

Okaloosa County News Release



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NWF Regional Airport (VPS) Unleashes “Bark Park” for Furry Passengers

VPS is pleased announce a new dog park to serve our four-legged passengers. The dog park will serve passengers’ pets, as well as working animals including law enforcement K-9 units, therapy dogs and dogs that assist their ADA wards. “We see a lot more wounded veterans who rely on service dogs at our airport, and this sends a clear message that we care about them, while providing a great service to all travelers,” says Commissioner Kelly Windes, chairman.

Kathy McCabe, publisher of an online travel newsletter: “I have an 11-year old wire fox terrier and know that travel can make many dogs nervous and anxious,” she said. “When they feel this way, they sometimes need to ‘go’ more often than usual. So it’s nice to be able to give a dog a break before getting on board the plane.”

According to the American Pet Products Association’s most recent survey, 62 percent of American households own a pet. And, if the rise in pet-friendly hotels, restaurants, theme-parks and tourist attractions is any measure, many of those pets get to tag along when their owners head out on the road.

Northwest Florida Regional Airport (VPS) is a joint-use facility established on Eglin AFB in 1957. The airport accommodates over 800,000 passengers annually on American Eagle, Delta Air Lines, United Airlines and US Airways. For further information, please visit www.flyvps.com.

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Photo caption (Dog park3): Wounded Warrior takes his companion to the new Bark Park at the NWF Regional Airport (VPS).

Photo caption (Dozer & Angie): Between soothing the anxiety of travelers at the airport, Dozer the Therapy Dog can visit the Bark Park as well. Dozer is pictured with handler Angie Nousianen, at the NWF Regional Airport (VPS).