

Handbook

Pawsport Adventure Handbook

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Welcome to the Team!

Pawsport Adventure Handbook

Thank you for becoming a Pawsport Adventurer! By taking a shelter dog out for a few hours, you are providing life-saving decompression. These field trips lower cortisol levels, provide mental stimulation, and give us "real-world" behavioral data that helps these dogs find their forever homes faster.

📞 Important Contacts

During Shelter Hours (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday - 11:00-5:30 PM

Saturday, Sunday and Wednesday 11 AM – 4:30 PM):

- **Foster/Volunteer Dept:** 503-988-9733
- **Medical Emergency Line (Animal Health):** 503-988-9075
- **Emergency Dispatch 503-988-7387, press 1**
- **General Questions:** foster@multco.us

After Hours:

- **Life-Threatening Emergencies only:** DoveLewis Emergency Animal Hospital (503-228-7281).
    - *Note: You must identify yourself as an MCAS Pawsport Adventure volunteer and have the Dog's ID number ready.*

🚨 Emergency & Medical Triage

If any of the following occur, **stop your trip immediately** and contact Animal Health (during hours) or DoveLewis (after hours):

- **Sudden "Blowout" Diarrhea:** Liquid stool with no control.
- **Dehydration:** Skin on the neck stays "tented" for >5 seconds when pinched.
- **Severe Vomiting:** Projectile, bloody, or containing green/yellow bile.
- **Labored Breathing:** Heavy panting while at rest or gasping.
- **Extreme Lethargy:** Dog is unable or unwilling to stand or move.
- **Seizures or Disorientation:** Stumbling, "fly-snapping," or loss of consciousness.

🐕 Rules of the Road (Safety First!)

To keep you, the public, and our dogs safe, the following rules are **non-negotiable**:

1. The "20-Foot Rule"

Maintain a minimum **20-foot buffer** between your dog and any other dogs or people.

- **No "On-Leash" Greetings:** Even if the other dog seems friendly, shelter dogs are under high stress and can react unpredictably.
- **No Dog Parks:** Off-leash areas and dog parks are strictly prohibited.

2. Leash & Equipment

- **Always On-Leash:** The dog must never be off-leash, unless in a private "fenced" backyard (no dog parks or areas where other dogs are at).
- **Approved Gear Only:** Use only the harness and leash provided by MCAS. No retractable leashes or personal collars.
- **Adult Handlers:** The leash must be held by a trained adult (18+) at all times.

3. Safe Transportation

- **Secure Seating:** Dogs must be in the back seat or cargo area, secured with a doggy seatbelt or inside a crate.
- **No Truck Beds:** Transporting a dog in the open bed of a truck is a violation of safety protocol.
- **Temperature Control:** Never leave a dog in a parked car, even with the windows cracked.

4. Public Etiquette

- **No Personal Pets:** Please leave your personal pets at home. This day is dedicated to the shelter dog's decompression.
- **Positive Representation:** You are the face of MCAS! Please utilize only positive reinforcement. Physical or verbal corrections (hitting, yelling) are strictly prohibited and will result in removal from the program.

🆘 What to do if...

...The Dog Gets Loose?

- **Don't Chase:** Running after a dog will trigger their "flight" instinct.
- **The "Curiosity" Trick:** Drop to the ground, "dig" in the dirt, and make excited noises. Most dogs will come over to see what you've found.
- **The U-Turn:** If they are looking at you, run in the opposite direction to encourage them to chase *you*.
- **Call Us:** If you lose sight of the dog, call the Foster Dept and Dispatch immediately. 503-988-7387, # 1

...A Bite Occurs?

- **Safety First:** Secure the dog in your vehicle or a safe area.
- **Exchange Info:** If a stranger is involved, get their name and phone number.
- **Report Immediately:** Any bite that breaks skin (including to yourself) **must** be reported to the shelter within one hour for legal quarantine tracking.
    - *Note: Reporting a bite does not automatically mean the dog will be euthanized. Your honesty is vital for public safety.*

📸 Helping Them Get Adopted

The most valuable part of your trip is the "insider info" you provide!

1. **The "Pawsport Adventures" Look:** Keep the "Adopt Me" bandana or vest visible at all times.
2. **Photos & Video:** We need at least **3 clear, high-quality photos** of the dog in a home/park setting (not in the car). A 15-second video of them wagging their tail or playing is adoption gold!
3. **The Report Card:** Complete the digital "Field Trip Observation Form" as soon as you return. Be objective: Did they pull? Were they scared of cars? Did they settle in the grass?

Thank you for giving an MCAS dog the best day of their week!

Pawsport Adventure Map & Location Guide

This guide is designed to help Pawsport Adventurers find safe, enriching, and dog-friendly spots within Multnomah County.

Shelter Location: 1700 W Historic Columbia River Hwy, Troutdale, OR 97060

🚨 **IMPORTANT SAFETY REMINDER:** Your dog must remain on a leash at all times. **Do not enter designated Off-Leash Areas (OLAs) or Dog Parks.** Maintain a 20-point buffer (at least 20 feet) from all other dogs.

