

Proposal for Limited Overnight Use of County Parks

Whereas Sweetwater County has park properties that provide great opportunities for our youth (and their adult leaders) to experience the outdoors with some useful conveniences.

And **whereas** Pioneer Trails, in particular has the large pavilion that is durable (built to withstand much larger groups and tougher use than what we are discussing) and is perfect for group activities and training programs.

And **whereas** these types of facilities are NOT available anywhere else in Sweetwater County!

And **whereas** Sweetwater County has had a tradition of providing for our youth and youth oriented programs.

And **whereas** Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts have used these facilities for years with NO problems caused, no damage done, and no extra cost to the County.

And **whereas** these parks have been the recipients of beneficial service projects, including Eagle Scout projects over the years.

And **whereas** the stated reason for recently changing the policy to no longer allow the Boy Scouts of America to use these facilities overnight was fairness between groups, and the only counter proposal considered was to open all parks up to ANYONE wanting to camp (That suggestion was stated purely as a non-starter.)

Therefore, be it resolved; that either all or some Sweetwater County Parks (priority choices being Pioneer Trails, and then Arrowhead Springs, with it's scenery and large grassy areas) be available to non-profit organizations (or specifically, youth-oriented non-profit organizations) for overnight use, on a reservation-required basis.

Be it **further resolved** that either a \$100 deposit, or a valid credit card be given to cover cleaning costs that could arise (but never have).

Be it **further resolved** that a certificate of liability insurance be required in order to both verify the validity of the organization using the park, and to protect the County.