Washburn Dog Park Survey Results
January/February 2020

Are you Over 18
372 responses

I own one or more dogs
372 responses

I currently walk my dog(s) in public parks regularly.
302 responses

I would use a local dog park.
302 responses
Having a dog park available will enhance the area’s attractiveness to visitors

372 responses

Having a dog park available will provide a social opportunity to residents

372 responses

Having a dog park available will enhance this area’s reputation as a neighborly place to live.

372 responses
Having a dog park available will enhance this area’s reputation as a neighborly place to visit.
372 responses

Public spaces for dogs should be monitored for adherence to rules regarding clean up after pets.
372 responses

I support having a dog park in the city of Washburn.
372 responses

I would be willing to pay a small fee to use a dog park.
372 responses
What do you consider to be a fair annual permit fee (per dog)?

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- $25 annual, $5 or $10 each additional dog.
- $50 annually.
- $50/yr or $5/day w/ sliding scale for low income.
- Per family - 60.
- $5.00 year per dog.
- $0 (what are the dog registration fees currently used for? I'm paying the city for the right to have my dogs that I take care of and clean up after myself) those fees should be what maintains the dog park.
- Use fee will greatly decrease use.
• $10.00 maybe added to dog license fee if you want as an option
• Maybe just increase the city license fee 5 or 10 dollars?
• Dollar a dog
• $25 per year or $5 per visit
• $10 monthly fee
• $5 or $10/month but NOT payable all at once (I can’t afford paying $120 in one chunk).
• No fee, pay for the park with the city’s dog permit fee
• With visitors it would be a deterrent or ignored
• $10-$20 per month of use
• $15 annual- much cheaper for visitors/tourists
• Depends on quality of the park and how would you keep out non paying people? Dog parks are usually free and that is what makes them friendly is the fact that the city not only cares about the welfare of it’s citizens but there pets as well.
• Dog parks in other cities where I have lived charge $50 a year for a fob to enter the gate of the park. I would be willing to pay $50 p/dog to use this park and would clean up after my dogs.
• not sure... have never encountered this anywhere else
• $10-$25 A lower fee would allow residents of all income brackets to utilize the park.
• Should be free just like all City Parks
• Depending upon what is available. Instead of fees, how about people that use the park have to volunteer with maintenance and clean-up.
  o Donation box would be best. 2) what would the fee be for? 3) would this be a city position? The city has a difficult time currently keeping up with the parks now.
• $10 a month, because where we live you only will get to use for 6 months before we get to much snow
• Y’all can’t charge a fee :/
• Would all depend on what it would cost to construct and maintain.
• I really do not know but think a fee must be charged
• ? With regards to supporting a dog park. A huge community asset to the city. If you notice all the walkers around the town! Also social. Personally, I only have 1 dog at the moment. She is loney! I would have fun for her and myself.
• $10 - $20 $1 per month
• $20 for 1, $10 each additional
• 0 dollars it should be free
• $12 one dollar a month per dog
• Not sure. $10.00
• Sliding scale fee

An Open area between the walking trail and Holman Lakeview Drive proximate to Washington Avenue is currently under consideration as a site for the dog park. Do you think this location is suitable?

260 responses

- Yes 69.2%
- No 25.8%
- Maybe
With regards to the location being considered above, please explain your answer. 153 responses

