

## **Morning Star Campground 2026 Camping Season Rules**

**General:** These rules apply to all campers, Riverdale residents, and their guests staying at the Morning Star Campground, and may change without notice. If a rule change is necessary, the City shall provide notice of the rule change as soon as possible. All campers shall adhere to all Federal, State and Local laws. Any suspected illegal activity should be reported to the McLean County Sheriff's Department. Please be respectful of other campers, guests, manager and City personnel.

**Camping Season** for 2026 shall be **Friday, May 15, 2026 to Wednesday, September 30, 2026.**

**Camping Fees** for 2025 shall be as follows:

Water / Electrical Only Sites	1-66	\$1,525.00 / Season
Full Hook-up Sites	71-115	\$1,750.00 / Season

\*A utility surcharge applies to all seasonal sites. This surcharge is based on prior year's usage of electricity and water, and will be added to the invoice when the site is offered to the site user. For the 2026 Camping Season, the Water & Electrical Surcharge will be \$170.00.

### Primitive Camping (Reservation Only)

Camper Sites P1-P5 \$30.00/Night (Limit - 5 nights/time. Can't re-occupy for 5 nights).

\*Note: P5 is considered a group site, and a camper may occupy the site with 2 guest campers. Cost is \$30.00 per camper per night. Only one seasonal camper may reserve this site at one time. (One Seasonal Camper may reserve Site P5 for two guest campers).

**Registration Instructions** for Seasonal Camping: Please return the completed registration form with a \$100.00 deposit by February 15, 2026 to hold the offered camping site. The balance must be paid by May 1, 2026, or the deposit is forfeited, and the site will be offered to another individual. Deposits are non-refundable and registrations are not transferable. Sub-letting or sub-leasing of the campsite by the permit holder is not allowed.

### **Refund Policy:**

-The Security Deposit is Non-Refundable.

-The Seasonal Camping Fee and Utility Surcharge are Refundable IF the City of Riverdale receives written notification from the site holder prior to May 1, 2026, signed and dated by the site holder, that they are withdrawing their application. When an application withdrawal notice is received prior to May 1, 2026, it is date-stamped and can't be withdrawn by the site holder and the appropriate refund will be issued. The open site will then be offered to the next camper on the waiting list.

-After April 30, 2026, no individual site refunds will be issued. If a site user decides to leave, is asked to leave and/or is evicted, that site user will not be offered a site the following year. The site will be offered to the next individual on the waiting list on a pro-rated basis for the remaining camping season.

-The Seasonal Camping Fee is Refundable on a Pro-Rated Basis IF the City is ordered by State or Federal Authorities to close the campground due to a public health emergency, or if an unforeseeable emergency forces the City to close the campground or a portion of the campground for the season. Only the unused portion of the seasonal fee and utility surcharge would be refunded to those site users affected.

### **Site Capacity & Occupancy:**

Each site is limited to one (1) camping unit (RV/Camper), except for Site P5, which is a group site. The registered user must occupy and use the site for its intended purpose (camping) sometime during the camping season. Failure to occupy/utilize the seasonal site during the camping season is considered *Reserving* (please refer to Reserving/Reservations). The site is not to be used as an unattended storage lot. Site users are allowed to have a boat/trailer and/or an enclosed trailer to keep items in. The site user must ensure that there is sufficient room on-site to park one (1) State-registered motor vehicle on their site. Pickup trucks with a mounted camper unit are not allowed to house guests on-site. All tents on seasonal sites require prior notification to the campground manager. Guests are not allowed to occupy a site without one (1) of the registered site user(s) present. This applies to children and extended family of the registered site user(s).

**Reserving/Reservations:**

Reserving of the seasonal campsites is not allowed. The site user must occupy and utilize the seasonal site sometime during the camping season. Additionally, the siter user is responsible for the maintenance of the site for the entire camping season, even if they only occupy and utilize the site for one (1) weekend during the camping season.

