

Dogs in Bethlehem Town Parks: Research Report and Recommendations



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INTRODUCTION

1 PURPOSE

To make recommendations to the Town of Bethlehem Parks and Recreation Department regarding its current policy on dogs in Town parks.

Bethlehem's Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Master Plan (November 2015) recommended that the Town "explore opportunities for on leash dogs in selected town parks." At the request of the Parks and Recreation Department and in accordance with the Friends' mission and Strategic Plan, the organization accepted this task.

At the recommendation of the Department, issues related to the Town Dog Park, while important, are different and have been reserved for separate study. The availability of town dog parks is relevant, however, to the issues of allowing dogs in multi-use parks.

2 RESEARCH PROCESS

2.1 PHASE 1: POLICY AND FACILITY RESEARCH

1. [Identify Bethlehem's current policy regarding dogs in Town parks.](#)
(Source: Town)
2. [Summarize the policies of neighboring municipalities regarding dogs in public parks.](#)
(Source: Research on neighboring municipalities)
3. [Identify issues that should be addressed in a dog policy for multi-use parks.](#)
(Source: Research policies of neighboring municipalities and other representative organizations. Identify issues based on past public input – emails, comments, Friends survey, and Master Plan. Note: Include service dogs and foster dogs.)
4. [Identify options for each issue \(e.g., dogs are allowed in no parks, all parks, some parks, parts of parks\)](#)
(Source: Research and analysis)

2.2 PHASE 2: PUBLIC AND TOWN ADMINISTRATION INPUT

1. [Solicit, collect and summarize public input.](#)
(Source: Public survey and other written input)
2. [Solicit, collect and summarize Town administration input.](#)
(Source: Interviews with Town staff)

3 POLICY AND FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS

Friends of Bethlehem Parks and Recreation recommend that the Parks and Recreation Department propose changes to the Town Code to codify the allowance of dogs in all Bethlehem

Town parks, subject to certain restrictions. Other sections of the Town Code related to the regulation of dogs, such as disposal of fecal matter and code enforcement, would continue to apply.

Friends also recommend that the Town support certain expenditures to help ensure public understanding of and compliance with the proposed changes.

PHASE 1: POLICY AND FACILITIES RESEARCH

1 SUMMARY OF CURRENT BETHLEHEM DOG POLICIES

Current Parks and Recreation Department policy prohibits dogs from Town Parks except: in the Town Dog Park, by permit; on-leash in Moh-He-Con-Nuck Nature Preserve; and on the public road through Henry Hudson Park.

Current Town Code provisions regulating dogs in the Town in general require a dog to be restrained by a leash or to be under the full control of someone accompanying the dog. Town Code does not specifically address dogs in Town parks.

For the detailed policies see [Appendix B](#).

2 COMPARING LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES

2.1 MUNICIPALITIES RESEARCHED

We researched 20 local municipalities:

Albany	Cohoes	Guilderland	Queensbury
Athens	Colonie	Halfmoon	Schenectady
Ballston Spa	East Greenbush	Milton	Troy
Bethlehem	Glens Falls	Niskayuna	Waterford
Clifton Park	Green Island	Poughkeepsie	Watervliet

For detailed information by municipality, see [Appendix D](#).

2.2 RESEARCH SUMMARY

Dogs allowed

Of the 20 municipalities researched:

- 14 allow dogs on-leash in all their multi-use parks (Albany, Athens, Ballston Spa, Clifton Park, Cohoes, East Greenbush, Glens Falls, Guilderland, Halfmoon, Milton, Niskayuna, Poughkeepsie, Schenectady and Waterford).
- One (Queensbury) allows on-leash dogs except in one park that is designated as a “barrier-free park for kids of all abilities.”
- Four (Bethlehem, Colonie, Troy and Watervliet) generally prohibit dogs but allow them at one park or in designated fenced areas within multi-use parks.
- One (Green Island) prohibits dogs without exception.

Leash policy

Most municipalities (17 of 20 researched) that allow dogs in at least one of their multi-use parks require that the dogs be leashed at all times.

Of the two that allow dogs off-leash in a multi-use park, Albany is most lenient, allowing any dogs “under control of their owner” to be off-leash; Clifton Park allows residents’ dogs off-leash by permit.

Most municipalities do not specify a maximum leash length; among those that do, lengths vary from 6 to 10 feet.

Permit requirements

None of the municipalities researched that allow dogs in their multi-used parks require a permit for leashed dogs in those parks.

Access to dedicated dog parks

Seven of the municipalities that generally permit dogs in multi-use parks also provide designated dog parks; four of these (Albany, Athens, Ballston Spa, Schenectady) do not require a permit.

Two municipalities (Bethlehem, Colonie) that generally prohibit dogs provide permit-only dog parks for residents.

Only Green Island neither allows dogs in any park nor provides a municipal dog park.

Service and therapy dog policies

None of the municipalities researched have written policies specifically regarding service or therapy dogs in their multi-use parks.

3 DOG POLICIES AND FACILITIES ISSUES AND OPTIONS

3.1 POLICIES AND FACILITIES ISSUES

Policy issues concern where dogs are allowed in parks; leash requirements; what kinds of dogs are allowed; permitted behaviors for dogs and their humans; and permitting and fees, among others.

Facilities issues concern safety, security, maintenance, and amenities for dog and human recreation and comfort.

See [Appendix C](#), which lists specific policy and facilities issues for Bethlehem.

3.2 POLICY OPTIONS

Some municipalities’ policies for multi-use parks simply state whether dogs are allowed and whether they should be leashed. Rules for dog parks, where dogs are permitted unleashed, are usually quite detailed. It is useful to review a range of policies when considering potential rules for allowing dogs in multi-use parks.

Several specific municipal policy examples are given in [Appendix D](#).

PHASE 2: PUBLIC AND TOWN ADMINISTRATION INPUT

1 PUBLIC INPUT — SURVEY

The Dogs in Bethlehem Town Parks: Community Survey was conducted online by Friends of Bethlehem Parks and Recreation December 23, 2017 – January 31, 2018. A total of 1,192 respondents took the survey. The majority of respondents (60.7%) live in ZIP code 12054. The next-best-represented ZIPs are 12077 (16.3%), 12158 (11%), and 12159 (8.9%). A total 35 others responded from other local ZIPs, with about half of those residing outside of Bethlehem.

