

ROTORUA DISTRICT COUNCIL DOG CONTROL BYLAW 2005

Version as of 9th October 2024

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THE ROTORUA DISTRICT COUNCIL DOG CONTROL BYLAW 2005

PURSUANT to the powers contained in the Dog Control Act 1996 and the Local Government Act 2002 and any other authority enabling the Council in that behalf, the Rotorua District Council HEREBY RESOLVES to make the following Bylaws:

1. Short Title

This Bylaw shall be known as "The Rotorua District Council Dog Control Bylaw 2005".

2. Commencement

This Bylaw came into force on the 1st day of February 2006.

This Bylaw was subsequently reviewed and amended on the 27th day of September 2012, and came into force on the 8th day of October 2012.

This Bylaw was further reviewed and amended on the 25th day of September 2024, and came into force on the 9th day of October 2024.

3. Repeal

The Rotorua District Council Dog Control Bylaw 1990 was repealed on the 1st day of February 2006.

4. Interpretation

In this Bylaw, unless the context otherwise requires:

Act means the Dog Control Act 1996.

Area Prohibited to Dogs means an area designated as such by resolution of the Council and includes those areas marked "Central Business District Dog Control Area" on the map in the Second Schedule.

At Large means any dog free or at liberty without any physical restraint by a person. It does not include a dog under the command of a person exercising the dog in a designated exercise area.)

Council means the Rotorua District Council.

Control in any public place means being on a leash not greater than two (2) metres in length, unless the dog(s) is/are:

- (i) in an area designated by Council as a Dog Exercise Area; or
- (ii) unleashed but under verbal restraint or command when in a rural area not designated as prohibited.

District means the Rotorua District.

Dog includes any dog, bitch, neutered dog or spayed bitch.

Dog Control Officer means a Dog Control Officer as defined in section 2 of the Act.

Dog Ranger means a Dog Ranger appointed by the Council under Section 12 of the Act.

Disability Assist Dog has the same meaning as defined in Section 2 of the Act.

Impound means to impound in a public pound or in any vehicle used in the transporting of dogs to a public pound.

Leash means a length of cord, chain or other material no longer than two metres in length that at one end can be secured to a dog and the other end can be securely held by a person and has the strength to restrain the dog in any situation.

Menacing Dog means a dog that has been classified as menacing under Section 33A or Section 33C of the Act.

Microchip means an approved transponder to be implanted for the purpose of providing permanent identification of any dog.

Owner has the same meaning as defined in Section 2 of the Act.

Public place has the same meaning as defined in Section 2 of the Act.

Owner has the same meaning as defined in Section 2 of the Act.

Working Dog has the same meaning as defined in Section 2 of the Act.

5. Control of Dogs

- (i) Every dog owner who fails to keep their dog under control at all times commits an offence.
- (ii) Without limiting the generality of sub clause (i) of this clause, a dog shall be deemed to be not under control:
 - (a) If it is found at large on any land or premises other than a public place without the consent (expressed or implied) of the occupier or person in charge of that land or those premises; or
 - (b) No dog owner or person having the dog in their possession shall cause or permit any dog kept by them to enter or remain in any public place unless the dog is kept under control by the way of a leash not greater than two (2) metres in length held by that person, unless that dog is in an area set aside by the Rotorua District Council and stipulated in the Third Schedule to this Bylaw as a designated Dog Exercise Area.
 - (c) No dog owner or person having a dog in their possession shall cause or permit any dog owned by them to be in any public place to be at large unless that dog is in an area designated by the Rotorua District Council for the exercise of dogs as stipulated in the Third Schedule to this Bylaw.

Note: *It shall be a defence to any person being the owner of or in charge of a dog who is charged with an act or omission amounting to a breach of the requirement to have a dog on a leash in a public place if:*

