The Annual St. Charles County Paws in the Park Dog Festival is held at Broemmelsiek Park, 1615 Schwede Rd., off Hwy DD (Winghaven Blvd.) in Wentzville. Pet lovers from across the region attend this fun, FREE off-leash dog festival packed with contests, prizes, sponsor giveaways, and K-9 and obedience skills demonstrations. Paws in the Park is one of the most popular events of the year. Your dog will love to run around and play with other pups in one of the area’s premiere off-leash dog parks.

For more information on Paws in the Park, or to become a sponsor/exhibitor of the event, contact the St. Charles County Parks Department at (636) 949-7535 or visit www.stccparks.org.

Off-Leash Area Rules

- Owners are legally responsible for their dogs and for any injuries or damage they may cause.
- Keep your dog on-leash while entering and exiting the dog park. Carry leash with you at ALL times.
- Limit three dogs per person in the Off-Leash Area.
- Supervise children closely while around the dog park. Please, NO CHILDREN UNDER 8 ALLOWED inside the Off-Leash Dog Area.
- For safety reasons, please DO NOT BRING FOOD, TREATS, or GLASS into the dog park.
- Never leave your dog unattended.
- License and immunize your dog prior to entry into the Off-Leash Dog Area and have proof of the same.
- Please CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR DOG. Doggie bags are provided throughout the park.
- AGGRESSIVE DOGS ARE NOT PERMITTED.
- Female dogs in heat are not permitted.
- PUPPIES UNDER FOUR MONTHS OF AGE ARE NOT ALLOWED inside the Off-Leash Dog Area.
- Owners must stop their dogs from digging and must fill any holes caused by their dog.
- Professional trainers may not use the Off-Leash Dog Area for conduct of their business.

In case of emergency, contact:
Ranger Duty Phone 314-713-6394

Paws in the Park

To preserve our facilities from damage during inclement weather, the St. Charles County Parks Department is occasionally forced to close its Off-Leash Dog Areas at Quail Ridge and Broemmelsiek Parks in times of wet conditions. However, the paved pedestrian paths will remain open for on-leash dog walks during these periods, unless otherwise noted. Updated park closure information is available on the Park Closure/Cancellation Hotline. To learn the status before you visit the parks, please call (636) 949-7475.

Dog Park Closure

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Off-Leash Dog Areas

Quail Ridge Park
Broemmelsiek Park

St. Charles County Parks
636-949-7535
www.stccparks.org
Off-Leash Dog Areas are unique fenced areas that offer an opportunity for your pet to interact with other area dogs. There is no charge for using the facility, but dogs must be licensed and have an updated immunization record. Be prepared to show proof upon entering.

What to do if a fight occurs - Do not reach in to break up fighting dogs. Attempts to distract the dogs by squirting water or blowing a loud whistle can often break up the activity. While dog fights are upsetting to everyone, remember to stay calm and objective. When warranted, exchange contact information with other dog owners.

The Four Basic Play Styles
Dogs play with one another in four basic styles. It’s important to be aware of the various styles when introducing your pet to other strange dogs.

1) Rough and highly physical body contact - These dogs play by pushing into one another’s space. There are lots of body contacts and hip checks, all done with a fair amount of brutality. You’ll see lots of hard impact and physical contact.

2) Chase or be chased - These dogs instigate a chase by running and egging another dog on. These dogs like to run and enjoy the excitement of being chased.

3) Mouth wrestlers - These dogs play by using their mouths. Usually one dog lies down with his hind-end in the air, while the other dog dances around his head. The two interactions are the lying down role and the agile, leaping role. There is often vocalizing associated with this style.

4) Scare and be scared - These dogs enjoy poking and prodding another dog before freezing, and then suddenly bursting out in play.

Dog etiquette and play behavior clues are adapted from www.stldogparks.com and Successful Dog Adoption by Sue Sternberg.

Volunteer!

The St. Charles County Parks Department is seeking Watch Dog volunteers who can assist us in keeping our popular Off-Leash Dog Areas safe and beautiful for years to come. Volunteers will help ensure that posted rules are followed and share information with fellow dog lovers on proper park etiquette, health care, and safety issues.

As a volunteer, you will be considered a valuable member of the St. Charles County Parks Department staff. You’ll receive training and updates on dog park rules, animal behavior, and other important information. For more information on becoming a Watch Dog, please call the St. Charles County Parks Department at (636) 949-7535.

Fun with Your Furry Friend

Off-Leash Area Etiquette and Play Behavior Clues

In order to guarantee the success of the Off-Leash Dog Area, guests are encouraged to follow simple etiquette guidelines while using the dog park:

Observe the posted park rules - Under St. Charles County and Missouri state law, a dog owner is responsible for injuries and damage inflicted by their dog.

Pick up and dispose of waste - This is the best thing you can do to improve the Off-Leash Dog Area. Clean-up bags are located throughout the dog park and enhance the beauty/health of the facility. Please leave the site cleaner than you found it!

Entering/Exiting the Off-Leash Dog Area - ALWAYS keep your dog on a leash while outside the dog park. Upon entering the holding pen, remove the dog’s leash to ease anxiety of meeting strange dogs. Be sure to re-leash your dog before exiting the facility.

Prevent a Fight Before it Happens:
4P Warning Signs

1) Posture - A dog’s body language can communicate fear, hostility or submission. Learn to read and respond to your dog’s own body language, and others.

2) Packing - More than 2 or 3 dogs packed together can lead to trouble. Break it up before it starts by leading your dog to a neutral area at least 30 feet away.

3) Possession - Whether it’s you, a ball, or a treat, most dogs will protect what is theirs. Remain aware.

4) Provoking - If your dog is continuously annoying other dogs, or provoking attention, it’s time to leave the park.

Quail Ridge

The 2.5-acre Off-Leash Dog Area at Quail Ridge Park features two separate areas for large and small dogs, a covered shelter, and water available near the parking lot.

Broemmelsieck

The 4.7-acre Off-Leash Dog Area at Broemmelsieck Park features a covered shelter, a grove of shade trees, and a small pond where your dogs can splash and play.