

## NEWS RELEASE

Distributed March 27, 2015

### **Dog owners reminded Nanaimo's beaches closed to dogs May to October**

#### **Summary**

The City of Nanaimo would like to remind dog owners that from May 1 to October 1 dogs are not allowed on Nanaimo's public beaches.

During this time of year the shoreline is active with migrating and breeding wildlife that should not be disturbed along with more people wanting to enjoy the beach.

Dog owners who are caught with their dog in a public beach area will face a fine of \$150. To report dog issues, please call Animal Control at 250-754-1397.

*Strategic Link:* The seasonal beach closure for dogs falls under the Environmental Responsibility Pillar to protect/enhance the environment.

#### **Key Points**

- Dogs are not allowed on beaches from May 1 to October 1.
- Dog owners who are caught with their dog in a public beach area will face a fine of \$150.
- To report dog issues, please call Animal Control at 250-754-1397.

#### **Quotes**

"Our shorelines are busy places this time of year with wildlife needing space to rest, feed and breed and people wanting to spend long sunny days on the beach. Nanaimo has many other parks including 12 designated off-leash parks that dogs are welcome to explore year-round."

Randy Churchill  
Manager of Bylaw, Regulation & Security  
City of Nanaimo

#### **Quick Facts**

- The following parks have designated off-leash areas: May Richards Bennett Pioneer, Beaufort, Westwood Lake, Invermere Beach, Northfield, Wardropper, Colliery Dam, St. George Ravine, Gallow's Point (Protection Island), Cable Bay Trail and Beban.
- Dog feces is essentially raw sewage. It contains harmful organisms like E. coli, Leptospira and roundworms. These organisms can be contracted by other dogs, wildlife and even children. Bacteria from dog feces can wash into the ocean.

Continued... Dog owners reminded Nanaimo's beaches closed to dogs May to October

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