Conshohocken Riverside Dog Park

2019 Handbook

Borough of Conshohocken
Department of Recreation Services
515 Harry Street ~ Conshohocken, PA 19428
610-828-3266
www.conshohockenpa.gov

General Information

Location and Features
Conshohocken Riverside Dog Park is located at 300 Washington Street in Conshohocken along the Schuylkill River behind the Londonbury Apartments. It features one fenced area for large and small dogs.

Operating Hours
Conshohocken Riverside Dog Park will be open to members 7 days a week. The Borough of Conshohocken reserves the right to close the facility for maintenance or any circumstance deemed necessary.

Membership Fees
Memberships are valid for one calendar year. All memberships will expire on 12/31. Membership rates are not prorated regardless of registration date. Membership includes (1) dog.

Conshohocken Borough Residents	$20
Non-Residents	$35

How to Register
Registration for memberships will be taken at the Conshohocken Community Center at the Fellowship House located at 515 Harry Street in Conshohocken. Community Center hours of operation are Monday through Thursday, 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Friday, 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

You will need a completed membership registration form with waiver along with your dog's license and vaccination records. Payment can be made by check, cash, or credit card. Once all necessary forms and documents are received you will be issued an access code.

You can also register online at https://conshohockenrsp.recdesk.com/Community/Membership. If registering and paying online, you will need to submit the necessary forms and documents before being issued an access code.

Requirements
- Canine Bordetella: The Bordetella shot for dogs is a vaccine against canine infectious tracheobronchitis (aka kennel cough).
- DHPP: Protects a dog from **distemper, hepatitis, leptospirosis, parvovirus and parainfluenza**. The first vaccine can be administered to puppies as young as 6 weeks old and several boosters will be given for the several months after the initial injection, as well as a yearly booster.
- Rabies: PA Code (16.41. Rabies Vaccination Required) states, "A person living in this Commonwealth owning or keeping a dog or cat over 3 months of age shall have the dog or cat vaccinated against rabies under the act and this chapter."
- Copy of current valid dog license

Refund Policy
Dog Park memberships are non-fundable and non-transferable. The Conshohocken Dog Park Advisory Committee reserves the right to revoke memberships if a dog displays aggressive behavior towards other people or dogs or if owner does not comply with the Dog Park rules and regulations.

Rules and Regulations

- All dogs must be legally licensed and currently vaccinated and shall wear a visible dog license.
- The off-leash dog area is for dogs, their handlers, and those accompanying them. No other use is allowed.
- No dogs under 4 months of age are permitted.
- No female dogs in heat.
- Dogs must be on a leash when entering and exiting the off-leash dog area.
- Dogs must be under control of their handler and in view of their handler at all times.
- No spike, prong, or pinch collars should be worn in off leash area.
- Children under the age of 18 are not permitted without adult supervision.
- Handlers must be 18 years of age or older.
- Maximum of two dogs per handler.
- Handlers must pick up after their dog(s).
- Handlers must fill all holes dug by dog(s) under their control.
- Smoking and alcohol is NOT permitted.
- Food is NOT permitted.
- No glass containers.
- Dogs must be removed from the off-leash dog area at the first sign of aggression.
- NO animals other than dogs shall be permitted in the area.
- Handlers are responsible for any injuries caused by the dog(s) under their control.
- All rules are subject to change without notice.

Users of the facility do so at their own risk. The Borough of Conshohocken shall not be liable for any injury or damage caused by any dog in the off-leash area. Failure to comply with above rules will result in revocation of your membership without refund and/or fines.

To report any violations of park rules and regulations the dog park, you can call the Police Department at 610-828-4032. For further information or any questions relative to memberships, please call the Department of Recreation Services at 610-828-3266.

Park Incident Notification Procedure

If an owner would like to file a formal report or make the Borough of Conshohocken aware of an ongoing situation, the Incident Report form must be completed to document occurrences & properly investigate and resolve the matter.

Violations that should be reported and will be automatically reviewed:

- Person bit by a dog
- Dog bitten requiring medical treatment Violations that can be reported and will be documented
- Dog bitten with no medical treatment necessary
- Children under the age limit in the dog park

- Failure to abide by Dog Park rules
- Disruptive/abusive behavior to persons and/or dogs If repeated offenses of the listed violations are reported, a full review will begin (see below).

