

Dog Park Rules and Regulations Introduction

The following guidelines were established by researching best practices in other dog parks around the country and public review through the Traverse City Parks and Recreation Commission. These guidelines are in addition to other City, County or State rules and regulations administering pet ownership, health, and safety, as well as maintenance and noise control in City Parkland.

The guidelines are to ensure well-maintained space that will contribute to both the quality of life and economic vitality of the City. Park users are expected to show a strong commitment to the park, by taking ownership of its care to meet the needs of dog owners and non-dog owners alike. Through this collective effort the dog park will continue to be a valuable service to the community. If you see someone not following the rules, please kindly remind them this is a shared space with shared responsibilities.

Guidelines

- Users of the park enter at their own and their dog's risk of enjoyment and injury.
- The individual accompanying the dog to the park will be considered the owner for purposes of these guidelines.
- Owners are responsible for the actions of their dogs. Keep dogs close-by and under control. If reasonable control is not possible, do not enter the enclosed areas.
- Dog owners assume any liability for any injury or damage to any person, animal or property caused by their dog(s) or themselves.
- The City of Traverse City does not assume any liability for any injury or damage to any person, animal or property resulting from use of the dog park and waives no immunities granted by law.
- Owners must clean up after their dogs. Numerous waste stations have been included in the park for your convenience.
- Before entering, please be sure your dog is calm and balanced. Many dogs would benefit from a long walk before entering the enclosure.
- Do not enter through the second gate with the leash on your dog.
- Both gates must be closed and latched after entering or exiting the area.
- Please carry a leash at all times.
- Under no circumstance should dogs be left unattended .
- Dogs must be properly licensed, healthy, and have current vaccinations.
- All dogs must wear a collar and current registration tags.
- No puppies under 16 weeks old or dogs in heat are allowed in the enclosures.
- Be considerate to the neighbors. Dogs that continually bark may need to be muzzled or removed. Please be particularly aware of noise around the quiet hours of mornings and evenings.
- Children under 14-years old may not enter the enclosures without adult supervision.
- Infants or small children are strongly discouraged from entering the off-leash areas.
- Do not bring strollers or other wheeled devices into the enclosures.
- There is a limit of 3 dogs per adult user in each enclosed area at any one time.

- Use common sense concerning the number of dogs in the enclosed areas at one time. If the park seems crowded, wait until a dog leaves before entering.
- Dogs displaying aggressive or under-socialized behavior must be controlled or removed.
- Smoking, eating, dog food , rawhides, and glass containers are prohibited in the enclosures.
- Digging is not allowed. Please do not allow your dog to tear up the grounds.
- The smaller enclosure of the park is for dogs under 25-lbs only.
- Dogs are not allowed in the adjacent playground or tennis court areas.
- Off-leash applies only within the enclosed areas.
- Professional training classes are not allowed in the dog park.
- Please leave the park better than you found it.

Contact Us

To help us better manage this park we need your input. Please send comments, concerns, and observations to the Parks and Recreation Department at 625 Woodmere Avenue, (231) 922-4910, ext.114 or email to Parks and Recreation Superintendent Derek Melville:

dmelville@traversecitymi.gov

In case of an emergency, please contact the Traverse City Police Department at 911 or (231) 995-5150.

If needed, animal control can be contacted at (231) 922-2910.