Minute Man NHP
Superintendent's Compendium

Rules and Regulations
Special Use Permits
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Superintendent's Compendium
Of Designations, Closures, Permit Requirements and Other Restrictions Imposed Under Discretionary Authority.

Approved:

Nancy Nelson 8/18/14

Nancy Nelson, Superintendent — Date

In accordance with regulations and the delegated authority provided in Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations ("36 CFR"), Chapter 1, Parts 1-7, authorized by Title 16 United States Code, Section 3, the following provisions apply to all lands and waters administered by the National Park Service, within the boundaries of Minute Man NHP. Unless otherwise stated, these regulatory provisions apply in addition to the requirements contained in 36 CFR, Chapter 1, Parts 1-7.

Written determinations, which explain the reasoning behind the Superintendent's use of discretionary authority, as required by Section 1.5(c), appear in this document identified by italicized print.

I. 36 CFR §1.5 – VISITING HOURS, PUBLIC USE LIMITS, CLOSURES, AND AREA DESIGNATIONS FOR SPECIFIC USE OR ACTIVITIES

(a)(1) The following visiting hours and public use limits are established for Minute Man National Historical Park.

Visiting Hours:

Visiting hours for the Park, including all lands, trails facilities, and parking lots, are sunrise to sunset. This includes all areas administered by the Park including the North Bridge area and North Bridge Parking lot, the Wayside House area, and associated parking lot, and the areas and parking lots associated with the Battle Road unit which runs along both side of a stretch of Rt. 2A in Lexington and Lincoln, and along both sides of a stretch of Lexington Rd. in Concord,. Signs signify the Park entrances but are not exact boundary markers.

Determinations: The park trails, grounds and parking lots are closed at sunset in order to protect historic structures, livestock, cultural resources, and natural resources when made more vulnerable by the cover of darkness.

Please Note: The grounds and lots are "closed" even when the gates are not physically closed. Signs in the lots indicate the closed condition and visitors are expected to keep out of the lots and off the grounds and out of the parking lots after sunset.

Closures:

Areas and Stuctures:

- Visitor Centers may be closed on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day and may be closed at other times. The Schedule for the visitor centers will be posted in the "Minute Man Messenger" and on the park web site.
- Parking lots, trails, grounds, areas on the grounds, and buildings, may be temporarily closed as a result of:
    - Public Safety conditions (usually associated with snow and ice)
    - Resource Protection conditions
    - Special Events

Lot closures will be indicated by a closed gate or chain across the parking lot entrance.
Do Not Park in front of closed gates or chains!

- Agricultural areas, including fields, associated dirt roads, structures, and animal enclosures are closed to visitor access except as part of an organized park program or as part of program presented by another permitted or cooperating organization. Taking of flowers, vegetables, and other crops is not permitted. A Special Use Permit or official agreement is required to conduct programs in the Park.

(a)(2) The following sections have been designated for a specific use or activity, and/or conditions are in effect for the specific uses or activities noted:

Alcoholic beverages:

- No unsealed alcoholic containers in the parking areas.
- No alcoholic beverage consumption in the parking areas.

Bicycles:

- Bicycle use is encouraged in the park and may be used in many areas with the following exceptions and conditions:
  - Bicyclists must walk bikes across boardwalks
  - Bicyclists must walk bikes on the North Bridge
  - Bicyclists must walk bikes between Monument St. and the Minute Man Statue
  - Bicyclists must yield right of way to pedestrians
  - Bicyclists should signal when overtaking and passing.
  - Bicyclists must walk bikes on the Vernal Pool trail.
  - Bicyclists must walk bikes on the Fisk Hill loop trail
  - Operation of bicycles must comply with Massachusetts law.
  - Bicycles may not be ridden in fields, on lawns, or in undeveloped areas.

Boat Launching:

- Boats (including canoes and kayaks) may NOT be launched (i.e. carried from a vehicle down to the river) into the Concord River within the park boundary except from the boat house adjacent to the Manse with the permission of the Director of the Manse. (Note: The Manse is owned and operated separately from the Minute Man National Historical Park).
- Small boats may pull up on the shore of the river so that passengers may disembark and visit the Park except at any time or location where there is not a sign on the shore prohibiting that activity. (Example: a project to restore vegetation to the river bank might require the area not be trampled thus canoes and kayaks would not be allowed to be dragged on to the shore in that location.

The prohibition on launching boats is to preserve the limited parking space in the North Bridge lot and to prevent conflicts and injuries resulting from boaters carrying their boats and equipment through areas often crowded with visitors. There is a popular boat launch available just upstream at Lowell Rd.

