

Understanding our dog rules



OUR RULES

There are three types of rules we use:

- District Wide Rules
- Area Specific Rules
- Temporary Restrictions

District Wide Rules

- All beaches and parts of beaches (excluding areas with specific restrictions), the rule is off-leash but under control at all dates and times.
- All public places (excluding beaches and areas with specific restrictions), the rule is on-leash at all dates and times.
- Within children's playgrounds, dogs are prohibited at all dates and times.
- Within sports surfaces, dogs are prohibited at all dates and times.

Area Specific Rules

These differ from the district wide rules and are in place for specific areas. These rules are usually for certain dates and times, particularly high use areas during the summer period and for the protection of wildlife.

We have made it easy for you by making a list of these areas in this brochure, noting which rules apply where and when in our district. If in doubt, follow the signs and check the rules on our website

www.tcdc.govt.nz/dogs

Temporary Restrictions

These may be applied to certain areas from time to time to provide for events or temporary protection of wildlife, flora, or public places.

These areas will be identified with signage. The rule will be prohibited or on leash while the signs are in place.

THE TERMS WE USE

The terms we use to describe an area, like 'beach', can mean different things to different people. So, below we have provided a glossary of terms.

Public Place

is open to or is being used by the public, includes reserves and places that charge for entry i.e. Bed & Breakfast.

Beach

foreshore and any adjacent area.

Playground

an outdoor area that has children's play equipment.

Sports Surface

any area used as a sports field (including those used for soccer or rugby), artificial turf (including those used for hockey), court (including those used for netball or tennis), or archery range or skateboard park.

Prohibited area

an area where dogs are not allowed.

Exercise area - off leash

an area where dogs can be exercised off leash but must be under control.

On leash area

an area where dogs must be on a leash and under control.



AREA SPECIFIC RULES

TAIRUA



TAIRUA-PĀUANUI:

Exercise Areas – off leash but under control:

- Pāuanui Ocean Beach south and associated reserve – area south of Pāuanui Surf Club²
- Pāuanui Ocean Beach north – area north of Pāuanui Surf Club around the point to the north-east side of the boat ramp at Royal Billy Point⁴
- Pāuanui – Tairua Harbour Estuary from south-east side of the boat ramp at Royal Billy Point to north-east side of the boat ramp at Pleasant Point²
- Pāuanui – Pleasant Point Reserve - area south of the bollards to Ajax Head
- Pāuanui – South End Reserve – western side of South End Reserve
- Tairua Estuary – Estuary east of Pepe bridge²
- Tairua - Ocean Beach – entire main beach²

On leash:

- Pāuanui – Pleasant Point and Royal Billy Boat Ramps
- All other public places excluding beaches and areas with specific restrictions

PĀUANUI



Prohibited



Off-leash



Restricted: Off-leash with a prohibition applied from 20 Dec to 31 Jan & holiday weekends, between 9am to 6pm



Restricted: Off-leash with a prohibition applied from Labour weekend to 1 Mar & Easter & ANZAC holiday weekends

The general rule is that dogs are on-leash in public places. Signage will indicate if dogs are allowed off-leash or are prohibited.

Prohibited:

- Tairua - Boat Harbour Beach - entire beach
- Tairua - Otara Bay - entire beach and accessway
- Slipper Island – Whakahau all Council reserves
- Within children's playgrounds
- Within sports surfaces

Legend for all area specific rules:

- ¹ On-leash from 20 Dec to 31 Jan & holiday weekends, between 9am and 6pm (inclusive)
- ² Prohibited from 20 Dec to 31 Jan & holiday weekends, between 9am and 6pm (inclusive)
- ³ On-leash from Labour weekend to 1 Mar at all times (inclusive) & Easter & ANZAC holiday weekends
- ⁴ Prohibited from Labour weekend to 1 Mar at all times (inclusive) & Easter & ANZAC holiday weekends

AREA SPECIFIC RULES

WHITIANGA



Prohibited



Off leash



Restricted: Off leash with a prohibition applied from 20 Dec to 31 Jan & holiday weekends, between 9am to 6pm



Restricted: Off leash with a prohibition applied from Labour weekend to 1 Mar & Easter & ANZAC holiday weekends

The general rule is that dogs are on leash in public places. Signage will indicate if dogs are allowed off leash or are prohibited.

