

Victoria Park Hillsburgh Dog Park By-law recommendation by the PRTAC  
February 2024 (Cara Knibbs)

**Some Language borrowed from the Leash Free Halton Hills website**

<https://leashfreehaltonhills.com/>

Subsection 11 of the Municipal Act, 2001 provides that the Town of Erin may pass by-laws respecting animals.

In partnership with the existing TOE bylaw #16-33 and #15-57 to regulate the keeping of animals and any class thereof that may be kept by any person on lands within the Town of Erin, and to repeal By-laws 13-34 and 14-21. \*this existing by-law includes all required definitions and explanations related to dogs and ownership.

Parks, Recreation and Trails committee is making a formal recommendation to Town of Erin council to include the existing Victoria Park dog park into official bylaws effective immediately February 2024. Recommendation that it be included under the purview and partnership of PRAT.

In 2022 the Town of Erin erected and installed a fenced and gated area in Victoria Park, Hillsburgh.

The existing area is intended to exercise and socialize dogs OFF leash within a fenced and gated enclosure. Dogs are permitted to run off leash under the supervision of their owner.

It is also recommended that the TOE post signage on the entrance to the fenced area including

- \*hours of operation

- \*code of conduct

- \* by-law number reference and

- \* phone number to report damage or incidents

In addition the TOE needs to provide a dedicated waste bin at the site of the dog park to avoid overwhelming waste and mess.

Bonus recommendations include additional signage to remind users to clean up after their pets.

### **Users are required to:**

- Unleash their dogs in the designated area only
- Clean up after their pet
- Maintain voice and visual contact with their pet at all times
- Not leave children unattended at any time
- Comply with Dog Owners' Liability Act
- (<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/90d16>)

### **Code of Conduct**

AGGRESSIVE DOGS TO BE IMMEDIATELY REMOVED

NO SPIKE, PRONG, CHAIN OR METAL COLLARS

NO DOGS UNNEUTERED OVER ONE (1) YEAR OLD

NO DOGS UNDER 4 MONTHS OLD

NO DOGS IN HEAT, OR SICK

PIT BULLS MUST BE MUZZLED

(Ont. Reg. 157/05)

- Leashes to be removed prior to entering play area.
- No food allowed for both people and dog(s).
- Handlers must fill "all" holes dug by their dog(s)..
- The leash-free area is for dogs and their handlers only.
- Children under twelve (12) years old must be accompanied by an adult and supervised at all times while in the leash-free area.
- Owners and handlers are legally responsible for their dog(s) and should keep close contact and within voice command at all times.
- Handlers may not bring more than three (3) dogs at any one time.

- Handlers must have one leash, not exceeding six (6) feet in length, in their possession at all times for every dog they bring into the park. (TOE By-Law #15-57-8)
- Handlers are responsible for “collecting and disposing” of dog waste. (TOE By-Law #15-57-6)
- It is recommended that you not bring toys/frisbees to the leash-free zones; if you do, be willing to share.

Reference:

Existing By-law

#16-33 Keeping of Animals

Part 1: definitions

#15-57 Dog Control and Kennel

6 Excrement

7 Running at Large

8 Leashing

10 Owners to take precautions