Camping:

- No group or personal camping is permitted within the park boundary except by Permit. Permits for camping are very infrequently granted as there is no developed campground in Minute Man NHP. Camping is only occasionally permitted when associated with a program or activity being provided for the public in cooperation with the Park. Conditions and prohibitions associated with the activity will be listed in the Special Use Permit.

Docking or Mooring Areas:

Except where posted otherwise, boaters may temporarily pull their boats up onto the Concord River shoreline in order to visit the North Bridge area.

Fires:

- Fires are not permitted except under the conditions of a Special Use Permit.
  Cooking on a grill of any kind, accept inside a trailer or RV, is not permitted accept under the conditions indicated in a Special Use Permit or other official agreement.
  Grill use may be allowed under conditions specified in a Special Use Permit issued by the Superintendent.

This condition is established in order to prevent wild land and structural fires.

Hiking or Walking:

- Hiking or walking in the park is encouraged on developed and designated trails which include the Battle Road trail, the Vernal Pool trail, the Fisk Hill trail, the historic road trace between Monument street and Liberty St. the trail between the Smith house and the Hartwell site, and the other walk ways that run between the parking lots and structures.
- Dwellings, farm buildings, and areas that are in active agricultural use are not open to biking, hiking or walking accept by invitation, Special Use Permit, or during an official program.
- Keep 100 yards away from occupied dwellings (or closer if a public path passes more closely than 100 yards). Respect the privacy of residents within the park.

Horses:

There is no designated area for the riding of Horses on Minute Man NHP.

- Horses may not be ridden on the Battle Road trail or other areas owned or administered by the Park.
- Special Use Permits are occasionally issued to allow a horse to be ridden in the park. Such permits are issued in conjunction with the presentation of an event and not for recreational purposes.
- Patrols by law Enforcement officers or for the purposes of Interpretation will occur occasionally.
- Horses may be ridden on public roads running through the park under conditions established by State Law.

This condition is established in order to prevent conflicts between horse riders and others and to protect park resources and trails which are not suitable for horses.

Idling of motor vehicle engines:

Engines must be shut down when vehicles are not underway..

- Emergency / Law Enforcement vehicles are exempt when in-service.

The idling of motor vehicle engines adds unnecessary exhaust fumes to the air and diminishes the enjoyment by visitors of the peace and tranquility of the park.

Personal Watercraft Use:

- In accordance with the Policy of the National Park Service, the use of Personal Watercraft (PWC) is prohibited in the park (The boundary of the park on the river is defined by the section of river between the bridge that carries Monument St. to the Bridge that carries Lowell Road.). Personal Watercraft (PWC) are defined in 36 CFR §_1.4(a). This regulation applies to "Jet Skis."

Personal Water Craft (PWC) are prohibited in units of the National Park Service except where designated by special regulation. Accordingly: Jet Ski use on the Concord River between the bridge over Monument Street and the Bridge over Lowell Road is Prohibited.

Parking lot use

- Parking lots are provided for visitors to park their vehicles while visiting Minute Man NHP with the intent to use the developed park trails; explore a Visitor, Center, contact station, or structure; or view a monument or area of cultural landscape; for employees or park volunteers; and for busses and other public conveyances in use bringing visitors to the park. Use of the Minute Man NHP parking lots for construction vehicles and to temporarily keep construction equipment is permitted when such vehicles and equipment is associated with work being done on behalf of Minute Man NHP via contract or other agreement with Minute Man NHP. Parking lots are open to use by emergency vehicles. Parking lots are closed to use by all others accept by permit.

This condition is established to protect the availability of parking space for visitors. The parking lots are not provided as a place to leave a vehicle for a period of time while the occupants are doing something other than visiting the park as this limits the availability of parking for visitors.

Picnicking:

- Picnicking is allowed in the park at the picnic area provided in the Hartwell Tavern area and at tables on the grounds of the Minute Man Visitor Center and at the North Bridge Parking lot.
- Picnicking is also permitted on most other public areas in the park provided that the activity does not interfere with park operations (such as Ranger Presentations or Maintenance operations) or block a path or route of travel.
- Picnicking is not permitted on the Structure of the North Bridge or on the grounds of the Hartwell Tavern.
- Use of Grills is not permitted accept by permit. Permits for grill use are rarely granted and usually only when the grilling is associated with a Park sponsored event.

Note: This is a "Carry in, Carry out, Park. There are no trash receptacles available. Visitors are asked to "Carry Out" their trash.

