



# PHILADELPHIA PARKS & RECREATION

## Philadelphia Parks & Recreation Dog Run Design Guidelines

Updated July 2023

*The following guidelines were adopted by Philadelphia Parks & Recreation (PPR) in 2023, and provide updates on the approved location, design and management of a dog run. Updates are based on local experience and national best practice.*

### **I. Compliance**

- a. A dog run must comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Clean Water Act.

### **II. Entries**

- a. A dog run must have double locking gates.

### **III. Fencing**

- a. A dog run must be fenced with a minimum of 4-foot-high fencing.
- b. Benches and other objects must be set away from the fence.
- c. If the dog park is next to a playground, it requires 6 ft fencing with screening.

### **IV. Lighting**

- a. A dog run must be well lit from either nearby park lights or from lights within the dog run.

### **V. Location**

- a. A dog run must be a minimum of 200 feet away from neighboring residences and a minimum of 100 feet away from any body of water. The dog run must be built on a relatively flat surface to avoid erosion (<5% slope).

### **VI. Separate Large and Small Dog Areas**

- a. A dog run must have two separate designated areas for large dogs and small dogs.

### **VII. Shade**

- a. Shade is a recommended feature of the dog run.

### **VIII. Signage**

- a. A dog run must include posted signage stating the rules and regulations of the dog run, including occupancy limits.
- b. A dog run sign template is available upon request.
- c. PPR must review and approve all signage.



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## **IX. Size**

- a. A dog run must be a minimum of 5,000 square feet.

## **X. Surface Material**

- a. Based on site specifics, artificial turf or concrete pad are the required surface materials in dog runs.
- b. Surface type must allow for positive drainage away from the site and the ability to mitigate waste management issues.
- c. A maintenance plan for surface type must be considered prior to installation.

## **XI. Trash Receptacles**

- a. A dog run must include PPR standard trash receptacles. Location of trash can must be approved by PPR.

## **XII. Water Service**

- a. A dog run must include water access that is a code compliant waterline that is available year-round.