The survey was open to the public and promoted via the Friends' email list, website, and Facebook page; the Parks and Recreation Department email list; the Town of Bethlehem website; local news outlets; and other social media. Respondents accessed the survey through a link on the Friends' website. Depending on a respondent's answers, certain questions may not have been presented to the respondent.

Respondents had the option to identify themselves by providing their email addresses, for which their addresses were entered into a drawing for a \$25 Shop Bethlehem gift card. While responses are aggregated and summarized in this report, individual responses will remain confidential.

A summary of findings follows. More detailed findings are available in the Community Survey Report at <https://bit.ly/2CEtzlg>.

Most respondents favor allowing dogs in Town parks.

More than three-quarters of respondents said yes, dogs should be allowed in Bethlehem Town parks, with restrictions. About 23% of respondents said no. Less than 1% of respondents had no opinion.

There is strong support for allowing dogs in all Town parks.

More than three-quarters of those who specified the parks in which dogs should be allowed said all Town parks should be open to dogs. Henry Hudson Park, Elm Avenue Park and Moh-He-Con-Nuck Nature Preserve got top results among those who picked from the list of individual parks.

There is strong support for access on trails and in open areas, but access to playing fields drew more mixed responses.

The survey specified that some park areas are not open for consideration for access to dogs: in the pool complex; on playgrounds and fitness stations; on courts and playing fields during games; on the golf course in season. A goal of the survey was to determine if respondents who favored allowing dogs at all would prefer restricting access to certain other areas of the parks as well. All options listed refer to on-leash access only.

Those who favor allowing dogs in parks show strong support for allowing dogs on walking/hiking trails and grassy play areas (98% and 92%, respectively, of those who gave feedback on specific areas of the parks). Somewhat fewer would allow dogs at pavilions and off-season at the golf course, and slightly less than three-quarters would allow them on mountain bike trails.

About a quarter would ban dogs on playing fields even when not in use; fewer would prohibit them in spectator areas of playing fields / courts. The strongest opposition to access concerns tennis/basketball/volleyball courts even when not in use — more than 55% would prohibit dogs there.

Most dog owners favor allowing dogs in parks; nonowners are split.

Of the 735 respondents who identified as dog owners or guardians, about 89% favored allowing dogs in parks with restrictions. Among the 410 respondents who said they are not dog owners or guardians, opinions were evenly split.

Most dog owners have just one mid-sized dog.

About three-quarters of responding dog owners are responsible for just one dog; only 3% care for 3 or more dogs. Mid-sized dogs make up about 45% of the respondents' ownership, with large dogs and small dogs roughly comparable in number (about 29% and 23%, respectively).

Most dog owners use their own properties for outdoor activities; many take to the streets or other local parks.

Over 95% of responding dog owners take their dogs onto their own property for outdoor activities. More than three-quarters use town streets. More than a third take their dogs to the Albany County Helderberg-Hudson Rail Trail and/or parks in other communities. The Town Dog Park is used by only a quarter of respondents. Relatively few report taking their dogs to Moh-He-Con-Nuck Nature Preserve (where dogs are currently allowed).

Those who currently take their dogs to Town parks other than the Dog Park or Moh-He-Con-Nuck — about 6%, despite Parks and Recreation Department policy, which prohibits the practice — take their dogs out on their own properties at about the same rate (95%) as other dog owners but report even greater use of Town streets, the Dog Park and other properties.

Dog owners who said they use “other” places for outdoor activities with their dogs mentioned local golf courses and parks in Albany, Colonie and surrounding communities; Mohawk-Hudson Land Conservancy properties; Thacher and other state parks as well as Huyck Preserve; Bethlehem school properties, churches and “public spaces”; and private properties and businesses and farmer’s markets. Several commented on the need to go outside of Bethlehem for outdoor activities.

Most — but not all — dog owners would take their dogs to the parks if allowed.

Of dog owners who report obeying the current rules prohibiting dogs in Town parks — over 94% of responding owners — more than 78% would take their dogs to the parks if Bethlehem changed its policy. About 10% of those respondents would not take their dogs to a Town park even if allowed; 12% are unsure.

Looking at both dog owners and nonowners who responded, 57% would bring a dog to Town parks if allowed. Slightly less than a third would not take a dog to one of these parks even if allowed, and about 12% are unsure.

Elm Avenue and Henry Hudson parks would see the most dogs, if allowed.

Among dog owners/guardians who told us where they would take their dogs if allowed in Town parks, nearly 95% named Elm Avenue Park, followed by Henry Hudson Park at 70% — far outpacing neighborhood parks, which averaged only about 26%. Close to half would take their dogs to Colonial Acres Golf Course.

Among 76 current nonowners/nonguardians who said they might bring a dog if allowed, roughly the same percentage would go to Elm Avenue, Henry Hudson or Colonial Acres, as compared to current owners. But those who don't currently own a dog would be much more likely to bring one to the neighborhood parks — nearly 40%.

Chief concerns relate to others' rights; safety; sanitation; and health.

Of the 322 respondents who left additional comments, the majority were opposed — often strongly opposed — to allowing dogs in parks. Some not strictly opposed still noted serious concerns. Their comments (summarized here) related to:

- putting people’s needs, rights and comfort first (31%)
- concerns about waste, allergies and disease (26%)
- claims that too many dog owners do not and will not act responsibly or follow park rules regarding dogs (24%)
- concerns about safety (24%)
- a belief that the Town Dog Park or other available spaces are sufficient for use with dogs (11%)
- claims that restrictions and penalties will be unenforceable (2%)
- concerns that the Town will be liable for injury caused by dogs (2%)
- opinion that dogs in parks infringe on taxpayers’ rights / taxpayers have already paid for dogs at the Dog Park (1%).

Of those providing additional comments, only 7 (2%) included positive aspects of allowing dogs in parks. Their comments mentioned dogs enhancing their experience, while some wished to ensure dogs would be well-behaved and leashed. Another 114 left remarks that were not specifically in favor or opposed to allowing dogs; of these 101 simply reiterated that they don’t own a dog.

