

Customer Services Group

You, your dog and us



*A great place to
live, work and play*



Registration fees

Dog Registration fees are discounted if paid by 31 July. You can obtain a further discount if you have done at least one of the following:

- Neutered or spayed your dog/bitch
- Obtained Responsible Dog Owner status prior to 31 May in that year.

If payment is made after 31 July the full registration fee applies.

Why must dogs be registered?

The Dog Control Act 1996 was passed for the care and control of dogs. It is Council's statutory responsibility to enforce the provisions of the Act and any resulting Bylaws. Every dog in New Zealand must be registered.

Remember that your dog must be registered by **31 July** of each year and all dogs attaining the age of **three months** must be registered.

Why is there a registration fee?

Under the Dog Control Act 1996, the Council has the power to require payment of a fee to pay for all dog control services. Each year Council charges dog owners a registration fee for each dog over the age of three months.

Services covered by this fee include:

- Dog control, including impounding wandering dogs, investigating dog attacks, minimising nuisances caused by dogs
- Responding to a variety of complaints
- Running the animal shelter/pound
- Patrols
- Taking legal action when required
- Education programmes
- Administration costs

If your dog is registered and wearing a tag it is more easily identifiable. If your dog is lost or found roaming, you can be contacted more quickly.

How many dogs may I keep?

A separate licence is required if any city resident wishes to keep more than two dogs aged three months or more at any one time. This does not apply to rural areas.

Why should I neuter or spay my dog?

The fee system is designed to encourage the neutering or spaying of your dog (de-sexing). It is a responsible thing to do unless you are planning to breed dogs.

It benefits the community in many ways. A de-sexed dog is less likely to roam, tends to be less aggressive and generally enjoys a healthier life. It also leads to fewer unwanted dogs having to be destroyed.

How do I achieve Responsible Dog Owner status?

The fee system is designed to reward responsible dog owners. Dog owners may apply in writing to achieve Responsible Dog Owner status.

To receive this status, owners must ensure that:

- Your dog has been registered with Hutt City Council for a period of 12 months prior to applying.
- If you are renting a property where the dog is being kept, a letter authorising you to keep a dog on that property will be required from your landlord.
- All dogs over the age of three months are registered by 31 July in any registration year; and that all relevant territorial authorities are notified promptly of any change of address or ownership of a dog.
- The dog is kept under control at all times.

- All reasonable steps have been taken to ensure the dog does not injure, endanger, intimidate or otherwise cause distress to any person, stock, poultry, domestic animal or protected wildlife.
- All reasonable steps have been taken so that the dog does not damage or endanger any property belonging to any other person.
- The property where the dog is kept is securely fenced (this provision is strictly enforced).
- All dogs are given proper care, attention, exercise and sufficient food daily, and have access to clear drinking water at all times.
- Any outside kennels are weatherproof and hygienic.
- That all requirements of the Dog Control Act and all regulations and Council bylaws made under this Act have been complied with.

Responsible Dog Owner certificates will be issued from 1 February to 31 May only.

The owner must also have:

- Never been convicted of an offence relating to dog ownership.
- Not been issued with an infringement notice in the past two years in regard to dog ownership.
- Had no dog owned by them impounded in the past two years.

Application for **Responsible Dog Owner** status can be made by obtaining an application form from

Hutt City Council's Administration Building
at 30 Laings Road, Lower Hutt, or at one of the
Council's Library or Service Centres,
or by contacting the
Customer Call Centre on (04) 570-6666

- A fully fenced area where the dog is kept, while allowing for safe access to the front door for people visiting.
- Had all dogs checked by a veterinary surgeon in the past 12 months.

Owners **must demonstrate** that they have full control over their dogs both on and off a leash. This can be proved by the presentation of a certificate from an approved trainer that the dog and owner have passed a Grade 2 Dog Obedience Course, or by a practical demonstration to a Hutt City Council animal control officer.

Are all dogs good dogs?

