



July 16, 2017

Greetings Falmouth Dog Owner,

The Town Council recently adopted three ordinance changes with regard to Pets in Parks and Public Lands (Art. II -Sec. 14-121) that we would like to bring to your attention.

These ordinance changes were vetted through the Land Management & Acquisition Committee (LMAC) and the Parks and Community Programs Advisory Committee (PACPAC), a dynamic public process which included two public meetings as well as a Town Council public hearing. The ordinance amendments were subsequently adopted by the Town Council to address three primary concerns; safety, sanitation and wildlife/habitat conservation and protection.

The amended ordinances:

1. Require that **all pets** be leashed within 300 feet of a parking areas and trailheads.
2. **Prohibit** pets altogether in the River Point Conservation Area and in the Woods Road Conservation Area from December 1 to March 31 (the Woods Road Conservation Area is a state designated deer wintering area and subject to Department of Environmental Protection Order L-13859-L3-M-M).
3. Require pets to be leashed **at all times** from April 1 to September 30 in the Hadlock and North Falmouth Community Forests and the Suckfish Brook Conservation Area.

The Ombudsman and Parks staff are in the process of posting signage at all locations to reflect these changes and the Animal Control Officer will be visiting locations to aid with education and to help inform the public.

We thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation in assisting the Town of Falmouth in creating safe and enjoyable places for people and pets to enjoy. We sincerely hope that you can take advantage of the many parks, open spaces and trails we are fortunate to have in "our own backyard".

Best Regards,

Lucky D'Ascanio
Director, Parks & Community Programs

Bob Shafto
Open Space Ombudsman

PARKS & COMMUNITY
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