2 TOWN ADMINISTRATION INPUT — INTERVIEWS

The Friends solicited input on Town dog policies through face-to-face meetings with Town staff, including:

- [Parks and Recreation Department](#): Nan Lanahan, Past Administrator (during her tenure as Administrator); Jason Gallo, Administrator
- [Highway Department](#): Peter Schmidt, Highway Foreman
- [Police Department](#): Cmdr. Adam Hornick
- [Police Department — Animal Control](#): Richard Watt, Animal Control Officer

Interviewees offered varied viewpoints, but all emphasized that no department is specifically for or against allowing dogs in parks. Concerns focused on the surrounding issues, potential impacts and enforceability of any given policy, including:

- The current policy on dogs in Town parks is difficult to enforce because it is not included in the Town Code.
- Any change in policy that allows leashed dogs in the parks should be:
 - reviewed by Town Counsel and formalized in the Bethlehem Town Code (current Town Code includes an “order of control” law, not a “leash law”).
 - supported by in-park signage and waste stations.
 - accompanied by educational materials (e.g. brochure at Parks office, bulletin boards, Town Hall; palm card for Town staff) that explain the rules in plain language.
 - shared widely on Town information platforms, traditional media and social media.
- People already bring their dogs to the parks. A change in policy that recognizes this reality and provides incentives for safe behavior and appropriate handling of waste could potentially benefit all users of Town parks.

- Problems with dog waste are not limited to our parks. Town staff have seen an increase in inappropriately handled waste on our roadways and other Town properties.
- A change in policy could open our parks to dog-related programs that educate about safe, appropriate activities for dogs in the parks.
- Colonial Acres poses unique considerations in order to preserve the intended quality of the golf course and to mitigate the enticement to let dogs run free on its extensive open spaces, where enforcement is especially difficult. As a golf course, it should remain closed to dogs.
- An increase in the need to enforce a new policy could impact the workflow of Town Police Department, Animal Control Officer and Town Court.
- We are fortunate to have parks with both open and secluded spaces. This also means parks policy can be difficult to enforce, regardless of whether it is prohibitive or permissive. Police and other Town employees should not be expected to see and stop every violation. Personal responsibility is important; respectful reminders from fellow patrons could help.

POLICY AND FACILITIES RECOMMENDATIONS

1 POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on our research findings, and in close consultation with the Parks and Recreation Department, Friends of Bethlehem Parks and Recreation recommends that the Department propose changes to the Town Code specifically addressing dogs in Town parks. These regulations would apply to all Town parkland, except areas designated as Town dog parks. Dogs would not be prohibited from Town parks. However, in addition to the restrictions enumerated in Section 61-5 of the Town Code, we recommend it shall be unlawful for any person who has a dog in a Town park to violate the following rules:

- All dogs must be a minimum of four months old and licensed in accordance with the Town Code.
- At all times, all dogs shall be accompanied by a responsible person at least 12 years of age, under full control of that person, and restrained by a physical leash no longer than six feet in length.
- No dogs shall be allowed in the following areas:
 - Elm Avenue Park Pool Complex
 - Playgrounds
 - Fitness stations
 - On courts
 - On playing fields while in use
 - Golf courses
 - Community gardens
 - Areas temporarily closed due to maintenance, restoration, or weather conditions, as indicated by signs, fences, or flags

All other sections of the Town Code related to the regulation of dogs and not inconsistent with these new regulations would continue to apply, including disposal of fecal matter, enforcement, etc.

2 FACILITIES RECOMMENDATIONS

Friends also recommended that, should these changes to the Town Code be enacted, the Town support expenditures for appropriate signage, waste disposal stations, and public information to help ensure public understanding of and compliance with the changes.

APPENDIX

APPENDIX A: TOWN OF BETHLEHEM CODE

Chapter 61, Article 1: Regulation of Dogs

[Adopted 2-13-1980 by L.L. No. 1-1980]

§ 61-1 Purpose. [Amended 7-10-1991 by L.L. No. 3-1991]

The Town Board of the Town of Bethlehem finds that the running at large and other uncontrolled behavior of licensed and unlicensed dogs have created physical harm to persons and damage to property and have created other nuisances within the Town. The purpose of this article is to protect the health, safety and well-being of persons and property by imposing restrictions on the keeping and running at large of dogs.

§ 61-2 Statutory authority.

This article is enacted pursuant to the provisions of Article 7 of the Agriculture and Markets Law and the Municipal Home Rule Law of the State of New York.

§ 61-3 Title.

The title of this article shall be the "Dog Control Law of the Town of Bethlehem."

§ 61-4 Definitions.

As used in this article, the following words shall have the following respective meanings:

DOG

Male and female, licensed and unlicensed, members of the species *Canis familiaris*.

FECAL MATTER

All feces, excrement, manure, dung or solid waste matter discharged by a dog.

[Added 7-10-1991 by L.L. No. 3-1991]

OWNER

Person entitled to claim lawful custody and possession of a dog and who is responsible for purchasing the license for such dog unless the dog is or has been lost and such loss was promptly reported to the Dog Control Officer or a police agency and a reasonable search has been made. If a dog is not licensed, the term "owner" shall designate and cover any person or persons, firm, association or corporation who or which at any time owns or has custody or control of, harbors or is otherwise responsible for any dog which is kept, brought or comes within the Town. Any person owning or harboring a dog for a period of one week prior to the filing of any complaint charging a violation of this article shall be held and deemed to be the "owner" of such dog for the purpose of this article. In the event that the "owner" of any dog found to be in violation of this article shall be under 18 years of age, any head of the household in which said minor resides shall be deemed to have custody and control of said dog and shall be responsible for any acts of the said dog in violation of this article.

RUN AT LARGE

To be in a public place or on private lands without the knowledge, consent and approval of the owner of such lands.

TOWN

The Town of Bethlehem.

§ 61-5 Restrictions.

It shall be unlawful for any owner of any dog in the Town to permit or allow such dog to:

A. Run at large unless the dog is restrained by an adequate leash not exceeding six feet in length or unless it is accompanied by its owner or a responsible person and under the full control of such owner or person. For the purpose of this article, a dog or dogs hunting in the company of a hunter or hunters shall be considered as accompanied by its owner.

B. Engage in habitual loud howling, barking, crying or whining or conduct itself in such a manner as to unreasonably and habitually disturb the comfort or repose of any person other than the owner of such dog.

