



S.W. City Dog Park

in Willmore Park

Dog Park Closure

Sunday, April 3 • 8:30pm

Park will be closed at least 6 weeks to fertilize & re-seed

Spring 2011

Letter from the President

Hi All,

As I write this it is snowing outside making it hard to believe that spring is only a couple of weeks away. The members of the Dog Park Board and committees are working hard getting ready for the April landscaping closure.

I know many of you don't like that we have to close, but we are obligated by Ordinance 66595 to seed the park both in the spring and the fall. Closing the park in the spring allows us to use prime weather to get the grass established. With the sprinkler system in place it will be much easier. Please be aware that the ordinance allows us to use only grass or a certain type of rock. The rock itself is not expensive, but the shipping and installation is. Also, if the dog park ever closes, we will have to remove it along with anything else we have installed in the park.

We continue to have volunteer openings on the board, the landscaping committee, the social committee, and web designer. Please email me if you want further information. If you don't want to be officially on a committee there are some things you can do to help with maintenance at the park.

- Pull weeds in the front gardens, storage area or around the trees.
- Check the benches for loose bolts and screws.
- Walk the park, checking the fence for holes where dogs can escape.
- Place bags in the bag holders.

I'm sure there is more, but you get the idea.

We are currently coordinating with the landscaper, starting the sprinkler system, and installing watering stations in the large and small dog park. We are looking where to go next for improvement in the park. We are considering a water feature or agility equipment. If you have another idea, please email me.

Looking forward to another summer at the Southwest City Dog Park,

— Annette (Zoey and Auggie)
President, Southwest City Dog Park
president@swcitydogpark.org

The 'No Dog Park' Blues



Free dog parks in the area to help relieve the "No Dog Park" Blues while our park is closed. We suggest you call to check on hours and policies.

Lucas Garden Park

1234 St. Charles St.
St. Louis, MO • (314) 289-5300

Troy Dog Sports Park

Route 40 at 1516 Alarth Drive
(next to RP Lumber)
Troy, IL • (618) 667-4900

Paw Park

Arnold City Park
(Bradley Beach Rd. & Jeffco Blvd)
Arnold, MO • (636) 282-2380

Broemmelsiek Park

Schwede & Wilson Rds.
(off State Road DD)
Wentzville, MO • (636) 949-7475

Quail Ridge Park

I-70 & Hwy. 40/61
(off Callahan Rd.)
Wentzville, MO • (636) 949-7475

DuSable Dog Park

2598 N. Main St.
St. Charles, MO • (636) 949-3372

Joe Glik Park

710 East Lake Dr.
Edwardsville, IL • (618) 692-7538

May 21, 2011



Cricket Field
in Forest Park

Join our Bark in the Park Team!

- 1 Go to www.hsmo.org
- 2 Click on **Events**, then **Bark in the Park**, then **Join an Existing Team**.
- 3 In the search field, type **SW City Dog Park**, then follow the instructions.

Show your support and have a *Woofin' Good Time!*

Landscaping Report

Our landscaping committee of one is very busy right now, so the secretary is writing this for Jane.

We need more people on the landscaping committee. Please volunteer to help Jane. She is overwhelmed right now.

The landscaper will start work on the park on April 4th, weather permitting. During that time the sprinkler system will be in operation so we will not need to ask for volunteers to water. YEAH!!! Hopefully, we will be shut down for only 6 weeks. Let's hope for good grass growing weather.

We will also be installing watering stations for our pups. Yes, one will be in the special needs area. We will not have to transport water over there anymore. YEAH!!! The hose valve will be on a timer. After 10pm the water for the hoses will be shut off.

I thank everyone in advance for their understanding while we are closed.

— Jane (Rosie, Abigail and Jack)

Secretary's Corner

I would like to welcome Patricia (Mocha) and Nancy (Daisy). They have graciously volunteered to put the newsletter together for us. Thank you both very much.

During our closing you will be able to obtain updates from the yahoo group, our online message board. We will try to post weekly as to the progress of our grass. When we are ready to reopen, everyone will be sent a notice with the new gate code. The gate code will not be posted on the yahoo group. See the article below for directions on joining the yahoo group.

We are going to check into a few places to see if we can get discounts on doggie day care while we are closed. Check the yahoo group to get updates.

There have been lots of new applications for membership to the dog park in the last few weeks. Our membership is now 410 families with 586 dogs. Welcome to all of our new members.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone of a few things.

