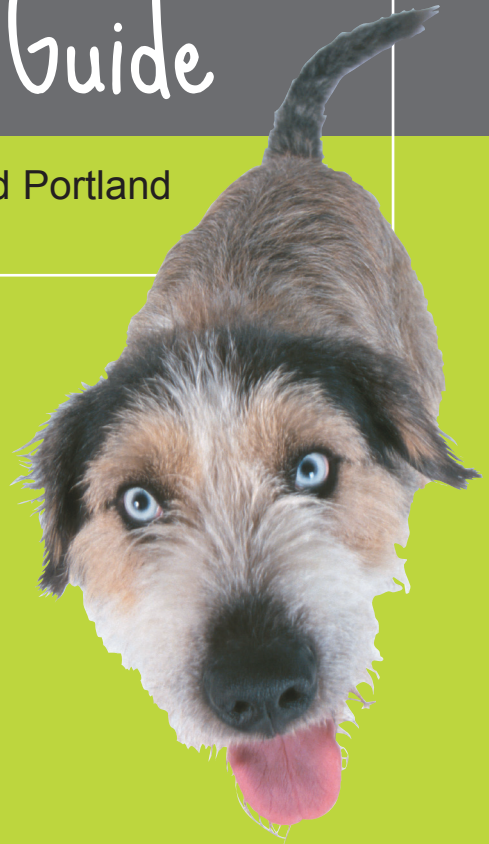


Dog Owners Guide

to Weymouth and Portland

Printed 2016



Dog Warden Service

working to improve your environment



Weymouth & Portland
Borough Council

Helping you to help your dog

'Man's best friend', now an every day part of our community, can be a faithful companion and effective security guard. However, it doesn't always live up to its reputation and it's not necessarily the dog's fault – it could be yours!

Weymouth & Portland Borough Council has put together this guide to help you ensure that your dog really is 'man's best friend'. So here are a few tips and helpful reminders.



Dog fouling laws

The Weymouth and Portland Dog Related Public Space Protection Order 2016 applies dog fouling laws to all land in Weymouth and Portland. It is an offence punishable with a fine for a person in charge of a dog not to clean up when the dog has (without the landowner's consent) fouled land in the open air and the owner has not removed the faeces.

Land in the open air includes covered land which is open to the air on at least one side, and all land to which the public have access (with or without payment).



The council may instead of prosecution offer a fixed penalty notice in relation to an offence. This discharges the liability against conviction. Non-payment of this notice may still lead to prosecution. Exemptions apply.

And on the beach...

In Weymouth, from Good Friday – 31 October inclusive, there is a dog friendly area close to the pier end of the beach. This is adjoined by a dog exclusion area until Greenhill Groyne. All other beaches in the borough have no designations and therefore they are 'dog friendly' but please remember to remove any fouling. Areas are clearly marked on the map overleaf. They are also clearly signed.

In Weymouth and Portland dogs are excluded from all marked sports and children's play areas. These are all clearly signed at their entrances or car parks. There is a 5m zone around each marked sports pitches and athletics areas where dogs must be on a lead

Play it safe

Dog and cat roundworm (Toxocara) can cause blindness and other health hazards, particularly to children. So follow this simple guide and play it safe...

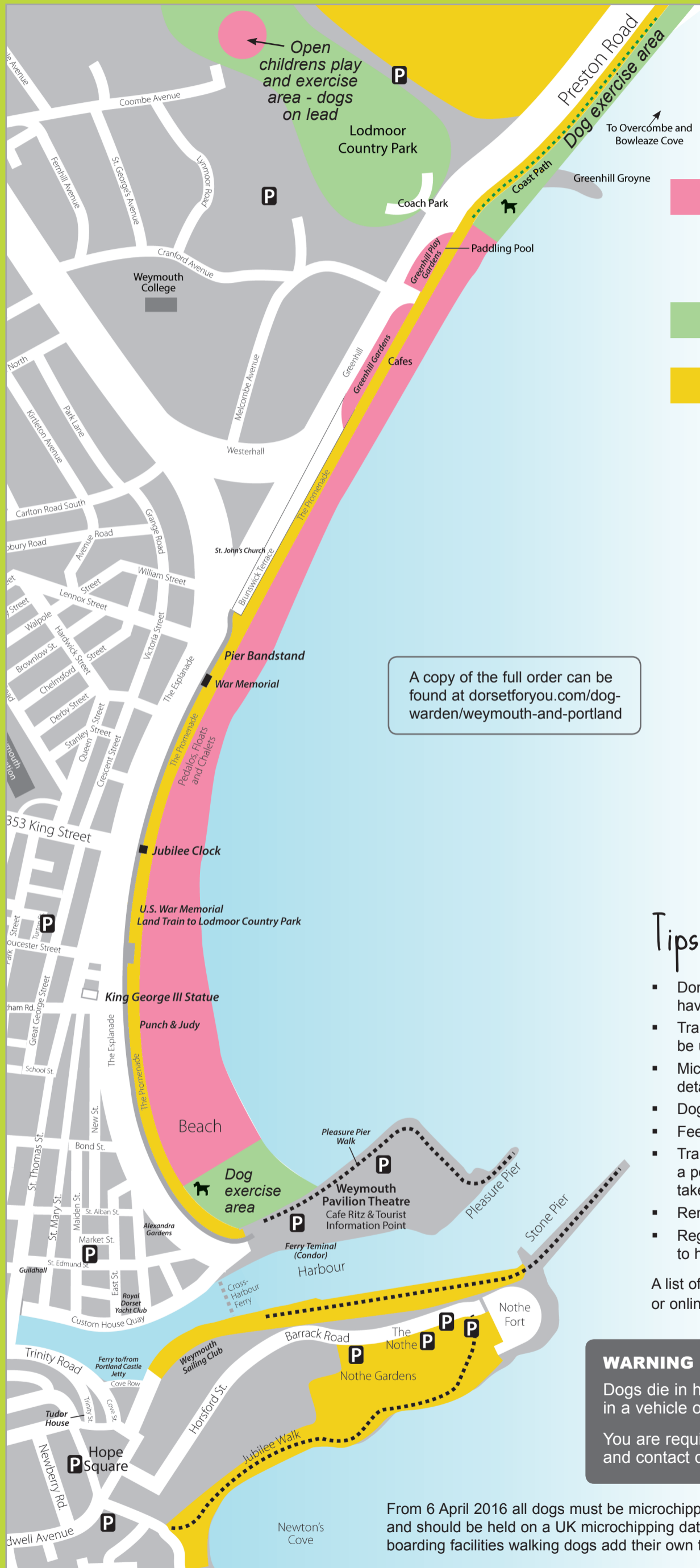
- Always carry a poop scoop or bag when exercising your dog
- Dispose of waste safely by taking it home or use a litter/dog bin where made available
- Encourage dogs to go to the toilet at home where it can be taken care of safely
- Prevent toddlers eating soil or grass
- Wash hands after handling cats and dogs
- Regularly worm your dog or cat according to the treatment instructions
- Never let pets into your bed



