# FIDO AND THE FOREST





### Northern Highland-American Legion State Forest



### **WELCOME FURRY FRIENDS!**

Responsible pet owners and their pets are welcome in the Northern Highland-American Legion State Forest. We understand pets are a part of your family, and a part of your visit to the state forest. However, it's important for pet owners to know that not everyone who visits the state forest are pet lovers. While your family's dog is the apple of your eye, your dog can be the rotten apple that spoils your neighboring campers' vacation. It should be noted that 95% of campers who bring a pet bring a dog, but we have seen other pets camp and hike too, and these rules apply to all pets. Some of the most common complaints law enforcement or our visitor stations receive are about nuisance dogs.

#### **PET RULES TO FOLLOW**

- Pets are not allowed in any buildings or at swimming beaches. This includes visitor stations, toilets and showers, nature centers and shelters. Pets are not allowed at designated beaches or grassy areas surrounding beaches at the state forest. (For places you can swim with your pet, see reverse side "Where can I take my dog swimming?")
- Pets must be kept on a leash no longer than eight feet and under control at all times. This includes while hiking any of our designated trails and while in the campgrounds. (For places you can take your dog hiking, including unleashed hiking, see "Where can I take my dog hiking?")
- No person may allow their pet to interfere in any manner with the enjoyment of the area by others.
   This includes repeated barking, yowling, crying or aggressive behavior that may frighten others.
- Clean up after your pet. Pet owners are responsible for the proper removal and disposal of any waste produced by pets at sanitary disposal sites. Everyone will thank you for it.



• Pets are prohibited on nature trails and groomed cross-country ski trails. The state forest has many options for winter hiking and snowshoeing. However, there are five nature trails where pets are not allowed yearround. Pets are prohibited when trails are groomed for skiing. Lumberjack Trail is a multi-use winter trail and is a great trail for those who like to ski with leashed pets.



#### **ADDITIONAL PET TIPS**

- Leaving pets inside a camping unit while you leave for the day can be dangerous and stressful for your pet, causing them to become a nuisance. Consider other options like boarding, doggy daycare or a pet sitter or dogwalker. Better yet plan your activities to include them!
- Exercise your pets. Take your dog on their normal walks.
   Remember, a tired dog is a good dog.
- Pack comfort items for your pet including a kennel or bed, favorite treats and toys, and water and food bowls. A light for your dog's collar is also a good idea.
- Check your pet's vaccinations.
   Make sure you have flea and tick repellents to prevent diseases.
- Supervise your pet around wildlife. The state forest has a variety of wildlife. Keep your pet leashed to prevent wandering, but do not leave them tied alone to be attacked by a wild animal. Wild animals can become uncomfortable around aggressive or barking pets, and can attack if provoked.



#### WHERE CAN I TAKE MY DOG SWIMMING?

The state forest is home to more than 900 lakes, so there are ample places for you to take your dog swimming. Here is a list of area lakes that have **no designated** facilities and require no leash but do feature a nice, natural beach for your dog to swim as play fortab. Step in at a vicitor station

swim or play fetch. Stop in at a visitor station for further information.

- Boulder Junction: Emerald Lake, Firefly Lake
   Public Boat Launch, Little John Jr. Lake, Trout
   Lake (near Trout Lake Headquarters), White
   Sand Lake
- Lake Tomahawk: Big Carr Lake, Hawk Lake
- Woodruff: Cunard Lake Boat Landing, Little Bass Lake



#### **WHERE CAN I TAKE MY DOG HIKING?**

The Northern Highland-American Legion State Forest has many opportunities for hiking with your pets. This includes more than 70 miles of designated hiking trails for you and your pets to enjoy. **Your pet must be leashed at all times while on these trails.** While designated hiking trails allow leashed hiking with your pet, the state forest also has off-leash opportunities for your pets:

- Woods Roads and Snowmobile
   Trails: The state forest has hundreds of miles of woods roads and snowmobile trails. You may encounter occasional vehicles on these trails, and outside of the snowmobile season, trails are open to foot traffic.
- Powell Marsh: This 4,300-acre wildlife property near Manitowish Waters is known for birdwatching. Roads and dikes provide walking access throughout much of the wildlife area.
- Willow Flowage: This is a 30,000acre property that has designated hunter walking trails off Iron Gate Road. These trails are mowed once a year.

NOTE: From April 15-July 31, all dogs must be leashed while on DNR lands open to hunting including the locations listed above. This rule protects baby and nesting wildlife.

Staff at our visitor stations can provide further information or maps related to leashed or off-leash hiking opportunities.

For electronic maps, visit dnr.wi.gov and search for "PALS" (Public Access Lands Maps) for a map-based system that allows you to locate and obtain information on public access properties.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Clear Lake Visitor Station: 715-356-3668 Crystal Lake Visitor Station: 715-542-3923

## MORE FUN DOG OPTIONS IN OUR AREA

- Dog Parks: Public dog parks are available in Minocqua (Plaza Drive, near Wal-Mart) and Rhinelander (Boyce Drive).
- WinMan Trails: 1,300 acres of year-round silent sport recreational opportunities that are dog-friendly.



## LOCAL EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Oneida County Sheriff's Department:

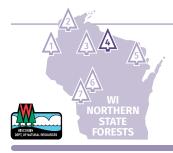
715-361-5100

**Vilas County Sheriff's Department:** 

715-479-4441

**Iron County Sheriff Department:** 

715-561-3800



#### Come back soon! And be sure to visit Wisconsin's other Northern State Forests

- 3 Flambeau River State Forest ......715-332-5271
- 4 Northern Highland-American Legion State Forest......715-542-3923
- 5 Governor Earl Peshtigo River State Forest ......715-757-3965
- 6 Black River State Forest ......715-284-4103
- 7 Coulee Experimental State Forest ......608-785-9007

dnr.wi.gov • DIAL 911 FOR EMERGENCIES

DNR Call Center (toll-free 7 a.m.-10 p.m.) 1-888-936-7463 • Warden Tip Line: 1-800-847-9367

