

**Rules of the City of New York – Title 24
Department of Health**

24 RCNY New York City Health Code Article 161 – Animals

§161.05 Dogs to be restrained.

(a) A person who owns, possesses or controls a dog shall not permit it to be in any public place or in any open or unfenced area abutting on a public place unless the dog is effectively restrained by a leash or chain not more than six feet long.

(b) Notices of violation for failure to comply with this section **may** be issued by any authorized employee, officer or agent of the Department, or of the Departments of Sanitation and Parks and Recreation, or successor agencies (*emphasis added*).

**Rules of the City of New York - Title 56
Department of Parks and Recreation**

56 RCNY Department of Parks and Recreation Article 1

§1-04 Prohibited Uses.

(i) *Failure to control animals.* Except as specified in §1-05(s)(3), no person owning or possessing any animal shall cause or allow such animal to be unleashed or out of control in any park, **except as permitted by the Commissioner**. Any such animal found at large may be seized and impounded. Properly licensed dogs and cats, restrained by a leash not exceeding six feet in length, may be brought into the park, except in no event shall dogs or other animals be allowed to enter any playground, zoo, bathing facilities, or other area prohibited by the Commissioner. Nothing in this subdivision (i) shall be construed to prohibit persons with disabilities from bringing seeing eye dogs, hearing ear dogs or other dogs trained to assist such persons into these areas. Nothing herein shall prohibit horses entering or being within a park as provided in §1-05(q). (*emphasis added*).

§1-05 Regulated Uses.

(s) *Exclusive areas.* Areas within the parks designated by the Commissioner for exclusive use shall include:

(1) Exclusive children playgrounds: Adults allowed in playground areas only when accompanied by a child under the age of twelve (12).

(2) Exclusive senior citizens areas: Certain areas of any park may be set aside for citizens aged 65 and older, for their quiet enjoyment and safety.

(3) Dog runs: Certain fenced park areas may be designated by the Commissioner as dog runs, and persons owning or possessing dogs are permitted to allow such animals to remain unleashed in these areas. Users of dog runs shall obey posted rules.

All exclusive areas will be specifically designated as such and signs will be posted informing the public of this designation.

Chapter 21 of the New York City Charter §533

§533 - Powers and duties of the commissioner

Except with respect to the functions of the board of education and except as otherwise provided by law, **the commissioner shall have the power and it shall be his or her duty:** (*emphasis added*)

a. Parks

1. to manage and care for all parks, squares and public places, the sidewalks immediately adjoining the same and all playgrounds, playground fixtures and other recreation properties, except those within the jurisdiction of the board of education or other agencies, but such jurisdiction shall not extend to or include the buildings which are now or hereafter may be erected in parks, squares or public places for governmental purposes other than those of the department; ...

3. to maintain the beauty and utility of all parks, squares, public places, playgrounds and other recreational properties, except those within the jurisdiction of the board of education and to institute and execute all measures for the improvement thereof for ornamental purposes and for the beneficial uses of the people of the city; ...

9. to establish and enforce rules and regulations for the use, government and protection of public parks and of all property under the charge or control of the department, which rules and regulations so far as practicable shall be uniform in all boroughs and shall have the force and effect of law. (*emphasis added*) ...