C. Uproot, dig or otherwise damage any vegetables, lawns, flowers, garden beds or other property without the consent or approval of the owner thereof.

D. Chase, jump upon or at or otherwise harass any person in such a manner as to reasonably cause intimidation or fear or to put such person in reasonable apprehension of bodily harm or injury on property other than that of the owner.

E. Habitually chase, run alongside of or bark at motor vehicles, motorcycles or bicycles while on a public street, highway or place or upon private property without the consent or approval of the owner of such property.

F. Cause damage or destruction to property or commit a nuisance upon the premises of a person other than the owner or person harboring such dog.

G. If a female dog, when in heat, be off the owner's premises unrestrained by a leash.

H. Deposit any dropping or fecal matter on any private property, Town of Bethlehem public roadway and sidewalk or that portion of a front lawn owned by the Town and maintained by the landowner as a front lawn (without the consent of the owner).

[Added 7-10-1991 by L.L. No. 3-1991]

(1) Such soiling action is declared to be a public nuisance.

(2) Such soiling action shall be deemed prevented and not a violation of this article if such person shall immediately clean up all such fecal matter and droppings by causing the same to be gathered in a suitable container and disposed of in a safe and sanitary manner.

(3) The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to guide dogs, hearing dogs or service dogs accompanying any person with a disability as defined in Subdivision 21 of § 292 of the Executive Law.

§ 61-6 Seizure of dogs at large; appearance tickets; complaints.

A. The Dog Control Officer or any peace officer shall seize any unlicensed dog whether on or off the owner's premises, any dog not wearing a tag and, after January 1, 1980, not identified and which is not on the owner's premises and any dog found in violation of § 61-5A. Such seized dog shall be kept and disposed of in accordance with the provisions of Article 7 of the Agriculture and Markets Law. The Dog Control Officer or peace officer may also investigate and report to a Town Justice of the Town any dangerous dog, as described in Article 7 of the Agriculture and Markets Law, and see that the order of the Town Justice in such case is carried out.

B. The Dog Control Officer or a peace officer observing a violation of this article in his presence shall issue and serve an appearance ticket for such violation.

C. Any person who observes a dog in violation of this article may file a complaint under oath with a Town Justice of the Town, specifying the nature of the violation, the date thereof, a description of the dog and the name and residence, if known, of the owner of such dog. Such complaint may serve as the basis for enforcing the provisions of this article.

§ 61-7 Penalties for offenses.

Any person convicted of a violation of this article shall be deemed to have committed a violation and shall be subject to a fine not exceeding \$100.

Article II: Licensing of Dogs

[Adopted 4-22-1981 by L.L. No. 4-1981; amended in its entirety 11-10-2010 by L.L. No. 7-2010]

§ 61-8 License fees.

All dogs within the Town of Bethlehem that are four months of age or older, unless otherwise exempted, shall be licensed. The owner of each dog required to be licensed shall obtain a dog license from the Town Clerk. Each license request shall be accompanied by proof that the dog has been vaccinated against rabies or a statement from a licensed veterinarian that such vaccination would endanger the dog's life, in which case vaccination shall not be required. Each license issued shall be valid for a period of one year and shall not be transferrable.

A. Fees for licensing of dogs. The following fees do not include the state-mandated surcharge. There are no refunds of license fees.

(1) Spayed or neutered dog: \$10 seniors (over 65).

(2) Spayed or neutered dog: \$15.

(3) Unspayed or unneutered dog: \$20.

(4) Exempt from fee: Service, guide, hearing, war, detection, search, police or therapy dogs.

B. Enumeration fee. When the Town determines the need for a dog enumeration, a fee of \$5 will be assessed to all dogs found unlicensed or not renewed at the time the enumeration is conducted.

C. Purebred license. The Town will not be issuing purebred or kennel licenses. All dogs will be licensed individually as per the fee schedule in § 61-8A.

D. The Town does not allow the licensing of dogs by a shelter. The shelter must send the adoptive dog owners to the Town Clerk for licensing.

E. All fees will be used in funding the administration of Chapter 61 of the Code of the Town of Bethlehem and Article 7 of New York State Agriculture and Markets Law.

F. Any dog harbored within the Town of Bethlehem which is owned by a resident of New York City or licensed by the City of New York, or which is owned by a nonresident of New York State and licensed by a jurisdiction outside the State of New York, shall for a period of 30 days be exempt from the licensing and identification provisions of this article.

§ 61-9 Severability

Should any word, phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, section, part or provision of this article be found by the courts to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of any other part of this article which can be given effect without such invalid part or parts.

§ 61-10 Effective date.

This article shall take effect on January 1, 2011.

APPENDIX B: TOWN OF BETHLEHEM PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT DOG POLICIES

BETHELEHEM MULTI-USE PARKS DOG POLICY

Animals and pets are not permitted in parks (except Moh-He-Con-Nuck Nature Preserve) unless authorized by the Administrator of Parks and Recreation.

Note: While dogs are not generally permitted in Henry Hudson Park, dogs are permitted on the public road that runs through HHP, Lyons Road, in accordance with [Town Code of the Town of Bethlehem](#) Chapter 61.

BETHLEHEM DOG PARK POLICY

The Town of Bethlehem dog park was established to provide a place for Bethlehem residents to exercise their dogs. It is a fenced, 1.3-acre site located within the northernmost area of Elm Avenue Park.

Directions

The dog park can be accessed from the Delmar By-Pass Extension, one-tenth of a mile west on Route 32, or you can view the map to find your way.

Parking

Parking is prohibited along the Delmar By-Pass Extension, the service roads leading to the park, and the grass areas. Ample parking is available at the Park 'n' Ride lot adjacent to the dog park.

Permits

Town of Bethlehem dog owners wishing to use the park will be required to obtain a permit for each dog at the Town Clerk's Office at Bethlehem Town Hall from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Dogs must be licensed and owners must present proof of current rabies and distemper (D.H.L.P.P.) boosters. Permits expire on December 31 and must be renewed each year. There will be an annual permit fee of \$30, or \$15 for dog owners age 62 and over. The fee is reduced to \$15 if purchased on or after October 1. Replacement tags are \$5 each. The fee will be waived for individuals who have temporary ownership of a dog who is being trained to help people (i.e. Seeing eye, police, rescue). Proof of temporary ownership will be required. The fee is also waived for those owners with a service dog who is assisting a disabled individual. Identification papers must be presented. A permit tag will be issued and must be attached to the dog's collar when using the dog park.

