

Dog waste

Thank you in advance for cleaning up after your dog and disposing of it in a dog bin/ litter bin.

We hold many children's events on the estate. It is dangerous and nasty for children on nature walks to find dog waste on their exploits!

Free dog waste bags are available from Blair Atholl Information Centre at the front desk and at the Caravan Park Reception. There are also two dog waste bins situated by the riverbanks and at the far end of the Caravan Park.

If you do get caught out without a waste bag, at least use a stick to flick the dog waste under a bush and well off the path.

Please also be courteous that not everybody is comfortable around dogs and that some people, especially children, may be scared of them. Although you know it is harmless, a boisterous dog running off the lead could spoil someone's day.

Scottish Outdoor Access Code says:

"In recreation areas and other public places avoid causing concern to others by keeping your dog under close control or on a short lead."

"Pick up and remove your dog's faeces if it defecates in a public place"

From the Dog Fouling (Scotland) Act 2003:

"You are guilty of an offence if you fail to remove your dog's faeces from any public place and dispose of it properly" - £80 fine

Useful information

Dog waste bags are available for free at the Blair Atholl Information Centre and the Caravan Park reception.

There are five dog waste bins; one halfway along the fence between the caravan park and the riverbanks and one at the opposite corner of the caravan park, two on the castle drive, and one at the village Information Centre.

Elsewhere, please take your dog waste home or to the nearest litter bin.

The nearest vets are in:
Pitlochry - Tel: 01796 472201
Dunkeld - Tel: 01350 727999

For further information and advice please contact the ranger service:

julia@atholl-estates.co.uk
01796 481355 or see us out and about.



CAIRNGORMS
NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY




ATHOLL
ESTATES

Information for Dog Owners

How to keep your dog safe
whilst on the estate.



www.atholl-estates.co.uk



Dogs welcome!

Feel free to explore the estate with your dog and, as you explore, please follow a few common sense guidelines and be mindful of the Scottish Outdoor Access Code. This helps us to keep the estate visitor and wildlife friendly and allows us to get on with our work.

A working estate

Work on the estate includes farming, forestry and field sports. By keeping your dog under control you are unlikely to cause any disruption during your visit. Dogs that are not under control may cause accidents, damage to livestock and cause disruption to stalking or shooting. Your dog may also be in danger from estate vehicles, farming or forestry operations if it is not under proper control.

Ground nesting birds

We are lucky that some nationally important bird species nest on the Estate. These include black grouse and capercaillie. These birds and many other woodland and moorland species nest on the ground and are vulnerable to predators such as foxes, pine martens and also your dog.

Please respect our native wildlife and keep your dog on a lead at nesting times. (April - July) Even your dog being on the loose near a nest could cause the birds to abandon them. There are very few capercaillie left, so the loss of one nest of chicks would be very significant.

Guidance on trails

Red Squirrel Walk – there is a good chance of seeing a red squirrel on this short walk. Look for lots of activity around the two squirrel feeders. Please make sure your dog doesn't chase the squirrels.

Banvie Burn Walk – this is a lovely walk up the banks of a tumbling burn. Please take extra care of your dog as the gorge has steep sides.

Woodend Walk – this walk offers great views over farmland and across to Ben Vrackie. Cows, and ponies graze peacefully in the adjacent fields.

Farm and Forest Trail – this walk passes through the home farm. Be aware that livestock could be moving between fields and that young animals may be nearby. Please keep your dog under close control near the farm.

Glen Banvie Trail – the 9 mile Glen Banvie Trail is a superb walk. This walk includes rivers, spectacular moorland and hill views, and the chance of seeing capercaillie or black grouse in mature scots pine forest. We are very lucky to have these rare and spectacular birds and must take extra care not to disturb them. Please follow the guidelines regarding control of your dog during the nesting season from April – July.

Glen Tilt Trail – This walk offers spectacular views up Glen Tilt and passes through grazing land used for hill sheep. Please keep your dog on a lead or under close control in this upland grazing area to avoid disturbing the sheep.

Always remember:

- Never let your dog worry or attack livestock
- Do not take your dog into fields where there are lambs, calves or other young animals
- If you go into a field of farm animals, keep your dog on a short lead or under close control and keep as far as possible from the animals.
- If cattle react aggressively and move towards you, keep calm, let the dog go and take the shortest, safest route out of the field.
- Deer control can take place in forests all year round, often around dawn and dusk, please take extra care at these times.
- Please use the Hillphones service from 1st August – 20th October to find out where deer stalking is taking place on the open hill (recorded message on 01796 481740)
- Read any warning signs regarding forestry operations and take extra care as timber lorries and felling machinery may be operating in the area.

We have waymarked trails that pass through diverse woodlands, rugged moorland and by spectacular rivers and waterfalls. These range from 1 – 10 miles and are illustrated in our walks leaflet, which is available for £1.50 from the Blair Atholl Information Centre, Caravan Park shop and Castle Shop.

You can also find map boards, for the trails, at the estate information centre and at the Glen Tilt car park. All of the waymarked trails begin at the Glen Tilt car park.