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Dear City of Dover:

Why are caretakers/custodians/maintenance personnel of our local Public Parks taking liberties to reduce public use rights?
They do not have authority to give away the public areas for private use.

It is a problem at 3 local areas in 2024, Cedar Point, Scammell public access, and Hilton Park. We are primarily concerned with Hilton Park, the Gateway to Dover.

We literally ALL HAVE TO SHARE the waterfront. Beautiful Hilton Park is becoming a messy campground. A private rowing group or company is squatting on public land with their personal stuff. A permit does not exist as no one has the right to redesignate public land use for private lease. In 2023 it wasn't so much of a problem, now in 2024 the rowers are acting entitled and trashing a public park. If homeless people cannot trash a park, neither can an exercise group. No one has the right to give away "public first come first park access" to a Business for Profit.

- 1) When they were downtown Dover They have always had trailers for their boats and never left stuff on the dock. They are able to move them but never do. They no longer clean up and often leave all their stuff strewn about the park during periods they are not using their equipment.
- 2) Small items that fit in their personal vehicles are all being left beach side for the wind and tide to take them such as water bottles, plastic and metal coffee mugs, gloves, shoes, pfds, sponges, towels and neoprene gear being hung out to dry. Hilton park in not a personal clothesline. No one should ever leave their private stuff in public.
- 3) During holiday weekends or multiple days not using their boats, they do not move their gear for others to use the waterfront. They hog all 5 prime spots which should be used for the handicapped and disabled boaters. Or at least SHARE. They have been upgraded to owning the entire left side of the public access for the entire summer.
- 4) They never move therefore the caretakers cannot mow and often cannot have the trash emptied because they park in front of the dumpsters. The grass is overgrown. They have disrespected the caretaker when he returned their items.
Why are these rowers permitted to leave a public park in this unsightly condition? It would be nice if these rowers would share the waterfront with the boaters, fishermen, paddlers, etc. What did they do to have this kind of permanent access?
- 5) They also scream through a megaphone at 5 or 6am up and down the river which lots of us tolerate. Dover Noise ordinance is 7am. These entitled people have zero respect for their river neighbors.

Secondly, Please stop restricting people from accessing our natural resources in the winter. Please stop closing the warm side (great bay side) of the park for six months a year. It is not icy for 6 months. Most other NH local beach and park access are also not plowed, but the gates are open for people to access at their own risk. Please apply this to Hilton park and keep it open. You leave the barricades up long after the warm weather has started. It makes this park and natural resource not accessible to disabled NH residents at all during the winter. Winter is an important time to get outside. You cannot access both sides of the park via a vehicle from the one entrance left open on the piscataqua side.

I request you make some changes instead of telling me again that "this is the way its always been".

1) Time for community involvement instead of the lazy barricades. Imagine the cost savings of the two days paying a heavy equipment operator to place and remove barricades. There is your trash collection money!!! Or assign winter trash collection to community volunteers. I volunteer to change the trash on the warm side of the park in the wintertime. You are going against what the public wants and ignoring other ways to accomplish trash removal.

2) Rotate closures. Close another park next year instead of this one. Close the other side for once and help prevent vehicle fornication happening directly adjacent to the children's playground. Ive seen it and I stay away from the parking circle on the piscataqua side. Its wrong every year to single us out and create this environmentally hazardous mess. You are part of the direct non point source pollution negatively affecting the eel grass in the estuary with the over nutrification of the waters from stormwater.

3) Gives the Canadian geese safe haven. The population of Canadian Geese gets bigger every year. Keeping the gates open would allow for cars, people, and dogs to scare them away. Their ton of feces and worms area problem every spring spreading zoonotic diseases. It promotes high levels of ecoli in the bay. We cannot even go there in the spring due to the feces that does not magically dissipate.

4) Takes away the right for the public to access their natural resources all winder for sunsets, snowshoeing. This park offers a parking area with a view of the sunsets. Viewing sunsets and lights has been proven to help with seasonal affective disorder. Its also a great place to have lunch by the water in the winter.

Is New Hampshire a

Live Free or Die State or Control Restrict Ignore State

I have had two years of Unresponsive People and People saying "it's always been that way". Meaning only people from the past matter??

Please lets fix this together, Katie and David Nelson

LIST OF UNRESPONSIVE PEOPLE 2022, 2023, 2024

Last Select Woman Deborah *A. Thibodeaux*

David Waters Senator

John Corcoran DOT

Michael Servitas DOT

The Dover Police never research or return my phone messages