 - (a) *they prove that the dog is a "working dog" as defined in Section 2 of the Act and was, at the time of the alleged offence, being used for that purpose; or*
 - (b) *if that person who is the owner or in charge of a dog/s is in a rural area not prohibited to dogs by any provision of this Bylaw or any Act, is a licensed or permitted hunter and has that dog/s under his or her control by way of voice of whistle or hand signal and the dog/s is/are being used for hunting activities at the time.*
- (iii) Where a dog is not under control in terms of sub clause (ii) of this clause, a dog control officer or dog ranger may seize the dog and either return it to its owner or impound it.
- (iv) Notwithstanding the provisions of sub clause (i) of this clause the Council may by resolution permit the exercising of dogs in or on any public place specified in that resolution provided such dogs are kept under continual control and for the purpose of this sub clause there shall be deemed to be sufficient control if the dogs are under the continued supervision of a person responsible for the dogs and capable of directing the dog by voice command, whistle, or by hand signal.
- (v) Any resolution made pursuant to sub clause (iv) hereof shall be publicly notified in the manner provided by the Local Government Act 2002.
- (vi) A dog owner shall not allow his dog to enter or remain in or on any part of any camping ground operated under the jurisdiction of the Council unless he/she has first obtained its written consent.

- (vii) All dogs are prohibited from the following areas:
- (a) Any public building under the control of the Council.
 - (b) Any public baths or other bathing places owned or controlled by the Council.
 - (c) Any reserve or public reserve within the meaning of the Reserves Act 1977, except those reserves that are set apart as Dog Exercise Areas.
 - (d) Whilst dogs are prohibited from being exercised in any Cemetery within the District, they are permitted to accompany any person visiting a grave or memorial, provided the dog is on a leash at all times.
 - (e) Any defined children's playground
 - (f) Any school or kindergarten, including play areas.
 - (g) Those Streets within the Central Business District of the City of Rotorua shown in red on the map in the Second Schedule to this Bylaw.
- (viii) None of the prior sub clauses of this clause shall apply to working dogs as defined in Section 2 of the Act.

6. Obligations of Dog Owner

- (i) A dog owner shall ensure that:
 - (a) The dog receives proper care and attention and is supplied with proper and sufficient food, water and shelter;
 - (b) The dog receives adequate exercise;
 - (c) The whole of any kennel or run is maintained in a sanitary condition at all times so as to prevent the creation of any nuisance or state which is injurious to public health.
- (ii) For the purposes of subclause (i)(a) of this clause, proper and sufficient shelter shall comprise a weatherproof kennel or place of confinement constructed on dry ground. In the case of a kennel without other means of confinement, it shall have a fixed chain which allows the dog free movement about the kennel. The kennel or place of confinement shall have access to clean water. The standards for shelter imposed by this sub clause may be waived in any particular case where a dog owner provides proper and reasonable evidence that the dog is normally housed within the confines of a dwelling house or other suitable building.
- (iii) Every dog owner who keeps a dog beneath the bottom or ground floor of a residential building commits an offence.
- (iv) Every dog owner who keeps his dog in any kennel or run which is closer than one (1) metre from any open drain, water course, lake or boundary of any premises commits an offence.
- (v) Every dog owner who keeps a dog in any kennel or run which is not further than six (6) metres from any residential dwelling on a neighbouring property commits an offence.
- (vi) Every dog owner who owns a breed or type of dog listed in the Fourth Schedule of the Act, shall within one (1) month after notice of classification or in the case of dogs classified prior to this sub clause coming into effect, within two (2) months of notification from Council in writing, shall produce to the Council a certificate issued by a veterinarian certifying that the dog has been neutered.

7. Fouling in Public Places

Every dog owner who fails to immediately remove from any public place or from any private property of which they are not the occupier, faeces deposited by their dog, commits an offence. If the dog owner places such faeces in a public litter bin or similar receptacle, the faeces must be wrapped or contained in order to prevent fouling of such litter bin or receptacle.

8. Female and Diseased Dogs

- (i) No dog owner or any person with a dog in their possession that is infected with any contagious disease including mange or distemper shall allow that dog in any public place unless that dog is being taken into the care of a veterinary surgeon.
- (ii) No dog owner shall knowingly permit any female dog owned by him/her in any public place while that dog is in season.

9. Aggravation of Dogs

Every person who, without lawful excuse, behaves or acts in such a way, or who uses a device so as to aggravate or cause distress to any dog in any public place, or on any private property, so that it becomes restive or unmanageable, commits an offence.

10. Nuisances

- (i) Every dog owner commits an offence if they fail to:
 - (a) Take adequate precautions to prevent the dog from becoming a nuisance or injurious to public health;
 - (b) Take such steps as are necessary to prevent his dog from becoming a nuisance or annoyance to residents in the neighbourhood by barking and howling or by obstructing members of the public going about their lawful business in public places.
- (ii) If in the Council's opinion any dog or the keeping of that dog on any premises has become or is likely to become a public nuisance or injurious to public health, it may give written notice to the dog owner requiring all or any of the following things to be done within a time specified in such notice:
 - (a) Reduce the number of dogs kept on those premises; or
 - (b) Require the dog, or such greater number of dogs as Council may specify, to be tied up or otherwise confined during specific periods; or
 - (c) Take such other action as the Council deems necessary to minimise or remove the likelihood of public nuisance or injury to public health.
- (iii) Any dog owner to whom notice is given under sub clause (ii) of this clause who fails to comply with the notice within the time therein specified commits an offence.

11. Limitation of Number of Dogs on any Land or Premises

- (i) No owner of any premises or dog owner shall keep or cause to be kept or have in their care more than two (2) dogs of a greater age than three months within the Urban Fence as defined on the map attached as the Fourth Schedule, unless a Kennel Licence has been obtained from the Council permitting more than two (2) dogs to be kept at those premises.
- (ii) The Licence shall be in the form contained in the First Schedule to this Bylaw, and may contain such terms, conditions or restrictions as an authorised officer of Council may deem fit to impose in any particular case.
- (iii) If the Licence is breached in any way, it may be revoked by an authorised officer of Council at any time.
- (iv) Every application for a Licence shall be submitted in writing on the prescribed form addressed to the Council and signed by the applicant. Before issuing a Licence, the Council may request the applicant to give to it such further information as it may reasonably require. At the time an application for a Licence is made to the Council, the applicant shall pay the application fee as determined by Council from time to time by Resolution publicly notified.
- (v) Every dog owner who breaches any of the terms, conditions or restrictions contained in the Licence issued to them by the Council commits an offence.

12. Impounding

- (i) A dog control officer or dog ranger may impound a dog, whether or not it is wearing a collar having the proper registration label or disc thereon or attached thereto, found at large in any public place in breach of any provision of this Bylaw.
- (ii) Council may require any dog owner whose dog is impounded to pay the impounding fee together with a daily sustenance fee for the dog during the period that it is impounded and such fees as determined by Council from time to time by Resolution and publicly notified.
- (iii) Council may take a sample (saliva or hair) from any dog it impounds to obtain a DNA profile of that dog. The DNA profile will be retained as a record by Council and may be used to investigate offences.
- (iv) Where a dog has been impounded under clause 5(iii) the Council may require the owner of that dog to have it neutered if:

- (a) the Council has a record of the dog has been out of control on any previous occasion within the previous 12-month period
- (v) If a dog is required to be neutered under subclause (iv), the owner of that dog:
 - (a) may, within 14 days of receiving the notice, object to the requirement by way of writing to the Council; and
 - (b) has the right to be heard in support of their objection under subclause (v)(a).
- (vi) The Council, when considering an objection under subclause (v)(a), may uphold or rescind the requirement. In making its determination, the Council must have regard to –
 - (a) the evidence which formed the basis for the requirement;
 - (b) the matters relied upon in support of the objection; and
 - (c) any other relevant matters.
- (vii) Following its consideration of an objection under subclause (v)(a), the Council must, as soon as practicable, give written notice to the owner of –
 - (a) its determination of the objection; and
 - (b) the reasons for its determination.
- (viii) If a dog is required to be neutered under clause (iv), the owner of that dog must, within 1 month of receiving the notice of the requirement, produce to the Council a certificate issued by a veterinarian certifying –
 - (a) that the dog is or has been neutered; or
 - (b) that for reasons that are specified in the certificate, the dog will not be in a fit condition to be neutered before a date specified in the certificate, in which case the owner must produce to the Council, within 1 month after the date specified in that certificate, a further certificate under subclause (vii)(a).

13. Disposal of Impounded Dogs

Where any dog is impounded under this Bylaw and:

- (a) It is not claimed by the dog owner and all fees are not paid to Council within seven (7) days after receipt by the dog owner of either written or oral notice of the impounding; or
- (b) Its owner is unknown to the Council or cannot be found within seven (7) days of the impounding;

then the dog may be destroyed by the Council or sold by the Council to any person who shall thereupon be the lawful owner of the dog. Such destruction or sale shall not relieve the person who was the dog owner before the dog's destruction or sale of liability for any offence under this Bylaw or for payment of any fees payable under this Bylaw.

14. Offences and Penalties

- (a) Every person who commits a breach of any of the provisions in this Bylaw shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding \$20,000.00.
- (b) Failure to comply with any part of this Bylaw may result in the offender being issued with an Infringement Notice in accordance with the first schedule of the Act.

15. Dispensing Power

Where in the opinion of the Council:

- (a) Full compliance with any of the provisions of this Bylaw would needlessly and unfairly affect any person; or
- (b) Needlessly and unfairly affect the business operation of any such person; or
- (c) Cause undue loss or inconvenience to any person without any advantage to the public; then –

In any such case or cases the Council may, on the special application of any such person so affected and subject to a report thereon by the officer of the Council usually or for the time being charged with the control or administration of that aspect of dog control in question, by resolution (the power to so dispense being hereby reserved) dispense with the observance or performance or relax the strict observance or performance of any of the provisions of this Bylaw, or otherwise modify the same. Any such dispensation, relaxation or modification shall not relieve such person from his/her obligation to comply with the provisions of this Bylaw as so varied.

This Bylaw was duly made by the Rotorua District Council by a resolution passed on the 27th day of September 2012 and was confirmed, following consideration of community submissions received during a special consultative procedure, by a resolution passed on the 25th day of September 2024.

The Common Seal of the
ROTORUA DISTRICT COUNCIL
was hereunto affixed in
the presence of:



Mayor



Chief Executive

FIRST SCHEDULE
LICENCE PURSUANT TO CLAUSE 11
ROTORUA DISTRICT COUNCIL DOG CONTROL BYLAW 2005

The Rotorua District Council hereby licences

of Rotorua, to keep dogs on the premises described below, subject however to such conditions and restrictions as are herein set out.

Description of licensed premises:

Conditions:

This Licence shall remain in force until the 30th day of June 20....

DATED at Rotorua this day of 20....

For and on behalf of the Council

Authorised Officer

Owner No.

Receipt No.

Fee Paid \$

Date:

Central Business District Dog Control Area

The map shows the Central Business District (CBD) of Rotorua, New Zealand, with a red hatched area indicating the dog control zone. The CBD is bounded by Rangiora St to the north, Whakauke Memorial Drive to the east, and Pukutua St to the south. Key locations within the CBD include the Rotorua School, Rotorua Hospital, Sound Shell, Rotorua City Council, and various commercial buildings. The map also shows surrounding areas like Lake Rotorua, Motutara Golf Course, Sulphur Point, Government Gardens, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, and the Rotorua Museum. A legend indicates the red hatched area is the Central Business District Dog Control Area. A scale bar shows 0 to 100 meters. A north arrow is also present.

THIRD SCHEDULE

DESIGNATED DOG EXERCISE AREAS

That the following Reserve areas be formally set aside as Dog Exercise Areas where dogs may be exercised off a lead providing they are under constant supervision and control of their owner(s) or the person(s) who at the time the animal(s) is/are being exercised has the dog in his or her possession.

Dogs are not permitted on any children's playgrounds or sportsfields located on any reserve. Subject to this restriction the areas where dogs are permitted to be exercised off leash are as follows:

1. **Ngongotaha -**
Reeme Street Reserve, from Reeme Street to the wooden barrier at the Tauhi Street end of the reserve
2. **Ngongotaha -**
Western Road Reserve (Elliott Park)
Access from Western Road and Kokiri Street (via footbridge)
3. **Boiella Park -**
Flat area, entrance off Kawaha Point Road
Central to Koutu/Kawaha Point locality
4. **Fairview Road Reserve -**
Access from Bell, Fairview and Park Roads
5. **Linton Park East -**
Access from Edmund Rd, Kamahi Place, Homedale Street
6. **Blomfield Street Reserve -**
Western perimeter Goldie Street/Pukehangi Road
7. **Pullar Park -**
Between Sunset Primary and Intermediate Schools, adjacent to Otomatea Stream
8. **Wright Park -**
Access off Icarus Place, Pegasus Drive, Castor Place, Helena Place and Orion Street
9. **Simmonds Crescent Reserve (now Tihi Reserve) -**
Access off Simmonds Crescent, Day Place and Tihi Road
10. **Boyes Park -**
Access off Carlton, Wylie, Duncan and Ranolf Streets
11. **Pererika Street (Town Belt) -**
Area from Model Railway Clubrooms to Telecom entrance
12. **McIntyre Avenue -**
Access off McIntyre Avenue and Marguerita Street

13. **Larcy Rd Reserve -**
Access from Larcy and Lynbert Roads
14. **Coulter Road Reserve -**
Access from Wingrove and Coulter Roads
15. **Corlett Street Reserve**
Access from Corlett or Konene Streets
16. **Linton Park West**
17. **Morey Street Reserve**
Access from Morey Street
18. **Jackson Park**
Access from Springfield, Otonga Roads and McDowell Street. Excluding all playground areas and sports fields within the reserve.
19. **Sala Street Reserve**
20. **Hannahs Bay Reserve**
Dogs must be on a leash from the entrance to the Reserve at Willow Avenue including the area to the Lake Foreshore, the wetland area to the south, to the north-eastern drain in the centre of the Reserve.

The **Dog Exercise Area** is the remaining part of the Reserve to the east from the north-eastern drain in the centre of the reserve.

Dogs are prohibited from:
 1. Any playground within the reserve.
 2. Any barbecue area within the reserve.
 3. The area used by the Pony Club for events on those occasions when an organised event is in progress.
21. **Part of Devon Street West/Utuhina Stream Reserve**
Being that part of the reserve located between Devon Street West (opposite the International Stadium and associated playing fields) and the banks of the Utuhina Stream, as is more particularly described by signs at the reserve."
22. **Rotorua Racecourse**
Access after 9am off Fenton Street (only available when the Reserve is not in use for Race Meetings or other functions).
23. **Aquarius Drive Reserve**
Access from Aquarius Drive and Capricorn Place.
24. **Karenga Park**
From the Dog Obedience clubrooms south to Lake Road and bounded by Bennetts Road and the old railway line. Access from 10 Bennetts Road.

25. **Kuirau Park**

Excluding the area from the Kuirau Park Access Road north to Lake Road, bounded by Ranolf Street and the residential boundaries of Tarewa Road, within which dogs must be on a leash.

26. **Lakeside Reserves -**

Rotoiti	Okere Road Reserve
Rerewhakaaitu	Brett Road Reserve
Okaro	Lake Okaro Reserve
Rotoma	Merge Lodge
Blue Lake	Area bounded by wooden fence to right of boat ramp

Okareka

Acacia Road (signed area to left of boat ramp along lake edge to intersection with Loop Road)

Boyes Beach – ***Dogs prohibited between the hours of 9am to 7pm from 15 December to 1 March inclusive. Outside these times dogs may be exercised on or off a lead, provided they are under the strict control of the person exercising the dog.***

Tarawera

Spencer Road (area adjacent to lake bounded by Rangiuru Bay Reserve and Stoney Point . Area is to the left of the wooden fence at Rangiuru Bay to the right of the boat ramp at Stoney Point.)

Cliff Road – off Spencer Road (Reserve area at end of Cliff Road adjoining Lake Tarawera).

Rangiuru Bay – Dogs prohibited between the hours of 9am to 7pm from 15 December to 1 March inclusive. Outside these times dogs may be exercised off a lead provided they are under strict control of persons exercising the dog.

Rotorua

Reeme Street – fenced area adjacent to lake to right (south) of boat ramp.

Mourea – area at end of Waana Street.

Hannahs Bay – area at northern end of reserve adjacent to lake.

Hamurana – area adjacent to lake between Fryer Road and Hamurana Stream Mouth – ***The dog exercise area commences opposite Fryer Road, extending to the post and rail fence located 47 metres east of the intersection of Kaska and Hamurana Roads. For reasons of road safety, dogs in this area, when exercised off a leash, must not be closer than 2 metres from the road edge.***

Dogs must be on a leash in the area enclosed by a post and rail fence opposite the intersection of Kaska and Hamurana Roads to the mouth of the Hamurana Stream mouth, between the hours of 9am to 7pm from 15 December to 1 March inclusive. Outside of these times dogs may be exercised off a lead provided they are under the strict control of the person exercising the dog. Dogs are prohibited at all times from within 10 metres of the Children's Playground and the BBQ facilities located on this portion of the Reserve.

FOURTH SCHEDULE ROTORUA URBAN BOUNDARY

