



North Manchester Parks & Recreation Department
Strauss Peabody Aquatic & Fitness Center
902 N. Market Street
North Manchester, IN 46962

NM Barks & Rec Dog Park
203 SR 13 W.

Requirements & Fees

*Only current Bark Park members and registered dogs are allowed inside the dog park. Members are not to allow any non-members/un-registered dogs inside the dog park.

*Members must purchase an annual membership to use the NM Barks & Rec Dog Park. Prices are \$20/year per household for current members of the Strauss-Peabody Aquatic & Fitness Center or \$25/year per household for non-members. Weekly memberships are available for \$5 per dog. **Memberships are not transferrable.

*Each dog must have a proof of vaccination on file with NMPR. Vaccines required: Rabies, Bordetella & DHPP (Distemper, Hepatitis, Parainfluenza, Parvovirus)

Barks & Rec Dog Park Rules

1. Clean up after your dog. Clean up must be complete and prompt! A dog waste bag station is located near the entrance.
2. No dogs younger than 6 months.
3. No dogs in heat allowed.
4. The Small Dog Area is for dogs 30 pounds and under. The Large Dog Area is for dogs over 30 pounds.
5. No aggressive dogs. If your dog becomes unruly or aggressive, please leash them and exit the park immediately.
6. No prong or spike collars.
7. Children 11 and under are not allowed in the bark park. Kids age 12-16 must be accompanied by an adult and must not be left unattended.
8. Owners are liable for any damage or injury inflicted by their dogs.
9. Food of any kind, treats, smoking and glass containers are prohibited.
10. North Manchester Parks & Recreation has the authority to close the bark park for maintenance, weather conditions, rule violations or special events without prior notice.
11. Users of the facility do so at their own risk. The Town of North Manchester and the North Manchester Parks & Recreation Department is not responsible for injury or damage caused by dogs in or outside the off-leash area.

Barks & Rec Dog Park Etiquette

*First time users should consider coming at off-peak times for their initial visit. At times, the park can become crowded. If you are not sure how your dog will react to the current conditions, don't put pressure on your dog by forcing it into what it thinks is a threatening situation. Come back at another time that is less busy.

*When entering or exiting the off-leash area, do not enter the double gated area if there is already someone in that area. This will eliminate the possibility of both gates being open at the same time.

*Quickly move away from the entrance area as you enter. Doing so will help disperse the group of dogs that will come over to welcome your dog to the park. Move away from the fence so your dog does not feel cornered or threatened.

*Once you've entered the park, let your dog off the leash. Leashed dogs feel threatened when they are around unleashed dogs. If you are uncomfortable with letting your dog off leash, do not visit the park.

*Always pick up after you dog! We have provided waste bags and a receptacle, so please use them!

*Keep your dog on a leash while outside the fenced dog park area. The MRA shares the same space as the dog park and they do not allow dogs at the diamonds. Any dogs off-leash outside the fenced area are not permitted.

*Please keep the park clean. Anything dropped on the ground- trash, cigarette butts, gum, etc. could end up in a dog's mouth!

*If your dog injures another dog or owner, be sure to give your name and phone number to the injured party. You are legally and financially responsible for your dog's actions and any harm it may cause to others.

The Town of North Manchester, Parks & Recreation Department reserves the right to suspend or revoke dog park privileges to any member who fails to follow rules and etiquette or where it is determined a member dog or dog owner is dangerous to others or is in violation of any applicable animal ordinances or regulations. Refunds will not be given for suspended or revoked privileges.

Recognizing Aggressive Behavior

If any of the following behaviors are observed, please leash your dog and immediately leave the dog park.

- *becoming very still and rigid
- *guttural bark that sounds threatening
- *lunging forward or charging at the person with no contact
- *mouthing (as though to move or control the person) without applying significant pressure
- *"Muzzle punch"- the dog literally punches the person with his nose
- *growling and/or showing teeth
- *a quick nip that leaves no mark
- *a quick bite that tears the skin
- *a bite with enough pressure to cause a bruise or puncture wound
- *repeated bites in rapid succession
- *bite and shake

Breaking Up a Dogfight

Each owner is responsible for their own animal!

This is a suggestion on how to manage a less violent situation:

1. Each owner may grab the upper area of the back legs (where the leg meets the body) of the fighting dogs and then pick them up like a wheelbarrow. With the dogs' legs up, they are pulled apart and kept from each other
2. Do this by circling behind one dog, grabbing his back legs and then raising them up into the air. Without the use of his back legs, the dog will be forced to stand on his front legs and will not be able to continue fighting.
3. Separate the dogs as you back away slowly. Just hold their legs or feet continually as you carefully move in a smooth backward arc. By doing this, your dog won't be able to reach around and bite you. Since the dog can only use his front legs, he'll be kept from maneuvering with any agility.
4. Once you have reached a safe distance (at least 20' away), try holding the dog securely until he calms down. Turn him so he can't see the other dog.

In the event of a fight, all dogs involved must be leashed and removed from the dog park! Fights need to be reported to the North Manchester Parks & Recreation Department at 260-982-4919 or nmpr@northmanchester.in.gov