



Office of State Parks

Louisiana Department of
Culture, Recreation & Tourism



LOUISIANA OFFICE OF STATE PARKS Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism

PPM # 2020-70

SUBJECT: PPM #2020-70 – Dog Policy for Overnight Cabin Stays

TO: All Park Managers & OSP Staff

EFFECTIVE: September 1, 2020

NOTICE:

PPM #2020-70 stems from OSP's July 2020 Complaints. Eight percent (8%) of July's complaints specifically mentioned our existing pet policy for overnight cabins. The Louisiana Administrative Code (LAC) Title 25: Part IX: § 309 (B) currently prohibits any pets, except service animals, within buildings or other enclosed structures, in swimming areas, or in overnight facilities.

After discussion with several Park Managers, and in consideration of OSP's statutory mission to improve opportunities for the enjoyment of cultural and recreational activities for all visitors, OSP will implement this Policy and Procedure effective September 1, 2020.

POLICY & PROCEDURE:

In accordance with LAC Title 25: Part IX: § 503 the Office of State Parks will launch a special program to allow visitors who occupy cabins to bring up to two dogs in designated cabins, subject to the conditions and procedures contained herein.

- 1) The dog surcharge is forty dollars (\$40) per dog, per stay.
- 2) Maximum of two (2) dogs are allowed per cabin.
- 3) Park Managers shall designate up to 50% of cabins (including at least one (1) ADA cabin per park) as dog friendly and submit the list to the Assistant Secretary for approval and implementation no later than August 28, 2020.
- 4) Dog friendly cabins will be indicated on each State Park's Website (through Reserve America) as an amenity and on the exterior of the designated cabin in plain view. Signage will be provided by the Administrative Office.
- 5) With the exception of service animals, dogs remain prohibited in all group camps, other enclosed structures, swimming areas, and cabins that are not designated as dog friendly.
- 6) Visitors bringing dogs for an overnight stay in cabins, **MUST** pay with credit/debit card.
- 7) Visitors must complete and sign a Dog Policy Liability Form (see attached) at check-in or online prior to check-in.
- 8) Park Staff must verify the dog(s) staying overnight in a cabin, have a completed and signed Dog Policy Liability Form on file. If not, Park Staff must obtain one at check-in.



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- 9) A Dog Policy Liability Form must be completed and signed for each stay.
- 10) Park Managers are responsible for ensuring a written inventory of movable equipment and furnishing of State property is posted in each dog friendly cabin or furnished to the visitor at check-in.
- 11) The cost of any cabin structures, movable equipment, furnishing or any State property damaged by dogs will be assessed to the visitor listed on the reservations.
- 12) Failure to reimburse the OSP for any damaged property may result in denial of future use of OSP facilities.
- 13) The dog surcharge does **NOT** apply to service animals.

The OSP will post Policy# 2020-70 on our website for potential visitors, issue a press release, and update the required fields through our online Reservation System to accomplish implementation. The online information will specify cabins designated as "dog friendly" at each State Park, attach the Dog Policy Liability Form for review and electronic signature online or to be printed, completed and signed at check-in. Park staff will also have forms available for guests to fill out at check-in and must also collect the surcharge and obtain credit card information for any potential damage charges.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED, at Baton Rouge, Louisiana, on September 18, 2025 with the understanding and acknowledgment that this PPM has been effective in its current version since September 1, 2020. By my signature below, this PPM shall remain in effect and active unless otherwise amended, replaced, or terminated by myself or my supervisor, designee, or successor.

H. Brandon Burris
Assistant Secretary



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LOUISIANA OFFICE OF STATE PARKS Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism DOG POLICY LIABILITY FORM

In an effort to make your stay more enjoyable, the Louisiana Office of State Parks offers a limited number of overnight cabins for guests who want to bring their dogs. We ask all guests to follow our policy for dogs in cabins to ensure all park guests enjoy their stay. This policy is established to protect you, your dog and our other guests.

- 1) Guests will be charged a forty dollar (\$40) surcharge per dog, per stay. Two (2) dog maximum allowed in a cabin. Guests with dogs are required to complete this Form for each overnight stay.
- 2) If a guest pays for the cabin rental in cash, he/she must place a credit/debit card on file for any assessed dog related damages to State property. Guest or dog owner whose dog(s) damages carpet, rugs, furnishing, cabin structures or any State property will be charged for the repair or replacement of the damage.
- 3) Guests must clean up after dog(s).
- 4) Park leash rules apply and dog(s) must be on a leash held by owner when outside of the cabin.
- 5) Dogs are not allowed inside other enclosed structures, near designated swimming areas, or water playgrounds except for service animals.
- 6) For liability reasons, cabins will not be entered for maintenance requests if dog(s) is present without the owner.
- 7) Noisy dog(s) that disturb other guests resulting in complaints or refunds may result in fines for violation of State Park rules.
- 8) Dog(s) must be clean, free from infestation, and current with all vaccinations. Documents must be presented upon request from park management.
- 9) Park management may prohibit any dog(s) on the premises that may pose a risk to guests, staff or other pets in the management's sole discretion.
- 10) Service animals are exempt from these requirements to the extent required by federal law.

By signing below, I agree to pay restitution for damage caused by any dog(s) that occupy the cabin or be evicted and denied future use of OSP facilities. I authorize the Louisiana Office of State Parks to add the additional charges for any damage caused by the dog(s) staying in the cabin to my credit or debit card and agree to pay any reasonable charges. I also agree to indemnify the State and hold the State harmless for the following: any damages the dog(s) causes to third parties or the property of third parties; any liability related to the care and safety of the dog(s); and the cost of recovering any unpaid dog or damage surcharges, including attorney's fees and court costs. I also understand the State has no responsibility for the safety or care of the dog(s) staying in the cabin.

I have fully read and understand the above and agree to all terms and conditions.

Signature _____ Date _____

Cabin No. _____ Park _____

Dog(s) name _____ Initial certifying dog(s) is free from infestation
& current for all vaccinations _____