

City of Calgary – Calgary’s Dog Bylaws

The Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw is in place to encourage a community where pets, their owners and neighbours can all live in safety and harmony.

Calgary is home to over 100,000 dogs. Many of them regularly visit our city’s parks, pathways and open spaces with their owners. If you and your dog enjoy spending time outdoors, it’s important to abide by the following bylaws to ensure that your community remains a safe and pleasant place for everyone.

Throughout Calgary

- Dogs cannot be “at large.” This means they need to be under their owner’s control at all times. A dog that is out without its owner is considered “at large”. A dog that is tied up and left alone outside a building such as a store or school is considered “at large”. **\$100 Penalty**
- Dogs must be on leash at all times, unless within a securely fenced yard or in a designated off-leash area. Visible signs are posted in all designated off-leash areas. **\$100 Penalty**
- Dogs are prohibited at all times in the following areas: school grounds, playgrounds, sports fields, golf courses, cemeteries and wading or swimming areas. **\$100 Penalty**
- Owners must pick up all feces produced by their dog. **\$250 Penalty**
- All dogs three months and older must be licensed. **\$250 Penalty**

In Vehicles

- Leaving cats and dogs in vehicles is prohibited if weather condition (too hot or too cold) jeopardizes the animal’s safety. Pets must also be provided with suitable ventilation.
- Dogs are only allowed to be transported in the back of a truck if the dog is in a fully enclosed trailer, a truck bed covered with a topper, contained in a ventilated kennel that is secured to the truck bed, or securely tethered and not standing on bare metal.

In Parks

- All parks in Calgary are considered on leash unless otherwise indicated with appropriate signage. **\$100 Penalty**
- Off-leash does not mean “out of control.” Dogs must be under control at all times in designated off-leash areas. This means dogs must remain within the owner’s sight and come when called. **\$100 Penalty**
- All parking lots are on leash, even in the off-leash areas. **\$100 Penalty**
- Dogs are not allowed to enter or swim in any body of water within a park. **\$100 Penalty**

On Pathways

- All of Calgary’s pathways are on leash, even in off-leash areas. **\$100 Penalty**
- Leash length must not exceed two metres. **\$75 Penalty**
- Dogs and owners must stay on the right-hand side of the pathway, unless moving around other pathway users. **\$100 Penalty**
- Dogs must not interfere with or obstruct other pathway users. **\$200 Penalty**
- Cycling, in-line skating or skateboarding with a leashed dog is prohibited. **\$75 Penalty**