

Community Dog Park Proposal Package Presented to: Merrickville-Wolford Town Council **Prepared by:** Amanda Casselden **Date:** June 30, 2025

Dog Park Proposal Documents

- 1. Delegation request form
- 2. Dog Park Proposal
- 3. Signature sheets x 5
- 4. Preferred Location
- 5. Site Map/Layout
- 6. Pictures of gate system and play equipment x 4
- 7. Dog Park Rules
- 8. Migratory Bird Sanctuary Regulations



DELEGATION REQUEST FORM

Should you wish to appear as a delegation to Council at one of their regular meetings, you are required to complete this request form. This form, together with any supporting materials, *must* be received by the Clerk at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting at which the delegation is requested. The date requested may not be the date on which your delegation will be heard. The Clerk will confirm the date your delegation will be heard. The Clerk will confirm the date your delegation will be heard. The clerk will confirm the date your delegation will be heard. The clerk will confirm the date your delegation will be heard. Each delegation will be permitted ten (10) minutes to make their presentation.

Concord Name: Cosso Organization (if applicable): Kulle on KOGINOO Phone Number: Email: The delegation is for (check one): information only _____ request to Council Brief description of topic to be discussed: Proposel for a community of If you are making a request to Council, please state your specific request:

Requesting approval, & Possible Finds, as in grants, or movies set aside for parts & recreation funds.

Are you providing supporting materials? Please note all supporting materials will become part of the Council Agenda package that is made available to the public.

The Clerk reserves the right to approve, refuse, defer or refer any delegation.

Delegations shall abide by the Rules of Conduct and shall:

- 1. Not speak on any subject other than the subject for which they have received approval to address.
- 2. Not enter into cross debate with other delegations, administration or Members of Council.
- 3. Not appear for the purposes of publicly announcing a local event.
- 4. Refrain from public outbursts, shouting, or behavior intended to disrupt the debate, discussion and/or general proceedings of the meeting.

Upon the completion of a presentation by a delegation, any discourse between Members and the delegation shall be limited to Members asking questions for clarification and obtaining additional, relevant information only. Once a motion has been moved and seconded, no further representation or questions of the delegation shall be permitted.

Conduct of Members of the Public

No person at a meeting shall:

- 1. Speak aloud at a meeting or address Members without first receiving permission of the Chair to do so;
- 2. Speak disrespectfully of any persons;
- 3. Use profane or offensive words or insulting expressions against the Council or Committee or against any Member, staff or guest;
- 4. Resist the rules of Council or Committee or disobey the decisions of the Chair or of Council or Committee on questions of order or practice or upon the interpretation of the rules of Council;
- 5. Cause any disturbance to the Council or Committee or staff or guest or any person in attendance;
- 6. Interrupt any member while speaking through speaking out, noise or disturbance;
- 7. Be permitted to attend another meeting of Council or Committee after being ordered to vacate, having committed a breach of any rule of Council, and without having first met with the Mayor or Chair and the Chief Administrative Officer, and having satisfied the Mayor that their conduct at future meetings will be in conformity to the rules.

I, <u>Casseder</u>, have read the above and agree to comply with the rules as set out.

Signature

Date

Proposal for the Establishment of a Dog Park in Merrickville

Submitted by: Amanda Casselden Date: June 30, 2025

1. Introduction

This proposal outlines the need for and benefits of establishing a designated dog park in Merrickville. Given the increasing number of dog owners in our community, a dedicated space for pets to exercise and socialize will enhance quality of life for residents and improve responsible pet ownership. Currently, the community lacks a safe and designated space for canine recreation.

2. Objective

The primary goal is to create a safe, enclosed, and well-maintained environment where dogs can roam off-leash while ensuring public safety and minimizing potential conflicts with other recreational users and wildlife. I believe that this project will greatly benefit the community by providing a much-needed amenity for dog owners, enhancing community well-being, and promoting responsible pet ownership.

3. Benefits

- **Community Engagement:** Encourages social interaction among residents and strengthens neighborhood ties.
- Health & Wellness: Provides exercise opportunities for dogs and owners, promoting overall well-being.
- Environmental Management: Prevents damage to general-use parks and green spaces by directing pet activity to a designated area.
- Safety Measures: Reduces off-leash incidents in non-designated areas, ensuring compliance with local pet regulations.

4. Location Recommendation

Suggested sites include The Fair Grounds or Collar Hill Toboggan area, based on accessibility and size, and minimal impact on surrounding areas. The Fair Grounds offers ample space and is conveniently accessible to residents. Most resident tend to walk their dogs around the track already. While Collar Hill also has ample space but not necessarily within walking distance of the village core. Making it almost impossible for seniors to access without a vehicle!

5. Proposed Features

- Secure fencing, double gate entrance for security
- Waste disposal stations
- Seating areas for owner's benches or a gazebo for shelter
- Separate zones for small and large dogs, large dog area to possibly have some agility features
- Park regulations and rules-

6. Budget & Funding

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Estimated cost breakdown, including fencing, maintenance, and initial setup. Potential funding sources include municipal budgets, community fundraising, and sponsorships. \$20,000.00 to \$30,000.00

Emails have been sent out to prospective participants for partnerships or sponsorships.

ParkView Homes, Jonah Robinson Construction, Rhino Construction, and Merrickville Lions Club.

Also I have requested information from the Ferguson Forest dog park.

