

CITY GREEN POLICY

The intent of this Policy is to establish a means of control for the use of the City Green. Said City Green is defined as that parcel of land bounded by Green, North, Park, and Main Streets and recognized to be a public park under the control of the Vergennes City Government.

Article I – Special Use Policy

Special use refers to activities on the City Green by non-profit community service organizations, church groups, organized groups, for-profit entities, or wedding ceremonies.

Other than for-profit entities, all activities for the City Green must be scheduled through the City Clerk who will maintain a schedule and avert conflicts by scheduling uses on a “first-come, first-served” basis except for the following annual special uses that are hereby deemed approved:

- Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony (all day)
- Vergennes City Band Concerts (Mondays, June – August, 7 p.m.)
- Vergennes Farmers’ Market (Thursdays, May – September, 3 p.m.)
- Champlain Valley Christian Reformed Church Strawberry Festival
- French Heritage Day
- Vergennes Day Celebration
- Assembly of God Church Children’s Fair
- Pumpkins in the Park
- Holiday Stroll –Lighting of the City Green

Any use by a for-profit entity shall require the approval of the City Council.

Article II - Displays

The City of Vergennes is a municipality incorporated in the State of Vermont that recognizes the cultural diversity of its inhabitants. The City of Vergennes, upon application, allows private or public organizations or individuals to use the City Green for public expression. The City of Vergennes also recognizes the cultural, social and economic benefits of public gatherings on the City Green.

The City of Vergennes does not endorse nor oppose any gathering or expression. The City will post a sign stating as follows:

- All events and displays on the City Green must be scheduled by the City.
- All displays must have a sign identifying its sponsor.
- The City of Vergennes does not endorse nor oppose any authorized display.

The City Council hereby adopts the following policy relating to displays on the City Green.

- 1.) An application must be filed with the City Clerk annually with the name and address of the private sponsor of the display. The application will describe the display, the requested location on the City Green and include the dates that the display is proposed to be erected and removed. Applications shall be filed no more than 30 days prior to the first day that the display is proposed to be erected. This description and the location of the display can remain on file for recurring displays.
- 2.) The applicant shall provide a photograph of the display or a sketch of the display with the approximate dimensions and the predominant materials that the display of which it is constructed.
- 3.) The applicant will furnish and post a clear sign that will be attached to the display or in close proximity to the display, signifying its owner or sponsor.
- 4.) Displays shall not have a footprint of greater than 400 square feet and no structure shall be greater than 10 feet in height.
- 5.) Due to other scheduled events on the City Green, displays are allowed by application with the City Clerk for the period October 15 to March 15. Requests outside of the aforementioned period can also be approved by the City Council dependent on the schedule of events.
- 6.) The proposed use of the City Green may be denied if the proposed use is likely to create a public nuisance or pose a clear and present danger to public safety. Applicants granted use of the City Green shall comply with all applicable City rules, regulations and ordinances, state and federal law.
- 7.) No display shall remain in place longer than 60 days.

Article III – Management

The City Manager shall be responsible for the care and control of City Green facilities and landscaping. Alterations and additions to City Green facilities valued at one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or less shall require the approval of the City Manager; over one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) shall require City Council approval. New tree plantings not in replacement of removed trees shall require the approval of the City Council.

Adopted by the City Council on April 24, 2012