

# 9 TIPS FOR GOOD DOG PARK ETIQUETTE

1

## Is your dog vaccinated?

For the protection of your dog as well as others, make sure your dog is up to date on vaccinations and parasite control

2

## Will your dog come back when you call them?

Ensure your dog has been through some basic training and has a good recall before entering them into an open space. If you are not confident your dog will come back when you call them, they may not be ready for an off-leash area.

3

## Does your dog have social manners?

Dog parks can be very stressful particularly for dogs that are shy or anxious. If your dog is unpredictable with other animals, contact a trainer for advice before attending an off-leash park

4

## My dog gets so excited when I get to the park!

Keep your dog on a leash when entering the park. This will stop them bolting up to an unsuspecting dog. Ensure your dog is not overexcited when you let them go in the park. This may mean parking further away to allow them to release some of their energy before they get inside.

5

## Dogs come in all shapes and sizes!

Some of council's off-leash parks have size appropriate areas. Make sure you are sticking to the size limits.

6

## Lets keep our dog parks clean!

If you accidentally forget your dog poo bags, don't fret!  
All of council's dog parks are fitted with dog poo bags and bins for your convenience.

7

## Remember you are at the park for your dog, so make sure they are your main focus.

It can be very easy to get distracted by a friend at the park or to use the time to reply to an email, but it is a requirement for dogs to be under effective control while in a public area so make sure you are close to your dogs at all times and you know what they are doing.

8

## A dog park is not the place to socialise your puppy.

For the protection of your puppy make sure they have had all their vaccinations before going to a dog park. Puppies joints are still developing and can get injured easily. Make sure you speak to your vet about when an appropriate age would be to take your puppy to a dog park.

9

## Keep your dogs favourite toys at home.

Your dog may become territorial over their toys or they may get destroyed by other dogs.