Park Rules

For safety reasons and concern for nearby homeowners, the following rules must be adhered to. The rules are also posted at the dog park.

- Usage is restricted to Town of Bethlehem residents with permits.
- Current dog license and usage permit is required. Dogs must wear a collar with license and permit tag at all times.
- Owners must clean up after their dogs and place feces in the appropriate container. Littering is prohibited.
- Owners must accompany and supervise their dogs at all times and are legally responsible for the actions and behavior of their dogs. Dogs must be leashed outside the exercise area and owners must carry a leash inside the area.
- Children under age 10 are not permitted. Children age 10-17 must be accompanied by an adult, and may not run in the park or chase dogs.

- Dogs in heat are prohibited.
- Dogs with a history of aggressive behavior are prohibited when other dogs are in the park. If at any time a dog shows any sign of being dangerous toward people or other dogs, it is to be removed immediately.
- Puppies under 4 months of age are not allowed.
- Habitual barking, as to unreasonably disturb any person other than the dog owner, is prohibited.
- Rawhide, dog treats, and food are prohibited.
- Owners must stop their dog from digging, and holes must be filled.
- Dog training classes are prohibited.
- No more than 2 dogs per owner are allowed at one time.
- Town park rules also apply within the dog park.

Enforcement of these rules is under the immediate supervision of the Animal Control Officer. Violators of these rules are subject to removal from the park, revocation of permits, and fines and penalties.

Hours

8:00am to dusk. From late October until April the lower area of the park will be lit until 7:00pm.

APPENDIX C: DOG POLICY ISSUES AND OPTIONS AT A GLANCE

Animals and pets are not permitted in Bethlehem Town parks (except Moh-He-Con-Nuck Nature Preserve [MNP]) unless authorized by the Administrator of Parks and Recreation.

	Issue	MOH-HE-CON-NUCK NATURE PRESERVE Current Bethlehem policy / facility	DOG PARK ONLY Current Bethlehem policy / facility
1	Allow service dogs?	Yes	Yes, with permit but no fee
2	Allow therapy dogs?	Yes	Yes, with paid permit
3	Allow foster dogs?	Yes	Yes, with paid permit
4	Dog health restrictions, including dogs in heat?	[no policy]	Dogs in heat are prohibited.
5	Minimum age for dogs?	No	Puppies under 4 months of age are not allowed.
6	Maximum size for dogs?	No	No
7	Minimum age for humans?	No	Children under age 10 are not permitted. Children age 10-17 must be accompanied by an adult, and may not run in the park or chase dogs.
8	Owner supervision and liability?	Owners must accompany and supervise their dogs at all times and are legally responsible for the actions and behavior of their dogs.	Owners must accompany and supervise their dogs at all times and are legally responsible for the actions and behavior of their dogs. Town park rules also apply within the dog park.
9	On-leash or leash-in-hand required?	On-leash	Dogs must be leashed outside the exercise area and owners must carry a leash inside the area.
10	Off-leash allowed?	No	Yes
11	Permit required?	No	Yes
12	Residency required?	No	Yes
13	Permit term?	N/A	Permits expire on December 31 and must be renewed each year.
14	Permit fee: Standard/Resident; Nonresident; Senior; Service dog; Therapy dog; Foster dog; Replacement; Pro-rated?	N/A	The annual permit fee is \$30 or \$15 for dog owners age 62 and over. The fee is reduced to \$15 if purchased on or after October 1. Replacement tags are \$5 each. The fee will be waived for individuals who have temporary ownership of a dog who is being trained to help people (e.g., seeing eye, police, rescue). Proof of temporary ownership is required. The fee is also waived for those owners with a service dog who is assisting a disabled individual.
15	Permit per household or per dog?	N/A	Per dog
16	Maximum number of dogs per permit?	N/A	1
17	On-dog requirements: Collar; ID tag; Proof of vaccination?	Yes	Dogs must wear a collar with license and permit tag at all times.
18	Dog behavior prohibitions: Aggression; Barking; Digging?	[no formal policy]	Dogs with a history of aggressive behavior are prohibited when other dogs are in the park. If at any time a dog shows any sign of being dangerous toward people or other dogs, it is to be removed immediately. Habitual barking, as to unreasonably disturb any person other than the dog owner, is prohibited. Owners must stop their dog from digging, and holes must be filled.
19	Dog training allowed?	No	No

20	Restricted hours?	Open 9:00am to dusk.	Open 8:00am to dusk. From late October until April the lower area of the park will be lit until 7:00pm.
21	Waste cleanup / disposal?	Owners must clean up after their dogs and place feces in the appropriate container. Littering is prohibited.	Owners must clean up after their dogs and place feces in the appropriate container. Littering is prohibited.
22	Allow food/treats (human, dog)?	[no policy]	Rawhide, dog treats, and food are prohibited.
23	Prohibit giving treats without the owner's permission?	[no policy]	Yes
24	Allow dog toys?	[no policy]	[no policy]
25	Allow pet grooming?	[no policy]	[no policy]
26	Require owners to fill holes?	[no policy]	Yes
27	Fenced area?	No	Yes
28	Small-dog area?	No	No
29	Security: Minimum fence height; Double-gated entry?	No	
30	Adequate drainage?	Some areas swampy	
31	Grassy area?	Yes	Yes
32	Amenities for dogs: Shade (not gazebo intended for people); Water; Splash pools; Waste bags/station?	Natural shade	Water; Waste bags/station
33	Amenities for humans: Shade; Water; Lighting; Parking; Picnic tables; Benches; Restroom; Garbage cans?	Natural shade; Parking	Water; Lighting; Parking; Benches; Garbage cans

APPENDIX D: PARKS POLICIES OF SELECT LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES

The following table provides at-a-glance policy information for the 20 municipalities we researched. The primary purpose was to learn where dogs are allowed; N/A = data not readily available. More details follow the table.

