



DOG PARK ETIQUETTE

Following these basic guidelines will ensure that you and your dog get the most out of your dog park visit. Be sure to take your dog's temperament into consideration and don't assume s/he's having a good time – keep an eye on your dog's demeanor. Some dogs will have no desire to play but will prefer to sniff all the bushes and trees; other dogs will be thrilled to race another dog from one end of the park to the other. Both can benefit from time at the dog park.

- **Follow the posted rules.** Following the park's rules will help ensure everyone's safety and keep the dog park open and available to all dogs
- **Avoid congregating at the entrance area.** Try to get your dog in or out of the entrance area quickly to avoid incidents with others and do not linger in this area.
- **ALWAYS clean up after your dog.** Bring your own poop bag or use one available at the park. This helps prevent the unintentional spread of disease and intestinal parasites. Plus, this is the primary reason for complaints, so pick up that poop and dispose of it in the trash can. It is NOT OK to leave it for someone else. Also, don't be afraid to "adopt-a-poop" if you see some that has been left behind.
- **Keep your dog on-leash as you enter and exit the park.** This is not just respectful to other park users, it's much safer for your dog.
- **Refrain from using the leash while in the off-leash area.** A dog on a leash can feel threatened when surrounded by other dogs that are off leash and this could lead to unnecessary aggression.
- **Don't smoke or eat while at the park.** Cigarette butts and food wrappers are tempting treats to dogs, but bad for them.
- **Always keep an eye on your dog.** Mischief can happen quickly. Interrupt rough play. If your dog becomes unruly or continues to play rough, leash him/her and leave the park.
- **Remove any halters, metal choke chains or link collars.** In the rough and tumble play, a tooth or nail could get caught in this type of collar, resulting in a scared dog, lost tooth or broken nail and possibly a panic fight.
- **Do not bring a female dog in heat.**
- **Avoid bringing young children.** With all the dogs running and playing, children could easily be knocked down. A running, yelling child attracts attention and could become a target for many dogs.
- **Do not take treats or toys into the dog park.** If a dog becomes territorial with his/her toy, this could lead to fights. Dogs could also swallow abandoned toys.

Brought to you by WAG Farms Dog Park Association
Questions/Comments:



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