



# Operating Rules

## Fenced Dog Run or Designated Off-Leash Areas

### Registration & Contact Information

1. Dog owners/handlers wishing to use fenced-dog-runs or off-leash-areas will be required to pay an annual fee, and register each dog with the **Baltimore Animal Rescue & Care Shelter** (BARCS), 301 Stockholm Street. Registration will include proof of Baltimore City dog license and current vaccinations. The fee for the "fenced-run/off-leash" tag will be \$20/year, with a reduced rate of \$10/year for seniors. The special tag will permit the dog access to any Baltimore City fenced-dog-run or off-leash-area. BARCS is open seven (7) days a week and hours can be found at [www.baltimoreanimalshelter.org](http://www.baltimoreanimalshelter.org)
2. Any bite to humans must be reported by the injured person to the **Department of Health and Animal Control (311)** within 24 hours in accordance with communicable disease laws.
3. In case of an emergency, the **Director of Recreation & Parks** shall post a notice of a planned closing at each entrance, stating the reasons for closure.

### Restrictions for Owners/Handlers

1. Owners/Handlers are legally responsible for their dogs and any injuries caused by their dogs. Owners/Handlers use the fenced-dog-runs or off-leash-areas at their own risk.
2. All fenced-dog-runs and off-leash-areas are for dogs, their owners/handlers and those accompanying them. No animals other than dogs are allowed in the area.
3. Children under eight (8) years are not permitted inside fenced-dog-runs or off-leash-areas. Children age 9-15 must be accompanied and supervised by an adult. Dog Handler must be 16 years of age or older.
4. Owners and dog handlers are limited to a maximum of three (3) dogs. Professional dog trainers and groomers shall not use the fenced-dog-runs or off-leash-areas to conduct their business.
5. Dogs must be under the control of their owners/handlers and in view of their owners/handlers at all times. Leaving dogs unattended is prohibited.
6. Owners/Handlers must clean up after their dogs with plastic bags and dispose of dog waste in covered trash cans.
7. Food and drinks are not permitted in the Fenced Dog Run or Off-Leash area. Treats for dog training are not permitted.
8. Hours of operation: dawn until dusk daily. Quiet hours: before 9 a.m. and after 7 p.m.
9. Excessive (continuous or uncontrollable) barking is prohibited; only minimal barking is permitted during quiet hours.
10. The "small dog" side of the park is reserved for small, old, or less active dogs.

### Requirements

1. All dogs must be on a leash, eight (8') feet or less when entering or leaving the fenced-dog-run or off-leash-area. Any dog found "off-leash" outside of an established fenced-dog-run or off-leash-area will be subject to Baltimore City Leash Laws and associated fines.
2. Dogs must be leashed and removed from any fenced-dog-run or off-leash-area at the first sign of aggression. Dogs with a record of aggressive behavior on file with the Baltimore City "Dangerous Dog Hearing Board" will not be allowed to register for use of fenced-dog-runs or off-leash-areas.
3. Puppies under the age of four (4) months will not be allowed to use fenced-dog-runs or off-leash areas. All dogs over the age of nine (9) months must be neutered or spayed. Dogs that are ill or known to carry untreated parasites will not be permitted within the fenced-dog-runs or the off-leash-areas.
4. Dogs must wear a proper fitting collar or harness displaying their identification tag, Baltimore City "off-leash" registration tag, and rabies tag while in the fenced-dog-run or off-leash-area. Pinch collars, spike collars or slip collars that could cause injury to another dog during play are not permitted. Owners/Handlers must have possession of a dog leash at all times.