We all have to remember that dogs naturally travel in packs. They see their role as protecting the pack. Dogs are also naturally territorial animals and will sometimes show aggression towards visitors, meter readers, tradespeople, etc.

What happens if my dog roams?

Roaming dogs can cause all sorts of problems, some serious.

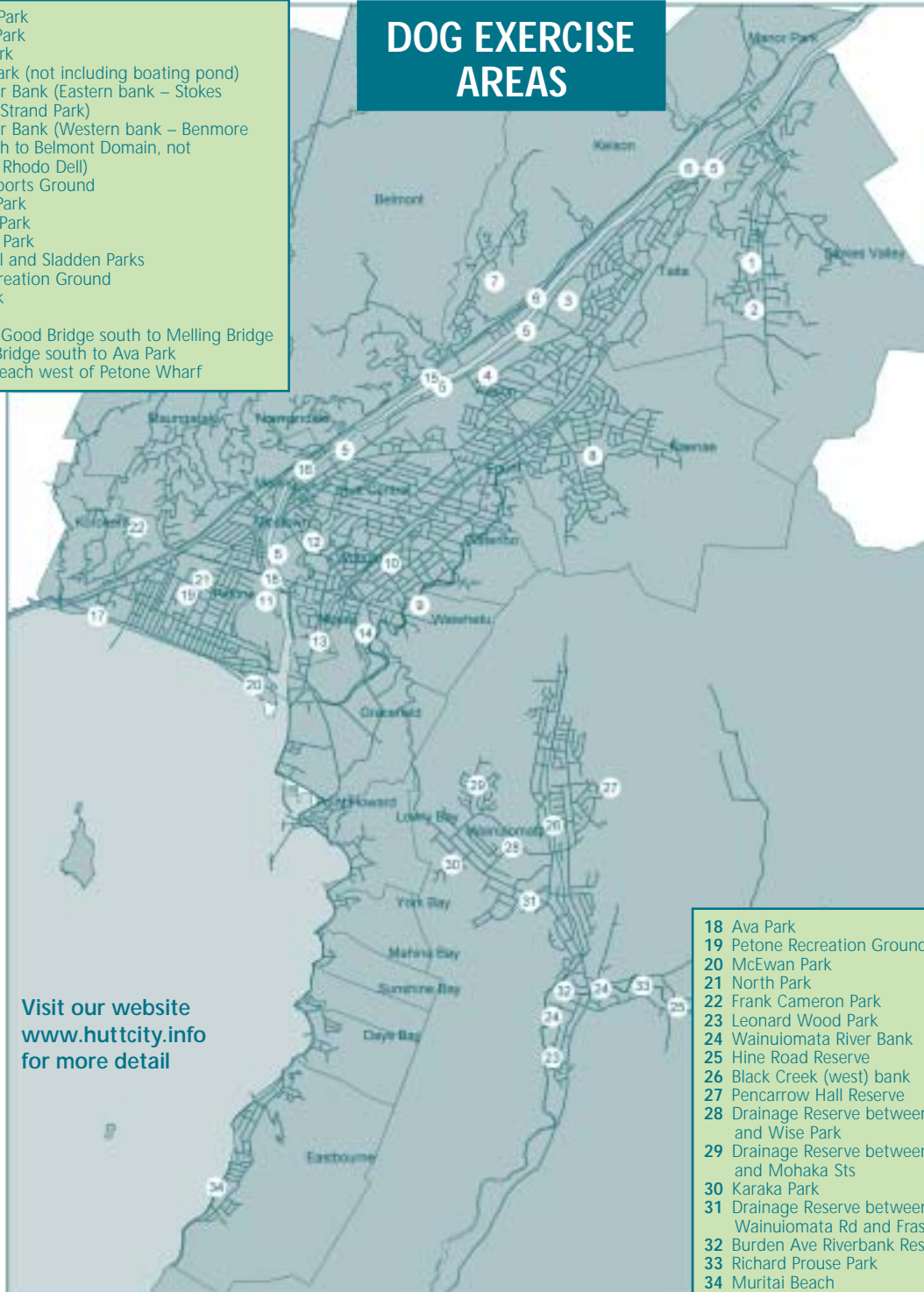
It is natural for a dog to want to roam. Therefore, strict control is important. Roaming dogs are regularly impounded by animal control officers.

