
Comments

of those who have signed
the online petition in support of
Lakewood Dog Park

<http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/savelakewooddogpark/>

(as of 06/06/2010)

Keep the park open!

Tamara Lentini

Please keep the dog park going. It is promotes the livelihood of so many animals as well as people.

Anonymous

I fully support the Lakewood Dog Park, and so does my dog, Blue!

Andrea Beight

I think it is sad people are trying to close the park. They do not understand how important it is to the community.

Kyle Bray (44313)

I think that the people who are fighting against the park really just have nothing other than to be busy bodies and complain about what makes other people happy. My little dog loves to go and "run with the big dogs". I live in a semi rural area and can keep my dog socialized and good with others through the interaction he gets with the other dogs.

Cynthia Tyree (44149)

I have been following the lawsuit since it was originally filed and expressed my concerns and outrage to my councilman shortly thereafter. I have also read the recent article in the Lakewood Sun Post and cannot agree more the opinions set forth in the article. Not only is this a colossal waste of money for both Rocky River and Lakewood residents, it is downright offensive considering that the lawsuit was filed due to "complaints" of two households in the city when far more than a handful of Rocky River residents use the park. It's even more ridiculous that the law department and the mayor of River actually pursued the lawsuit based on complaints from two households in the city. I guess, Rocky River's mayor, city counsel, and law department do not understand the concept of the "common good" or community welfare. I do hope that River does NOT prevail in it's attempt to close down the dog park. It would really be a sad day if the park would close since it is so good for Lakewood and it's surrounding communities. Should that occur, every citizen, especially the counsel, mayor, and law department in Rocky River should be ashamed of themselves. Thank you for your effort to stop this insanity!

Angelique M. Hartzell (44107)

Just moved to the area and adopted a rescue dog. The dog park will enable us to properly exercise our dog, thus providing a happy & healthy pooch.

Chris Holko (44111)

I have a two year old boxer mix named Lucy. She is my love!! She requires a lot of exercise. I live in an apartment building. I walk her regularly but she can walk much faster than I and the only time she gets to feel free and run wild is when she is at the dog park. She gets so excited when I pull into the dog park parking lot. She wines and her tail goes crazy. She loves it. She loves making friends. I'm curious if any of the families in Rocky river who started this whole thing have dogs? I don't know what I will do if the dog park closes. I will have to move somewhere else.

Mandy Gordon (44107)

To get rid of the dog park is a selfish act by the city of Rocky River. It takes away a wonderful resource that so many residents and their beloved pets enjoy. Why be so mean-spirited, Rocky River? A dog park is an asset to a community; many places don't have one and wish they did!

Jennifer Gusik (44107)

I can't believe a couple of households across the river up on the other side of the canyon could mistake the smells of the treatment plant for dogs. Furthermore, the noise level very rarely gets out of hand when I have been there on several occasions.

If I'm not mistaken there are certain levels of acceptable noise codified for almost every municipality given the time of day it occurs and I don't believe this dog park operates beyond sundown.

There surely should be some very angry Rocky River residents that would have tens of thousands of their tax dollars squandered by their law department over something that benefits more of their own residents than the two who brought about this suit.

Given the tenacity, expense, and length of this suit beyond reason makes me wonder what kind of influence these two parties have over their city hall !

J. Peter Marchus (44107)

This is a very important part of the community. In Chicago where I've lived for many years, dog parks are on city blocks, between 2 apartment buildings!

Where would be a better place in all of either city?

Kevin Nameth (44107)

Dog walker that uses the dog park in addition to daily walks for her customers. The dogs love it and for the most part, people 'police' the dog park, making sure people adhere to the rules.

