

Moratorium on new dog memberships for 2006/2007

At its meeting of April 6, 2006, the Board of the Morgan Arboretum adopted a moratorium on new dog memberships. This motion was deemed necessary to allow for a better coexistence of the different users of the Arboretum. Over the last few years, the amount of research and teaching has increased significantly in the Arboretum. These academic activities require protection of some experimental plots and habitats. There is also increasing pressure from wildlife observers and associations to use the Arboretum. With the current dog population and policies in place, the academic, conservation and recreational missions of the Arboretum are not possible. Safety/security of all users of the Arboretum is also a priority for McGill University. This moratorium is one of the many measures adopted in the last few months to improve safety/security of all.

As dog owners you share this multi-use facility with others such as researchers & students, walkers, skiers, birders and users of the various trails.

As an Arboretum member and dog owner you are responsible for your dog and for following the rules of the dog policy while you are at the Arboretum. If you notice other dog owners not adhering to the rules, it is also your responsibility to gently remind them that our privileges at the Arboretum hinge on compliance.

The most recent version of the Arboretum Dog Policy can be found at:
<http://www.morganarboretum.org/english/access/dogs.htm>

Under this moratorium, there will be NO effect on existing Arboretum members who have a dog membership in 2005-2006. If your dog passes away, your new dog can become a member (subject to evaluation). However, for the period of the moratorium, no new dog memberships will be granted and dog memberships that lapse will not be renewed.

This policy comes into effect immediately.

Benoît Côté
Academic Director

Ian Claudi
MAA President