

#{custom1} = Red Bud

Survey Question Date Entered Survey Record Number Open Ended Text Statement

Please select the county which you reside.

Identify the reasons you choose #{custom1} for you visit? Select 1 or more...

10/8/2009	5105688	My dog loves to swim!!
10/8/2009	5105757	b/c island it works almost as a fence for dogs that don't always come when called.
10/8/2009	5106671	limited access to roadways (dog less likely to run into traffic)
10/8/2009	5107942	often go kayaking from the island with my dog
10/8/2009	5108039	further away from cars/traffic, not too crowded, no conflict with runners and/or too many dogs
10/9/2009	5124207	Good natural boundaries for my dog (water)
10/9/2009	5128649	it's a natural environment, not fenced in or on a highway
10/9/2009	5131618	I am active with the well-organized Friends of REd Bud Isle for purposes of maintenance
10/9/2009	5135902	It being an island makes it seem safer as far as cars go.
10/10/2009	5149225	A lot of other dogs for mine to play with!!
10/11/2009	5174230	one of the few clean water places during the summer
10/13/2009	5235659	It is safer fore the dogs to run since it is a peninsula and they are only exposed to traffic by the play area close to the parking lot. I also take my dogs to the park on riverside. i.e not going to get in the street.
10/14/2009	5272883	On a peninsula, so very walkable but no traffic danger except exiting to parking lot
10/14/2009	5273517	Good boundaries, spacious, multiple play areas, variety of play choices
10/22/2009	5494263	I don't have to worry as much about my dog running off since it is an island
10/22/2009	5500353	My dog loves to play at Red Bud Isle.
10/23/2009	5512953	Dogs get to play with other playful dogs.
10/27/2009	5617068	Natural Beauty
10/27/2009	5640438	Place for both people and animals to swim.
10/28/2009	5654419	Its the kind of park where dog owners who CARE about thier dogs go- where owners play and interact. At other dog parks, people just sit there and watch thier dogs. And those are the types of dog owners who have misbehaved or argressive dogs! I cant tell you how many times I and my dogs have been attacked at Auditorium Shores or Riverside dog parks. This never happens at Red Bud.
11/2/2009	5784875	Beautiful location
11/3/2009	5790721	I like that the majority of people bring their dogs there to excersize them, instead of just sitting around watching the dogs ammute themselves. I love running into people I know there, as well.
11/6/2009	5859472	launch canoe
11/9/2009	5936897	beautiful
11/9/2009	5938020	Most of the dogs listen to their owners.
11/13/2009	6059954	variety of terrain - water, woods, open spaces
11/18/2009	6174602	Beautiful surroundings
11/20/2009	6245184	Large space that keeps dogs somewhat confined by water on most sides.

How do you stay informed or follow current information on #{custom1}? Select all that apply.

10/8/2009	5105688	I don't, word of mouth
10/8/2009	5106217	neighborhood dog email
10/8/2009	5107942	austindoggroups
10/8/2009	5111011	son
10/9/2009	5131618	Friends of Red Bud Isle maintenance group
10/11/2009	5168500	friend
10/14/2009	5273517	networking with other dog people and dog sitters
10/27/2009	5617068	Word of mouth.
11/9/2009	5923990	Know a few OLA people and speak with them.

In the transition from parking to entering #{custom1} you stated some "hazards" are present. List those hazards.

10/8/2009	5105688	Very very busy and tight area. Or, you have to park on narrow street and walk dog.
10/8/2009	5106217	Cars driving through the parking lot at speed, double parking, loose dogs in parking lot. Parking is completely inadequate for numbers using park.

