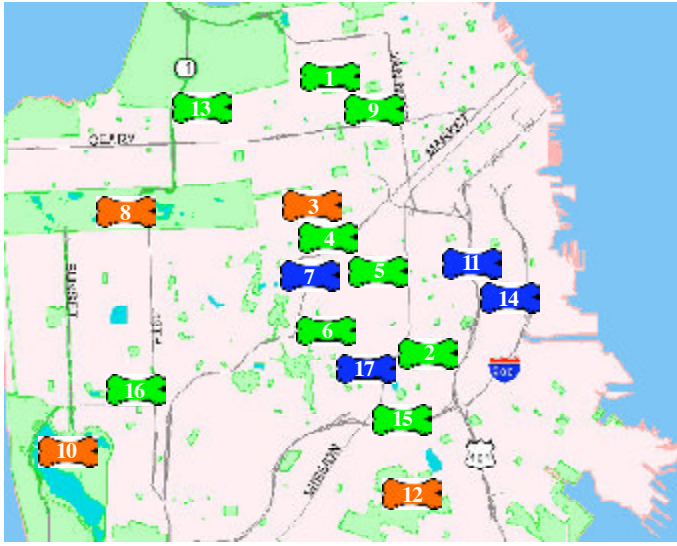


CURRENT OFF-LEASH SITES IN SAN FRANCISCO PARKS



Blue Bone: Parks in the 0-10 acre range are considered smaller parks and playgrounds and can contain off-leash areas that are a minimum of 10,000 square feet. These off-leash areas require a physical barrier, however, landscaping and other measures will be used to screen the effects of these barriers. Alternate surface materials (other than turf), or a combination of turf and more sustainable surfaces, will be explored. Off-leash areas of this size will include double gates in at least two locations for safety precautions.

Green Bone: Parks 10-35 acres in size are considered large parks and squares and may have unfenced off-leash areas. Pathways, landscape or other use separation features can define the off-leash area. Off-leash areas in these parks are a minimum of 30,000 square feet. The majority of these off-leash areas will have turf surfaces. Other surface materials, such as sand, decomposed granite and synthetic turf, may be used to meet optimum maintenance levels. Off-leash use in these areas does not preclude other recreational uses. The public can use them at its discretion.

Orange Bone: Parks over 35 acres in size are considered regional parks and can contain soft barriers such as posts or field markers to delineate approved off-leash areas. Surface materials in these areas will be governed by existing conditions such as turf in meadows, grasslands and pathways. Off-leash use in these areas does not preclude other recreational uses. The public can use them at its discretion.

All off-leash areas in San Francisco will contain adequate signage, waste disposal bags and garbage cans. Wherever possible, the Department will strive to provide other amenities such as lighting, park benches, and drinking fountains.

- 1** **Alta Plaza Park** (Jackson/Steiner)
Second park terrace, on Clay, between Scott and Steiner sts.
- 2** **Bernal Heights** (Bernal Hts./Esmerelda)
Top of hill, entire section bounded by Bernal Heights Blvd.
- 3** **Buena Vista Park** (Buena Vista/Haight)
Buena Vista West at Central Ave.
- 4** **Corona Heights** (16th St./Roosevelt)
Field area adjacent to Randall Museum at Roosevelt Way and Museum Way
- 5** **Dolores Park** (19th St./Dolores)
South of tennis courts, north of soccer field, between Church and Dolores sts.
- 6** **Douglass Park** (26th St./Douglass)
(Area being redefined.)
- 7** **Eureka Valley Park** (19th St./Collingwood)
East of baseball diamond
- 8** **Golden Gate Park** (Four Off-Leash Areas)
(1) Southeast section bounded by Lincoln Way, King Drive, and 2nd and 7th aves.; (2) Northeast section at Stanyan and Grove sts.; (3) Southcentral area bounded by King Drive, Middle Drive and 34th and 38th aves.; (4) Fenced training area in the northcentral area near 38th Ave. and Fulton
- 9** **Lafayette Park** (Washington/Clay/Laguna)
Near Sacramento St., between Octavia and Gough sts.
- 10** **Lake Merced** (Lake Merced Blvd.)
North Lake area at Middlefield Drive
- 11** **McKinley Square** (20th St./Vermont)
San Bruno Ave. and 20th St., on west slope
- 12** **McLaren Park** (Two Off-Leash Areas)
(1) Top of hill at Shelly Drive and Mansell St.; (2) South section via 1600 block of Geneva or 1600 block of Sunnydale— exclusive of Sensitive Habitat Area
- 13** **Mountain Lake Park** (12th Ave./Lake)
East end of park, north of Lake St. at 8th Ave.
- 14** **Potrero Hill Mini-Park** (22nd St./Arkansas)
22nd St. between Arkansas and Connecticut sts.
- 15** **St. Mary's Park** (Murray Ave./Justin Dr.)
Lower park terrace
- 16** **Stern Grove** (19th Ave./Wawona)
North side, Wawona St., between 21st and 23rd aves.
- 17** **Upper Noe Park** (Day St./Sanchez)
Areas adjacent to ball field; east of first base line, south of third base line

