

OFF-LEASH DOG AREAS

1998 – OFF LEASH PILOT

Off leash areas and fenced dog runs

- Still listed in ordinances
- Technically invalid

2011 – OFF LEASH TASK FORCE CREATED

- **Formed per directive of City Council**
 - Comprised of representation from each ward and park staff
 - Ward representatives served as liaisons to neighbors and communities
- **Tasks**
 - Establish off-leash goals and objectives
 - Research successful off-leash programs
 - Evaluation of current off-leash areas and identify potential expansion opportunities
 - Consider a strategic approach to improve and expand Burlington's off-leash opportunities
 - Review and revise existing City dog/off-leash ordinance
 - Review and revise Parks policy regarding off-leash areas
 - Report findings to City Council and Ordinance Committee

2013 - FINAL REPORT FROM TASK FORCE

ORDINANCE

- Approve off-leash areas to exist in Burlington
- Require BPRW to maintain an off-leash policy that is approved by Parks Commission
- Specify parks where off-leash is not permitted
- Establish official fenced dog parks at Waterfront and Starr Farm
- General rules of off-leash areas

POLICY

- Designation of areas and times of operations
- Rules for commercial use of off-leash dog parks
- Operations
- Public outreach
- Signage

2019/20 – NEXT STEPS

Policy

- BPRW staff work on final policy based on work of 2011-2013 Task Force
- Policy approved by Parks Commission

Ordinance

- PACC recommend to City Council that the off-leash ordinance be sent to Ordinance Committee for an update
- Ordinance committee review recommendations of 2011-2013 Task Force and 2019 minor modifications requested by staff
- Ordinance sent back to Council for approval