

## Staying Safe

### 1 Body Language

Learn to read and respond to your dog's posture and body language. A dog's body language can communicate fear, hostility or submission.

### 2 Packing

Prevent packing behaviour by leading your dog away from the group to a neutral area. Several dogs packed together can lead to trouble.

### 3 Provoking

If your dog is annoying or provoking other dogs or people, it's time to leave the park and return another day.

## Preventing Accidents

- Understand your dog's behavior.
- Use caution when permitting dogs to greet yours. Ask the owner's permission when approaching a dog. Always respect another dog owner's wish if they are not comfortable with how the dogs interact with each other.
- Move around. Walking rather than sitting will help minimize defensive and territorial behavior.
- Stay alert at all times. People standing in the park become obstructions to the dogs that run around.
- Supervise your dog closely at all times. Stay close to your dog to control or protect it if needed.

### *If a fight happens:*

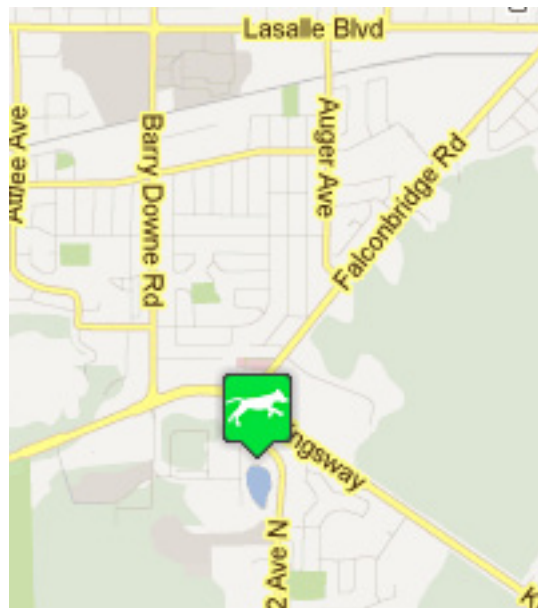
- Never reach your hands into the fight. You may get bitten, even by your own dog.
- Distract or divert their attention with a loud whistle or water from a water bottle.
- Gain control of your dog. Move to a neutral area.
- Stay calm. Yelling only aggravates the situation.
- If required, exchange vaccination or contact information with the other dog's owner.
- If a serious fight or dangerous behavior that results in a dog bite occurs, call Rainbow District Animal Control at (705) 673-DOGS (3647) from 8:30 AM - 6 PM, 7 days a week. After hours, call the number and press 1 for emergencies. Call 911 for all other emergencies.

## Park Hours

The Off Leash Dog Park is open daily from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m., unless otherwise posted or advertised.

The City of Greater Sudbury reserves the right to close the park without notice, as needed for emergencies, maintenance and repairs.

## How To Get There



## What to bring

- Poop and scoop bags in case supplied bags have all been used and are not yet replenished.
- Water for your dog - especially if it is hot! Please do not leave water bowls in the park. Communal water bowls are a health risk to dogs.
- Balls and other dog exercise toys.
- Notebook, camera, phone (to document problems).
- Hat, sunglasses, water, sunscreen for you!

The park is a great place for your four-legged friend to exercise, socialize and play.

**Help keep our park clean. Don't litter!**

# Minnow Lake Dog Park



<http://dogsoffleash.ca>

Brought to you in partnership with the Dogs Off Leash in Greater Sudbury Association and the Minnow Lake Community Action Network!

Please remember you are legally responsible for your dog and any injuries or damage caused by your dog. Use of the park is at your own risk.

Enforcement of all regulations and final authority on whether a particular dog(s) or user(s) will be allowed to use the park rests with the City of Greater Sudbury's Municipal By-law Enforcement or Animal Control Officers.

## By-law Regulations

Dog owners and handlers are subject to the Ontario Dog Owner's Liability Act and the City of Greater Sudbury's Animal Control, Off Leash Dog Park, Parks, and Stoop and Scoop bylaws. Failure to abide by the park rules and regulations may result in loss of privileges or facility users may be fined.

- Use of the Dog Park is a privilege and not a right.
- Any dog licensed by the City of Greater Sudbury may use the park. Dogs must wear their license tags.
- Limit of 3 dogs per handler.
- Restricted dogs are not allowed in the park.
- Dogs must be leashed outside the enclosures and within the double-gated access openings.
- You must possess a leash for each dog at all times.
- No playing or practicing any sporting activity except walking.
- No possession of any bottles, containers or any other articles, equipment, or utensils made of glass, china, ceramic or any other breakable substances.
- No other animals other than dogs allowed.
- No access outside of authorized hours of use, or while the park is closed.
- Comply with all authorized signs that are posted.
- Users must identify themselves to a Municipal By-law Enforcement Officer when requested to do so.
- Dogs demonstrating aggressive behaviour must immediately be removed.
- Always scoop your dog's poop. Bags and garbage cans are provided for your convenience.
- No smoking on park property.

- Unhealthy, injured or dogs in heat are not allowed.
- No digging allowed. If your dog digs a hole, fill the hole immediately.
- Dogs under 4 months of age are not allowed.
- No human food may be brought into the park or consumed by a human or dog.
- Exercise caution when giving a dog a toy or treat to be played with or consumed in the park.
- Persons under the age of 12 must be accompanied by a person over the age of 18.

## Tips for entering and leaving the park

- Enter at the double-gated entrance. Once through the first gate into the transition area, unleash your dog and proceed through the second gate into the park. Remember to firmly close the gate behind you.
- Do not enter the transitional area if there is already someone there. This will prevent both gates being open at the same time.
- Remember to remove the leash while in the park. A leashed dog may feel threatened by the approach of other dogs.
- Quickly move away from the entrance once you enter. This will reduce the problem of several off-leash dogs already in the park from greeting the new arrival.
- Ensure that you have a leash readily accessible at all times in the event you need to gain control.
- Exit in the same way, always leashing your dog in the transitional area.
- Do not open the outside gate if the inside gate is open.

## RULE NUMBER ONE:

## HAVE FUN!

## Etiquette 101

*Courtesy and consideration toward others help make the park an enjoyable place for everyone.*

- The Dog Park has two areas; one for small dogs 15 inches or less from the shoulder and less than 25 lbs pounds and an area for larger dogs. For everyone's safety, please respect these areas.
- Ensure that your dog wears his tags. Ensure vaccinations are up-to-date.
- Keep your dog in view at all times. Monitor your dog for possible warning signs and intervene when needed.
- Don't bring an overly excited dog into the park; take it on a walk before-hand. Have your dog eliminate before going to the park.
- Supervise dogs when they are playing and interrupt any rough play.
- Please do not bring toys your dog may be attached to. These items can provoke aggressive or protective behavior.
- Prevent your dog from rushing up on new arrivals to the dog park - some dogs don't like that.
- Stop your dog from jumping up or body slamming people.
- If your dog is exhibiting bullying behavior, give it a time out or take him home. Not all dogs are good candidates for off-leash dog parks.
- Be careful when bringing children to the park. This park is meant for dogs, not children!

## For First-time Users

- If your dog is not used to interacting with other dogs, start out by visiting during non-peak times. You may even want to first visit the park without your dog and familiarize yourself with the area.
- The first visit can be stressful for both you and your dog, so keep your visit short and happy. Gradually work towards longer visits.
- Introduce your dog to new dogs only when your dog is comfortable and behaving appropriately.