

This policy applies to all ASPT employees, park volunteers and park visitors.

Policy:

A. Pets

1. See the definition section of this policy for the meaning of the term “pet”.
2. Refer to Arizona State Park Rules and Regulations section for A.R.S. § 12-8-115 Pets.

B. Service Animals

1. See the definition section of this policy for the meaning of the term “service animal”.
2. Refer to Arizona State Park Rules and Regulations section for A.R.S. § 12-8-115 Pets.
3. A service animal shall be individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability. The work or task a dog has been trained to provide must be directly related to the person’s disability.
4. A dog in training may be considered a service animal.
5. Park staff/officials may ask the following, if it is not readily apparent that an animal is trained to do work or perform tasks for an individual with a disability:
 - a. Is the animal required because of a disability?
 - b. What work or task has the animal been trained to perform?

C. Rules and Regulations for Pets and Service Animals

1. Pet owners (including their pet or service animal) shall be responsible for adhering to and abiding by the Arizona State Park Rules and Regulations.
2. Pets are not allowed on the trails at Red Rock State Park and Tonto Natural Bridge State Park.
3. Pets are not allowed in the swim area at Slide Rock State Park.
4. For pet-friendly cabin access, please refer to the ASPT Reservation and Cancellation Policies under azstateparks.com/reservation-policies.

Definitions:

Pet: A dog, cat or other animal that is domesticated or tamed and is kept as a companion or for assistance. The animal must be under the control of a human. It does not include any type of farm animal, with the exception of a miniature horse.

Service Animal: The 2020 revision to Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) defines “service animal” as:

1. “Dogs that are individually trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities. Examples of such work or tasks include guiding people who are blind, alerting people who are deaf, pulling a wheelchair, alerting and protecting a person who is having a seizure, reminding a person with mental illness to take prescribed medications, calming a person with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) during an anxiety attack, or performing other duties. Service animals are working animals, not pets. The work or task a dog has been trained to provide must be directly related to the person’s disability. Dogs whose sole function is to provide comfort or emotional support do not qualify as service animals under the ADA.”

Procedures:

For individuals entering the park with pets and/or service animals that do not comply with the aforementioned guidelines or rules identified within this policy, park staff shall make every adequate effort to advise and educate the park patron to comply with the rules and/or policy, when feasible. For emergency situations and/or circumstances that are deemed more excessive (e.g. non-compliance), further disciplinary actions may include, but not limited to, contacting a manager and/or extreme situations a park/local law enforcement for further assistance.

Park staff shall perform to the best of their abilities to work with individuals bringing in service animals to the park. When in doubt, staff shall ask the questions outlined under the service animals section of the policy. If the answers to the questions do not support the definition of a service animal, the park staff may not allow the animal access to areas not permitted for pets. If concerns cannot be handled at the park level, park staff shall seek management guidance and/or park/law enforcement assistance to respond to such matters.

Documents Referenced:

ADA Requirements: Service Animals. ADA.gov. (2024, April 11).
<https://www.ada.gov/resources/service-animals-2010-requirements/>

Policy Authority: Arizona State Parks and Trails Rules and Regulations

- A.R.S. § 12-8-101 (Definitions)
- A.R.S. § 12-8-102 (Permission to Enter or Remain in a State Park)
- A.R.S. § 12-8-103 (Vandalism)
- A.R.S. § 12-8-107 (Litter and Waste)
- A.R.S. § 12-8-115 (Pets)
- A.R.S. § 12-8-124 (Disorderly Conduct)

Policy Distribution List:

All Department and/or Park Personnel, Park Volunteers and Park Visitors