10/8/2009	5106349	not enough parking
10/8/2009	5106540	sometimes i have to park across the road from the park
10/8/2009	5106947	Inattentive drivers parking in or exiting from the park. Aggressive dogs.
10/8/2009	5108039	If you cannot park in the lot, you can park along the street, but then may be forced to cross it, which is hazardous with traffic and potholes.
10/8/2009	5109135	Other cars coming in or leaving area.
10/8/2009	5111921	Lots of cars driving around looking for parking.
10/8/2009	5113400	congested parking
10/8/2009	5113959	Tight parking area does not allow much room enter/exit car with the dogs.
10/8/2009	5114135	if you are unable to park in the lot and have to park out on the street, it can be tenuous w/the traffic -- especially juggling dogs and small children
10/8/2009	5118224	It would be better if the dogs were completely blocked off from the parking lot. An excited dog can exit the trail and large play field area and immediately be out in the parking lot and in danger.
10/9/2009	5128455	Moving vehicles, other unleashed dogs
10/9/2009	5128576	Watching out for other cars because there are more cars that places to park. If you have to park across Redbud, getting to the park and getting in and out of your car can be dangerous.
10/9/2009	5128635	Depending on the day and time, navigating through other drivers also trying to park.
10/9/2009	5128649	if you aren't lucky enough to get one of the spot in the lot, you are forced to park out on the side of the street, which is not the safest area - esp because of the windy roads on which the park entrance exists
10/9/2009	5129155	vehicles--many people do not leash their dogs before going back to vehicles and it seems a dangerous mix
10/9/2009	5130558	off-leash dog area is very close to parking lot
10/9/2009	5135902	The actual parking lot was full, so we had to park on the side of the road, which was a little hairy with two puppies. There was some traffic going pretty fast.
10/9/2009	5135326	Cars backing out, circling close to park entrance.
10/9/2009	5139828	Having to park on a busy street and then cross that street. Maybe adding a light to let people cross the street would help? The only real downside to Red Bud is the parking so if the city could spend some funding to clear more parking areas and make a light there, the park would really benefit from it.
10/9/2009	5140069	other cars very close to OLA
10/9/2009	5140084	crossing Red Bud can be a problem with blind corners. Also getting out of parking spot if parked on red bud is difficult.
10/9/2009	5144973	Traffic on the street if you are unable to find parking in the small lot available.
10/10/2009	5163506	If you have to park on the street, then crossing Red Bud Trail is dangerous w/ two dogs and a toddler
10/11/2009	5170411	Large amount of vehicular traffic in parking area
10/12/2009	5187630	don't remember specifically
10/12/2009	5190996	You have to watch for cars in the parking lot. There is so little parking that everyone drives around several times trying to find a place to park.
10/12/2009	5202988	Cannot get clear view of road to exit because of parked cars.
10/12/2009	5199952	No sidewalks, lots of traffic funneled through a small entry way. Limited road-side parking.
10/12/2009	5206088	short distance to walk across street and cars attempting to locate parking
10/13/2009	5235659	the dogs can run from the play area into the parking lot and then easily disoriented so can run onto the highway. I don't let my dogs off leash till we are past the play area. Everyone in the play area is aware of this and it seems to be an unwritten community rule to look out for each other's animals in this area.
10/14/2009	5269703	If the tiny, tiny parking lot is full you have to park on the street which is hazardous for everyone.
10/15/2009	5312291	Cars not following posted speed or owners not properly watching their dogs. A fence would fix this problem.
10/15/2009	5314161	Limited parking! Not much space from parking area to off leash area and sometimes unsupervised dogs run into parking area creating a driving hazard!
10/15/2009	5332744	There are cars in the same area my dogs are running around but that is what it is. Drivers are very aware and always watch the areas around them so I think it is ok.
10/18/2009	5391476	cars, fencing/gate
10/20/2009	5435241	cars
10/21/2009	5462511	Parking area
10/23/2009	5509036	cars looking for parking spots tend to overlook the dogs that may be in area
10/23/2009	5512953	It has become extremely crowded with young people who swim there, boaters and of course us dog people. And there is not nearly enough parking for the amount of people that go there. So many of us must park across the street or on the corner entering the park, which is VERY dangerous for excited pups exiting cars to get to the park. There are no signs telling cars to drive slower for the dogs or people for that matter, who have to park out there.
10/23/2009	5521597	The parking lot is very close to the park, so dogs occasionally run into the lot. When the lot is very very full, it is sometimes hard to see around corners.

10/23/2009	5525335	During especially busy times, parking spills out onto Red Bud Road and cars jostle somewhat for space. When parking is in short supply, you have to be very careful maneuvering in your car or on foot.
10/24/2009	5535583	cars backing up in a small parking lot. most other owners are very careful and watch out for dogs.
10/24/2009	5545213	there is not enough parking. I have to park a half a mile away and walk on a road with no sidewalks with dogs on a leash.
10/25/2009	5568980	Have to cross street with little view of oncoming traffic
10/25/2009	5574340	Sometimes you walk in between cars to get there.
10/26/2009	5607108	cars, dogs (off leash), easy access to busy road is a hazard to off-leash dogs
10/28/2009	5651974	When you have to park on the other side of the street you have to cross a busy road with your dog to get to the park and it's a bit scary
10/28/2009	5654419	The parking area is circular, hence dog owners have to walk through the parking area with their dogs almost no matter where they park. And people aren't always paying a lot of attention when parking, or are driving too fast through the parking lot- so it's dangerous for the dogs. Plus, with limited parking available, many will park along the street- which is a busy, high-speed street.
11/3/2009	5789955	It's a parking lot. So there are people talking on cell phones as they drive away, even there. It's a short enough distance I don't put the dogs on a leash, but some people do.
11/3/2009	5790721	Since the parking lot curves around, it is hard to trust that cars coming around the bend will see the dogs coming in and out of cars. However, most drivers are very cautious and slow when navigating the parking, so it really hasn't been a problem.
11/7/2009	5866628	cars
11/9/2009	5923990	Have to cross the parking lot. Very minor
11/10/2009	5943025	many people take dogs off leash in parking area.
11/10/2009	5954647	If the parking lot is full (this happens frequently), we park across the street and walk across Red Bud.
11/14/2009	6067162	people, dogs, boats, fishing rods, cars backed up looking for parking spots
11/14/2009	6082492	danger is everpresent when walking w/ any dog in a parking lot -- can't be avoided
11/14/2009	6082916	parking is tight and park is popular. Always afraid of a dog or person being hit by a car.
11/17/2009	6156200	Other vehicles.
11/17/2009	6156280	cars
11/17/2009	6163273	traffic
11/18/2009	6174602	Because the parking is in a circular area, and it's fairly crowded & hard to see, you always have to cross the area where cars are driving with the dogs & be very careful so that they don't get hit
11/20/2009	6245184	There are so few parking spots that you have people waiting in their cars when someone pulls out. Once they do pull out the person waiting shoots in and if there are dogs in the way, they had better move fast.