Municipality	Mixed-Use Parks		Dog Parks								Notes
	Allowed on-leash?	Allowed off-leash?	Dog park in town?	Permit needed?	Permit term	Permit fee: Standard	Permit fee: Senior	Permit fee: Svc dog	Permit fee: Replace	Residency required?	
Albany	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	Dogs are allowed to be in any Albany City parks. Except for in Hoffman Park, dogs are allowed to run off leash in a park as long as they are under control of their owner or responsible person over 12 years of age.
Athens	Yes	No	Yes	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	
Ballston Spa	Yes	No	Yes	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	Kelley Park Dog Run: Off-leash dog run is part of a trail system park where dogs can be on-leash.
Bethlehem	No (with exception -- see Notes)	No	Yes	Yes	Annual /Jan 1- Dec 31	\$30.00	\$15.00	\$0.00	\$5.00	Yes	Dogs are allowed on-leash at Mo-He-Con-Nuck Nature Preserve. Dog Park permit prorated to \$15 on or after October 1. The permit fee is waived for those who have temporary ownership of guide and therapy dogs and dogs in training for such jobs
Clifton Park	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Annual /Jan 1- Dec 31	\$30.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes	Permit needed for dogs off-leash only; fee is per household, not per dog, and covers both parks in CP that allow dogs; no more than three dogs at a time; prorated to \$15 July 1
Cohoes	Yes	No	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Colonie	No (with exception -- see Notes)	No	Yes	Yes	Annual /Jan 1- Dec 31	\$30 residents / \$15 res addtl dog	N/A	N/A	\$5.00	Yes	Colonie allows dogs on-leash at the The Crossings of Colonie.
East Greenbush	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	N/A	\$15.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes	Fee per dog.
Glens Falls	Yes	No	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Green Island	No	No	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Guilderland	Yes	No	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Halfmoon	Yes	No	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Milton (Rock City Falls)	Yes	No	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Trail system park; creekside park
Niskayuna	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Aug 1 - July 31	\$30 residents / \$15 res addtl dog / \$100 non-Nisky Sctdy Cnty	\$15	N/A	N/A	Yes	Must be on leash outside fence
Poughkeepsie	Yes	No	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Queensbury	Yes (with exception -- see Notes)	No	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Except no pets at Freedom Park -- barrier free park for kids of all abilities.
Schenectady	Yes	No	Yes	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	Within Central Park, there currently is an area set aside as the city dog park.
Troy	No (with exception -- see Notes)	No	Yes	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	Troy's free "dog parks" are designated fenced areas within 3 of its municipal parks
Waterford	Yes	No	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Watervliet	No (with exception -- see Notes)	No	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Dogs are allowed on-leash at Hudson Shores Park.

ALBANY

Dogs must be sociable, current on all vaccinations, and under their owner's control at all times. Dogs must be leashed when not in designated off-lead areas.

All dog parks are managed by the Department of General Services. Dogs are allowed to be in any Albany City parks. Except for in Hoffman Park, dogs are allowed to run off leash in a park as long as they are under control of their owner or responsible person over 12 years of age.

Albany's dedicated dog parks are listed below.

Department of General Services Dog Park

44 Richard J Conners Blvd, Albany, NY, 12204 (518) 434-2489—This fenced in, off-lead area sits just north of Huck Finns Warehouse and the I-90 bridge overpass.

Hartman Road Dog Park

1009 New Scotland Rd, Albany, NY, 12208 (518) 434-2489—Hartman Road Dog Park is adjacent to the Community Garden. Features an off-leash area for dogs to play.

Normanskill Farm Dog Park

92 Mill Rd, Albany, NY, 12209 (518) 434-2489—Off Delaware Avenue, take a left on Mill Road just before the bridge to Delmar and continue straight to the farm, and go all the way back to the Community Garden & Dog Park. Off the beaten track a bit makes for a nice setting for this off-leash area.

Westland Hills Dog Park

Anthony St & Colvin Ave, Albany, NY, 12206 (518) 434-2489—Just off Colvin Avenue, this off-lead area is located in Westland Hills Park.

ATHENS

Bunker Hill Dog Park

Athens Nature Park, Union Street. Opened Dec 2008. This dog park has a shade structure, benches, and a few trees. Be sure to bring water for your dog. Town of Athens with volunteer assistance. No fee, donations appreciated.

BALLSTON SPA (MILTON)

Woods Hollow Nature Preserve

The park is dog friendly, but DOGS MUST BE LEASHED and you must clean up after your dog.

BALLSTON SPA (VILLAGE)

Kelley Park Dog Run

The dog run area is part of a larger community park with picnic tables, a skating area, and a playground. The dog run allows owners to let their dogs off leash in an enclosed

area. Owners should be aware, however, that there is very little oversight to control which dogs are allowed into the park. Play at your own risk.

The surrounding park is dog friendly, but DOGS MUST BE LEASHED and you must clean up after your dog.

CLIFTON PARK

Kinns Road Dog Park

625 Kinns Road Clifton Park, NY 12065—[Kinns Road Park](#) is a county forest area of approximately 64 acres located at 625 Kinns Road in Clifton Park, NY. Kinns Road Park offers mainly passive recreational opportunities including hiking trails and picnic areas. This park has beautiful wooded trails that are used year-round for hikers and orienteers.

Permit needed for dogs off-leash only. Residents only, with \$30 permit, one permit per household, 3 dogs max.

Park rules

- Dogs must come reliably when called.
- Dogs must not approach or touch people or leashed dogs without permission.
- Dogs must be leashed when in or entering the parking and picnic areas.
- Dogs are not allowed on private property adjoining the park.
- Owners must clean up after their dogs. (Town Dog Ordinance Chapter 92.6C)
- Do not lose sight of your dog(s) at any time.
- Dogs must have tags on collar identifying NYS dog license and park permit.
- Permittee may only bring up to three (3) dogs to Kinns Road Park at any one time.
- Permit must be clearly displayed on owner(s) car.
- The exercise area is subject to all the rules, regulations and procedures governing town parks.
- Dog Park may not be used for business purposes without express written consent of the Town of Clifton Park.
- Permit must be clearly displayed on owner(s) car.