Anonymous (44116)

I think the dog park is a wonderful place for the dogs to run & play, I do not see any problem with the dog park, As far as the barking , I do not think it is excessive at all, It seems like a few want to ruin a good thing for the many people who use the park. I have met people from Westlake, Brookpark, Rocky River, Brooklyn, West Park, Cleveland, Shaker Hts., Lorain, Ohio besides Lakewood. I hope this issue is resolved and the dog park stays open,

Tom Rocky (44107)

I am new to the area. Looking for a place to settle. Today I went to Rocky River and Lakewood looking for houses. We also used the dog park and find it a draw to the area. If this is how Rocky River likes to spend taxpayers money I will cross them of my list.

Jen Conine (44113)

these people complain about anything, THEY should be made to move!!

But in reality, I've always wondered why they complain about the smell when the park is built right next to a smelly treatment plant to begin with. How do you separate to two? Have they ever demanded that the plant be closed?

janet Podojil (44107)

I am so disgusted by this lawsuit. The residents that have filed it must be awful snobs and think that just because the few of them think one way, that the majority (i.e., dog park users) must suffer.

And if they think that the dog park is responsible for the smell, then I'd like to introduce them to the sewage treatment plant. Hello?!

Sue Lieblein (44107)

I have personally been to the dog park. Especially on some of the hottest days of summer. never have I thought it smelled awful, nor did I find it any noisier than the Sports bar or traffic that is less than 500 feet away.

Ismael Vega (44111)

The dog park is a safe and fun place for my dog Otis. The mere mention of going to the dog park gets him excited. I am partially handicap and it is very hard for me to walk far enough for Otis to get his proper amount of exercise. The dog park is a great place for him to run free while I watch and relax. Thank you for listening, Otis and I look forward to the dog park 3-4 times a week, please don't take this away from us.

Karen Hamlin (44107)

The dog park has helped my dog become socialized with other dogs. It is a way for us to go somewhere that is "neutral ground". I also live in an apartment and so it is a nice place to use as a backyard for my dog.

Stephanie Reslan (44116)

I believe that dog parks are good for dogs, their owners, and the community. Having a safe and fun place to take your dog for play and socialization creates better canine citizens. A thriving, clean, safe dog park will increase the number of dogs who are socialized as opposed to mean. The dog park provides a means of providing exercise which is essential to the mental and physical well-being of our canine citizens. Please don't close the dog park! My family just recently adopted "Loki" and look forward to taking him to the dog park when he is a little bit older and has gone through some more training. I answered "No", that I don't use the dog park, but I will be definitely be wanting to take Loki there soon.

Laura Lathem (44145)

The Lakewood dog park is an asset to the community. My husband and I frequent the park with our dog. It gives people with only one dog a great opportunity to socialize their dogs. It is absurd the the complaints of a few people can even threaten to take away such a wonderful place for dogs and the people that love them. Keep the dog park open!

Katherine Clair (44240)

All of this controversy is a silly waste of time and money. The dog park should stay.

Colin Scott Maxwell (44107)

This is ridiculous. I can sit and read at the dog park, it is not that loud. One would think that the passing traffic would be more of a disturbance than the dog park. As my six year old son said, why doesn't the lady get a dog and become our friend at the dog park. Ah, the wisdom of children. The dog park is a wonderful way to socialize not only one's dog, but to meet the people in your neighborhood. In our society, we don't know our neighbors, this is a great way to do just that. You already know that you have something in common.

Teri Jelenic (44107)

My dog thinks this park is heaven. So do the hundreds of other dogs who visit the park. So do the hundreds of dog owners whose dogs receive ample exercise and opportunity for socialization here. It is my understanding that 2 families from Rocky River are forcing this lawsuit. Let's see...

2 families from Rocky River...

Hundreds of dogs and owners, some of them from Rocky River...

Who runs the Rocky River law department? Maybe they need another job.

Anne Dorley (44102)

This is a wonderful park for people and their pets!!! Show me another park where our furry friends can enjoy playing and being social with other humans who care about there well being and SAFTY in a 10 mile radius. This park should stay open and be enjoyed by those who use it! I have never once had a problem at the park and there is no smell (and even if there was a smell it is next to a treatment plant) or over noise. I give my full support in keeping this park open and maintained!!

