

# When Your Dog Visits Gillette



**Guidelines for Enjoying  
a Visit From Your Pet**



**Gillette Children's**  
*Specialty Healthcare*



## Can My Dog Visit Gillette?

**In most cases, yes!**

At Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare, we know that companion animals can lift your spirits and bring comfort. In fact, some people heal more quickly after they interact with animals.

That's why we offer regular visits with therapy dogs for children and adults who are hospitalized at Gillette. In most cases, we also allow visits from our patients' dogs.

Please review and follow the rules in this brochure to make sure that your visit goes smoothly!

Note: Dogs are the only pets allowed at Gillette. Pet owners are responsible for complying with these animal visitation guidelines. Gillette or Regions Hospital staff may end a personal pet visit at any time, if necessary.

*On the Cover: One of Jonathan's best buddies is his dog, Sonic. When Jonathan recently had surgery at Gillette, he enjoyed visits from Sonic.*



## We Welcome Dogs

### Dogs are welcome if:

- They are at least 1 year old
- They aren't deemed dangerous or potentially dangerous under St. Paul Code §200.11-200.12

Visiting hours for dogs are 9:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Dogs may visit common areas on the fourth floor and the private (not semi-private) rooms of patients.

## Getting Ready



Begin getting ready for your visit by obtaining permission from a therapeutic recreation specialist or child life specialist in Child and Family Services (651-229-3855).

### Be sure to:

- Fill out a registration form from Child and Family Services.
- Ask your veterinarian to fax the dog's immunization records to Gillette (651-602-6891, Attention: CL/TR); label the document "Vaccination records."
- Make sure the dog is on a flea-control program.
- Read these guidelines before the visit.



### The day before the visit:

- Bathe the dog with allergen-reducing or mild shampoo.
- Clean ears, eyes and teeth.
- Trim the dog's nails so there are no rough edges.

For the health and comfort of all Gillette patients, dogs must not have bad breath or body odors. Each visiting dog must be free of communicable diseases and parasites. If a dog isn't trained not to scratch people, it must wear protective coverings. Be sure to exercise the dog before the visit!

## Visiting Day!

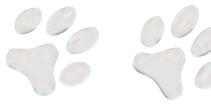


### On the day of the visit:

- Put the dog in a carrier or use a leash that's fewer than 4 feet long.
- Bring the dog to Regions Security on the first floor of Regions Hospital. (Ask Gillette Child and Family Services if you need a map, or check with the main desk at Regions.)
- Regions Security will give you and the pet a visitation pass to wear. It states that Gillette and Regions have cleared the dog for visiting. Each pass gives the date of the visit, the first name of the patient being visited, and the name of the patient's unit at Gillette.
- Be sure that you and the dog wear your passes while you're at the hospital. Be prepared to show both passes when requested.

You and the dog may then visit the patient identified on the visitation pass.

Be sure to supervise the dog throughout the visit. Never leave the dog unattended!



## If My Dog Has an Accident

We know that dogs sometimes get excited in new environments. To help prevent toileting accidents, give the dog a chance to relieve itself before you come into Regions Hospital.

Take the dog to the grassy area near the east entrance of the hospital. (If the area is locked, contact Regions Security at 651-254-3979.) Be sure to clean up after your dog and dispose of its waste in a trash can.

If the dog has an accident inside Gillette or Regions, ask your nurse to call someone in Housekeeping for cleaning supplies.

- Wear gloves to clean up the waste, and clean the area with an approved disinfectant. Dispose of the waste in a biohazard waste container.
- If the pet is allowed on hospital furniture, ask your nurse or Housekeeping for a disposable cloth, towel or sheet to place between the dog and the patient. Put the used cloth in the soiled linen container when the pet leaves.
- At the end of the visit, the patient and anyone else who touched the dog must wash their hands or use a hospital-approved hand sanitizer (available from Child and Family Services).

## Questions?

Call Child and Family Services  
at 651-229-3855.



## Our Mission

Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare provides specialized health care for people who have short-term or long-term disabilities that began during childhood. We help children, adults and their families improve their health, achieve greater well-being and enjoy life.



### **Gillette Children's** *Specialty Healthcare*

St. Paul (Main) Campus  
200 University Ave. E.  
St. Paul, MN 55101  
651-291-2848  
800-719-4040 (toll-free)

Maple Grove Clinic  
9550 Upland Ln. N.  
Maple Grove, MN 55369  
763-496-6000  
888-218-0642 (toll-free)

Burnsville Clinic  
305 E. Nicollet Blvd.  
Burnsville, MN 55337  
952-223-3400  
866-881-7386 (toll-free)

Minnetonka Clinic  
6060 Clearwater Dr.  
Minnetonka, MN 55343  
952-936-0977  
800-277-1250 (toll-free)

Duluth Clinic  
Lakewalk Center  
1420 London Rd.  
Duluth, MN 55805  
218-728-6160  
800-903-7111 (toll-free)

Mobile Outreach Clinic  
For locations and schedules:  
651-634-1938  
800-578-4266 (toll-free)  
[www.gillettechildrens.org](http://www.gillettechildrens.org)



### **Gillette Lifetime** *Specialty Healthcare*

St. Paul – Phalen Clinic  
435 Phalen Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55130  
651-636-9443  
800-578-4266 (toll-free)

[www.gillettechildrens.org](http://www.gillettechildrens.org)