



# A Howlin' Good Time

off-leash news

## SPRING 2026

### IN THIS ISSUE

#### PAGE 1

Dog Park Clean Up Day  
News Sources

#### PAGE 2

Become a Volunteer  
Foxtail & Tick Season  
A River Park Update  
Sad News/Warning



CONTACT  
US

✉ [riverparkoffleash@gmail.com](mailto:riverparkoffleash@gmail.com)

🌐 [riverparkdogs.com](http://riverparkdogs.com)

f [riverparkdogs](https://www.facebook.com/riverparkdogs)

📷 [friendsofriverparkyyyc](https://www.instagram.com/friendsofriverparkyyyc)

🦋 [riverparkdogs.bsky.social](https://www.bsky.social/riverparkdogs.bsky.social)

### UNSUBSCRIBE OPTION

If you no longer wish to receive communication, just let me know.

## DOG PARK CLEAN UP DAY

Forecasted rain for several days poo-pooed our proposed plans for a River Park clean up to address dog waste, garbage and cigarette butts.

Plan B: We'll intend to go ahead as follows. You and your dogs are invited to join us for any amount of time you can spare.

🌟 **Sunday, June 14** 🌟  
**from 9:30 - 11:00am**

Please watch for confirmation by email or on our social media platforms. Cancellation and postponement is weather-dependent.

Thank you for your consideration!



## NEWS SOURCES

Keep up with all the news in River Park, whether it's safety for dogs and us, events, incidents, or lost and found items or dogs.



Various information can easily be gathered from observations while walking in the park, word of mouth, posted notices, or information from our four seasonal newsletters each year, AND you can also find us on social media.

In the past, we've usually posted on our Facebook page and shared to a few community groups such as:

- Marda Loop, Altadore, Garrison Woods and Area Information Exchange
- Altadore Bulletin Board
- Lakeview and North Glenmore Park Community Informaton Exchange
- Calgary Dog Park Lovers

Although we're new to these platforms, you can also find us on [Instagram](#) and [Bluesky](#).

Urgent information is shared through our social media channels because it's more timely than posting in the quarterly newsletter.

We use each communication method to focus on information related to River Park and its users. Content is vetted by three of our team members before including. Please note that we typically decline requests to post unrelated news.

## Become a Volunteer



Two- and four-legged users love River Park for various reasons, with most of us visiting the park daily or several times each week throughout the year.

We enjoy all the benefits, but we shouldn't take things for granted.

City of Calgary staff can't do it all, nor should they be expected to. Use comes with care and responsibility, so let's do our part! Please help in various ways:

- Yank foxtail, clear the fountain drain, remove outdated posters, etc.
- Watch for vandalism and report incidents to 311
- Pick up after your dog (missed extras too), and join organized clean-up efforts to address poop, garbage and cigarette butts
- Encourage friends/family/fellow users to lend a hand, and to be respectful and responsible park users

Our core volunteer group is small – we need more people. And looking ahead, let's build the next generation of park volunteers!

Please consider giving your time and talent for the benefit of dogs and people in the park. Contact us at [riverparkoffleash@gmail.com](mailto:riverparkoffleash@gmail.com) with your ideas and/or offer to volunteer. Thanks in advance for your consideration.

## A River Park Update

Here are a few changes throughout River Park that are worth mentioning:

### Tree Removal

Many old, unhealthy poplars were recently removed.

### Signage Uncertainty

A sign for River Park was installed at the west end of the parking lot (14A St & 50 Ave) and later removed. The posts remain, suggesting a replacement may be coming. Further along at the east end of the parking lot, a sign for Sandy Beach was installed, but without an arrow directing visitors to the path and road heading down, it may confuse newcomers.

### Pathway Lighting

Despite our many attempts to report wasted use, River Park's pathway lighting has remained on 24/7 for several years. An Enmax crew recently addressed the issue and told us lights will operate properly in the future.



## Foxtail & Tick Season

Be sure to avoid foxtail seeds as they easily attach to dogs' paws, skin, eyes and ears, and they can be inhaled into their nose or lungs. [Learn more](#) from petMD.



Also, avoid ticks. They wait on the tips of grasses and shrubs. As an animal or person brushes the plant, they climb onto the host. Get more details from [VCA Canada](#) and [American Kennel Club](#).

Stay safe everyone!



## SAD NEWS/WARNING

Laura, a River Park member, contacted us with an agonizingly heartbreaking message.

While walking at River Park around 10:15am on May 20, her Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, Henry, chased a coyote onto the escarpment by the stairs leading down to the river. Unfortunately, Henry was killed by the coyote.

In the midst of her grief, Laura wanted to share her story to help warn other park users in our community, especially those with dogs who love to chase.

Our hearts are with Laura as she mourns this devastating loss.

Coyotes can be incredibly deceptive and may use tactics to separate dogs from their people before attacking.

Here are some helpful resources to stay safe:

[alberta.ca/coyotes](http://alberta.ca/coyotes)

[calgaryherald.com/news/how-to-prevent-coyote-attack](http://calgaryherald.com/news/how-to-prevent-coyote-attack)

[Jefferson County Youtube video](#)

