



A partnership project between the City of Mt. Pleasant, Charter Township of Union, and Friends of the Dog Park

1458 NORTH HARRIS ST. (S. CRAWFORD RD.)

MT. PLEASANT, MI 48858

Membership Packet and Policies



Hannah and Sophie

GENERAL INFORMATION



Hannah's Bark Park is open to residents and non-residents who purchase an annual or weekly membership. Park hours are 8am – 10pm, seven days a week. All registration must be done in person at Mt. Pleasant City Hall at the Parks and Recreation Office, 320 W. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858.

Registration Requirements and Fees:

1. Only current members and registered dogs are allowed inside the dog park. Members are not to allow any un-registered dogs into the park. Weekly memberships are available for visiting dogs and their owners.
2. Current dog license and certificate of valid rabies vaccination.
3. The annual fee provides you with access to the dog park for one year from the date of purchase. Passes can be purchased at the City of Mt. Pleasant Parks and Recreation Office, 320 W. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. Passes are required for entrance to the dog park. **Passes are not transferrable. Fees for the dog park are as follows:**
 - Yearly Membership – **\$30.00** per dog
 - Additional Dog –**\$20.00** (maximum 3 dogs total)
 - Weekly Membership) – **\$5.00/dog** (maximum 3 dogs)
 - Additional or Lost Fob Replacement - **\$13.00**

Location:

The park is located at Mission Creek Woodland Park on the east side of South Crawford Road between River Road and Pickard Road in Mt. Pleasant.

Parking:

Please use the parking on the south side of Hannah's Bark Park. Handicap parking is available. Please refrain from parking on the road. Thank you for your cooperation in utilizing the proper parking area.

General Information:

Park features: 3.6 acre fenced park, stone dust entryway, grass area, shade structure, double-gate entry system with electronic controlled entry point, drinking fountain with dog bowl at base, separate fenced areas for large dogs and small dogs, dog waste bag stations, trash receptacles and seating.

Dog Park Maintenance:

Park members are responsible for the pickup and disposal of their own animal's waste. General park maintenance will be handled by the City of Mt. Pleasant Parks and Recreation Department every two days during the week (excluding holidays).

Contact Information:

Should you have any questions or concerns not addressed in this packet, please contact the City of Mt. Pleasant Parks and Recreation Office at 989-779-5331 or via email at parcs-rec@mt-pleasant.org. The department office is located at Mt. Pleasant City Hall, 320 W. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 or visit the website, www.mt-pleasant.org/barkpark.

Bark Park Guidelines



1. CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR DOG
2. NO DOGS YOUNGER THAN 6 MONTHS
3. NEVER LEAVE YOUR DOG UNATTENDED
4. NO DOGS "IN HEAT" ALLOWED
5. NO CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 12 ALLOWED. AN ADULT MUST ACCOMPANY ANYONE BETWEEN THE AGES OF 12-16
6. DOGS MUST BE CURRENT WITH ALL MEDICAL RECORDS AND DISPLAY THE PROPER TAGS
7. TOYS, FOOD (OF ANY KIND), TREATS, SMOKING AND GLASS CONTAINERS ARE PROHIBITED
8. NO AGGRESSIVE DOGS. IF YOUR DOG BECOMES UNRULY OR AGGRESSIVE, PLEASE LEASH THEM AND EXIT THE PARK IMMEDIATELY
9. REMOVE PRONG OR SPIKE COLLARS BEFORE ENTERING
10. DOGS 30 LBS. OR LESS MUST USE THE SMALL DOG AREA. DOGS OVER 30 LBS. MUST USE THE LARGE DOG AREA
11. MT. PLEASANT PARKS AND RECREATION HAS THE AUTHORITY TO CLOSE THE PARK FOR MAINTENANCE, WEATHER HAZARDS, RULE VIOLATIONS OR SPECIAL EVENTS WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE
12. OWNERS ARE LIABLE FOR ANY DAMAGE OR INJURY INFLECTED BY THEIR DOGS
13. USERS OF THE FACILITY DO SO AT THEIR OWN RISK. THE CITY OF MT. PLEASANT UNION TOWNSHIP AND THE FRIENDS OF THE DOG PARK ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR INJURY OR DAMAGE CAUSED BY DOGS IN OR OUTSIDE OF THE OFF-LEASH AREA

HAVE FUN – MEET NEW FRIENDS!

