

Huntington Parks and Recreation

City Dog Parks Rules, Regulations and Recommendations



Annual Dog Park Pass Requirements

All dogs visiting City dog parks must have a valid Paw Pass. To obtain a Paw Pass, stop by the Parks and Recreation office any weekday between 7:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

City Services

Parks and Recreation Department

634 Webster Street

Huntington, IN 46750

(260)358-2323

An annual dog park pass is required for every dog. Annual pass includes a Paw Pass and a Furry Fob.

Paw Passes become available in January for the current year. They may be purchased any time, but are valid only for the year in which they are purchased.

Annual Paw Pass fee – **City Residents \$30 per dog, Out of City Residents \$35 per dog, Out of Huntington County Residents \$40 per dog**

Additional Paw Passes \$15 per dog-limit three dogs

An Additional Furry Fob may purchased for \$5.

Lost or stolen Paw Pass or Furry Fob replacement fee is \$5 each.

Limit three (3) Paw Passes per household.

Dog owners must provide proof that rabies, distemper, Bordetella and parvo vaccinations are up to date and were administered by a licensed veterinarian. Tags must be visibly attached to your dog's collar at all times.

All Paw Passes shall be valid for one year from date of issue. Fees will not be prorated. Color-coded tags will contain a registration number.

City Dog Park RULES AND REGULATIONS

City dog parks are open from 5:00 a.m. until 11:00 p.m. daily. The maximum number of dogs safely accommodated in the dog park at any given time is 30. Please limit your visit to one hour during times of peak use.

Rabies tags must be worn and displayed by all dogs at all times.

The unauthorized use of a Furry Fob or a Paw Pass, or allowing the unauthorized use of a Furry Fob or a Paw Pass, may result in your being refused entry to or being expelled from the dog parks. Any person so expelled or refused may be denied dog park access for a one-year period.

Always keep an eye on your dog. Never leave your dog unattended.

Dogs known to exhibit vicious, fierce, aggressive, or dangerous behavior are not permitted at any time in City parks or in City dog parks. Please extend common courtesy to other users. If your dog becomes unruly or aggressive toward other dogs, you must leash your dog and exit the enclosure.

Always clean up after your dog. **It's the law!** A container is available in the park for this purpose. Please bring your own bags.

Female dogs in heat are not permitted in the playground and should not be brought to the park.

Dogs, owners, and users creating a disturbance or violating the rules and regulations must leave the dog park when directed by authorized personnel.

Don't bring more than three dogs to the dog park.

Dogs under four (4) months of age are not permitted in the dog park. Puppies are not fully vaccinated, and are vulnerable to disease and injury.

If you bring children to City dog parks, supervise them closely. Children under fourteen (14) years of age must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

Dogs may not be left unattended or out of sight range or voice command.

Please remove pinch, prong and spike collars from dogs before entering the dog park. Other dogs can be injured while playing.

Dogs must be on a 6' lead until safely inside the dog park confines.

No wolves or wolf hybrids allowed.

Glass containers are prohibited within the dog park.

Do not bring food (people food, dog food or dog treats) into the playground. Many owners do not feed treats and some dogs may be allergic. Food may also make a docile dog aggressive.

Do not eat or smoke while in or around the playground. Cigarette butts and food wrappers are tempting and unhealthy for dogs.

Maintenance needs of the site will vary based on weather and use. You may be asked to vacate the playground during maintenance activities.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Do not open the outside gate if an inside gate is open. Be patient.

Ensure that the all gates are closed behind you. Check all entrances before unleashing your dog.

Remove your dog's leash inside the double-gated holding pen. Be sure gate area is not congested with excited dogs ready to pounce on your dog. Enter the area, close gate and move your dog away from the entrance.

Dogs should receive year-round heartworm prevention treatment.

Have drinking water readily available for your dog before and after exercise.

ALL dogs benefit from guidance and structure. Basic obedience training is a must for safety, and a well-socialized happy dog. This is one of the best things you can do for your dog – and your family and friends.

Be Aware of Risks

While it may be tempting to stand back and be a passive observer, all users will have a much more rewarding experience if basic rules are actively observed. Use of the dog park is not a right - it is a privilege. Please do not allow unacceptable or irresponsible behavior to ruin the fun for other users.

