



TOWN OF INGERSOLL  
Town Centre

January 24, 2020

**Ingersoll Off Leash Dog Park Update:**

Recently The Community Services Department was contacted by patrons of the Dog Park to advise that their pets required medical attention after attending the dog park.

Upon investigation staff uncovered unauthorized leftover food refuse that was being added to the compost bins and being stored under a tarp, as the likely source of the dog's illness.

As most dog owners will know, mixing food with dog waste is a very unhealthy combination. Additionally, this type of storage will undoubtedly attract other less than desirable creatures to the park, such as rats, skunks, raccoons and coyotes. Which in turn, could lead to conflict or sharing of diseases like distemper, rabies or other pathogens.

As a result, all compost bins and the cache located under the tarp have been removed from the park.

The Director of Community Services will be bringing a full report to the February Council meeting, with full background and proposed remedies and costs for a more permanent solution to dog waste generated at the park. In the interim, additional waste containers have been placed at the entrances to the park.

Signage will also be placed in the park which states: "Placing or dumping dog waste, food scraps or any other form of garbage or refuse in The Ingersoll Off leash Dog Park anywhere other than in the garbage cans provided is strictly prohibited by the Town of Ingersoll. Failure to obey this sign is an offence contrary to the *Trespass to Property Act* and fines up to \$10 000.00 may be levied."

The Town of Ingersoll Community Services Department would like to thank the Ingersoll Off-Leash Dog Park volunteer committee for all their works as without their efforts the park would not be what it is today. Going forward if patrons of the park have any questions or concerns they are asked to contact the Community Services Department at 519-425-1181 or [communityservices@ingersoll.ca](mailto:communityservices@ingersoll.ca)

Kind regards,

Ingersoll Community Services Department