Mary Jane Row Dog Park

30 Ray Road, Clifton Park—Dedicated dog run area located within view of Vischer Ferry Road. For residents only, with \$30 permit, one permit per household, 3 dogs max. This park is open from dawn to dusk.

COHOES

Dogs are allowed on-leash in Cohoes city parks.

COLONIE

The Crossings of Colonie

580 Albany Shaker Road, Loudonville, New York—This is a free, public park that is open to everyone, including dogs. While it's not officially a dog park, it is an area that is welcoming to everyone, including dogs. Your pet must be on a leash.

Colonie Mohawk River Park and Pool; Town of Colonie Golf Course

The Town of Colonie is home to two dog parks. The dog parks are located at the Colonie Mohawk River Park and Pool and at the Town of Colonie Golf Course. Dogs brought into the park must be kept on leash at all times with the exception of the dog park. The dogs must be under control of their owner at all times. Please read dog park rules and regulations. To apply for a dog permit, visit Town Clerk office.

The annual fee for a permit to use the dog park is \$35.00 for the first dog and \$15.00 for each additional dog currently licensed at the same address.

There is a \$5.00 fee to replace a lost dog park tag.

The permit is valid for the calendar year - January through December - regardless of when it is purchased.

The dog parks are located at the entrance to the Colonie Mohawk River Park (71 Schermerhorn Rd., Cohoes, New York 12047) and at the Town of Colonie Golf Course (418 Consaul Road, Schenectady, New York 12304). Parking is available adjacent to both locations.

Owners must be residents of the Town of Colonie.

Dogs must have a valid and current license and distemper vaccination.

The dog parks are open every day of the year from dawn to dusk. The parking lots will be plowed in the winter, but the dog parks will not.

The dog parks are completely fenced and gated. Water for dogs is available

Owners must pick up after dogs and dispose of waste in the receptacles provided.

Permits are required for all dogs using the dog parks and are available for sale at the Town Clerk's office at Memorial Town Hall, 534 Loudon Road. Office hours are Monday-Wednesday and Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm and Thursdays from 8:30 am to 6:00 pm.

To obtain a permit, an owner must show proof of Colonie residency and the dog must be licensed, valid proof of current rabies and distemper vaccination must be provided by the owner. An identification tag will be issued with each permit. The dog park identification tag and a valid license tag must be attached to the dog's collar when using the dog park. Owners are solely responsible for the action of their dog. Dogs that have been declared dangerous or aggressive are prohibited from using the dog parks.

Owners must be in the dog park with their dog under visual contact and oral commands when not on a leash.

Dogs must be leashed when entering and exiting the dog park.

Owners must have a leash at hand at all times.

Owners must immediately fill any hole their dog may dig.

No food (neither human nor canine) is allowed in the dog park.

Children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult in order to use the dog park.

The dog park is for residential use only and may not be used for any commercial purposes.

The dog parks are subject to all the rules, regulations and procedures governing all Colonie Town Parks.

A permit is valid for use in both dog parks. The Town Park location is 71 Schermerhorn Rd., Cohoes, New York 12047. The Town of Colonie Golf Course location is 418 Consaul Road, Schenectady, New York 12304. Parking is available adjacent to both sites.

EAST GREENBUSH

Contact Dog Warden Bob Guyer at 518 951-0213.

A. Leash. Except as provided in Section VII(B), all animals shall be kept on a leash at all times pursuant to Town of East Greenbush Local Law #4 of 1971. Dog excrement shall be removed immediately and properly disposed of in a sanitary manner.

B. Dog Park. The use of the dog park shall comply with the following requirements: • The dog park is restricted to East Greenbush residents with permits. Permits may be obtained at the Town Clerk's Office at Town Hall. • All dogs MUST be leashed outside of the fenced in area. • Owners must carry a leash and supervise their dog closely at all times inside the dog park. • Anyone using the dog park will do so at their own risk. • Dogs must wear NYS Tags. • The Town of East Greenbush shall have no liability for damage to dogs or people using this park. • Current Dog License and Usage Permit is required. Dogs must wear a collar with permits. • Owners must clean up after their dogs and place feces in appropriate containers and receptacles. • Owners are legally responsible for the actions and behavior of their dogs. • Dogs with a history of aggressive behavior are prohibited while other dogs are in the park. • Children under age 10 are NOT permitted. • Children 10-17 years of age must be accompanied by an adult. • Children are not permitted to chase or supervise dogs. • Dogs in heat are prohibited. • Puppies under 4 months of age are not allowed in the dog park. • Habitual barking that is disruptive to residents enjoying the park is prohibited. • Rawhide, dog treats, and food are prohibited. • Owners must stop their dog from digging and holes must be filled. • Dog training classes are prohibited. • No more than two dogs per owner are allowed in the dog park at one time. • Enforcement of these rules is under immediate supervision of the Animal Control Officer. Violators are subject to removal from the park, revocation of permits, and fines and penalties. • Comments or concerns regarding the violation or enforcement of park rules can be directed to Animal Control Officer at 951-0213 or the Department of Parks, Community and Recreation at 477-4194 • Comments or concerns regarding the maintenance of the park can be directed to the Public Works Parks Department at 477-6103 • Any incident of a dog bite MUST be reported immediately to Animal Control @ 951-0213. • It is recommended that in the occurrence of any incident between dogs that all information between owners and dogs be exchanged at the time. • Please note that extremely aggressive behavior and/or dog bites, as well as, owners not abiding to the rules, are all justification for permit revocation.

§ 83-5 Unlawful acts.

It shall be unlawful for any owner of any dog to permit or allow such dog in the Town of North Greenbush to:

- A. Be at large;
- B. Engage in habitual loud howling, barking, crying or whining or conduct itself in such a manner as to unreasonably and habitually annoy any person;
- C. Cause damage or destruction to property or commit a nuisance by defecating or urinating upon the premises of a person other than the owner of such dog;
- D. Chase or otherwise harass any person in such a manner as reasonably to cause intimidation or to put such person in reasonable apprehension of bodily harm or injury; or
- E. Habitually chase, run alongside of or bark at motor vehicles or bicycles.

§ 83-10 Penalties for offenses.

Any person convicted of a violation of this chapter shall be deemed to have committed a violation and shall be subject to a fine not exceeding two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.) or imprisonment for a period not exceeding fifteen (15) days. No person shall be subject to a fine of more than twenty-five dollars (\$25.) for a first conviction of a violation of this chapter and no person shall be subject to imprisonment for a first or second conviction of a violation of this chapter.

