

# Code of Conduct for All Dog Walkers in Milton Keynes Parks

- The parks in Milton Keynes are enjoyed by dog walkers every day of the year and we ask that all dog walkers abide by the code of conduct so that the parks are places for everyone to enjoy.
- The purpose of the code of conduct is:
- Ensure considerate use between those undertaking dog walking activities in the park and other park users.
- To protect the parks and their wildlife.
- To ensure access to and use of public open space is preserved for all visitors.

## The Code

- Allow right of way to members of the general public when exercising dogs.
- Countryside code applies to the park trust estate.
- Keep all parks and open space in a clean and tidy condition and all dog waste **MUST** be collected and properly disposed of.
- All dogs must wear a collar with legally compliant identification.
- All dogs to be microchipped.
- Private Dog Walkers should be aware of the traffic light lead system and should consider using this themselves.
- Dogs must be kept under close control at all times - any dog whose obedience cannot be guaranteed must be kept on a lead.
- Please consider other park users may not be as fond of dogs, and that some people - especially small children - can find dogs intimidating. Keep your dogs in sight at all times.
- Do not exercise dogs in any of the restricted areas on any sports fields, sites where events are taking place, in flower beds or areas closed for renovation or upgrading.
- Do not allow dogs to enter any water body.
- Any restrictions imposed by the local authority must be complied with.
- Extra care should be taken with bitches in season.
- The maximum number of dogs to be walked at any one time is 6.



# Excluded and Restricted Dog Walking Areas

There are areas of parkland within Milton Keynes where dogs are not allowed or need to be kept on a lead.

For example, dogs are not permitted at any time within Stony Stratford Nature Reserve, Elfield Park, Linford Lakes Nature Reserve or private pony paddocks (with the exception of paddocks licenced separately for exclusive use by dog training organisations.)

Dogs are required to be kept on a lead at all times within Floodplain Forest Nature Reserve, grazing areas where livestock are present, woodland, and waterbodies where breeding birds and mammals are present. This includes some ancient woodlands at Linford Wood, Shenley Wood and Howe Park Wood from 1st March to 30th September inclusive.

This list is not exhaustive and there will be other areas which have temporary or permanent restrictions.

There is a licencing programme for all professional dog walkers using the parks, please see <https://www.theparkstrust.com/get-involved/licensed-activities/professional-dog-walking/> for information.

