

You, Your Dog, & Nature in London



A guide to help you and
your dog enjoy and protect
nature in London

**Your dog must be on a
leash (max. 1.8m/6ft)
at all times.**

Parks and Recreation Area By-law PR-2
Dog Licensing and Control By-law PH-4

Natural areas, including **Environmentally Significant Areas (ESAs)**

**need to be protected by
minimizing human and pet
disturbance.**

For the safety of wildlife, visitors and your pet:

-  Keep your dog on a leash at all times.
-  Stay on marked trails.
-  Dispose of all pet waste in garbage bins or carry it out.
-  Be aware of dangers such as vehicles, other animals, ill-willed individuals, traps and snares, toxic products, algae blooms, poisons, sick animals, parasites, rabies, distemper and other diseases.

Wild Animals

A wide variety of mammals, birds, reptiles, and amphibians call our urban neighbourhoods and ESA's home. Almost all conflict situations between wildlife and dogs occur when dogs are off-leash.

Off leash dogs may injure, orphan or separate wildlife offspring from their family.

The mere presence of your dog can disrupt the feeding, foraging, mating, denning, and nesting of rare and endangered birds and animals.

Wildlife expend vital energy reserved for survival when chased by dogs.

Birds of prey may perceive small dogs as a potential food source.



Coyotes and other wildlife are highly protective of family members and perceive dogs as a threat, especially near nesting/den sites or established territory.

Coyotes may 'escort' or 'shadow' a dog walker out of an area when coyote pups or a den are nearby.

Plants

Off-leash dogs may run, roll, or dig through natural areas. Your dog may damage or destroy rare and endangered plant species. Many plants can also seriously harm or kill your dog. Some include:

- Poison Oak
- Poison Ivy
- Poison Sumac
- Giant Hogweed



Safety Tips

Always obey by-laws or ordinances that apply to wild spaces you visit.

Be aware of the wildlife in areas where you walk your pets.



Keep a respectful distance from wildlife.

Never feed wildlife; this includes indirect feeding, such as leaving food waste in wild spaces. Feeding wildlife disrupts natural foraging behaviors and encourages unnatural proximity and tolerance to people.

If a coyote is nearby, small dogs can be lifted and carried for safety. Do not run; leave the area slowly, keeping your dog close to you.

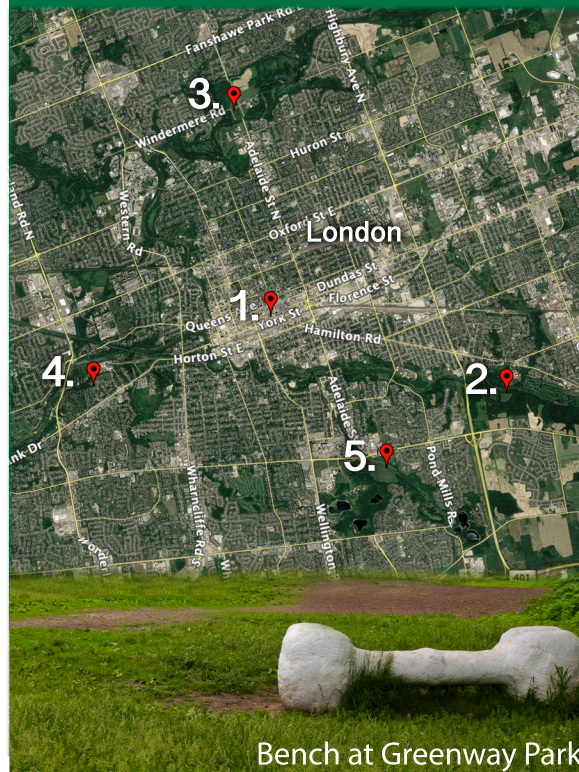
Ticks & Lyme Disease

There is a possibility that your dog may encounter infected ticks in almost all wooded or brushy areas in Ontario, including London.



There are 5 off-leash dog parks in London:

1. Campbell Memorial Park
2. Pottersburg Park
3. Stoney Creek Park
4. Greenway Park
5. Caesar Park



Bench at Greenway Park

Need More Information?

City of London
519-661-2489
www.london.ca



City Planning
Feeding of Wildlife
Regulations
Public Nuisance By-law PH-18

Coyotes In The City of London
Middlesex London Health Unit
519-663-5317
www.healthunit.com/lyme-disease

Upper Thames River
Conservation Authority
519-451-2800 ext. 281
www.thamesriver.on.ca

London Animal Care Centre
(PH-4 By-law Enforcement)
519-685-1330
www.accpets.ca

London Dog Owners' Association
www.ldoa.ca
London Humane
Society
519-451-0630



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