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QUINTE DOG PARK ASSOCIATION

c/o Quinte Conservation, 2060 Old Hwy # 2, RR # 2, Belleville, Ont K8N 4Z2

<http://www.quintedogpark.com>

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I think dogs on the whole are very accommodating creatures. They love human companionship and endure hours of boredom in the hope that a walk or a game will come their way.

No Bad Dogs - the Woodhouse way

-by Barbara Woodhouse

MONSTER YARD SALE

We will be having a huge yard sale on **Saturday, May 25** starting at 8:00AM at Quinte Computer Services, 141 William St. (corner of Dundas and William St.). Thompson Tents has donated a large tent which will keep us dry in case of rain, and also help attract customers.

We will be selling goods donated by our more than 260 members. If you can donate

some saleable goods (no clothes please), please bring them to Quinte Computer on Friday, May 24. If you need someone to pick up your donation, please call Quinte Computer at 966-3070.

We also need volunteers on Friday, the 24th with a truck or van, who can help with the pickup. Please call 966-3070.

CANINE CONCERT

On Saturday, June 22, starting at 2:00PM, the forty members of the Quinte Living Center Concert Band will be performing in the dog park. We'll see how our dogs enjoy the music - maybe they will join in with some howling.

Visitors that day will be requested to make a \$2.00 donation. There will also

be refreshments for sale and a silent auction of goods donated by local businesses. At intermission, we will be having "time trials" to see who is the fastest dog in the park.

If you can donate some baking or goods for the auction, or would like to help with the event, call Nancy McCrory at 966-4016.

Membership and Fund Raising

We now have more than 260 members. Thank you for your support. With your help, we can continue to keep the park safe and clean.

Our main fund raising project is our sponsor board. Please support our sponsors, and when you patronize them, thank them for supporting the dog park. We count on them renewing their sponsorship each year, and your mention will help. If you have a business, or know of a business who might want to have a high quality, high profile advertising plate, please have them get in touch with Jim Moore at

966-3070. The annual rates for the sponsor board are \$100, \$300, and \$500 for the three different sizes.





Off Leash Areas in Quinte Area



At the Pooch Path



RAINBOW BRIDGE

Behind the sponsor board is our "rainbow bridge" board. This is where we list dog park patrons who donate \$50 or more. The revenue from these donations is used to pay for the board and for the "in memoriam" plates.

If you know of a member who has lost their dog, let us know so we can express our sympathy and remember their dog on our board.



Let's work together to make our leash free area a success

About a year ago, we were reading about all the problems with off leash dogs in city parks. The city needed to do a massive cleanup to remove all the mess left by dogs who used the park during the winter. There were also many complaints from other park users about dogs running off leash and bothering non-dog owners. There was even talk of banning dogs from the parks even on leash.

Now we have two off-leash areas where our dogs can get their exercise, and we can make new friends and socialize with other dog owners.

For those who enjoying hiking with their dogs, and whose dog can be trusted to stay close, we have the "Pooch Path" at the Quinte Conservation area at the North West corner of Wallbridge-Loyalist Road and Highway 2.

Arguably the best Dog Park in Ontario is located in East Zwick's Park. This facility

is fully fenced and has a double gated entrance system. There is also a small dog area, although most small dogs seem to enjoy being with the "big boys".

Inside the park, there is a large open area for playing ball and fetching sticks, along with a large treed area providing shade in the summer.

Although we encourage regular visitors to join the Quinte Dog Park Association to help pay for the fencing and other improvements, the Friendly City welcomes all friendly dogs and owners to use the park at no charge. A donation box is often available for those non-members who appreciate the park and want to help financially.

Because of these off-leash areas, there are now fewer complaints about dogs running off leash in city parks, and the parks are much cleaner for all park users to enjoy.

Dog Park Plans

The popularity of the dog park, and the many good comments that are filtering back to the city, has encouraged us to consider a number of improvements to the park.

Moira Glass and Mirror has generously donated a seven foot by five foot shelter which will be erected this spring to protect us from the cold Bay of Quinte winds while we watch our dogs play. The Parks and Recreation department is donating the time and material to pour the concrete pad for the shelter. The Parks department also donated and installed the three red fire hydrants (watering stations). They also put up the temporary fence around the muddy water area.

This spring, we are also installing a porta-potty at the front of the dog park.

Once the fence is fully paid for, we would like to bring a water faucet into the park to supply clean drinking water for those really hot summer days.

Also being discussed is a lighting system so we can use the park in the evening when it gets dark so early, and perhaps an expansion of the park to take in the wooded mounds at the northeast corner of the park.

These plans all depend on the amount of money we are able to raise with our fund raising efforts.



