

Under the Public Space Protection Order, you are required to clean up after your dog and keep them under control, for the wellbeing and enjoyment of yourself, your dog, and others.

To make the most out of your walks, we ask you to respect the space, and others, by:

-  **1** Keeping your dogs on fixed 1m leads (which include a fixed extendable lead) when next to roads, on shared routes such as cycle paths, public bridleways, and when asked to by a dog warden.
-  **2** Paying attention to what your dog is doing at all times.
-  **3** Carrying bags, poop scoops, and other equipment for if your dog fouls.
-  **4** Walking no more than six dogs at once - and keeping them all under control.
-  **5** Keeping your dog out of restricted areas, such as play parks, and beaches during the summer.
-  **6** Picking up after your dog if it fouls, and disposing of waste in a dog bin or a normal bin.

Failure to comply may result in a Fixed Penalty Notice or prosecution.

For more information visit teignbridge.gov.uk/dogpspo

To report dog fouling or any dog-related problems, please email us at envc@teignbridge.gov.uk or call on 01626 215415.

If you would like this information in another format,
please call 01626 361101

A guide to dog ownership



Responsible ownership for a happy and healthy dog

- Being aware of your dog's exercise and dietary needs is an absolute must. Having plenty of fresh water available to drink at all times is essential
- Never leave a dog in a motor vehicle on even moderately warm days, as this can have fatal effects
- Obey any byelaws or regulations when walking your dog and remember, your dog MUST wear a collar when in a public place with a tag bearing your name and address. It is a good idea to have your telephone number on it and keep your details up to date. From April 2016 it is a legal requirement that your dog is microchipped.

Your Dog's Welfare

Dog owners are legally obliged to care for their dogs properly, by providing these five basic needs:

- Somewhere suitable to live
- A proper diet, including fresh water at all times
- The ability to express normal behaviour
- To be housed appropriately with, or apart from, other animals
- Protection from, and treatment of, illness and injury

Dog Fouling

It is a legal requirement that you pick up after your dog has fouled in a public place and place it in a dog bin or litter bin. People who do not comply risk being issued with a fixed penalty notice, or face legal action in the Magistrates Court with a maximum penalty fine of £1,000.

There is an illness that people, dogs, livestock and wildlife can get from the dog faeces called Toxocariasis. This is caused by a parasite known as Toxocara Canis (more commonly known as Roundworm). These parasites live in the digestive system of dogs where their eggs can be released in the faeces of infected animals and then contaminated the soil. When in contact with this soil this can cause serious illness and even blindness. You can reduce the health risk to the public by regularly worming your dog.

Caring for your dog

Environment

- Make sure that your dog has a comfortable and clean place to rest and a suitable area to regularly go to the toilet
- Keep your dog on a lead and under control when in public places
- Do not let it stray
- Leaving your dog unattended and tied up i.e. outside a shop increases the risk of dog theft

Food and Drink

- Without water to drink, a dog may become seriously ill within hours
- A dog needs a well balanced diet to be fit and healthy
- Exactly how much food your dog needs depends on its diet, its body weight and how active it is. Guides to quantities are normally shown on packaging

Behaviour

- All dogs need to be exercised regularly and be able to walk and run freely
- Please take care that when exercising your dog, ensure it does not annoy others, and keep it on a lead when around livestock
- Make sure that your dog has enough things to do to keep it occupied. This will prevent it becoming bored, distressed or destructive
- When choosing a dog, only consider a breed or type that is suited to your family, your home, garden, and way of living
- Consider the costs of caring for a dog carefully before you bring one into your home. It can be expensive! Insurance is a good idea
- Training and socialising is key - you can teach an old dog new tricks, it's never too late to start training

Company

- Dogs are sociable animals who need and enjoy company, so make sure you don't leave yours alone for long periods. If you do need to leave your dog, make sure it is cared for by a responsible person

Health and Welfare

- If your dog is showing signs of pain or is injured in any way, consult a vet immediately
- Seek the advice of a vet on matters such as worming, vaccination, neutering and other treatments
- Be aware of your dog's surroundings at all times, minimise any risks that it could face and keep it safe
- Keep your dog up to date with any required injections with your local vet