Also, Police give out tickets for parking in non parking areas which is absurd because there is not enough parking in the first place. Even in the early morning.

You answered "Yes" $\{custom1\}$ is shared with other park patrons. Check all that apply. Select 1 or more...

10/8/2009	5105757	drinking/swimming
10/8/2009	5106217	fishing, firefighter water practice
10/8/2009	5106573	Swimming
10/8/2009	5106656	Swimming
10/8/2009	5107731	It wasn't clear this is what the previous question meant, but now I can't "go back"
10/8/2009	5107942	swimming
10/8/2009	5108160	Fishing
10/8/2009	5113400	fishing
10/8/2009	5115264	Mistake. Not shared
10/8/2009	5116507	Swimming
10/9/2009	5129155	kayak/canoe pit stop, folks swimming and drinking...
10/9/2009	5131618	Fishing
10/9/2009	5133790	fishing swimming
10/9/2009	5134152	Pot Smoking, Drinking, Unrequested Guitar Solos
10/9/2009	5135326	swimming
10/9/2009	5139828	Fishing
10/11/2009	5168500	swiikmers/partyers
10/11/2009	5171721	swimmin, fishing
10/11/2009	5180135	Swimmers, party-ers
10/12/2009	5202988	swimming
10/12/2009	5206088	bird watchers

10/14/2009	5246172	fishing
10/14/2009	5269703	Fishing
10/14/2009	5272883	canoes and boats, occasional swimmers in water
10/14/2009	5273517	fishing, people enjoying being by the water, limited picnicking, families with strollers or introducing their kids to dogs in general
10/21/2009	5455386	swimming
10/22/2009	5494263	There seem to be quite a few brat kids hanging out drinking beer and such
10/22/2009	5500353	Swimming (although posted "no swimming")
10/23/2009	5512953	In the summer especially, there are huge groups of swimmers.
10/24/2009	5545213	swimmers, fishermen
10/26/2009	5599733	fishing
10/26/2009	5607108	swimming
10/27/2009	5640438	swimming and recreational leisure time
10/29/2009	5668316	Swimming
11/2/2009	5784828	fishing and swimming
11/3/2009	5789955	could we ban toddlers?
11/3/2009	5790721	swimming and gathering and fishing
11/4/2009	5822368	Fishing
11/6/2009	5857027	fishing
11/9/2009	5923990	Homeless
11/10/2009	5943025	fishing
11/10/2009	5954647	Fishing
11/13/2009	6059954	fishing
11/13/2009	6061802	Fishing
11/15/2009	6088432	Fishing
11/15/2009	6102785	fishing
11/18/2009	6174602	Swimming
11/18/2009	6192775	those who enjoy swimming in the lake

Please share with us any ideas you have that can help improve the City of Austin's Off-Leash Areas.

10/8/2009	5105688	
10/8/2009	5105757	I love Austin for the Off-Leash parks, but there are only 2 parks that are completely fenced in and both are pretty much downtown. Residents North of 35th have a hard time making it to these parks, especially on workdays. Rosedale and Allandale residents desperately need a fenced dog park. Many people have started using Rosedale school after hours as a dog park because it is the only site near us that is fenced - and this has started to create some issues with neighbors and the school. There are certain dog types that will never be good dogs in an off-leash situation. There is space at Northwest Park and at Tex-Dot at 45th and Bull Creek.
10/8/2009	5106349	
10/8/2009	5106217	Water must be available for dogs, trails are helpful for walking dogs who don't want to socialize, there MUST be adequate parking if people outside immediate neighborhoods are using the area, park area must be large enough (West Austin Park is not large enough for my dog to be comfortable; although I live two block away from it I do not use it.)
10/8/2009	5106540	
10/8/2009	5106671	
10/8/2009	5106573	
10/8/2009	5106656	Please enforce the "scoop the poop" law. People are lazy and have not been held accountable, and us responsible dog owners are starting to pay the price. Bull Creek is first, but I'm certain it won't be the last if something isn't done. As a dog owner and park user, I kindly remind others to do what they should be doing. Sometimes they oblige, usually because they are embarrassed that I called them out, and sometimes they tell me to take a hike. This is where enforcement needs to come into play. I think, especially with all the new vertical use development, that it's important to have places for our dogs to run and play.
10/8/2009	5107076	
10/8/2009	5106947	There is an epidemic of poorly trained dog owners in Austin who refuse to assume responsibility for the behavior of their animals. I'm terrified of bringing my dog to Red Bud or any other Austin dog park because I know that the vast majority of users don't closely attend to their pets. I'm always amazed and shocked at how few people pick up after their animals. I very much want to see either APD or Austin Animal Control patrolling the parks for aggressive dog behavior and for scofflaws who refuse to pick up their dogs' waste.
10/8/2009	5108039	
10/8/2009	5107731	I like the idea of some kind of separate area for smaller dogs to be off-leash but "safe" from the bigger dogs.

