



Dog Park Policy

Guiding Eyes restricts use of dog parks as follows:

- Puppies over 12 weeks of age that are fully vaccinated
- At times when no other dogs are in the dog park
- Dog parks that are fully fenced

All three of the above qualifications must be met in order for your dog to use a dog park.

The reason for restricting the use of dog parks is that you can not choose the playmates nor be certain that all dogs are healthy.

Socialization with other dogs is very important to build confidence and develop social skills so puppies learn how to interact politely and understand and respond appropriately to the messages that others give. This is accomplished through repeated experiences of off-leash play with carefully selected playmates in a wide variety of situations.

Alternates to dog parks include tennis courts, fully fenced in baseball fields, fenced in yards and large indoor spaces such as gymnasiums. When using these places, please be sure to comply with all local laws and posted guidelines regarding dogs.

For more information, log on to guidingeyes.org, My Guiding Eyes Center> STEP Resources>Socialization and visit the [Dog to Dog Interactions](#) pages.