

September 2020 | Washington • Idaho

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Connections



Get your walking in with Paws on Patrol

It is estimated that there is about 90 million dogs in the United States, and one in every three households has a canine resident that has to go out for a walk at least a handful of times a day. Spokane is no different and for the last couple of years, Spokane Community Oriented Policing Service (COPS) has put together a volunteer program that caters specifically to dog walkers.

Paws on Patrol welcomes walkers of all dogs, big and small — Rosie the Rottweiler is just as welcome as Chico the Chihuahua — as long as they can walk on a leash.

On a hot Monday evening, a group of Paws on Patrollers gathered at the downtown dog park on West Riverside Avenue, to walk through part of downtown.

Some were nearby residents; others drove in from the Spokane Valley to take part in the downtown walk. Once you are a member of Paws on Patrol you are welcome to go to any meet-up you'd like, anywhere in town.

To become an official Paws on Patrol volunteer you must go through training and a background check provided by COPS. The training shows participants how to keep an eye on their neighborhood while they are out walking their dogs.

Dog walkers already notice a lot about their neighborhood: which cars are in the driveways, where that one cat lives (your dog surely knows) and when neighbors leave for work or come home — all stuff that may seem insignificant until something is amiss.

Paws on Patrol is basically Neighborhood Observation Patrol while you are already doing something you love: walking your dog.

COPS' training shows you how to deal with unexpected situations in a safe and responsible manner, and how and when to report certain things you may come across.

If this sounds like a great program for you and your furry bestie, here's the link to sign up: spokanecops.org/paws-on-patrol or you can call (509) 625-3300 for more information.



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