



2021 Dog Status Change Request Review (On-Leash Dog Access to the Madison Park System)

Presentation to the Board of Park Commissioners

November 3, 2021



Summary of the On Leash Policy History

Oct 2019 – BPC adopted the new dogs on leash policy for Madison Parks (Leg File 57578)

Feb 2020 – BPC reviewed the policy implementation ideas that Parks staff had developed (Leg File 59475)

March 2021 – Madison Parks staff developed a process for the public to request a change to the dog status of any park.

May 2021 – Madison Parks request process went “on-line”

November 2021 – First BPC review of all Dec 2020 to Nov 2021 requests



Dog Free Locations in Madison Park System



This is a DOG FREE PARK

Violators are subject to a fine (MGO 8.19).

Report Violators: (608) 235-0448

cityofmadison.com/parks/dogfree





Requests for Changes to Dog Status in Madison Park System

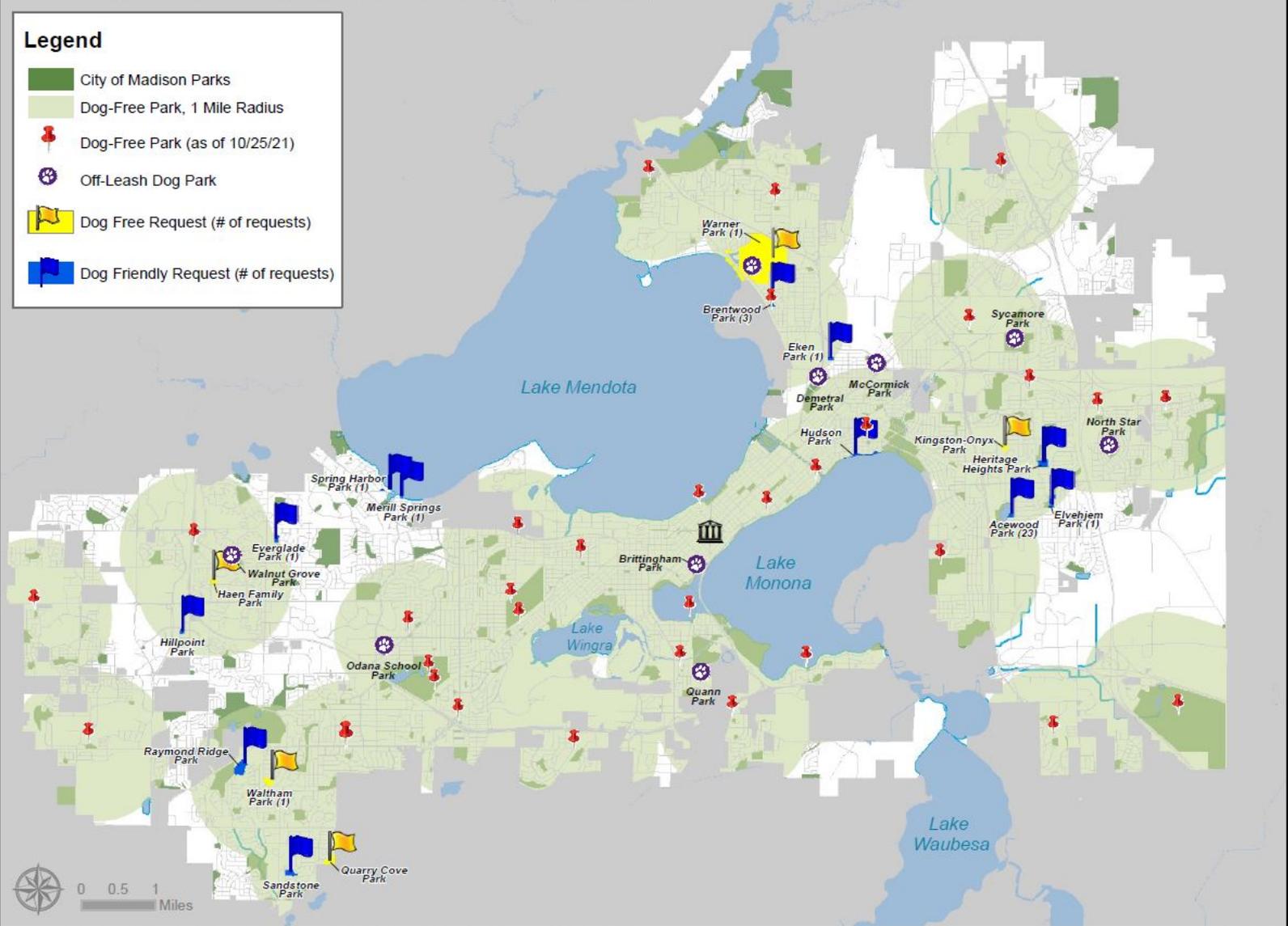
Dog Status Change Requests 2020 to 2021

DATE	Resident or Staff Request	PARK NAME	CURRENT STATUS	REQUEST TO CHANGE TO	COMMENTS
7/16/2021	Resident	Acewood Park	Dog Free	Dog Friendly	: I walk by this park in n frequent walks with my toddler and my dog. As a working mom, one walk is usually all I can squeeze in. I hate having to choose between taking the dog or letting my toddler stop for a swing and a little play time. My recommendation to to allow dogs again (I thought this park was dog friendly when we moved to the neighborhood 10 years ago). If the concern is wildlife around the pond, just don't let dogs winning 100 yards of the water.
7/14/2021	Resident	All parks	Dog Friendly	Dog Friendly	<p>I'm interested in having dogs who have an e-collar on to be allowed to roam the park under "control" of the owner. I believe that an e-collar is a proven method to effectively have your dog off-leash. A leash is considered a physical restraint of a dog, but that leash is only effective if the owner has control of their dog.</p> <p>I believe allowing e-collars will better the community by allowing friendly dogs(non-aggressive breeds) to be controlled in parks by using the best judgement of their owner and not allowing the known aggressive breeds (pits) to be off-leash. Dog owners should be the ones who need to judge if their dog is known to be aggressive and accept the consequences of their dogs being off-leash.</p> <p>I believe by not allowing dogs to be off-leash in any setting besides "dog parks" doesn't allow a dog to be adequately trained in an environment in "normal" situations outside the dog park.</p> <p>I'm asking the city to understand that by restricting dogs to only being on-leash will result in an unhealthy lifestyle of that dog if you require them to be on a 6 ft leash. Some dogs are the size of 6 ft.</p> <p>If I restricted you to a house without a yard and I have a park in my backyard...how would you feel?</p>