GLENS FALLS

No domestic animal may be allowed to run at large in any park or on any ski trail. All domestic animals in parks shall be restrained at all times on adequate leashes not greater than 10 feet in length.

GREEN ISLAND

There are no pets allowed in the parks in accordance with local law.

GUILDERLAND

Dogs are allowed in all Town parks and the hiking trails. **All dogs must be kept on leash at all times.** Town regulations also require the removal of dog excrement from the trails and other park locations.

HALFMOON

Halfmoon has no off-leash recreational opportunities for owners and their dogs. However, dogs on leashes are welcome at all Halfmoon town parks. Owners are required to clean up after their pets to preserve recreational spaces for the enjoyment of all.

MILTON

Boice Family Park

On Creekside Drive off of Rock City Road. (Residential neighborhood, but there are public parking lots for park users). Leashed-dog friendly. This family park is solely walking/hiking trails. The terrain is maintained, but is rugged and we are trying to limit the disruption to the natural environment.

Cottrell-Harrington Park

On Route 29 in the Hamlet of Rock City Falls. Leashed-dog friendly. This is a primarily a fishing spot. The short trail is paved for handicap access to the Kayderosserass Creek with a covered pavilion.

NISKAYUNA

Niskayuna multi-use parks

Dogs are allowed, but they must be leashed and picked up after; all facilities are carry-in/carry-out.

Niskayuna Dog Park in Blatnik Park

- Located in Blatnick Park behind the Baseball Fields
- OPEN EVERY DAY ALL YEAR - DAWN TO DUSK
- Park is completely fenced and gated
- Dogs **MUST** be **LEASHED** when outside the fenced area
- Septic System for Waste. Owners **MUST** pick up after dogs using scoopers provided. **NO** waste containers (bags) allowed
- Please return the scoopers to appropriate storage locations after use

- Parking available adjacent to the park
 - Niskayuna Dog Park Permits are required for all dogs using the Park
 - Permits are available at the Town Clerk's Office at Niskayuna Town Hall, One Niskayuna Circle. Office hours are 9:00 am to 5:00 pm weekdays
 - To obtain a permit, dogs must be licensed and have proof of current rabies & distemper vaccinations
 - The Dog Park Permit Tag must be attached to the dog's collar when using the Dog Park
 - Niskayuna Dog Park Permits are valid from August 1 through July 31 each year
 - The annual permit fee for Town of Niskayuna residents is \$30 for First Dog and \$15 for each Additional Dog per Family
 - Niskayuna Residents 65 years and older may purchase annual Dog Park Permits at half price
 - The annual permit fee for Non-Niskayuna Schenectady County Residents is \$100.00
 - Please obey all posted Town Park Rules
 - Children under the age of 12 may not be left unattended in the Dog Park
- Remember – Always bring a leash to the Niskayuna Dog Park!

POUGHKEEPSIE

Dogs are allowed, but they must be leashed and picked up after.

QUEENSBURY

We encourage leashed dogs; however, dogs MUST be under the control of the owner AT ALL TIMES!

Except Freedom Park: Barrier-free play area that was the first of its kind in this area, great for children with a variety of physical abilities. The park project was a coordinated effort between the Glens Falls Kiwanis and the Glens Falls Independent Living Center. Cost of construction was funded by donations. NO PETS PLEASE.

SCHENECTADY

There is not a formalized written policy regarding walking dogs in Schenectady parks, thus dogs are allowed in the City's parks. Dogs must be licensed and owners must follow the City ordinance regarding unlawful behavior:

It is unlawful in the City of Schenectady for an owner or person in possession of a dog:

- (1) To allow the dog to run at large on the streets and sidewalks of the City without being:
 - (a) Properly restrained by an adequate collar and leash not to exceed eight feet in length; and
 - (b) Accompanied by a responsible person over the age of 12.

[City of Schenectady Dog Park](#)

Within Central Park, there currently is an area set aside as the city dog park. The City is currently working with a committee of residents to help create enhancements to this great asset. Please contact the City via the Parks Department by calling 518-382-5151 if you are interested in getting involved in the fundraising and improvement efforts.

TROY

Troy multi-use parks

Section 216-5 | Animals

(q) No dogs or domesticated animals shall be allowed in the park except within or enroute to a designated dog park.

Troy dog parks

§ 124-22 Designated dog parks. [Added 8-6-2009 by Ord. No. 4; amended 2-7-2013 by Ord. No. 10]

The following are hereby designated as dog park areas:

Beman Park

Kinloch Park

Prospect Park

§ 124-6 All dogs to be leashed. [Amended 8-6-2009 by Ord. No. 4]

All dogs in the City are hereby required to be restrained by a leash while off the owner's premises, whether such dogs are or are not tagged or licensed; provided, however, that dogs are permitted to be unleashed while off the owner's premises when on the premises of another person with such other person's consent, and no person who owns, keeps, harbors or has the care, custody or control of any dog in the City shall permit such dog to be at large or unleashed in the City except as permitted by this article. This section shall not apply to dogs that are within a dog park that has been designated a dog park area by § 124-22, entitled "Designated dog parks."

WATERFORD

§ 52-10 Parks and playgrounds. No owner shall allow or permit an animal on any public park or playground during times when an organized activity is being conducted thereon, unless controlled by the owner on a leash not more than six feet long.

WATERVLIET

§ 209-15 Animals.

[Added 6-5-2008 by Ord. No. 1823; 7-17-2008 by Ord. No. 1827]

A. Horses and other animals may not be ridden in the parks or allowed to browse or graze in any park.

B. Dogs, cats and other pets are not allowed in any city parks with the exception of Hudson Shores Park. Dogs, cats and other pets are allowed in Hudson Shores Park with the condition that they be on a leash and under the supervision and direct control of the owner in accordance with Chapter 108, Animals, of the City Code.

[Amended 4-16-2009 by Ord. No. 1843]

C. No person shall allow any animal in his or her custody to discharge fecal matter in any park.

D. The prohibition of animals in all City parks does not apply to individuals who require the assistance of trained service animals because of disability or illness.