

# COPWDC 2024 Water Trial Training Agreement & Permit

## Chatfield State Park, Gravel Pond

Calendar Period: May 1, 2024 - September 30, 2024

Permit Times: Water Dog Calendar Days 6:30 am – 9:00 pm, light permitting

Contact: Vernita Hare, Water Chair, 719.648.8005

### Water Trial Training Considerations

One of the club activities that the Colorado Portuguese Water Dog Club (COPWDC) sponsors is training for the annual COPWDC Water Trails held in September. To provide members with a place to train their PWDs, COPWDC applies for an annual Special Activity Agreement (SAA) from Chatfield State Park. To continue to receive permission to use the Gravel Pond for water trial training, it is incumbent upon our club and our members to act responsibly and abide by the terms of this training agreement, including all COPWDC rules and Chatfield State Park regulations.

**This COPWDC Water Training Agreement & Permit is only for COPWDC members who are actively training their Portuguese Water Dogs for PWDC sponsored Water Trials. Club members who are not training with their PWDs for a PWDC-sponsored Water Trial are not permitted to use the Gravel Pond.** If you have another breed of dog, it is not included under this COPWDC Training Agreement & Permit and cannot be trained at the Gravel Pond. There are other dog training areas at this park and other Front Range locations.

The Chatfield State Park Gravel Pond grants SAAs to several user groups: scuba divers, master swimmers, the Newfoundland dog club, and others. It is critical that we all respect each other's authorization to use the Gravel Pond and try to move to a location that accommodates all of the user groups. COPWDC and the other authorized Gravel Pond users try to coordinate their larger events as much as possible and publish training schedules. On non-event days of the week, it is usually easy to informally agree on where to train to share the beach areas. Note there are also good training areas at the south end of the gravel pond where there is ample parking.

The Park has placed a bulletin board on the main north beach area. This bulletin board has the various clubs that are authorized user groups along with contact information. There is also information on permitted special events and training schedules that occur throughout the summer at the Gravel Pond. This helps to keep us all informed and to effectively plan our own training times.

Recognize that when you begin to train, your dogs are experiencing lots of new situations and are excited. Dogs that "always come when called" can do strange things in a highly stimulating environment – and get into trouble in a flash. So be aware of some of the distractions and possible injuries that could occur if you are not vigilant in keeping your dog/s under control, preferably on a leash/long line or in a crate, and watchful at all time. Sometimes, privately owned horses walk up on the beach, where you are training, to get a drink of water or a horseback riding party will be traveling close to the beach area. Dogs need to be leashed or crated so that they do not run at the horses – a serious accident could occur in situations like this. Along with horses, scuba divers could surface right under your dog and the diving equipment noises may spook a new dog at first. Many discarded fish hooks and fishing line can be found at the beach areas. Before beginning training, always check-out the beach area for fish hooks and fishing line. A small rake works well for this. Closed toed shoes are a great way to avoid fish hooks and the discomfort of the coarse sand. Scuba stores carry great closed toes shoes and you are required to wear them in water trials. Sometimes, there are uninformed and/or rude dog owners who let their dogs off leash. Having your dog/s leashed or crated can prevent a nasty dog fight, injury or trauma to you or your dog.

Park Rangers may ask you to produce your COPWDC Water Training Agreement & Permit at any time. Chatfield administration has a list of all COPWDC members authorized to use the Gravel Pond for training purposes. Keep your signed copy of this COPWDC Water Training Agreement & Permit with you or in your vehicle at all times. If you cannot produce your Training Agreement & Permit, you may be ticketed and asked to leave the site. Please be courteous to the rangers even if you are asked to leave. It is your responsibility to have this document with you. Rude or uncooperative behavior reflects poorly on COPWDC and you may have your user privileges revoked.

An excellent rule to follow is ***“always leave an area or site cleaner than you found it”***. It is our privilege to use this Gravel Pond, not a right. Our SAA can be taken away at any time, so please be considerate of and cooperative with all others who Chatfield has authorized to use the Gravel Pond.

Emergency Contact Information: Chatfield State Park Rangers: 303-791-7275. If the State Park office is closed you may contact the Jefferson County Sheriff: 303-277-0211

