

Code of Conduct for All Dog Walkers in Milton Keynes Parks

The parks in Milton Keynes are enjoyed by the public every day of the year and we ask that all dog walkers abide by the code of conduct so that the parks are places for everyone to enjoy.

The purpose of the code of conduct is to:

- To ensure considerate use by all.
- To protect the parks and their wildlife.
- To protect our grazing livestock.

The Code

- Allow right of way to members of the general public when exercising dogs.
- The Countryside Code applies to The Parks Trust estate.
- Keep all parks and open spaces in a clean and tidy condition.
- All dog waste **MUST** be collected and properly disposed of.
- All dogs must wear a collar with legally compliant identification and to be micro-chipped and vaccinated.
- The recommended maximum number of dogs to be walked at any one time is 4 per walker. This is a condition for licensed commercial dog walkers.
- Any restrictions imposed by the Local Authority must be complied with.
- Be aware of the traffic light lead system and consider using this yourself.
- Dogs must be kept under close control at all times - any dog whose obedience cannot be guaranteed must be kept on a lead.
- Please consider other park users may not be fond of dogs, and that some people - especially small children - can find dogs intimidating.
- Keep your dog(s) in sight at all times.
- Do not exercise dogs in any of the restricted areas such as sports fields, event areas, or areas closed for landscaping and operational works.
- Do not allow dogs to enter any water body.
- Extra care should be taken with bitches in season.



Excluded and Restricted Dog Walking Areas

There are areas of parkland The Parks Trust estate where dogs are not allowed or need to be kept on a lead.

Dogs are not permitted at any time within Stony Stratford Nature Reserve, Elfield Park, Linford Lakes Nature Reserve or private pony paddocks (with the exception of paddocks licensed separately for exclusive use by dog training organisations). Dogs must stay on the paths and on a short lead within the Floodplain Forest Nature Reserve.

You must comply with signage in grazing and woodland areas stating that dogs are required to be kept on a short lead in such areas when livestock are present. Dogs are required to be walked on lead in the ancient woodlands at Linford Wood and Shenley Wood from 1st March to 30th September inclusive, and all year round at Howe Park Wood.

This list is not exhaustive and there will be other areas which have temporary or permanent restrictions.

XL Bullies

Owners must comply with the law; they must be muzzled, kept on a lead at all times, insured, and be able to provide evidence of exemption when asked by an Authorised Officer. For guidance see the [government website](#).

There is a licensing programme for all professional dog walkers using the parks, please see www.theparkstrust.com/get-involved/licensed-activities/professional-dog-walking for information.

