

December 8, 2006

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To Whom It May Concern:

On a recent visit to Yellow River Park I noticed a list of park rules. Included on the list there was rule stating **no firearms allowed**. As a Georgia Firearms license holder I am only aware of one state law regarding firearms that apply to parks, which is OCGA 12-3-10 State Parks. OCGA 12-3-10(b) states that this law only applies to "any park, historic site, or lands **managed** by the Department of Natural Resources." Since the park is managed locally and not by the DNR then it does not apply to Yellow River park

After research I was able to find a county ordinance that addresses the rule:
"Sec. 78-32. Weapons prohibited.
It shall be unlawful for any person to take on a recreation facility any weapon, or to shoot, use, carry or employ any weapon or similar device in a recreation facility.

(Code 1978, § 4-3004; Ord. of 1-2-02(2), § 1) "
However, this ordinance is unenforceable because OCGA 16-11-173 preempts local laws.

Specifically section:
"(b)(1) **No county or municipal corporation, by zoning or by ordinance, resolution, or other enactment, shall regulate in any manner gun shows; the possession, ownership, transport, carrying, transfer, sale, purchase, licensing, or registration of firearms or components of firearms; firearms dealers; or dealers in firearms components.**" (my emphasis)

The park rules and county ordinance prohibiting the carrying of firearms in county parks should be repealed to reflect state law.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Thank you,
Steve Neisler