Dog Park to Close Temporarily for Turf Repair

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: April 11, 2013
CONTACT: Jennifer Reichelt, Deputy City Manager – 455-8417

DOG PARK TO CLOSE ON MONDAY FOR TURF REPAIR

GREAT FALLS, Montana – Usage at the Pacific Steel & Recycling Trailside Dog Park has remained high this year due to a mild winter. However, the increased usage has caused the turf to become stressed. Beginning on Monday, April 15, the dog park will be closed for the next 4-6 weeks for turf repair.

After reviewing several options, the City of Great Falls and the Animal Foundation determined that the best plan to repair the turf damage was to close the dog park starting next Monday. During the closure, the park will be irrigated, aerated, fertilized and over-seeded. It is projected to take approximately 4 to 6 weeks for the turf to fully recover. Park staff will monitor turf conditions and adjust the days/hours of operation based on turf conditions.

Stu Nicholson, a trustee of the Animal Foundation who also performs regular maintenance at the park explains the turf work and talks about the closure, “We know the closure is an inconvenience for those who bring their dogs to the park for exercise and socialization. We ask that everyone think of the long-term benefit and be patient while the turf has a chance to recover.”

The City Commission approved the dog park in December 2007 and the Animal Foundation helped develop the park through the donations and help of the community. Since the park opened in July 2009, it has become one of the City’s most popular destinations for dog owners. The Foundation continues to work with the City to maintain the park.

The City and Animal Foundation are committed to the dog park’s on-going maintenance. Both organizations appreciate the public’s patience and cooperation during its closure. For questions regarding the Animal Foundation contact Stu Nicholson at 452-0393 and for questions regarding the repair project contact Marty Basta, Park and

Recreation Director at 771-1265.

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Supporting Documents

Press Release - Dog Park Closure (495 KB) (PDF)

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