



City of Philadelphia

City Council
Chief Clerk's Office
402 City Hall
Philadelphia, PA 19107

BILL NO. 241082

Introduced November 21, 2024

Councilmember Young

**Referred to the
Committee on Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs**

AN ORDINANCE

Amending Title 15 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled “Parks and Recreation,” by adding a new Section 15-606 and new Section 15-706 to establish animal-free areas and provide for the management of animals in parks, playgrounds, and recreation centers and to provide for penalties and enforcement, all under certain terms and conditions.

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. Title 15 of The Philadelphia Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

TITLE 15. PARKS AND RECREATION

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CHAPTER 15-600. PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS

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§ 15-606. *Animal Free Areas.*

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(1) No person may bring any animal into or onto any park or playground if the Department has posted public notice that such park or playground is “animal free,” or a similar designation, except for service, guide or support animals, excluding emotional support animals, as consistent with federal and state law.

(2) Each area created or designated by the Department as a “Dog Park,” “Dog Run,” or similar designation, may have specific rules and regulations regarding the use of that site that are posted at the site.

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(3) A person who brings an animal onto any park or playground shall have it on a leash not exceeding six feet in length (including the handgrip but not including the collar or harness) and shall be able to fully control the animal at all times. This prohibition shall not apply to dogs off leash within a specifically designated and fenced-in dog park or dog run.

(4) A person who brings an animal into or onto any park or playground shall clean up and properly dispose of all feces created by the animal.

(5) A violation of any provision of this Section is subject to a civil monetary penalty of up to \$2,000.

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CHAPTER 15-700. RECREATION CENTERS

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§ 15-706. Animal Free Areas.

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(1) No person may bring any animal into or onto any recreation facility if the Department has posted public notice that such park or playground is “animal free,” or a similar designation, except for service, guide or support animals, excluding emotional support animals, as consistent with federal and state law.

(2) Each area created or designated by the Department as a “Dog Park,” “Dog Run,” or similar designation, may have specific rules and regulations regarding the use of that site that are posted at the site.

(3) A person who brings an animal onto any recreation facility shall have it on a leash not exceeding six feet in length (including the handgrip but not including the collar or harness) and shall be able to fully control the animal at all times. This prohibition shall not apply to dogs off leash within a specifically designated and fenced-in dog park or dog run.

(4) A person who brings an animal into or onto any recreation facility shall clean up and properly dispose of all feces created by the animal.

(5) A violation of any provision of this Section is subject to a civil monetary penalty of up to \$2,000.

SECTION 2. This ordinance shall take effect immediately.