

**From:** [Allan Watson](#)  
**To:** [emnrd-parkscomments, EMNRD](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Proposed increase in fees.  
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Greetings:

Instead of increasing revenue, how about getting better utilization of what you have? I go to Fenton Lake State Park quite a bit, and notice that the campgrounds are mostly empty during the week due to the reservation system implemented several years ago. That \$12 registration fee is ridiculous, if you're not camping for at least 3 days.

I use to camp at least 6 times a year before the reservations kicked in, but I am still a working stiff.

Don't always know when I can take 2 days off in the middle of the week. Now I camp 1 time a year,

right before you close for the season on Sep 15. At least half the campground should be first come,

first serve. The only exception could be on holiday weeks, and the week before school.

Which brings up another point. Why close so early? Use to be able to camp until Oct 31. Just because

it snowed once in September, you close the campground during the best part of the season. Foolishness or laziness?

Eliminating day use fees would be a disaster for Fenton Lake. It would get overwhelmed on weekends,

and a rather unpleasant experience for both campers and fisherman. Holiday weekends, forget it.

If you want to encourage out of state tourism, this is NOT the way to go. Keep the Annual Pass for Day Use.

I am flexible on the Annual Camping Pass. Getting close to retirement age, so I could benefit from it.

Or make it valid on weekdays only. Or get rid of both the Annual Camping Pass and the reservation system.

Allan Watson  
Fenton Park camper since 1976