



North Wales Wildlife Trust

Management of Dogs on North Wales Wildlife Trust Property

Position Statement

The Wildlife Trust recognises the value and role(s) dog ownership can bring including as assistance dogs. However, we also recognise that dogs, or their poor control, can create a number of issues with impacts on wildlife and/ or stock grazing our land.

We will permit dog walkers on our land as set out below:

- On all Wildlife Trust nature reserves, dog owners must keep their dogs on a lead.
- Dogs are not permitted in any water body on any nature reserve
- In certain areas and/ or at certain times, the Wildlife Trust may:
 - Relax this rule
 - Ban dog walkers entirely or over part of a land holding, if appropriate through the use of Dog Control Orders¹

This approach allows for a single, simple message to be communicated to visitors to our land. It is noted that public rights of way and Open Access land would present particular complications, e.g. there is no law which says that a dog must be kept on a lead when using a public right of way.

As resources allow, the Wildlife Trust will assess each nature reserve individually and if necessary identify a site-specific dog management approach. This more nuanced approach reflects our awareness of and sensitivity around accessibility uses of dogs e.g. guide dogs.

The Wildlife Trust will communicate its position on site, through various media and in person through on-site engagement with users. A key channel is our [Helpful Advice when Visiting our Nature Reserves | North Wales Wildlife Trust web page.](#)

¹ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2007/702/contents/made>