



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Metro District Gives Dog Parks a Facelift

The Highlands Ranch Metro District has been listening to dog owners in Highlands Ranch. In late 2009, the Metro District conducted a survey to find out what improvements dog park visitors would like to see at the four designated dog parks in the community. More than 500 people visited the online survey and 219 people gave the Metro District their feedback and ideas. This spring they will see improvements to the dog parks..

Highlands Ranch has four dog parks and each of them will receive upgrades. More than 10 years has passed since the Metro District built its first dog park. Since that time dog parks have grown in popularity and the number of dog park visitors has steadily increased. Today the Metro District is making improvements at the dog parks to provide a better experience for both dogs and their owners.

Rover's Run at Redstone Park is the most widely-used dog park. Rover's Run will receive three seasonal shade structures with benches at the north and south ends of the park, and a 36-inch wide walking trail located inside the park's perimeter. Rover's Run will double in size from 2.1 acres to 4 acres. An additional dog water station and trees will also be added.

Hound Hill at Highland Heritage Park, Fido's Field at Foothills Park and Digger's at Dad Clark Park will receive seasonal shade structures with benches, and 36-inch wide walking trails located inside the perimeter of both parks.

The dog park improvements are scheduled to be complete by June 1 this year. The weather will dictate when and how quickly the work can be accomplished. Dog park visitors can expect to see dog park closures as the improvements are made. Metro District staff will post signs at the site announcing when the dog park will be closed. Visitors will be directed to alternate sites for dogs to exercise and socialize.

All of the dog park improvements are being funded by Colorado Lottery proceeds, which are designated for parks and open space improvements. Every year new projects are identified that will benefit from the Colorado Lottery. The Metro District's Board of Directors determines how lottery

proceeds are spent. Since 2000, \$3.8 million has returned to our community. The amount received annually is dependent upon receipts from the various lottery games.

Founded in 1981 as the local government in Highlands Ranch, Colorado, the Metro District provides a variety of municipal services to this planned community of 93,000 people. Learn more about the Metro District at www.highlandsranch.org

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