

# MINTO ISLAND CONSERVATION AREA RESTRICTIONS AND GUIDELINES FOR EVENTS

November 14, 2017

## Introduction

Minto-Brown Island Park is a 1,205-acre natural area located in the Willamette River floodplain. Located near downtown Salem, the park is intended to protect and preserve habitat while supporting passive recreation uses at a level that does not adversely impact the natural resources. Minto-Brown Island Park is ecologically complex, with such features as sloughs, creeks, ponds, wetlands, riparian areas, mixed forests, prairies, Oregon white oak savannas, and open fields. It provides important habitat for Western pond and painted turtles. The park also contains soft and hard surfaced trails, play equipment, picnic facilities, a shelter, and an off-leash dog area.

Located within Minto-Brown Island Park is the 307-acre Minto Island Conservation Area (MICA). The primary goal of the MICA is to protect, conserve, and enhance the diverse mix of existing natural habitats and species in the area. To accomplish this goal, the City of Salem has established the following restrictions and guidelines as a pilot program for all events conducted within the MICA.

## Definitions

“Event” means any planned activity that requires one or more permits from the City of Salem and which involves 150 or more participants.

“Event organizer” means the person(s) overall responsible for conducting the event.

“MICA” means the Minto Island Conservation Area, a 307-acre natural area that is generally located at the northern end of Minto-Island Brown Park, beginning at the southern landing of the Peter Courtney Minto Island Bridge and extending to the remaining two-thirds of the park south of the MICA (see map).

“Paved trail” means the hard-surfaced multi-use path located inside the MICA that runs approximately 0.8 miles (1.3 km) between the southern landing of the Peter Courtney Minto Island Bridge and the remaining trail system of Minto-Brown Island Park (see map).

“Weekend” normally means Saturday and Sunday. In the case when a legal holiday falls on either, Friday or Monday, the weekend is extended to include the holiday.

## Restrictions

1. The following restrictions apply for **all events in the MICA**:
  - A. Additional permit fees may apply.
  - B. The event must start and finish outside of the MICA.

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- C. All event participants and spectators must stay on the paved trail.
  - D. All temporary items supporting the event, such as chemical toilets, additional garbage cans, recycling bins, water stations, and lighting must be located outside of the MICA.
  - E. No horns, amplified sound, or noisemakers are allowed inside the MICA.
  - F. Signs, flags, and banners may not be used inside the MICA unless approved in advance by the City. Small temporary course route signage or cones may be used on pathways with prior approval by the City.
  - G. Lighting may not be used inside the MICA.
  - H. Additional temporary fencing may be required inside the MICA at the discretion of the City. The event organizer may be responsible for costs associated with installing and removing the temporary fencing.
  - I. The event organizer is responsible for ensuring information is provided to participants regarding restrictions inside the MICA.
  - J. No bicycle races or portions of bicycle races may be conducted within the MICA.
2. In addition to above restrictions, the following restrictions apply for all events conducted inside the MICA **during the primary bird nesting season of March 1-August 30:**
- A. The maximum number of registered participants in any one event is 400.
  - B. Only one event may be conducted on any given weekend. Further, events cannot be conducted on successive weekends. If an event is conducted on a Friday or Monday that meets the definition of "weekend", no other event may be conducted that weekend.
  - C. Once per season, one large event exceeding 400 participants but not exceeding 1,000 participants, may be allowed and count as an event weekend.
  - D. Event reservations, scheduling, and prioritization will follow current practices of the City.
  - E. The event route must be designed such that participants pass through the MICA no more than twice, as in one outbound and one inbound leg of a course.
  - F. Event organizers must provide at a minimum of three trail monitors within the MICA. The trail monitors shall be located along the paved trail and will be responsible for ensuring participants and spectators are aware of these restrictions.

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## Guidelines

1. The following guidelines apply for **all events in the MICA**:
  - A. The final stretch of an event should be located outside MICA such that the majority of the spectators will be located outside of MICA.
  - B. Events should begin no earlier than 8 a.m. and be concluded no later than 4 p.m. Event set up and take down may be conducted outside of these times.

Thank you from Salem Parks and Recreation Services. We hope you have a fun event!

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