Riverdale Park Pet Waste Program

Program Components

The Pet Waste Management Program has been built upon a cooperative effort between Town staff and members of the Friends of Waggertail Dog Park (FoWDP). The program has been enhanced through the Town's purchase of dog waste stations, modeling of responsible behavior by FoWDP members, articles in The Riverdale Park Town Crier, outreach materials posted on the Town Web site at http://www.riverdaleparkmd.info/DogPark.cfm and postings on the Waggertail Dog Park Facebook social media page, https://www.facebook.com/waggertail/.

Friends of Waggertail Dog Park

FoWDP act on behalf of all dog park users as a voice to the Town Government to make recommendations on improvements to the dog park, inform the Town of maintenance and other issues, and plan dog-centric events to build a greater feeling of community.

Waggertail Dog Park

Waggertail Dog Park is managed by the Town of Riverdale Park in cooperation with M-NCPPC and welcomes all Prince George's County residents and their canine friends. This beautiful and spacious off-leash dog park officially opened on July 25, 2016, and is dedicated to the memory of the late Judy Glaes, long time Riverdale Park resident, and a true friend to dogs. Waggertail is a large, grassy dog park that has a fenced, lobby area containing gates opening into large and small dog areas. Features include a water fountain, large shade trees, comfortable benches and over two acres of space giving dogs and people plenty of room to get acquainted.
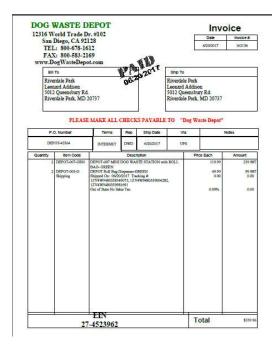
Pet Waste Stations

The dog park has three pet waste stations that Town staff maintain along with the other trash receptacles on site. The Town has purchased and placed two additional dog waste stations along the Riverdale Park portion of the trolley trail (one adjacent to Rhode Island Avenue and Oliver Street and the other adjacent to Tuckerman Street). The FoWDP plans to submit GIS coordinates for all the Town dog waste stations to the Prince George's County Pet Waste Program to support their mobile application. The mobile app will provide users with a convenient tool to find the nearest station in the county when they are out with their dogs.

5008 Queensbury Road, Riverdale Park, MD 20737   Phone: 301---927---6381   mail: rpsc20737@gmail.com Web: www.rpsc.info
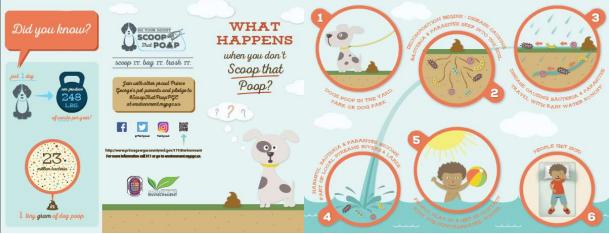
Outreach

On April 6, 2017, four (4) members of the FoWDP attended the Prince George's County Pet Waste Management Summit in Largo, MD. The summit provided outreach materials, information on the County pilot program and opportunities to learn more about this issue and meet and collaborate with interested citizens, municipal leaders, staff and other organizations from the area. The Town has made electronic copies of the outreach materials available on the Web site (http://www.riverdaleparkmd.info/DogPark.cfm).
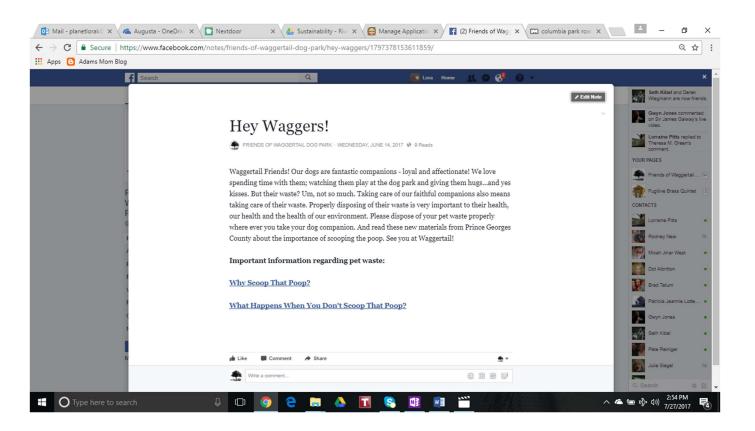
In June 2017, The Riverdale Park Town Crier, promoted responsible behavior to "Scoop the Poop" (http://www.riverdaleparkmd.info/Crier/8564-June%202017%20Crier.pdf).

"6. Scoop the poop. It goes without saying that it is important to scoop your dog's poop but, once in a while, we all miss where Rover has just gone. If you notice a forgotten pile, please be a good dog park citizen and scoop it for the rest of us. Also, if you walk to the park and have an extra bag, it can't hurt to scoop up a stray pile that you might notice along the way. It will endear Waggertail users to our Riverdale Park neighbors, which is always a good thing."

And on June 14, 2017, the FoWDP posted the following on their Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/waggertail/ to support the pet waste campaign.

Hey Waggers!

FRIENDS OF WAGGERTAIL DOG PARK · WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14, 2017 · 9 Reads

Waggertail Friends! Our dogs are fantastic companions - loyal and affectionate! We love spending time with them; watching them play at the dog park and giving them hugs...and yes kisses. But their waste? Um, not so much. Taking care of our faithful companions also means taking care of their waste. Properly disposing of their waste is very important to their health, our health and the health of our environment. Please dispose of your pet waste properly where ever you take your dog companion. And read these new materials from Prince Georges County about the importance of scooping the poop. See you at Waggertail!

Important information regarding pet waste:

Why Scoop That Poop?

What Happens When You Don't Scoop That Poop?

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