

Darien Parks and Recreation Dog Policy:

Find out below what are the Doggy Do's for our Parks!!

Cherry Lawn Park: Cherry Lawn Park: Cherry Lawn allows dogs off leash and on lead during CERTAIN hours only! Dogs ARE permitted off leash and lead from Sept 1st to May 31st from dawn til 10:30am Monday-Friday, but dawn til 8:30am ONLY on Saturday-Sunday. From June 1-August 31, dogs are permitted off leash or lead from dawn til 8:30am ONLY Monday-Sunday. There is also a designated area in the upper grassy area near Brookside Road (on the right as you pull in) where dogs are permitted off leash or lead at all times. Dogs must be on the leash or lead to and from the parking lot to the designated area.

Why do we have off leash hours? The reason there are flexible times at Cherry Lawn is because dog owners have been exercising their dog off leash there for decades. Research shows that a well exercised dog makes for a better family pet. The hours reflect times to allow dog owners and parents to exercise their dog before work, after they get their kids off to school and before the younger kids come to the enclosed playground at the park. The reduced time on the weekend allows for folks to exercise their dog off leash prior to any soccer/baseball games starting on the weekends.

Dogs ARE NOT permitted in the playground areas, community gardens or on the playfields at any time. Dogs are permitted on leash and lead to cheer on our soccer and baseball players.

Baker Park: Dogs are permitted, but must be on leash or lead at all times.

Diller Park: Dogs are *not permitted* at any time.

***Highland Farm:** Dogs are permitted, but must be on leash or lead at all times.

Holahan Field: Dogs are permitted, but must be on leash or lead at all times.

McGuane Park: Dogs are permitted, but must be on leash or lead at all times.

Pear Tree Point Beaches: Dogs are not permitted, except for access to the Darien Boat Club.

Selleck's Woods Nature Preserve: Dogs are permitted, but must be on leash or lead at all times.

Tilley Pond Park: Dogs are permitted off leash or lead Monday - Friday from dawn to 10:30 am. Otherwise, dogs are permitted, but must be on leash or lead at all times. *Off-leash hours not applicable during special events

Town Hall Fields: Dogs are permitted, but must be on leash or lead at all times.

Weed Beach: Dogs are not permitted from April 1 to October 31. The Weed Beach Park Dog Program runs from November 1--March 31 **ONLY**. These are the Rules for the Weed Beach Park Dog Program:

- Dogs are permitted unleashed in the Weed Beach Designated Area only during this time period. The Designated Area is **only** the marked and signed area on the left side of the beach, near the sailing area.
- Dogs off leash must be **supervised at all times and the owner must have a leash in hand**. Leashes must be no more than 10 feet in length.
- Owners should remove and properly dispose of all feces immediately.
- No more than two dogs off leash per owner at any time.
- Unleashed dogs must be able to socialize with other dogs and stay under the control of the owner.

Violators may be fined. This Program may be revoked at any time for the remainder of the season for health and safety reasons or if in the Director's sole judgement these rules are violated by a person or resident.

During the period when the Program is in effect, dogs are permitted to be walked leashed in the parking lot. **Dogs are not allowed either leashed or unleashed in the remaining areas of the beach or the bath house, the playground, the paddle courts, hut and surrounding deck, the tennis courts, nor the wooded trails and picnic area. Dogs are not permitted in Weed Beach Park from April 1-October 31.**

Woodland Park Nature Preserve: Dogs are permitted, but must be on leash or lead at all times.

Please note that the police department will be ticketing those that do not follow the leash rules \$49 tickets Please visit: www.darienct.gov/dariendogs for more dog owner information

**Although Highland Farm is not a "Park" it is under the control of the Parks & Recreation Department.*

These regulations shall not apply to guide or service dogs accompanying a disabled person. No owner or keeper shall allow any dog to dig up, mutilate, deface or destroy any park property. All owners and keepers shall promptly remove all feces left by the dog on park property and dispose of such feces in a sanitary manner. Most dog-friendly parks offer complimentary doggy waste bags in case you forget!

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