

## Regulations

Pets must be confined or on a leash no longer than six feet at all times.

Locations where pets are permitted:

- In vehicles
- On watercraft
- Boat ramp parking lots
- Perimeter levees

**Pets are not permitted in the A, B, or C Impoundments.**

Pet owners must promptly and properly dispose of their pet's waste.

Visitors may bring no more than two pets per person during their visit.

Animals that are not permitted include:

- Unconfined domestic animals
- Animals listed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission as:
  - Injurious Wildlife
  - Prohibited Nonnative Wildlife
  - Conditional Nonnative Species

These regulations do not apply to official Service Animals.



Photo: Pet walking at Loxahatchee by USFWS/Veronica Kelly

Arthur R. Marshall  
Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge  
10216 Lee Road  
Boynton Beach, FL 33473

Visitor Center 561/734 8303  
Administrative Office 561/732 3684  
Report Wildlife Violations 800/304-5789

[www.fws.gov/refuge/arm\\_loxahatchee/](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/arm_loxahatchee/)  
[www.facebook.com/armloxahatcheenwr](https://www.facebook.com/armloxahatcheenwr)

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
1 800/344 WILD  
[www.fws.gov](http://www.fws.gov)

Hearing impaired persons may contact the refuge through the federal relay number at 1-800/877 8339.

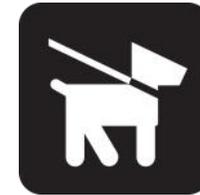
March 2021



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Arthur R. Marshall  
Loxahatchee  
*National Wildlife Refuge*

## *Pet Walking*



*The refuge welcomes all visitors and their non-human family members. We understand that wild spaces are rare within urban areas and for those reasons, we extend our invitation to both visitors and their well-behaved pets.*

*To protect the natural and cultural resources of the refuge and to provide all visitors with a safe and enjoyable recreation experience, please follow these regulations. See our website for the most current refuge regulations.*

### Give Wildlife Space

Alligators, venomous snakes, biting insects, toxic plants, and sensitive habitats exist at the refuge.

- Always keep a very close eye on your pet
- Walk in the center of trails
- Avoid areas with tall plants
- Keep your pet close to you and away from the water's edge
- Do not allow pets to swim anywhere on the refuge

### Share The Trails

Visitors and their pets will be sharing almost 36 miles of trails with hikers, bicyclists, vehicles, and other pet walkers.

When approaching other trail users, tighten your pet's leash and keep them close by. It is a small action, but not everyone may love your pet as much as you do.

Do not allow your pet to bark or harass other visitors or wildlife.

### Plan For Your Needs

Always check the weather conditions before leaving home and dress appropriately for the day. This might include wearing a hat, long sleeves, long pants, and walking shoes. We recommend that you bring plenty of water, sunscreen, and insect repellent.

### Plan For Your Pet's Needs

- Leash - maximum of six feet long
- Small amount of food/treats
- Water bowl and water
- Bags for pet waste.

### Thank You For Respecting Wildlife

Keeping your pet on a leash or confined helps protect the wildlife and natural resources that you have come to see and enjoy. Pets are natural predators to many of the wild animals that live at the refuge. Unconfined pets may leave trails, destroy homes of nesting birds, put stress on small mammals, destroy plants, leave feces, and are susceptible to and can spread diseases and viruses through wildlife encounters.

Also, not everyone likes pets. A pet on a leash or confined shows that you are in control of your pet, and that you respect those who wish to keep their distance. Some visitors may be afraid of some pets. Even a friendly pet running up to someone can be very distressing and cause them to have a negative experience, or cause them to act out of fear and injure your pet. Whether intentional or not, your pet could bite, knock over, or injure someone.

### Violations

National wildlife refuges are places where wildlife comes first. Please help protect wildlife and their homes by respecting refuge rules and regulations. If a high number of reports of negative pet-wildlife or pet-people interactions are reported, the Refuge may restrict or eliminate pet visits.

Please report suspicious activity or wildlife violations to Federal Wildlife Officers by calling **1-800-307-5789**.