- Is convenient and accessible to both residents and visitors.
- Ample space for dogs to run, they can swim after, good parking, very accessible
- It’s a convenient location for people who regularly use the walking trail to exercise their dogs.
- Convenient, close to walking trail.
- Access or close proximity to existing trails or public spaces.
- I would prefer a location not near a super busy street for safety
- Very centralized, but not in an area with a lot of tourist attractions (won't detract if someone doesn't like dogs!!)
- I think it's a good idea a lot of people like to walk their dogs on that trail and in that area, including myself
- Great access to the walking trail and city parks/campgrounds
- I like this location, but it is not my favorite. I prefer the park area on Hillside Drive because of the proximity to other playground features. That could become a destination playground for the city.
- I’m new here and don’t know the specific place you’re talking about
- Barking dogs may be an issue at this location. West End Park is nearby, along with the Washburn Marina and housing complexes.
- Convenient for residents and for visitors. Easy to find.
- Concerned about e.coli problems for the beach, please ensure that native buffer strips are planted if this location is selected
- It’s a good location because of the walking trail
- Not an issue
- It’s a nice area in close proximity to the city’s other scenic attractions.
- "The dog park should not be so close to walking trails. Some people are afraid of dogs, allergic to dogs, or don't like dogs. Dogs might scare kids and families who are walking on the trails. If the park doesn't say clean it will impact the quality of the walking trails.
- The dog park should be father away from other public spaces."
- It's centrally located, easy walking distance for in town residents and visitors, it would be visible which would make it easier to maintain and for visitors to find
- Great view for dog owners and good location to find.
- It should give two areas. One for small and fragile dogs and one for large and boisterous
- Central location, away from residential area.
- I feel that property it too valuable to commit to a dog park in that area. It’s a very confident location to downtown, I don’t think we should have dogs barking that close to downtown. I get that the dog park needs to be convenient as well but a park likely won’t generate that much property tax as if there were a duplex or something like that in that area.
- Close to the campground for campers
- There is already parking with the lake trail, it is away from any residence, and it is a convenient place to get to with dogs
- This is a wonderful location for several reasons: There is a great buffer (IGA) from the downtown. There is a much better children’s park nearby, when compared to the hillside site. The site is designated in a way that doesn’t allow residential or commercial development.
- Not sure
- Accessible to all.
- I am not sure exactly what the site looks like.
• Easy to get to place, nice view of the lake, easily can get to lake, trails, parks.
• Dog parks can get loud--neighbors might not like it. Put it by compost landfill on Co. C
• would only be concerned about people picking up after their dogs
• Too disruptive to those trying to enjoy peace and quiet on the trail and beach. Would be better by Thompson's West end campground
• Seems like a good spot close to walking trail and lake
• Away from most neighborhoods allows more space, as well as reducing issues related to noise and traffic.
• Near the lake seems like a good idea, there is space there
• Nice area
• Would need to be large enough for real off lease running and playing, not just a small place for dogs to do their "business". :) 
• easy to find
• Beautiful setting for a not used place close to the lake
• Central to the city and convenient for locals and visitors alike
• Unsure of lot view
• No dog park
• It’d be pretty central, probably good parking
• convenient open space, not blocking anyone’s views and if barking occurs not infringing on nearby homes property owners.
• The location desc is not specific enough to visualize. I think I know where you mean, and if right, it is OK. Needs just a few parking spaces made. Quiet, not many houses or people within barking distance. Nice location by trail and water. Really only prob is it is too open. Needs some trees for shade and to keep it interesting for doggie play & curiosity. Should also create water garden on downhill side closer to lake, and just outside the fence, to contain any runoff.
• That would be a good place because it is level ground which is best for dogs who run fast. Less chance of injury for them.
• It’s a great area, and a great use of space.
• Safe and not too close to neighbors
• Too close to Lake Superior! Worry about dog waste and runoff!
• I live near Washington Avenue
• Easy access
• Should be a convenient spot for residents but should also have an enjoyable view
• Perfect for being centrally located, and campground guests to use
• Good location/easy access from trails...away from neighborhoods (avoid noise complaints).
• It’s quiet and off the highway. The walking trail is also very helpful if the dog is too rambunctious for the park.
• Nice area, not around too many homes so people won’t get upset by proximity, nice view (attractive for tourism), central(ish)
• Depends on distance from trail.
• It is a decent space that could be filled nicely with a dog park.
• not sure of boundaries
• I like it
• Many people from the campgrounds could walk their dogs on the trail to the park.
• Close to downtown where most of the people live, but not surrounded by houses.
• Haven’t seen the area
- It would be awesome to have a dog park accessible to the walking trail! Dogs can be walked and then let off their leashes in the park to play. Win! Win! It would encourage people to get out and use the trail as well!
- Good central area in town making it accessible to many residents
- A very nice view of the lake.
- A more central location would be better
- It is on the walking trail where a lot of dogs are already taken on walks.
- Size of an area for dogs is super important
- If there is enough parking this area would be good. Are other areas under consideration?
- Close to the beach and West End Park
- I like that it’s close to the water.
- I would be concerned with the availability of shade for the dogs
- Some shade is desirable but ability to grow grass is essential, as well as well drained.
- High traffic area
- I like this area!
- Good spot as long as it is easy to park for people driving to the park.
- Very Central and near Lake and water and campsites.
- This would be convenient for residents and easy to find for visitors.
- I have always felt, in my nearly 10 years of living in Washburn, that the above-mentioned tract of land would serve well as a dog park! I frequently walk my dog along the walking trail and beach (where allowed) and both she and I would love an off-leash safe area to enjoy one of our favorite places!
- Center of town for everyone. Not too busy of a place.
- It is easily accessible to anyone visiting, camping or living in town.
- Central spot, open and easy to monitor, simple to fence in
- A park with a little beach front would be epic
- It is suitable.
- I’d advise using signs to get there
- Need to have more info to make a final decision.
- I have visited many dog parks, and the best ones provide some walking path or loop -- the worst (i.e. most likely for dogs to display aggressive behaviors) are small fenced in areas where people just stand/or sit.