Reservations for the primitive camping sites are allowed for guests of Seasonal Campsite users and Riverdale residents only. All reservations for the primitive campsites must be made in advance by the seasonal campsite or resident user for their guests through the Campground Host (Terry & Kim Morast). These reservations are to be made Only through the Campground Hosts.

**Vacant Sites:**

The moving or switching to another site is managed by the Campground Host, and can only be accomplished during the camping season. When a camper provides written notification to the Campground Host that they will be vacating the site prior to the end of the season, then that site will be posted on the campground Facebook page for 4 days that the site is being vacated, and interested parties can provide their name to Host. If more than one party is interested, then the Host will draw a name to determine the person who gets the site. Once a name is drawn and the site assignment is accepted in writing, the assignment is considered done. Once written notifications are provided of Vacating an Occupied Site or Acceptance of a Site Assignment, the action can't be withdrawn. The Host will then notify the City Auditor and City Council Campground Portfolio Manager (Ken Skuza) of the names and site changes.

**Utilities:**

Air conditioning units are to be turned off when leaving for extended periods of time (between weekend visits, etc.). Utility surcharge rates are determined by the total campground water and electrical usage from the previous year divided by the number of campsites. Please be considerate of other users who attempt to keep their usage low. Watering of grass/trees is allowed, however, please keep in mind that the City may impose watering restrictions, as necessary, during high water usage periods or a water emergency.

**Campground and Camp Site Infrastructure:**

Each site is required to have a water spigot back-flow preventer that must remain in place, as required by ND State Health Department, and a sewer cap (full-service sites only). Removal of the back flow preventer is Not Allowed. The sewer cap can be removed and stored while the camper is connected to the sewer pipe. These items are inventoried at the end of each season.

Optional items include a picnic table and fire ring. If a picnic table or fire ring is not wanted on-site, please notify the campground manager (Terry Morast) or City Council Portfolio Manager (Ken Skuza) or City Auditor (Del Kolke) prior to or at the beginning of the season, and they will arrange for maintenance personnel to remove it. Once an item is removed by the city, it is removed for the season and the camper is not responsible for it.

The alteration, relocation, removal, and/or destruction of campground infrastructure is prohibited. This includes items such as playground and recreation equipment, gazebo structure, road signs and posts, informational signs, electrical equipment, water spigots, site posts, trees, etc. If there is an issue with an infrastructure item, please notify the appropriate person, and it can be looked at to decide if corrective action is needed to resolve the issue.

**Camp Site Maintenance:**

The site user is responsible for Site Mowing of grass through the camping season. Grass clippings can be dumped at the provided clipping site disposal area. It is the site user's responsibility to ensure mowing of the site. If the City has to mow the site, the site user will be receiving a letter notifying them of a \$75.00 charge for the mowing and asking that this not occur again. If it occurs again, the City Council may notify the site user, in writing, that they will not be invited to return the next camping season.

**Parking:**

All camping vehicles and watercraft must be parked entirely on the campsite lot. The registered site user is responsible for keeping one (1) State-registered motor vehicle on their site. When parking in any area adjacent to a campground road, please park so that the vehicle is at least 3 feet entirely off of the roadway, so as not to impede traffic flow.

During the holidays and weekends, site users and guests may park all other vehicles in the "Overflow & Guest Parking" sites following these guidelines:

-Parking of motorized vehicles in these areas is only allowed on weekends (Friday/Saturday/Sunday) and Holidays. When a holiday occurs mid-week, those days that fall between the weekend and the holiday will be considered part of the holiday weekend. A holiday falling on Wednesday would incorporate both the preceding and following weekend.

-These areas are not to be utilized as storage areas for personal property. All boat, jet ski, pontoon, utility and other trailers must be attached to a motorized vehicle while parked in these areas.

-These areas are to be kept clear of all vehicles Monday through Thursday for mowing purposes, except during appropriate Holiday weekends.

-Use of these sites in at no-charge for site users and guests. These areas are marked with signage. These are the only areas open for this type of parking. All parking in these areas is As-Available, and Reserving is Not Allowed.

