






# Rules and Regulations


 Owners must be inside the fenced off-leash area at all times, with leash in hand. Outside of the fenced area, dogs must always be on a leash.


 Dogs showing any signs of aggression must be removed immediately from the park.


 Owners are legally responsible for their dog's behavior. St. Mary's County Government is not responsible for injuries to dogs or their owners. Use park at your own risk.


 Owners must immediately clean up after their dogs and fill in any holes.


 Bring children at your own risk. Young children must be with an adult and remain seated.


 Dogs in heat are prohibited.


 Puppies under four (4) months are prohibited.


 No more than two (2) dogs per handler allowed.

 Dogs must be licensed and immunized. No dogs with communicable diseases or infections.

 Professional dog trainers may not use this facility to conduct their business.

 Dog toys are not allowed in Park.

 No food or treats (human or dog) are allowed in park.

 No smoking or tobacco in/around the dog park.

## LOCATION:

**Located in Lancaster Park  
21550 Willows Road  
Lexington Park, MD 20653**

For more information please contact:  
St. Mary's County Department of  
Recreation, Parks &  
Community Services

301-737-5670 ext 1670

or

301-863-6068

Emergency 911

[Tyrone.harris@co.saint-marys.md.us](mailto:Tyrone.harris@co.saint-marys.md.us)

[www.co.saint-marys.md.us](http://www.co.saint-marys.md.us)

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Board of County Commissioners for St. Mary's County  
Francis Jack Russell, President, Kenneth R. Dement, Lawrence  
D. Jarboe, Thomas A. Mattingly, Sr., & Daniel H. Raley



**Dog Park at  
Lancaster Park**

**Off-Leash Exercise Area**

## Welcome to Lancaster Park Dog Park

Lancaster Park Dog Park is a public off-leash area operated and maintained by St. Mary's County Recreation, Parks and Community Services. We invite St. Mary's County dog owners and their pets to enjoy this unique facility. The Dog Park provides a safe, legal area in which dogs can run, play and socialize. And, dog owners seem to enjoy the park just as much as their four-legged friends!

The Dog Park is located in John G. Lancaster Park at Willows Road in Lexington Park. The off-leash area is in the rear of the park with ample parking. The park is open daily from sunrise to sunset. Occasionally, the park may be closed due to inclement weather.


The park has two separate fenced areas. The large area is designed for general dog play. The smaller area is for smaller dogs (puppies must be at least 4 months old) or for shy dogs not quite ready to socialize in the larger general play area.

For your convenience, water is available on site.





## Dog Park Tips and Etiquette


 Please familiarize yourself with the complete set of rules posted at the park.

 If your dog “poops – you scoop” (immediately). Several trash cans are available within the fenced area. Pet waste bags are also available at the park. Keep this area nice for everyone.





 Some dogs can be a little nervous about their first visit. You may consider starting out in the smaller fenced area. Let him/her get acclimated slowly. If your dog is shy or uneasy, sit on one of our benches so that your dog can hide under it until he feels comfortable. Gradual interaction may be best. Avoid using a leash within the fenced area. Also, if your dog doesn't appear to be having a good time, do not pet your dog to calm him. By doing so, you are actually rewarding the dog for this behavior.


 Neuter or spay your dog to use the run safely. Intact dogs are likely to provoke aggression or to be attacked.


 Dogs will sometimes bark, snarl and even snap at each other. This is part of their normal socialization. Only interfere and stop the interaction if it appears to be escalating into a fight. If your dog does get into a fight, don't try to pick him/her up. Loud noise or poured water are effective ways to break up fights.


## Tips & Etiquette (Continued)

 Be sure to securely latch all gates when entering and leaving the dog park. Upon arrival, do not remove the leash until you are within the double-gated area with both gates closed. Dogs in the park are always curious of newly arriving dogs. Please try to keep your dog from crowding the gate area. Hold your dog until the newcomer is safely inside and then “let the sniffing begin!”

 Young children need to be supervised closely – no running, chasing dogs, yelling or screaming. Young children must be with an adult and remain seated. Children must not pet other dogs without owner's permission.

 Please be considerate of non-doggie park users. While outside of the fenced area, keep your leashed dog away from other park patrons. Unwanted interactions could have an adverse effect on how we operate the dog park.

 Dogs can be possessive of toys; therefore, toys are not allowed in the dog park.

 Do not bring your dog to the park if he is sick, has intestinal parasites or has fleas and ticks.