I was intrigued by the presentation someone made at a recent public hearing, about the Bull Creek analysis suggesting that maybe the bulk of its contaminants are coming from private residences upstream that may not scoop their own poop in their own yards... It would be a shame to punish the park users for the habits of others...

10/8/2009 [5107942](#) Tough issue. I wish you all the best in dealing with it!

10/8/2009 [5107961](#) Adding fresh footing on a regular/annual basis- a truckload of woodchips is great. Adding the steps into the water is great and helps reduce the mud- like at auditorium shores and redbud isle. Bull Creek Park could use better poop control. Positive signage and plenty o poop bags encouraging poop cleanup will help improve scooping norms. Park cleanup days once a month would be great- anyone who goes should participate monthly, and everyone who goes could be asked to register to help support/maintain the parks. I love these parks! Ok to close Bull Creek Park for improvement/maintenance and public awareness of need to maintain it.

10/8/2009 [5108160](#) Parking ha got to improve, even if parking sites require walking a reasonable distance(half a mile or less) to the dog park. PARD's recent parking restrictions at Red Bud making parking at the Park very difficult. Some of the restrictions are totally unnecessary. Zilker may as well be stricken from the list after the ghastly debacle of ACL. The City needs to make up its mind if Zilker is a public facility or is going to continue to be reserved for special interests. I would say reserved for the highest bidder but the price ACL pays is a pittance that's totally out of scale with its commercial value. We need people running PARD who actually believe parks are for the outdoor recreation needs of the citizens of Austin.

10/8/2009 [5111011](#) It would be nice if you could make sure everyone picks up after their dog, but I don't suppose that is possible. I think it is nice that Austin has so many dog parks. Please keep them open.

10/8/2009 [5111921](#)

10/8/2009 [5113211](#)

10/8/2009 [5113400](#) Need many more OLA.

10/8/2009 [5113959](#)

10/8/2009 [5114135](#) I'm also a big fan of the Bull Creek park and use it quite frequently as well. After completing this survey and comparing the 2 in my mind, it occurs to me that part of the issue w/contamination in Bull Creek may be the lack of trash cans and "scoop mitts" in Bull Creek. Red Bud has definitely made it easy to clean up after pooches, but it seems that Bull Creek is much less convenient to be responsible -- obviously there are logistical problems to having trash cans around Bull Creek, but perhaps there is a creative solution to the problem? What about using biodegradable scoop mitts and having 1/2 buried vermiculture composting bins placed along the trails? Sounds kinda crazy, but we're going to have one in our yard for our own dog waste and I've heard they work wonderfully. Just an idea.

10/8/2009 [5115264](#)

10/8/2009 [5116542](#) Great job. It would be great to have more OL parks though. These parks are SO overused.

10/8/2009 [5116507](#) Improved parking and enforcement of swimming regulations at Red Bud Isle would help.

10/8/2009 [5118224](#) It seems like right now most of the off-leash areas are in the larger major parks. I would like to see some of the smaller neighborhood parks get offleash areas. I would be especially interested in my own local park, Brentwood, getting an offleash area. I know there has been a lot of discussion and support in our neighborhood for such an amenity.

10/9/2009 [5124207](#) For Red Bud specifically, parking is a nightmare as more and more people "discover" the park. Some areas that are "no parking" don't look like the actually have to be no parking zones and could be changed. Additionally, there is no enforcement of Red Bud as primarily/only a dog park. People come every weekend to swim and launch kayaks, which takes up parking space for most of the day.

I would also appreciate a few more fenced areas. My dog is a runner so we can't take her to the parks that have off-leash but no fences (or natural boundaries like at Red Bud).

10/9/2009 [5126666](#)

10/9/2009 [5128576](#)

10/9/2009 [5128635](#) Most problems with OLAs have to do with other pet owners. Not sure what can be done to change people who are not responsible with their own dogs. It's just part of the deal.

10/9/2009 [5128649](#) i'd like to see better OLA's in central austin - the OLA at shoal creek is pretty lame, so i have to go to red bud in order to allow my dogs to really get some exercise. i love red bud, but it's always packed in the parking which makes it difficult to maneuver 3 dogs unless i get a spot in the lot.

10/9/2009 [5129155](#) I live on the east side of town, and I think it would be beneficial to have a of-leash area closer to my neighborhood. I frequent Red Bud Isle because I like and it allows my dog a place to swim, but it is certainly not close by.

10/9/2009 [5128455](#) Fencing and segregated areas for large dogs and small dogs.

10/9/2009 [5130558](#)

10/9/2009 [5131618](#) Develop or maintain vigorous volunteer groups to maintain the parks. Giving dog owners the opportunity to care for their own parks will likely decrease the litter.

10/9/2009 [5131697](#) Make people aware that if they are not comfortable with dogs or frightened for their children, that they should AVOID the off-leash areas instead of being irritated and acting like we're infringing. Also, the most frequent place I go is Pease Park, but unless it has a different name, I don't see it listed. Lately it is overrun with drunk frisbee golfers. They should only be allowed on the east side of the water. They have really messed up the place in the last few years! There has been a lot of work done there, but the paths are still very difficult.

