



Washoe County Regional Parks & Open Space

Off-Leash Dog Area Pilot Program





Why do we need off-leash areas?

Truckee Meadows area currently has:

- 6 dog parks (Whitaker, Virginia Lake, Link Piazza, Sparks Marina, Biggest Little Dog Park, and Cyan Park)
- 2 off-leash areas (Rancho San Rafael, Wedekind Regional Park)
- 3,819 acres of developed parks in Reno, Sparks, and Washoe County
- BLM open space has multi-use on public lands, including target shooting, where pet owners are not willing to take their dogs off-leash with the threat of wildlife and people. Also, most pet owners must drive a far distance to reach public lands and end up using any close open grass field.
- Widespread apartment living with dogs has people searching for open space to let their dogs run!
- The off-leash areas and dog parks we have are very busy and impacted by the growing population.



Washoe County Parks Pilot Program

- **Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space is proposing a one-year pilot program**
- **Three Washoe County Parks with soccer fields will have off-leash hours during the soccer off-season, November through February**
- **The same three parks will have off-leash hours during non-team use times March through November**



Rule signs for off-leash areas

This field is designated as a “off-leash” dog area during non-team use.

Hours:

November 1st through March 1st 8am-sunset everyday

March 1st through November 1st Monday thru Friday 8am-1pm

****THIS IS A PILOT PROGRAM. IF RULES AND HOURS ARE NOT RESPECTED THEN THIS FIELD WILL NOT BE PERMITTED FOR “OFF-LEASH”. IF RULES AND HOURS ARE FOLLOWED, MORE PARK FIELDS IN ADDITION TO THIS ONE WILL BE DESIGNATED FOR “OFF-LEASH”.**

PLEASE BE RESPECTFUL!



Rule signs for off-leash areas con't

- **Aggressive dogs are not permitted.**
- **You are legally responsible for your dog's behavior and any injuries or damages he/she causes.**
- **By entering the dog off-leash area, you do so at your own risk and agree to abide by all park rules.**
- **Never leave the off-leash area without your dog(s), leave them unattended, or allow them out of sight. Your dog should be under voice control, meaning they are obedient and respond to your commands.**
- **You are required by law (WCC Chapter 55) to clean up after your dog and carry a suitable container for dog feces. Remove and dispose of waste in bins provided.**



Rule signs for off-leash areas con't

- Always carry a physical leash; leash dog(s) when entering/leaving park.
- Female dogs in heat are not permitted in this area.
- All dogs must have current vaccinations and licenses by law (WCC Chapter 55)
- No more than three dogs per handler

**For animal related emergencies please call Washoe County
Regional Animal Services dispatch**

(775) 322-DOGS

**For any questions or concerns please call
Washoe County Regional Parks (775) 785-4512**



Proposed Pilot Program Parks

- **North Valleys Regional Park (80 x 80 soccer field)**

8085 Silver Lake Rd., Reno 89506

Fully fenced 80 x 80 soccer field



- **Lazy 5 Regional Park (lower soccer field)**

7100 Pyramid Way, Sparks 89436

Unfenced soccer field far away from main road and surrounded by sagebrush on three sides. Playground and pavilion are at a distance from fields.





Proposed Pilot Program Parks

- **South Valleys Regional Park** 15650 Wedge Pkwy., Reno 89511



Lower soccer field between Library and playground. Chain link fence on two sides, split rail and retaining wall on the other sides.



Review of Pilot Program

Data throughout the year will be collected for each off-leash dog use field from Washoe County Regional Parks.

This data will include:

- 1. Number of users during off-leash hours by day/month/year**
- 2. Number of users during non-off-leash hours and public informational interactions**
- 3. Dog waste left on field**
- 4. Number of calls to Washoe County Animal Services**
- 5. Number of refilled dog waste bags**
- 6. Damage reports filed**
- 7. Comments and suggestions from the public**