

**Lansing Unleashed E-News for April 8, 2007: Play Session Sa April 14 from 2-4 p.m.**

**Hello, Friends of Greater Lansing Dog Parks:**

Our next **members-only** dog park play session will be held on **Saturday, April 14 from 2-4 p.m.** It will be held at the site of the future Howard and Erna Soldan Dog Park at Scott Woods. Rain, snow or shine—we plan to be there! The site is available for off-leash use **ONLY** on the days of our scheduled play sessions. The fenced area is at the north end of the future dog park site, with an entrance on the east side of the park, just south of the intersection of Willard and Ruth Streets. Detailed directions are provided below.

The Play Session will continue to be supervised by experienced dog trainers and behaviorists to give us input on how our dogs are handling the off-leash experience. Alex Chodakowski, Owner/Trainer, BusyPaws Dog Training, has agreed to join us as the trainer for the day. Be sure to ask our expert for pointers on improving behavior of your dog in the dog park setting. He will also be offering feedback and suggestions where needed.

**RSVP and Dog Licensing:** Due to the popularity of the Play Sessions we are asking all members attending to **RSVP for either the first or second hour** of the Play Session (times are 2 to 3 p.m. OR 3 to 4 p.m.) If you plan on attending, please send us an email at [info@lansingdogparks.com](mailto:info@lansingdogparks.com) no later than Friday, April 13 and indicate your name, how many dogs you are planning to bring and which hour you would like to attend. Remember, no more than two dogs per human for this outing. **IMPORTANT REMINDER:** All dogs must be licensed and have proof of licensing to participate. Put that license tag on the dog collar now!

**Looking for Trainers:** We are working on an April/May schedule of additional supervised play sessions. Play sessions will continue at least until the park is fenced and open. If you are a dog trainer who would be willing to volunteer to help us out for a future play session or have someone to recommend, please contact us at [info@lansingdogparks.com](mailto:info@lansingdogparks.com) to let us know dates/times of availability and how to get in touch by email or phone. If you are not an email user, just call Ellen Sullivan at 517-484-7417 to volunteer.

**Members-Only:** The play sessions will continue to be free and members-only events; we welcome members both new and current to join us. If you are not a current (2007) member, you will need to join or renew on-line prior to attending a play date; we do not collect membership fees during the event. To renew your membership or join online, go to [www.lansingdogparks.com](http://www.lansingdogparks.com) and click on Membership.

**Play Session Rules:** Proposed dog park rules will apply for the event. 1) ALL DOGS MUST BE LICENSED AND HAVE PROOF OF CURRENT LICENSING TO BE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE. (Yes, we will be checking.) 2) Dogs must be under owner control at all times. 3) Owners must pick up after their dogs. 4) No dogs in heat are allowed. 5) No more than two (2) dogs per person. 6) Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. 7) Use of the dog park is at your own risk. By state law you are responsible for damages or injuries inflicted by your dog.

We will have water and poop bags for picking up after your dogs. Please note there are no restroom facilities at the site, so plan ahead. Also remember that you are there to observe your dog and monitor his behavior at all times. Play sessions are a great opportunity to meet and visit with other people and dogs, as long as you can move with and monitor your dog at the same time! Keep your eyes on the dog!

**Directions:** The site of the play session is the north end of the future Howard and Erna Soldan Dog Park at Scott Woods. Since the fenced area to be available for our use will be at the north end of the park, the nearest entrance is from the east side of the park, just south of the intersection of Willard and Ruth Streets. Willard Street is west off Aurelius Road and just south of Forest Rd. Take Willard west to Ruth St. and turn south (left). (It's the only direction you can go on Ruth from Willard at that point.) If you are driving, park along Ruth Street and be considerate of neighborhood yards and driveways on the east side of Ruth St. Make room for others, as this is a popular event. In the future when we have a path and fencing in place, the entrance will be through Hawk Island Park only.

Go to our web site at <http://www.lansingdogparks.com/images/Map.gif> for a simple map of the location. To find the map on our website if the link does not work, go to <http://www.lansingdogparks.com> , click on Membership, and then click on (see map) in the fourth paragraph. If you need additional directions do a Mapquest search for Ruth Ave and E Willard Ave, Lansing, MI, and enter your starting address for directions. If you do not have internet access and need additional directions, contact Ellen Sullivan at 517-484-7417 or Cindy Ballard at 517-974-3103.