

**VILLAGE OF ARDEN, DELAWARE  
ORDINANCE #4**

**Use of the Commons and Forests**

Adopted by the Town Assembly September 27, 2010. Replaces Ordinance #4 adopted July 1973.

Section 1. Purpose. The residents of Arden wish to preserve the community forests, greens and other commons for the enjoyment of themselves and their invited guests. It shall be unlawful for any person to commit any of the following acts.

Section 2. No person or group shall sleep or camp overnight on the greens or other commons in Arden without a permit (written or electronic) from the Civic Committee. No person or group shall sleep or camp overnight in the forest without written or electronic permission from the Chairman of the Forest Committee or his/her designates. If permission is not granted, the reason for the refusal shall be made in writing to the applicant.

Section 3. No person shall litter the commons or forests of Arden. Littering of any kind in the woods, streams or commons is prohibited. "Litter" includes but is not limited to cans, paper, building material, etc., and shall also include organic material such as piles of leaves, hedge clippings and Christmas trees.

Section 4. Open fires shall not be permitted on the greens and forests except at places and times designated by the Civic or Forest Committee by permit written or electronic. However, no fires shall be permitted at times the State Fire Marshal proclaims a ban on outdoor fires.

Section 5. No person shall fell a standing tree (dead or living) in the forests or common lands without possessing authorization from the Civic or Forest Committee. Removal of wood from fallen trees in the forests shall be restricted to residents of Arden and subject to the current Forest Stewardship Policy.

Section 6. No person shall damage or destroy recreational equipment or benches on the commons or forests of Arden.

Section 7. No person shall drive a motor vehicle on the greens, forests or pedestrian paths of Arden except in parking areas designated by the Civic or Forest Committee.

Section 8. The Civic Committee shall establish rules for the use of commons including, but not restricted to, consumption of alcoholic beverages, use of recreational equipment, and requests for exclusive use of a specific area. The Forest Committee shall establish rules for Sherwood and Arden forests. The rules are to be posted at several places in the Village. The rules will take effect and can be changed after a majority vote of the Town Assembly. Violation of the rules shall be considered a violation of this ordinance.

Section 9. Violation of this ordinance shall be punishable by a fine of not less than \$50 nor exceeding \$150. Each instance of violation shall be considered a separate offense.

Section 10. Any party who violates this ordinance and/or refuses to remove litter or repair damage including graffiti in a timely manner shall be subject to a fine of \$100 and costs of the clean-up.