

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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St. Charles County Parks Hosts Off-Leash Dog Festival on Sept. 20

St. Charles County, Missouri – Support local animal shelters by participating in the County's largest off-leash dog festival of the year! The St. Charles County Parks and Recreation Department is celebrating its annual *Paws in the Park* program on Saturday, Sept. 20, from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., at Broemmelsiek Park, 1615 Schwede Rd., Wentzville, 63385 (off of Highway DD/Winghaven Blvd.). Pet lovers from across the region will attend this fun, free dog event that's packed with contests, prizes, sponsor giveaways, and K-9 and obedience skills demonstrations. Admission is free with a dog food/pet supply donation. All donations benefit the St. Charles County Pet Adoption Center and Five Acres Animal Shelter. The St. Charles County Pet Adoption Center will also have a booth with several animals available for adoption. There will be special performances by Infinite Pawsibilities Training, Gateway DockDogs, St. Charles County Sheriff K-9's and Canine Search and Rescue Association. This year's corporate sponsor of the event is Royal Canin.

The program kicks off at 10:15 a.m. with an agility course demonstration from Infinite Pawsibilities trainer Lynsey Fuegner, followed by Gateway DockDogs at 11 a.m., St. Charles County Sheriff K-9's at noon and the Canine Search and Rescue Association at 1 p.m. After each performance, demonstrators will be available to answer questions and talk to guests. Gateway DockDogs will also assist with dock diving instruction and trainers will be on hand to help pets maneuver through a set of jumps, tunnels and other obstacles in the agility course.

Free games with prizes will be available for dogs to play throughout the day. Let your furry friend compete in a game of "Bobbing for Biscuits," "Dog Treat Toss" and "Cookie Dog Walk."

There will also be food at the event for pet owners to purchase. Lady Bug Snow Cones and Papa John's Pizza will host the food tent with a portion of the proceeds donated to the parks department.

Don't forget to enroll your pup in the "Best Costume," "Best Trick," "Fastest Ball Retrieval From Pond," "Best Dog/Owner Look-Alike" and "Best Kisser" contests. The contests begin at 12:30 p.m. under the pavilion in dog park. The winners of each contest will be awarded a commemorative medal and a \$20 gift card courtesy of First State Bank to take home.



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Westinn Kennels will be offering free nail trims to dogs in need. Other participating businesses and sponsors include: Bryan Road Animal Hospital, Yuppy Puppy Pet Spa, PetCo, PROIN, Hawk Ridge Family Chiropractic, All Paws Rescue, Dogs on Duty, Sudsy's Muddy Paw Wash and more!

Voted best Off-Leash Dog Area in the region by the Riverfront Times, Broemmelsiek Park's Off-Leash Dog Area has become a popular place for dogs to play and the Paws in the Park event has become one of St. Charles County's largest programs.

For more information about the *Paws in the Park* celebration or to become a vendor, contact St. Charles County Parks Marketing Coordinator Nancy Lee Gomer at 636.949.7535 or visit www.stccparks.org.

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