



OFF LEASH HOURS

6:00 AM - 9:00 AM

**PLEASE SEE BOTTOM OF LIST
FOR ANY EXCEPTIONS**

Buzzell Field**

Cutter Park

Hill's Hill upper area

Hill's Hill Field**

Hurd/Reservoir Fields**

McClennen Park**

Menotomy Rocks Park (excluding woods)

Park Circle

Poets Corner*

Reservoir Beach (excluding 6/1-8/31)

Robbins Farm Park***

Spy Pond Park and Field*

Summer Street Field**

Turkey Hill

Wellington Park

**NOTE: For Thorndike and Magnolia ,
please only use the Thorndike Off-Leash
Recreation Area (OLRA) open daily from
6:00 am - 9:00 pm. The fields do
NOT have off-leash hours.**

* Off-leash hours end at 8:30am on Saturdays
from April 1 - June 30 and Sept. 1 - Nov. 15

** Off-leash hours end at 8:30am on weekends
from April 1 - June 30 and Sept. 1 - Nov. 15

*** Off-leash hours at Robbins Park are from
6:00 - 7:45 am & 8:30 - 9:00 am, weekdays,
Sept. 1 - June 30. If the field is in use by a
permitted event, off-leash activity is only
behind the backstop.

Off-leash Dogs in Arlington Parks are under the supervision of the Recreation Department and Park & Recreation Commission

www.arlingtonma.gov/recreation



Ways To Report A Violation

1. Contact the Animal Control Officer at 781.645.8014
2. Contact the Recreation Department at 781.316.3880
3. Email the Recreation Office to file a complaint about an off-leash dog area or maintenance issue:
recoffice@town.arlington.ma.us

Off-Leash Dogs in the Town of Arlington

In Spring 2010, Arlington Town Meeting approved a by-law amendment allowing responsible dog owners to have their dogs off-leash during limited morning hours.

"from park opening time until 9:00 am, a maximum of two dogs per handler may be off-leash, under effective owner control, in all lands under control of the Parks and Recreation Commission except:

- A. those lands directly contiguous to school properties
- B. within 15 feet of playground equipment
- C. by specific exclusion of the Park and Recreation Commission."

All parks with off-leash times will have signs and waste cans. Owners with off-leash dogs will be allowed in the properties specified in this hand-out from 6:00 am until 9:00 am only (unless otherwise noted or posted).



Rules and Regulations

1) Know When To Keep Your Dog On-Leash

- Dogs are allowed off-leash ONLY in the morning hours from 6-9am (or earlier as specified), unless the area is posted "No Off-leash Dogs Allowed".
- Keep your dog leashed when entering or exiting the park. Hours are suspended when there are special events permitted by the Recreation Dept. in the park.
- Dogs must be leashed when the DPW crews are working in the parks, so that they don't interfere with the work.

2) Be Respectful of Park Users & Neighbors

- Clean up after your dog!
- Maintain sight and voice control of your dog. You must be able to see your dog at all times and maintain effective verbal control of your dog. You are responsible for any damage or injury your dog inflicts or receives.
- Excessive barking is not allowed.
- Dogs are not allowed in playground areas, sand boxes, court areas or abutters' yards.
- Dogs must not chase or disturb wildlife or enter conservation areas or sensitive open spaces, such as wetlands and planting beds.

3) Ensure Your Dog Meets the Criteria

- Aggressive dogs are not permitted off-leash. Dogs who show continued aggression towards people, other dogs, or wildlife must be removed immediately and should not be brought to public parks. If you need behavioral assistance, dog training professionals are available near Arlington.
- Each person is limited to two dogs.
- Dogs must be 4 months old to participate.
- Dogs in heat are not allowed off-leash.
- All dogs must be licensed, vaccinated, and healthy.

How does this work?

Before you go to the Park

- License your dog(s) at the Clerk's Office at Town Hall-make sure vaccinations are current. Put license and identification on dog's collar.
- Make sure you know the rules, regulations and expectations listed in this hand-out (and that are available on-line) for you and your off-leash dog.
- Find a park near you with off-leash hours.
- Bring your dog to the park with its leash on and bring bags for dog waste. **THERE IS NO CHANGE TO THE TOWN BYLAW THAT REQUIRES DOG WASTE PICKUP! It is essential to everyone's enjoyment of the parks that this by-law is respected.**

At the Park

- Keep your leash and pick up bags on hand at all times.
 - Check for "Park Closed" signs, wet fields, crews working in the park, or permitted activities – all of which mean that off-leash hours are suspended. You can check our website arlingtonrec.com for any changes to the off-leash hours.
 - Pick up after your dog and encourage others to do the same. The pooper-scooper bylaw is in effect at all times.
 - Keep your dog in sight at all times and under effective voice control. Your dog should come to you when called and respond to commands. If you need assistance with your dog's behavior, dog training professionals operate in and around Arlington.
 - Be mindful of your dog so that other park visitors are not anxious about their safety. Many people do not like unfamiliar dogs approaching them, and only you know whether your dog is friendly to other people.
- When in doubt, leash your dog.**

Areas WITHOUT off-leash hours

- **All Park & Rec lands directly contiguous to school properties** - Bishop Field, Crosby School, Crusher Lot (Ottoson), Florence Park (Dallin), Gibb's School, Lussiano Field (Thompson), Parmenter School, Peirce School Park, Stratton School
- **All School Dept. properties** - Brackett School, Hardy School, Ottoson Playing Fields, Arlington High School Fields
- **All Town Playgrounds** - Buzzell, Cutter, Hibbert, Locke, Magnolia, McClennen Playground & Skateboard Park, Menotomy Rocks, Mt. Gilboa, Parallel, Poets Corner, Robbins Farm, Spy Pond, Summer Street, Waldo, Wellington
- **Properties excluded by the Park & Rec Commission** - Buck Field, McClennen Baseball Field, Scannell Field, Hibbert Street Park, Waldo Park, woods at Menotomy Rocks Park, Reservoir Beach from June - August, Parallel Park, Thorndike Field & Magnolia Park
- **Conservation lands and community gardens** - Cooke's Hollow Park, Magnolia Community Garden, Meadowbrook Park, Mt. Gilboa, Robbins Farm Park Garden, Window on the Mystic
- **Other town properties** - Minuteman Bikepath, Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, Robbins Library Grounds, Town Hall Gardens, Uncle Sam Park, Whittemore Park), DCR Alewife Brook Pathway and Whittemore-Robbins House Grounds

The Park and Recreation Commission has the authority to temporarily or permanently eliminate or modify the boundaries of off-leash areas or further limit hours for any reason including: environmental damage, failure to comply with rules and regulations, public health or safety, conflict with other uses or serious unanticipated problems affecting other users. We have thousands of park users, and sharing our parks helps us maximize the use and enjoyment we all receive from our open spaces. With good stewardship and courtesy, dog owners play a key role in keeping our parks clean, safe and well-maintained.