



## **DOG POLICY**

Dogs on leash are welcome in Yerba Buena Gardens. The Conservancy wants to keep its furry friends safe along with all Gardens visitors. Yerba Buena Gardens may feel like a large dog park, but there are a few rules to help all Gardens visitors enjoy their time while maintaining safety. The following guidelines outline the importance of following leash and poop scoop rules to ensure a positive and safe Gardens experience for all, and to support a healthy environment too.

Why are these guidelines in place? Conservancy staff are dedicated to protecting the safety of the public as well as essential ecosystems found in the Gardens' planters, root zones around trees, and all green spaces from heavy foot and paw traffic.

We appreciate your understanding and care as we work together to keep Yerba Buena Gardens safe for all visitors.

If you find a lost or missing dog, please call San Francisco Animal Care and Control at 415-554-9400, or visit: <https://www.sfanimalcare.org/>, or email: [acc@sfgov.org](mailto:acc@sfgov.org)

If you have been bitten by a dog, seek immediate medical attention. Call 911 if your injury is severe. For more information about the San Francisco Animal Care and Control's Vicious & Dangerous Dog Unit and hearing process, and/or to report a dog bite or aggressive animal, call 415-554-9400, or visit: <https://www.sfanimalcare.org/services/animal-welfare/report-dog-bite-aggressive-animal/>

### **Mail:**

V.D.D.U. SVU  
1251 3rd Street  
San Francisco, CA 94158  
V.D.D.U. Officer Desk: (415) 575-6038  
V.D.D.U. Officer Cell: (415) 696-0415  
FAX: (415) 242-3021

**Email:** [SFPDDangerousDogs@sfgov.org](mailto:SFPDDangerousDogs@sfgov.org)



## **DEFINITIONS**

**Owner:** any person who has control, custody, and/or possession of an animal. (See SF Health Code, section 41.g)

**Dog Waste Station:** Designated dog-waste location equipped with educational signage, dog-waste collection bags, and waste receptacle.

**Sensitive Habitat Areas:** Gardens areas that support or may support local wild animal populations and/or rare, threatened, or endangered species. Sensitive Habitat Areas include:

- 4<sup>th</sup> Street and Folsom Street slopes
- Active restoration areas (temporary only)
- California Native Garden
- Children's Play Circle Gardens
- Cho-En / Butterfly Garden
- Mission Street Step Gardens
- Perennial Garden
- Rhododendron Garden, within the Crepe Myrtle Garden
- Salvia Garden
- Succulent Garden

*\*All Sensitive Habitat Areas will have a friendly 'Dog Free Zone' sign.*

## **Dog Rules:**

- All dogs must be licensed and vaccinated before entering Yerba Buena Gardens.
- Dogs must always be on a leash and under the control of their owner. (SF Health Code 41.12)
- No dogs less than 4 months old will be permitted.
- No more than 3 dogs per owner will be permitted.
- Dogs may not be left unattended.
- Dogs may not be tethered to Gardens property, such as a tree or bench.
- Female dogs while in heat will not be permitted.
- Owner(s) must pick up and dispose of dog-waste using the Dog Waste Station receptacles.
- Owner(s) must control excessive barking and noise.
- Dogs must not dig, chase, or harm wildlife; damage Gardens property; or interfere with other Gardens visitors. Owner(s) must fill holes dug by their dog(s) prior to leaving the Gardens.
- Professional dog trainers may not use the Gardens to conduct their business, unless sponsored by the Conservancy or by obtaining a permit from the Conservancy.



**Signs & Rules:**

Your neighbors and the Yerba Buena Gardens Conservancy appreciate and encourage responsible dog ownership. Please:

- Leash your dog(s)
- Pick up and dispose of dog waste in Dog Waste Stations
- Don't leave your dog(s) unattended
- Don't tether your dog(s) to Gardens property
- Control excessive barking and noise
- Prevent digging or other destructive behaviors
- Do not disturb wildlife
- Keep your dog's license and vaccinations current

Dogs are **not** permitted in the following Gardens areas:

- 4<sup>th</sup> Street and Folsom Street slopes
- Active restoration areas (temporary only)
- California Native Garden
- Children's Play Circle Gardens
- Cho-En / Butterfly Garden
- Mission Street Step Gardens
- Perennial Garden
- Rhododendron Garden, within the Crepe Myrtle Garden
- Salvia Garden
- Succulent Garden

*Note: for pathways between Gardens locations, dogs may pass through on the pathway only.*