

Duties of a Park Warden

When conducting an options analysis what is appropriate to be considered for the law enforcement columns?

Prioritized issue (examples)	Pro-Active Enforcement	Reactive Enforcement
Visitor Experience		
Visitor experience in campgrounds or day use areas.	Park warden presence in targeted area especially at identified day/time where historically issues are most frequent.	As required.
Visitor experience in national historic sites not included in the CNPA and historic canals.	Support for planning related to strategies to resolve issues can be requested in the SDA process. Park wardens can be requested to be the liaison with PSOJ.	Will be referred to the PSOJ.
Resource Protection		
Poaching.	Targeted patrols by park wardens in suspected area; intelligence gathering; special operations.	As required.
Habitat destruction.	Park warden presence in area where problem is persistent and recurring, and the root cause does not indicate the problem could be fixed by prevention strategies alone in the short term.	As required.
Cultural resource thefts.	Targeted patrols by park wardens in suspected area; intelligence gathering; special operations.	As required.
Minor resource protection infractions (e.g., dog off leash, picking flowers, scavenging for firewood).	Prevention strategies should be used to deal with these types of issues. Park wardens can be asked to deal with these types of issues where it has been demonstrated that non-compliance is chronic, and all prevention actions have failed to resolve the issue.	Park wardens may deal with these issues in "found committing" situations (e.g., they will not ignore someone scavenging for firewood) but they will not be scheduled to look for these types of offences.
Public Safety		
Area closures (e.g., bear, avalanche).	Park warden presence at a closure where there is a demonstrated need for law enforcement due to non-compliance; otherwise, other park staff should handle area closures.	As required.
Restricted activities (e.g., caving, cliff jumping)	Park warden presence in high risk, recurring activity areas, or for special operations related to these issues.	As required.

Prioritized issue (examples)	Pro-Active Enforcement	Reactive Enforcement
Response to a public safety incident	N/A	Park wardens will not lead an incident or receive any specialized training beyond what, for example, visitor experience or facilities and services staff receive (e.g., basic first aid). They will not be trained to the level of Resource Management and Public Safety Specialists. As is the case with other staff, park wardens may be called on to assist in a situation.
Administration		
Non-compliance with leases, licences of occupation, entry permits, camping permits, backcountry use permits.	<p>Prevention strategies should be used to deal with administrative issues.</p> <p>Park wardens can be asked to deal with an administrative issue where it has been demonstrated that non-compliance is chronic, and all prevention actions have failed to resolve the issue.</p>	<p>Park wardens conduct evictions for <i>CNPA</i> offences and will engage the PSOJ if necessary for evictions related to <i>Criminal Code of Canada</i> offences.</p> <p>Park wardens will deal with administrative issues in “found committing” situations (e.g., they will not ignore an expired entry permit if they see one) but they will not be scheduled to look for these types of offences.</p>
Public Peace		
Provincial Statutes Liquor, highway traffic	<p>Prevention strategies should be used to curb these types of issues (e.g. liquor bans, traffic calming techniques, etc.).</p> <p>Park wardens may pro-actively enforce highway traffic act offences when such enforcement has been approved within a special operation for the purposes of resource protection.</p>	<p>Park wardens will enforce provincial liquor legislation when authorized, in order to support visitor experience.</p> <p>The PSOJ is responsible for enforcement of the <i>Criminal Code of Canada</i> and provincial highway traffic acts on Parks Canada highways.</p> <p>Park wardens will enforce highway traffic act offences in “found committing” situations (e.g. when they observe an impaired driving offence).</p>
<i>Criminal Code of Canada</i> infractions (e.g. theft, assault)		<p>Primary responsibility is the PSOJ.</p> <p>Park wardens may respond in a “found committing” situation where there is a significant threat to park visitors, property or staff and there is an immediate need to secure the scene or deal with a threat prior to the arrival of the PSOJ.</p> <p>Park wardens will not be called out as primary responders to offences against <i>the Criminal Code of Canada</i>.</p> <p>A public peace response cannot be built into the SDA but a request for park wardens to work with PSOJ partners to resolve <i>Criminal Code of Canada</i> issues can be made.</p>

What about park wardens working outside of a heritage place?

Park wardens may exercise law enforcement authority outside of heritage places boundaries under certain circumstances:

- In response to an offence against Parks Canada Agency legislation that occurred in the heritage place or in response to an offence under other legislation that took place on Agency managed lands not listed in the *CNPA* where such legislation provides protection of resources or visitor experience.
- In response to offences occurring on lands adjacent to heritage places where such offences are having an unacceptable impact on our ability to protect resources. The exercise of enforcement authority for non-Agency legislation outside of heritage place boundaries would require the approval of provincial/territorial authorities.

What about park wardens working with other law enforcement officers?

Joint force operations within and outside of heritage places are supported by policy when there is a defined need and appropriate approvals are in place. The service delivery agreement (SDA) will identify issues and the staff of the Law Enforcement Branch will determine, with appropriate consultation, if a strategy involving other law enforcement officers is warranted.