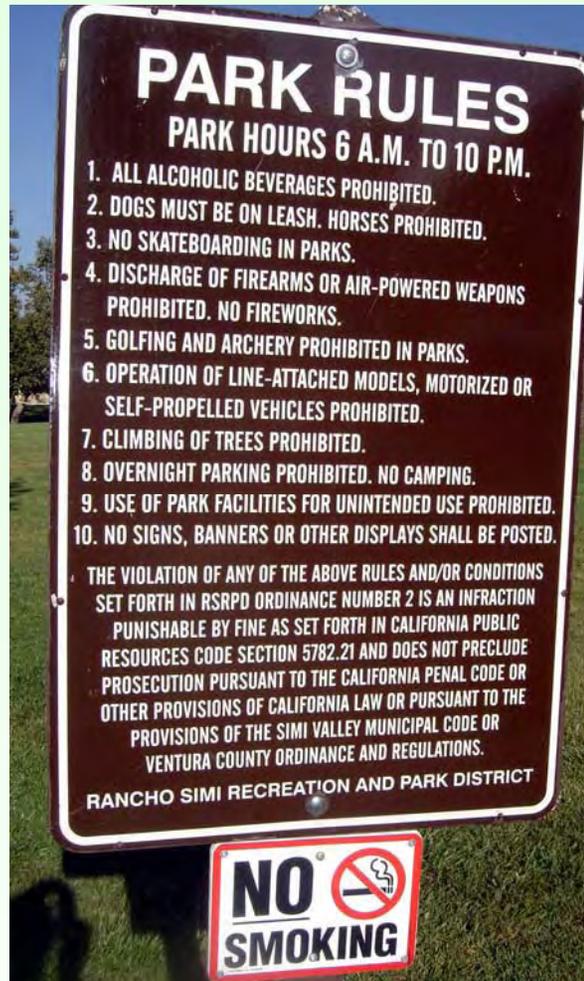


Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District *Park Rangers*



Specific rules & regulations may vary in parks and open space areas. Check the sign at the entrance of each property for specific rules for that site. The complete list of rules and regulations may be viewed on the District's website: www.rsrpd.org.

BECOMING A PARK RANGER

The current rangers, who are retired peace officers, say that they find that they can still provide value to the community by continuing to help through their role as a park ranger.

The district is always accepting applications from qualified applicants. More information may be obtained by contacting:

Rancho Simi Recreation
and Park District
1692 Sycamore Drive,
Simi Valley, CA 93065
(805) 584-4400
Monday through Friday
8:00 am – 5:00 pm.

WEB
www.rsrpd.org

There are a few types of park rangers in the parks and recreation field, although naturalists and peace officers are the most common. Naturalists offer tours and information about plants, animals, biology and nature. Peace officers are trained in law enforcement.

PEACE OFFICERS: The park rangers who work for Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District in both Simi Valley and Oak park are peace officers. The district employs full-time and part-time rangers. Park Rangers have the same powers as a police officer with the ability to cite, gather evidence, preserve a crime scene, carry weapons, and arrest violators, as provided by the California penal code.



DUTIES: Park Ranger coverage includes park patrol, gate security, community events, facility rentals, filming company oversight, and more.

QUALIFICATIONS: The rangers who work for the district are peace officers who must pass a full background check and be qualified to carry a weapon.

The District's rangers come from diverse backgrounds that help them work well together when solving crimes and working with all aspects of the public.



COOPERATION: On a regular basis, they meet to review trends noticed in the community and work to solve those problems in the parks.

Park Rangers also work effectively with law enforcement agencies including Los Angeles County Sheriff and Simi Valley Police Department. When circumstances dictate, Park Rangers may call law enforcement authorities to the scene.



The district has agreements with both the Simi Valley Police Department and Ventura County Sheriff's Department to provide assistance with background and criminal history checks, along with trends in crimes. Everyone works cooperatively to exchange information as needed, especially in regards to graffiti and other wide-scale problems that affect all law enforcement agencies.

CITATIONS: "Park Rangers provide a very important deterrent to criminal activity," said Park District General Manager, Larry Peterson. Not every interaction with the public leads to a citation. According to Sr. Park Ranger, Jerry DeRosa, "The rangers frequently work to educate the public on how best to enjoy the park in a way that does not negatively affect the use of the same park by others." As for citations, uncooperative or repeat offenders are more likely to receive one, with more serious offenses resulting in an arrest.



OFFENSES: Typical offenses seen in parks include vandalism, graffiti, being in the park before and after hours, alcohol consumption, dogs off leash, skateboarding, smoking, and littering. Anyone interfering with a park ranger in the performance of enforcement duties is subject to the same criminal prosecution as an individual who interferes with a police officer.

