



# DOGRUN 87 NEEDS YOUR HELP

Our dog run has the distinction of being the first one built in Riverside Park. Over its long lifetime, DOGRUN 87 has provided exercise, play, relaxation and social interaction for thousands of users and dogs, becoming an important contributor to the overall vitality of the Upper West Side Community. Today, however, the run is in need of help from the community that it serves.

That DOGRUN 87 was the first run also means, of course, that it is the oldest dog run in Riverside Park. With age has come a growing list of minor ailments that collectively are serious. Chronic problems with flooding around the water supply escalated this summer, making the need for major repair obvious and urgent. Yet this urgent need also provides DOGRUN 87 users with the opportunity to make a host of important improvements to the run. Completing these needed repairs and enhancements will require substantial work and a commensurate financial investment on our part.

## Condition of the Run

There has been an overall deterioration of the run over the last few years. Some of this deterioration, such as problems with the fencing, is attributable to age and use. Other problems plaguing the run, however, are systemic. The dog run sits at the bottom of a hill that erodes during storms. The rain sweeps fine silt down the hill that mixes with the run surface, causing dust when it dries. The drain by the water source is a small well of inadequate size to support the existing run. The drain is made worse by clogging due to run-off from the hill and surface of the run. Our previous approach to maintaining the surface of the run has been to add new screenings (the crushed bluestone surface) twice a year. Yet this has increased the pitch of the surface of the run, accelerated run-off, and further overburdened the well system.

Even so, the run continues to enjoy some important advantages, such as being well placed for accessibility and protection from wind. The large-dog run has a large storm drain that discharges water off the run and off the promenade area of the Park. The surface of the run has an excellent compacted layer of screenings, which keeps the underlying drainage of the run protected.

## Long-Term Improvements to the Run

For health reasons, the first priority in the restoration work to be undertaken at DOGRUN 87 is to prevent ongoing flooding. This will first require that the water source be moved closer to the storm drain from its current position at the lowest level of the run, which will require an entirely new water line to be constructed to bring water from the street level above. This

Privately Maintained  
In a  
Public Space



Drain in Large-Dog Run



Damage in Small-Dog Run

change will resolve issues resulting from lack of water pressure in the run and rust in the water supply. The run surface will be pitched towards the storm drain, and thus become capable of discharging large volumes of water. Increased water pressure, and the ability to discharge large amounts of water, will allow the installation of a water feature, such as a pool, during the summer months.

To prevent further erosion of silt into the run and mixing into the bluestone surface will require installation of erosion control along the entire length of the back fence of the run and reconstructing the supporting base of the fencing. The surface of the run will need to be examined, and perhaps stripped and replaced, in the Spring if there has been too much erosion of silt into the run.

Moreover, the fence needs to be repaired throughout. The small run needs to have a stone entrance put in place. There also needs to be repair to the existing stonework under the benches. The storm drain needs to be elevated and protected from erosion. Garbage cans with lids are needed. Benches must be repaired. A new bench needs to be added. Pruning of the shrubbery on the perimeter of the run is also long overdue. Dead trees in the run need to be removed. Some areas of the run perimeter need to be replanted. Finally, we need to protect the root system of the trees inside the run.

### How You Can Help

Changes ahead will be significant, and so will be their cost. We need your help. All maintenance and improvements to the run are wholly dependent on financial contributions from, and money raised by, users of the run. We will not be able to do this work if we fail to raise enough funds. Your contribution will make possible such improvement, which will protect your pet's health and provide an improved facility for both dog owners and dogs. When making your gift, please consider how important DOGRUN 87 has been for you and your pet.

Please consider contributing at a level to become a member of DOGRUN 87 and help us to make these important improvements.

#### PLANNED IMPROVEMENTS

- Install New Water Supply
- Elevate Storm Drain
- Restore Run Surface
- Install Erosion Control
- Repair Fencing Throughout
- Add and Repair Masonry
- Prune and Replant Perimeter
- Install Covered Garbage Cans
- Replace Storage Locker

#### MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

Best in Show	\$1,000+
Best in Group	\$500-\$999
Best in Breed	\$250-\$499
Champion	\$100-\$249

**Please give generously so others can continue to enjoy  
the benefits of DOGRUN 87**

**DOGRUN 87 can count on my help!**



**Riverside  
Park Fund**  
*Conserving. Improving. Beautifying.*

Make checks payable to:  
**Riverside Park Fund/DOGRUN87**

And mail to:  
**475 Riverside Drive  
Suite 455  
New York, NY 10115**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**I wish to make a one-time contribution in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_**

**I wish to be a member of DOGRUN 87 for the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_**

Champion \$100-\$249     Best in Breed \$250-\$499     Best in Group \$500-\$999     Best in Show \$1,000+

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