Skiing and Snow Shoeing:

- Skiers and those using snow shoes are welcome to use the Battle Road trail when conditions are suitable.
- The trail is not groomed for skiing.
- Skiers are encouraged to create a track and other users are encouraged to stay out of that track it but it must be understood by skiers that the ski track will be damaged by foot prints and snow shoes.
- Skiers and Snow-Shoers must keep a respectful distance (100 yards) from dwellings, and well away from structures, and equipment they encounter (100 feet)

Sports Activities (other):

- There are no playing fields or sports facilities within the Park. Recreational sports and the use of sporting equipment as organized (ie. Competitive type sports) activities requires a permit. The use of sporting equipment for recreation must be conducted in such a way as to not spoil the contemplative, and educational, setting or cause a hazard to visitors.
- The use of balls, Frisbees, etc. and other sporting/recreational equipment is prohibited within view of the North Bridge and within view of the Hartwell tavern as well as any place immediately adjacent to, or on, the Battle Road trail or any other path. (This prohibition does not apply to the riding of bicycles which is encouraged in the Battle Road trail).

Snowmobiles:

- No snowmobile use is permitted within the park boundary.

Swimming:

- No swimming from the Concord River shoreline within the park boundary.
- Swimming from a canoe/boat is allowed in the Concord River within the park.

The "no swimming" from shoreline condition is established to protect the commemorative atmosphere of the grounds surrounding the physical location where individuals lost their lives during the conflict between British Troops and Colonial Minutemen on April 19, 1775.

Unmanned Aircraft:

Launching , landing, or operating an unmanned aircraft from or on lands and waters administered by the National Park Service within the boundary of Minute Man National Historical Park is prohibited except as approved in writing by the superintendent.

Definition of Unmanned aircraft:

The term "unmanned aircraft" means a device that is used or intended to be used for flight in the air without the possibility of direct human intervention from within or on the device, and the associated operational elements and components that are required for the pilot or system operator in command to operate or control the device (such as cameras, sensors, communication links). This term includes all types of devices that meet this definition (e.g. model airplanes, quadcopters, drones) that are used for any purpose, including for recreation or commerce.

This condition is established to protect public health and safety, to protect environmental and scenic values, cultural landscape, and the visitor experience and is in compliance with the National Park Policy prohibiting a new park use until a determination has been made that it will not result in unacceptable impacts on park resources and values.

Wakeless Areas:

- "No wake" from boats on the Concord River within the park boundary.

Water Skiing/Towing Areas:

- No water skiing or towing on the Concord River within the park boundary.

This condition is established to protect the lives of skiers, boaters & visitors in the North Bridge area. These restrictions are necessary to achieve such protection.

II. 36 CFR §1.6 – ACTIVITIES THAT REQUIRE A PERMIT: Also see the pages at the rear of the compendium that further address special use permits.

(f) The following is a compilation of those activities for which a permit from the superintendent is required (please see attached information regarding Special Use Permits):

- §1.5(d) The following activities related to "Public Use Limits":
  - Reservation of the Steadman Buttrick House garden and/or grounds
  - Reservation of an approved building for special event use
  - Reservation of an approved area for a special event use

- §2.5(a) Specimen collection (Taking of plant, fish, wildlife, artifacts, rocks or minerals)

- §2.37 Soliciting or demanding gifts, money, goods or services (Pursuant to the terms and conditions of a permit issued under §2.50, §2.51 or §2.52)

- §2.50(a) Conducting a sports event, pageant, regatta, or public spectator attraction, providing entertainment for the public, playing musical instruments that are audible beyond the immediate area of the musician (IE. Playing an acoustic guitar away from the public would be fine): Conducting any ceremony, including a wedding, ceremony, wedding and other activities of organized groups.

- §2.51(a) Public assemblies, meetings, gatherings, demonstrations, parades and other public expressions of views:

- ***Note:*** Gathering for the purpose of expressing views and making statements such as is protected under the **First Amendment** does not require a permit as long as the activity takes place in one of the designated "First Amendment" areas indicated in this document and the involved group is less than 25 people. Groups larger than 25 people need a permit and must also use the designated areas for that activity. Printed matter, used as part of a "First Amendment" activity may be allowed in the "First Amendment" area without a permit.

