

## Dog Control Policy

Dogs have long been welcome members of the Sewanee community, and we have been fortunate to have, for the most part, well behaved dogs. As the community has grown, and as legal requirements have changed, the Community Council and the University have revised the Dog Control Policy to meet these changes. Individuals are urged to notify a dog's owner of any complaints regarding a particular dog prior to involving the Sewanee Police Department or other University Offices.

- A. All dogs must be under obvious and effective control of their owners at all times while on the Domain. Owners or caretakers must remain with their dogs while enjoying the Phil White Dog Park and must follow the rules posted at the park. While on all other property of the Domain, obvious and effective control normally means that an owner must be within immediate sight and sound of their dog at all times. Effective control means that a dog will respond to a command given by the owner, including but not limited to "come," "down," "off," or similar commands. If a dog cannot be quickly and effectively recalled by its owner with a verbal command, the dog must be on a leash or otherwise physically restrained while on the Domain. Sewanee Police Department may issue a warning or a citation for a dog running at large. Multiple warnings or citations may result in referral to Franklin County Animal Control.
- B. No dogs other than service dogs are allowed in University buildings, and the Sewanee Police Department may pick up and hold all non-service dogs found in University buildings. Service dogs are dogs trained to perform a specific task or tasks necessary to assist a person with a disability. Emotional support animals, (animals that provide comfort to a person with a disability, but are not service dogs), are not permitted in University buildings except for residential buildings and then only when a student has an approved accommodation for the emotional support animal.
- C. If a dog is causing a public hazard or nuisance, the Sewanee Police Department may issue a warning or a citation to the owner of the dog. Additionally, Franklin County Animal Control may be called and the dog may be impounded. Examples include dogs snapping at, biting, or otherwise threatening walkers, joggers, bike-riders, other animals, destruction of property, etc. Any person who is threatened or attacked should (1) inform the dog's owner, if known; (2) notify the Sewanee Police Department; and/or (3) notify Franklin County Animal Control.
- D. Fees and Fines: An owner who is issued a citation for a dog running at large or for a dog creating a public nuisance or hazard may be subject to fine in accordance with Tennessee law.

References: Tennessee Code Annotated: [Dogs Not Allowed At Large - Exception - Penalties](#)

*Revision Date: August 7, 2020*