

The Dog Park, Ashland, Oregon



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Who: Beezy, Winston and the gang

What: The Dog Park Party

Where: Ashland, Oregon

When: Daily, 6am to Sunset

How: From North Main Street, take Helman Street (heading East). Continue until you reach Nevada St; cross and follow the narrow one-car road until you see a bunch of tails. Plenty of parking.

Why: If you have to ask, stop reading!

Rating: 7 out of 8 Paws (Additional comments at the end.)

"Hey Winston, guess what? We're going for a ride."

"I saw my Mom with my leash. Where'r we going, Beezy?"

"A special place, loads of fun. Every time, I get to sniff-out new friends, and we run, play fetch, and..."

"Wait! What's it called?"

"**The Dog Park**, *they* say. But to me and the gang it's the Four Paws."

"What else can you do there?"

"It depends. Laddie's Dad makes him march before he can play. Sometimes Radar shows up and we play Frisbee. Can you catch?"

"I don't know...maybe..."

"I bet you can. I've got my own, but Mom can't throw too good. That's why it's great when Radar shows up. His Dad throws *real* good and now Mom's getting better. But who cares, it's great to be outside, loose, wind in your hair..."

"Can you run forever?"

"First time there, I spotted a squirrel and thought I had him, only something stopped me."

"What was it?"

"Same thing that keeps me in the backyard."

"What does your Mom do, when she's not throwing the Frisbee?"

"She talks to other Moms and Dads. They play with us, or sit and watch, or eat at the tables. Sometimes they stare at piddle-papers."

"Why do they do that?"

"Who knows. They're just people. All that runnin' is hard work, but at least if we get thirsty, there's water fountains, tall and short. And boy, do I sleep on the drive home."

"Do they all play nice? A puppy bit me once and it *hurt!*"

"Usually. But if anyone's snappy they have to go home early, or else."

"Or else what?"

"*Sadie said that Jasper said that Max left in a car with a flashing light, on his birthday, too. He'd been cranky since Doctor Deborah stuck him in his *como-se-llama*.*"

"Ouch! Look, Beezy, here come our Moms!"

"Last one in the back seat's a rotten feline!"

Ashland's Dog Park (yes, that is the name) is a pet owner's dream come true. Located off the beaten track near a quiet neighborhood, two acres are enclosed with a chain link fence. A double-gated entrance prevents inside pets from accidentally slipping out. A great opportunity to continue your dog's socialization program. Common sense rules are clearly posted at the entrance. Current vaccinations are a must, and owners are responsible for behavior, excrement, and fresh pot holes. Pooper scoopers and rakes are available. There's a doggy pool for the heat and sun, and a covered structure, with notice boards, for pets and owners if the skies suddenly open up. Children are welcome (with adult supervision). A community doggy-toy box has a fun selection, since your dog's personal toy may become popular, and tough to retrieve! No charge, and lots of free parking.

RATING: 7 Paws Up!! (Beezy wants free snacks, but she needs to lose a few anyway. We'll be back to check!)

Author's Note: Ashland is one dog-happy town. Look at the [City of Ashland's Parks](#) page link to find other dog-friendly parks throughout the city, and there are lots of them.