, must be plastic or can, no glass containers.

In order to be granted a Special Permit for the Sale and/ or Consumption of Alcohol the following conditions must be met:

1. Application must be made, in writing, six weeks prior to the event
2. The applicant must have a Zbierski House Use Permit.
3. The applicant must have a liquor license or liquor permit as required by law.
4. The applicant must have insurance covering the City as additionally insured.
5. The applicant must have a plan for controlling the behavior of guests.

Date of Application _____

Name of Event _____ Date of Event _____

Sponsoring Individual or Organization _____

Hours of event _____

Zbierski House Permit

The applicant has a Zbierski House Use Permit Y N

Type of Event:

_____ Private. Private events where no money is requested from attendees do not require a liquor license. Private events constitute such things as birthday parties, bridal showers, family reunions, graduation ceremonies, memorial services, weddings etc.

\$50.00 for Resident \$100.00 for Non-Resident

_____ Public. Public events where money is requested or charged which also include the sale or consumption of alcohol require a liquor permit. Public events include fundraisers, antique sales, art shows, etc.

\$100.00 for Resident \$200.00 for Non-Resident

Liquor Permit

The appropriate liquor permit has been provided and is attached. Y N N/A

Insurance: The applicant or caterer must have insurance coverage including the City as additionally insured.

Liquor Liability (if alcohol is served or sold)

\$1,000,000 Per Occurrence

\$2,000,000 General Aggregate

City of Groton, CT added as additional insured

General Insurance Requirements:

- All coverage must be placed with carriers approved to conduct business in the State of Connecticut and rated at least A-/VII by A.M. Best

- Certificates of insurance verifying compliance with the City of Groton’s requirements must be included with this permit form. Failure to meet the City’s insurance requirements shall prevent use of issuance of a Special Permit for the Sale or Consumption of Alcohol.
- Should any insurance cancel for any reason or cause, at least 30 days written notice shall be given to the City of Groton
- The City of Groton maintains the right to require insurance coverage greater than what is listed above, depending on the nature and scope of usage of the Zbierski House.
- Any exceptions to the City’s insurance requirements are subject to the sole discretion of the City.

A copy of the applicant or caterer’s liability insurance has been provided and is attached. Y N

Guest Control: The applicant is responsible for the behavior of his or her guests. The City will require that a City employee be present at all times to assure that the plan for guest control is followed. The applicant is responsible for paying the cost of such an employee.

An acceptable plan for assuring all guests follow the rules of the beach has been provided and is attached. Y N

A city employee is required. Y N Estimated Cost to Be Paid Prior to Event

I, _____, have read and agree to the terms and conditions of this Special Permit for the Sale and/or Consumption of Alcohol. I understand that failure to comply with these terms and conditions will result in the forfeiture of any deposit made for use of the Zbierski House as well as any future ability to use any City facilities.

Grantee: (Print Name) _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Grantor: (Print Name) _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council approve the 2025 City of Groton Recreation Department User Fees.