



**Hillsborough  
County Florida**

Conservation &  
Environmental Lands  
Management

## **After-Hours Fishing Permit Rules and Regulations**

The After-Hours Fishing Permit program is a privilege extended to Annual Pass and Boat Ramp Pass holders. The privilege can be revoked or restricted at Park or Preserve Management's discretion if rules or regulations are not being followed.

After Hours Fishing Permits can be used at E.G. Simmons Conservation Park, Edward Medard Conservation Park, or Apollo Beach Nature Preserve. These passes are exclusive to the site it was purchased for and cannot be transferred to another site.

After-Hours Permits do not cover the entrance fee for Conservation Parks; therefore, an Annual Parks Pass is also required for these sites. If launching a vessel for fishing, an Annual Boat Ramp pass is required. If fishing from a bank, boardwalk, or dock designated for fishing, the boat ramp pass is not required.

### **Requirements**

- To obtain an After-Hours Fishing Permit you must be at least 18 years old.
- A picture ID and the After-Hours Fishing Permit must always be in your possession while in the park or preserve.
- A valid fishing license is required of the permit holder and all patrons who may be with them over the age of 16. The license is required when purchasing the After-Hours Fishing Permit.
- Only vehicles with a valid After-Hours Fishing Permit are authorized to be in the park or preserve after hours. All other vehicles will either be given a \$30 ticket or towed at owner's expense.
- Permit holder must obey all park or preserve rules, regulations, and those of Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

### **Rules and Regulations**

- The pass holder must be actively engaged in fishing or going directly to/from the fishing area.
- Vehicles and trailers must be parked in designated parking areas adjacent to fishing areas or boat ramps.
- The following areas are off limits:
  - Any camping areas (unless previously registered to camp)
  - The office area and residential areas (except in emergency)
  - Shelters or structures not directly part of allowed fishing areas or launches
  - Private property
- Cast netting and commercial cast netting rules vary by location, please call the location you are interested in for further details on allowed activities.

- The use of trout lines, set hooks, bush hooks, nets or traps are strictly prohibited on park property (this also includes gigs, spears, and bow and arrow fishing).
- All Fishermen are subject to Florida State Laws and restrictions concerning fishing.

### **Annual Pass information**

- A Family Annual Pass with a valid after-hours fishing permit admits the pass holder and a maximum of 7 guests and must bring them in the same vehicle with after-hours pass.
- Individual Annual Pass holders may not bring guests after hours.
- Boat launch pass - If using boat ramp to launch your vessel.

### **For More Information**

For questions regarding the after-hours fishing program at a specific site, please contact the site directly.

- Edward Medard Conservation Park: (813) 757-3802
- E.G. Simmons Conservation Park: (813) 671-7655
- Apollo Beach Nature Preserve, call the Bell Creek Office: (813) 672-7876

For questions regarding the after-hours fishing program in general, or about purchasing passes, at please contact the Conservation Parks Admin at (813) 829-2626 or [conservationparksadmin@hcfl.gov](mailto:conservationparksadmin@hcfl.gov)