Welcome to the Off-Leash Dog Area!

The Thurston County Off-Leash Dog Area is a 5-acre, fenced area where people and their dogs can exercise, play, relax, socialize and have fun in a safe, secure environment.*

Features include:

- A bone-shaped brick entrance built with personalized bricks (see inside for ordering details).
- A sand and gravel area for digging.
- A watering area for thirsty dogs and people.
- A separate fenced area for shy and small dogs.
- A walking trail around the perimeter.

Address and Hours

The off-leash dog area is located at the Thurston County Waste and Recovery Center, 2418 Hogum Bay Road N.W., Olympia, WA 98502. From I-5, take Exit 111, head north on Marvin Road, and turn east onto Hogum Bay Road N.E. The entrance is to the right. The off-leash dog area is open from dawn to dusk.

* The off-leash dog area is expected to open in the fall of 2010.

Dog Signals

Just like their owners, each dog has its own personality. Some dogs are gregarious while others may be shy and overwhelmed by all the canine companions. If your dog acts fearful, aggressive or bullies other dogs, you should not use the dog area. Signs of stress include:

- Raising hackles
- Yawning or cowering
- Hiding
- Trying to leave
- Pinning back ears

Also, please remove your dog if it participates in pack behavior (where multiple dogs chase one dog), if it relentlessly chases another dog without letting it rest or get away, or if your dog engages in any other type of aggressive behavior.

A Pat on the Head to ...

... volunteers from Sound Hounds, South Puget Sound’s dog park advocacy organization, for providing volunteers to maintain the off-leash dog area. To volunteer, visit soundhounds.org. The website is also a great source of news and information about off-leash dog areas (dog parks).

Contact Information

For more information, call Animal Services, (360) 352-2510; Thurston County Public Works at (360) 754-4580; or Sound Hounds at (360) 943-2119.

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Buy a Brick, Support a Great Cause

The off-leash dog area features a playful, bone-shaped entrance made out of tribute bricks. Buy a brick to celebrate your pet, to memorialize a past pet, or to simply support the off-leash dog area. The brick will be sand-blasted with your message, and the engraving will be sealed from the weather and other conditions. Proceeds will benefit the Hawks Prairie off-leash dog site and other future off-leash areas built by Thurston County.

Yes, I’d Like to Buy a Brick!

☐ $50 for a 4 x 8 inch brick, 3 lines, 15 characters each line. Each blank space is a character.

☐ $250 for an 8 x 8 inch paver, 5 lines, 15 characters each line, or four lines and one of the following two graphics (circle your choice below). Each blank space is a character.

Purchaser’s name: ____________________________

Purchaser’s address: ____________________________

Phone: ____________________________

E-mail: ____________________________

Bricks will be ordered in units that are economical for shipping. Your order will be placed as soon as we have a minimum order size. You will be contacted when the brick has been installed.

Prices include tax. Make checks payable to “Animal Services - TC Brick” and mail to: Animal Services, 3120 Martin Way, Olympia, WA 98506.

Rules For Safe Ruffhousing in the Dog Area

Dogs must ...

- Be more than four months old, currently licensed, vaccinated and wear an identification tag.
- Be removed immediately if exhibiting aggressive behavior.
- Be on a leash when outside the off-leash dog area.
- Not be in heat.

People must ...

- Clean up after their dogs.
- Remain inside the fenced area, in view of their dog(s) and able to exercise voice control if necessary.
- Be prepared to leash their dogs at any time.
- Immediately stop inappropriate dog behavior and repair damage caused by the activity, such as digging outside the designated sand area.
- Closely supervise children and not allow them to run or chase.
- Limit the number of dogs to three or fewer per visit.
- Not bring any food into the off-leash area.

Thanks for doing your part to unleash the fun ... safely!