

Surf Coast Shire's beautiful environment is enjoyed by thousands of people, both residents and visitors. Some are dog owners and some are not. Both groups have the right to enjoy being out in public – to exercise, socialise, work and play, while feeling safe and respected.

What Do the Dog Regulations Mean?

Within the township areas, the Dog Regulations allow you to take your dog out **ON A LEASH** in public areas. The only exceptions are when you are with your dog in one of the designated "Off Leash" or "Time Share" areas.

This brochure shows you when and where you can exercise your dog in public places in the township of Torquay.

Other similar brochures cover each township.



Outside the township areas, the controls shown in this brochure do not apply. However other regulations do – for example the Feral and Nuisance Animals Act and the restriction on taking dogs into National Parks (see www.parkweb.vic.gov.au for details).

Responsible Dog Ownership Means Effective Control

It is important to be a responsible dog owner. Remember, whenever your dog is out in public, whether on a leash or running free, it must always be under your effective control. When off leash this includes keeping your dog in sight, training it to respond to voice commands and ensuring it does not threaten other people or animals. Always carry a leash and a container to pick up after your dog.

Remember, it is not just about your responsibility to other people – particularly children and the elderly – but also about looking after your dog, other dogs, birds and other wildlife.

Playgrounds

On some of the accompanying township brochures you may see small areas marked _____ where dogs are not allowed, surrounded by Off Leash areas, marked _____

These usually indicate a Playground in a larger open area. For the safety and comfort of children, dogs are not allowed in public playgrounds.

Bin It or Swim in It

Along with other rubbish, dog droppings generally end up being washed into the sea. So carry several bags or containers, pick up after your dog and dispose of the droppings in a rubbish bin. Help to keep our beaches clean.

Other Controls

Making sure your dog is registered and microchipped ensures it can be easily identified and returned to you if it does stray. (A microchip is a tiny computer chip that contains a unique identification number. About the size of a grain of rice, it is implanted under the skin. It is inert, has no battery and uses no energy. It lasts for the life of your pet.)

The chip can be scanned and the number used to identify your pet. Victorian law now requires that all dogs (and cats) being registered for the first time must also be microchipped

Have your pet microchipped at the special days organised by Surf Coast Shire early in the year, or at any time by a vet.

Unless intended for breeding, sterilising your dog is also a responsible step.

Dog owners face a fine for

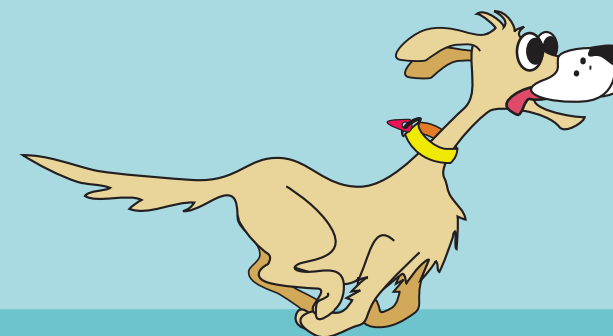
- not registering their dog
- walking their dogs in prohibited areas
- dogs wandering at large
- not having their dog on a leash when it should be
- failing to pick up after their dog.



