SLACK LINING AND HAMMOCK POLICY

Slack lining is defined as an activity in which the participant walks on a span of nylon webbing tensioned between two anchor points with the ground below. This practice as defined and all associated equipment are regulated by this policy for property controlled or maintained by the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. A hammock is a sling made of fabric, rope, or netting, suspended between two anchor points, used for swinging, sleeping, or resting.

PERMITTED ACTIVITY

Slack lining and use of a hammock is permitted between the hours of sunrise and sunset. To provide for the safety of the campus community the following guidelines have been established:

ASSUMPTION OF RISK

Participants and spectators assume any and all risk associated with this activity that carries certain inherent risks. For participants, the risks include but are not limited to: minor injuries such as scratches and sprains; major injuries such as fractures and concussions; and catastrophic injuries which include paralysis, and/or death. Participants and spectators take full responsibility for following best safety practices within this activity.

RULES

All slack lines or hammocks may be affixed on a temporary basis while in use by a responsible person and must be removed when not in use. The owner of the slack lining equipment or hammock is responsible for setting up and taking down the equipment and may not leave equipment unattended at any time. Unattended slack lining equipment or hammocks may be removed and stored without notice.

All equipment associated with the practice of slack lining or use of a hammock should be maintained in an operable and safe condition. This is the sole responsibility of the participants.

Lines may only be affixed to appropriately sized trees and in the manner set forth below:

- Only trees greater than 1 foot in diameter may be used as anchor posts.
- To comply with Chapter UWS 18, Conduct on University Land, UWS 18.12(8), no branches shall be broken or removed to facilitate location of lines.
- To protect the trees, tree protection is required with the use of some type of heavy padding, (i.e. Carpet squares, corrugated cardboard, foam camping pads, or similar material). This protection must be placed between the tree and the line that is tied to the tree.
- A clear and soft landing surface such as grass must be present under the full length of the slack line.
- Trees and/or landscaped areas showing any damage from slack lining or hammock use activities may be restricted from future use at the discretion of UW-Platteville University Police or Facilities Management personnel. If damage is detected, the participant may be responsible for the replacement value of the tree.
- The slack line or hammock may not be elevated to a height of more than 3 feet at the center of the span.

• Slack lines or hammock ties may not exceed a length of 40 feet.
• Memorial trees or other trees posted by sign may not be used as anchors for this activity.
• University Officials may direct that equipment that appears to be unsafe or improperly set up be removed.
• Participants may not be under the influence of drugs or alcoholic beverages.
• Slack lines or hammocks may not be set up within a Special Event Zone.
• Slack lines or hammocks may not be affixed within 20 feet of sidewalks, buildings, roads, streets, bikeways, water features, sport courts, bike racks, handrails, art objects, fences or light poles.
• Lines may only be attached to approved campus trees as noted above and may not be affixed to any other campus fixture including but not limited to buildings, bike racks, handrails, art objects, fences or light poles.  Chapter UWS 18, Conduct on University Lands, UWS 18.07(1) references use of University buildings.
• Activities such as stunts or tricks involving flips are not permitted.

PROHIBITED ACTIVITY
This policy may be enforced by University Officials or the UW-Platteville Police Department for the safety of the campus community and to maintain the functions and processes of the University. Violations of this policy may result in both University sanctions and/or criminal prosecution. All University policies and regulations, State laws, and local ordinances are in effect and may be enforced. At any time upon the direction of University Officials or the UW-Platteville Police Department, for any reason, the activity could be asked to be curtailed and all equipment removed immediately.