- §2.52(c) The sale or distribution of printed matter that is not solely commercial advertising (Note: Commercial advertising is prohibited without a commercial Use Authorization)

- §2.60(b) Livestock use

- §2.61(a) Residing on federal lands

- §2.62 Memorialization:
  - (a) Erection of monuments (Requires approval from Regional Director)
  - (b) Scattering ashes from human cremation

- §5.1 Advertisements - (Display, posting or distribution.)

- §5.3 Engaging in or soliciting any business (This activity requires a permit, contract or other written agreement with the United States, or must be pursuant to special regulations).

- §5.5 Commercial Photography/Filming:
  - (a) Commercial filming of motion pictures or television involving the use of professional casts, settings or crews, other than bona fide newsreel or news television
  - (b) Still photography of vehicles, or other articles of commerce or models for the purpose of commercial advertising.
  -

COMMERCIAL PHOTOGRAPHY/FILMING FURTHER CLARIFICATION:

- Filming and photography activities, whether commercial or noncommercial, will be allowed provided that activities do not cause unacceptable impacts to park resources or public use.
- All commercial and certain non-commercial filming requires a permit.

- Commercial filming (video or film) is defined as digital or film recording of a visual image or sound recording by a person, business, or other entity for a market audience, such as a for a documentary, television or feature film, advertisement, or similar project.
- Still photography activities, whether commercial or non-commercial, require a permit when:
  - (a) the activity takes place at location(s) where or when members of the public are generally not allowed
  - (b) the activity uses model(s), set(s), or prop(s) that are not a part of the location's natural or cultural resources or administrative facilities
  - (c) the park would incur additional administrative costs to monitor the activity
  - (d) the park would need to provide management and oversight to:
    - (1) avoid impairment or incompatible use of the resources and values of the park
    - (2) limit resource damage
    - (3) minimize safety risks to the visiting public
- Still photography activities, whether commercial or non-commercial, **does not require a permit when**:
  - a photographer is taking pictures of an individual or individuals with minimal props (a tripod, small fabric light shade, etc) in a location that does not impact visitor use and/or park resources.
- News coverage **does not require a permit**, for either filming or still photography, but is subject to time, place, and manner restrictions, if warranted, to maintain order and ensure the safety of the public and the media, and to protect natural and cultural resources.
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Note on Filming: There is a separate permit application for filming which can be obtained by contacting the Chief Ranger at (978) 318-7828. The National Park Service charges a location fee for use of the Parks for commercial filming.

- §5.7 Construction of buildings, facilities, trails, roads, boat docks, path, structure, etc.

- §5.10(a) Operation of eating, drinking, or lodging establishments in park areas.

For more information on permit requirements please contact Minute Man National Historical Park's Chief Ranger at 978-318-7828.

Permit application can be found at appendix B.

GENERAL REGULATIONS

36 CFR §2.1 – PRESERVATION OF NATURAL, CULTURAL AND ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

(b) Hiking or pedestrian traffic is restricted to the areas listed in Section 1.5 of this document.

(c)(1), (c)(2) The following fruits, nuts, and berries may be gathered by hand for personal use or consumption, in accordance with the noted size, quantity, collection sites and/or use or consumption restrictions:

- Fruits, nuts, berries, and edible greens (that are not produced by active agriculture) are allowed to be picked.
- Only as much as can be carried in one's hand may be taken on any one visit.

36 CFR §2.2 - WILDLIFE PROTECTION

(d) The transporting of lawfully taken wildlife through the park is permitted under the following conditions and procedures:

- In accordance with state law and procedure.
  NOTE: NO HUNTING IS ALLOWED WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF MINUTE MAN NHP
  NOTE: ALL FIREARMS MUST BE CARRIED OR STORED IN COMPLAINCE WITH MASSACHUSETTS STATE LAW. EXEMPTIONS FOR HUNTING DO NOT APPLY AS HUNTING IS NOT PERMITTED.
  PARKING WITHIN THE BOUNDARY OF MINUTE MAN NHP IN ORDER TO HUNT IN AN AREA OUTSIDE THE PARK MAY RESULT IN A CHARGE OF "ILLEGAL TAKING OF WILDLIFE" AND/OR A WEAPONS VIOLATION.

(e) The entire park is closed to the viewing of wildlife with the use of an artificial light:

- No viewing of wildlife with the use of an artificial light within the park boundary

36 CFR §2.3 – FISHING

(a) Fishing in designated areas

For visitor safety, fishing is allowed from the banks of the Concord river within the park on a small scale in only one area as indicated on the attached map. Fishing from a boat in the Concord river is not prohibited (is allowed).

