

# Pet-Friendly Massachusetts Facility Debuts ‘Freedom Tail’ Doggy Park

After months of research, design and building, Normandy Farms Campground near Foxboro, Mass., has created a spacious park called Freedom Tail Park, where dogs are free to cavort and, well, chase their tails.

The area of the park was chosen specifically for its wooded characteristics and extends over an acre of naturally landscaped property within the campground, according to Kristine Daniels, marketing director for the 400-site campground.

To enter the doggy park, which is free to guests camping at Normandy Farms, the dogs must pass through a double gate, which prevents dogs from accidentally entering or exiting the park. Once inside, they are free to roam

in the secure 5-foot fenced area.

“We’ve strategically placed various pieces of agility equipment within the park where dogs can test their skills,” she said.

The park is equipped with a doghouse – a log cabin house large enough for the biggest dog.

There is also a three-tiered water fountain designed for adults, kids and dogs. Conveniently located doggy stations equipped with pick-up bags are located throughout the park. And after the dogs are done playing, they can wash up in the enclosed dog wash. “We haven’t forgotten about the owners either,” she said. “We have placed several picnic tables and benches where you can relax and watch the dogs play. There is also a doggy picture board where you can take the place of one of the hounds and have your photo taken.”

The doggy park had a grand opening on May 17, dubbed “Dogs’ Day Weekend.” More than 100 dogs attended. The day featured a parade, leash cutting ceremony, various vendors and dog specialists as well as contests to judge the biggest, smallest and most obedient dogs. The entire weekend was dog themed with movies, arts and crafts activities and events all pertaining to dogs.

“It was a great success and the feedback has been incredible,” she said. “We have had more compliments on this weekend than any of our other



holiday weekends.”

The campground had offered some walking trails encircling the park that people could walk their dogs on, she noted, “which they can still do but this allows them to take their dog off its leash to mingle with other dogs.”

The doggy park was inspired by amenities research the campground staff conducted last year among its guests, which revealed that more than half of all campers travel with their dogs, she said.

Located southwest of Boston, Normandy Farms was opened in 1971 and has been named “RV Park of the Year” by the National Association of



RV Parks and Campgrounds (ARVC) three times and recognized by the Travel Channel as “One of the 7 Premier Parks in the World.” ♦

## Crossword Solution — from page 16

F	R	E	E	D	O	M	C	O	L	L	I	N	S
I	V	A	R	V	C	U	V	G	E	O			
R	M	Y	A	C	K	T	U	L	T				
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