

Service Animals at Arizona State Parks and Trails

Service animal definition and policy:

- The 2010 revision to Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) defines a “service animal” as a dog that has been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a 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. A dog that is in training to become a service animal is not considered a service animal.
- Comfort, therapy, or emotional support animals do not qualify as service animals. The key difference between a service animal and a comfort, therapy, and emotional support animal is that a service animal is trained to do work or perform tasks, whereas a comfort, therapy, or emotional support animal is not.
- Service animals in training, comfort, therapy, emotional support animals, and pets are considered **pets** and are subject to Arizona State Parks and Trail’s pet regulations. Service animals in training, comfort, therapy, emotional support animals, and pets are not permitted in cabins or on trails with a “no pet” policy.
- Park officials may ask if the animal is required because of a disability and what work or task the animal has been trained to perform if it is **not readily apparent** that an animal is trained to do work or perform tasks for an individual with a disability

Rules pertaining to service animals:

- Service animals must be harnessed, leashed, or tethered, unless these devices interfere with the animal’s work or the individual’s disability prevents using these devices. In that case, the individual must maintain control of the animal through voice, signal, or other effective controls.
- Service animals may be asked to vacate the premises in the event that (1) the animal is out of control and the handler does not take effective action to control it or (2) the dog is not housebroken.
- Service animal fecal matter must be picked up and disposed of properly by the owner/handler.
- The care and supervision of the service animal is the sole responsibility of the owner/handler.
- Service animals must be vaccinated in accordance with state and local laws.
- The customer is responsible, and will be charged, for any damages to a cabin caused by a service animal.
- Owners/handlers may be asked to declare their service animals at cabin check-in.
- **Falsely portraying a pet or comfort animal as a service animal is considered fraud and is subject to federal prosecution. 36 CFR 2.32(a)(3)(ii).**