

CAMPGROUND & RV PARK Specialty Insurance Program

**Marshall
& Sterling**
INSURANCE

Marshall & Sterling Campground & RV Park Specialty Insurance – Safety Tips

Dog Park Construction and Safety Guidelines

Dog parks have been established all over the country, offering a wealth of benefits to dogs, dog owners and communities – *but they also bring up a lot of safety concerns*. Consider our top 15 safety guidelines as you work to build your dog park or dog area:

1. Dog park areas should be enclosed with a 4 to 6 foot chain link fence with a double gated entry to prevent escapes.
2. Consider having a section for small dogs only.
3. Consideration should be made to provide at least a partially shaded area for dogs to escape the sun on hot days.
4. The site location should be considered far enough away from camp sites other campers will not have their stay interrupted by barking dogs or owners calling for the dogs.
5. Surface of the park should be considered, most likely it will be grass at most campgrounds but care and maintenance should be considered as this area will see heavy traffic and hard use from dog waste. Be careful when using fertilizers to help maintain grass, follow the use instructions and close the area for the time specified by the instructions if fertilizers or chemicals are used in the area.
6. Have a plan for cleaning up dog waste to include scoopers, trash cans, and stations with plastic bags.
7. Consider having water available with the minimum of a hose bib.
8. Depending the hours of use, consider proper lighting.
9. Safety rules should be posted at minimum as guests enter the area as well as hours for the park so other guests are not disturbed.
10. Consideration should be made whether or not dogs will be leashed or unleashed in the park.
11. Consider limiting the age of children allowed in the park.
12. Require supervision of all dogs entering the park.
13. Post emergency contact numbers in the event of a problem.
14. Do not allow dogs under 4 months of age in the area.
15. All dog owners must have appropriate proof of vaccinations. This should be part the initial camping registration process, but also considered if other visitors to campers will be allowed to use the park.



For additional resources on the subject, read *Establishing A Dog Park*, by the American Kennel Club online at www.akc.org/pdfs/GLEG01.pdf



Questions? Contact...

Irene M. Jones

Program Development Manager
Marshall & Sterling RV Park and Campground
Specialty Insurance Program

Marshall & Sterling Insurance
2 High Street
Monticello, NY 12701



www.marshallsterling.com/monticello/camp-grounds

Irene Jones
800-782-2926, x2603
ijones@marshallsterling.com