10/9/2009	5134152	More Dog Parks are needed...not just off-leash areas that have no amenities, are remotely located and do not receive any maintenance from the city.
10/9/2009	5133790	I simply can't stand it when people don't pick up their dog's poop. It's this crazy, selfish attitude they have that really needs consequences. I say, ticket them hard!! Also, you could make a suggestion on the poopie bag station and board to maybe not only pick up your dog's poop but if you see another one nearby to go ahead and pick it up as well. That's what I do anyway. There really are many great, responsible dog owners that care about the other people, dogs and the environment. It's usually the irresponsible people that ruin things for the rest of us.
10/9/2009	5135902	I really like the idea of off-leash areas for small dogs, like 20lbs or under. That is a concern when my small dogs interact with larger ones.
10/9/2009	5135326	
10/9/2009	5140069	
10/9/2009	5139828	I am a professional dog trainer in the city of Austin so I tend to have a different view of dog parks. Dog parks can be wonderful assets to the community or they can be disasters waiting to happen. Setting up a dog park the right way is crucial. For example, the park in West Austin (near Clarksville) is an excellent park - not too busy and crowded, water available, poop bags and most people scoop poop, etc.). One MAJOR down side to the West Austin park is that it does not have double-dated entry to allow dogs to come into the entry way on leash and then be taken off leash before entering the main play area. Off leash dogs mixed with on leash dogs is a recipe for trouble. There are also too few fenced in dog parks in Austin, making some of the fenced areas too crowded to really bring a dog to safely. Lastly, the city should consider doing more to educate dog owners on how to be responsible owners at parks. Maybe having free handouts on what to allow and what not to allow or free classes each month on what play is acceptable and when to give a dog a time out. Information on what dogs should not attend dogs parks at all (it is amazing how many times a dog that enjoys bullying other dogs will show up at a dog park an no one does anything). I do not think having playgrounds at dog parks is a good idea - we want owners to be focused on their dogs not letting their dogs play unsupervised while they watch their kids play. I would be more than happy to volunteer time answering any specific questions you may have about behavior and dog parks. I would also be happy to help design handouts to give to dog owners or to help with classes for owners on attending dog parks. I own Buddy's Chance Dog Training so my experience is extensive and I am more than happy to help in any way I can! You can reach me at 636-3793 or through my website at www.buddyschance.com if there is anything further that I can do to help!
10/9/2009	5140084	
10/9/2009	5144973	anything that can be done to increase safety for the animals is key for me. fenced in off leash areas are nice to eliminate the fear of a dog running off and being run over. thanks for trying to improve Austin for us!
10/10/2009	5149225	
10/10/2009	5151780	I chose Austin in part due to animal friendliness and progress in awareness to continue their well being. Dogs are smart and can be of service to the blind and deaf and incredible companions to an owner(s). I have always picked up poop and am annoyed that many do not care to do same. THOUGH with this threat of losing our freedom to give a life to our pets and companions, I believe that many will become more diligent in doing so. Pets do "walk away" to eliminate and we owners always see the elimination. Picking up any poop seen is the goal if you ask me. I do not mind. I cherish Austins efforts in this department. I am becoming aware of the volunteer and am considering to do so.
10/10/2009	5153667	Plenty of baggies and garbage cans, and please help onion creek park! It is filled with trash and needs some attention . . . Thank you!
10/10/2009	5154700	Please open an OLA in East Austin, preferably in Mueller.
10/10/2009	5155664	more dog parks where i can get in the water with my dogs. agility would be nice at a few. restrooms and drinkink water.
10/10/2009	5162338	
10/10/2009	5163506	We would really like to see a dog park in the new Mueller development.
10/11/2009	5168500	Red Bud Isle needs more parking to accommodate its various uses. There's supposed to be no people swimming but there's swimmers/partyers always at the tip of the park and other off the path places. I have not seen any of those people not pick up after themselves. We seem to co-exist well and I wouldn't want to change the current structure unless more partyers start showing up than present and the parking gets even worse. One suggestion on parking is to remove the red lines that were painted on this summer and to not give tickets (they seem to patrol for tickets quite frequently; they used to not do that at all; why the change? you should accept use of the park by all). Not ticketing would be preferable to taking some park space to create additional parking. We were doing fine until the ticket police started showing up. So, stop ticketing or build more parking spaces or get rid of the swimmers/partyers by enforcing existing code and signs. I would hate to alter the mix of uses at the park, so do something beneficial about parking before you try to kick out the swimmers/partyers from a public park, even though it's really a dog park.
10/11/2009	5170411	

