

## RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR USE OF OFF-LEASH DOG AREA

1. All users of this area do so at their own risk. Dogs off leash are not entirely predictable and can present certain potential hazards. The City does not provide regular supervision of the area. All dog owners and handlers using this area are legally responsible for their dogs and for any injury or damages caused by them.
2. Except within the designated, marked, off-leash area, dogs must be leashed and in compliance with all other applicable laws. Dogs must be leashed in parking lot and on adjacent lands of Allan H. Treman Marine Park.
3. All dogs using this area must be wearing a current dog license tag.
4. Dogs using this area must be current with all vaccinations.
5. Dog owner/handler must have a leash for each dog in his or her immediate possession at all times. All dogs must be wearing a collar at all times.
6. Dogs must be in view of owner/handler and under voice control at all times.
7. Dog owners/handlers must clean up their dog's waste immediately and/or dispose of it in a designated receptacle. Littering of any kind is prohibited.
8. Any dog that bites, scratches, jumps up in a menacing manner, growls aggressively or shows persistent unwanted attention toward people or other animals must be leashed immediately. A failure to leash the dog upon reasonable request is a violation of this law.
9. Any dog bite of a person or a dog bite that injures another dog must be reported immediately to the SPCA/animal control officer (257-1822). Involved parties must exchange contact information and wait for an officer to respond, except when immediate medical care is needed.
10. Not allowed in off-leash area:
  - a. Dogs under 4 months old
  - b. Dogs in heat
  - c. Spiked collars
11. Limit of two dogs per owner/handler.
12. Violation of these rules is an offense punishable by a fine of not less than \$10 nor more than \$25 for each violation, or by imprisonment for a term not to exceed five days for each violation.

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Having dogs off leash at the Festival Lands is a work in progress. The City of Ithaca has made this legal for one year only, ending November 30, 2007. The Tompkins County Dog Owners Group is working to make it permanent, and also trying to extend the area where off leash dogs are allowed.

### **We need your help!**

You can go to [www.tcdog.org](http://www.tcdog.org) to find out more. There you can join TCDog (click on "Join TCDog") and stay updated on the struggle for a permanent, legal off leash area. You also will find notices of TCDog educational seminars and meetings. Recent presentations have included recognizing and dealing with dog aggression and first aid you need to know for your dog.

The next TCDog Members Meeting will be held at the Tompkins County Public Library on March 28th from 6:00-8:00 PM.

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