

# PAWSITIVE BEACH TIPS

- **Bring fresh water** and provide shade for your dog to avoid heat stroke on hot hot days. Drinking sea water can make your dog sick.
- **Rinse off salt water** that irritates your dog's skin and paws. Remove tar with cooking oil, not solvents. Sunblock can prevent sunburn on noses and pink skin.
- **Very hot sand and asphalt can burn paw pads.**
- **Bring treats** for training.
- **Bring biodegradable bags** with you to pick up your dog's "deposits". Leaving feces or bags on the beach is illegal litter and will pollute the ocean.
- **Keeping your dog on a leash** and under your control at all times is good for your dog as well as the birds! It helps prevent your dog from getting in fights with other dogs. Not all dogs are well trained! It helps keep them away from "stuff" that might make them sick.
- **Training your dog to "go" at home** so you can keep the beach cleaner and reduce the environmental and financial costs of plastic bags.
- **Bring your cell phone in case of emergency** and call 911 so your call will get to the right dispatch for that beach.



# VENTURA COUNTY BEACHES

LEASHED OK	NO PETS
	Point Mugu State Park
Thornehill Broome Beach	
	Sycamore Cove Beach
	Ormond Beach
	Port Hueneme Beach (Sand)
Silver Strand Beach	
Channel Islands Harbor Beach	
	Hollywood Beach (See note below)
	Mandalay State Beach
	McGrath State Beach
Marina Cove Beach	
Marina Park	
	San Buenaventura State Beach
Promenade Park	
Surfer's Point	
	Emma Wood State Beach
Solimar Beach	
Faria Beach County Park	
Rincon Parkway North	
Hobson County Park	
Oil Piers Beach	
Mussel Shoals Beach	
La Conchita Beach	

NOTE: Dogs on leash OK sunrise to 9am & 5pm to sunset

# DOGS ON THE BEACH

## VENTURA COUNTY



Ventura County beaches are important habitat to a variety of shorebirds. We share the county's beautiful beaches with wildlife that depend upon it for their survival. Many are also part of the California State Parks which, in general do not permit dogs on the beach, whether on leash or not. (Dogs are permitted on leash within camp grounds and picnic areas that are within the state parks.)

This brochure provides helpful information for dog owners visiting Ventura County's shoreline and is sponsored by:

Ventura  Audubon Society

# SHARING THE SHORE

Our beaches are a thin ribbon of habitat that shorebirds need to rest and feed during their long distance migrations. As our population increases, places crucial for shorebird survival are decreasing. You as a dog owner can help.

Throughout the year, many different shorebirds can be found on the beaches of Ventura County. The little birds that run up and down in groups frantically digging for sand crabs on our beaches are sanderlings. They migrate to Ventura County beaches from the Arctic where they nest and breed. Whimbrel, long-billed curlew, marbled godwit, red knots, and black-necked stilts are also seen, mostly as they migrate between nesting and wintering grounds.



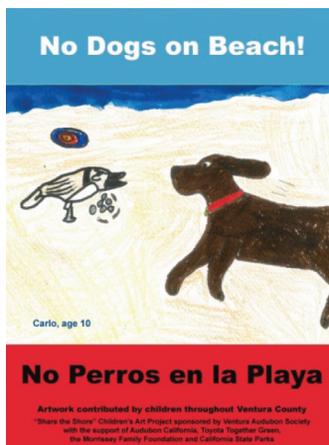
Western snowy plovers and California least terns, by contrast, breed locally on certain beaches in Ventura County. Both are federally protected species under the Endangered Species Act and it is illegal to disturb them (even unintentionally as dogs often do). Snowy plovers nest at McGrath State Beach, Mandalay State Beach, Hollywood Beach, and Ormond Beach. Least terns nest at McGrath, Hollywood and Ormond. Both nest on dry sand above the surf line from March through August. The nests are depressions in the sand. Both birds and their eggs are well camouflaged and easily stepped on. We also find American avocets nesting on our beaches.

Nesting birds see you and your dog as predators. Dogs, especially off-leash dogs, can kill or disturb nesting plovers, terns or avocets and their chicks. Simple rope barricades are put up at most of these beaches in early March to protect the nesting areas from disturbance. Signs including some made by students in the Share the Shore Art Project are hung on the ropes to help identify the area.

## Of course, dogs can't read; so it is up to you to keep your dog off the beach!

We can be aware and share the shore with four simple actions:

- Walk around birds instead of through flocks
- Keep pets on leash so they do not chase birds
- Respect closed areas set aside for endangered or nesting species
- Stay away from birds that look sick or injured or are unable to get away from humans.



# HELPFUL INFO

California State Parks:  
[www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

Ventura Audubon Society:  
[www.VenturaAudubon.org](http://www.VenturaAudubon.org)

If you find an injured bird,  
call The Ojai Raptor Center:  
**805.649.6884**

If you see an injured seabird,  
call Santa Barbara Wildlife Care Network:  
**805.681.1080**

If you see an injured mammal,  
call the Marine Mammal Center:  
**805.567.1505**

## DOG PARKS

**FORTUNATELY**, there are inland parks where dogs are permitted to run free. These include:

### CALABASAS

**Bark Park** - 4232 Las Virgenes Road  
5am to 9pm daily • Separate Gated Children's Play Area Doggie Drinking Fountain, Pooper Scoopers

### OAK PARK

**Oak Canyon Dog Park** - 5600 Hollytree Drive  
7 am to dusk, daily (closed 7am to 10am Fri)  
Separate small and large dog fenced play area.

### SIMI VALLEY

**Simi Dog Park** - 2151 Lost Canyons Drive  
Daily 7am - dusk, daily (closed Thurs 7 am to 10 am)  
Separate small and large dog fenced play area.

### THOUSAND OAKS

**Conejo Creek Dog Park** - 1350 E Avenida De Las Flores  
7:00am - 8:30pm, daily • Separate small and large dog fenced play area.  
Dog water fountain.

### Estella Park - 300 Erbes Road

Monday - Friday: 4pm-Dusk Saturday - Sunday: Dawn-2pm & 4pm-Dusk

### Walnut Grove Park - 400 Windtree Avenue

### Kimber Park - 3295 Bear Creek Road

### CAMARILLO

**Mission Oaks Park** - 5501 Mission Oaks Blvd  
Monday - Friday: 4pm-Dusk; Saturday - Sunday: Dawn-2pm & 4pm-Dusk

**Camarillo Grove Park** - 6968 E. Camarillo Springs Road  
7am to dusk • Many shaded areas. Dog water fountain.

### Springville Dog Park - 801 Via Zamora

7 am - dusk daily (closed Fri until 10:00 am) • Large fenced area and a smaller fenced area for shy dogs. Dog water fountain.

### OXNARD

**College Park** - 3250 South Rose Avenue  
7 am to dusk daily • Small and large dog separate fenced play area  
Agility Coin-operated wash station. Fun equipment for dogs.  
Lots of benches for humans.

**Campus Park** - 5th and H Streets  
Dawn to dusk, daily.

### VENTURA

**Arroyo Verde Park** - Foothill and Day Road  
6 to 9 am, Tuesday - Sunday

**Camino Real Park** - Dean Dr and Varsity St  
Dawn to dusk, daily • Drinking fountains for the dogs and their people.  
Benches Doggie-doo bags

### OJAI

**Mitchell Edelson Dog Park** - Inside Soule Park  
Opens 7:30 am daily Closes: Varies depending on season.  
Separate small and large dog fenced play area.