

CONTACT INFORMATION

Licensing and Fees

Dog licenses are issued by the DC Department of Health's (DC Health) Animal services program. Dog owners must show proof that their pets have had rabies and distemper shots and renew their dog's license each year. Get more information about licensing requirements, fees, and procedures by calling (202) 535-2323, visiting the DOH Service Center at 899 North Capitol Street, NE, or on the web at: <https://dchealth.dc.gov/node/164952>

Vaccinations

District law requires that all dogs be vaccinated against rabies and distemper by four (4) months of age and be kept current. For more information contact DC Health at (202) 535-2323 or visit: <https://dchealth.dc.gov/node/165152>

Animal Bites

Please report all animal bites immediately to the Metropolitan Police Department & Animal Care and Control Facility at: (202) 576-6664.

DC Health Website

For questions about rabies in the District of Columbia, please contact Animal Services by email at: rabies.info@dc.gov or visit Rabies and Animal Exposures: <https://dchealth.dc.gov/service/rabies-and-animal-exposures>.



SAFETY TIPS & INJURY PREVENTION

Never hang over fences or put your hands through fence openings to touch a dog, even one you know.

Avoid rough games such as tug-of-war, jumping up for toys/food, and wrestling - all could lead to injury if the game gets out of hand.

Never tease or hit a dog or pull ears, tail or feet and let sleeping/eating dogs alone!

Leave dogs with puppies alone. Some mother dogs may get very protective.

If an unknown dog approaches you, remain calm and quiet. Stand still and do not look the dog directly in the eyes. If you are boring, there is a good chance the dog will move on. Ultimately it is the owner who determines how safe their dog will be!

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DOGS IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR DISTRICT RESIDENTS & DOG OWNERS

Brought to you by the
DC Department of Parks and Recreation
One Constitution Square
1275 1st Street, NE, 8th Floor
Washington DC 20002
Phone: (202) 673-7647
Fax (202) 673-2087
TTY: 711
Email: dpr@dc.gov



WE ARE DISTRICT
GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DC MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR



WHAT DOES THE LAW SAY?

Leash your dog, it's the law

Under the Animal Control Act, all dogs on any public space in the District, other than in a dog park designated by the Department of Parks and Recreation, must be firmly secured by a leash at all times. DPR dog parks are designated by signage approved by DPR, and do not include fenced-in or open areas meant for other uses.

Except for services dogs, all dogs are prohibited on children's play area and on DPR athletic fields. With the District's increasing dog population, it's important to have the latest information about responsible dog ownership and how your pet impacts our environment and others. Pet waste and four-legged traffic are harmful to the health of our patrons in our recreational spaces. To ensure safe and sanitary conditions for everyone, please do not allow your dog onto DPR athletic fields.



IT'S THE LAW!

What are the consequences?

Each person who violates DC's leash laws shall pay a fine not to exceed \$25 for the first violation, \$50 for the second violation occurring within a 24-month period, and \$100 for each subsequent violation occurring within a 24-month period. Additionally, civil charges can be filed if a dog injures a person while at large, lack of knowledge of the dog's vicious propensity standing alone shall not absolve the owner from a finding of negligence.

PICK UP AFTER YOUR DOG

FINES:

\$150 - \$2,000

Dog waste transmits diseases, attracts rats, kills grass, and pollutes waterways. Use a bag to pick up your dog's waste and then dispose of it in a trash can.



DOG PARK LOCATIONS

| | |
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| WARD 1 | The Park at LeDroit 286 V Street, NW |
| | Walter Pierce 20th & Calvert Street, NW |
| WARD 2 | S Street 17th & S Street, NW |
| | Shaw 11th & Rhode Island, NW |
| | Francis 25th & M Streets, NW |
| WARD 3 | Guy Mason 3100 Calvert Street, NW |
| | Chevy Chase 41st & Livingston, NW |
| | Hardy Park 4500 Q Street, NW |
| | Newark 39th & Newark Street, NW |
| WARD 4 | Takoma 5th & Underwood Street, NW |
| | Upshur 4300 Arkansas Avenue, NW |
| WARD 5 | Alethia Tanner Park R Street, NE & Met Branch Trail |
| | Langdon Park 2901 20th Street, NE |
| WARD 6 | Virginia Avenue 901 Virginia Avenue, SE |
| | Kingsman 14th & Kingsman Street, NE |
| | Lansburgh M Street & Delaware Ave, SW |
| | Swampoodle Park 3rd & L Street, NE |
| WARD 7 | Texas Avenue 4600 Texas Ave, SE |