



Owners of Unleashed Dogs to Get Citations

The Southern Pines Police Department is increasing patrols in and around the Town's parks and trails in order to enforce Ordinance 99-12: Leash and Clean Up After Pets. This comes after an unleashed dog, being walked by its owner in the Whitehall tract of Reservoir Park attacked another resident causing injury. The victim, who suffered two puncture wounds has not filed an official police report.

"This has been building for many years," states Reagan Parsons, Town Manager for Southern Pines. "We have repeatedly asked dog owners to respect the rules. We have been very accommodating and respectful and yet some people have yelled, sworn at, and continually ignored signage and the courteous efforts by parks staff to educate them regarding the rules."

Parsons says that after the incident last week, the Town has no choice but to undertake active and targeted enforcement of the leash laws. "We can't let this continue," he said. "We have a great dog park where people can let their dogs run free, there is no excuse for not having a dog on a leash elsewhere."

Citations may be given to dog owners who have their animals off leash. The fine is \$50 per incident with up to \$300 in associated court fees.

The ordinance states: "It shall be unlawful for any animal's owner to allow or permit a dog or other animal to run at large in any park or recreation facility except at a designated off-leash facility/dog park."

For more information see <https://sopinesnc.info/leash>.

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My dog would never bite!



UNTIL SHE DOES.
IT HAPPENED. AN OFF LEASH DOG ATTACKED AND BIT A WALKER AT WHITEHALL. THE DOG OWNER WAS AS SURPRISED AS THE WALKER. AS A RESULT, POLICE OFFICERS WILL UP THEIR PATROLS ON OUR TRAILS AND IN OUR PARKS. OWNERS CAN BE FINED \$50 AND CHARGED UP TO \$300 IN COURT FEES FOR EACH OFFENSE.

We've tried asking nicely.

WE'VE PUT OUT SIGNS. PEOPLE HAVE TORN THEM DOWN.

OUR STAFF HAVE REMINDED DOG OWNERS THAT TOWN CODES REQUIRE LEASHES. THEY'VE BEEN YELLED AT, SWORN AT, AND CALLED NAMES.

RECENTLY AN UNLEASHED DOG BIT A TRAIL WALKER

SO, WE HAD NO CHOICE.

POLICE PATROLS ARE ON THE WAY TO OUR PARKS AND PUBLIC SPACES. THEY'LL GIVE TICKETS TO OWNERS WITH UNLEASHED DOGS.



Want to let your dog run free?

MARTIN DOG PARK IS WHERE YOU WANT TO BE!

MARTIN DOG PARK - BEHIND WALMART ON COMMERCE AVENUE - IS FOR YOU. 50 ACRES OF FREE-LEASHING FOR YOUR FURRY FRIEND.

DOGS MUST BE LEASHED AT ALL OTHER PARKS AND FACILITIES. IT'S A TOWN CODE - A LAW IN SOUTHERN PINES.