36 CFR §2.4 – WEAPONS, TRAPS, AND NETS

(2)(ii) Discharging weapons in Minute Man NHP is not allowed.
The possession of Fire Arms is regulated under Massachusetts State law. Fire Arms are not permitted in Federal Facilities.
Possession or use of trap or net is prohibited.
Possession of other weapons is prohibited.

36 CFR §2.10 – CAMPING and FOOD STORAGE

(a) There are NO designated camping areas within Minute Man NHP.
Camping is occasionally allowed by Special Use Permit when the camping helps to facilitate a Park Event.

36 CFR §2.11 – PICNICKING

Conditions and restrictions for picnicking are listed under (a)(2) on a previous page.

36 CFR 2.13 – FIRES

(a)(1) The lighting or maintaining of fires is generally prohibited, except as provided for in the following designated areas and/or receptacles, and under the conditions noted:

- There are NO designated areas for open wood fires, charcoal type fires
- There are NO designated areas for gas or propane grill use
  - Special Use Permits may authorize the use of fires or grills for special events under conditions stated in the permit.

36 CFR §2.14 – SANITATION and REFUSE

Minute Man NHP follows the national "Leave No Trace" program's "Carry In and Carry Out trash" policy. Trash cans are not provided. Park visitors must remove all trash, **including pet waste**, from the park.

36 CFR §2.15 – PETS

(a)(1) The following structures and/or areas are closed to the possession of pets:

- No pets are allowed in Federal Facilities accept "service" animals assisting a person with a disability or a dog used for Law Enforcement when conducting a Law Enforcement duty (example: bomb dog looking for explosives).

(a)(3) Pets may be left unattended and tied to an object in the following areas, under the conditions noted:
A dog may be left tied to a bike rack or other structure for no more than 20 minutes while the owner is in a visitor center or Federal Facility where the dog is not allowed.

(a)(5) Pet excrement must be disposed of in accordance with the following conditions:

- Pet excrement must be picked up by the pet owner and removed from the park.
- Pet excrement must be disposed in a proper manner outside the park.
- There are no receptacles for pet excrement within Minute Man NHP and pet excrement
- cannot be left in the park.

36 CFR §2.16 – HORSES and PACK ANIMALS

(b) The use of horses or pack animals is allowed on the following trails, routes or areas:

- Horses for law enforcement purposes are allowed on the park trails and lands
- Horses for interpretive purposes are allowed on the park trails and lands (only by Special Use Permit or as part of a Park Program).
- Pack animals and other live stock (oxen, cows, etc.) are allowed in the park only by permit or as part of a Park Program.

(g) Other conditions concerning the use of horses or pack animals:
ALL HORSE OR PACK ANIMAL USE MUST BE APPROVED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT. HORSE RIDING WITHIN THE PARK IS NOT ALLOWED WITHOUT A PERMIT AND SUCH PERMITS ARE GRANTED ONLY IN ORDER FACILITATE THE PARK IN MEETING IT'S MISSION GOALS.

36 CFR §2.17 – AIRCRAFT

(c)(1) The removal of a downed aircraft, components, or parts thereof is subject to procedures established by the Superintendent through written authorization.

36 CFR §2.18 – SNOWMOBILES

(c) Snow mobile use is not allowed within the park boundary.

36 CFR §2.19 – WINTER ACTIVITIES

(a) The Battle Road Trail may be used for skiing and snowshoe use.

- No park roads or parking areas may be used for the above mentioned winter activities
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(b) The towing of persons on skis, sled or other similar device by motor vehicle or snowmobile is not allowed.

36 CFR §2.20 – SKATING, SKATEBOARDS and SIMILAR DEVICES

The use of roller skates skateboards, roller skis, coasting vehicles, or similar devices are allowed only in the following areas:
On public or private ways in accordance with State Law.

36 CFR §2.21 – SMOKING

(a) The following portions of the park, or all or portions of buildings, structures or facilities are closed to smoking as noted:

- Inside all government buildings
- In the close proximity of all historic structures

36 CFR §2.22 – PROPERTY

(a)(2) Property may be left unattended for periods longer than 24 hours in the following areas and under the following conditions:

- Vehicles and other property may be left unattended for periods longer than 24 hours in parking areas or other locations when a permit has been granted for that activity.
- The park's protection division is notified: CALL 781-674-1910 or 508-254-7491

In all other situations where property is left unattended for longer than 24 hours that property may be considered abandoned and will be removed.

Geocaching is not currently allowed at Minute Man NHP. Anyone wishing to make a case to allow geocaching is invited to present their case to the Chief Ranger and Superintendent for future consideration.

36 CFR §2.23 – RECREATION FEES

(b) Recreation fees, and/or a permit, in accordance with 36 CFR part 71, are established for the following entrance fee areas, and/or for the use of the following specialized sites, facilities, equipment or services, or for participation in the following group activity, recreation events or specialized recreation uses:

Entrance Fee Areas:

- The Wayside House interpretive tour

36 CFR §2.35 –ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES and CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

(a)(3)(i) The following public use areas, portions of public use areas, and/or public facilities within the park are closed to consumption of alcoholic beverages, and/or to the possession of a bottle, can or other receptacle containing an alcoholic beverage that is open, or has been opened, or whose seal has been broken or the contents of which have been partially removed:

- Parking Areas
- Public facilities (such as visitor centers) unless as part of a park sponsored event or under the conditions set by a Special Use Permit.

36 CFR §2.38 – EXPLOSIVES

(b) No fireworks or firecrackers may be possessed and/or used within the park boundary accept by the terms of a Special Use Permit.

36 CFR §2.62 – MEMORIALIZATION

(b) A permit is required for the scattering of ashes from cremated human remains, or in the following designated areas without a permit, in accordance with the following terms and conditions:

The scattering of human ashes from cremation, without a permit, is allowed under the following terms and conditions:

- The remains to be scattered must have been cremated and pulverized.

- The scattering of remains by persons on the ground is to be performed at least 100 yards from any trail, road, developed facility, or body of water.
- The scattering of remains from the air is to be performed at a minimum altitude of 2000 feet above the ground.
- No scattering of remains from the air is to be performed over developed areas, facilities, or bodies of water.

36 CFR §3.6 – BOATING OPERATIONS

(d)(1) Vessels may not create a wake or exceed 5 mph in the following areas:

- The Concord River within the park boundary which is the section of river between the Monument Street bridge and the Lowell Road Bridge.

36 CFR §3.21 – SWIMMING AND BATHING

(a)(1) The following areas are closed to swimming and bathing:

- From the shoreline of the Concord River within the park boundary
- NOTE: Swimming from a canoe or boat is allowed in the Concord River within the park

(a)(2) The following restrictions apply to all swimming and bathing activities:

- No jumping off the North Bridge into the Concord River
- No swimming from the shoreline of the Concord River
- No swimming on the pond on the grounds of the Minute Man Visitor Center.

36 CFR §3.24 – PERSONAL WATERCRAFT (PWC)

- No PWC (Jet Ski) use on the Concord River within the park boundary

36 CFR §4.10 – TRAVEL ON PARK ROADS AND ROUTES

(a) Park roads, open for travel by motor vehicle are those indicated below:

- All town and state roads within the park boundary
- "Authorized Vehicles Only" may operate on the Battle Road Trail
- "Residents Only" may use the Old Bedford Road segment in Lincoln
- "Residents Only" may use Manuel Drive in Concord.

36CFR §4.21 – SPEED LIMITS

(a.1) 15 miles per hour: within parking areas, utility areas, business or residential areas, other places of public assemblage and at emergency scenes.

(b). The superintendent has designated the speed limit on roads within the boundary of the park at rates consistent with what has been posted by the applicable town or State of Massachusetts authority. Speed designations by the Superintendent are indicated on several attached graphics.

The speed limit for Airport Road in Lexington, which is not otherwise posted, has been designated by the Superintendent to be 20 mph.

Graphic depictions of the speed limit designations for public roads within Minute Man NHP can be found on pages 22, 23, and 24.

36 CFR §4.30 – BICYCLES

(a) **Park roads and parking areas that are closed to bicycle use are listed in section 1.5 of this document and conditions for bicycle use is also listed.**
The Battle Road trail is designated for bicycle use.
(b) **Bicycles use is not allowed in undeveloped areas.**

(d)(3) Riding a bicycle abreast of another rider is allowed on the following routes:
On the Battle Road trail as long as such activity is not obstructing traffic foot or bicycle traffic from passing and is not causing a hazard. On all State or town roads under conditions established by state law.

36 CFR §4.31 – HITCHHIKING

Hitchhiking is not permitted within the park boundary

Minute Man NHP
Special Park Use Information

A Special Park Use in an activity that takes place in a park area and provides a benefit to an individual, group or organization rather than the public at large, requires written authorization and some degree of management control from the Park Service in order to protect park resources and the public interest: is not prohibited by law or regulation: is not initiated, sponsored, or conducted by the Park Service, and is not managed under a concession contract, is not a recreation activity for which the NPS charges a fee, or a lease.

