



SERVICE ANIMAL POLICY

The Desert Botanical Garden is a living museum and committed to preventing discrimination of disabled citizens while maintaining its rights to protect a fragile environment. It is illegal to misrepresent an animal as a “Service” animal. The Desert Botanical Garden regards “Service Animals” to be canine, under the Code of Federal Regulation guidelines.

The United States Department of Justice defines a “Service” animal as a **dog** (in some cases a miniature horse) having been trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of a disabled individual. This training legally exempts a Service Dog and his or her handler from the Garden’s NO PETS ALLOWED policy.

A Service Animal is not a pet.

Pets are **not allowed** inside the Garden, with the exception of approved Garden sponsored events.



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You may be asked to remove your Service Dog from these premises if the animal is out of control or poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others.

1. Service Dogs must have current vaccinations.
2. Service Dogs shall be under the control of its handler at all times.
3. Service Dogs shall have a harness, leash, or other tether or must be otherwise under the handler's control by voice, signal or other means.
4. Dogs must remain on the marked trails at all times.
5. The Service Dog must be housebroken, the dog will only urinate or defecate in designated areas, outdoors. The handler is responsible for picking up after their Service Dog.
6. Animals are not allowed in food preparation areas which are NOT normally accessible to the general public, such as the kitchens at the Patio Café or Gertrude's restaurant.
7. The owner/handler is liable for damages caused by their animal.

NOTE: In case of a medical emergency, your Service Dog should allow a First Responder to assist you and not be overly protective. By entering the Garden with your animal, it is assumed that you take full responsibility in this regard.