### **Motorized Vehicles:**

All ND State Rules apply, to include individual license possession, liability insurance, current vehicle license, etc. Possession of a valid driver's license or learner's permit is required of the driver, and a learner's permit also requires the presence of a passenger with a valid driver's license (NDCC 39-29-09.6). Operators of motorized recreational vehicles (4-wheelers, side by sides, ATV's, motorcycles, golf carts, etc., powered by gas, battery or electricity, are to be 14 years of age and have a valid driver's license/permit. Vehicle owner is responsible for vehicle licensing and insurance. All vehicle travel is to be on established roads. All recreational vehicles must have their campsite number placed on the back of the vehicle. Numbers will be provided by the City of Riverdale. Failure to place the campsite number on the vehicle can result in that recreational vehicle not being able to leave the campsite. The operation of any vehicle in a reckless manner or dangerous manner, as determined by either the campground manager, city council member or city worker, will result in a Written Warning. A second offense of reckless/dangerous operation can result in the City Council banning that vehicle from the campground for the season or suspending camping privileges for the following year (you won't be coming back). A third occurrence of the same issue from the same campsite can result in eviction.

### **Campfires & Fire Rings:**

If requested, the City of Riverdale will provide an approved fire ring, on a 1<sup>st</sup> come / 1<sup>st</sup> serve basis. Fire ring sites must be located within the campsite boundaries and shall not be placed within 10 feet of another campsite boundary. All campfires must be contained within the fire ring at all times, and attended at all times by a person 18 years of age or older. Before abandonment of the fire, the camper must completely extinguish it with water, to include watering down the coals. Site users are allowed to pick up downed tree limbs for use as fire wood. Do not cut live trees or branches for firewood. A fire wood pile is allowed on-site, however, it must be removed upon campground closing. Only fire wood is to be burned in the fire ring – the burning of trash is prohibited. Additionally, cleaning of the fire pit by the site user is required at the end of the season. Open air fires are prohibited during Red Flag, State and County Fire Bans, and/or when environmental conditions such as drought or high winds make a camp fire a safety hazard. The size of the fire within the fire ring shall be kept under control by the responsible person, and flame size/height shall not be allowed to reach a size/height that might allow the fire to escape ring containment (No Bonfires).

### **Sanitation:**

Dumpsters are provided for the disposal of trash incurred during campsite use. Bringing household trash from home to dispose of in these dumpsters is prohibited. The dumpsters are for campground site user and guest use only. If you witness a person who is not a registered site user or guest using these dumpsters, please note the license plate number of the vehicle and provide this information to the Campground Manager or the City. The following are prohibited for disposal within or at the dumpster site: Fish Remains, Mattresses, Grills, Camper and/or Camper Appliances, Flammable Liquids, Campfire Coals and Ashes. Prior to departure for the camping season, please ensure that the campsite is free of litter, and all campground infrastructure is in-place and/or on-site, as applicable.

The campground has a centrally located dump station for disposal of sewage and gray water for those sites that do not have on-site sewer, or the site user may contract with J-S Sanitation for on-site removal. Sewer site units should back-fill the black water tank before emptying to assist in preventing sluggish sewers, and ensure that the sewer hose is properly secured to prevent it falling into the sewer line. If a sewer hose, sewer cap or other item does fall into the sewer pipe, Please notify the Campground Manager or the City so that maintenance can be informed of the situation. Retrieval is easier to accomplish Before the sewer pipe becomes clogged.

The city provides port-a-potty units located throughout the campground for use by campers, primitive camping users, guests, and other recreational users of Morning Star Campground. Please do not dispose of garbage in these units.