Gretchen Pribanic (44113)

Me and my dog Maggie would be heartbroken if the Lakewood Dog Park was closed. We go there nearly everyday and enjoy it so much. It is a wonderful place for the dogs to run around and play with each other and for the owners to talk with one another. The park is very well maintained and is very clean. As far as any noise caused by barking, it is minimal! The three people who are complaining really should to do something more important with there time.

Maureen Murphy (44145)

I take my dog to the dog park every other day, and if it wasn't for the dog park my dog would simply not get the exercise and socialization that he needs. It means a lot to me that the park stays up and running, please do not close it!

Kalyn Swearingen (44140)

I just purchased a puppy and I was researching places where I can take my dog and share activities with him. I found this website for a dog park and thought this was excellent, because he could be social with other dogs. I was surprised and dismayed that the dog park I just discovered was going to be closed. My dog Bailey and I ask that you keep the dog park open.

Annita Jeffery (44145)

There may be a little bit of noise disruption caused by the attendees, but it is well worth it for the interaction experience that the dogs and their owners get. If this one is to be closed, another should be opened elsewhere, such as in Lakewood Park, Edgewater Park, or Wendy Park. This is a great atmosphere, and if the area that the current one is in is not suitable, a relocation would not be difficult to arrange.

Halley Simpson (44107)

We were lucky enough to use the dog park when we had dogs of our own. Now that we no longer have dogs we use the dog park to help us with fostering dogs for the Cleveland APL. The Dog Park has helped our fosters learn that people and other dogs can be kind - not just cruel. They learn to run and play - for some its the first time in their lives.

The dog park has also taught our daughters the importance of working with the Community for the "common good." They've helped move gravel, pull weeds and pick up trash for the Dog Park. In return they've received the lift that comes with doing good work for a good cause.

Laura E Porto (44107)

The Lakewood Dog Park is such a wonderful place!! I love taking my dog there so that he can run around and play with his friends!

It is important to have a place where dogs can run and play and socialize!!!!

Melissa King (44107)

I think the Lakewood Dog part is a wonderful part of Cleveland's West Side. It brings the community together not to mention helps to socialize our pets. In addition we usually shop/eat in Rocky River and Lakewood after visiting the park on our way home to Westlake. I am hoping there is an amicable solution that could solve the concerns of the plaintiffs as well as maintain the dog park.

Ryan Poor (44145)

I take my dog to the park. He is not a barker. He socializes with other dogs. I clean up excrement. I provide our own water.

Not all dog owners are responsible dog owners, just as not all people are responsible people.

In our little Lakewood Dog Park corner, the responsible dog people pick up the slack for the irresponsible ones. Please let us maintain this little haven where we can exercise and socialize our dogs.

Can you find a way to legislate against the irresponsible people that are uncontrolled liabilities on society, who seem to monopolize our tax dollars at work?

Miriam Troyan (44102)

The only time I smell anything coming from the dog park is when I am standing near the trash cans IN THE DOG PARK and someone opens the lid. Also, complaining about the sound is ridiculous as well- a dog barking across the street would be louder than the barking coming from the dog park.

Sara Ellis-Sanborn (44107)

i like the key card idea. also i think the park should charge for membership for lakewood res.

Keeping people from other citys out of our park may help in the fight against barking.

Scott Burger (44107)

We love the dog park, we go almost every other day. We come from a few cities over to visit (Kamms Corner/Cleveland) because it's such a great place to hang out with your pet and meet new people, and there are few places to do so. Lakewood & Rocky River residents should treat this park as an asset not a burden (those who are petitioning it to close). Like they say, few people ruin it for many. Which is a shame.

Anonymous (44111)

moving from Lexington KY with two weims... need a dog park for our wonderful "children!"