🌲 Nature Trails & "Sniffaris"

Best for dogs who need to decompress and use their noses.

1. Powell Butte Nature Park

- **Address:** 16160 SE Powell Blvd, Portland, OR 97236
- **Distance from Shelter:** ~8 miles (15–20 mins)
- **Why it's great:** The trails are wide and visibility is excellent. You can see other dogs coming from a long distance, making it easy to pull off the trail and maintain your 20-foot buffer.
- **Activity:** "Sniffari" walks through open meadows.
- **Photo Op:** Mountain views on clear days.

2. Mt. Tabor Park

- **Address:** SE 60th Ave & Salmon St, Portland, OR 97215
- **Distance from Shelter:** ~12 miles (20–25 mins)
- **Why it's great:** Massive park with paved "no-car" roads. Perfect for dogs who prefer steady footing.
- **Warning:** Avoid the "caldera" area, as that is a designated off-leash zone.
- **Photo Op:** The Portland skyline at the reservoir.

3. Gresham-Fairview Trail

- **Address:** 201 NE 202nd Ave, Fairview, OR 97024 (Access Point)
- **Distance from Shelter:** ~2 miles (5–10 mins)
- **Why it's great:** A long, paved linear trail that connects several parks. It offers high visibility and plenty of grassy "pull-off" spots.

- **Activity:** Steady, long-distance walking.

📸 Iconic Photo Ops & Urban Walks

Best for "marketing" photos to help dogs get adopted.

4. Cathedral Park

- **Address:** N Edison St & Flying V St, Portland, OR 97203
- **Distance from Shelter:** ~19 miles (30–35 mins)
- **Why it's great:** Located under the St. Johns Bridge; offers wide grassy areas and paved paths.
- **Photo Op:** The green arches of the St. Johns Bridge are the "gold standard" for adoption bios.

5. Pittock Mansion Grounds

- **Address:** 3229 NW Pittock Dr, Portland, OR 97210
- **Distance from Shelter:** ~18 miles (30–35 mins)
- **Why it's great:** You don't need to go inside the mansion to enjoy the grounds. The lawns are manicured and the views are spectacular.
- **Warning:** Can be busy on weekends; best for mid-week trips.
- **Photo Op:** The dog with the entire city of Portland behind them.

6. Tilikum Crossing

- **Address:** SE Water Ave & Tilikum Way, Portland, OR 97214
- **Distance from Shelter:** ~15 miles (25–30 mins)
- **Why it's great:** The "Bridge of the People" is car-free! It's wide, safe, and offers a unique urban experience.
- **Note:** Best for confident dogs who aren't afraid of the MAX orange line passing by.

"Pup-Friendly" Patios (Snacks & Drinks)

Best for practicing "settle" behaviors in public.

7. Lucky Labrador Beer Hall

- **Address:** 915 SE Hawthorne Blvd, Portland, OR 97214
- **Distance from Shelter:** ~15 miles (25–30 mins)
- **Why it's great:** True to its name, the "Lab" is famous for its dog-friendly patios.
- **The Vibe:** Large, outdoor covered seating with plenty of space between tables.

8. The Tin Shed Garden Cafe

- **Address:** 1438 NE Alberta St, Portland, OR 97211
- **Distance from Shelter:** ~14 miles (25–30 mins)
- **Why it's great:** They have a dedicated "Dog Menu" (including the "Dessert" which is a scoop of peanut butter).
- **Warning:** Alberta Street can be loud; best for "socially confident" Pawsport Adventure dogs.

9. Java Hound Coffee Bar

- **Address:** 610 NW 23rd Ave, Portland, OR 97210
- **Distance from Shelter:** ~17 miles (30–35 mins)
- **Why it's great:** Located right next to a pet boutique, they specialize in "Pup-accinos."
- **The Vibe:** Perfect for a quick coffee stop during an urban walk.

☁️ Quiet Spots for Sensitive Dogs

Best for dogs who are overwhelmed by noise.

10. Marine Drive Bike Path

4. **Address:** NE Marine Dr & NE 185th Ave (Access Point)
5. **Distance from Shelter:** ~4 miles (10–15 mins)
6. **Why it's great:** Massive visibility. You can see triggers a quarter-mile away.

🛑 Places to Avoid

- **Sellwood Riverfront Park:** The off-leash area isn't fenced, making the 20-foot rule impossible to follow.
- **Laurelhurst Park:** High density of dogs and "invisible" off-leash boundaries.
- **The Rose Test Garden:** Beautiful, but the paths are far too narrow for a 20-foot safety buffer.

💡 Pro-Tip for Handlers

When visiting a patio or cafe, bring a "settle mat" (a small towel or blanket). Placing the mat under the table gives the dog a clear "place" to relax while you enjoy your snack.

Don't forget to tag @multcopets in your adventures!