

BELDING DIAL A RIDE

SERVICE ANIMAL POLICY

Belding Dial-A-Ride in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, must allow people with disabilities to bring their service animal into all areas where passengers are normally allowed to go.

For the purposes of this policy, a service animal is defined as an animal that is individually trained to perform tasks for people with disabilities such as guiding people who are blind, alerting people who are deaf, pulling wheelchairs, alerting and protecting a person who is having a seizure, or performing other special tasks. As of March 15, 2011, **only dogs** are recognized as service animals under Title II requirements for state and local governments and Title III requirements for places of public accommodation under the ADA.

Belding Dial-A-Ride acknowledges that we may:

- Ask if an animal is a service animal or
- Ask what tasks the animal has been trained to perform
- Charge a passenger with a disability for damage caused by his or her service animal

Belding Dial-A-Ride also acknowledges that we cannot:

- Require special ID Cards for the animal
- Ask about the persons disability
- Charge extra fees for the service animal
- Treat a person with a disability that uses a service animal less favorably than other passengers
- Ask a person with a disability to remove their service animal from the bus unless the animal is out of control and the owner does not take effective action to control it OR if the animal poses a direct threat to the health and safety of others
- Allergies or fear of animals are generally not valid reasons for denying access or refusing service to passengers with service animals.

Belding Dial-A-Ride is not required to provide care of food for a service animal or provide a location for it to relieve itself.

Any questions regarding this policy should be directed to:

Executive Director
(616) 794-3278
t.mccracken@ci.belding.mi.us