The National Park Service may permit a special park use provided the activity will not cause derogation of the park's resources or values, visitor experiences, or the purposes for which the park was established. When considering an application for a special park use the primary consideration will be the potential of that special park use to cause resource damage or the disruption of normal public use.
The following are examples of activities that require a permit:

Private ceremonies including military ceremonies.
Filming and Commercial Photography (some commercial photography is exempt. Please call for more information).
Parades.
Meetings.
Exhibitions.
Organized walks or runs.
Use of parking lots for other than visitor parking.
Organized athletic events.
Use of BBQ or other grills.
Musical or theatrical performances Rallies or Presentations (see attached information on "First Amendment" activities).
Any commercial venture.
Conducting research.
Weddings (see more information on weddings below)
Any use that falls outside the hours of operation (sunset to sundown)
Any use of a Park Structure.
Any use of the North Bridge area.
Any use of a public address system or electronically amplified sound.

"Small scale" special uses may be allowed without a permit. See below.

.If you are considering using the park for anything beyond the activities associated with a typical visit please contact the park ahead of time. Permit applications and instructions for applying for a permit are available on the Minute Man NHP website.

Questions regarding use of the park and special use permits should be directed to the Chief Ranger at (978) 318-7828

Weddings: Due to the complexity associated with managing all the facets of most traditional wedding ceremonies Minute Man NHP no longer permits traditional weddings in the park. Small weddings: weddings with a total size of about 10 people including participants and witnesses/guests are allowed without a permit under the following conditions:

-No "props" (including a podium, chairs, or other associated equipment or materials) are used.
-No sound amplification equipment is used.
-The ceremony is held in a location that it does not interfere with other park activities.
-The ceremony is not held in the North Bridge area between Monument Street and the river nor is it held on the allee (path) anywhere including adjacent to the Minute Man Statue. (including the Bridge itself and the benches by the river).
-The ceremony is not held in the Buttrick Garden ("Formal" Garden area adjacent to the North Bridge Visitor Center).
-All vehicles associated with the Wedding will be parked according to law and regulation in visitor parking areas.
-Park sponsored activities and activities for which a permit have been issued will be given priority over an area.
-No part of the ceremony violates established rules, regulations, or laws.

Small Scale Uses: An activity that fits the definition of a "Special Park Use" that is conducted by a small group or 10 people or less, that conducts itself in much the same was as any group of visitors might, that does not interfere with park operations and does not otherwise interfere with park operations, may be allowed without a special use permit provided:

-No "props" (including a podium, chairs, or other associated equipment or materials) are used.
-No sound amplification equipment is used.
-The activity is held in a place that it does not interfere with other park activities.
-The activity not held in the North Bridge area between Monument Street and Minute Man Statue (including in the area of the benches by the North Bridge).
-The ceremony is not held in the Buttrick Garden ("Formal" Garden area adjacent to the North Bridge Visitor Center).
-All vehicles associated with the activity are parked according to law and regulation in visitor parking areas.
-The activity does not violate established rules, regulation, or laws

"First Amendment" activities: The process directing how parks manage certain activities is changing. The "interim regulations for "First Amendment" activities is outlined below:

The NPS interim regulations create a small group permit exception that generally allows groups of 25 people or less to demonstrate or sell or distribute printed matter within parks' designated areas without a permit. If a park's designated area cannot reasonably accommodate 25 people, the park, with the regional director concurrence, may issue a written determination that reduces the number of people for the designated area. The location of park's designated First Amendment areas and any decrease in the number of persons considered a small group will be made available to the public in the office of the superintendent and by public notice.
Activities under the small group permit exception may not unreasonable interfere with other permitted activities or park programs. Permitted activities are given priority use of designated areas, after which the area is made available on a first-come basis. Should more than one small group seek to use a designated area without a permit, and it is determined that the area cannot reasonably accommodate multiple groups, the later-arriving group will be directed to another designated area if available.

The interim regulations also define both "demonstrations" and "printed matter". Superintendents are directed to designate areas available for First Amendment activities using a set of regulatory criteria designed to protect park resources and values where individuals and group may express their views. Superintendents may accept applications for First Amendment activities no more than one calendar year prior to the start of the event, including set-up. Applications must be approved or denied within ten days.

See the attached graphics which designate areas for "First Amendment" activities. For groups larger than 25 people a permit is required. If you have any questions regarding First Amendment activities please call the Chief Ranger (978) 318-7828.