Where can I exercise my dog?

Dogs may be exercised without a restraint in the areas outlined in the attached map, but must always be under the supervision and control of their owners or persons in charge. They must also be away from children's play areas and sportsgrounds. Dogs must not be allowed to foul the area and droppings must be removed immediately.

DOG EXERCISE AREAS

- 1 Delaney Park
- 2 Kamahi Park
- 3 Fraser Park
- 4 Avalon Park (not including boating pond)
- 5 Hutt River Bank (Eastern bank – Stokes Valley to Strand Park)
- 6 Hutt River Bank (Western bank – Benmore Cres south to Belmont Domain, not including Rhodo Dell)
- 7 Kelson Sports Ground
- 8 Naenae Park
- 9 Te Whiti Park
- 10 Trafalgar Park
- 11 Memorial and Sladden Parks
- 12 Hutt Recreation Ground
- 13 York Park
- 14 Bell Park
- 15 Kennedy-Good Bridge south to Melling Bridge
- 16 Melling Bridge south to Ava Park
- 17 Petone Beach west of Petone Wharf



- 18 Ava Park
- 19 Petone Recreation Ground
- 20 McEwan Park
- 21 North Park
- 22 Frank Cameron Park
- 23 Leonard Wood Park
- 24 Wainuiomata River Bank
- 25 Hine Road Reserve
- 26 Black Creek (west) bank
- 27 Pencarrow Hall Reserve
- 28 Drainage Reserve between Parkway and Wise Park
- 29 Drainage Reserve between Momona and Mohaka Sts
- 30 Karaka Park
- 31 Drainage Reserve between Wainuiomata Rd and Fraser St
- 32 Burden Ave Riverbank Reserve
- 33 Richard Prouse Park
- 34 Muritai Beach

Visit our website
www.huttcity.info
 for more detail

Are there places my dog cannot go?

The areas listed below are public places where dogs are prohibited or permitted only during specified times. Dogs not under the control of their owners or a person in charge are prohibited from all public places at all times.

Prohibited/Restricted Areas

Eastbourne:

1. Rimu Street/Oroua Street commercial areas.
2. Days Bay Pumping Station and adjacent wildlife management reserve.
3. Beaches in Eastbourne where there are signs prohibiting dogs between 9am and 8pm from 1 November to 31 March in each year. These include picnic and leisure areas of Point Howard, Sorrento Bay, Lowry Bay, York Bay, Mahina Bay, Days Bay, Rona Bay and Robinson Bay.

Petone:

4. Jackson Street commercial area.
5. Petone Beach east of Petone Wharf, between 9am and 8pm from 1 November to 31 March in each year. (West of Petone Wharf is a dog exercise area).
6. Percy's Scenic Reserve.

Wainuiomata:

7. Queen Street and Wainuiomata Road/Fitzherbert Road commercial areas adjacent to Queen Street.
8. Commercial areas of The Strand, Norfolk Street, Ruthven Road and 157 Wainuiomata Road.

Rimutaka Forest Park and Catchpool Valley:

9. Picnic and camping areas signposted "Dogs Prohibited" and the Landcare Research Station.
10. Turakirae Head Scenic Reserve.

Lower Hutt:

11. Mitchell Park.

Belmont Regional Park:

12. Belmont Regional Park except Korokoro Reserve where dogs must be on a leash.

East Harbour Regional Park:

13. Pencarrow Coast Road and Lakes Kohangapiripiri and Kohangatera.

What if my neighbour lays a complaint about my dog, or my dog attacks a person or animal?

Any complaint is investigated and information validated. If a complaint is validated, then an animal control officer will visit you to discuss how the problem can be solved.