Please note that any incident involving bodily injury to persons or dogs requiring medical attention should immediately be reported by calling 911. The Conshohocken Police Department has the right to revoke any membership.

Owner Etiquette

Dog Parks are NOT a place for young puppies (less than 4-5 months in age)! Yes, socializing your puppy is one of the most important things you will ever do, but the dog park is not the place to do it! Dog Parks can be dangerous, scary, and overwhelming for the little guys, perhaps giving your pup a life-long problem with other dogs. Please, socialize your puppy safely among peers in a supervised "puppy kindergarten" setting.

Make Your First Visit Without Your Dog
Familiarize yourself with the posted rules and how the park works.

Know Your Dog
Not all dogs like meeting new dogs. If your dog has not regularly interacted with other dogs, find out how he will react before forcing him to meet lots of unfamiliar dogs. Invite a few mellow dogs over to your friend's big yard to play. Check for obedience schools that offer socialization classes for adult dogs. Be sure to socialize puppies (8-16 weeks of age) at a puppy kindergarten class. Early socialization is one of the most important things you will ever do for your dog!

The first few times you take your dog to a site, choose a time that is not busy. Weekday evenings are peak times. Weekends and holidays tend to be busy. The first visit can be a little stressful for both you and your dog, so keep it short and happy. Gradually work your way to longer visits.

Observe Posted Park Rules
Complaints about you or your dog threaten the success of these sites. Remember, dogs must be leashed upon entering and leaving the off-leash area. Please know and follow the rules!

Let Your Dog Off Leash Upon Entering
Mixing leashed and unleashed dogs can be an explosive situation. Leashed dogs, and their humans, often display body language and behavior that is threatening to the free dogs and may provoke them to be "snarky" and defensive in return.

Keep Walking
Walking defuses defensive behaviors and helps keeps the off-leash area a neutral territory. This means your dog is more likely to pass by another dog with just a "Sniff-Sniff" rather than a "Stare-Down". Avoid the temptation to stand around and chat or to sit down at the tables. When folks congregate, many dogs may become protective of their people and their space, making scuffles more likely to occur.

Dogs Have Different Play Styles

Educate yourself about dog behavior. Behavior that concerns some dog owners may simply be a rambunctious play style. Always respect another dog owner's wishes if they are not comfortable with how your dog is interacting with theirs. Simply move to another part of the park for awhile. Leash up and leave if your dog is acting in an aggressive manner or having a bad day (All dogs have 'em!).

Prevent Injuries

Closely supervise your dog. Do not reach in to break up fighting dogs. Instead, squirt the dogs in the face with your water bottle or distract the dogs by throwing a jacket on them.

You Are Responsible For Injuries Caused By Your Dog

Under Pennsylvania law, a dog owner is liable for injuries and damage inflicted by their dog. Watch your dog carefully! If your dog injures a person or a dog, give your name and phone number to the injured party. Report to law enforcement authorities any handlers who refuse to take responsibility for damages/injuries and who are endangering the safety of others. Record their license plate number if possible.

Keep The Area Safe And Clean

Pick up trash, cigarette butts, and litter. Pick up an orphan poop. Don't let your dog dig holes. Leave the site better than you found it! It's the small gesture multiplied by dozens of daily visitors that makes these sites successful.

Pick Up After Your Dog

Thousands of dogs visit the park every month. Those who don't pick up ruin it for the rest. Most of all, nobody likes to look at or step in poop. Be courteous and use common sense! Bring extra plastic bags to help maintain the poop bag supply for poop removal and carry out an extra bag or two.

Be a Responsible Dog Owner

Keep licenses and vaccinations up to date, spay or neuter your dog, train your dog in basic obedience, educate yourself about dog behavior (many books, magazines and websites are available).

