

## **A Message from the Surfside Beach Chief of Police:**

Dear Dog Park patrons,

Thank you for your continued cooperation with us as we work out the kinks in regard to the parking and usage issues attendant to our new Dog Parks.

As you know, several residents of the immediate neighborhood voiced some concerns in regard to parking, noise, and litter. Rather than go straight to enforcement mode, we opted to mount a home-grown awareness campaign, work with the neighborhood on moving the parking around a bit, and generally try to mitigate the nuisances in an attempt to protect the quality of life of the residents while allowing everyone to enjoy the great amenity that the Dog Parks represent.

I think that the cooperation we've received has enabled us to eliminate most of the issues surrounding the use of the Dog Parks, and I thank you again for that. I would ask now that you continue to help us by spreading the word within your networks in regard to the following:

- Please try to park on the Willow Drive (east) side of the park. There are only about two legal spots on the Pine Drive (north) side anyway, and those will eventually be gone when we finish the landscaping and signage on that side.
- Please ensure that when you park you do not block any portion of the paved roadway (keep all four tires on the shoulder).
- Please remind anyone in a golf cart that they are not allowed to drive up into the park (but may park just as other vehicles do on the Willow Drive right of way).
- We've had a few dog trainers, sitters, etc. using the parks for commercial activity, which the park rules prohibit. I've contacted many of these folks, and they've been extremely cooperative.
- We fully understand that dogs will occasionally bark, but we've received a few complaints of incessant barking. Please try to mitigate that whenever possible.

I know from discussions with several patrons that the new signage wasn't popular with some, but I made the decision to place those in an effort to educate and remind folks as opposed to viewing the situation as an enforcement problem. Surfside Beach enjoys luxuries that many larger jurisdictions do not- we can invest a little time in getting everyone on the same page in regard to the enjoyment of the Dog Parks, so that's what we're trying to do.

Please continue to enjoy the parks, and contact me any time should you have questions, comments, or problems.

Thanks,  
Mike Frederick  
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