



PET POLICY OVERVIEW

- 1. Starting at the opening of the 2009 season, pets will no longer be allowed at Portland Farmers Market's two busiest farmers markets.**
 - a. The ban applies to Saturday Market at PSU and Wednesday Market Downtown, both located on the South Park Blocks.
 - b. Animals will still be permitted at Thursday Market at Eastbank, the Thursday market at Ecotrust, and the new Sunday King Market.
 - c. Portland Farmers Market's management is also banning other pets which occasionally join their owners while shopping, including iguanas, cats, ferrets and exotic birds.
 - d. All markets continue to allow service animals.

- 2. The ban is the result of repeated complaints from vendors and shoppers.**
 - a. Year after year, the market has received repeated complaints from vendors and shoppers about dogs:
 - Crowding the marketplace
 - Taking food off vendor tables
 - Relieving themselves and vomiting in the walkways
 - Potentially injuring customers and other pets

- 3. In reviewing these complaints, PFM determined that the crowded circumstances at the market created a potentially dangerous situation for pets:**
 - a. As the markets get busier with each season, pets have the potential to
 - Harm market customers
 - Harm other pets
 - Damage property
 - b. Once this potential was identified, we were obligated to take steps to address the problem. Subsequently, the board and the staff made the decision to ban dogs from our two busiest markets.

- 4. Although the market is located in a public park, PFM has the right to ban pets from the market.**
 - a. PFM is authorized to operate in the South Park Blocks in accordance with an exclusive license agreement between the market and Portland Parks and Recreation.
 - b. According to that agreement, the market has the right to limit animals at an event.
 - c. Similarly, the Blues Festival pays to use park space on the Waterfront. They also do not allow dogs at their events.

- 5. We are not alone in this policy change.**
 - a. Hillsdale Farmers Market and Beaverton Farmers Market have banned dogs within the past three years
 - b. Other urban farmers markets in San Francisco (Ferry Plaza) and Seattle (West Seattle, U-District, Lake City, Phinney).

- 6. While some dog owners are understandably upset with this change, we have heard from many dog owners and non-dog owners who support the new policy.**
 - a. We have heard from many appreciative people that these two markets are just too busy to accommodate so many canines.