Dog Regulations

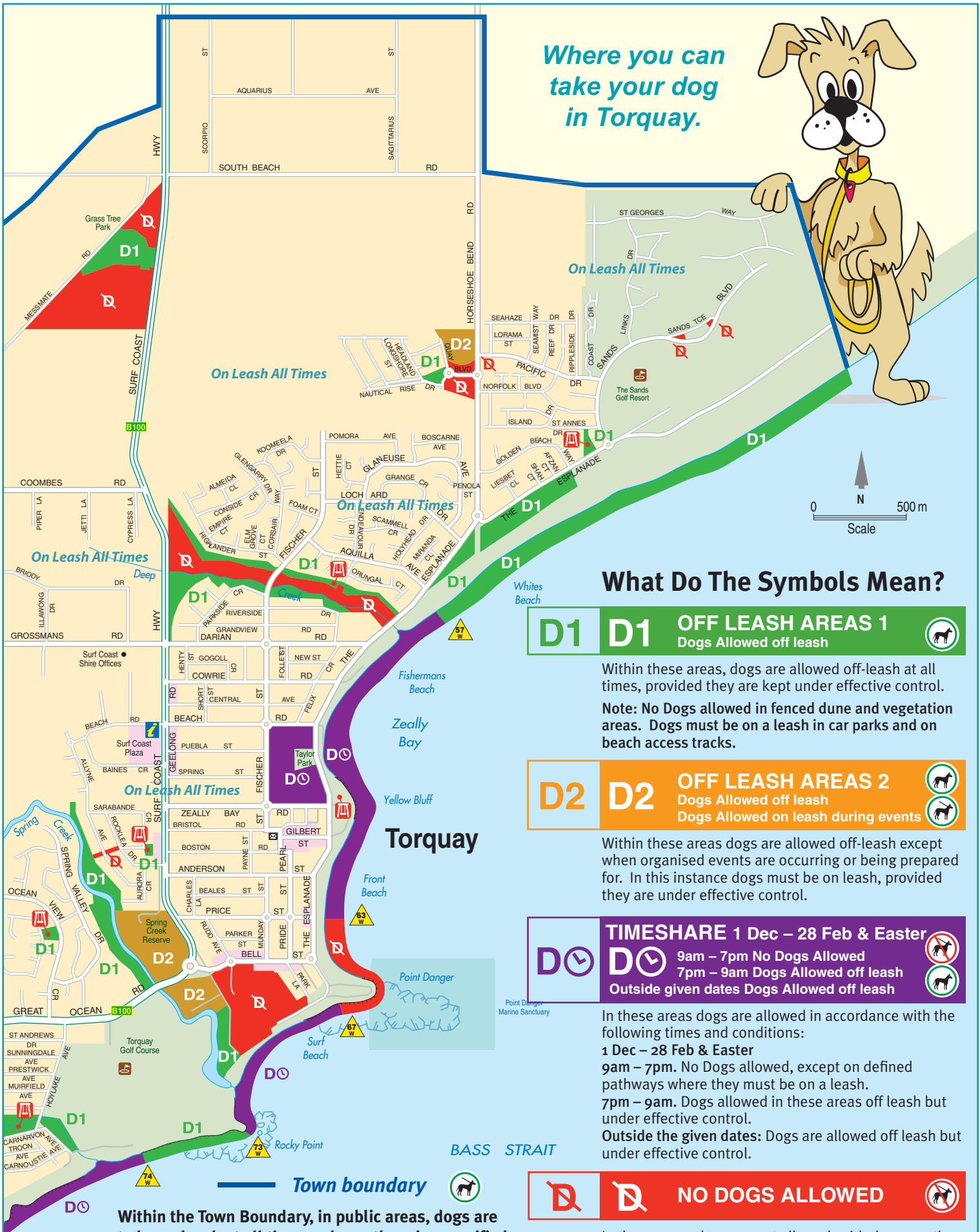
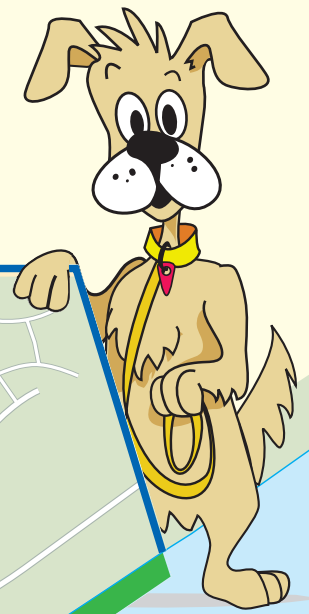
on the Surf Coast

An introduction to Off Leash Areas for Dogs



TORQUAY

Where you can take your dog in Torquay.



What Do The Symbols Mean?

D1 D1 OFF LEASH AREAS 1 Dogs Allowed off leash 

Within these areas, dogs are allowed off-leash at all times, provided they are kept under effective control.

Note: No Dogs allowed in fenced dune and vegetation areas. Dogs must be on a leash in car parks and on beach access tracks.

D2 D2 OFF LEASH AREAS 2 Dogs Allowed off leash
Dogs Allowed on leash during events 


Within these areas dogs are allowed off-leash except when organised events are occurring or being prepared for. In this instance dogs must be on leash, provided they are under effective control.

TIMESHARE 1 Dec – 28 Feb & Easter
D0 D0 9am – 7pm No Dogs Allowed
7pm – 9am Dogs Allowed off leash
Outside given dates Dogs Allowed off leash 


In these areas dogs are allowed in accordance with the following times and conditions:

- 1 Dec – 28 Feb & Easter
- 9am – 7pm. No Dogs allowed, except on defined pathways where they must be on a leash.
- 7pm – 9am. Dogs allowed in these areas off leash but under effective control.
- Outside the given dates: Dogs are allowed off leash but under effective control.

NO DOGS ALLOWED 


In these areas dogs are not allowed, with the exception of defined pathways, where they must be on a leash.
Note: Includes all fenced dune or vegetation areas & playgrounds.

Playground - No Dogs Allowed 


Within the Town Boundary, in public areas, dogs are to be on leash at all times unless otherwise specified.

Outside the township areas, the controls shown in this brochure do not apply. However other regulations do – for example the restriction on taking dogs into National Parks.

 **Emergency Marker**