11/19/2020	Resident	Brentwood Park	Dog Free	Dog Friendly	Sheridan Triangle is 1 block away and is also dog free. The recent move of the playground provides a larger area that could be able to host dogs on leash.
7/14/2021	Resident	Brentwood Park	Dog free	Dog Friendly	<p>We are requesting that the city reconsider the status of this dog-free park, as we live a couple of blocks away and it is our main form of exercise and entertainment with our family. We have an 11-year old daughter and a very well-behaved 5 year old mutt. Prior to this designation, we would enjoy the park daily as a family (and yes, our family includes our dog!). We are responsible dog owners, as are all the other dog owners in our neighborhood.</p> <p>We feel that excluding dogs from this park negatively impacts the lives of many families in the surrounding area. We respectfully request that you designate this park as dog-friendly, as it will improve the recreation and relaxation opportunities for many disadvantaged families in the area with dogs.</p> <p>Thank you,</p>

2021 Dog Status Change Requests - Summary of Requests

Legend

- City of Madison Parks
- Dog-Free Park, 1 Mile Radius
- Dog-Free Park (as of 10/25/21)
- Off-Leash Dog Park
- Dog Free Request (# of requests)
- Dog Friendly Request (# of requests)





Staff Recommendations for Changes to Status Nov 2021

Dog Status Change Requests 2020-2021

Staff Recommendations

Park	Current Status	Requested Status	Staff Recommended Status	Change /No Change	Change Type
Warner Park	Dog Friendly	Dog Free	Dog Friendly	No Change	n/a
Brentwood	Dog Free	Dog Friendly	Dog Free	No Change	n/a
Eken Park	Dog Free	Dog Friendly	Dog Free	No Change	n/a
Hudson Park	Dog Free	Dog Friendly	Dog Free	No Change	n/a
Heritage Heights	Dog Free	Dog Friendly	Dog Friendly	Change	Free to Friendly
Kingston-Onyx	Dog Friendly	Dog Free	Dog Free	Change	Friendly to Free
Acewood Park	Dog Free	Dog Friendly	Dog Friendly	Change	Free to Friendly
Quarry Grove	Dog Friendly	Dog Free	Dog Free	Change	Friendly to Free
Waltham Park	Dog Friendly	Dog Free	Dog Friendly	No Change	n/a
Sandstone Park	Dog Free	Dog Friendly	Dog Friendly	Change	Free to Friendly
Raymond Ridge	Dog Free	Dog Friendly	Dog Friendly	Change	Free to Friendly
Hillpoint Park	Dog Free	Dog Friendly	Dog Friendly	Change	Free to Friendly
Haen Family Park	Dog Friendly	Dog Free	Dog Free	Change	Friendly to Free
Everglade Park	Dog Friendly	Dog Friendly	Dog Friendly	No Change	n/a
Spring Harbor Beach Park	Dog Friendly	Dog Friendly	Dog Friendly	No Change	n/a
Elvehjem Park	Dog Free	Dog Friendly	Dog Free	No Change	n/a
Summary Stats					
Total Parks Considered for Change		16			
Number of Changes		8			
Dog Free to Dog Friendly		5			
Dog Friendly to Dog Free		3			
No Change Recommended		8			

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