



dogpaw prints

SEPTEMBER 2008 EDITION

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Welcome

Special thanks to those of you that helped to cleanup Ross! You did an awesome job – thanks so much for lending a helping hand.

We've received input about the new Dakota Park! Together with Parks, we are reviewing the features for any modifications to the site.

The Safety Task Force is working on ways to improve park safety! Please read the safety information to help prevent incidents.

Brush Prairie work parties begin on the 27th! Every Saturday, through October 25th, will be a work day. Come join us – there are skilled and unskilled jobs for everyone!

Our DOGPAW Calendar is a great Christmas present! Send your pictures and order now.

Please, be sure to read more about DOGPAW news and events on the following pages or visit us online.

Thanks for supporting DOGPAW!



Dakota Update

Dakota Memorial Off-Leash Dog Area

Pacific Community Park, 18th St and NE 172nd Ave

Dakota Park update:

The new park has been a huge success and we are seeing many new visitors to an off leash park. This park is the first time DOGPAW has worked in partnership with Vancouver Parks to operate an off leash site. DOGPAW has the responsibility of managing the site, but we must work through the Parks department for any modifications to the site. We are waiting for the rules signs to be placed inside the park and have asked the Parks department to please rush getting these signs done. They want all signage to be standardized through the Parks system, so we cannot just go out and put up whatever signs we want. We hope to have the final rules signs posted in the near future.

We have received a lot of comments about the water fountains right in front of the gates. DOGPAW representatives participated in the design process for the site and we reinforced that it was important to not have anything right near the gates. When we did the walk through in April, we again mentioned being sure that the fountains were away from the entrances, but unfortunately that info was not given to the contractor who was installing the fountains. DOGPAW is working with the Parks department to see what we might do to rectify the situation to “unclog” the entrance area. We all know the importance of not having congestion around the entrances.



Dakota Update Continued

It has been very disappointing to see the amount of dog waste that has not been picked up at the park. We can all help by keeping our eyes open and letting others know if their dog is leaving a deposit.



Safety Task Force Update

We have new leadership to the Safety task force and are working on programs to help improve safety in the park. It is important for all to know that the off leash parks are “Use at your own risk” sites, but DOGPAW is very committed to making sure the parks are as safe as possible and we believe education of park users is the primary way to improve safety.



Many of you are aware of the unfortunate situation that happened a few months ago at Ross Park where a beagle and 3 rottweilers were involved in an incident. This was a situation where all dogs were regular park users, but in an instant, things went wrong. Sadly all 3 of the rottweilers had to be put down as a result of this incident. Thankfully, the beagle survived but had a challenging recovery. The owner of the beagle was also injured.

STF Update Continued



The goal of DOGPAW is to not see another dog have to suffer the consequences of a fight at the dog park and that requires that the owners **MUST** be responsible for their dogs. The law is that an owner is responsible for any damage or injury their dog may cause.

We have made a recent change to the dog park rules, which is that pinch or choke collars are not allowed in the park. We were made aware of an incident at another dog park where 2 dogs got their choke chains tangled and both dogs died while their owners were trying to get them separated. Additionally, we have seen some instances of choke chains getting caught in the fountains at Dakota Park, so we request that [choke collars](#) be removed while dogs are in the park.

We recommend that everyone be sure they are aware of the [rules](#) of the park, which are available on our web site and in the DOGPAW brochures. Also, be aware that Animal Control has been regularly visiting the park to do license checks and ensure all visitors are complying with the laws.



New Park

Brush Prairie Work Party

Brush Prairie Off-Leash Area, NE 149th St
Saturday, September 27, 2008
8:00am...

Come - build the park - there's a job for everyone!
We will be constructing this park, each Saturday,
from now through October 25th, and hope to
open this park by November 1st.

Contact construction@clarkdogpaw.org.

Please see our "[events](#)" page for more details.



DOGPAW Calendar 2009

SEND PICS:

Be sure to provide dog photos for each season,
with your **dog's first name and last name**, by
November 22, 2008

ORDER:

Order your calendars now for Christmas - just \$16
plus \$3.50 for shipping.

Available by advance order only!

Please see our "[news](#)" page for more details.

