

#{custom1} = Shoal Creek

Survey Question	Date Entered	Survey Record Number	Open Ended Text Statement
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Please select the county which you reside.

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

10/8/2009	5114249	It's just a lovely place for both my dog and me.
11/11/2009	5992052	shady in summer, like the linear trail aspect

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

10/8/2009	5114249	Austin Parks newsletter
10/9/2009	5122588	American Statesman
10/16/2009	5339569	Friends
11/11/2009	5992052	friends and city staff

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

10/8/2009	5115278	cars driving past
10/9/2009	5125419	Auto traffic cuts through too fast. Joggers and bicyclists should bypass the off-leash area via the adjacent sidewalk but cut through OLA instead.
10/9/2009	5134309	roads without speed humps and some people cutting through them and driving alarmingly recklessly and fast
10/9/2009	5136085	Where I park at the foot of Gaston parking is right off the street (though there's not much traffic), so there's some danger that my dog won't be paying attention or a driver won't be.
10/11/2009	5166494	Cars can drive into and through the parking area and dogs are always crossing the roads to stay on trail. It's amazing that no dog has been hurt, possibly they have. We tend to park near the north end of the trail and stay at the north end of the park.
10/12/2009	5197350	Walking through the parking lot can be worrisome as many other drivers travel too fast. Traffic calming education!
10/15/2009	5319109	there is a street that runs between the OLA area
11/11/2009	5992052	It is close to Lamar. If the dogs are getting in the car or run a bit too far, they are near the parking entrance off of Lamar.

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

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

10/8/2009	5105754	Bikers in Pease Park seem to think they can go as fast as they please. There ARE considerate bikers, but there are a number who are not. When pedestrians (including children) are about I think the bikers MUST accede to the slower traffic. Once I told a biker to slow down. His response: "why isn't your dog on a leash?" I "was" in the OLA. I used to bike in Dallas all the time, not here. There no good separation of bikers, walkers, traffic. There should be NO bikers at Town Lake. You want good separation, look at White Rock Lake in Dallas.
10/8/2009	5108070	I wish the dog park areas could be bigger. I wish something could be done about young men with extremely aggressive dogs, but I can't imagine what.
10/8/2009	5110021	We need MORE off leash areas!
10/8/2009	5113913	Keep OLAs as OLAs. Don't limit dog's freedom for man or dog size or children or crabby leash Nazis. All get along well at OLAs unless rules are instituted.
10/8/2009	5114249	Keep OLAs free zones, just like the spirit of Austin in general. A free dog is the main and only purpose of an OLA. If one needs a leash, walk around the block.
10/8/2009	5114386	I'm surprised that the City of Austin with its technological expertise has not developed a centralized info center to report lost and/or found dogs. All lost/found dogs should immediately be on a online site. We should be able to access this site at home or by going to Town Lake Animal Center, which, by the way should remain where it is at. It is so centrally located. Kiosk's need to be updated with dog sensitive info, esp. when city council has new regs up for voting. This is not dog related, but I'll express this observation anyway...why don't the parks have recycle bins? I can't tell you how many cans/plastic bottles I've retrieved to put in my residential recycle bin. Contact me anytime, I'd like to hear about the survey results. Lee Ann Weislow