10/11/2009	5171721	I think the City is doing a good job. Much of the onus for keeping the OLAs safe & clean is on the dog owners. Unfortunately we'll never have a time when all owners do the right thing, but I appreciate the attention that is given to this issue. Having these areas available is a huge part of the quality of life in Austin -- thank you.
10/11/2009	5174230	We are very fortunate to have Red Bud Isle and Auditorium Shores in the summer because dogs need to cool off. The addition of many mutt-mitt holders at Red Bud Isle has made a HUGE improvement with poop scooping. Last summer (2008), the park reeked of dog poop. This summer, the park was much cleaner and less stinky. If every dog owner would pick up one extra poop per dog, per day, we would go a long way in keeping our OLAs clean. Thanks for the opportunity to comment!
10/11/2009	5180135	Keep them open! Best you can do is try to get folks to scoop poop. Not always going to happen. Perhaps having animal control officers present on occasion would be helpful to have owners remove their unruly dogs. Some folks are a little clueless. Especially at fenced dog parks. This is where folks who can't control their dogs bring them. Leads to major issues on occasion. In general, love the off leash parks and thanks for having them?
10/12/2009	5190996	Please do not shut any of them down! For the responsible dog owners we need a place to let our dogs run. Thanks.
10/12/2009	5196540	I am so grateful for all the OLAs in Austin. It is actually one of the reasons I decided to move here! I have wanted to volunteer to help with the upkeep of the parks that I use on a daily basis, but not known how to get involved. Perhaps a bigger campaign to raise awareness on how to do so would be good. I am also very concerned with the proposed changes to Bull Creek park. I hope it stays off leash. If it becomes on-leash only, I think many people are going to ignore the new leash rules. I know I would be tempted to.
10/12/2009	5202988	I think these areas are working quite well as is. The only major problem I can see is enforcement of the scoop the poop. I can't believe people let their dogs go right in the middle of the trail and leave it there. The only other issue is parking - always!
10/12/2009	5199952	More OLA areas especially in the northwest area. City needs to refill mitt containers regularly.
10/12/2009	5206088	Re: poop the scoop: ads need to stress WHY we need to poop the scoop. How a landfill works and why it is different to have all the poop there, contained by a liner that does not leak, with other garbage that can not get into the water table. I'm smart/educated and didn't understand this. I scoop the poop for cleanliness reasons and to control disease and parasites transmission. I don't remember any of the ads explaining why a landfill is safer. also: a quick google search will lead to articles about methane capture in San Francisco from their animal waste. Why can't we in Austin have collection sites for this too?
10/13/2009	5235659	
10/14/2009	5246172	There need to be more off leash dog parks. Red Bud is way too small for the number of people trying to use it. The recent, ill-considered parking changes have made the situation more dangerous as people are forced to park on road and cross a very busy street. Closing Bull Creek to dogs would be a horrible mistake. Dogs are our companions and need to be accepted as part of the community. Parks without areas specifically for dogs are useless to the many Austinites with dogs.
10/14/2009	5269703	
10/14/2009	5272883	We don't go to Red Bud on weekends because it seems to attract less socialized dogs and owners (probably not much you can do). My dogs are trained 90 lb. German Shepherds, so it's not like I'm bringing fragile dogs. I really don't appreciate uncontrolled unneutered dominant dogs whose owners think it's cool when their dog tries to challenge or dominate a German Shepherd and like to sit back and see what happens. I found a similar problem, only worse at Bull Creek, so we no longer go there.
10/14/2009	5273517	Improving the parking situation at Red Bud would be great. It used to be fine, previous to the draconian crackdown on parking along the edges of the circle and the rather freeform giving of tickets to people who park off the street and NOT on the R.O.W. I've been using Red Bud for five years and only recently has the parking situation gotten nasty and a bit tense. Not to mention that it means a lot more foot and dog traffic on Red Bud Trail which isn't that cool since it doesn't have sidewalks. Otherwise, it's a great park where the fishing folk, the stroller folk and the dog people have all co-existed for some time.
10/14/2009	5284827	
10/15/2009	5312291	
10/15/2009	5314161	
10/15/2009	5324017	
10/15/2009	5332744	I love the OLAs, and consider them to be a core reason as to why I love living here. I think we are doing a pretty good job and I agree with closing off Bull Creek from OL until it recovers (and hopefully we can open it back up again).
10/16/2009	5343068	The dog parks that you guys have made available are excellent overall. However, I live in 78702 and must travel to the other side of the city (either south or west) to get to nearby OLAs. That makes it difficult to get my dog the exercise and socialization of OLAs as often as I'd like. I'd be immensely grateful if a dog park were put in 78702. Also, as a nitpicky researcher, I feel obliged to point out that many of your questions forced an incorrect answer on me. For instance, one asked if I could find the trash cans easily or not. I don't know that I've ever looked for them, so the question doesn't make sense. Yet I had to answer "Yes" or "No," which will be misleading to you in your analysis of the results. Just thought I'd give you a heads up.

