

RIVERDALE PARK

Stormwater Management - Waggertail Dog Park



[Waggertail Dog Park](#) (WDP) is a popular community amenity situated in the northwest corner of Riverdale Community Park and accessible from Tuckerman Street and 51st Avenue. In total it is two acres in size with .78 acres for large and medium dogs and .21 acres for small dogs. After heavy or prolonged rain events, it suffers from significant stormwater pooling in both dog areas. This creates a public safety issue in both warm and cold weather.



The Town of Riverdale Park (TRP) has added four truckloads of topsoil to the low-lying area in the medium and large dog side to minimize standing water. TRP continues to investigate the drainage issues which stem from stormwater run-off from the neighboring residential area. If new trees and topsoil amendments are inadequate to eliminate standing water, TRP will consider more aggressive, long-term solutions for hazard mitigation and stormwater management. Other actions might involve partnerships with local organizations, such as Sustainable Maryland, to seek solutions. The TRP Sustainability Committee plans to continue to monitor and help with this project as needed.

There are mature shade trees surrounding the dog park with eleven, medium to large, shade trees interior to the dog park. However, two young trees died in 2019. Plans call for planting an estimated half-dozen, native species trees in Fall 2020. Using \$100,000 from the Cafritz Foundation and \$20,000 from Town funds, a contracted arborist has finalized plans to add trees to the dog park. Some of the trees are expected to be planted in raised box beds. The raised box beds will protect the newly planted trees from vigorous dog park activity, provide additional seating, and cover a few concrete

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stumps that have caused pet injury. To protect, both the Town's partnership with the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission (MNCPPC) as well as cooperation from the WDP users are key to nurture the establishment of trees during their critical first year and as well as protecting this investment in trees.

