

Van Lokeren Family Lakeside Preserve

We are testing the concept of an open preserve where dogs under voice control are permitted off-leash. If this goes well, we may expand the concept to a few other select sites around our service area. If problems arise, we will close the program and return to the standard rule requiring all dogs to be leashed on LTC preserves. **NOTE: The preserve is CLOSED to dogs between April 16-July 8 to protect nesting birds.**

What is expected of dog walkers at this preserve?

- Dogs should stay within visual and auditory range of their handlers at all times. If your dog cannot follow instructions well enough to stay near you when wild animals or other dogs are present, it needs to be on a leash.
- This is not a dog park. It is not fenced in and there are wild animals here including ground nesting birds, skunks, and porcupines which YOU are responsible for keeping your dog away from.
- Boundaries are marked with signs and T-posts. Most of the boundary is unfenced and you must keep your dog off of our neighbors' property.
- Clean up after your dog! Take your dog waste with you when you leave. If dog waste becomes a problem, we will return to requiring leashes.
- Prevent your dog from digging holes. If your dog digs a hole, fill it in so no one trips.
- If someone asks you to recall your dog, do so. Even if you know your dog is just being friendly, they might be making someone else or their dog feel uncomfortable. Respect other preserve users.
- If your dog has a history of aggression, this is not a good park for them to visit. Dogs behaving aggressively must leave immediately. This includes excessive mounting of other dogs.
- Do not bring a dog in heat to this preserve.
- A maximum of two dogs are permitted per handler. o Dog owners are legally and financially liable for injuries or damages caused by their dog(s).

- All dogs must be legally licensed and vaccinated. Dogs are required to wear a visible, municipal license, and I.D. tag.

Be aware that dogs can get sick from natural pathogens in our region. Monitor your dogs for symptoms of diseases like Lyme disease, swimmers itch, and blastomycosis and take them to the vet early for the most effective treatment.

Report incidents to Little Traverse Conservancy at LTC@landtrust.org or 231-347-0991