**Trail Inspection, LMC Model Policy**

*League models are thoughtfully developed by our staff for a city’s consideration. Models should be customized as appropriate for an individual city’s circumstances in consultation with the city’s attorney. Helpful background information on this model may be found in in the Information Memo* [*Parks and Recreation Loss Control Guide*](https://www.lmc.org/resources/park-and-recreation-loss-control-guide/)*.*

City of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Minnesota

Trail Inspection Policy

It is the policy of the city of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Parks and Recreation Board, as approved by the city council to inspect all park trails for damage, tar settlement, downed trees or branches, or other physical conditions that may be hazardous to trail users. This policy is based on: the community’s value of city trails; the need to stay within current budgetary constraints; and city residents and visitor’s desire to use city trails for a wide variety of recreational pursuits.

1. Park trail inspection will be conducted at the following intervals: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
2. Inspection of trails designated as high maintenance will be done by mowing crews every seven to ten days as trail areas are mowed.
3. Inspection of trails designated as low maintenance will be done on a monthly basis by the Superintendent of Parks or other specified employee.
4. Park trails may be inspected at less frequent intervals under the following situations:

* When weather conditions create a health or safety concern to workers or make inspections otherwise inappropriate.
* When personnel or equipment is limited because of work on other projects or because of excess hours previously worked.
* When financial resources are unavailable.
* When trail usage, grass height, and/or the relatively maintenance-free characteristics of some trails do not justify the trail being mowed or inspected.

1. With respect to all park trails, it is the policy of the city of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, wherever feasible and reasonable, to trim or prune trees to a minimum ten-foot heights above trails and three-feet beyond the trail edge.
2. All park trails are swept in late March or early April to remove debris.
3. Written records of mowing frequency and any park trail inspection records are to be kept at the park maintenance garage.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Director of Parks & Recreation, Superintendent of Parks, Mayor, or Clerk)