



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON OKINAWA
UNIT 35114
APO AP 96376-5114

IMJN-OMW

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Pet Leash Policy for United States Army Garrison (USAG) Okinawa

1. Purpose: To provide guidance and establish policy governing pets visiting Torii Station. Pet Leash Policy, Owner and Pet Rules, and Pet Policy Infractions will be strictly enforced for safety, sanitation, wildlife protection, and courtesy purposes.
2. Background: From August 2019 until May 2020 USAG Okinawa ran an experimental liberal off-leash pet policy on certain areas of the installation. Although most owners, and by extension pets, were in full compliance, a significant portion of the population was unable to comply with the previous policy. Some challenges included pet-owner discipline and compliance, confusion about off-leash and on-leash zones, and responsible clean-up of pet waste. In addition, protected and endangered wildlife on Torii Station were exposed to higher unnecessary risk.
3. USAG Okinawa requires that all pets be kept on a leash at all times with the exception of the following:
 - a. No pets on the Landing Zone and the adjacent beach.
 - b. No pets in beach Zone 3, areas in front of CJ's and Waterslide.
 - c. No pets are allowed on sports fields.
 - d. No pets are allowed within 50 feet of an eating establishment.
 - e. Pets participating in water activities such as paddle boarding, boating etc., are allowed to be off leash however, this does not include wading in the surf.
 - f. The only non-leash area on the installation will be in the Torii Station Dog Park, to be completed by end of 2020.
 - g. By directive from the USAG Okinawa Garrison Commander, exceptions for limited special events will be advertised as approved.
 - h. No pets are allowed within 50 feet of a marked migratory bird or turtle nest.

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Nesting season is from 01 April to 31 August and nests are prominently marked and highly visible along the entire stretch of the beach.

4. The following Owner and Pet Rules will be adhered to:

a. All pets must be up to date on all vaccinations to include rabies and vet registration at an on-base veterinary clinic.

b. Torii Pet Leash Policy will be adhered to at all times.

c. All pet waste will be picked up immediately and disposed of properly in provided trash receptacles.

d. Only well behaved animals will be allowed on the installation. Any threatening or aggressive behavior will result in a violation.

e. Dog handlers must be at least 12 years of age. Handlers, regardless of age must be able to control their pet(s) at all times. If a handler has more than one pet, control of animals must be maintained at all times.

f. Pet owners will NOT ALLOW pets to dig on the beach or grass areas. Torii Beach is an active nesting area for several aquatic animals to include several endangered or protected turtles and birds; by law these areas cannot be disturbed.

5. The following penalties for infractions of the Pet Leash Policy and Owner and Pet Rules are established to maintain safety and good order of pets on the beach. All violations and actions will be documented by the Military Police and Outdoor Recreation (ODR) personnel. Documentation of violations will be kept on file at ODR.

a. First Violation: Pet owner will be asked to correct infraction on the spot, i.e., pick up waste; follow the proper leash policy, etc.

b. Second Violation: Pet owner will have to remove animal from the premises immediately and will be barred from bringing any pet on the installation for 14 days.

c. Third Violation: Pet owner will be barred from bringing any pet on the installation for 30 days.

d. Fourth Violation: Pet owner and pet will be barred from the installation for the duration of their tour of duty.

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e. Any animal that shows any signs of aggression will be asked to leave immediately.

6. This policy will remain in effect until rescinded or superseded.

7. The point of contact for this policy letter is, DFMWR, Ms. Natalie M. Boutte at DSN 644-5396.

Encl
Annex 1

JOEL P. GLEASON
LTC, LG
Commanding

DISTRIBUTION:

Garrison Command Sergeant Major
Deputy to the Garrison Commander
All USAG Okinawa Directorates
All USAG Okinawa and Tenant Units