

Emily Beebe

From: Jean O'Brien Boback [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 6, 2023 11:01 AM
To: Emily Beebe
Subject: Leash Law

Good Morning,

I wanted to share my opinion on leashing dogs in public. I have never had a dog so statistically I am probably the exception to the rule. I don't dislike dogs, and I do some informal dog sitting for friends. However, I have been put in fear more than once (usually during a peaceful, solitary walk on a beach) by an unleashed dog charging and barking at me - accompanied by the owner. Voice control does not always work - even with the best dog.

Leashing of dogs not only protects the public but also can protect a dog from unwanted and sometimes aggressive interaction with other dogs. Unleashed dogs can make it more difficult or impossible to "pick up" after a dog - I'm thinking especially on a beach.

I am 100% in favor of requiring that dogs be leashed in public. I don't know how this could be enforceable due to the fact the existing leash laws are not adhered to. Unfortunately I am confident there will be overwhelming opposition to this leashing proposal simply due to the vast number of dog owners.

Sincerely,

Jean O'Brien
Property owner since 1957



[Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS](#)

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Emily Beebe

From: LP [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 6, 2023 11:38 AM
To: Emily Beebe
Subject: DOGS



Dear Emily Beebe

As responsible dog owners of Truro, we have our dogs under voice command or electronic collar.

I believe the Truro's general bylaw regarding the control of dogs is sufficient and not at all ambiguous and every dog owner I have met understands and follows its directive.

We already leash our dogs when we are near wildlife and when we around our neighbors and members of the public.

We want to retain **our privilege** to let our dogs off leash under our supervision to play fetch, swim, or heel along side us as we walk the beaches or trails.

We abide by the town beach policy of beach access before 9am and after 6pm. We likewise abide by National Seashore requirements of a 6-foot leash. We scoop the poop, and set a tone of responsible pet management as a guide for visitors.

There is not the population density in rural Truro, especially off-season, to justify a leash law or any more restrictions for our pets.

I object to restricting my right as a taxpayer to enjoy our pets whereas hunting dogs are allowed this privilege even for non residents.

Our domesticated dogs are not hunting dogs.

I and others I know have found abandoned hunting dogs left by irresponsible non taxpaying hunters.

Sincerely

L. Parent

41 Holsbery rd

Truro, MA 02666

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Emily Beebe

From: Eugenia Porges <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, March 6, 2023 11:12 AM
To: Emily Beebe
Cc: LP Parent; Robert DuToit; Jeanne G.
Subject: TGBylaws chapter 4-2-1 Dogs

Dear Emily Beebe

As responsible dog owners of Truro, we have our dogs under voice command or electronic collar.

I believe the Truro's general bylaw regarding the control of dogs is sufficient and not at all ambiguous and every dog owner I have met understands and follows its directive.

We already leash our dogs when we are near wildlife and when we around our neighbors and members of the public.

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I object to restricting my right as a taxpayer to enjoy our pets whereas hunting dogs are allowed this privilege even for non residents.

Our domesticated dogs are not hunting dogs.

I and others I know have found abandoned hunting dogs left by irresponsible non taxpaying hunters.

Sincerely

Eugenia Porges
13 Hughes rd /437
N. Truro ma 02652



In Opposition To Changes To Truro's Bylaws About Leashing Dogs

Requiring people to keep their dogs on-leash at all times will do harm to a significant number of residents and visitors, while providing few benefits to the community. Google "Is Truro dog friendly?" and you'll find that our town is known as one of the most welcoming places in the country for dogs and owners

Anyone who has visited a Truro beach early on a beautiful summer morning immediately understands the benefits of letting dogs off-leash. They run, swim and play with other dogs. It's where they can be dogs, rather than people's appendages.

More important, it's where their people gather to start conversations, form friendships, celebrate new children and grandchildren, trade stories and recipes, gossip, vent, laugh and, sometimes, provide comfort and condolence.

Off-season, dogs and owners roam the nearly-empty beaches and trails to exercise and battle cabin fever.

This is not trivial in a very small town, with no Starbucks or town square or other gathering place. Dogs and their owners represent an important, passionate and powerful constituency.

Current regulations should be maintained and enforced. Violators should be ticketed and fined. But this is rarely necessary because the intense pressure exerted by other dog owners keeps things in line. Almost all owners get their dogs off the beach by 9 and keep them off until 6. Owners with aggressive dogs are told – in no uncertain terms – to keep their dogs leashed. Owners who don't clean up after their dogs are tagged and shunned. It's not uncommon to see someone with a full poop bag tracking down a negligent owner and handing it to him, saying, "You left something."

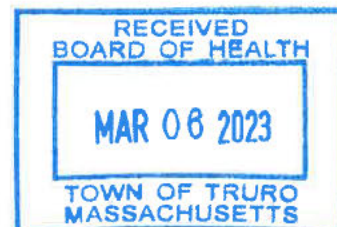
The problems are few and far between.

There are no limitations on huge beach gatherings with tents and carts and buffet tables. There are no restrictions on touch football or Wiffleball or kayaking or sailing close to the shoreline. All of these things pose danger to others, but for the most part, people are respectful and, even when they're not, they mostly get a pass – and they should. This is Truro.

Dogs are part of what makes Truro the kind of place it is. I urge you to allow the current rules to remain in force with no changes.

Sincerely,

Anne & Stan Bratskeir, 3 Lily Lane



Emily Beebe

From: Contact form at Truro MA <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 5, 2023 1:42 PM
To: Emily Beebe
Subject: [Truro MA] Proposed Amendment to Truro Dog Leash Law (Sent by Shelley Brauer, [REDACTED])

Hello ebeebe,

Shelley Brauer ([REDACTED]) has sent you a message via your contact form (<https://www.truro-ma.gov/users/ebeebe/contact>) at Truro MA.

If you don't want to receive such e-mails, you can change your settings at <https://www.truro-ma.gov/user/331/edit>.

Message:

As a long time member of the Truro community who also owns a dog, I would like to register my disapproval of the proposed amendment to the Truro dog leash law. I have to wonder what harm this proposal is attempting to eradicate? As it stands, the community of dog walkers already monitors itself by picking up "poop," making sure that visitors do the same for their dogs, abide by beach off-leash hours, and maintain control of our dogs, etc. We leash up our dogs around wildlife and fearful humans. In short, we are responsible dog guardians. Is pitting one community against another (dog owners vs. others) really the direction in which we want to go in Truro when there are so many other divisions in society today? Why add to the negative and divisive tenor in our world over something so unnecessary? Many of us consider Truro a haven in a world full of discord. Non-dog owners may not realize this but the canine-human relationship releases oxytocin, "the love hormone" into our systems. How many times have we seen a child smile at a dog coming towards them on the beach? How many times have non-dog owning people look delighted as they watched our dogs playing with each other on the beach? Don't we need more of this LOVE in Truro, rather than stirring up unnecessary animosity? Because surely a law that divides the community by pitting responsible dog owners against those who would deprive their dogs of the exercise and play they require would do just that. Please don't enact this proposed leash law. It's hard to understand what purpose it would serve other than creating vitriol and anger at a time when more than anything, we need to come together as a community.

Shelley Brauer

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Emily Beebe

From: Contact form at Truro MA <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
Sent: Monday, March 6, 2023 12:01 PM
To: Emily Beebe
Subject: [Truro MA] Truro Health Board of Health Meeting 3/7 on Leash (Sent by Fred Slavin, f [REDACTED])

Hello ebeebe,

Fred Slavin ([REDACTED]) has sent you a message via your contact form (<https://www.truro-ma.gov/users/ebeebe/contact>) at Truro MA.

If you don't want to receive such e-mails, you can change your settings at <https://www.truro-ma.gov/user/331/edit>.

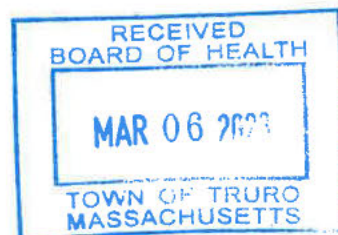
Message:

40 years ago when deciding on a town to rent in for our month long summer vacation with our dog, Truro was the answer. It was and still is dog heaven. We went to the beach to find dozens of off leash dogs and a community of strangers sharing a special bond. Truro seemed to be the perfect place for us. Almost 20 years later when we were deciding where to purchase our retirement home, Truro of course was our first choice. If there was a leash law like the Truro Board of Health is considering, we would have looked elsewhere and not purchased our home in Truro.

I also believe the proposed leash law in Truro would have a negative effect on property values. Many of our newest residents have picked Truro to have either their second or retirement homes here as we did, because Truro is still dog heaven. Changing the existing, reasonable leash law, would negatively impact the social and economic climate of this very special town.

Fred Slavin - Truro
[REDACTED]

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Emily Beebe

From: Contact form at Truro MA <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
Sent: Monday, March 6, 2023 11:56 AM
To: Emily Beebe
Subject: [Truro MA] opposition to change in dog leash law proposal (Sent by Dianne Schermerhorn, [REDACTED])

Hello ebeebe,

Dianne Schermerhorn [REDACTED] has sent you a message via your contact form (<https://www.truro-ma.gov/users/ebeebe/contact>) at Truro MA.

If you don't want to receive such e-mails, you can change your settings at <https://www.truro-ma.gov/user/331/edit>.

Message:

Dear Ms. Beebe,

Please accept my strong objection to the proposed changes by a small interest group to our current leash law.

The current regulations have been in effect without major incident or concern for a long time.

Access to open trails and beaches with our pets using the published guidelines is a major attraction to most residents and visitors. Amending them would create a major lifestyle disruption to all of us, especially those, who live alone and/or rely on our pets for security and companionship.

This would also discourage many senior pet owners from getting the exercise and outdoor exposure so vital to their wellbeing. As, many like myself would suffer leaving our "family" behind.

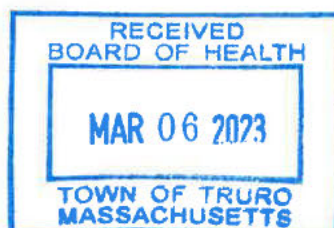
Given the amount of open space in Truro, it is hard to imagine that there is a need for such restraint, which may be appropriate for a more suburban community.

Please carefully consider how this proposal would effect the majority of pet owners in our community.

Regards,

Dianne Schermerhorn, resident
Truro, Mass.

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Emily Beebe

From: Contact form at Truro MA <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
Sent: Monday, March 6, 2023 11:28 AM
To: Emily Beebe
Subject: [Truro MA] Leash Law (Sent by Mary Perkins, [REDACTED])

Hello ebeebe,

Mary Perkins ([REDACTED]) has sent you a message via your contact form (<https://www.truro-ma.gov/users/ebeebe/contact>) at Truro MA.

If you don't want to receive such e-mails, you can change your settings at <https://www.truro-ma.gov/user/331/edit>.

Message:

Dear Emily,

We were saddened and surprised to learn that the Truro Board of Health may vote on a restrictive leash law for the entire town. We are curious about what prompted this change as we've seen little to nothing of concerns. If people have been harmed in isolated incidents, please consider sanctioning those pet owners and minimizing the impact on a community of responsible, dog-loving Truro residents. Alternatively, and out of fairness to your constituency, would you consider this a ballot question for all residents?

Unless you've witnessed the unbridled joy of a dog running freely on the beach you can't imagine the impact of a town wide leash law. It would be heart breaking for owners and pets alike.

So many of us who live here chose Truro for it's rural, beautiful nature and not the confinements of urban restrictions. Please consider the greater good of all dog owners rather than the few outliers.

Respectfully,

Mary Perkins

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Emily Bebbe, Health and Conservation Agent

Truro Board of Health

March 6, 2023

I am writing in response to the proposed by-law amendment that would require dogs to be on leash at all times, regardless of voice control, throughout Truro. As a dog owner and Certified Trainer, I have been walking my dogs for over 40 years on the beaches and woods of Truro. Off leash dogs have never been an issue in my experience.

The benefits of off leash exercise for dogs is immeasurable. Off leash dogs are more relaxed and are able to walk, run and swim at their own pace which is especially beneficial for older and/or orthopedically challenged dogs. Dogs who are off leash develop more confidence; they have more choice in the things they can explore. Sniffing is calming and provides "enrichment" for dogs. The emotional benefits help dogs to learn to think and to make decisions, which in turn makes them more centered and responsible canines.

Dogs are social animals who communicate with their body language. Off leash dog interactions are more "natural". The dogs are not restricted by a leash and an unsure or overwhelmed dog has the ability to retreat.

The intent of this proposed by-law appears to punish our canine companions, when what is needed may be more education and guidelines for some owners. I do not think every dog should have the opportunity to be off leash. Responsible owners know if their dog is socially appropriate. Unleashed dogs should be leashed when approaching another leashed dog as they may be reactive; owners of dogs who run up to people should leash their dogs.

If there is an issue with specific dogs and or owners, let's address that, rather than restrict a way of life in Truro that has been enjoyed for generations, to the benefit of both our human and canine population. Dogs are restricted from the beaches during peak hours in the summer season which is reasonable. Those of us who live here year round look forward to our off leash hikes and beach walks in the early summer mornings and evenings, and during the off season.

Sincerely

Janice Parky, KPACTP

North Truro



Emily Beebe

From: Contact form at Truro MA <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
Sent: Monday, March 6, 2023 10:20 AM
To: Emily Beebe
Subject: [Truro MA] bylaw revision for leash law (Sent by Curtis Hartman, [REDACTED])
[REDACTED]

Hello ebeebe,

Curtis Hartman ([REDACTED]) has sent you a message via your contact form (<https://www.truro-ma.gov/users/ebeebe/contact>) at Truro MA.

If you don't want to receive such e-mails, you can change your settings at <https://www.truro-ma.gov/user/331/edit>.

Message:

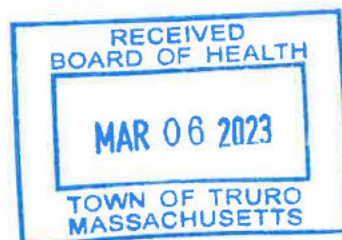
Dear Ms. Beebe,

This is to add my voice to the many who are dismayed at the prospect of new dog leashing requirements. It is impracticable at best. But, more importantly, it would damage the fabric of what makes Truro Truro.

I hope both you and the Board of Health will oppose any bylaw change.

Curtis Hartman
year rounder and Truro voter

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Emily Beebe

From: Contact form at Truro MA <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
Sent: Monday, March 6, 2023 12:16 PM
To: Emily Beebe
Subject: [Truro MA] Dog leash law (Sent by Jennifer Shannon, [REDACTED])

Hello ebeebe,

Jennifer Shannon [REDACTED] has sent you a message via your contact form (<https://www.truro-ma.gov/users/ebeebe/contact>) at Truro MA.

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Message:

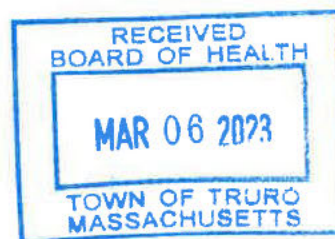
Dear Emily,

I have been a full time resident of Truro since 1995. I am opposed to the newly proposed "Leash Law". I am a dog owner. Walking my dog on and off leash is one of the great pleasures of living in Truro. I walk my dog regularly on the beach, the streets and in the woods. Sometimes on leash and sometimes off. I clean up after my dog. I am sensitive to others who signal they don't want the dog near them. I have lots of positive interactions with other dogs and dog owners, as well as people who do not have dogs but enjoy encountering them out and about. Truro dog owners are respectful of others and enjoy the freedoms of having the dogs off leash.

Laws already exist limiting how one can walk ones dogs. Dogs are prohibited from the beach from 9 to 5 during season and from some beaches all season. There is already a leash law on National Seashore property and the Park Rangers enforce this. I am sorry that there are people who are so afraid of dogs that they have proposed these draconian measures. I do not think that a few citizens who are afraid of dogs should be able to determine the freedom of others. I hope proposal does not harbingers a trend towards limiting the freedoms that we enjoy to recreate with our families and pets in our beautiful town.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Shannon

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Please include this in the letter in the packet for board members for the 3/7 BOH meeting and that it be part of the public record for public comments.

It is my understanding that the BoH is considering a citizen petition regarding requiring leashes for dogs throughout Truro at all times. I may be wrong, but I believe the reason for the BoH consideration is as to whether to recommend this or another amendment to the dog bylaw of Truro. The actual proposal submitted itself is appalling and would be dangerous at the least, but I want to speak to the whole idea of requiring a leash law in general.

We are a community with both beach and woods open spaces. As a community, even in the summer months there is ample area for both people and dogs. There are already rules that prohibit dogs from beaches for most of the day during the high season months (unlike Provincetown which allows dogs on the beach at any time, but requires leashes during the day during high season). And even that is not enforced I am told, as everyone is responsible and can get along.

For many of us our dogs are part of our family. It is how we and our dogs get exercise, socialize, and meet new friends. When we walk the beaches off season it is an opportunity for dogs and people to connect with each other, and to enjoy the freedom in nature. In the summer when you visit the beaches in the morning, before 9:00 or in the early evenings, whether it be Corn Hill or Cold Storage or any of the other Town beaches you will find communities of people with their dogs. For the most part they are running free and playing with one another as their owners watch after them and socialize with their neighbors. I never see dog fights, nor dogs harassing people.

In the summer when there are lots of visitors, I see parents and children alike get sincere joy from meeting the different dogs. Sometimes it is a family who child would love to have a dog and it provides the parents and their child with the opportunity to meet and interact with many different kinds of very sweet dogs. Sometimes it is a couple or family who left their dog at home for their vacation but miss them a lot. They appreciate seeing happy playful dogs. In both cases it brings a great deal of joy to them. Sometimes there are people who have their dogs on leash. Typically, these are people who don't feel that they can control their dogs from running away (like hound dogs or beagles can be inclined to do), or other behaviors that may be works in progress. What I think, when I see a dog on leash is that those people are making wise and considerate choices. It is rare that there are exceptions to this. When I see someone coming towards me and my dogs with a dog on leash, I put my dog on leash until I am close enough to communicate with the owner to determine if their dog is friendly to other dogs. Sometimes, I may be told that they may not be. Other times I find that they were just being cautious. In the many years I have been walking my dogs in Truro I have never seen an unsafe situation occur either between dogs nor between a dog and a person.

I ask the BOH to reject this proposal as well as any other proposal that seeks to remove freedoms from people and dogs in Truro. If there are specific behaviors that are in rare occasions a problem, then address those problems and those individuals, but don't change an entire culture of a town, because of a few people with negative attitudes who have loud voices.

Steven Stahl, registered voter in Truro, Ma
5 Daniel Lane, PO Box
North Truro, MA



Emily Beebe

From: Contact form at Truro MA <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 5, 2023 2:06 PM
To: Emily Beebe
Subject: [Truro MA] leash law (Sent by Louise Briggs, [REDACTED])

Hello ebeebe,

Louise Briggs [REDACTED] has sent you a message via your contact form (<https://www.truro-ma.gov/users/ebeebe/contact>) at Truro MA.

If you don't want to receive such e-mails, you can change your settings at <https://www.truro-ma.gov/user/331/edit>.

Message:

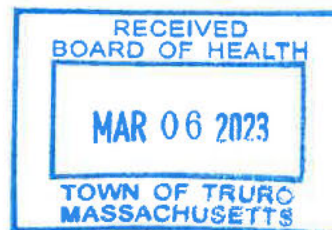
Hi Emily,

Many dog owners are curious to know why this is being proposed. I hope that the board will at least allow dogs to be off leash on the beaches during the off season and before 9 AM and after 6 PM during the months when beach permits are required.

Thanks for reading,

Louise and Chester

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Emily Beebe

From: Harry McGee [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 6, 2023 10:56 AM
To: Emily Beebe
Subject: Dog lease bylaw proposal

To The Truro Board of Health,

The proposal by a small group of zealots to impose a bylaw in Truro making it mandatory to lease a dog at all times, everywhere in Truro is extremism at its' finest.

The very wording of the proposal exposes the nature of this idea and is divisive and inflammatory. I see nothing but harmful situations to my well behaved, obedient, beloved dog arising from this half-baked idea.

I've intentionally chosen to live in Truro and have for many years because of its' rural, easy going nature. I do not want to see those cherished qualities diminished by an intolerant few.

Hank Keenan
Highland Rd.

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Emily Beebe

From: Robert DuToit <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, March 6, 2023 11:05 AM
To: Emily Beebe
Subject: New dog leash law regulations

Dear Emily,

My wife, Janice Redman, and I live in North Truro year round We have been walking our dogs for 25 years off Leash on the beach mostly at cold storage and Coast Guard beaches. We often walk with friends so the dogs can play and run. This is one of the reasons we live in Truro, so that given its rural nature, we can have dogs off leash and enjoy their nature, which is to run and play.

We always use the leash on public roads and on the beach when people have dogs on leash and don't want interaction.

This is a vibrant community activity and we have made many friends doing so. Our cairn terrier has never attacked or bitten anyone, nor our previous cairns. If we felt our dog was dangerous or causing harm to people we would have him on leash. This is true of the dozens of others we know with dogs on beach.

In the off season there are few people on the beach in the morning and evening without dogs. In summer we walk early or late as per regulations and use the leash when there are many people about.

We all are extremely careful to pick up the poop as well as collecting harmful plastic litter on the beaches and value our environment and neighbors.

We are confused as to why this is being brought forward, if there has been an increase in dog attacks or what.

We wish to keep the current regulations as they are which encourages healthy and safe dog ownership and not punish so many wonderful residents and our community which we so love.

Sincerely, Rob DuToit and Janice Redman

39 Shore rd. North Truro

Sent from my iPhone

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Emily Beebe

From: Lisa Di Stefano <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, March 6, 2023 11:53 AM
To: Emily Beebe
Subject: Proposal to amend Truro General Bylaws regarding Dog

To Emily Beebe

My name is Lisa DiStefano I have been a home owner residing full time in Truro for thirty years. One of the reasons I live here because Truro is very beautiful special unique Town! I enjoy walking my dog on the beach or in my neighborhood everyday.

I am a responsible dog owner and I obey the rules of the beaches.

I restrain my pet from wildlife or other people on the beach, I always pick up my pets waste and go to the beach before 9:00 in the summer.

In my years living in Truro I have rescued dogs left behind by hunters who are not responsible owners, but they will have the right to have dogs off leash?

I am a tax payer, most hunters do not live in town.

Are the few people proposing this bylaw change dog owners themselves?

This bylaw change does not keep in the Spirit of the Town of Truro's rural character!

No need to take away my rights and the majority of people who live in Truro. Keep the bylaw Chapter 4-2-1 as it is!

Sincerely,
Lisa DiStefano

Sent from my iPad

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Emily Beebe

RECEIVED
BOARD OF HEALTH

MAR 06 2023

TOWN OF TRURO
MASSACHUSETTS

From: noreply-tpbus.mobility@bl.comcast.net
Sent: Sunday, March 5, 2023 12:20 PM
To: Emily Beebe
Subject: Comcast Business voicemail from [REDACTED]
Attachments: voicemail.wav

COMCAST
BUSINESS

Comcast Business Voicemail from [REDACTED]

1 minute 19 seconds

Ms. Debbie my name is Alan Dylan's friend. I live at 1 skim(?) Charles Street central(?) and have last 40 years. I am leaving you a message on on Sunday the fifth. I will hope to speak to you in the next day or so at perhaps tomorrow in regards to this proposal on the Board of Health agenda for Tuesday for leasing(?) dogs intro at all times. I am totally opposed to that proposal I would be very interested in discussing it with you. I will hope you will call me back before the meeting so we may have a conversation about this proposal. I am at 508 you can reach me at [REDACTED] [REDACTED] will if I do not hear from you I will do my best to be in touch with you otherwise either by phone or in person. I look forward to hearing from you as soon as you can get back to me. Thank you so much. Greatly appreciate it.

This is a service-related email. Comcast will occasionally send you service-related emails to inform you of service upgrades or new benefits. Services and features are subject to Comcast's standard terms and conditions of service and are subject to change.

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One Comcast Center
1701 JFK Blvd
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2836
Attn: Comcast Interactive Media

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Courtney Warren

From: Arozana Davis
Sent: Monday, March 6, 2023 8:12 AM
To: Beach Shore LLC
Cc: Courtney Warren; Emily Beebe
Subject: Re: Form submission from: E-mail Us

Alan,

I received your voicemail and email this morning and wanted to reach out to let you know that we will make sure your comments are included with the bylaw change proposal.

If you would still like to talk via telephone, we can. I am home with a sick child, but I can always make time for us to discuss this matter.

Thank you for your comments.

Respectfully,

Arozana

Courtney: can you make sure to print a copy of Alan's email for the record? Thank you!



Arozana D.T. Davis / Assistant Health & Conservation Agent / Town of Truro / 24 Town Hall Rd, Truro MA 02666

/ P:508-214-0202 / F: 508-349-5508 / adavis@truro-ma.gov

From: Truro MA via Truro MA <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 5, 2023 12:04 PM
To: Arozana Davis <ADavis@truro-ma.gov>
Subject: Form submission from: E-mail Us

Submitted on Sunday, March 5, 2023 - 12:04pm

Submitted by anonymous user: 2601:194:827f:db10:e558:eae5:c820:6861

Submitted values are:

What does this comment regard: Health Agent

Please include any questions or comments: This is in regard to a proposal to amend Truro bylaws to require that all dogs in Truro at all times be leashed. I am absolutely opposed to this proposed change! Why is it being proposed? Truro is a rural town with many "open" areas, allowing dogs to run freely without in any way being a nuisance to anyone whatsoever. Allowing dogs to run free in appropriate places in the town allows people to exercise as well. It is healthy for the dog and healthy for the owner. There is no history whatsoever of Truro being held liable for any action/activity by any unleashed, voice controlled dog and there is no reason to believe that there will be in future. Dog owners are responsible when they have their dogs unleashed. The dogs are well behaved and totally voice controlled by their owners. This proposal is a "solution looking for a problem." There is no problem! This is the essence of government overreach. I am totally opposed to it for the reasons above. I strongly urge the Board of Health to reject this proposal!!!
==Please provide the following information==

Emily Beebe

From: Contact form at Truro MA <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 5, 2023 4:29 PM
To: Emily Beebe
Subject: [Truro MA] New Leash law proposal (Sent by Barbara Lemperly Grant, [REDACTED])

Hello ebeebe,

Barbara Lemperly Grant ([REDACTED]) has sent you a message via your contact form (<https://www.truro-ma.gov/users/ebeebe/contact>) at Truro MA.

If you don't want to receive such e-mails, you can change your settings at <https://www.truro-ma.gov/user/331/edit>.

Message:

Greetings Ms. Beebe,

A neighbor brought this new leash law proposal to my attention just this afternoon. I see that it is on the schedule for the March 7 meeting.

Could you please tell me how this proposal came about?

Has there been a rash of out of control dogs in Truro?

Have there been a series of complaints about dogs off leash? If so, how many?

Has there been a negative impact on Truro health by dogs running on the beach?

How, exactly, is this a health issue?

Has there been a poll of any kind? Has the Board of Health solicited the opinions of those of us who live in Truro?

How has this proposed law been publicized?

Is there a way that residents can register their opinions about this proposed change in the law if they are unable to attend the meeting on March 7?

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Emily Beebe

From: Contact form at Truro MA <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 5, 2023 11:15 AM
To: Emily Beebe
Subject: [Truro MA] Objection to proposed dog ban bylaw change (Sent by Jytte Klausen, [REDACTED])

Hello ebeebe,

Jytte Klausen [REDACTED] has sent you a message via your contact form (<https://www.truro-ma.gov/users/ebeebe/contact>) at Truro MA.

If you don't want to receive such e-mails, you can change your settings at <https://www.truro-ma.gov/user/331/edit>.

Message:

For the public record:

A friend drew my attention to a proposed bylaw change to ban dog from being off leash at all times and anywhere in Truro. This is a most outrageous example of regulatory overreach. What evidence do you have that dogs pose a health risk to the general population? On your LinkedIn profile it says that you are a "data-oriented and passionate advocate [who] values research-based interventions." Relevant evidence in this case include studies that show that dogs reduce stress, anxiety and depression; ease loneliness; encourage exercise and improve the overall health of dog owners (<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/05/29/well/move/dog-owners-get-more-exercis...>). Relevant evidence is also that dogs that get sufficient exercise are healthier, happier, and less likely to become aggressive.

As a Truro resident, I urge you and the Board of Health to bin this proposal. It is a prime example of governmental overreach with perverse consequence--worse health for people and dogs.

Jytte Klausen
7 Gospel Path

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Emily Beebe

From: Jane Lea <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, March 6, 2023 8:35 AM
To: Emily Beebe
Subject: Bylaw amendment

Dear Emily,

I am writing to express my dismay and displeasure about the proposed bylaw amendment that would require all dogs to be on leash at all times. This community has always been a dog friendly community. Many of the friends I have made in my 36 years living here year round have been made through our dogs. This feels like a community shredding proposal. Most people I walk with are responsible dog owners. Our dogs love to romp and frolic and fetch. We, their human counterparts, spend that time immersed in the joy of seeing this untethered freedom. We all pick up after our dogs, have our dogs on voice command and are respectful of others. This amendment would destroy a way of life here. I urge you not to go ahead with this. I would venture to say the majority of Truro feels the same. Enough with the overreach, please.

Thank you,

Jane Lea
17 South Hollow Rd
N. Truro

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Emily Beebe

From: Contact form at Truro MA <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 5, 2023 2:41 PM
To: Emily Beebe
Subject: [Truro MA] Proposal to Amend Truro General Dog Bylaws (Sent by Sarah Lamb, [REDACTED])

Hello ebeebe,

Sarah Lamb [REDACTED] has sent you a message via your contact form (<https://www.truro-ma.gov/users/ebeebe/contact>) at Truro MA.

If you don't want to receive such e-mails, you can change your settings at <https://www.truro-ma.gov/user/331/edit>.

Message:

Dear Emily Beebe, Truro Health and Conservation Agent, I am a part-time resident, home owner, and taxpayer of Truro. I am writing out of concern to object to your proposed 3/3/23 amendment to the Truro General Bylaws regarding Dogs to require leashing at all times. In my experience, virtually all Truro dog owners are very conscientious in following the current Dog Bylaws. Dogs who are under voice and visual control by their handlers are safely off leash, while those owners who know that their dogs should be leashed do so. My family personally has two very well-trained Corgis. We keep them off-leash in safe environments where they are playing wonderfully with other well-behaved off-leash dogs or playing fetch, a wonderful way for humans and dogs both to exercise and enjoy the beautiful Truro outdoors. If we see another person coming who does not have a dog or whose dog is on leash, we immediately leash up our dogs. One of the wonderful and most important characteristics of Truro is its natural beauty, freedom, and relative emptiness. I know many other full-time year-round residents of Truro with dogs, who report that especially in the long winter months, life would lose much of its appeal without the ability to take beautiful walks with dogs off leash in natural areas. Under the current Bylaws, any dogs who are causing problems--due to aggression or not being under voice control and in visual sight of their owners--can be reported and fined. So, there is no need to change the current Bylaws in order to remedy any Dog problems. Keeping the existing law as is will help maintain the character of Truro that its residents love. Respectfully, Sarah Lamb and Edward Black, 5 Corn Hill Landing

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From A Responsible Pet Owner

March 6, 2023

Dear Board of Health:

I am a Truro resident and taxpayer. Over the last 30 years, we have taken our dog, Ted, and many other dogs we've fostered and adopted to Corn Hill Beach. Watching them romp, explore, cool off in the water, and roll in the wet sand, happy as clams, has been a highlight of our years with them and frankly, an important feature of our lives in Truro.

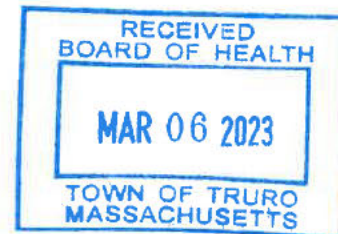
And not just our dogs. We've seen thousands of owners and dogs enjoying the walk behind the dunes to the jetty at the mouth of the harbor.

I oppose a leash law in Truro. Is there an animal safety issue? If so, Truro should employ an Animal Control Officer to address it on a case-by-case basis. Is this a matter of public health? Leashing a dog won't improve their handler's behavior if they already fail to scoop the poop. A handler's failure in any regard should be fined and, if necessary, only that particular dog restrained.

Not only would a leash law unfairly restrict our pets, it would damage our enjoyment of Truro itself.

Thank you.

Polly Marmaduke
Tom's Hill



March 7 2023
Board of Health Meeting
Agenda Item #8 regarding a leash law in Truro.

I am a full time resident in Truro who walks about 25 miles per week in the woods and on the beaches. I walk with a dog who is leashed and another dog who is never leashed. I trust others to exercise judgment about whether or not their dogs should be leashed, as I do. We already have state laws covering dog bites, aggressive dogs, and noisy dogs which can be enforced by police. What we don't have is an animal control officer. Massachusetts has many great Animal Control officers who frequently mediate complaints and work to address problems without the weight of laws, such as a problematic off leash dog. Who is planning on enforcing this law? Staffing shortages appear to be endemic. I doubt that the staff member put in charge of enforcement will be happy with her new job duty. As a lawyer, question whether there can be any reasonable enforcement of a leash law, given how much of Truro is outside of the Town's jurisdiction. We are too small a place for a leash law. I live here because it is rural and we have a live and let live attitude. A leash law would be an unnecessary complication to our lives and will only provide an opportunity for animosity among residents. If someone is offended by an unleashed dog, they always have to option of speaking to the owner and trying to resolve it. If the owner is intransigent, no leash law is going to change that attitude. Let's move onto the real issues our town faces.

Donna Turley
6 Turnbuckle Way

