

The Dog Park

Waggertail Dog Park welcomes all Riverdale Park and other Prince George's County residents and their canine friends. This beautiful and spacious off-leash dog park was officially opened on July 25, 2016, and dedicated to the memory of the late Judy Glaes, long time Riverdale Park resident, and a true friend to dogs. Judy and a group of fellow residents played a pivotal role in the founding of the dog park.

Waggertail is a large, grassy dog park that has a fenced, lobby area containing gates opening into large and small dog areas. Features include a water fountain, large shade trees, comfortable benches and over 2 acres of space giving dogs and people plenty of room to get acquainted.

Register Your Dog to Use the Park

Free registration of your dog is required to use the dog park.

Register at the Riverdale Park Municipal Offices during business hours or look for the FoWDP table at certain Town events.

To register you will need:

- proof of residence in Prince Georges County, and
- your Prince George's County dog license.

Location

Waggertail Dog Park is located at the end of 51st Avenue in front of the large baseball field and next to the tennis courts in Riverdale Community Recreation Park.

Parking

If you drive to the park, turn off Kenilworth Ave at River Road and enter the Riverdale Community Recreation Park at Haig Drive, where there is ample parking.

Once you park, follow the sidewalk that runs between the middle of the ball fields, towards 51st Avenue. The dog park will be on your right past the tennis courts.

Accessibility

There are two parking spaces on 51st Ave near the front gate of the dog park that are reserved for persons with disabilities.

For maintenance issues:

Town of Riverdale Park at 301-927-6381

In case of emergency:

contact Park Police at 301-459-3232

or Non-emergency at 301-459-9088

Waggertail Dog Park



The Waggertail Dog Park is managed by the Town of Riverdale Park in cooperation with M-NCPPC.

Friends of Waggertail Dog Park

If you plan to use the dog park, the Friends of Waggertail Dog Park need your involvement to make the park run smoothly. FoWDP acts on behalf of all dog park users as a voice to the Town Government. We:

- make recommendations on improvements to the dog park,
- inform the Town of maintenance and other issues we notice at the dog park, and
- plan dog park-related events to create a greater feeling of community through our organization.



If you are interested in being part of the pack, email waggertaildogpark@gmail.com to be put on the FoWDP email list.

Friends of Waggertail Dog Park
Town of Riverdale Park
5008 Queensbury Road
Riverdale Park, MD 20737
301-927-6381
waggertaildogpark@gmail.com
<https://www.facebook.com/waggertail/>

Park Rules

General

- Patrons assume all risks related to use of the dog park.
- Patrons are responsible for the acts and conduct of their animal at all times.
- Hours of operation are dawn to dusk.
- Patrons are expected to keep the park free of litter. Please dispose of litter in the trashcans provided.
- Patrons are prohibited from defacing or destroying park amenities.
- Violators of these rules are subject to removal from the park.
- October through April the drinking fountain will be turned off and patrons are responsible for providing their own water and bowl. No glass containers of any kind are allowed in the park.

Small Dog Area

- The Small Dog Area is a place for smaller and more timid dogs to play without being overwhelmed by larger dogs. Use of this area is at the discretion of dog owners, as size ("small") and temperament ("timid") are subject to interpretation. Small and/or timid dogs have priority in the Small Dog Area at all times. Other park users are allowed to use the Small Dog Area if it is not in use. Example of acceptable use includes new dog introductions, dogs new to a dog park setting, etc. However, small and/or timid dogs have priority to use the Small Dog Area at all times. Small dogs are not excluded from the main dog park, and can use either space as their comfort allows.

Behavior

- Gates must be closed immediately after entering or exiting park.
- Dogs must be kept leashed until inside the park lobby.
- When a dog enters the park, patrons should control their dogs to allow access to the newcomer.
- Do not keep your dog on leash inside park unless there is a good reason (e.g., you just had to separate 2 dogs, or/and you are leading your dog out).
- Dogs must be under control and in sight of patron/owner at all times.
- Leaving dogs unattended is prohibited.
- Park users are responsible for picking up their dog's feces. Plastic bags and trashcans are provided for your use.
- Patrons are legally responsible for the actions of their dogs.

Park Rules, continued

- Dogs that are exhibiting unacceptable behavior—including but not limited to fighting, excessive barking, or other aggressive behavior—are to be immediately removed from the park. Owners are expected to intervene if their dog is involved in behaviors considered unacceptable by other park users.
- A person may not conduct dog training classes for a fee without a permit from Town of Riverdale Park and as required by state, federal, and local laws.
- No smoking in park.

Dogs

- Each owner/handler is limited to the number of dogs that they can safely handle, maximum 2 dogs.
- Puppies under 4 months of age are not allowed in the park at any time.
- Female dogs in heat are not allowed in the park at any time.
- Sick dogs, or injured dogs with fresh wounds, are not allowed in the park at any time.
- Owners/custodians of unaltered dogs (not spayed or neutered) should disclose this to other patrons upon entry as a courtesy for other park users, since some dogs may react negatively to unspayed or unneutered dogs.
- Dogs must possess current licenses and be up-to-date on all vaccinations, with current tags displayed on collar as required by their jurisdiction.
- Vicious animals are prohibited from the dog park. (PG Co. Subtitle 3-137)
- All food—human or animal (including treats, bones and edible toys)—is prohibited in the park at all times. Non-alcoholic beverages are allowed.
- Leashes, pinch collars, or choke chains must be removed in the lobby area before dogs enter the park.

Children

- Children under 5 years of age are not allowed in the dog park. Children 5-17 years of age must be accompanied by an adult.
- Parents or guardians must supervise their children at all times, and unsupervised children shall not be allowed in the park.
- Children are not allowed to run with or chase after dogs in the dog park.