

Welcome to Dog Days Bark Park! We hope that during your time here you have lots of fun and make friends with others who have discovered the benefits of supervised, safe, indoor, off-leash canine fun.

- Have realistic expectations about your dog's suitability for going to a dog park. If your dog isn't polite or friendly with others, get help to change their behavior before you take them to a dog park. Dog parks are not a place to rehabilitate fearful or aggressive dogs or those that just don't know how to play well with others.
- Before you take your dog into a dog park, spend a few minutes watching the other dogs and how they are playing and interacting with others. If the dogs seem to be too rough in their play or are intimidating other dogs, please alert a Dog Days Park Ranger.
- If your dog has never been around other dogs before – don't go to a dog park until they have had a chance to be around other dogs in other situations so you have a better idea of how they react to other dogs.
- If you aren't sure how your dog will behave, don't be ashamed or embarrassed to muzzle your dog the first few times they go to a dog park. Better safe than sorry.
- Introduce your dogs to other dogs gradually. Be careful entering a dog park gate. Other dogs tend to crowd around to greet arriving dog. This jostling and crowding can be quite intimidating to many dogs and may result in a skirmish, or worse.
- Supervise your dog. This is not the time for you to be distracted talking with other owners or checking your phone. You must be monitoring your dog's activities to ensure appropriate behavior.
- While treats can be a great way to reward good behavior, be careful about giving them to your dog when other dogs are nearby. Treats should be given to your dog only.
- Pick up after your dog. Waste carries disease and should be disposed of properly in a timely manner.
- Avoid grabbing your dog's collar when your dog is playing or interacting with other dogs. Such tugging can sometimes trigger threats and aggression toward nearby dogs.
- If your dog seems to be fearful or is being "bullied" by other dogs, don't let them stay, thinking they will "get over it". Chances are greater their behavior will get worse. Don't let other dogs threaten or scare your dog. If they won't leave, inform a Dog Days Park Ranger.
- If your dog is being a bully, being threatening or aggressive or just seems to be overly excited, alert a Dog Days Park Ranger and use a time-out area. It is not fair to put other dogs at risk. Make the safety of other dogs and people as high a priority as the safety of your own.
- Know how to break up a dog fight. Don't scream and yell at your dog, try to pull her off by the collar, or get in the middle of the fight as this only adds to the general arousal and greatly increases either the dogs or your chances of injury. ****Prevention is key! Divert attention in an escalating situation to avoid a fight from breaking out!****