- We what past there nightly. Accessible and not many homes around.
- It’s a quiet place and yet very accessible. Kinda away from it all as some would say, yet accessible
- Centrally located
- It looks like a nice central location, not currently near too many residences, with space for parking, and near the lake
- What is the thumbprint? Is there parking included? Could this be a potential location for an economical development project like housing, or small business?
- Perfect place close to the trail where people are walking dogs anyways.
- It's a good spot for a park.
- Lovely area, non-residential, fairly central
- Too wet. Disturbance to lakeshore, wildlife, and peace and quiet.
- Ease of access
- How large is the area? Large dog parks are generally safer than small parks. Small parks can result in negative interactions between dogs that are new to each other.
• The dog park should be big enough for healthy dogs to play but have a segregated part for small and older dogs that can't take the rough and tumble play. Soil conditions and quality of grass will make clean up easier or more difficult. Drainage should also be considered because of the lake. Visibility will compel people to obey the rules. I have been to the Ashland dog park many times. About half the people using it smoke cigarettes while waiting for the dog to dump and don't clean up. I almost never saw people or dogs interacting. I still think a dog park can be a good idea, but it isn't an unmixed blessing.
• I use the walking trail a lot. It would be convenient to have it there.
• It’s a nice, convenient location and isn’t situated too close to a residential area so noise/barking shouldn’t be too much of an issue.
• Along the trail and close to town
• Beautiful area
• Agree with location
• I am a visitor, not familiar with that particular location
• Convenient to be near the walking trail and close to the lake
• Central area, close to lake and downtown.
• I do not live in Washburn so I do not know where this area is, but Washburn should have a dog park
• It is centrally located, a large open space and has access to the walking trail, which coordinates nicely with a dog exercise excursion.
• I think that would be a great location. Convenient but not too close to Hwy 13.
• It is an ideal place for development.
• Central area and an un-used space. Close to walking trail and West End Park.
• Nice and central location
• I am not sure that is the best location by the lake but would be better than overgrown fields of invasive species. As long as it was done nice
• It’s a nice location
• Central is good
• Sounds like a good choice. Not the best use for this prime property.
• Fresh air, close to town, good parking, may be wet at time
• Left blank
• The assumption is that a dog park will be rather noisy, by nature, which would potentially impact the desire for a quiet walk along the lake. Not to mention rather smelly. Also, since there would be a need to fence it and potentially provide other amenities aesthetics could be an issue. Since the trail near the proposed area is highly used, especially in the summer, there would be a definite need for a controlled setting, especially since many dog owners think everyone loves their animal.....and many dog owners will be socializing with other dog owners, thus completely ignoring their animal. If there is a fence, would it be far enough from the trail to minimize the impact to the trail user? These animals are free to roam (and again, not all owners will be paying attention) and barking at users of the trail will degrade their experience. It should be located in an area that would minimize interaction with other users. How about in the field where the old shelter used to be, by the ballparks? Any proposed fees should be related to the cost to construct and maintain, with something built in for future developments. And come at no cost to the taxpayer.
• Should be used for other purpose
• If it is partially wooded area so they have shade in the summer I visit Ashland Dog Park :) regularly What about the area by the ballpark in Washburn
• There’s a lot of traffic there if a dog were to get away also not the best use for the Lakefront
• Answer left blank.
• It is in town but still secluded from main streets
• It has a nice view is convenient to access and is large and flat enough for several animals to run.
• Not if the bird flyway is disturbed. Isn’t it the overflow parking for the Book and how does a dovetail with zoning plan and park development example yurt and Glamping areas?
• Easy access for both residents and visitors
• A nice space. Saving our Lakeview too.
• Not super my advice put it far enough away from put far enough away from a main road.
• By the lake, close to downtown.
• I am not entirely sure where this is, but if I am thinking of the right area, it would be a good spot for the dog park
• Decent location
• The walking trail is a place where many of us like to go for a walk to enjoy the scenery and the peacefulness. I personally have many barking dogs in my neighborhood so I love that I can escape the noise of dogs in my neighborhood and go for a walk on the lakefront. A dog park would not only disrupt the peacefulness down by the waterfront for residents of Washburn that use the lake walk daily but there could be negative environmental consequences as well. The negative impacts on water quality caused by dog urine and feces are well documented by scientists and although feces could be cleaned up immediately, the urine will still run into Chequamegon Bay. Many environmental agencies are working hard at mitigating pollution coming into Chequamegon Bay so this would be a step in the wrong direction. I would hope that this would be considered, and a dog park would be moved farther inland to reduce the impact of the urine and feces on Chequamegon Bay. Top of this, many waterfowl can be found along he Bay throughout the open water season and I’m worried that the noise from the park will scare them off. I think the choice for the park location is environmentally irresponsible and is not taking into account the many other user groups that go there for the beauty and peace.
• Nice place
• I think this would be a great location. If there were benches at the higher part of the property, dog owners could look at the lake. The grasses and trees could be strategically kept so that the park is slightly hidden and also more exciting for dogs to explore that would be awesome. I would suggest a flag post with a dog paw flag on it!
• It is a more quiet place away from traffic.
• It is too much of a drive for some people and others may not know where it's located
• It seems pretty decent, but I think a location farther away from the main drag would be the most beneficial for dogs, in case something were to happen (a dog getting away, a dog aggressive dog passing by, etc)
•Liked top of Hillside better
• Close to the main part of town without being right on the main road.
• I'm not sure it is the best use of that prime location.
• Public space, not close to many homes.
• Center location
• Might not have an impact, but be sure to consider E Coli runoff
• Not certain I know exactly where that is
• Not entirely sure where that is, seems central enough
• Close proximity to downtown
• It's a great location.
• The space is not being used, there is a parking lot already there, and it is easily accessible to the entire community.
Other comments found in the Name section.

