

Your Pet at the Park

You and your pet are welcome in St. Louis County Parks. By obeying a few simple rules you, your pet and other park visitors can enjoy your parks.

- Responsible pet owners keep their pet on a leash in order to protect their pet and not damage property or disturb other visitors. (See the full text of the current leash law printed below.)
- Responsible pet owners remove their pet's waste in trash receptacles. Many parks have Mutt Mitts provided for this purpose.
- Make sure your pet has its' current rabies tag/ID tag on in case it gets separated from you.
- Responsible pet owners don't leave their pet locked up in a car (even when the windows are opened) due to sudden temperature changes.
- Only Service Dogs are permitted in wildlife management areas, museums, stables, farms or historical areas. Domestic animals are not permitted in playgrounds, spray pools, shelters or picnic pavilions. *Domestic animals are prohibited at Lone Elk Park (wildlife management area).*

It's up to you to be a responsible pet owner and treat other visitors with courtesy.



Current St. Louis County Parks Leash Law

616.140 DOMESTIC ANIMALS AT LARGE – PROHIBITED - EXCEPTIONS

1. No person shall bring a domestic animal into a County Park, nor shall any person walk, play with, feed, or be in the company of a domestic animal in any park except as follows:
 - i. Domestic animals other than horses may be in a County Park when fastened to a leash, cord, or rope, not in excess of six (6) feet when the animal is in fact controlled by a person holding the leash, cord or rope and preventing the animal from damaging the park or threatening or annoying any other person or animal. St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation may make a written exception to this ban for special events that have been approved by the Director.
 - ii. Persons controlling horses may bring such horses into County Parks on bridle paths where the St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation has established a bridle path. Persons controlling horses may use a specific portion of a County Park where no bridle path exists, if the Director of Parks and Recreation grants permission to said persons in writing.
 - iii. No person shall bring a non-domestic animal or exotic animal into any County Park. This ban shall include but not be limited to primates, bears, wolves, coyotes, foxes, venomous reptiles, constrictor reptiles and any crossbreed of such animals. Wildlife as it exists in County Parks does not fall under this ordinance. St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation may make a written exception to this ban for special events that have been approved by the Director of the St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation.

No person shall bring a domestic or non-domestic animal into a County Park designated as a wildlife management area, museum, stable, farm, or historical area. Domestic animals are prohibited from entering any public building, barn, playground, spray pool, shelter or picnic pavilion within a County Park, except for assist dogs for the disabled or for special events that have been approved by the St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation. (O. No. 17316, 12-7-94)

Note: *There is some confusion over another webpage that has the incorrect ordinance wording. On that page, items in brackets { } on the original ordinance are meant to be omitted but through a clerical error those items were transferred to that web page.*

Voice command is not included as an option in lieu of a leash. *You can obtain a copy of the original ordinance by contacting the Park Ranger office through the Parks Department website or the County Counselors' office..*