Huntington Parks and Recreation Department strives to provide a fun, safe environment for you and your dog. However, by using this facility you agree that you understand and assume all responsibility and liability for the risks of unleashing your dog in the facility.

Potential risks include, but are not limited to:

1. This is the dog's park. There are plenty of other parks and playgrounds where children can be socialized. Not all dogs are child-friendly. Never allow your child to approach or pet a dog without the owner's presence and approval.
2. Young children are easily knocked over or trampled by running dogs.
3. Herding dogs may nip at children while attempting to round them up.
4. Infectious diseases such as rabies, kennel cough or Lyme disease.
5. Dog theft or unlawful capture by other people.
6. Dog escapes over or under fences.
7. Plants and/or water sources in the park that may be poisonous to dogs.
8. Park vegetation that may have burrs or seeds that could get tangled in a dog's coat or lodge in a dog's feet, ears, or eyes.
9. Mosquitoes, ticks, chiggers, fleas or other insects that may be present.
10. Wild animals in the parks such as skunks, raccoons, or stray dogs, all of which might injure or infect your dog.
11. **Parents:** If you do bring your children into the City dog parks, please teach them how to behave with animals and what to do in an emergency.
12. Dog fights, dog bites and injuries to humans and other dogs.

If a Dog Bite Occurs . . .

In order for the bite to be defined as a bite - it must break the skin and must have been caused by oral contact (not a nail scratch).

A dog bite to a human or another animal **must be reported**. The biting animal will be quarantined for ten days to ensure it is healthy and does not pose a rabies risk. In this case, the bite most likely happened inside the confines of the City dog parks so the dog will be considered legally restrained at the time of the bite. If a dog bite happens while at the park:

Immediately secure the biting dog and the victim dog. Leash them and keep separated.

Any wounds must be washed immediately with clean water

Owners of dogs involved must exchange names, addresses, and telephone numbers.

Owners must then take their dog home or to a veterinarian for necessary medical care. If a bite has occurred to a person they should consult their physician.

All bites must be reported and called into:

Huntington County Animal Control Officer 260-356-8316

An animal Control Officer will be dispatched to take a bite report and enact quarantine. Please have rabies vaccination information ready for the officer.

Dogs that have bitten while at City dog parks will not be allowed to return until an investigation and the dog's return is approved.

City dog parks are not staffed or supervised by any agent or employee of Huntington Parks and Recreation Department or the City of Huntington. Users therefore are required to abide by the rules and regulations etiquette at all times while on the premises. Police and Animal Control Officers will make periodic site visits.

Final Notes

Maintenance crews will conduct turf care and other site work as the need arises. Please allow them to complete their tasks to ensure the site meets expectations. You will need to vacate the dog park while this work is in progress.

For practical reasons, City dog parks **WILL NOT** be plowed of snow. Mother Nature will guide site use during snow periods.

Dog owners and individuals accompanying them use the facility entirely at their own risk and that of their dogs. Owners are responsible and liable for the actions and behavior of their dogs at all times.

Neither Huntington Parks and Recreation nor the City of Huntington assumes liability for loss, damage, or any kind of injury sustained by any human or dog while using City dog parks. You will be required to complete and sign a Waiver of Liability form before you are issued a Paw Pass.

Please retain this information and ensure that family members and friends who may accompany you to the park are aware of the rules, regulations, recommendations and risks that apply.

It is important that you familiarize yourself with pertinent City Ordinances that apply to the use of this site as well as park and park facilities in general. These ordinances are available at the City of Huntington web site at:

<http://www.huntington.in.us/City/>

Please refer to city codes, chapters 99 (Parks and Recreation) and 91 (Animal Control) and all other applicable City and State codes, rules and regulations.

HUNTINGTON PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Annual Dog Park Pass

All dogs visiting the City dog parks must have a Paw Pass visibly attached to their collar and a liability waiver signed by their owner on file at the Parks and Recreation Department. If you need a Paw Passes for more than one dog, make copies of this form, and fill one out separately for each dog. Please read and sign the liability waiver on back. Questions? Please call 260-358-2323

Name of Owner(s) Phone Number(s) Date

Address (Zip)

Name of Dog Breed of Dog Age of Dog

Name of Vet Vet's Phone Number Date of last Bordetella Vaccine

Date of last rabies vaccination # on rabies certificate Date of Distemper and Parvo Vaccinations

(Please attach a copy of the rabies certificate and/or veterinary receipts.)

