

Cruse News



Springfield-Greene County Park Board

1923 N Weller, Springfield, MO 65803

417-864-1049

Tips for Socializing

The biggest struggle sometimes is learning how to best socialize our dogs. A dog park is a great way to socialize your dog, however it should be approached with great care and thought. If you / your dog is new to the park, short visits may set your pooch up for greater success. Slowly introducing them to a new environment and new friends can be overwhelming or intimidating for them at times.

Some tips to keep in mind when you embark on this journey is:

- Stay calm and confident if your dog acts scared.
- Expose them to different social situations and environments.
- Always be patient and consistent when socializing your dog.

Socializing your dog is a key component for their development and can help prevent behavioral issues. Remember to set realistic goals and that not all dogs are the same. Each dog is different and will have unique challenges when it comes to socializing.

- Start small: if your dog is nervous around strangers, start by introducing them to one person at a time in a controlled environment.

Most importantly remember to prioritize your dog's safety and well-being throughout socialization.



Dog Training Tips

Training techniques for dogs can be divided into two main categories: Aversive-based and Reward-based training.

- Aversive based training uses unpleasant noises, physical corrections, and harsh scolding's to discourage unwanted behaviors.

- Reward based training uses treats, praise, or other positive reinforcements to encourage the desired behaviors. This is considered to be more effective, and enriching based on research and expert dog trainers. Reward-based training helps dogs to associate obedience with positive rewards and overall teaches them to want to comply with commands.

When you start training with your dog, it's often a good idea to start all training on a leash. Why? Not just for control while training, but also for safety reasons. If you are not in a secure area (like your back yard) it's safer to keep a dog on a leash to prevent potential harm.

The hours of operation for the park are sunrise to sunset. During this time of year, those hours are 6:30 am to 8:30 pm. Your FOB will not work outside those hours of operation. We adjust these hours each season with the sunrise / sunset. Please keep that in mind if you arrive before 6:30 and your FOB does not allow you access.

Remember Thursdays are mowing days. The park hours will adjust and be closed from 7 am - 8 am.



Upcoming Events:

Dog Swim!

September 5th, 2023

Fassnight Pool

1301 S Campbell Ave.

4 pm - 7 pm

Registration is now live at:

[ParkBoard.org/DogSwim](https://www.parkboard.org/DogSwim)

DogFest

September 23rd, 2023

Chesterfield Park

2511 W Republic Rd.

10 am - 2:30 pm

Follow us on social media!

www.facebook.com/CruseDogPark

