



Beach Rules

City of Kirkland

Designated Swimming Area Rules:

1. All children 6 and under must be supervised by an adult. Adults must be in the water, within arm's reach of the child at all times.
2. All children 12 and under must pass a waterfront swim test before proceeding into water deeper than chest depth and/or cross the shallow water buoy line.
3. Non-swimmers (swimmers unable to pass a swim test) must remain in water no more than chest depth and are not permitted to cross the shallow water buoy line.
4. Swimmers must remain within the designated swimming area and are prohibited from swimming into or out of the park swimming area
5. No sitting or hanging on float lines. No climbing or hanging on perimeter lines.
6. No horse play such as pushing, dunking, or holding others around the neck.
7. All floatation devices must stay in designated areas. No floatation devices on or within 5ft of the dock or pier. Rafts with oars are not allowed in the swimming area.
8. No throwing of rocks, sand, sticks or other hard objects.

Dock Rules:

1. No running on the docks.
2. No swimming under the docks.
3. Keep ladders clear.
4. Jumps from the dock must be done facing forward.
5. Dive only in permitted locations. Dive straight out. Spins, flips and back dives are not allowed. Diving is allowed only in designated areas.
 - a. Diving is NOT allowed anywhere at Waverly Beach or Juanita Beach.
 - b. Diving at Houghton Beach may be suspended if water levels become too shallow.
 - c. Do not dive in shallow water

Beach Rules:

1. KMC 11.80.210
 - a. Alcohol and drugs are not allowed in the park. No glass containers.
2. KMC 11.80.060
 - a. Dogs on leash are permitted in the park. Dogs are not allowed in the designated swimming area.
3. Gas BBQ's are permitted, with a drip pan. Please dispose of drip pan off site. No charcoal.
4. No feeding the waterfowl
5. KMC 11.80.110
 - a. Motorized watercraft must remain 100 yards away from the end of docks and swimming areas.
6. Standup Paddle Boards, kayaks, canoes, etc. are not permitted within the designated swimming area.
7. In an Emergency, call 911
8. First-Aid Kit is located at Lifeguard Office



Beach Rules

Swimming Along Kirkland Shorelines

Kirkland Municipal Code 14.20.010 indicates that swimming shall be confined:

- (1) To restricted swimming areas; or
- (2) To within fifty feet from the shore or a pier unless the swimmer is accompanied by a watercraft.
(Ord. 800 § 20, 1960)

Beyond 50 feet from shore, the King County Code requires the swimmer to be accompanied by a boat which is within 25 feet of the swimmer.

To maintain a clearly defined swimming beach, lifeguards discourage swimming immediately outside the lifeguarded area. In the interest of public safety, there is need to maintain a defined perimeter buffer of 150 feet from the swimming areas on Lake Washington.

Kirkland Aquatic Service Beach Guards are instructed to educate “offshore swimmers” of the following:

Swimming within 50 feet of shore is consistent with the law.

Wading or swimming at a distance away from the swimming beach could have an impact on the operation of the lifeguarded area as any reasonable persons [lifeguard] attention could be drawn away from their area of coverage due to your presence in the water outside of the swimming area. For your safety, we strongly encourage you to remain within the designated swimming area. [Note: if the swimmer is beyond 25 feet of shore- approaching 50 feet and is not accompanied by a boat within 25 feet, guards should inform the swimmer that they will be contacting King County Marine Patrol.

The lifeguarded swimming beaches offer maintained bottom conditions, are free of aquatic weeds, and do not have boat traffic, all of which are possible concerns in other parts of the parks.

Lifeguards do not want to push open water swimmers out into boating traffic; they will allow swimmers to pass through the beach area if necessary but will talk with them about the boundaries of the lifeguarded swimming beach and remind them about the 50 foot rule.