

Northwoods Humane Society – Deanna Persson, President

There is a new sign by the Northwoods Humane Society driveway! It is hot pink and black with two arrows. The first arrow points to the right – the Big Dog Park and the other points to the left for the Small Dog Park. These wonderful parks are open to the public year round. They each have wide open spaces for the dogs to run and socialize. Each has shaded pavilions for the owners to rest and chat. What we often see at the dog park are groups of people that have become friends and who meet to walk the perimeter of the park together. Great exercise for them and for their dogs.

The large dog park became possible when monetary gifts were given in memory of “Button” Bonnett and “Chumley” Downey. Volunteer Dick Plummer planned the layout of the fencing and it had an exact meeting point. I found that amazing as I often live my life being close but not exact. Mark Lastrup and his friends built the picnic/shade areas and the hot pink chairs were donated. This was back in 2013.

In 2019, the family of Frank and Myrna Cowan provided funds for the Frank and Myrna Cowan Memorial Small Dog Park. Frank and Myrna were NHS volunteers since the early 1990's. They were a part of the original Thrift Shop team and worked with us through their final days. Myrna would call the pricing committee – the cleaning, fixing, pricing committee. We lost one of our shops to fire. It was a total loss. When we had to do the insurance report, Frank was able to recall each of the shelves and what was on them – his job was to put inventory out. Both of these wonderful people brought happiness and joy with them.

Volunteer Mary Timm took the lead on planning the Small Dog Park. It is more intimate and shaded than the large park and perfect for people and pets.

The public – locals and visitors – are welcome from sunrise until sunset to enjoy the park. There are some rules (of course).

All dogs must have current vaccinations. Dogs should be licensed appropriately. Dogs should be socialized and comfortable around other dogs and strangers.

There is a designated parking area for those using the dog park. Owners are to leash their dogs when moving from their car to the park gates.

Aggressive dogs and female dogs in heat are not allowed in the parks. Owners must immediately leash and remove their dog(s) at the first sign of aggression. Each dog owner should have no more than 3 dogs in the park. Dogs must remain in the fenced area while using the dog park.

Children accompanying dog owners must be strictly supervised and must be at least 12 years old to be allowed inside.

No smoking, alcohol or food are permitted. NEVER leave your dog unattended. Pick up your waste and dispose of it. Please keep your dog from jumping on people and other dogs.

Remember that off leash does not mean out of control. Owners are responsible for any injury or damage caused by their dog and are fully responsible for their dog's actions.

The staff keeps the swimming pool full and an assortment of toys available. Water buckets and disposal containers are in the park. There are also donation boxes at each of the park entrances.

These monies are used for maintenance and supplies for the park.

Like life – if we all ‘play nice’ life is good. The Northwoods Humane Society is located four miles east on Highway 77 and O’Brien Hill Road.

Dates to Save: August 24 – Bingo – Red Schoolhouse Wines – 5:30 – Stone Lake, WI  
September 11 – NHS Dog Walk and Ice Cream Social – 12:30 a.m. – NHS Shelter and grounds.