10/21/2009	5455386	<p>Thanks for your effort in giving OLA users a voice. Keep up the great work!</p> <p>I visit the OLAs I listed pretty much equally. Parking is the major issue with all the OLAs that I visit. Red Bud is particularly difficult, especially on weekends, which is why I usually go there only during the week, and it's even worse now because more fire lanes have been designated. Turkey Creek's lot is also small relative to the size of the park, but at least parking is allowed along the road, even though it's a bit dangerous because people speed on that road. I both run without my dog and exercise my dog at Auditorium Shores, and its parking is somewhat better if you add in the parking that's available at the Chamber of Commerce. But it's still difficult, given the huge number of people that use Auditorium Shores for various reasons. It's never seemed right to me that numerous parking spaces are taken by training groups at various times of day there, but I can't think of a solution for that--it's certainly a convenient, central location for such activities. Other than parking, the parks I visit are superb otherwise, and I'm grateful to PARD, your committee, and the various volunteer groups for I have to drive to any/all of the OLA's in Austin. Would be nice to be able to walk to one.</p>
10/21/2009	5462511	<p>None that I haven't mentioned.</p> <p>We need more OLAs to help ease congestion.</p> <p>I understand how important children our to our society and its future, and I hope to have my own children someday. However, I do not think that a children's play area should ever be a part of an off-leash dog park. Dog parks are a place for dogs, and people who go to dog parks should be aware of the quirks dogs can have. If a park is designated for dogs, children should not be a priority - there are plenty of playgrounds and children's areas outside of the dog park. In fact, I do not think that it is SAFE to encourage children to congregate in an area meant for canines. Children do not understand dogs and dog behavior the way that adults do, and dogs do not always understand children. Children are a liability in an off-leash dog park; children are not safe in an off-leash dog park. Children should be constantly monitored by parents and dogs should be constantly monitored by owners, but the danger is quite real and a children's area has no place in a dog park.</p>
10/22/2009	5494263	
10/22/2009	5500353	
10/23/2009	5505615	
10/23/2009	5509036	<p>perhaps having a dismount bike sign in the area where dogs are going in and out of the water at auditorium shores. Bikers tend to fly through there and then get angry when a dog runs in front of them or even running into them causing an accident.</p>
10/23/2009	5512953	<p>LOVE having these parks for our dogs. It's so important and one of the main reasons I choose Austin to live.</p> <p>... I seem to have navigated away from the previous page inadvertently. I'll just sum up and say that I strongly encourage PARD to actively partner with Norwood volunteers to provide the level of maintenance and upkeep needed for this extensively used park resource. I also hope that Bull Creek will be able to continue as an off-leash park option.</p>
10/23/2009	5521597	
10/23/2009	5525335	
10/23/2009	5527583	<p>Add a bathroom at Red Bud.</p> <p>Any signs that can encourage proper training and care for your dog would be helpful.</p> <p>keep them all open.</p> <p>Off-leash areas should be rigorously separated from child play grounds with barriers that neither the dogs nor the children can quickly defeat.</p> <p>Off-Leash areas aren't just useful to dog owners. They are part of what defines Austin as a friendly, livable city. I have talked to many people in dog parks who were visiting from other cities, and they were almost always impressed by the larger implications of Austin's off-leash dog areas: that they contribute mightily to the sense of Austin as a kind, animal-friendly, and, as a consequence, people-friendly place.</p> <p>I think that people should pick up their dog feces every time. If they dont they should be fined and this should be on a regular basis. I do like the playground equipment in a dog park but I think that it should be fenced off. The cyclists going by at Town Lake can sometimes pose a threat to dogs. Tennis courts should be asked if they want to donate old/used balls to parks for use. I am really happy with the dog parks now, and enjoy the free use of them as a tax paying citizen. Thank you to all who make that possible!</p>
10/24/2009	5535583	
10/24/2009	5545213	
10/25/2009	5568980	
10/25/2009	5574340	
10/26/2009	5599733	
10/26/2009	5607108	
10/27/2009	5617068	
10/27/2009	5640438	
10/28/2009	5648183	
10/28/2009	5651974	<p>Open more areas to spread out use and post more strict laws on not picking up poop. More and larger signs of expectations of users.</p>
10/28/2009	5654419	
10/29/2009	5668316	
10/29/2009	5686654	
10/31/2009	5730384	
11/1/2009	5752143	
11/1/2009	5752676	
11/1/2009	5753061	<p>Parking is my only concern at Red Bud. I do not have any suggestion as to how to remedy that as I understand why the changes were made in parking. Red bud is my favorite park but I chose to go elsewhere because of the difficulty in parking.</p> <p>I recently moved to Austin and am more than impressed with the off leash dog parks the city offers. My lab loves to swim, and Auditorium Shores and Redbud are great parks for us. I find most pet owners are very responsible and the parks are well maintained. At Auditorium Shores, I do believe some Hike and Bikers don't realize they are heading into an off leash area. I see the signs, but not all exercisers (especially as the are on the move) don't see the signs. My only suggestion would be to make them more noticable so people aren't surprised and can opt to turn around if they don't want to enter the dog area.</p>