In more serious cases, dog owners may be prosecuted, a dog classified as "Dangerous", or owners made a probationary owner or disqualified from owning a dog. The dog may be required to be contained on the property or the court may order the dog destroyed.

Infringement notices can be issued for lesser offences.

What if my dog or myself is attacked by another dog?

Notify Animal Control. It is likely that the dog's owner will be prosecuted, and/or the dog classed as a dangerous dog under the Act.

Do I have to keep my dog on a lead?

If you are in a public place, all dogs must be on a lead. The exception is if you are in a designated dog exercise area, where dogs must still be "under control".

What are my responsibilities if my dog defecates in public places?

Hutt City Dog Control Bylaws require that your dog's droppings be removed and safely disposed of. Pooper

Scoopers are available from vets, pet shops and some supermarkets. Alternatively, they can be made quite simply by using cut-off plastic bottles. Plastic bags are also convenient.

What can I do if my dog seems to bark a lot?

Telephone Animal Control. Animal control officers are trained to assist with behavioural problems associated with dogs. They will be happy to discuss barking problems you may have with your dog.

Possible solutions include:

- bark-stop collars;
- repositioning the dog;
- retraining.

Often boredom or loneliness is the problem.

What if somebody complains about my dog barking?

When a complaint about your dog is received and the animal control officer has reasonable grounds for believing that a nuisance is being caused, he/she will:

- warn you of the problem and discuss options with you;
- serve written notices if the problem continues;
- seek removal of the dog if necessary;
- take enforcement action.

In all cases, removal of a dog is a last resort.

Refunds

If your dog dies during the current registration period, you are entitled to a refund of the balance of the registration fee if you notify us in writing.

Why should I vaccinate my dog?

Vaccinations are needed to stop your dog contracting diseases such as parvovirus, distemper and canine hepatitis and then spreading these diseases to other dogs. These diseases are very serious and highly infectious and often lead to the death of the infected dog. Treatment is difficult and expensive and not always successful.

Puppies need three vaccinations; the first at 5-6 weeks old. Adult dogs need annual booster vaccinations to maintain immunity.

These vaccinations and further information are available from your local vet clinic.

Why should I worm my dog?

Worms are intestinal parasites that live in your dog's guts (intestines), causing poor health, ill thrift and weight loss, diarrhoea and more serious diseases. They can easily be passed from dog to dog and also to humans, sometimes causing serious health problems.

Regular worm treatments and basic hygiene, such as ensuring you and your children wash your hands before eating, will minimise the risk of infection.

Puppies should be treated for roundworms every two weeks from two weeks to three months of age. Adult dogs need treating every three months with a broad spectrum wormer to treat roundworm, tapeworm, hookworm and whipworm.

Appropriate worm treatments and further information are available from your local vet clinic or pet shop.

Hutt City Dog Policy

The Hutt City Dog Policy provides a more comprehensive explanation of the contents of this brochure. It was formulated after extensive consultation with the community.

If you wish to obtain a copy of the Dog Policy please contact Hutt City Council.

Local vets

Animal Health Centre
109 Oxford Terrace
(04) 577 3717

AnimalZ Ltd
12 Daly Street
phone/fax (04) 560 9838

Central Hutt Veterinary Clinic
8 Hardy Street
(04) 569 3939

**Petvet
Lower Hutt Animal Hospital**
70 Pharazyn Street
(04) 569 8830

**Petvet
Taita Veterinary Clinic**
176 Eastern Hutt Road
(04) 567 4051

Stokes Valley Veterinary Clinic
13 George Street
(04) 563 6826

Wainuiomata Veterinary Services
3 Waiu Street
(04) 564 4104

Dog obedience clubs

Avalon Canine Obedience Club
(04) 565 1258

Wainuiomata Allbreeds Canine Obedience Club
(04) 564 5227

If you are experiencing problems with your dog, please do not hesitate to contact the Animal Control Team.

**Animal Control Team
Inspections and Enforcements Division
Hutt City Council
Private Bag 31912
Lower Hutt
(04) 570 6666
www.huttcity.info**

