

PROTECT YOUR DOG AND OTHERS

Incidents in the Town of Parker involving dangerous dogs have risen dramatically in recent years. These incidents include threatening behavior and attacks on people and other animals and have serious impacts on the community. Not only have people and other animals been injured and traumatized, the dogs committing these offenses and their owners can suffer serious consequences, as well.

A dog running at large can become a dangerous dog unexpectedly. When people and other animals react to a dog at large, the situation can escalate quickly. Please take some simple steps to keep your dog and your community safe. These precautions can prevent you from facing criminal charges and a possible civil lawsuit.

House Precautions

Many incidents begin with a dog accidentally getting out of a house. To avoid this:

- Securely shut all yard gates and maintain yard fences at all times.
- If your dog is able to jump a fence, provide additional means to ensure they are secure.
- Make sure your dog is unable to run from the house when a door is opened.
- Do not open both a door to the garage and the overhead garage doors at the same time.
- Educate children and house guests to keep dogs from escaping the home.

Leashes

Dogs must be on a leash at all times when not in a secure yard or designated off-leash dog park. Make sure the person holding the leash is able to control the dog at all times. Many dangerous dog cases occur when a dog breaks free from a child holding a leash or an adult not properly monitoring their dog.

Training and Socialization

Dog training and socialization can prevent a dangerous dog situation. Invest in the safety of your dog and the community by training and socializing your dog.

Consequences and Penalties

If a dog acts in a dangerous manner, the owner is subject to criminal charges. Possible penalties include:

- A fine of up to \$999.00.
- Community service hours.
- Damages/restitution to a victim, including medical bills and veterinary bills.
- Registration of the dangerous dog with law enforcement.
- Removal of the dangerous dog from the owner.
- Euthanasia of the dangerous dog.
- Restrictions on future possession of animals.

An owner of a dangerous dog can also face civil litigation for a victim's damages and suffering. Protect your dogs and your community. Train your dog, check your doors and hold the leash!

DOG OWNER FACTS AND TIPS

A Guide to Dog Ownership in the Town of Parker.



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VOICE 303.841.0353
FAX 303.805.3123
EMAIL town@parkeronline.org
WEB www.ParkerOnline.org



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Parker, Colorado 80134
VOICE 303.841.9800
FAX 303.841.2430
EMAIL police@parkeronline.org
WEB www.ParkerPolice.org





KEEP YOUR PET ON A LEASH

Your dog must always be on a leash, 30 feet or shorter, when it is outside of your home or fenced yard. This includes all parks and trails in Parker (with the exception of the USMC CPL David M. Sonka Dog Park). Electronic leashes are not permitted in the Town of Parker.

BARKING DOGS

Be mindful of your neighbors and try to keep your dog from barking excessively.

What to Do about Barking Dogs

- If you are having a problem with your neighbor's dog barking, please discuss the situation with your neighbor first. If you do not get results by talking with your neighbor and you feel the noise is loud, persistent and habitual, contact the Parker Police Department at 303.841.9800.
- A Community Services Officer or a Police Officer can issue your neighbor a warning for violating the Town's noisy animal prohibited section (Chapter 9.03.040) of the Town's Municipal Code.

- If the situation continues, your neighbor may be required to appear in court. It is helpful to have evidence such as date and time-stamped video documentation of the violation or have other area residents act as witnesses. If found guilty, the dog owner could face fines of up to \$499 per violation.



Noisy Dogs Prohibited

- It is unlawful for your dog to persistently bark, howl or yelp between the hours of 10:30 p.m. and 7:30 a.m. or when no one is home, resulting in the dog being a public nuisance.
- A violation is defined as at least three "habitual" occurrences in a six-month period of "persistent" noise for 30 minutes or longer.

CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR DOG

Not picking up after your dog and disposing of its feces properly could result in a mandatory court appearance and up to a \$499 fine. Signs and disposable dog bags are located throughout the Town's parks and trails system for your convenience.



ID TAGS

Keep an ID tag (with the owner's name, address and telephone number) and/or a microchip with updated information on your dog or cat at all times. You can be cited for not having one of these two things and this makes it much easier to reunite you with your pet if it runs away.

KEEP YOUR VET RECORDS HANDY

To be kept in the Town, all dogs, cats and ferrets must be kept current on their rabies vaccines. Owners of such pets are also required to have proof of these vaccines at all times in the form of a rabies certificate from a licensed veterinarian or a numbered, dated tag. (Ord. 5.06.33 §1, 2005)

SUMMER SAFETY TIPS

- Make sure your dog has unlimited access to fresh water and shade when outside.
- When walking, try to stay off of hot surfaces (like asphalt) because it can burn your dog's paws. It's also best to take walks during cooler hours of the day.

- Don't leave your dog in the car! Leaving a pet in your car is not safe, especially during the hot summer months. The temperature inside your car can rise almost 30°F within 20 minutes, even with having a window rolled down.

Temperature (F)		Elapsed Time
Outside	Inside Vehicle	
75	94	10 min.
75	104	20 min.
85	104	10 min.
85	114	20 min.
95	114	10 min.
95	124	20 min.

Courtesy Jan Null; Department of Geosciences, San Francisco State University

- If you think it's hot outside, it's even hotter for your pet! Make sure your pet has a means of cooling off. Unlike humans, dogs have very few sweat glands and most of the ones they do have reside in their feet. They cool themselves by panting. However, the harder they have to pant, the warmer their body temperature will become as they have to work harder to try to stay cool.
- Keep your dog free of external parasites and heartworms—consult your veterinarian about the best product for your pet.
- Consider clipping or shaving dogs with long coats and apply sunscreen to your dog's skin if they have a thin coat.