

Why I “Take the Lead”

My park is a special place. I love to come here with my dog! Sometimes we visit a designated off-leash area where my pet can run free and play with other dogs.

Everywhere else we go in this beautiful park, I am proud to “Take the Lead” and keep my dog on-leash, as required by City by-laws. This has so many benefits!

- I never need to worry about unpleasant encounters with other dogs or wildlife such as coyotes.
- It’s easy to pick up after my pet.
- By staying on trail we don’t trample vegetation, compact the soil, spread seeds of invasive plants or disturb the wildlife who call the park their home.
- Other people can approach and interact with my pet if we all feel comfortable, or keep their distance if they prefer.
- Children don’t need to worry about my pet being overly friendly.
- By keeping my dog on-leash, I’m setting a good example for others.
- I know where my pet is at all times.



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The City of Toronto contains over 1,500 parks and green spaces. These parks are places where our diverse communities can gather, socialize and enjoy fresh air and nature.

Many of our parks have Environmentally Significant Areas which contain special, unique habitats for plant and animal life.

Toronto parks are vital to native plants, birds and other wildlife who live here or pass through during migration, including several threatened or endangered species.

Toronto parks are very popular, with millions of visitors each year. If we all treat each other and our parks with respect, we can help to heal and protect these precious places for everyone to enjoy, now and for years to come.

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