11/2/2009	5760206	THANKS FOR ALL YOU DO!!!!
11/2/2009	5776083	I have police officers present to arrest drunk folks. There is way to much drinking going on by non-dog owners. look at TulsaDogParkwebsite for excellent summary of DogPark Rules & Manners.
		Also look at the Johnson City, Tennessee DogPark website.
		Both have strong municipal and community collaboration.
11/2/2009	5784828	This is a jewel of a park, I consider this park a very important part of the quality of my and my dog's life in Austin.
11/2/2009	5786023	More off-leash areas
11/3/2009	5789955	Mainly on the weekends, people bring their barely-walking toddlers eating donuts to the park. And sometimes, the ones that can, run away screaming from dogs. I have personally seen this many times. Hence, we generally avoid weekends at OLAs. From a safety point of view, I think a sign with guidelines on parent/toddler behavior would be helpful. Also on the weekends, I've heard people say, "Oh don't let your dog sniff mine, she doesn't like dogs." It's an off-leash dog park, lady!! Tell those freaks not to bring their dogs either. Thanks.
11/3/2009	5790721	I think the off leash areas are great. The Norwood park is closest to me, however it needs a whole lot of work to be a pleasant place to bring my dog. I was a patron for a while, however, the environment there and the culture around that dog park is not ideal for the safety and well-being of the dogs that visit it. It kind of reminds me of a big trashy back yard, and I have reached my limit on witnessing poorly behaved, uncontrollable dogs there.
		Red bud is great, and so is Auditorium Shores, and even the area around the Palmer Events Center, being lighted and paved helps when I can't get the dog out before the sun goes down (I don't believe that is a PARD/COA site, however it is ideal to bring my dog who is best behaved on a leash, for a walk in the dark.) I don't mind driving to the greenbelt, redbud, or bull creek for all they have to offer. The city is full of gems and I appreciate the PARD making those available and pleasant places to be. Thanks for all the work.
11/3/2009	5792881	Lighting so we can go to the park after dark would be awesome, especially now that it's dark by 6 pm. Our dog is a year old so we don't have tons of experiance with Austin's dog parks, but we're very appreciative that the city has so many!
11/3/2009	5793791	
11/3/2009	5799762	
11/4/2009	5822368	Remove the poison ivy and more people would scoop the poop when the dog leaves poo in the shrubs.
11/6/2009	5857027	bend pit bulls from the off leash park
11/6/2009	5859472	More dog owners need to pick up waste. I average a small garbage bag of poop each time I visit Red Bud Isle.
11/7/2009	5866628	we need more OLA's in east austin!!
11/8/2009	5893988	
11/9/2009	5923990	Putting a fine and enforcing the scoop the poop laws.
11/9/2009	5936897	nighttime lighting at Auditorium Shores on Sundays more parking at Red Bud more "dogs-at-play" signs at Auditorium shores more dog parks and off-leash areas in general more city support for dog parks and off-leash areas
11/9/2009	5938020	
11/10/2009	5943025	
11/10/2009	5954647	
11/12/2009	6011394	need additional parking at redbud isle - big problem at peak use times
11/12/2009	6021971	
11/13/2009	6055033	
11/13/2009	6059954	Keep them open! Austin is one of the dog-friendliest cities I've lived in and its OLA's are unparalleled. I might put more signage at some mixed-use areas (Auditorium Shores) reminding folks to pick up poop. As a long-time dog owner, I am shocked when I see other dog owners ignore their dogs pooping.
11/13/2009	6061802	
11/14/2009	6063818	
11/14/2009	6067162	
11/14/2009	6072651	stop people from moving to austin so they don't ruin the parks
11/14/2009	6082492	Although I visit Red Bud the most, I do think that Auditorium Shores needs more seating for dog owners.
11/14/2009	6082916	more areas...
11/15/2009	6088432	Please, please, please designate an off-leash area in south Austin! The only dog park I can think of in south Austin is on Riverside. It is extremely difficult to park there and it's just as much of a trek to other dog parks. South Austin is only getting bigger, and we would really appreciate a dog park close to home!
11/15/2009	6088830	Most dog parks in the city are in good shape and are well maintained. Unfortunately, there are no dog parks for the people of South Austin located below the dog park on Riverside and I-35 (Norwood?). I would love to see a leash-free dog park located closer to my home or at least in my region. I live near South 1st and Ben White and all dog parks in the city are at least a 10-15 minute drive from my home. I think the south-central region could use a dog park of its own.

11/15/2009	6102785	The police should stop harassing dog lovers by giving out parking tickets at Red Bud Isle. I have gone there for years without a problem, now suddenly we are punished for wanting to take good care of our pets. Surely we can't be expected to drive over there with our dogs, only to have to turn around and go home because there is not enough parking. So what if parking is tight, everyone can always move in and out of the lot. There should be more OLAS, particularly at Circle C Soccer Park; why not restrict ol activity to weekday mornings, when the park is practically empty?It makes no sense to walk around with your dog on a 6 foot leash when there is no one else around for miles.
11/15/2009	6103726	
11/17/2009	6156200	
11/17/2009	6156280	
11/17/2009	6163273	
11/18/2009	6174602	Start issuing tickets to people who don't clean up! I always grab a few extra piles but it's really annoying.
11/18/2009	6192775	make sure that the bins for the mutt mitts are full, i often encounter empty ones, so i carry my own mitts. also ensure that open areas are mowed and maintained.
11/20/2009	6245184	Most of the dog parks in Austin are adequate but there needs to be better education for the owners. Too many times I have seen owners not clean up after their dogs or bring aggressive dogs to the parks.
11/20/2009	6245185	Most importantly, there needs to be better parking. Or if not, the police should not give out tickets...
11/20/2009	6254605	Since PARD is beginning to explore vendor opportunities, maybe some pay for use dog parks would work. It seems like we need a few more in our neighborhoods...I have to drive to get to an off leash park, but there are several parks in my neighborhood.