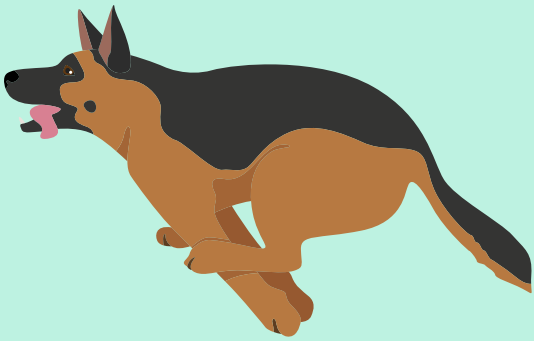


FOUR IMPORTANT REASONS

TO LEASH YOUR DOG

No matter how well-behaved your dog is, there are plenty of reasons to keep your dog leashed in public areas!

DISTRACTIONS



Your dog could be distracted by smaller animals, a really good smell, or scared by a loud noise. Leashes make certain that your dog stays safe with you.

COURTESY

Not all people or dogs want to meet your dog. Although your dog may be healthy and friendly, other dogs may not be as social, or could be ill. An off-leash dog could make them feel trapped or cornered, which may cause conflict.



HAZARDS



Dogs are naturally curious, and an off-leash dog has more opportunities to get into something they shouldn't, like trash, chemicals, and more. .

IT'S THE LAW!

By law, all dogs in the state of VA must be leashed in public areas. This ensures the safety of the whole community!



Safe recommendations for off-leash play time:

- Check out SniffSpots, an app that allows you to rent out fenced-in backyard space.
- If your dog is dog-social, take them to a local dog park.
- Ask to use a friend, family, or neighbor's yard.