



DOG PARKS

Why are dog parks important?

Dog parks benefit both dog owners and non-owners alike by:

- Providing a legal recreational outlet for dog owners who want to exercise and socialize their dogs in a safe, leash-free environment.
- Preventing unwanted encounters between unleashed dogs and other park users.
- Allowing people with limited mobility to exercise their dogs in a safe, accessible place.
- Bringing people together to promote a greater sense of community.
- *Dogs are only allowed off-leash at Ellison and Greece Canal Dog Parks, and also Henrietta and Sweden Dog Parks.*

How do I register my dog/s?

All owners must register their dog/s with the Monroe County Department of Parks in order to use the Dog Parks. Permits are not prorated and expire December 31 of the current permit year.

- There are **TWO** ways to register:
 - #1** - Dogs can be registered during normal business hours: M- F 8:30am- 4:30pm at 171 Reservoir Avenue, Rochester, NY, 14620. There is plenty of free, off-street parking, and we can make copies of your licensing documents.
 - #2** - Staff will also be available at the dog parks and at Pet Saver Superstores for on-site registration, periodically (check our website). Weather permitting, park staff will be located near the dog park/s entrance. In case of inclement weather, staff will be located at the Labor Center (park office) at Greece Canal Park. For Ellison Park refer to web site for exact location. Be sure to check www.monroecounty.gov/parks or www.facebook.com/groups/205224056347/ for information on upcoming on-site registration dates and times.
- You will need to bring:
 - Copies of your dog's License (from the town that you live in) with current address, and Rabies Certificate (from the Vet or Clinic) as we will need to keep copies on file (documents, not the tags).
 - *We can make copies of your documents at the Park Office, and take pictures of your documents on-site at the park.*
 - There is a \$24 per dog fee that can be paid via cash, check, money order, or credit/debit. Credit/debit card payments will be \$25 per dog, which includes service fees.
 - All fees collected are deposited in the Dog Park Trust Fund, and are allocated solely to Dog Park expenses.
- On-site you will need to:
 - Complete a Permit Application.
 - Sign an Acknowledgement, Agreement, and Release Form.
 - *Permit Application and Acknowledgement, Agreement, and Release Forms are available only where you register.*

How do the Dog Parks work?

- The Dog Parks are self-monitoring; there are no Park Staff assigned to monitor Dog Park activity.
- The Park Staff will re-stock the dog poop bag dispensers, empty the dog poop receptacles, and perform any necessary maintenance.
- Once your dog is registered, you will receive:
 - **TAG...** Must be visible and on/with your dog for EVERY visit to the Dog Park.
 - **PERMIT...** Must be with you or in your vehicle. Members must be prepared to produce their permit upon the request of Parks Staff or Law Enforcement.
 - **SWIPE CARD...** Must be used to ENTER the Ellison & Greece Canal Dog Parks.
 - **LOCK CODE...** will be used at the Henrietta and Sweden Dog Parks. In the event of an issue with the electronic security system at the Ellison or Greece Canal Dog Park, the code will be used on a temporary basis until the issue is corrected.
- The Dog Parks are open year-round, from 7am until dusk.
- If you witness or experience a dangerous or unlawful situation, you are encouraged to call 911.
- Owners are expected to:
 - Have voice control over their dog/s and keep their dog/s in sight at all times while in the off-leash area, and shall be responsible for the conduct of such animal and shall be responsible for all injury to person or property caused by the dog.
 - Clean up after their dog/s.
 - Must immediately leash and remove from the off-leash area a dog showing aggression toward persons or other dogs.
 - Not bring more than 3 dogs in the off-leash area at one time.
- For the safety of all dogs and humans:
 - No food (human or dog), alcohol, smoking, or glass
 - No children under 10
 - No choke, pronged, or spiked collars
 - No large dogs in the small dog area
 - No dogs in heat, or that are ill or injured
 - No dogs under 6 months old
- Please see www.monroecounty.gov/parks for all Dog Park Rules, Protocol, Etiquette, FAQ, etc.