Other sponsorships will be offered to local businesses for them to have their business name on a banner or sign at the park.

Other monies by donations, community fund raising, grants.

7. Implementation Plan

Step-by-step timeline for approvals, construction, and community involvement. This will happen once approval of the park is given.

8. Conclusion

This dog park proposal aligns with our community's goals of enhancing public spaces and fostering a pet-friendly environment. I urge council members to support this initiative to improve the quality of life for residents and their pets, working together to create this valuable community asset.

9. Contact Information

For further discussion or inquiries, please contact Amanda Casselden at ajcasselden@hotmail.com 613-324-5502

Sincerely,

Amanda Casselden

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PREFERED LOCATION

Fair Grounds based on the following criteria

Accessibility. This location is already used by the public to walk and exercise their

dogs. It is within easy walking distance of the downtown area of Merrickville and residential areas.

The Park would be clearly visible to all that use the fairgrounds and would attract users and provide a sense of safety, therefore keeping dogs away from the beach, soccer fields and ball diamond.

For those who are concerned with the proximity of the bird sanctuary, as the public don't want dogs disturbing nesting ground birds. I have not been able to find any legislation against a dog park, only that dogs are not to be running at large.

The fenced area will not allow dogs to run at large, as they do presently even though

signs are posted. Also, the park will not encroach on the water way and nesting birds.

There are plenty of mature shade trees in the proposed area, which would provide

enough shade, the plan would have a shelter/gazebo for the humans.

This area of the fairgrounds is already maintained by public works including grass cutting and garbage removal, hopefully this could continue once the park is established!

Collar Hill

While there is enough land available, it still needs to be developed.

Which in turn adds to the cost!

It is also not within walking distance for most senior residents and therefore

would increase the vehicle traffic along Collar hill and HF McLean roads. Most residents would prefer to be within walking distance.

The only shade would come from cutting trails in the bush part of the

proposed site. Along with a built structure for shade.













DOG PARK RULES

4- 4

- Use park at your own risk.
- Owners are legally responsible for the behavior of their dog(s) at all times.
- Dogs must be leashed while entering and exiting the park.
- Dog waste must be cleaned up by their owners IMMEDIATELY.
- Owners must be within the dog park and supervising their dog with leash readily available.
- Dog handlers must be at least 16 years of age.
- Children under 13 must be accompanied by an adult and supervised at all times.
- Aggressive dogs must be removed immediately.

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Dogs should be under voice control.

PROHIBITED:

- Human & Dog food/treats
- Glass Containers
- Dogs in heat
- Sick Doge
 - Aggressive Dogs
 Poppies under control
 - Explore C



Canada.ca > Environment and natural resources > Wildlife, plants and species

> <u>Migratory birds</u> > <u>Legal protection of migratory birds</u>

Migratory Bird Sanctuary Regulations: frequently asked questions

On this page

- What is the purpose of these regulations?
- What are the key elements of these regulations?
- How do these regulations affect Canadian businesses?
- What is the timeline for implementation?
- Where can I get more information?

What is the purpose of these regulations?

The primary purpose of the Migratory Bird Sanctuary Regulations is to designate, establish and manage Migratory Bird Sanctuaries. Migratory Bird Sanctuaries are established for the protection and conservation of migratory birds. Activities that could harm migratory birds, their nests or their eggs are prohibited.

What are the key elements of these regulations?

The Migratory Bird Sanctuary Regulations:

• designate, establish, and identify Migratory Bird Sanctuaries

- identify prohibited and permitted activities in Migratory Bird Sanctuaries
- specify when a permit is required to conduct activities

In a Migratory Bird Sanctuary, you are not allowed to:

- hunt migratory birds
- disturb, destroy or take the nests of migratory birds
- possess a live migratory bird, or a carcass, skin, nest or egg of a migratory bird
- possess any firearm or hunting appliance such as a bow, slingshot, trap, or net.
- permit a dog or cat to run at large
- conduct activities that are prohibited in a particular Migratory Bird Sanctuary
- carry out an activity that is harmful to habitat of migratory birds

These prohibitions might not apply if:

- you have obtained a valid permit
- you are a resident or live in a Migratory Bird Sanctuary
- otherwise provided in the regulations

Related links

- <u>Migratory Bird Sanctuaries</u>, management and activities
- Migratory Bird Sanctuary Regulations

How do these regulations affect Canadian businesses?

The impacts of these regulations for businesses depend on where the Migratory Bird Sanctuary is located. A Migratory Bird Sanctuary can be established on:

• private land

- 🦾 🔸 municipal land
 - provincial land
 - territorial land
 - federal land

There are no fees to enter a Migratory Bird Sanctuary. Many Migratory Bird Sanctuaries are popular tourist destinations. Activities that may benefit businesses in Migratory Bird Sanctuaries include:

- ecotourism
- bird watching
- observation of wildlife

Please <u>contact us</u> if you or your business plans to conduct activities in a Migratory Bird Sanctuary. Depending on the activity, a permit may be required. No fee is charged for permits issued.

What is the timeline for implementation?

These regulations were first made in 1920 and continue to be in force under the authority of the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994.

Where can I get more information?

For more information on the Migratory Bird Sanctuary Regulations, please contact us by email at <u>ec.enviroinfo.ec@canada.ca</u> or toll free at 1-800-668-6767.

Related link

• <u>Migratory Bird Sanctuaries</u>, list of Migratory Bird Sanctuaries across Canada

Date modified: