

Great Idea 2014

Friends of Stillwater Area Dog Park (FSADP) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Our focus is to create and sustain a fenced, off-leash park in the Stillwater Area and to promote responsible dog ownership through community based recreation and education. Per Humane Society formulations, there are approximately 4,800 dog owners in Stillwater alone. We believe our objectives and community benefits reflect the stated criteria in that dog parks:

- **Provide people with places to socialize, build a sense of community, and exercise dogs in a safe environment.**
- **Provide the elderly and disabled a safe place to exercise their companions.**
- **Promote responsible pet ownership via pet education, behavior training, disease control through proper vaccination, and licensing.**
- **Improve public health by confining dog waste to a designated area and self-policing waste clean up.**
- **Enable dogs to legally run off-leash, making them less likely to run free through parks, fields, farms, neighborhoods, wildlife reserves and other natural areas.**
- **Socialize dogs so that they are less aggressive and better mannered.**
- **Reduce risk of person/dog conflicts and collisions by keeping dogs and other recreationists separate.**
- **Promote “Canines for Clean Water” and other environmental stewardship practices.**
- **Host educational and recreational events that benefit all animals and the community.**

Presently, Friends of Stillwater Area Dog Park (FSADP) are collaborating with city officials from Stillwater and have a designated the Jaycee Field/storage site for the Off Leash Recreational Area (OLRA)/Dog Park. Although plans are not finalized we hope to get final approval from city council in May and break ground sometime this summer.

Our 500 plus supporters, are from all over the Stillwater Area. Community members currently must travel elsewhere to patron a dog park. We believe our mission would affect thousands of people from the community/valley.

Once the site are secured, FSADP, with the help from the city, will install fencing, signage, benches, shelter, surface cover and other amenities. FSADP will be responsible for the majority of the funding for these features. FSADP has had 4 fund raisers since February of 2009 and has raised over \$7,000. We presently have about \$6,500. Any grant funds received would go the purchase of these amenities. We believe \$5000 would allow us to complete the project.

FSADP volunteers would shoulder the majority of management of the park which would include: monitoring usage and waste pick up, repair of fencing and surface etc.

The city’s role would be that of waste pick up, snow plowing and the processing of

licenses and or permits, and enforcement of city laws.

FSADP also intends to host community events that benefit people and animal organizations throughout the area.