- My friends’ dog was killed by another dog at a dog park in the Twin Cities. Too much liability for the City of Washburn.
- Absolutely no Dog Park wasted money plenty of open spaces for dogs elsewhere city can’t take care of the geese poop what about dogs. Absolutely no Dog Park on the lakefront
- Splash park could be a good idea
- Well walking my dog last summer I passed a visitor and she asked if there was a Dog Park in town, she said it would really make a difference would like a small fenced in area for small dogs
- Have you looked at other cities of the size to see if they have a dog park and if so, what is their experience?
- This was not a very well-constructed survey
- I don’t think Washburn needs or can’t afford a dog park if one was going to be placed and needs to be kept away from residential districts

I would be willing to donate time or money for upkeep efforts of a dog park.

- Yes 42.5%
- No 13%
- Maybe 41.8%
- I would but I don’t live there.
- I do not live in the city of Washburn.
- Yes, unless there is an entrance fee.
- I helped to clean the dog park.
- Depends on the quality of the park.
- Since I do not have a dog—probably not.
- I will clean up after my own dog.

What is your age range?

- 18-25: 35 (9.4%)
- 26-35: 82 (22%)
- 36-45: 52 (14%)
- 46-55: 74 (19.9%)
- 56-65: 96 (25.8%)
- 66 or older: 33 (8.9%)
Please indicate your residential status
372 responses

- Bayfield but would consider visiting DP is Washburn
- Live in Bayfield County, but not city
- Live in house my daughter owns
- Born and raised in Washburn visit family all the time
- Visit often and grew up in Washburn. Family still lives there, and all three sisters and parents own dogs.

Where do you reside?
372 responses

- I recently moved but know i w…
- I Not noted
- Not Not noted
- Currently bayfield but purchas…
- Not. Noted
- Ashland county
- Mesa, AZ
- Barksdale
- Grandview

- Township of Pilsen (Bayfield…
- LEFT BLANK
- Not noted
- We are moving back to Wash…
- Harshaw WI- keep a camper i…
- Minneapolis MN
- Mn
- Illinois

- Township of Barksdale
- Not answered
- Town of Grand View
- Town of Barksdale/Employed…
- grand view
- Duluth, MN
- Onalaska, Wi
- None noted
- Madison area

- I visit from Grand Forks, ND s…
- Not filled out
- Bayfield
- Live in house my daughter ow…
- Moving to area in 2 months
- Born and raised in Washburn…
- Not answered.
- Visit often and grew up in Wa…
- Live close