

Your Dog in the Park

In order to protect park resources and for the enjoyment of all visitors, dogs must be kept on a leash at all times while in the park.

- Leashed dogs are allowed in campground, picnic areas, parking lots, and other specifically designated areas. Of course, owners must control and clean up after their pet.
- You can take your dog to the Falls Overlook, but no further on the trails along the creek.
- Dogs are not permitted on beaches.
- Dogs are welcome, on a leash, on the Pioneer Cemetery Trail by site 75. This trail goes past a pioneer cemetery to a small cove on the lake.
- You cannot leave your dog unattended. This means no leaving your pet in the car by itself.

Why are dogs so restricted in the park?

- **To protect park resources** – Dogs are predators by nature, and their presence or lingering scent will disturb and frighten wildlife nearby. Dogs can transmit disease to native animals, including foxes, coyotes, and deer. Dogs that run loose or become lost often harass or kill park wildlife.
- **For the safety and enjoyment of other visitors** – Some people are intimidated by dogs, even by friendly ones. Dogs reduce the amount of wildlife that hikers are likely to see. Also, dog waste along trails is a nuisance to encounter and may contaminate the local water supply.
- **To prevent problems for you and your dog** – Dogs in wild areas can be bitten by snakes, raccoons, or other wildlife they happen to startle. Dogs frequently pick up ticks and are sometimes injured by toxic or thorny plants. If your dog comes in contact with poison oak, it can easily transfer the irritating oil to your skin. An unleashed dog can suffer painful or sometimes fatal falls. Occasionally a dog is a victim of some larger predators.
- **Algae alert 7/27/17** – Dogs are advised to avoid the lake as they will lick themselves dry and there is algae blooming which may make your pet sick.

Park regulations, common courtesy, and good judgement all require that you take special care when bringing your pet to this natural area. Thank you for your cooperation!