

Fresh Pond Incidents Reported between 9/09 and 10/10

Draft of 10/12/10

This document contains a list of non-criminal incidents at Fresh Pond that were formally reported to Cambridge Water Department staff between September 2009 and October 2010. These incidents were reported via email, witness accounts, voicemail and verbal complaints written up by the Chief Ranger.

#	Dates &/or # of occurrences	Description of Event	Follow Up
1	5 separate events between 9/09 & 7/10	2 off-leash Dobermans repeatedly chased & attacked 1 off-leash Wheaten Terrier out of FPR, owner promised to put dogs on leash/use shock collars but hasn't done that, Wheaten Terrier is now leashed	Report filed w/Animal Commission
2	complaint filed 11/09	off-leash dog blocked the path of another off-leash dog, charged at it, and bit it behind the front leg, then left to catch up with owner who was running	witness contacted ranger, Animal Commission notified, though no dogs or owners identified
3	complaint filed 11/09	man received puncture wound on the back of hand from off-leash dog, dog owners left FPR following incident, man put tissue on wound, sought medical attn.	victim informed ranger, who searched for the dog and owners though they were not found, Animal Commission contacted
4	complaint filed 11/09	2 small off-leash dogs barked at a woman walking on the path, she stepped to the side of the path & one of the dogs jumped on her and bit her on the leg below knee	victim informed ranger, who searched for dogs, who were not found, Animal Commission contacted, medical attn. sought
5	3 separate events involving 3 different dogs, complaint filed 12/09	off-leash dogs charged at cyclist on path	cyclist filed complaint with Mr. Norton & Mr Rossi
6	complaint filed 12/09	off-leash dog ran up to 10 year-old boy, who put out his hand to pet her, dog barked and nipped his hand, inattentive owner on phone ahead of dog	parent contacted ranger, who filed report w/ Animal Commission
7	complaint filed 1/10	woman hit in the knee and knocked down by off-leash dog, fell on both knees, scraped knees and hand	victim refused ambulance, needed help getting up, rode ranger vehicle, report filed w/Animal Commission
8	complaint filed 1/10	man on scooter got upset when dog barked at his son as they passed on scooters on the perimeter path, and hit the dog w/ scooter	dog owner filed complaint w/ CWD
9	3 separated incidents, 1 incident walker hit twice, complaint filed 2/10	a Saturday morning racer yelled at 2 pedestrians, 1 handicapped, to "get out of my way" as they were walking close to the fence, runner hit both pedestrians, knocked handicapped person into the fence and kept running, walker hit again by different runner saying "get out of my way"	walker has repeatedly asked coaches for names of clubs & individuals involved, though coaches refuse to give any information, witness, wrote up a complaint, report written up, meeting arranged with CWD & race organizers
10	complaint filed 3/10	dog knocked over child, took lunch box, grabbed food, & nipped woman's hand	report filed w/ Animal Commission, victim sought medical treatment
11	complaint filed 3/10	rare bird not seen in FPR for decades chased away by off-leash dog running through Lusitania Meadow	visitor reported frustration with off-leash dogs running through sensitive landscapes, ranger responded with letter emphasizing need for visitor education
12	complaint filed 4/10	off-leash dog bit man on buttock while ranger vehicle approached, pants torn but skin unbroken due to wallet	Report filed w/Belmont Animal Control
13	same 2 dogs: 2 times, complaint filed 4/10	dog attacked another dog, once while attacking dog was with dog walker, once with owner	Ranger contacted owner who agreed to leash dog at FPR
14	report filed 4/10	ranger asked dog owner to remove off-leash dogs from planting beds, dogs were not wearing Cambridge tags	ranger explained off-leash rules requiring dogs to be under voice command and why dogs must not enter planting beds
15	complaint filed 4/10	runner intercepted by dog, who got tangled up with runner, then approached from behind tripping runner again, owner swore at runner when confronted	Victim unable to give details to help identify dog & owner

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16	2 times with same individuals, complaint filed 5/10	walker tangled up with off-leash dog fetching ball on path, ball landed at walker's feet, when confronted owner stated he'd "throw the ball wherever he wanted"	walker did not give full name, complaint documented by CWD
17	complaint filed 5/10	Tobin Schoool 1st/2nd graders chased & knocked down by off-leash dog - dog chased children, grabbed their backpacks, jumped on them and knocked them down	teacher will refrain from taking students to FPR for nature walks
18	complaint filed 6/10	dog owner confronted other dog owner when her dog was attacked by the other dog, the owner of aggressive dog then responded by shouting ethnic slurs and throwing rocks	complaint filed with ranger and police, both dog owners met at a hearing in Cambridge District Court
19	same 2 dogs: 3 times, complaint filed 6/10	dog attacked another dog, both off-leash, owner of attacking dog ignored other dog owner & walked away when asked to leash dog	Report filed w/Animal Commission
20	complaint filed 7/10	woman came out of ranger station bathroom stall & had difficulty getting by off-leash dog while owner was in the other stall	complaint filed with ranger, dog owner also contacted ranger to assure her that in the future she'll leave her dog outside
21	incident occurred 7/10	man threatened to stab dog while sitting at Little Fresh Pond	reported to CWD and CPD called, person who made threat arrested
22	complaint filed 8/10	dog put front paws on 82 year-old man's shoulders which resulted in man falling backwards on the ground, dog owner appeared unconcerned	complaint filed with ranger, dog & owner not found, Animal Commission notified
23	complaint filed 9/10	2 walkers almost trampled by runners in race, walker feels endangered every Sat when there is a larger unpermitted race & concerned about elderly, children, & dogs, maintains that races incompatible with other uses or FPR	report written up, meeting arranged with CWD & race organizers
24	incident report filed 9/10	cyclist hit dog near golf course club house path, no dog owner nearby, dog ok	woman & bike transported to CWD for 1st aid, incident report filed
25	complaint filed 9/10	runner in race knocked bicyclist against perimeter fence, cyclist also witnessed parent pulling young child to safety at Sousa's rock	report written up, meeting arranged with CWD & race organizers
26	complaint filed 10/10	dog-walker yelled at & told to move & hurry up b/c runners coming through during race, coach laughed when asked by dog-walker whether runners are told to respect other users	boys' head coach sent apology to dog-walker and will speak with girls' coach and all athletes from other programs they compete with to be civil to others pond users, head coach will also attend shared use mtg.