### **Pets & Animal Control:**

Site Users and Guests are responsible for their pet(s) and behavior. All pets shall be leashed and shall not be left unattended on-site. No person may tie, hitch, duct tape or attach any animal by any means to a tree or plant on-site. Site Users and Guests with pets are responsible for picking up and proper disposal of animal waste generated by their pet(s). Site Users and Guests with pets that become a problem (constant barking, etc.), or exhibit aggressive or dangerous behaviors (biting, lunging, growling, fighting with other animals, etc.) shall be required to remove the animal from the campground, and shall not be allowed to bring that pet back.

If a pet does bite, scratch or injure another party, the registered site user(s) and/or pet owner shall immediately confine or secure the animal, render aid to the injured party, notify proper authorities, and notify the Campground Manager or appropriate City personnel of the situation. The name and contact information of the pet owner, identification and

vaccination status of the pet involved, and name and contact information of the injured party shall be provided to the Campground Manager and/or the City of Riverdale.

**Recreation Facilities:**

Morning Star Campground has a Gazebo Shelter with Picnic Tables, Playground, Horseshoe Pits, Basketball Court, and Benches located throughout the campground for use by registered campers, site users and guests. The Gazebo is not to be used as a play area or as a shelter for your vehicle. These areas are open for use on a 1<sup>st</sup> Come - 1<sup>st</sup> Serve basis. Please clean up the site when you are done using it. There is no charge for the use of these sites.

**Vendor Site:**

The Vendor Site (V1) is Only Reservable through City Hall. Please contact the Riverdale City Auditor, Del Kolke, for questions concerning this site.

**WiFi:**

West River Telephone Cooperative provides WiFi service in the campground area for a fee. If you wish to have WiFi service, please contact WRT at 701-748-2211 for details and pricing.

**Emergency Shelter:**

In case of emergency, please call 911. For shelter during dangerous weather conditions, please go to St. Paul's Lutheran Church basement at 203 - 3<sup>rd</sup> Street – East entrance.

**Prohibited Items / Prohibited Actions:**

- No personal locks on city plug-in boxes.
- No small sheds, buildings or decks.
- No dumping of garbage except in receptacles provided for disposal.
- No gardens or tree planting.
- No extension of 2x4's to the electrical posts/receptacles or water spigots.
- No discharging of fireworks, firearms, explosives, bow/arrows, crossbows, pellet guns, paintball guns, sling shots, vegetable projectile guns, etc.
- No roping off of or fencing of any campsite or any other area is allowed.
- Portable tents, gazebos and other structures are not allowed unless the campsite is occupied.

**Site Inspection / Infrastructure Item / Maintenance Charges:**

Site Mowing	\$ 75.00 (per mowing)
Picnic Table (Poly Coated Steel)	\$1000.00
Fire Ring	\$ 100.00
Backflow Preventer	\$ 100.00
Spigot	\$ 25.00
Sewer Cap	\$ 15.00

After the campground closes for the season, the city will conduct an inventory of each site. If any of the above items are missing, the City shall notify the registered site user. If the site user does not arrange with the City for the return of the item, the City shall add the cost of the item to the seasonal water and electrical surcharge for that site. During the site inspection, if any personal items are found to have been abandoned on-site, those items will be removed and disposed of. The city will not hold/store a personal item over winter for the site user.

**Termination:**

The City of Riverdale reserves the right to reject, refuse and/or terminate any and all campers and guests from use of the Morning Star Campground for non-compliance of previously stated rules and regulations. The site user/permit holder is responsible for all individuals at their campsite. For most rule violations, a written warning/letter shall be issued first to try and obtain rule compliance. Upon a 2<sup>nd</sup> violation of the rules, further restrictions/actions may be taken, such as notifying the site user that they will not be returning the next camping season. A 3<sup>rd</sup> violation of the rules by the same person will generally result in eviction of the registered site user from the campground without refund.

Please note that for actions or violations that presents a danger/hazard or severely disrupts the use of the campground by other users, the City Council has the option to evict a site user(s) on the 1<sup>st</sup> violation. If a Law Enforcement Agency has to physically remove you from the campground, and/or the Riverdale City Council has to call a special meeting to address the situation, you can expect to be evicted.