Hannah's Bark Park Advisory Board wants to help make YOUR dog park a success. If you have questions or concerns, please contact the Mt. Pleasant Parks and Recreation Department by calling 989-779-5331

Bark Park Etiquette and Precautions

To be read and understood prior to first visit.

Please contact the Mt. Pleasant Parks and Recreation Department with any questions or if clarification is needed.

- ***First time users should consider coming at off-peak times for their initial visit.*** Ask questions of those people inside the fence about how to ease your dog's initial stress of entering for the first time. At times, the park can become quite crowded. If you are not sure how your dog will react to the current conditions, don't put pressure on your dog by forcing it into what it thinks is a threatening situation. Instead, come back at another time when less busy.
- ***When entering or exiting the off-leash area, do not enter the double-gated transition area if there is already someone in that area.*** This will eliminate the possibility of both gates being open at the same time.
- ***Place your dog off-leash in the transition area before entering the unleashed area.*** Some dogs can feel threatened if they are leashed in the presence of unleashed dogs.
- ***Quickly move away from the entrance area as you enter.*** That will help disperse the group of dogs that will come over to welcome your dog to the park. Move away from the fence so that your dog does not feel cornered or threatened. This will decrease the potential for issues when several off-leash dogs, already in the park, come running over to greet the new arrival, perhaps overwhelming the arriving dog.
- ***One of our primary goals is to socialize our dogs to have good manners.*** We should practice what we preach and always be considerate of others and YOUR dog park will be an enjoyable, healthy and educational experience..
- ***If any dog becomes aggressive or disruptive, the responsible handler will remove the dog from the fenced area until socialization measures can be undertaken.***
- ***ALWAYS SCOOP AND DISPOSE OF YOUR DOG'S WASTE!!!*** This is the complaint heard most often from opponents of dog park proposals. **Bags are provided, please use them!** Also, please help with any additional waste that may have been accidentally left behind. You will occasionally miss some of your dog's waste and helping each other out when this happens helps keep our park looking beautiful and healthy!
- ***Keep your dog leashed at all times while outside the fenced dog park area.*** Even if your pet is under perfect voice control, many non-dog people have fears and dogs off-leash outside of the fenced area are not permitted.
- ***Please clean up YOUR park!*** Trash, cigarette butts, and anything else on the ground may end up in a dog's mouth. Before you drop something on the ground, ask yourself, "Would I want my dog to eat this?" We must all work to keep our park clean.
- ***Dogs 30# or less must use the small dog area.*** Dogs over 30# must use the large dog area. Only those households with dogs over and under 30# will be allowed to bring their small dog into the large dog area, at their own risk. Dogs over 30# will not be allowed into the small dog area at any time.

- **All dog handlers must provide proof of current vaccinations.** Your dog must have a collar or harness that includes a rabies tag and current dog license. It is also an excellent idea to have an ID tag on the collar or harness as well. If your animal does not have proof of a rabies vaccination and license, you may be asked to leave the park.
- **Remember that choke, prong, or spiked collars are not allowed inside the off-leash area.** Each of these collar types can result in injury to its wearer, another dog, or a person depending on the situation. If a choke collar gets hung on something while running, its wearer can become choked. Some dogs, while playing, like to softly bite the back of another dog's neck. Dogs wearing prong collars receive a much stronger bite during this type of play while dogs wearing spiked collars can inflict injury.
- **Be a responsible dog handler.** If your pet has a contagious condition, stay away until a vet has said that there is no danger to other dogs. The "Golden Rule" applies here! Legally, only a rabies vaccination and current license is required to enter the dog park; however, you may wish to consult with your veterinarian to get advice on other vaccinations such as Bordetella (Kennel Cough), Parvo, etc. Don't forget heartworm protection!
- **Each handler is legally responsible for his or her dog, and City of Mt. Pleasant will assume no responsibility for any injuries to humans, animals or property; therefore, each handler is responsible for supervision of his or her animal.** All handlers must remain in the park with their dog at all times.
- **For safety reasons, children under the age of 12 are not allowed in the dog run areas.** Children have a tendency to scream and run when excited, which can trigger a dog's prey drive or natural instinct to chase. Children ages 12-16 will be permitted with adult supervision.
- **Many dogs will be experiencing the off-leash environment for the first time and may not be used to the experience.** Please watch your dog closely. If your dog acts aggressively, please put the dog on a leash immediately and let the animal "cool down". It takes time for a new dog to become comfortable with the fact that other dogs all share the neutral environment. Keep in mind that everyone at the park wants the same thing - socialized dogs that can have fun together. If you are not sure how your dog will react, try to come to the park when few other dogs are there to keep the intimidation level as low as possible. You may wish to keep your first visit to the dog park rather short to minimize the stress on your pup. Leaving early when your dog is having a good time will make it more likely that your dog will be anxious to return for subsequent visits.
- **No bare feet!** Some types of worms can enter your body through the soles of your feet. Are you absolutely certain that every dog in the dog park is worm-free?
- **Keep your head on a swivel at all times as there will likely be groups of dogs running around the park and having fun.** People standing around are obstructions. A dog being chased may try to run its pursuer into a person in order to gain an advantage. Stay alert!
- **Do not bring human or pet food to the dog park.** Many dogs are on diets to keep their weight under control. A normally well-behaved dog can jump at or lunge for food, especially tasty human food, when hungry. Also, some dogs have food allergies and that treat might make a dog ill.

MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

You are solely responsible for supervising your dog(s) and determining whether or not this is an appropriate activity in which to participate. You must understand that you are participating in this activity at your own risk (and risk of your dog(s)). You are solely responsible for determining if you and/or your dog(s) are physically (or temperamentally) fit and/or adequately skilled to use the dog park. It is always advisable, especially if you or your dog(s) is pregnant, disabled in any way or recently suffered an illness, injury or impairment, to consult a physician or veterinarian before using the dog park.

WARNING OF RISK

Dog activities are intended to provide a fun and rewarding experience for a dog(s) and its owner. However, despite careful and proper preparation, instruction, medical advice, conditioning and equipment, there is still a risk of serious injury, including death to either the dog(s) or its owner. Dogs are pack animals and when "off leash", even the best-trained dogs will act instinctively. Understandably, not all hazards and dangers associated with dog activities can be foreseen. Certain inherent risks include the propensity of any dog to behave in dangerous ways that may result in injury to another patron or dog(s). Other risks include, but are not limited to the inexperience, negligence or irresponsibility of a dog owner; the inability to predict a dog's reaction to sound, movements, objects, persons, or other animals; and actions by the dog(s) due to fright, anger, stress, insect bites, or natural reactions such as jumping, pulling, resisting and biting. Other risks include the hazards associated with environmental and traffic conditions, acts of God, inclement weather, slipping, falling, premises defects, failure in instruction and/or supervision, and all other circumstances inherent to dog and outdoor activities. Should you attempt to break up a fight between dogs, you may be attacked and severely mauled by the other dog(s) or even attacked by the other patron. In this regard, it must be recognized that it is impossible for the City of Mt. Pleasant to guarantee absolute safety.

WAIVER & RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS AND INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT

Please read this form carefully and be aware that in consideration for permission to use this facility, you will be expressly assuming the risk and legal liability and WAIVING and RELEASING all claims for injuries, damages or loss which you or your dog(s) might sustain as a result of participating in any and all activities connected with and associated with presence upon and use of the dog park. I recognize and acknowledge that there are certain risks of physical injury to the dog(s), owners and property associated with participating in dog activities, and I voluntarily agree to abide by all applicable rules and assume the full risk of any injuries, damages or loss, regardless of severity, that I might sustain as a result of participating in any and all activities connected with or associated with use of the dog park. I do hereby agree to waive, relinquish, release and forever discharge the City of Mt. Pleasant including its officials, agents, volunteers and employees from any and all claims for injuries, damages or loss that I may have or which may accrue to me and arising out of, connected with, or in any way associated with the use of this facility or surrounding area. I further agree to INDEMNIFY and hold harmless and defend the City of Mt. Pleasant from and against any and all losses, injuries, claims, damages, liabilities, cause of actions, and expenses (including attorney fees), on account of personal injuries or death to any person or dog(s), or damages to property occurring, growing out of, incident to, or resulting directly or indirectly from me and my dog's use of this facility or surrounding area. I have read and fully understand the above important information, warning of risk, assumption of risk and waiver and release of all claims.

