

Dogs in the Town of Ridgway

Ridgway, Colorado is a dog-friendly town, where dogs are welcome to play and socialize under proper supervision of their guardian. In order to keep our town dog-friendly, it is required that pet owners take responsibility by acknowledging leash and play area regulations.

Regardless of the behavior a dog displays, it is the owner's responsibility to ensure the safety of their pet, and of those around them.

This places legal obligation on said owner to understand and comply with the Town of Ridgway animal regulations.

Mandatory Leash Areas:

Dogs **MUST** be on a leash in these designated Town areas shown on the map in this brochure, and including: Hartwell Park, Rollans Park, the entire Uncompahgre Riverway Trail and the Regional Athletic Field during any sporting event.

Yield to Dogs on Leash

If your dog is off leash and you encounter a dog on leash, please leash your dog or change direction.

Optional Leash Areas:

Dogs must be under Voice and Sight Control, but leashes are not mandatory, in all other areas of Town.

Required Leash and Bag:

Having a leash and doggie bag on-hand are mandatory for all dog custodians at all times within the Town of Ridgway.

WHAT IS VOICE AND SIGHT CONTROL?

Voice and Sight Control allows dogs to be off-leash in some areas of Town. However, if your dog cannot meet **ALL** of the criteria below, they must be on-leash regardless of the area you are in.

Under Voice and Sight control your dog will:

- 🐾 Return to your side **immediately** upon a single command
- 🐾 Remain at your side, regardless of any distractions
- 🐾 **NOT** charge, chase or display aggression toward any person, dog, wildlife, livestock or other being.

LEAVE NO TRACE.

Guardians are required by law to remove and dispose of waste their dog may leave behind. Diseases and viruses may be spread throughout the community through dog excrement. Pickup bags are available throughout Town parks, but guardians are **required** to carry their own materials for disposal.

MAXIMUM DOGS PER HOUSEHOLD

In Ridgway, households are allowed a maximum of four dogs per residence.



CODE ENFORCEMENT (RMC 2-4)

The inability to comply with Town regulations or the gross negligence of these privileges may result in fines, impoundment (of dog) and/or court summons (delivered to owner).

APPLICABLE FINES

Dogs off-leash in Mandatory Leash Area: First offense \$50; second \$100; third \$300

Not under Voice Control in Optional Leash Areas: First offense; \$50; second \$100; third \$300

Owner with dog and without leash and waste bag: First offense; \$50; second \$100; third \$300

Vicious Dog/Animal (attacking, biting, excessive barking, general disruption of peace): Citation to court and fine to be determined by the judge.

Fines are due to the Town Clerk:
Ridgway Town Hall
201 North Railroad, PO Box 10
Ridgway, CO, 81432

LICENSING AND VACCINATION OF DOGS

Ridgway does not license dogs; however, rabies vaccinations from a licensed veterinarian are required for all dogs greater than 3 months old. A Certificate of Vaccination must be produced upon request of the Town.

Questions regarding these regulations or requests for additional information may be directed to Town Hall in the Town of Ridgway 970.626.5308. You may find the Ridgway Municipal Code and more information at the Town website: www.town.ridgway.co.us





Dog owners must carry a dog bag and leash at all times.



There is no poop fairy.

Please clean up after your dog.

Dog waste doesn't biodegrade like wild animal waste. It sticks around for a long time. Meanwhile, it contains harmful bacteria, pollutes groundwater, and smells disgusting on the bottom of a shoe. Please help keep parks, trails and neighborhoods free of poop piles by packing out your dog's waste.