



## MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

---

### INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION

---

May 6, 2014

**TO:** Belle Isle Park Advisory Committee's Infrastructure, Rules and Regulations, and Event Subcommittees

**FROM:** Michele Hodges, Chair, Belle Isle Park Advisory Committee  
Chief Ronald A. Olson, DNR Parks and Recreation Division

**SUBJECT:** Current Topics and Recommendations

#### **Park Hours**

The city-established park hours are 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. After listening to park users and to accommodate early morning activity, we are recommending the park hours be changed to 5 a.m. to 10 p.m.

#### **Island Speed Limit**

Varying by location, the city-established speed limit is either 20 mph or 25 mph. The state park standard speed limit is 25 mph. After consulting with the Michigan Department of Transportation, the Michigan State Police, and the DNR Law Enforcement Division, we are recommending a standard 25 mph speed limit for the entire island. Action steps include:

- Adding additional speed limit signs with an educational campaign; and
- Securing and using mobile interactive vehicle speed display signs, which will alert drivers of their vehicle speeds.

#### **Alcohol Policy**

The city-established policy has been reviewed. We recommend retaining the current policy and ensuring that balanced enforcement focuses on managing behaviors.

#### **Beach Management**

Beach guards will not be provided. This is consistent with beach management procedures at all Michigan state parks and the Huron Clinton Metro Parks. The management plan includes:

- Offering free, weekly swim lessons.
- Providing use of life jackets.
- Providing substantial beach perimeters and a small, contained area for younger children.
- Adding safety amenities, including signs.
- Providing an emergency call box.
- Ensuring periodic water testing (discontinued by the city last year).

#### **Future Process**

These and other policies and park rules will continue to be evaluated over the year.