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For Immediate Release

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Unleash the hounds! Fund-raisers begin for County Dog Parks

Kenosha County Executive Jim Kreuser is pleased to invite Kenosha County dogs – and their humans – to try out two temporary, off-leash dog parks.

The temporary dog parks will be at Old Settlers Park, 24100 75th St., Salem, and Petrifying Springs Park, Area 3, 761 Green Bay Road, Kenosha. The temporary dog parks will be open during regular park hours, 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., Monday – Sunday.

“The temporary, off-leash dog parks will give the Kenosha County public an opportunity to allow their dogs to use the parks while we seek to raise the matching funds needed to open the permanent dog parks,” Kreuser said.

Permanent dog parks are planned at Petrifying Springs Park, near the park entrance at Highway JR, and at the future KD Park, 35714 89th St., near Bassett Park in the Town of Randall.

The county is seeking to raise \$25,000 from public donations to match \$25,000 non-tax dollars for construction of fencing and gates for the two permanent dog parks.

Among the first fund-raisers for the permanent, off-leash dog park will be photos with Santa Claus from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 5, at Old Settlers Park, and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 12, at Petrifying Springs Park. People are being encouraged to bring their dogs and a camera to take their own photo of their dogs with Santa. A \$5 donation is encouraged.

10th District County Board Supervisor Mark Modory has been a champion of the off-leash dog park idea.

“It’s a good way socialize dogs and exercise dogs,” Modory said. “The more socialized dogs are, the healthier the whole community will be. After an hour at a dog park, they come home a lot happier dog.”

People can donate to the dog parks by placing money in collection boxes at the two temporary dog parks.

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Checks, made payable to Kenosha County Dog Parks, can be dropped off or mailed to the Kenosha County Treasurer's Office, 1010 56th St., Kenosha, WI, 53140, or to the Kenosha County Parks Department, Division of Public Works, 19600 75th St., P.O. Box 549, Bristol, WI, 53104.

Rules for use of the temporary, off-leash dog parks will be posted at both locations. For more information about the dog parks, contact Jonathan Rudie, general manager of the Kenosha County Park Operations, 262-857-1869.

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DOG PARK RULES

- Users of this facility do so at their own risk. Kenosha County is not liable for any injury or damage caused by any dog or person in this park. Owners and Users agree to assume the full responsibility of any injuries, damages or loss to themselves, their dogs or property connected with or associated with their use of the park. Please be reminded that failure to comply with park rules or to maintain the facility in a clean or orderly fashion will result in fines or temporary / permanent loss of park privileges.
- Hours of operation 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- All dogs must have their current rabies vaccine and valid municipal license tag on their collars. Kenosha County residents must have a valid dog license from their home municipality. Nonresidents must have the current rabies vaccine tag as well as a Dog License tag issued by the governing body where they reside.
- The off-leash dog park is for dogs and their handlers. No other TYPE of animal or use is allowed.
- Firearms and starting pistols are prohibited. See Bong State Park for hunting dog training.
- Dogs in heat and puppies under the age of four months are not allowed.
- Aggressive dogs are prohibited from this park. Dogs exhibiting rough, aggressive or dangerous behavior must be removed by owner immediately.
- Excessive barking is prohibited. Dogs barking excessively must be removed.
- Children under 18 years old must be accompanied and supervised closely by a parent or guardian at all times. It is recommended that small children not be brought into the off-leash area. Children are not permitted to run with or chase dogs.
- Dog owner/handler must be physically capable of controlling their dog. All Owner/handlers are required to remain inside the off-leash area and be in view of their dog(s) at all times. The limit is two dogs per handler, per visit.
- Leashes must be kept on until inside the double-gates entry. Remove leash prior to entering second gate. Do the reverse when leaving.
- Park Ordinances require owner/handler clean up and properly dispose of waste left by their dog(s). All users must immediately obey verbal or written orders of Park Employees.
- Food, alcoholic beverages, strollers and bicycles are not allowed inside the dog park.
- Only flying discs and tennis balls are allowed to be thrown inside the dog park.
- All Kenosha County Park Ordinances apply. Enforced by Park or Sheriff's Dept. (262)843-2371 or (262)653-6600.