Diana Drexler (44118)

The dog park is a great place for dogs to be socialized with other dogs. The people and dogs are always friendly. I would consider the Lakewood dog park an asset. Keep it up!

Holly Coone (44126)

I hate the idea of the Lakewood Dog Park being closed. My dog loves to come to the park and play with the doggy friends he's made over the past few years. I hope the court takes into consideration that Cleveland doesn't have many places where dogs can come together and run and play off-leash. This is a great place for all dog-lovers to come and let their dogs get the exercise they need for a healthy life.

Rhonda Engle (44111)

This is an invaluable resource.

Vikki Meldrum (44111)

I live in Rocky River and the people here are assholes. Can't this money be spent on something more important?

Anonymous (44116)

Everytime i ask my 10 year old beagle Millie "do you want to go to puppy park?" she gets as excited as a puppy. Many people live in apartments, or do not have fenced in yards. The Lakewood dog park provides a safe, healthy environment for our furry little friends to play in without the worry of getting lost or being hit by a car.

I would be highly disappointed if this wonderful community center closed.

I believe owners need to take responsibility for their dogs, and ensure that the Dog Park is enjoyable for everyone.

PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE keep it open for all the responsible owners and their furry family members!

Maybe if the cities of Lakewood and Rocky River used conflict resolution skills to come to an agreement that satisfies all parties we could have a WIN- WIN outcome versus a WIN- LOSE situation.

Instead of paying for court fees and lawyers, they should invest in a conflict resolution facilitator to help negotiate an agreement.

:)

Kelly B (44116)

Dog parks are the new thing... and they won't be going away for quite some time. They are popping up everywhere lately. It's a great place for puppies to get socialization in a area that the owners can watch like hawks. Without proper socialization, dogs will become aggressive and more likely to attack both dogs and humans. This is also some of the only exercise some dogs get because owners are busy and not willing to give their dogs more time than taking them to the park. I've been quite a few times and the park is not very loud at all.

Monica Callahan (44052)

Why let a few spoil it for many? I thought this country was based on a "majority rules" theory.

Michael Cassara (44111)

I think this is a great place for dogs to become more social. My Dane loves coming to play with all his buddies.

Maria Dickinson (44107)

i go to the dog park all the time with my dog and not once have i seen any biting. aldo, its quite peaceful and quiet alot of the time, i somtimes read there. i DO NOT think the park should be closed.

unknown (98404)

Dog parks are necessary and i wish their were more. Dog parks are great for our pets to get adequate exercise without being leashed. I pray that this park stays open in spite of

what a few are complaining about right now. A mediator

needs to step in and try to work things out for both sides

so a compromise can be attained.

Nancy Dale (44105)

I love taking our dog to the Lakewood Dog Park. I hope the park and the city of Rocky River quickly come to an agreement to coexist.

Lauren Bonds (44145)

It gives my dog a place just for her, a place where she can get out and relieve stress, and energy. Its a great place for my family to bond.

Anonymous (44107)

I believe the dog park offers a good opportunity for my dog to get exercise and interact with other dogs. The dog park is kept clean and it is ridiculous that 3 complaints can take away from hundreds of people and pets enjoying the park

Justin Gargalianos (44107)

SAVE THE DOG PARK!!!

Alicia Thomas (44113)

Waste of time and money. Get a different hobby.

Rebecca Lordan (44207)

My dogs and I used this park when I live in the Cleveland area and continue to do so when we visit. It's one of the only places I know that my dogs can socialize off-leash with other dogs. The fight against this park is crazy!

Anonymous (43512)

Having just discovered the joys of Lakewood Dog Park, I am deeply disturbed by the threat of an injunction to shut down this wonderful haven for dogs and their owners. It provides such a tremendous opportunity for dogs to explore a tiny piece of the world unleashed and unrestrained. My dog is truly in his element at this park - the only place I have ever found that he can be a dog... interacting with other members of his species in a safe environment, where the majority of owners are respectful of the opportunity afforded by this park. I cannot tell you the change I have seen in him since he has been able to interact with so many other dogs in this place. It would be devastating to me and to the many others who frequent this park with our beloved canines. Please keep this amazing recreational area open to our dogs!

