



## Popular Lyons Parks Have New Regulations for Summer

*Be courteous, be LyonsKind and know before you go*

**Lyons, Colo.** – The Town of Lyons is gearing up for a busy summer. Recreating outdoors in Lyons is an important part of summer in Lyons. In the last few years while Bohn Park was under construction, [LaVern M. Johnson Park](#), located at 600 Park St has become so popular that it runs the risk of overcrowding. With amenities such as shelter rentals, campgrounds, playgrounds, a splash pad and water features, river access, and a new river tube concessionaire, we expect the park to be busier than ever this year.

[Bohn Park](#), located at 199 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave, saw the final reconstruction phase completed late last summer. This park has a playground, tennis/multisport court, 2 ballfields, a dog park, a world class skatepark, shelter rental, playground, and numerous picnic tables with charcoal grills. The South Saint Vrain Creek runs along the north side of the park and visitors in the summer can be found fly fishing or enjoying a dip in the cool waters.

With the safety and enjoyment of visitors in mind the town has reached out to local officials to help determine an occupancy limit for both of the parks. The new occupancy limit set for LaVern M. Johnson Park is 1,596 and for Bohn Park the limit is 855 for the river portion of Bohn Park and 5,985 people for the park as a whole, which includes the ball fields, dirt bike park, and the dog park. This summer our gate attendants will be enforcing the occupancy limit by turning away visitors once the parks have reached capacity.

We know many people come from out of town to visit our parks and would be disappointed to arrive and not be able to get into the park. Town staff has come up with a plan to enable visitors and locals as well to reserve a spot in advance. Beginning May 29th those wishing to secure a spot are encouraged to reserve a picnic table, shelter, or campsite to have guaranteed entry during busy weekends and holidays.

The picnic tables will be \$10 and as many as 10 people can enter with the confirmed reservation. [Picnic table reservations](#) are only available on weekends and holidays and cannot be made for same day arrival.

For larger groups we encourage [shelter/pavilion rentals](#). Our shelters/pavilions have occupancy limits ranging from 25 – 80 people. Shelters and the Bohn Park Riverside Picnic Area (3 tables together with very large grills) can be reserved months in advance and are traditionally very popular, as are our campsites. For more information on our parks along with reservation information and links please visit:

<https://www.townoflyons.com/157/Parks-Recreation>



Any picnic tables and shelters that are not reserved in advance will be first come, first served. People will be allowed into the parks until capacity is reached. Once that limit has been met, visitors will need to wait until guests leave before entering.

We realize that locals might wish to enter to walk their dog or jump in the river with their tube. This kind of access will still be granted. If you are wanting to spend part of the day in the park on a busy weekend arriving early or reserving a spot in advance will still be your best bet.

Lyons asks visitors to **Know Before You Go** and remember several important responsible recreation guidelines for the busy summer season from Memorial Day weekend and through Labor Day, including:

- **Enjoy and protect public parks.** With visitation on the increase, we remind visitors to do their part to help protect land, wildlife, water, and plants. Remember to **Leave No Trace** and be prepared to pack out all trash and dog waste when receptacles are full or not available.
- **Be courteous and inclusive.** People visit trails, rivers and public parks for many reasons, including emotional and physical well-being and spending time with friends and family members. Visitors of all identities and abilities deserve respect and courtesy while recreating outdoors.
- **Don't park illegally and follow all rules and regulations.** Have an alternate plan in case the parking lot is full. Parks and trails are generally less crowded on weekdays. The parking lots often fill up early in the morning on weekends.
- **Continue to follow all public health guidance and requirements.** Stay home if you are sick. Remember to “keep the space in open space” by maintaining 6 feet of distance from people not in your household. While no longer required, it's recommended you bring a face covering with you because it's not always possible to maintain 6 feet of physical distance outdoors, such as passing others on a narrow trail.

The Town of Lyons is looking forward to a busy summer for our beautiful parks, local restaurants and businesses, and many outdoor recreation activities. Thanks for coming out to visit our parks in the hip little town that everybody loves! LyonsKind #ChooseBoth We look forward to seeing you.