The permit request form is available to download from this web site.

North Bridge Unit Designated Areas

Hillside First Amendment Area

The First Amendment area designated in blue on the left side of the above graphic is the Hillside First Amendment Area. A separate graphic titled Hillside First Amendment Area provides a closer representation of the area available for First Amendment activities on the hillside. The superintendent may alter the size and shape of the area for public safety purposes. The area delineated will be no closer than 20' from the pedestrian walk way to the North Bridge or the public Street (Liberty St.)

North Bridge First Amendment Area

The designated area marked in blue in the North Bridge Parking lot off Monument Street encompasses the area of the grass bounded by asphalt as indicated in the North Bridge Designated graphic. People using that area for a First Amendment purpose must keep at least 10' back from the asphalt and the pedestrian walk way that crosses the lot.

Fishing

Fishing is allowed in the area along the bank of the river marked on the map in light blue. This is the only area in Minute Man NHP that is designated for fishing.

Fishing from a boat is not prohibited (allowed) anywhere in the river provided the activity does not cause a hazard.

Fishing from the North Bridge is strictly prohibited.

All Fishing activity must be in compliance with Massachusetts law.

North Bridge Unit
First Amendment Area
Hillside Area

Hillside First Amendment Area

The designated Hillside First Amendment Area is delineated on the ground by the grading. The area in blue above roughly represents the area that has been graded to accommodate activities. There is a flag pole in that area. The location of the pole is marked in red on the graphic above. The superintendent may delineate a change to this area if needed to accommodate public safety. The area used for First Amendment activities will extend no closer than 20' from the pedestrian walk way or the public Street (Liberty St.)

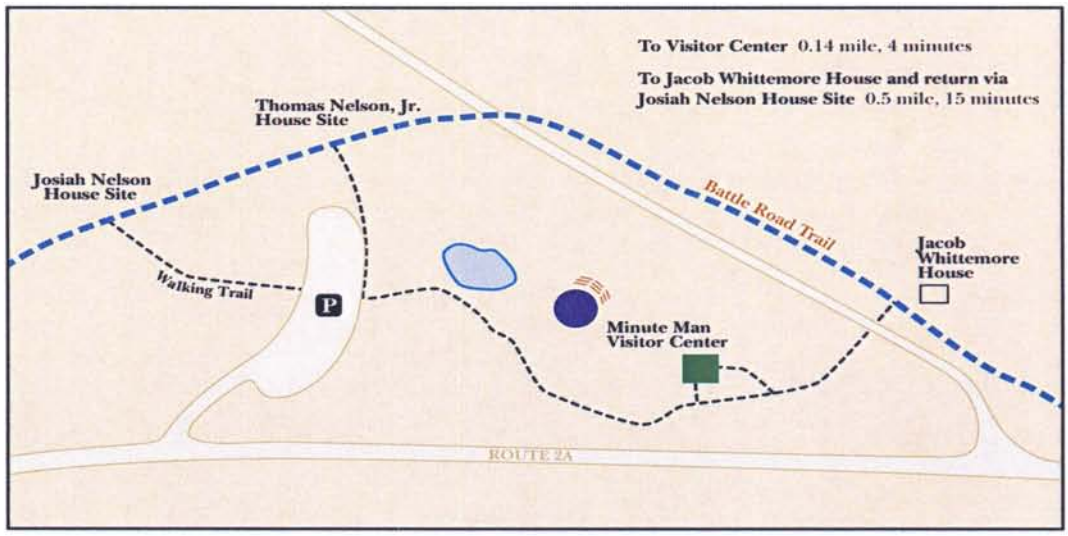
First Amendment Areas
Paul Revere Capture Site

Monument Parking Lot

The Paul Revere Capture Site is located along Rt. 2A in Lincoln Massachusetts. The map above shows the parking lot and the Monument. The area designated for First Amendment Activities is marked in Blue.

Individuals or groups using this area must be no closer than 20' feet from the monument, the path, and the parking lot and must stay behind the stone wall that separates the Paul Revere Capture Site from the highway (Rt. 2A).

First Amendment Areas
Minute Man Visitor Center



The Minute Man Visitor Center is located along Rt. 2A in Lexington Massachusetts. There is a small amphitheater on the grounds consisting of several rows of benches. The area immediately in front of those benches is designated as a First Amendment Area when not in use for programs or other permitted activities. That area is marked in Blue above. *People using this area must keep back twenty feet from the pedestrian walkway. The Superintendent may modify the size of this area for public safety.*