MERCURY BAY:

Exercise Areas – off leash but under control:

- Brophys/Ohuka Beach – entire beach²
- Buffalo Beach – area south of Taputapuatea Stream²
- Buffalo Beach – area north of Taputapuatea Stream to the Mercury Bay Boating Club, excluding walkway⁴
- Buffalo Beach – North of the Mercury Bay Boating Club to the south end of Brophys / Ohuka Beach
- Cooks Beach – entire beach excluding Purangi river flats from east side of playground to south side of boat ramp²
- Cooks Beach – Purangi Reserve
- Flaxmill Bay and Front Beach – entire beaches²
- Hāhei Beach – entire beach²
- Hot Water Beach north – area from Domain Road car park to the most northern end of beach³
- Hot Water Beach - Old Campground – the western point of Pye Place Reserve bordering Taiwawe Stream
- Kūaotunu – Rings Beach – entire beach excluding western end from west side of car park²
- Kūaotunu – Rings Beach – western end from west side of car park
- Kūaotunu Beach – east and west (including Grays Beach) excluding the area 400m on each side of Quarry Point²
- Kūaotunu Beach – 400m each side of Quarry Point
- Matapaua Beach – entire beach²
- Matarangi Beach – entire beach excluding northern spit area²
- Matarangi - Omara Boat Ramp Reserve
- Ōpito Bay Beach – entire beach²



- Ōtama Beach – entire beach excluding east of the stream opposite Black Jack Road and Ōtama Beach Road intersection⁴
- Ōtama Beach – Eastern end east of Ōtama Stream
- Whangapoua Beach – entire beach excluding northern end from north-facing side of Mangakahia car park (near lagoon)²
- Wharekaho Beach – entire beach²
- Whitianga - Robinson Road Reserve - part of the reserve west of the Robinson Road and Arthur Street intersection

On leash:

- Hot Water Beach south – area from Domain Road car park to the most southern end of the beach (during prohibition period – dogs allowed on leash for the sole purpose of access to the north end of beach)⁴
- Matarangi Beach walkway
- Buffalo Beach walkway
- Whangapoua – Opera Point southern spit - area including car park and beach area
- All other public places excluding beaches and areas with specific restrictions

Prohibited:

- Matarangi Beach - northern spit adjacent to the golf course excluding walkway
- Wainui-o-Toto/New Chums Beach - entire beach
- Whangapoua Beach north - the north side of Mangakahia car park (near lagoon) to the northern end of Whangapoua beach
- Within children's playgrounds
- Within sports surfaces

AREA SPECIFIC RULES

WHANGAMATĀ



WHANGAMATĀ AREA:

Exercise Areas – off leash but under control:

- Whangamatā - Heatherington Road Reserve
- Whangamatā - Park Avenue Reserve
- Whangamatā – Patiki Bay Reserve - area of the reserve located at the end of Durrant Drive, north-west of the properties at the end of Durrant Drive and Everitt Crescent
- Whangamatā Beach – from beach access 18 north to 100 metres north of the wharf²
- Whangamatā Beach – Otahu Estuary - from beach access 18 to beach access 20⁴
- Whangamatā Beach - Otahu Estuary – west from beach access 20
- Whangamatā Estuary – from the Whangamatā Marina to 100 metres south of the Whangamatā Wharf



On leash:

- Onemana Beach – south of Castle Rock⁴
- Ōpoutere Beach – entire beach excluding southern end
- Ōpoutere Beach south – loop track
- All other public places excluding beaches and areas with specific restrictions

Prohibited:

- Ōpoutere Beach south – Sandspit and Wharekawa Estuary and south end bush, south from the point at which the car park bridge crosses the stream and the southernmost beach access but excluding the loop track
- Within children's playgrounds
- Within sports surfaces

AREA SPECIFIC RULES

COROMANDEL TOWN



The general rule is that dogs are on leash in public places. Signage will indicate if dogs are allowed off leash or are prohibited.

COROMANDEL-COLVILLE:

Exercise Areas – off leash but under control:

- Big Sandy Bay – entire beach¹
- Hannafords Bay – entire beach¹
- Herds Bay – entire beach¹
- Little Bay – entire beach¹
- Little Sandy Bay – entire beach¹
- Long Bay – entire beach¹
- Oamaru Bay – entire beach¹
- Otautu Bay – entire beach¹
- Patukirikiri Reserve - grassed area west of courts and skate bowl
- Port Jackson Beach - southern half of the beach from DOC Campground
- Tucks Bay – entire beach¹
- WW1 Memorial Forest – 520 Hauraki Road
- Wyuna Bay – entire beach¹

On leash:

- Carey Road Beach - entire beach
- Port Jackson Beach – the northern half of the beach from the DOC campground⁴
- All other public places excluding beaches and areas with specific restrictions

Prohibited:

- Waikawau Bay (east coast) – entire beach
- Tuatēawa Beach – entire beach including walkway off Waihirere Drive
- Within children's playgrounds
- Within sports surfaces

THAMES



THAMES AREA:

Exercise Areas – off leash but under control:

- Burke Street Reserve – the reserve area inland of the beach and directly south of Burke Street
- Kuranui Bay – entire beach and reserve²
- Ngārimu Bay Beach – entire beach¹
- Ruamahunga Bay Beach – entire beach¹
- Tapu Beach – entire beach and spit³
- Tararu Beach – entire beach¹
- Te Mata Beach, Little Te Mata and Te Mata Point – entire beaches³
- Te Puru Beach – entire beach¹
- Thornton Bay Beach – entire beach¹
- Waiomu Bay Beach – entire beach¹
- Whakatete Bay Beach – entire beach¹

On leash:

- Burke Street Beach – entire beach
- Little Waikawau (west coast) – entire beach⁴
- All other public places excluding beaches and areas with specific restrictions

Prohibited:

- Hauraki Rail Trail – south of Kopu Bridge to Ferry Road Hikutaia
- Within children's playgrounds
- Within sports surfaces

SHARING BEACHES WITH WILDLIFE



Predators, people, their pets, and vehicles pose a major threat to NZ wildlife. This threat can be greatly reduced by knowing what to do when near breeding areas. Sharing the beaches with care will provide the best chance of recovery for native wildlife.



Nests are well camouflaged and easily trampled underfoot. Human presence causes adults to leave the nests to defend their young, leaving eggs prone to overheating, cooling or predation. Just like human babies, chicks need to feed regularly to survive and grow. When confronted by humans in their territory young chicks can often starve as they are not able to get to their feeding ground at the water's edge.

Here are three small things that you can do to help NZ wildlife:

- Stay well outside of fenced areas
- Watch out for 'Nesting' signs
- Keep dogs on lead and vehicles off beaches and sand-spits that NZ wildlife are nesting on.

PROTECTING KIWI



Photo credit: Moehau Environment Group

The Department of Conservation runs an avoidance programme to protect kiwi that are vulnerable to attack or disturbance by dogs.

DOC recommends that all dogs that live near, walk or work in the bush attend yearly Kiwi Avoidance Training (KAT). Hunting dogs must be trained each year to hunt on Public Conservation Land.

This training is free and offered throughout the Coromandel Peninsula.

Please call the DOC Kauaeranga Visitor Centre on: 07 867 9080 (open 7 days/week) for more information and/or to book training for your dog.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Do I have to register my dog?

Yes, all dog owners are responsible for meeting the requirements of the Dog Control Act 1996 and must register their dogs yearly with their local Council when they are no older than 3 months.

Once the registration fee is paid, your dog will be issued with a tag which must be worn by the dog at all times. The registration tag belongs to the dog, not the owner.

What can happen if I don't pay?

If you do not register your dog by 31 July, a penalty fee will apply. You will also be liable for a \$300 fine.

What does my registration pay for?

Dog registration and infringement fees help to cover the cost of the following dog control functions:

- Ensuring that all dogs are registered.
- Responding to reports of dog attacks and all other dog-related complaints.
- Providing shelter services—impoundment of stray dogs and reuniting dogs with their owners.
- Rehoming of dogs.
- Patrols and enforcement of the Dog Control Act 1996 and Council's Dog Control Bylaw 2023.
- Prosecution of serious dog related offences.

What is microchipping?

A microchip is a transponder which carries a number unique to your dog and means it can be scanned. It is not a transmitter and has no power source. The microchip is implanted under the skin between the shoulder blades. The procedure is as simple as a vaccination. In addition to Veterinary clinics our Dog Control Officers provide a microchip service for a small fee per dog. Contact us for more information.



Which dogs must be microchipped?

All dogs (with exceptions for working dogs) are required to be microchipped. Microchipping your dog means it can easily be identified and returned to you.

Microchipping does not replace dog registration.

What happens at the dog pound?

We maintain a pound where lost, stray, and abandoned dogs are kept. Dogs not claimed within 7 days will be rehomed if considered suitable. Pound staff will consider all dogs for a second-chance home.

We advertise dogs available for rehoming on our website **tcdc.govt.nz/dogs**

What do Dog Control Officers do?

Our Officers deal with all dog-related complaints including uncontrolled dogs, attacks on people or animals, and barking. They also carry out regular patrols.

There is a 24-hour emergency service available.

What is menacing by Breed?

The Dog Control Act 1996 requires all dogs registered either wholly or predominately, as one of the following breeds, must be classified as menacing:

Brazilian Fila, Dogo Argentino, Japanese Tosa, Perro de Presa Canario and American Pit Bull Terrier.

Dogs classified as menacing must be:

- Neutered
- On a muzzle when in public



Be a responsible dog owner

Picks up their dog's poo

Carries a leash at all times

Has their dog under control on and off the leash

Please remember to register your dog by the time they are three months old.

Visit www.dogsafety.govt.nz for information on how to be a responsible dog owner



www.tcdc.govt.nz/dogs