Recognizing Aggressive Behavior

***If any of the following behaviors are observed, please
leash your dog and immediately exit the dog park.***

- Becoming very still and rigid
- Guttural bark that sounds threatening
- Lunging forward or charging at the person with no contact
- Mouthing, as though to move or control the person, without applying significant pressure
- "Muzzle punch" (the dog literally punches the person with her nose) -
- Growl and/or showing teeth
- Quick nip that leaves no mark
- Quick bite that tears the skin
- Bite with enough pressure to cause a bruise or puncture wound
- Repeated bites in rapid succession
- Bite and shake

Breaking Up a Dogfight

***Each owner is responsible for their own animal. In the event of an extremely violent situation, call 911 or animal control. The following is simply a suggestion on how to manage a less violent situation.**

1. Each owner may **grab the upper-area of the back legs (where the leg meets the body)** of the fighting dogs, and then **pick them up like wheelbarrow**. With the dogs' legs up, they are pulled apart and kept from each other.
2. **Do this by circling behind one pooch**, grabbing his back legs, and then raising them up into the air. Without the use of his back legs, **the dog will be forced to stand on his front legs** and will not be able to continue fighting.
3. **Separate the dogs as you back away slowly**. Just **hold their feet or legs continually as you carefully move in a smooth backward arc**. That way, your pet won't be able to reach around and bite you. Because the dog will only be using his front legs, he'd be kept from maneuvering with any agility.
4. The moment you have reached a safe distance, **at least about 20 feet away, try holding the dog securely until he calms down**. Turn him away so he doesn't see the other dog, and try to change his state of mind using distraction.

***Any dogs involved in a fight must be immediately leashed and removed from the dog park.**

**The incident must be reported to the
City of Mt. Pleasant Parks and Recreation Department at 989-779-5331***

Dog Incident Policy

You are legally and financially responsible for the actions of your dog.

Hannah's Bark Park rules and etiquette are designed to help minimize the chance for a dog incident. However, should an incident occur, below is our policy and recommended action by dog owners:

- Separate and leash the dogs.
- Remove dogs to neutral area by main gate.
- Inspect dogs for any injury.
- Exchange names and phone numbers.
- Get names and phone numbers of any witnesses.
- If required, contact Animal Control.
- Contact the City of Mt. Pleasant Parks and Recreation Department so that the incident can be documented.

****Immediate medical emergency, please call 911****

***Non-immediate emergency** Monday-Friday between the hours of 8am and 4:30pm, please call Mt. Pleasant Parks and Recreation at 989-779-5331. After hours, please call Isabella County Central Dispatch at 989-773-1000.*

In the event the City of Mt. Pleasant Parks and Recreation Department is notified, our policy is to release names and telephone numbers of interested parties if necessary.

Dog Park Sign-Off on Rules and Medical Requirements

_____ I acknowledge receipt and full understanding of the dog park Membership Considerations, Warning of Risk and Waiver & Release of All Claims and Indemnification agreement, and agree to be bound by them.

_____ I acknowledge receipt and full understanding of the dog park Rules, Etiquette and Considerations and Dog Incident Policy, and agree to be bound by them.

_____ I understand that there are no refunds of membership fees.

_____ I agree to provide updated medical records if and when my dog's vaccinations/tests expire. I understand that if I don't do this, my membership will be deactivated and will not be re-activated until I submit updated records.

The City of Mt. Pleasant Parks and Recreation reserves the right to suspend or revoke park privileges to any member who fails to follow rules and etiquette or where it is determined a member dog or dog owner is dangerous to others or is in violation of any applicable animal ordinances or regulations. Refunds will not be given for suspended or revoked privileges.

Print Name _____

Signature _____ Date _____

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



Hannah's Bark Park

Primary Owner _____	Veterinarian Name _____
Email _____	Address _____
Address (required) _____	City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____	Contact Phone (____) _____
Cell/Home Phone (____) _____	
Work Phone (____) _____ Ext. _____	
Emergency Phone (____) _____	

Pet Name	M/F	Breed	Age	Weight	Rabies Vaccination Expire Date	Dog License Number

*Please see Bark Park Rules on whether you should use the large or small dog area

Date Issued	Key Fob # Issued	Year Pass \$30.00/Dog Add'l Dog \$20.00 Week Pass \$5.00/Dog (maximum 3 dogs total) Replacement or Add'l Key Fob \$13	Pass Type	Pass Fee(s)
<i>Make checks payable to: Mt. Pleasant Parks & Recreation</i>			TOTAL DUE	\$
Office Use		Cash/Check # _____	RecTrac Receipt # _____	

RETURN TO: MT. PLEASANT PARKS & RECREATION, 320 W. BROADWAY, MT. PLEASANT, MI 48858