- Maintain voice control of your dog at all times. A dog that returns when called is less likely to get into trouble.
- Keep your dog's lead with you while in the park. Leads are very useful in breaking up dog fights.
- All dogs must be on leads while outside the dog park. This is a city ordinance.
- One individual is never to have more than three dogs in the park at any one time.
- Watch your dogs and clean up after them. Pick up feces you may see, even if your pooch did not "do the deed." A clean dog park is a condition of our permit from the city. Another very important reason for keeping the park clean is that it helps prevent the spread of disease.
- Do not bring sick dogs into the park. We don't want to make other puppies sick.

— Joan (Rusty and Casey)



Bark in the Park



May 21, 2011

Cricket Field
in Forest Park

**Saturday, May 21
10am – 3pm**

The largest dog festival in the Midwest, the "Bark in the Park" dog walk and country fair is fun for the whole family – with activities for adults, kids and dogs. Take part in all the events while helping animals at the Humane Society of Missouri.

Registration includes dog walk, country fair festival & the official 2011 t-shirt.

- \$25 for adults
- \$5 for children 15 & under
- Children 3 & under are FREE!

More info at www.hsmo.org
(under the **Events** tab).

See page one of this newsletter for directions on how to join the SW City Dog Park "Bark in the Park" team!

How to access our online message board

I would like to urge everyone to join the Yahoo Group. By joining the group you will be able to stay informed of the goings on at the park.

- 1** Open your web browser.
- 2** Type into the address box **groups.yahoo.com**
- 3** In the "Find a Yahoo! Group" box, type in **swcitydogpark**, then click the Search button.
- 4** Click "Join This Group."
- 5** Follow the instructions.

You will need to be approved by one of our moderators. That may take a few hours.



Our Volunteers

PRESIDENT

Annette (Auggie & Zoey)

TREASURER

Kristi (Max)

SECRETARY

Joan (Rusty & Casey)

LANDSCAPING

Jane (Rosie, Abigail & Jack)

INCIDENT

Mindy (Milo)

Mary (Riki, Tristen & Jazz)

Judy (Cather)

NEWSLETTER

Nancy (Daisy)

Patricia (Mocha)

If you would like to volunteer for a board position or committee, or have any questions or comments, please email Annette at president@swcitydogpark.org or call 314-567-2012

Angel & Sidney



Board introduces Watch List

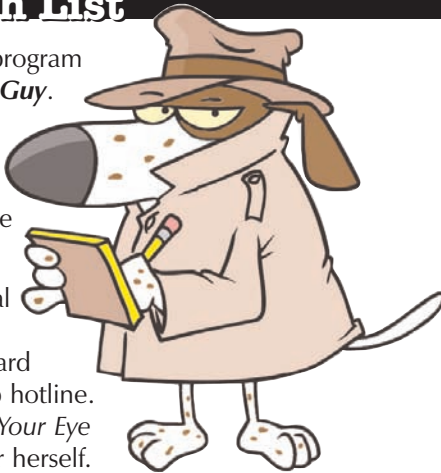
The Dog Park Board has introduced a new program known informally as **Keep Your Eye on This Guy**. The purpose of the program is to identify dogs that, while perhaps not causing disruptions that lead to incident reports, may consistently behave in ways that ruin the fun at Dog Park.

In other words, if there is a dog whose arrival signals your departure because he or she consistently behaves badly, the Dog Park Board wants to know. This is not an anonymous tip hotline. Everyone who submits a name for the *Keep Your Eye on This Guy* watch list will identify himself or herself.

The Incident Committee will keep the names of the dogs and their people and decide if action is necessary. If your pup is the only one who seems to have a difficult time getting along with another dog, there likely will be no consequences. If, over time, several people identify one dog as troublesome, the Dog Park Board may ask the person responsible for the dog to seek additional training or perhaps take a break from Dog Park.

Keep Your Eye on This Guy does not replace incident reporting. Members are encouraged to go online at www.swcitydogpark.org and fill out an incident report if their dog is involved in a fight or if the humans at the park create a scene.

Rather, this new watch list is intended to prevent incidents. If you see consistent behaviors that force you and your dog to leave, you have an issue for *Keep Your Eye on This Guy*. To submit your name, the name of the dog and the dog's person's name (if you know it) send an email to incident.swcitydogpark@gmail.com.



The Tail End

Researchers interested in the brain of the dog accidentally discovered something about the tail of the dog along the way: the dog wags asymmetrically. On average, dogs' wags tend more strongly to the right when they suddenly see their owners—or even anything else of some interest: another person, or a cat. When presented with an unfamiliar dog, dogs still wag—more that tentative wag than the happy wag—but tending to the left.

— *Inside of a Dog*
by Alexandra Horowitz



Why does the dog wag its tail?

Because the dog is smarter than the tail.

If the tail were smarter, it would wag the dog.

— *Wag the Dog*
a film by Barry Levinson