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Wiley Park Rules What's Next

The dog owning community turned out for to defend the traditional uses of Wiley Park as regards potential changes being considered by the Open Space Committee and the Conservation Commission. About 170 signatories of our petition were delivered. Dozens of speakers and writers added their suggestions and opinions. Most defended the activity of allowing dogs off-leash as is the Town By-Law, "under immediate voice control."

Many also suggested ways to address the conservation concerns of the committees. Suggested were requiring dogs be leashed in the parking lots, beaches, trail entrances, and picnic areas. Education was a constant refrain including improved signage, trail demarcation, respect for reclamation areas, and consistent enforcement of clear rules of behavior.

In the spirit of the park as a shared recreational area, issues of some dogs treating the trails as a dog park were conveyed. Dog owners can, should and generally do respect other users on the trails. However, work needs to be done to make that behavior consistent for the enjoyment of all users.

EDOA has long offered to assist at creating a program to encourage the appropriate shared use of the park including dogs off leash.

At a meeting April 26th and following the listening

"There are 3 options to consider for leashing in Wiley Park.

1. *Leave the rules as is.*
2. *Leash during Summer.*
3. *Leash all the time."*

EDOA does training and maybe they could teach sessions on trail etiquette.

- Fran Lewis, OSC, Chair

Editor note: Good idea. That is why we offered.



April 13, 2023 Listening Session at Eastham Library.

sessions, the OSC met to discuss the recommendations. It was encouraging to hear that committee members had been supplied with the public comments and had read them and / or seen the video of the meetings. You are encouraged to [view the video of the meeting](#) as the main focus was changes to Park Rules. You will be able to hear the direction the OSC is heading and options they are considering.

Some highlights:

- Procuring a consultant for a Wiley Park Land Use Plan.
- Re-writes of current rules regarding damage, opening of new trails and pond access points.
- Dog owners picking up after dog defecation.
- Leashing in parking lots and other areas of intense public traffic.
- Additional dog recreation sites to take pressure off of Wiley.
- Monitor during this Summer by Cons Com, OSC and EDOA to workshop potential regulations. (Most encouraging suggestions from Joanna Buffington and Saul Fisher.)

Many other potential concerns were mentioned for possible new rules, so please [check out the meeting video](#).

The Bow Wow Bash is Scheduled

Saturday, May 20, 2023 @ Campground Beach. 12 noon—2 P.M.
(Sunday 21st rain date)

Finally, something fun to write about. The Bash is back. Dogs and their people are invited to be the guests of EDOA for a FREE social.

- All welcome
- Free grilled hot dogs
- Free doggie ice cream
- Free dog treats
- Free education materials
- Free poop bags
- Meet the Buddy Scholarship winner
- Water for dogs
- No water for people (we have priorities) (actually, a Health Board rule. Please BYO.)
- EDOA merch for sale.
- Bring a lawn chair and hang out.
- Head out on the flats to play with your pup.

This is a wonderful celebration of and for our dogs. NOT TO BE MISSED.

[No dogs are to be injured in the grilling of the hot dogs.]

[All dogs people and free items are "while they last". Rest up.]

You are receiving this news blast as a member of Eastham Dog Owner's. Thank you for your support!
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Comments / Questions
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