

## NEWS RELEASE

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

#### **Summary**

The City of Nanaimo is reminding dog owners that from May 1 to October 1 each year, dogs are not allowed on Nanaimo's public beaches.

As the weather gets warmer, Nanaimo's beaches get busier with people wanting to recreate in and around the water. Similarly, the shoreline is active with migrating and breeding wildlife that should not be disturbed.

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 250-616-0233.

*Strategic Link:* The seasonal beach closure for dogs supports the strategic priorities to have a livable and environmentally responsible community.

#### **Key Points**

- Dogs are not allowed on beaches from May 1 to October 1.
- To report dog issues, please call Animal Control at 250-616-0233.

#### **Quotes**

"There are many other places in Nanaimo where dogs can explore and play, including the City's 11 year-round off-leash dog parks. To report a dog on a beach, please call Animal Control Services at 250-616-0233."

Dave LaBerge  
Manager, Bylaw Services  
City of Nanaimo

#### **Quick Facts**

- Year-round designated off-leash areas are located: Beban Park, Cable Bay Trail, Westwood Lake Park, Colliery Dam Park, Beaufort Park, St. George Ravin Park, Invermere Beach Park, May Richards Bennett Pioneer Park, Gallows Point Light Park (Protection Island), Northfield Rotary Lookout Park and Wardropper Park. An off-leash dog area is open seasonally in Diver Lake Park from October 1 - April 30.
- 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 creating water quality issues.

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

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