

Rules and Guidelines for Use of District of Columbia Dog Exercise Areas

How to obtain a registration tag for use of the Dog Exercise Areas

1. If you are a DC resident, the dog must have a current DC Dog License before obtaining a Dog Exercise Area (DEA) registration tag.
2. Apply for a DEA Registration tag by returning the attached application along with the documents required.
3. Complete an application for each dog.
4. DEA Registration tags are valid from through June 30 of the following year.
5. The DEA Registration tag is valid for all DEAs in the District of Columbia.

Rules for Dog Exercise Areas

1. Dog Exercise Areas are open only during posted hours.
2. Handlers must not allow their dog(s) to enter the park if it is at the posted capacity.
3. When capacity is reached with the DEA, handlers must limit their stay to thirty (30) minutes when others are waiting.
4. All Handlers must possess a DEA Registration Tag for their dog(s).
5. Handlers must leash dogs except when they are inside the DEA.
6. All dogs must display a DEA Registration Tag, and other tags as required by law.
7. Handlers must not let their dog(s) out of their sight or vocal control.
8. Handlers must leash dog(s) at the first sign of aggression or unruliness in DEAs.
9. Dogs in heat are not permitted in DEAs.
10. No more than three (3) dogs per handler are permitted at one time in DEAs.
11. Handlers must always clean up after their dog(s) in DEAs.
12. Dogs under four (4) months of age are not allowed in DEAs.
13. Spike and/or choke collars are not allowed on dog(s) in DEAs.
14. Handlers must control excessive barking.
15. Report all animal bites (regardless of severity) to the DC Animal Control at (202) 576-6664 within twenty-four (24) hours of the incident.
16. Dogs declared dangerous or potentially dangerous by the Government of the District of Columbia are not permitted
17. An attending adult must closely supervise all children under age sixteen (16).
18. Handlers must observe all other codes, rules, and regulations.

How to report emergencies and criminal activity

1. Call 911 to report all emergencies and any criminal activity, including property damage. Police, fire and animal control will provide appropriate responses to these calls.
2. Failure to comply with reasonable requests for compliance by any enforcement agent may result in police action, including the arrest of suspected violators of District of Columbia codes and regulations.
3. All reports about dog bites and attacks will be reviewed to determine whether the aggressive dog will be declared dangerous under District code. If such a declaration is made, the off-leash permit will be immediately revoked.

**Call the Department of Parks and Recreation at (202) 673-7647
with questions about use and locations of dog exercise areas.**

**Call the Department of Health, Animal Disease Prevention Division at (202) 535-2323
with questions about Registration or DC Dog Licenses.**

Call DC Animal Control at (202) 576-6664 to report animal bites (24 hours a day).

Call 9-1-1 in case of emergency while using the park.