Return this form, along with vaccination records documenting current inoculations for Rabies, Parvo and Distemper with payment to:

Huntington Parks and Recreation

634 Webster Street

Huntington, IN 46750

(M-F, 7:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.)

Once issued, the Paw Pass shall be valid for one year from the date of issue. No pro-rata will occur. Color-coded tags will contain a registration number. This tag must be visibly attached to your dog's collar at all times. **Limit three (3) Paw Passes per household.**

Fees: City Residents \$30/dog/year , Out of City Residents \$35/dog/year, Out of Huntington County Residents \$40/dog/year, Additional dogs \$15/dog /year Limit 3 Dogs Total

An additional Furry Fob can be purchased for \$5

I have been provided with a copy of the City dog parks Rules, Regulations and Recommendations and agree to abide by all rules set forth therein.

Signature of Applicant Date

E-mail Address

Office Use Only: Fee Paid: \$_____ Date Paid:_____ Receipt #:_____

Furry Fob Number Paw Pass Number



Indemnification and Release of Liability

I hereby acknowledge that I have voluntarily applied for access to and use of, with my dog(s), City dog parks. I understand that the act of unleashing my dog(s) and being physically present inside City dog parks necessarily involves risks of injury to me, other people, my dog(s), and other dogs, which risks are entirely my responsibility. I expressly assume all of these risks. I further understand that dogs, irrespective of their training and usual past behavior or characteristics, may act or react unpredictably at times based upon instinct or circumstances, and I agree to assume the risk of injury to me, any individual accompanying me in the dog parks, and my dog(s). I understand that this risk may result from fierce, aggressive, vicious, and dangerous dogs, which may be present in the dog park. I further understand and assume the risk that not all dogs present in the dog parks have received the Rabies vaccine as required by law, and that not all dogs using the dog park have been vaccinated for Distemper or Parvo, all of which could result in injury to me and my dog(s). Additional risks include, but are not limited to: dog fights, dog bites and injuries to humans and other dogs; dog theft or unlawful capture; dog escape over or under fences; plants and/or water sources in the park may be poisonous to dogs; park vegetation may have burrs or seeds that could become tangled in a dog's coat or lodge in a dog's feet, ears, nose, or eyes; mosquitoes, ticks, chiggers, fleas or other insects may be present; wild animals such as skunks, raccoons, opossums, or stray dogs could be present in the parks, all of which might injure or infect my dog(s). I understand and expressly assume all additional risks.

I understand that no agent or employee of Huntington Parks and Recreation Department or the City of Huntington will supervise the dog parks at any time. I further understand that neither Huntington Parks and Recreation nor the City of Huntington assumes liability for loss, damage, or any kind of injury including death sustained by any human or dog while using the dog parks. I, therefore, expressly assume all risks associated with using the dog parks, as well as fixtures and equipment located therein, in an unsupervised manner.

I, on behalf of myself and any person accompanying me, including minors, hereby fully and forever release and discharge Huntington Parks and Recreation, the City of Huntington and its employees and agents (released parties) from any and all loss, liability claims, demands, damages, rights of action, or causes of action present or future, whether the same be known or unknown, anticipated or unanticipated, for injury including death, property damage, and any and all other damage and expenses of any nature sustained by me and caused by any act or omission of the released parties, specifically including but not limited to acts or omissions of negligence, gross negligence, or intentional acts of the released parties, resulting from or arising out of my use or intended use of said dog park premises. I fully and forever release and discharge Huntington Parks and Recreation, the City of Huntington, and its employees and agents from any and all negligent acts and omissions in the same, and intend to be legally bound by this release.

I have carefully read this release of liability and understand I expressly and forever release, indemnify, hold harmless, and discharge the City from all such claims and fully agree with its contents. I also have received a copy of the brochure outlining rules for use, etiquette for dog owners and recommendations for dog owners.

This is an indemnification and release of liability. Do not sign if you do not understand or do not agree with its terms.

Signature: _____ Date: _____