Exercising Your Dog In San Francisco Parks

A Guide for Your Dog's Best Friend



“Enjoy your neighborhood park today!”



City and County of San Francisco
Recreation and Park Department

WELCOME TO SAN FRANCISCO'S RECREATION AND PARK SYSTEM

The San Francisco Recreation and Park Commission is designated specific park areas throughout the city as off-leash dog areas for you and your pet. Please help provide a pleasant experience for all park users by keeping these areas neat and clean and following our new citywide dog policy. Thank you!

SOME BACKGROUND ON HOW WE GOT HERE

After releasing a draft dog policy in June 2001, the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department reviewed and considered more than 2,700 responses to that document. Nearly 300 staff hours were spent reading, evaluating, refining and incorporating suggestions from the public to come up with a workable solution for everyone.

While some disagreed with the initial policy, we found several areas of common ground. Most citizens, whether dog owners or not, liked the idea of having designated off-leash zones. Most citizens also supported having the City's cleanup and leash laws enforced. However, that said, it was clear that there was some confusion surrounding the draft dog policy. Approved by the Recreation and Park Commission in May 2002, the finalized off-leash policy helps clear up some of that confusion.



WHY WE NEED AN OFF-LEASH DOG POLICY

The City recognizes the strength, character and positive influence the pet-owning community brings to our neighborhood parks. We are continually looking to increase and improve recreational opportunities for these people, as well as for other park users.

The Commission's new policy will create more places for legitimate off-leash use in our parks. Because off-leash use sometimes creates conflict with the rich breadth of other uses our parks host, we are committed to finding solutions that allow all park users to coexist peacefully, and that means defining spaces where dogs may run freely.

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD PARK

If you or your neighborhood group would like to establish a new off-leash area in your local park, or add or repair amenities in your existing off-leash area, please submit a written request to: San Francisco Recreation & Park Department, Attn: General Manager, 501 Stanyan Street, San Francisco, CA 94117.

The Department will review your request and make a recommendation to the Dog Advisory Committee. The Committee will then begin the public/community process that will include public notification and opportunities for input from park users and neighbors.

IT'S THE LAW: RELEVANT CITY ORDINANCES

San Francisco Health Code

Section 40 states that dogs must be controlled so as not to commit nuisances; all dog feces must be removed; and all dog walkers must carry materials to remove dog feces.

Sec. 41.12- All dogs must be leashed or tethered except in designated exercise areas. Dog guardians must be physically present at all times. Ordinance also describes circumstances when dog barking becomes an offense.

Sec. 41.15- Dog License Requirement-- Every dog over months old must have a current license.

Sec. 41.18- Dogs over 4 months are required to have current rabies vaccinations.

Sec. 41.5.1- Biting dogs-- also includes definitions, information on declaring dangerous dogs, fines and penalties.

Sec. 42.1- Fight training for dogs is prohibited.

PLEASE HELP MAINTAIN OUR PARKS

- Pick Up and Remove Dog Waste
- Leash Your Dog(s) in On-Leash Areas
- Do Not Leave Your Pet Unattended
- Control Excessive Barking and Noise
- Prevent Digging/Destructive Behavior
- Keep Vaccinations and Licenses Current
- Dog Walkers Welcome; Please Limit the Number of Dogs Under Your Care to Six

WHO TO CONTACT

San Francisco Recreation and Park Department
(415) 831-2084-- For suggestions or concerns surrounding dog activity in your neighborhood park.
(415) 753-7180 (Lemar Morrison), or (415) 695-697 (Frank Cassinelli)-- For questions regarding the off-leash dog policy or the Dog Advisory Committee.

S.F. Police Department

(415) 554-0123 or 911-- To report vicious dogs.

Animal Care & Control

(415) 554-9400-- To report injured or stray dogs.

San Francisco Health Department

(415) 554-2830-- To report dog bites.