



Cranberry K-9 Connections

North Boundary Pilot Program Update: 11.19.2020

Background:

- Shifting demographics have increased the number of dogs throughout the community and the expectations of residents. In addition, most surrounding communities allow for dogs in public open space given certain rules and regulations.
- Recognizing the needs of current residents and young families moving into the Township, the municipality has incrementally increased dog-friendly access in the park system while balancing the concerns of all stakeholders. These steps have included:
 1. Building a dog park in Community Park
 2. Providing for leashed dog access on the Brush Creek Trail Extension
 3. Opening 50+ acres in the Disc Golf course to dogs
 4. Planning for a new dog park at Community Park North
 5. Developing the Canine Ambassador Program

Cranberry K9 Connections:

- To date, the Cranberry K9 Connection has donated over **405 total volunteer hours** in 2020.
- The **Canine Ambassador program** has about **25 active volunteers** working to make the community more dog-friendly and encouraging responsible dog ownership.
- Canine Ambassador volunteers are present in **all Cranberry parks** monitoring for any dog-related issues and educating residents on dog-related responsibilities and initiatives.
- The K9 Connections committee also continues to meet with staff and over the **past 5 months** has focused on identifying potential improvements to the pilot program in North Boundary Park.



Current Planning:

- In continuing to review the pilot program in North Boundary Park, the K9 Committee identified the need for greater accessibility.
- The topography and surfacing throughout the Disc Golf Course and Nature Trail presents challenges to many users.
- Therefore, we are advancing the current pilot program in North Boundary Park by providing leashed access on the NexTier Loop and continuing to build the ambassador program.

Current
focus &
priority





Proposed K-9 Updates at North Boundary Park

Note: additional
existing signage will
need to be removed
and/or updated.

Legend:

- Parking
- Restrooms
- Existing Trash Cans
- NexTier Bike/
Hiking Trail (1.1 mi)



Proposed Waste Station Detail:

Communications & Public Works Project:

- Updated Signage & Post Installation

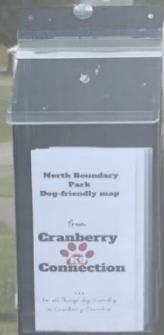
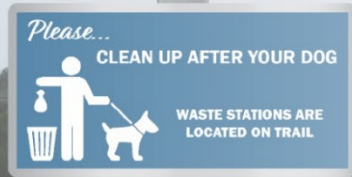
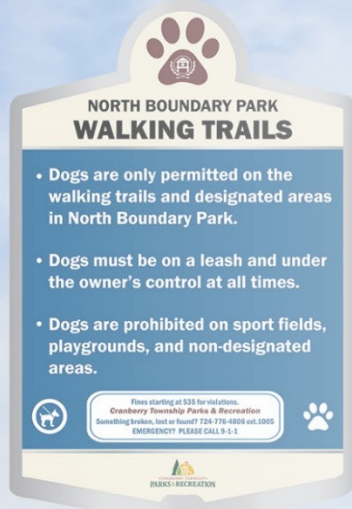


Potential Eagle Scout Project with the K-9 Committee:

- K-9 Connections Pamphlets and Additional Details Regarding Park Rules & Regulations
- Garbage Bag Dispenser System

Typical Garbage Can →





Proposed Timeline:

- December:
 - Work with Communications & Public Works to order updated signage.
 - Coordinate the potential Eagle Scout Project with the K-9 Committee.
- January:
 - Work with PW to schedule the installation of the proposed signs and streamline existing signage.
 - Prepare updated pamphlets and pilot program information.
- February:
 - Complete implementation of updated materials & signage.
 - Begin allowing for dog-friendly access to the NexTier Loop.
- Early Spring:
 - Prepare a community wide announcement.
 - Continue the assessment and test of the pilot program through 2021.

Conclusions:

- The Township staff continues to listen and work with all the stakeholder groups.
- There is increasing pressure to provide dog-friendly access in the parks while meeting the needs of current users.
- We will continue to test the pilot program in North Boundary park and explore potential solutions that address maintenance, safety, and enforcement concerns.

Any 1.1 Questions