Anonymous (44130)

I have 2 dogs that I take to Lakewood dog park and I live in Fairview Park. I also go there without my dogs so that I don't have to babysit, and then I can enjoy other people's dogs! The Lakewood Dog Park is a fabulous resource for Lakewood. Please remember that Dog People are good people, and The Lakewood Dog Park is a good, happy, peaceful place. We need more happy places like this in the world!!

Heather Brown (44126)

My dog & I enjoy the park several times a week. It would be a shame to close it as many people & pets enjoy it.

Krista Mousted (44138)

How are they even sure the barking all comes from the park?

Gregory Smith (44107)

The dog park is an amazing resource, that friends and family from out of town are very jealous of! We (people and dogs) are extremely lucky to have such a clean, safe, wonderful place to socialize.

Lindsey Schmidt (44102)

If this park were a school, shopping center, or playground, wouldn't this lawsuit have been laughed out of court? The property belongs to Lakewood and the everyday noise from just plain living meets the acceptable daytime norms. This is still a free country with cities allowed to build on their property what they like, and the mayor of Lakewood has rightly defended the park. Rocky River would not like it if a neighboring city sued them over the noise of their every day businesses, would they? This park brings so much joy, that I wonder at the selfishness of the plaintiffs to take offense because they can hear something coming from that joy. What is next? being sued because the people at the park are laughing too loud, talking too much? because it bothers someone in Rocky River? And if that is the case, if someone doesn't like children can we sue a neighboring city over their playground? How ridiculous! We can only hope that the judge in this case will have the wisdom to see the matter clearly, and that Rocky River residents will vote out that mayor, and council members that allow this lawsuit to suck up precious tax payer dollars. (And that no city worker loses their job because of insufficient city funds because of this lawsuit!) If anyone should lose their job it should be these people because they let the plaintiffs bully them into it by "being the squeaky wheel that gets the most grease.

Mickey Gibson (44103)

We have been using the dog park almost daily for 5 months. During that time we have not experienced any of the issues alleged in the law suit. The park is clean with no odors, there is almost no barking and we have not witnessed any biting whatsoever. We cannot understand how this possibly can be a nuisance. It is great use for the parking lot of a waste treatment plant. Please help fight the lawsuit.

Mark Kovachy (44138)

The people bringing suit should reconsider. You can learn so much from animals. The park provides an environment where dogs can be dogs. In no way does it impinge on the rights of others. The grounds of the lawsuit our baseless from our extended firsthand experience.

Carol Kovachy (44138)

The Lakewood Dog Park is a fabulous place where dogs can be dogs in the very best of ways. It is also great fun to chat with fellow dog lovers and owners. PLEASE keep it open...it too is an important part of our beautiful Emerald Necklace--the Cleveland Metroparks. Thank you.

Carol Kovachy (44238)

I think its terrible that 3 people can cause all this noise. Obviously it's better for the majority if the park can stay opened.

Bridget Doyle (44145)

I feel that the dog park is a great asset to the greater Cleveland area in that it allows for people across city limits to socialize and bring animals and people together.

Samuel A Kovachy (44145)

Three disgruntled people should not be allowed to take this gem away from the many who enjoy it. The Lakewood dog park has earned a reputation of being the best around. Maybe these crabapples just need to move.

Monique DiCarlo (44133)

It is unfortunate that Rocky River is taking such an extreme stance regarding the dog park to the detriment of members of its own community, along with members of the surrounding communities. The dog park benefits dogs, providing a place for them to exercise and play off leash. But more importantly, it fosters a sense of community as it gives people the opportunity to gather and meet others who share their interests. We have been taking our boxer, Jack, to the dog park for over a year and we love the time we've spent there!

Mary Hitch (44102)
