



SOUTH FAYETTE
T O W N S H I P

A Community Growing Together

TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH FAYETTE
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

ORDINANCE NO. 5 OF 2015

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH FAYETTE, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING AND RESTATING CHAPTER 183-25 OF THE SOUTH FAYETTE TOWNSHIP CODE OF ORDINANCES TO PROVIDE FOR AN AMENDED AND RESTATED DOG RUN FREE ZONE POLICY FOR FAIRVIEW PARK.

WHEREAS, the Township of South Fayette is a First Class Township located in Allegheny County Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, the Township of South Fayette has worked with the South Fayette Park and Recreation Board over the past several months to review, amend and improve the Dog Run Free Zone (DRFZ) Policy for Fairview Park; and

WHEREAS, on September 21, 2009, the Board of Commissioners of the Township of South Fayette adopted and implemented Policy No. 2 of 2009 which provided for the adoption of a Dog Run Free Zone Policy for Fairview Park; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Township of South Fayette to amend and restate Chapter 183-25: Dog Run Free Zone of the South Fayette Code of Ordinances, as set forth herein, to provide for the adoption of additional and/or modified requirements for the Dog Run Free Zone Policy for Fairview Park.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED, by the Board of Commissioners

of the TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH FAYETTE, and it is HEREBY ORDAINED and ENACTED as follows:

1. Incorporation of Policy. The Board of Commissioners of the Township of South Fayette hereby adopts, amends, restates, approves and codifies an amended, Chapter 183-25 of the South Fayette Code of Ordinances in form and content as set forth in Exhibit "A" which is incorporated herein by reference thereto.

2. Severability. In the event any section, provision or part of this Ordinance or its application to any persons or under any circumstances shall be held unconstitutional, illegal or invalid, the same shall not affect the validity of the Ordinance as a whole or any other section, provision or part thereof, other than the section, provision or part declared to be invalid.

3. Repealer. All ordinances and parts of ordinances inconsistent with the terms of this ordinance are hereby repealed; provide, however that such repeals shall be only to the extent of such inconsistency and in all other aspects this ordinance shall be cumulative of the other ordinances regulating and governing the subject matter covered by this Ordinance.

4. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication as required.

ORDAINED AND ENACTED INTO LAW this 21st day of October, 2015.

ATTEST:



Ryan Eggleston
Township Secretary

TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH FAYETTE:



Joseph D. Horowitz, President
Board of Commissioners

Exhibit A

Dog Run Free Zone Policy

SECTION I "SUBJECT":

ESTABLISHMENT OF A POLICY OF SOUTH FAYETTE TOWNSHIP THAT SHALL SET THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE FAIRVIEW PARK DOG RUN FREE ZONE (DRFZ)

SECTION II "PURPOSE":

Notwithstanding any other provision of the Township's Parks Rules and Regulations, the portion of Fairview Park as depicted in the attached map is hereby established as a Dog Run Free Zone (DRFZ), in which responsible adults may allow dogs to be without leashes within the prescribed areas, provided that the responsible adult and all persons accompanying them comply with the following rules and regulations. For the purpose of this section, "responsible adult" means any person 18 years or older who owns, has proprietary interest in, harbors, or has the care, charge, control, custody or possession of a dog. This policy is part of South Fayette Code Article III chapter 183-25. When outside of the DRFZ, general park rules and regulations must be followed in particular, Code Article III Chapter 183-24 Domestic Animals.

SECTION III "STATEMENT OF POLICY":

A. Registration tag

Prior to using the DRFZ at Fairview Park, an annual DRFZ registration tag must be obtained for each dog at the South Fayette Municipal Building. The application for the tag shall consist of a onetime application fee, a yearly dog tag fee, a South Fayette DRFZ Tag Application, a current copy of county dog license, and a copy of current rabies certificate. The annual fee and yearly Dog Tag fee shall be set by the Board of Commissioners in the Township's fee schedule. Additionally, each applicant will be required to read the within "Rules and Regulations" and then execute an "Acceptance of Risk and Release of Liability Waiver Form" The following rules shall apply to the issuance of registration tags:

1. The DRFZ Registration tag shall be valid through June 30 of the following year.
2. Each dog is required to have a valid South Fayette DRFZ tag.
3. All registration tags are non-transferable.
4. No more than 49% of all annual tags issued shall be issued to non-residents of South Fayette Township.

B. Dog Run Free Zone Rules

To insure safe and enjoyable experiences in the DRFZ, the following rules shall be enforced;

1. Hours of the run free zone shall be from sunrise to sunset.
2. All dogs within the DRFZ are required to have a valid South Fayette Township DRFZ Registration Tag.
3. Owners must be within visual sight and voice control of their dogs at all times.
4. All dogs must be licensed and properly immunized. The use of heartworm and tick prevention products is highly recommended.
5. Puppies under six (6) months of age are not permitted in the free run zone.
6. No prong (pinch), choke, or spiked collars are permitted in the park.
7. Dogs must be leashed entering and exiting the DRFZ.
8. Dogs may not be removed from leashes outside of the designated run free zone.
9. Dogs must be supervised by persons eighteen (18) years or older at all times.
10. No unattended dogs shall be permitted in the park at any time.
11. No more than three (3) dogs per person are permitted at one time in the park.
12. Owners are required to have a leash on their persons and ready for use at all times.
13. No smoking, alcohol, food or glass containers are permitted in the run free zone.
14. Professional dog trainers and/or groomers are not permitted to use this facility to conduct business.
15. Owners are required to clean up after their dogs.
16. Aggressive dogs are prohibited in the park. Reported cases will result in the immediate loss of park privileges.
17. Dogs that are in heat or that are sick are prohibited in the park.
18. Owners are required to discourage dogs from digging any holes. This will ensure that the park is kept safe for other users.
19. Persistent barking is not allowed.
20. Handlers must observe all other codes, rules and regulations.

C. Reporting rules violation and emergencies

Users of the Park shall report violations of Park rules and to report emergencies. The following protocol shall be followed to report these occurrences.

1. Report all animal bites (regardless of severity) to the Township Police Department within twenty-four (24) hours of the incident. All reports about dog bites and attacks will be reviewed to determine whether the aggressive dog will be declared dangerous. If such a declaration is made, the off-leash tag will be immediately revoked.
2. Call 911 to report all emergencies and any criminal activity, including property damage. Police and Fire personnel will provide appropriate response to all emergencies. Report non-emergencies rule violations to the South Fayette Township Recreation Director at 412-221-8700 x 17.

D. Violations

1. For the purpose of enforcing the provisions of Section III of this policy, The South Fayette Recreation Director, or in the absence of one, the Township Code Enforcement Office should be appointed as the Enforcement Officers, in addition to any South Fayette Police Officer pursuant to Code §183-24, 25.

2. If the violation of this Ordinance is the first offense under Section III of this policy within a calendar year, a fine of two hundred dollars per violation may be issued. If it is the second offense in a calendar year, a fine of four hundred dollars per violation may be issued. If it is third offense in a calendar year, a fine not exceeding six hundred dollars per violation shall operate as a final disposition of the case and revocation of the animal owners South Fayette DRFZ tag.

EFFECTIVE: November 1st, 2015

AMENDED DATE: October 14th, 2015

APPROVAL: