

The MCOSD Code applies to management and administration of the Marin County Open Space District (MCOSD), including use and protection of lands owned, maintained, or otherwise managed by the MCOSD. Chapter 02.05, Land Use Regulations—Domestic Animal Regulations, Section 02.05.010, Dogs and other animals, allows for up to three dogs per individual, with exceptions beyond that number granted only through issuance of Special or Commercial Use Permit. Any person(s) wishing to walk dogs for commercial purposes on MCOSD lands shall first acquire a commercial dog walker permit (permit) from the MCOSD.

A commercial dog walker permit includes the following items:

1. Guidelines
2. Rules and Regulations
3. Conditions
4. Permitted Locations
5. Application

Terminology

Commercial Dog Walker Permit: A commercial use permit issued to a professional dog walker or to the owner(s) of a dog-walking business. The permit limits professional dog walkers to a maximum of six dogs per person. Each person may not have more than three dogs off leash. The fee for a permit is \$150.00. Each permit is valid for one year from the date of issuance and is “non-transferrable” in the event a business is sold.

Conditions: An addendum to the permit with specific provisions giving the permit holder and their employees, permission to walk dogs, providing they abide by permit and its provisions.

Identification Vest: Commercial dog walkers and their employees must wear an identification vest, issued by the MCOSD, while walking dogs on the MCOSD lands. The vests are numbered and serve to identify, to the public and to the MCOSD staff, permitted professional dog walkers. The deposit fee for each vest is \$50.00.

Professional Dog Walker: A person who charges a fee for, cares for, or walks dogs for a business, and brings a dog(s) onto the MCOSD lands, and who undertakes the responsibility of caring for and controlling a dog(s) while in their company.

Permit General Procedures

Applicants must follow these general procedures:

1. Obtain a permit from the Marin County Parks website: Visit parks.marincounty.gov. On the home page, click Parks & Preserves in top navigation, then click Commercial Dog Walkers.
2. Review commercial dog walker permit items, complete the conditions and application, and submit the conditions, application, business license, insurance certificate, additional insured endorsement, Certificate of Completion ([Marin Pet Care Association's Trails](#) or [Dog*Biz Dog Walking Academy classes](#)), and required fees to: Marin County Parks, 1600 Los Gamos Drive, Suite 275, San Rafael, CA, 94903, Attention: Dog Walker Permits. An incomplete permit submittal will not be processed. For more information, call (415) 473-7608 or email PKPermit@marincounty.org

3. Within 30 days of receipt of a complete permit submittal, the MCOSD staff will review the submittal and contact the applicant to arrange an in-person meeting to discuss permit rules, regulations, and conditions; to provide a copy of approved application; and to supply applicant with their identification vest(s).

Permit Cancellation

In the event that a permit holder cancels their permit, all identification vests issued with their permit must be returned to the MCOSD within three days of cancellation.

Permit Revocation

The MCOSD reserves the right to revoke permits based on complaints, violations, expired insurance or licenses, or other issues. Upon revocation, the permit holder will immediately surrender their permit and identification vest(s) to the MCOSD within three days of cancellation. Permit holders who have had their permit revoked may appeal the revocation to the general manager of the MCOSD. If reinstatement is denied, the permit holder can appeal to the MCOSD Board of Directors.