10/9/2009	5122588	Definitely create more off leash areas. Dogs need to run. The state owned property at Bull Creek and 45th is marvelous for dog owners and we use it at least 3-4 times a week; sure wish it was city owned. Many of us with dogs want to hike off leash with our well behaved dogs, not sit on a bench in a crowded eroded area. Create nonbicycling areas where dogs and young children are not in danger of being hit by speeding bicyclists (very common on Shoal Creek to have to dodge racing bicyclists). Maybe we need speed bumps for bikes? Remove frisbee golf from along Shoal Creek; this area has deteriorated terribly since this course was put in about 25 years ago. I've hiked Shoal Creek at least monthly since 1966 and the frisbee golf course has caused soil compaction, loss of plants along the banks which has caused further erosion, and now the trees are dying. Unfortunately the golf course extends into the off leash area.
10/9/2009	5125419	Keep bicycles strollers and joggers out of the OLA. Dogs love to chase these people playfully. The people seem shocked by this, despite their choice to go through a marked OLA.
10/9/2009	5128582	
10/9/2009	5128810	Y'all are doing a great job. Thanks so much for everything you provide to the community. The humans and canines appreciate it very much. I would love to see Brentwood Park turn into an off leash park as well.
10/9/2009	5133992	
10/9/2009	5134309	I'd love to see periodic police presence handing out tickets for not picking up poop (or city employees of some sort with license to hand out tickets)... also, i'm also frequently irritated by cyclists tearing through off-leash areas. i have trained my dogs with commands to move to one side or the other, but i've seen more than a few dogs hit - very hard. I don't know what can be done about this, though - I see the same thing on Town Lake trail with bikes screaming by dangerously close to small children.
10/9/2009	5136085	It would be great to have an OLA in the Crestview/Brentwood area. I could walk my dog there and let her run off energy. Some people - and I do it as well sometimes - use a far corner of the Brentwood park to let dogs off leash. It's a great place to meet neighbors and let the dogs run, but we all know we're not supposed to be doing it. A legal place would be AMAZING.
10/11/2009	5166494	We so appreciate that Austin has so many leash free areas.....of course it would be awesome if there were more, but that's not easy. We live in the Crestview/Brentwood area and would love to have a closer leash free park. Thank you for Pease Park and Red Bud Isle. Regretfully, I think Red Bud Isle is a classic example of the need for more leash free parks. We can rarely find a parking spot and it's inundated with dogs. Pease, nevertheless, as plenty of running space and is rarely full. It would be great if some parks, such as Brentwood Park, could have designated "leash free" times. It's a big park with plenty of space for everyone. But all it takes is one bad seed to ruin it for everyone. This means a crabby dog-hater, or a bad dog owner. Thanks for this opportunity. We love Austin and PARD!
10/12/2009	5188414	
10/12/2009	5197350	We need more off-leash areas. The unofficial off-leash area at Brentwood Park is an excellent example of how so many park users can share the same space. I rarely have to drive to a park unless I want a long hike. Parks are amenities that should be provided in every neighborhood. And more of them should have OLAs.
10/15/2009	5316270	I think the main reason many people don't pick up the poop, at least on greenbelts, is because there are too few mutt mitt stations and way too few trashcans. People don't like to carry the full bag around. However, if they knew there were a trashcan around the corner, they may be more inclined to pick it up. I also think posting the signs about all the poop that goes into our water streams(like on the hike & bike trail) is very effective! Put them by every mutt mitt station in every OLA! increase the number of OLA's so the ones that exist are not so crowded and so that people don't have to travel so far to use one.
10/15/2009	5319109	
10/16/2009	5339569	More space for walking. Make everyone using park with dog sign agreement to pick up dog waste.
10/16/2009	5344030	I think that the Barton Creek Greenbelt should be an off-leash area. Most people walking their dogs at that location allow them off leash and are keeping their dogs under control.
10/16/2009	5347898	1. I'd love to have a OLA at Bartholemew because it is close to my home. 2. Shoal Creek Greenbelt is a great area, but it is difficult for my small dog to walk after rain.
10/17/2009	5352991	I would like to see more OLA areas with long enough trails so I can walk far enough to get good exercise myself. I live near Mary Moore Searight Park, and would like a trail that runs along the creek. More trash cans are needed in the park. There is a lot of vandalism and littering in the park (especially by people fishing), also illegal fires. These are much more dangerous and deliterious to the park than having dogs off-leash. In fact, most of us dogs owners pick up other people's trash. I would like to see Searight park have one of the longest off-leash trails in the city as an experiment, because I think that our presence discourages the aforementioned activities that are harmful to the park. I see many very responsible dog owners in the park- we encourage the "scoop the poop" rule to each other. Thanks for involving us.
10/20/2009	5430481	I have a rule of thumb I use at each park each day: Pick up one extra poop per dog per day. No matter how hard I try, I'm sure I am looking the wrong way sometimes. This habit makes up for it. Maybe post this idea to others? It's not all that hard to do. Lasty, PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT PARKS WITH WATER AND SHADE REMAIN AVAILABLE TO PEOPLE WITH DOGS!!! Much of the year it is so hot that without water access the dogs and people would be unhealthy outside. If we are serious about being a 'no kill' city, then it has to be easy to keep pets. Well socialized, well exercised pets are safer for society. The dogs that spend all their time kept contained are the ones that are more likely to be dangerous if they do get out.

I truly value the parks in this city. That's why I've never left since college. I worry that as one park (Bull Creek, for example) get's closed, the others just get more crowded. These parks do not appear to have been designed for the major population increase that Austin has seen, so I think we should consider adding more instead of reducing the numbers of OLA parks.

10/22/2009 [5477332](#) More of them on the east side of Austin, there are really no Off-leash areas in central east austin. This means I have to drive to find safe areas to walk my dog. I would prefer to stay in my own community.

10/23/2009 [5514481](#)

10/23/2009 [5514944](#)

10/26/2009 [5593467](#) Add more to the Northwest Austin Area.

10/29/2009 [5677441](#)

10/30/2009 [5707799](#) off leash parks are great! but you need some on the east side -- we have dogs too!!

11/6/2009 [5855153](#) I wish there were more of them.

11/9/2009 [5931288](#) Auditorium Shores/Butler Area has beautiful design. If that formula (off leash area, lighted water fountain, area is well lighted at night, benches, landscaping, water pond/water elements, well-maintained grounds) could be applied to every dog park then I think Austin would have more people out using them on a regular basis. As it is I feel the older, more run down and tired park areas are not getting utilized because they need to be worked on. For example trash, narrow side walks, no open grassy areas.

11/11/2009 [5992052](#) I think the notices and information that the water supply is impacted by dog waste is most effective.

My observation is that leashed dogs are actually MORE aggressive than unleashed dogs because they are free to "talk" to other dogs in a natural manner. They also are better at home because they get good exercise.

As a dog owner, I really like the frisbee golfers being there at Shoal Creek. We are always amiable and it is sort of nice to have another type of activity happening that is sort of peaceful.

One note of particular SAFETY interest: The bikers need to be more aware of dog off leash areas. As a biker and dog owner, I am aware of how often the two can conflict, with possible injury to either. At Town Lake Auditorium Shores...a diverted path option would be good during peak dog times....or tell bikers to walk in that area. Even runners have fallen when a pack suddenly runs across the path.

More smaller neighborhood off leash areas would be nice too. Converting a neighborhood kiddie pool...like at Eastwoods Park, that doesn't get much kid action into a water dog park would be cool.

11/12/2009 [6022083](#) Getting people to pick up their dog waste would help greatly

11/19/2009 [6212959](#) Install signs on street, it might be called Shoal CreeK, that cuts thru "off leash area" by Lamar. The sign should notify drivers to be aware that there are dogs off leash in the area - slow down. I would not suggest installing speed bumps at this time. The trail crosses this street twice so there is 2 known opportunities for conflict.