



## Tillamook County Board of Commissioners

201 Laurel Avenue, Tillamook, OR 97141

Phone: 503-842-3403

TTY Oregon Relay Service

Bill Baertlein, Chair

Mary Faith Bell, Vice-Chair

David Yamamoto, Commissioner

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Contact: Rachel Hagerty**

**Phone: 503-842-3404**

**Email: [rhagerty@co.tillamook.or.us](mailto:rhagerty@co.tillamook.or.us)**

### FEES WILL INCREASE AT TILLAMOOK COUNTY DAY USE AREAS AND BOAT LAUNCHES

**(TILLAMOOK, OR. November 3, 2020)** On October 14, 2020 the Tillamook Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) voted unanimously to approve fee increases for day use access passes and annual day use access passes in Tillamook County Parks day use areas and boat launches. The fee increases go into effect January 1, 2021.

Fee increases are as follows:

Day use access passes will increase from \$4 to \$10

Annual day use access passes will increase from \$45 to \$55

Annual day use access passes will remain \$45 for seniors (65 and over), disabled veterans and Oregon Trail Card members

New this year: the Tillamook County Parks department will develop community work party opportunities in 2021, such as a beach or campground clean up, for citizens to participate in a service activity and earn an annual day use access pass.

Tillamook County Commission chair, Bill Baertlein, said, "Day use visitors are overwhelming our community and our oceanside attractions particularly in the summer. This year we seemed to have more day use visitors than ever. It is high time we started charging a day use fee in order to pay for the services needed for these folks when they are here, such as bathrooms, parking and garbage collection."

Tillamook County Commissioner David Yamamoto said that the day use access fees will help fund a position in the Tillamook County Sheriff's Office. "The Sheriff's Office is staffed to serve our population of 26,000 people. In the summer our numbers grow exponentially, bringing tens of thousands of people to Pacific City alone. We don't have the resources to provide law enforcement for the number of visitors we have. These new funds will enable us to hire an additional Sheriff's Office deputy dedicated to work in South Tillamook County, and I feel great about that."

The board order identifies boat launches and other Tillamook County day use areas where the fees will be charged. Some of the sites have not charged day use fees in the past, such as Cape Kiwanda day use area, Hungry Harbor boat launch at Cape Kiwanda and the Pacific City Turnaround. Revenues generated from these areas will be used in Pacific City to fund the Pacific City Woods Parking Management Plan.

Rachel Hagerty, Tillamook County Chief of Staff, has been working since 2017 on the Pacific City/Woods Parking Management Plan, which will provide parking, pedestrian bike paths, visitor infrastructure and destination management to the community of Pacific City. "Day use access fees," said Hagerty, "will provide the revenue to bring the community's vision to fruition."

Some Tillamook County boat launches and day use areas outside of Pacific City where access fees will be charged beginning January 2021, were not fee areas previously. These include but are not limited to Barview Jetty Campground day use area, Bayocean Peninsula, Happy Camp beach access and Anderson Hill County Park. Please see the full list in the Tillamook Board of County Commissioners Board Order 20-051 (attached) dated October 14, 2020.

Tillamook County Commissioner Mary Faith Bell said, "Increasing our day use access fees for Tillamook County Parks and boat launches will enable us to do the often expensive work necessary to maintain these facilities. For example, currently we have a silted in boat ramp at Memaloose boat launch. Dredging, if we can get the permit, will cost over \$200,000. Moving the ramp to deeper water, which would prevent future silt accretion, will cost over \$2 million dollars.

"Tillamook County Parks are the jewels of our county, they are extraordinary assets which we need to maintain, and for that, we need revenue. Additionally, we are spending a lot of money to provide service to day use visitors, such as bathrooms and garbage pick up. To date, day use visitors do not contribute to the cost of the services provided to them in any way. The day use access fees are a fair and reasonable way to generate revenue from visitors to our area."

All three commissioners would have preferred to charge visitors and not local citizens for the new access fees. However, charging some people and not others is discriminatory in the eyes of the law. Therefore, the commissioners chose to increase the day use access fee from \$4 to \$10, with the assumption that visitors from outside the area will largely purchase the day use access pass. Locals can purchase an annual day use access pass for \$55, or \$45 for seniors, disabled veterans and Oregon Trail Card members. The annual pass will be good for all Tillamook County locations during the calendar year.

Commissioner Bell said, "It is not our intention to monetize locals going to the beach. We understand that there are folks who use Cape Kiwanda beach access, Bayocean Peninsula and Barview Jetty Campground day use area regularly, and have never paid. If we could charge visitors and not locals, we would. We hope that folks who love these areas will get an annual day use access pass or participate in the community work parties to earn an annual pass. Hopefully, the community will see and appreciate the benefits to the outdoor places they love, such as public bathrooms at Bayocean Peninsula, where human waste has become a health hazard."

Attachment: Board Order #20-051

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BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR TILLAMOOK COUNTY, OREGON

In the Matter of Updating the Fee	)	ORDER
Schedule for Certain Tillamook	)	#20- <u>051</u>
County Parks Facilities; Adding Fees	)	
in Certain Facilities; Renaming the	)	
Fees, and Directing Certain Fees to	)	
Fund the Pacific City/Woods Parking	)	
Management Plan Implementation	)	

This matter came before the Tillamook County Board of Commissioners on October 14, 2020. The Board of Commissioners, being fully apprised of the records and files herein, finds as follows:

1. The current Tillamook County Parks Department fees are established in Board Order #15-106. The fee schedule for parking at Tillamook County boat launches is as follows:
  - a. \$4.00 for a daily pass; and
  - b. \$45.00 for an annual pass.
2. The cost of maintaining Tillamook County boat launches and day use areas has far exceeded the funds received through the current daily and annual pass boat launch parking fee schedule. This has caused a substantial burden on the Tillamook County Parks Department budget and is impacting the Department's ability to maintain and improve opportunities for citizens and visitors to enjoy the county's recreational areas.
3. A substantial number of boat launches and day use areas are used by non-resident visitors and several of the day use areas do not require a fee.
4. Tillamook County's *Pacific City/Woods Parking Management Plan* (September 2019) provides strategies to improve the Pacific City visitors' experience and residents' livelihood. Implementation of the strategies requires financial resources.
5. It is reasonable for visitors to share in the cost of repair, maintenance, and improvements of Parks' facilities.
6. For parking at certain Tillamook County Parks boat launches and day use areas, the Board of Commissioners finds that it is fair and reasonable to increase the daily pass from \$4.00 to \$10.00 and the annual pass from \$45.00 to \$55.00.
7. The Board further finds that it is fair and reasonable to charge the same fees for Tillamook County day use areas.

8. Prior Board orders and fee schedules have inconsistently referenced fees and day use areas. A consistent term should be established and applied.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT effective on January 1, 2021:

9. The parking fees set forth in this order shall be known as a **day use access pass** or **annual day use access pass**.
10. A list of Tillamook County Parks day use areas and boat launches is attached and incorporated herein as Exhibit A.
11. The fee at certain Tillamook County Parks' day use areas and boat launches listed in Exhibit A shall be:
  - a. \$10.00 for a day use access pass;
  - b. \$55.00 for an annual day use access pass; and
  - c. \$45.00 for an annual day use access pass for disabled veterans, senior citizens (age of 65 years or older), and Oregon Trail Card members.
12. A day use access pass or annual day use access pass is not required to use day use areas and boat launches on days with a valid Tillamook County Parks' campground reservation.
13. The Tillamook County Parks Department customarily provides maintenance activities at the Bayocean Peninsula day use area, despite this county property not being designated a county park. All revenues generated from fees collected at the Bayocean Peninsula day use area shall be provided to the Parks Department.
14. All revenues generated from fees collected at the following locations shall be collected in a dedicated fund solely for the purpose of implementing the *Pacific City/Woods Parking Management Plan*. The Parking Advisory Committee, created by Board Order #20-008, guides revenues and expenditures from this fund, with final decisions rendered by the Board of Commissioners.
  - a. Cape Kiwanda Day Use Area;
  - b. Hungry Harbor Boat Launch; and
  - c. Pacific City Turnaround.
15. Passes may be earned through volunteerism if such a program is established and administered by the Parks Department.
16. This order supersedes all prior orders relating to the Tillamook County Parks Department fees for day use areas and boat launches.

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DATED THIS 14<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2020.

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
FOR TILLAMOOK COUNTY, OREGON

Bill Baertlein  
Bill Baertlein, Chair

Aye	Nay	Abstain/Absent
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

MFBell  
Mary Faith Bell, Vice-Chair

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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David Yamamoto  
David Yamamoto, Commissioner

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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ATTEST: Tassi O'Neil  
County Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By: [Signature]  
Special Deputy

[Signature]  
Joel W. Stevens, County Counsel



**EXHIBIT A**

**Tillamook County Parks  
Rates for  
Annual Day Use Access Pass & Day Use Access Pass**

	<b>Current Rates</b>	<b>New Rates Effective 1/1/2021*</b>
<b>Annual Day Use Access Pass</b>	\$45/year	\$55/year \$45/year for disabled veterans, senior citizens (age of 65 years or older), and Oregon Trail Card members
The Annual Day Use Access Pass is good for the entire calendar year at any Tillamook County Parks Department day use area or boat launch where a day use access fee is charged. The pass is valid for the calendar year in which it was purchased.		
<b>Day Use Access Pass</b>	\$4/day	\$10/day
The Day Use Access Pass is good during day use hours on the day the fee was paid at any Tillamook County Parks Department day use area or boat launch where a day use access pass is charged.		

\*2021 Annual Day Use Access Passes purchased prior to January 1, 2021 will be assessed according to the new fee schedule.

**Tillamook County Parks  
Day Use Areas & Boat Launches**

<b>Day Use Areas</b>	<b>Fee Imposed (Y/N)</b>
Anderson Hill County Park	Yes
Barview Jetty County Campground	Yes
Bayocean Peninsula	Yes
Cape Kiwanda Recreation Area	Yes
Happy Camp Beach Access	Yes
Kilchis River County Campground	Yes
Mugg Park	No
Netarts Community Park	No
Pacific City Turnaround	Yes
Tillamook Tidewater Handicap Fishing Access	No
Trask River County Campground	Yes
Twin Rocks Turnaround	No
Undeveloped Natural Areas	Yes
Webb County Campground	Yes
Whalen Island County Campground	Yes
Woods County Campground	Yes
<b>Boat Launches</b>	<b>Fee Imposed (Y/N)</b>
Aldervale Boat Launch	Yes
Bixby Boat Launch	Yes
Burton Fraser Boat Launch	Yes
Cape Meares Boat Launch	No
Fishers Point Boat Launch	Yes
Hungry Harbor Boat Launch	Yes
Kilchis River County Campground Boat Launch	Yes
Lake Lytle Boat Launch	Yes
Little Nestucca Boat Launch	Yes
Mapes Creek Boat Launch	Yes
Memaloose Point Boat Launch	Yes
Mills Bridge Boat Launch	Yes
Nehalem Bay Boat Launch	Yes
Netarts Landing Boat Launch	Yes
Pacific City Boat Launch	Yes
Parks Landing Boat Launch	Yes
Roy Creek Boat Launch	Yes
Sollie Smith Boat Launch	Yes
Steiner Boat Launch	Yes
Three Rivers Boat Launch	Yes
Whalen Island Boat Launch	Yes