Sycamore Grove and Other LARPD Open Space Parks

…are beautiful places to take photos! In order to protect the natural areas we all share, photographers need to follow a few rules. There are also potential safety issues they should be aware of.

Who needs a permit?
Don’t worry, you do NOT need a permit to take photos of your immediate family with a smart phone!

A permit is needed if:

a) the photographer has a business where they take photos for profit even if they are not collecting fees for the session in the park.

b) the photographer uses equipment beyond a camera and tripod

c) A photographer is conducting more than one photographic portrait session in a 90 day period in District Open Space, regardless of whether or not the photos are for friends or family. (Taking photos of more than one family in a day counts as more than one portrait session).

If any of the above conditions apply to you, please call (925) 960 2400 to get a permit. (Permit fee is $50/day and includes two parking permits)

Rules
These rules apply to all photo shoots including those that do not require a permit:

- No props are permitted. Do NOT bring in decorative chairs, balloons, decorations, fake snow, confetti etc.

- PHOTOGRAPHY ON BRIDGES IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED AT ANY TIME.

- You/your group may not at any time interfere with any normal public use of the parks or block trails.

- At no time may you/your group go farther than 200 feet off of any trail or path.

- Do not go beyond any fencing. Do not sit on fencing, it may break.

- Permitee shall not make any alterations on/to the park. For example, you may not prune branches, uproot plants, move logs or rake leaves.

- Vehicles must stay in designated parking areas. No driving into the park for any reason

- You are responsible for any damage you or your group cause.

Safety

- Lock your vehicle and take valuables with you. Vehicle break-ins are known to occur.

- This is a wild area! You may see snakes, bobcats, coyotes, spiders or potentially even a mountain lion. Be aware of your surroundings, do not harass or harm wildlife and call the Rangers at (925) 960-2400 if you encounter any wildlife that concerns you.

- Always look before you sit. Look where you put your hands and feet to avoid surprising snakes, spiders and other creatures.

- Poison oak is found in our Open Space parks. Please make sure you know what this plant looks like and avoid touching it.

- Tree climbing is prohibited.

- The wood fencing is pretty but it is not designed to bear weight. Do not sit or stand on it.

- If you have any questions or other safety concerns please call the Ranger Office at (925) 960-2400