MAYOR
Yaniv Aronson
BOROUGH COUNCIL
Colleen Leonard, President
Jane Flanagan, Vice-President
Karen Tutino, Member
James Griffin, Member
Tina Sokolowski, Member
Anita Barton, Member
Robert Stokley, Senior Member

Stephanie Cecco
Borough Manager

BOROUGH OF CONSHOHOCKEN

Conshohocken Riverside Dog Park
Membership Application

Date: _____ Name of Owner: _____

Street Address: _____ Apt Number: _____

City/Town: _____ Zip Code: _____

Email Address: _____ Phone Number: _____

Dog Name	Breed/Color	Dog License No.	Bordetella Exp. Date	DHPP Exp. Date	Rabies Exp. Date

Required Documents and Vaccinations:

- Copy of current valid dog license, Canine Bordetella, DHPP, and Rabies vaccination with expiration.
- A check payable to: "Borough of Conshohocken" for Resident - $20 or Non-Resident - $35.
- Signed Release of Liability form (Page 2).

NOTE: All dog park fees are non-refundable. Membership can be revoked if dog displays aggressive behavior toward other people or dogs or if owner does not comply with the Dog Park Rules. Membership is valid for one (1) calendar year expiring on December 31st.

Mail the above bulleted items to:

Conshohocken Community Center at the Fellowship House
Attn: Dog Park Application
515 Harry Street
Conshohocken, PA 19428

For Conshohocken Borough Staff Only:

Membership Enrollment Date: _____ Amount Paid: _____

Proof of Vaccination Certifications Shown (3): (Yes/No) Access Code: _____

Signature: _____

BOROUGH OF CONSHOHOCKEN

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Release of Liability

I hereby acknowledge that I voluntarily have applied to participate and use, with my dog(s), the Conshohocken Riverside Dog Park ("CRDP"). I understand that the act of unleashing my dog(s) and being physically present inside the "CRDP," necessarily involves risks of injury to me, other people, my dog(s) and other dogs, which risks are entirely my responsibility. I expressly assume all these risks. I further understand that dogs, irrespective of their training and usual past behavior of characteristics, may act or react unpredictably at times based upon instinct of circumstances, and I agree to assume that this risk may result from aggressive, vicious and dangerous dogs, which may be present in the "CRDP." I further understand and assume the risk that not all dogs present in the "CRDP" have received the Rabies vaccine as required by law and that not all dogs using the "CRDP" have been vaccinated for Distemper or Parvo all of which could result in injury to me and my dog(s). Additional risks include, but are not limited to: dog fights, dog bites and injuries to humans and other dogs; dog theft or unlawful capture; dog escape over or under fences; plants and/or water sources in the park may be poisonous to dogs; park vegetation may have burrs or seeds that could become tangled in a dog's coat or lodge in a dog's feet, ears, nose or eyes; mosquitoes, ticks, chiggers, fleas or other insects may be present; wild animals such as skunks, raccoons, opossums, or stray dogs could be present in the park, all of which might injure or infect your dog(s). I understand and expressly assume all additional risks.

It is my understanding that no agent or employee of the Borough of Conshohocken will supervise the "CRDP" at any time. I further understand that the Borough of Conshohocken nor any other group associated with the CRDP assumes liability for loss, damage or any kind of injury sustained by any human or dog while using the "CRDP." I therefore expressly assume all risks associated with using the "CRDP," as well as fixtures and equipment located therein, in an unsupervised manner.

By signing this release of liability and using the "CRDP," I hereby fully and forever release and discharge the Borough of Conshohocken, its employees and agents from any and all claims, demands, damages, rights of action, or causes of action present or future, whether the same be known or unknown, anticipated or unanticipated, resulting from or arising out of my use or intended use of said "CRDP" premises, facilities or equipment. I fully and forever release and discharge the Borough of Conshohocken, and its employees and agents from any and all negligent acts and omissions in the same, and intended to be legally bound by this release.

I have carefully read this release of liability and understand and fully agree with its contents. I also have read the rules for use for dog owners and thoroughly understand that dogs, which display aggressive behavior, will permanently lose membership privileges.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and understand the rules and regulations set forth by the Borough of Conshohocken in regards to the "CRDP". This is a release of liability. Do not sign if you do not understand or do not agree with its terms.

Signature: _____ Date: _____