

Section 175-1-28: Powered Remote-Controlled Aircraft and Ground Vehicles.

- (a) The Parks & Recreation Commission and Office of Operations may designate and post certain areas within any park or recreational facility for the operation of powered remote-controlled aircraft and/or remote-controlled ground vehicles whether power is supplied by battery, gasoline or other fuel.
- (b) No person shall operate a powered remote-controlled aircraft or remote-controlled ground vehicle within any area of any park or recreational facility not expressly designated for the operation of such craft except ~~that the Parks and Recreation Commission and Office of Operations may issue a permit for the operation of an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle ("UAV") by a professional operator, certified as such and authorized by the Federal Aviation Administration ("FAA") for the professional operation of such a vehicle, in connection with cinematography, newsgathering or other authorized professional activities. Any person operating a UAV under the terms of such a permit may operate the UAV in any part of any park or recreational facility authorized by the permit.~~ an unmanned arial vehicle ("UAV") operated remotely by a pilot in command holding a valid remote pilot certificate with a small, unmanned aircraft systems rating issued by the Federal Aviation Administration. Any person operating a UAV pursuant to any such ~~permit certificate~~ shall be in possession of such ~~permit certificate~~ at all times, and shall produce such ~~permit certificate~~ on demand by any reasonably identifiable City of Stamford official or any law enforcement officer, ~~and shall comply with all applicable regulations of the FAA, any applicable local, state or federal law, and any limitations or requirements imposed by such permit.~~
- (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection (b) of this section, any member of a municipal, state or federal public safety agency operating a UAV in the performance of duty, where otherwise authorized by law, may operate the UAV within the limits of any park or recreational facility without a permit.
- (c) The provisions of subsection (b) of this section shall not apply to low-speed battery-operated children's toys which, when operated in substantial conformance with the manufacturer's instructions, pose no significant risk of causing injury, inconvenience, annoyance or alarm.
- (d) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall be guilty of a Level 2 violation of these regulations for a first offense and a Level 3 violation for any second or subsequent offense.
- (e) In addition to any fine imposed pursuant to this section, any person or group involved in the unauthorized operation of a remote-controlled aircraft or remote-controlled ground vehicle, other than low-speed battery-operated children's toys as specified in Subsection (c) of this section, and any equipment used by such unauthorized person or group, may be removed by or at the direction of a law enforcement officer.

AMENDING TO CONFORM WITH THIS STATUTE:

Sec. 7-149b. Regulation of commercial unmanned aircraft. (a) As used in this section, "commercial unmanned aircraft" means an aircraft operated remotely by a pilot in command holding a valid remote pilot certificate with a small, unmanned aircraft systems rating issued by the Federal Aviation Administration.

- (b) No municipality shall enact or enforce an ordinance or resolution that regulates the ownership, possession, purchase, sale, use, transportation or operation of any commercial unmanned aircraft or otherwise regulate the ownership, possession, purchase, sale, use, transportation or operation of such aircraft, except as otherwise authorized by state and federal law, and to the extent they do not conflict with policies and procedures adopted by the Connecticut Airport Authority. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, any municipality that is also a water company, as defined in section [25-32a](#), may enact and enforce ordinances or resolutions that regulate or prohibit the use or operation of private and commercial unmanned aircraft over such municipality's public water supply and Class I or Class II land, as described in section [25-37c](#), provided such ordinances or resolutions do not conflict with federal law or policies and procedures adopted by the Connecticut Airport Authority.