### **Rules and Terms of Agreement:**

- Dogs must be kept under control while at the Gravel Pond: in a crate, exercise pen, leash/longline, or in your vehicle.  
~ If you find dogs off leash you may inform the offending person that this area is only designated for PWDs and Newfoundlands by Special Activity Agreements/Permits (refer to the posted bulletin board).
- Parking on the side of the road is illegal.  
~ If the gravel pond north parking lot is full, you may park your vehicle at the King Fisher Parking Lot. This lot is on the north side of the paved road by the entrance to the Gravel Pond.
- **You must cooperate with all authorized users of the Gravel Pond.**  
~ **You may train with your dogs as stipulated herein at the 3 ponds on the north end location at the Gravel Pond as long as you are cooperative with all authorized users of this pond, including, but not limited to: the public, scuba divers, master swimmers, and Newfoundland club members and their dogs. *This is a public pond, be NICE and get along with everyone, especially other water dog people.***  
***If you have reactive dogs keep them in the car, never yell at anyone because your dogs react!!!***
- Never allow your dogs to approach, bark at, or otherwise harass the horses.  
~ Rented horses frequently come by the Gravel Pond north beach area. These horses often have inexperienced riders on board. Inexperienced riders are at great risk if their horses shy or bolt.  
~ Always *immediately* obey any orders given by the horse wranglers. The horse wranglers are responsible for the riders' safety.  
~ Be watchful when a party of horses and riders are near; take special precautions to keep your dogs under control and quiet.
- Your boat must be clearly and permanently marked with your name and address.
- You must always carry a whistle with you when you are in your boat.  
~ This is a water safety rule.
- Life vests must be worn at all times when you are in your boat or training in water over waist deep.
- Swimming is not allowed under this Special Activities Agreement/Permit unless you are performing a water exercise with your dog.
- Do not train your dogs at an area of the site when any special events are being held throughout the summer.  
~ These events are posted on the COPWDC calendar. Provide other users the same consideration you would appreciate if it were your water trial competition.
- Always carry poop bags and clean up after your dog.

- Please adhere to the training times on this training permit.  
~ These are the times that are authorized by Chatfield in our SAA. The rangers are aware of the times we are allowed at the pond.
- The Chatfield SAA is a non-commercial permit.  
~ No fee can be charged for any service during the use of this SAA permit nor may any user profit during the use of this permit.
- Do not take individuals who have not been issued a COPWDC Water Training Agreement & Permit to train their PWDs at the Gravel Pond.
- Do not duplicate these documents for others to use or give to others.

Failure to follow the rules and terms of this signed agreement puts COPWDC and the entire Chatfield Special Activity Agreement permit at risk of being canceled.

I/we have read and agree to be bound by rules and terms of this agreement and the guidelines identified herein and the Agreement/Liability Release printed below.

---

**Training Permit Applicant Signature**

---

**Date**

---

**Training Permit Applicant Signature**

---

**Date**

## 2024 COPWDC Water Training Permit & Release of Liability

MEMBER(S) NAME/ ADDRESS/ PHONE (cell)/EMAIL

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_

<u>Dog's Name</u>	<u>Age</u> <u>Sex</u> <u>Color</u>	<u>Coat type</u>
1)		
2)		
3		
4		

I (we hereby certify that I (we am/are a current member of COPWDC and the actual owner/s of the dog/s listed above. The contact information provided is current. I (we have read and agree to be bound by the terms of this Agreement, including any COPWDC and Chatfield State Park rules and regulations. I (we acknowledge that it is my (our responsibility to use the proper restraints to keep my (our dog/s under control and that my (our dog/s is/are not a known hazard to persons or other dogs. I (we agree that the Permit Holder (COPWDC, the COPWDC Water Chair or designee has the right to refuse to allow me (us to use the COPWDC Water Training Permit for the Gravel Pond at Chatfield State Park for failures to adhere to the terms of the signed agreement as outlined above or failure to sign the release of liability below.

**Hold-harmless:** In consideration of the acceptance of my application to use the Chatfield State Park 2024 Water Training Permit and the opportunity to participate in Portuguese water dog water training activities, I (we) agree to hold the PWDCA (the parent club), the COPWDC (the club sponsoring training activities), and its members, directors, officers, agents and the owner and/or lessor of the premises (Chatfield State Park), any provider of services that are necessary to hold water training sessions and related events, and any employees or volunteers of the aforementioned parties, harmless from any claim for loss or injury which may be alleged to have been caused directly or indirectly to any person, animal or thing by the act of this dog while in or upon the training area premises or grounds or while entering or leaving same; and I (we) personally assume all responsibility and liability for any such claim; and I (we) further agree to hold the aforementioned parties harmless from any claim for loss, disappearance, theft of, injury or damage to this dog, whether such loss, disappearance, theft, injury or damage, be caused or alleged to be caused by the negligence of any of the aforementioned parties, or by the negligence of any other person, or any other cause or causes.

**Indemnification:** I (we) hereby assume the sole responsibility for and agree to indemnify, defend and save the aforementioned parties harmless from any and all loss and expense (including legal fees) by reason of the liability imposed by law upon any of the aforementioned parties for damage because of bodily injuries, including death at any time resulting there from, sustained by any person or persons, including myself (ourselves) or on account of damage to property, arising out of or in consequence of my (our) participation in water training activities, howsoever such same may have been caused or may be alleged to have been caused by negligence of the aforementioned parties or any of their employees, agents, or any other persons.

**Signature of Member/Owner/s**

Date

**Signature of Member/Owner/s**

Date

**Signature of COPWDC Designee**

Date

Vernita Hare  
719.648.8005  
VernHare@gmail.com