Weymouth beach area and Nothe Gardens

Please contact us through 01305 838000 if you

- Have contained a stray dog
- Have lost your dog
- Would like your dog microchipped or tagged



- Dogs excluded:**
- On the beach area between Greenhill Groyne and the Pier end of the beach from Good Friday – 31 October inclusive
 - All enclosed children's play areas, marked sports pitches and recreational facilities
- No dog restrictions**
- Dogs run free in these areas
- Dog must be on a lead**
- From Good Friday - 31 October inclusive, dogs must be kept on a lead in the Nothe Gardens and from the Nothe Parade to the Stone Pier. Fairview Road Recreation Ground, Ryemead Lane Recreation Ground and Lichfield Road Recreation Ground
- Dogs must be kept on a lead on the following areas all year round:
- All highways and footpaths except public footpaths or bridleways
 - All formal gardens, cemeteries, allotments specified in the order
 - The Promenade from Pleasure Pier to Bowleaze
 - Southill shopping centre and the adjacent open green space
 - RSPB reserves at Lodmoor and Radipole
 - Rodwell Trail
 - Footpath across the Marsh Sports area
 - 5m zone around marked sports pitches and athletics areas
 - Signed area in Lodmoor Country Park where there is a children's play and exercise facility.
 - Cassiobury garden area
- And when directed by a dog warden
- In this borough where dogs must be kept on a lead, the lead length is restricted to 2m (6' 6")**

A copy of the full order can be found at dorsetforyou.com/dog-warden/weymouth-and-portland

Tips for responsible dog owners

- Don't have a dog if you can't properly feed or exercise it, or haven't got enough room for it
- Train your dog in elementary obedience – your dog should be under your control at all times
- Microchip your dog and ensure your address and contact details are kept up to date on any database
- Dog owning isn't for everyone
- Feed your dog at regular times and from its own dish
- Train your dog not to foul in public places and if you do use a poop scoop or equivalent, dispose of the waste in a bin or take it home
- Remember your dog's bark can cause a nuisance
- Register your dog with a vet, and if you don't want your dog to have puppies get advice from your vet

A list of vets in your area can be found in local directories or online.

WARNING

Dogs die in hot cars. Remember your dog's life may be at risk if left in a vehicle on a warm or sunny day even for a short period.

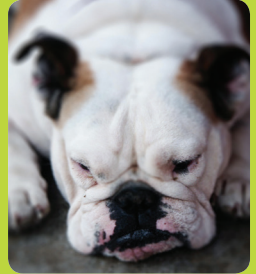
You are required by law to have a collar and tag bearing your name and contact details on your dog when out in a public place.

From 6 April 2016 all dogs must be microchipped. The details held on the microchip must be kept up to date and should be held on a UK microchipping database. It is recommended that professional dog walkers or boarding facilities walking dogs add their own tag when the dog is in their possession.

Stray dogs

Dog wardens in Weymouth and Portland have a number of powers and duties under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 s.149 with regard to straying dogs.

- They can detain dogs which are straying
- They must notify owners (if known) of a dog they have picked up and inform them they have a seven day limit in which to claim their animal.
- The new microchipping legislation will enable us to return more dogs to their owners quickly
- An admin fee and fine as well as kennelling costs will be charged before a dog can return home and there may be an additional veterinary bill
- They keep a register of stray and lost dogs
- They will dispose of the dog after seven days and you will lose your right to its ownership



Can you give a dog a good home?

Our dog wardens try to find homes for unclaimed strays. If you could give a good home to an unwanted dog please contact the dog warden

For more information visit
www.dorsetforyou.com/dog-warden

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Weymouth & Portland
Borough Council

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