

O.L.A.E. Newsletter

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ABOUT OUR HISTORY

O.L.A.E. (Off-Leash Area - Edmonds) became a non-profit organization in August 2005, in order to fulfill our mission to steward, maintain, and operate the off-leash dog area in Edmonds. Considering on any average nice weekend day, between 100 to 500 folks visit the park with their dogs, volunteers decided it was about time to get organized in order to protect this valuable asset and educate all park users. Please visit www.olae.org for additional information.

THE USER'S ROLE

What can I do, you might ask? Read the short list of **Doggie Do's** and **follow them**. **Encourage new park users to do the same**. Most importantly, if you haven't joined O.L.A.E., **join today** so that we have the funds we need to take care of the off-leash dog area. Volunteer! We will need volunteers for our spring clean-up, as well as our Easter Parade Party. The most important thing to remember is to keep the park clean! Kindly remind folks to pick-up if you see their dogs taking a "poo".



HALLOWEEN HOWL

October 22 was a great day for the 1st Annual Halloween Howl. The sky was sunny and folks came by to meet O.L.A.E. volunteers, have a free hot dog, or chat with participating vendors. O.L.A.E. volunteers estimated about 150 folks with their furry friends visited the off-leash dog area that day. O.L.A.E. volunteers signed up 43 members! We had 15 dogs enter the costume contest and it was O.L.A.E. members' opinions that every dog should have been a winner. For all dogs photos visit www.olae.org/archives.

Next year, the 2nd Halloween Howl will be around the same weekend (October 21st). So mark your calendars and expect more prizes and vendors!

DOGGIE DO'S

- DO** clean up after your pet. Plastic bags are there for you, please **USE THEM!**
- DO** stop bothersome dog behavior immediately.
- DO** keep your dog on leash in parking lot and make sure you shut the gate after entry and exit.
- DO** be respectful of all users in the off-leash dog area and keep an eye on your dog at all times.
- Please remember this area is a dog playing area! Therefore, watch your little ones (human) closely; remember food can be tempting; and bicycles should remain out in the park area.
- Public opinion** is based on the **behavior of you and your dog**. The success of this dog area depends on what you **DO!**

So be **PROUD** and be **RESPONSIBLE!**

OFF-LEASH DOG AREA VANDALIZED

On October 31, 2005, thugs got serious and trashed our beautiful dog wind mobile and destroyed O.L.A.E. signs. As you all know, this off-leash dog area is our only area for miles around and is funded and maintained by our members, users, and volunteers. Please, if you see anyone destroying anything or being disrespectful to the property, call 911 immediately.

WATER NOW OFF

The water at the off-leash dog area and Marina Beach Park has been turned off for winter, so remember to bring water for your furry friends.



ASK DR. G

Send questions for Dr. G. to Diane@olae.org.

Question: After my short-haired dog swims, can he catch a cold since the Puget Sound is cold and the air temperature is now close to freezing?

Answer: Here is the age-old argument: can we get a cold (the virus) from being cold (temperature wise)? Probably not directly! However, a recent local news story (Health Watch) reported that if your feet are cold for a period of time, you will develop a cold. This logic is based on the fact that for many people, depending on their general health and ability to withstand stress, colder temperatures could lower their immune system. A lower immune system makes one more susceptible to the cold virus.

Dogs are not affected by the same cold virus as humans are; but they have their burden of different virus and bacteria that could cause upper respiratory disease. The biggest issue to remember is to understand your dog's individuality. For a Newfoundlander, this environment is not a challenge at all; but your dog is a short-hair, and therefore, he may have a bit of a challenge after cooling off from exercising.

What is important to remember is that dogs should not be exposed to severe cold suddenly if they are usually kept in a warm indoor environment most of the day. Again, back to individuality, a younger healthy dog will have better vitality and better ability to resist disease than an older dog. However, even for younger, healthy dogs, restricting total time in the water and drying them off after they come out of the water is smart dog ownership. For older dogs, with any form of disease such as arthritis, or heart problems, severe cold for any length of time is not a good idea.

BECOME A MEMBER

There are a lot of great reasons to become a member of O.L.A.E. Your efforts will ensure that

the off-leash dog area at Edmonds continues! Member dues go towards promoting and improving our dog area and communicating with our supporters. Funds subsidize our park supplies, newsletters, postage, printing, park clean-up, projects, and educational brochures and/or signage. In addition to providing financial support to O.L.A.E., members will receive a subscription to our quarterly newsletter. This newsletter provides information on past and upcoming events, park clean-up parties, educational features, and more.

O.L.A.E.
P.O. Box 1562
Edmonds WA 98020 - 1562

Please check one: New Member Donation

Please print clearly:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Evening Phone: _____

Email: _____

Dog(s) names: _____

Can we email you the newsletter: Yes

Contact me to help volunteer: Yes

Annual Membership

\$ 10 Individual

\$ 20 Family

\$ 50 Supporter

\$100 Barking Business Lounge (free advertising on O.L.A.E. website).

\$250 Yappie Club Level (free advertising on O.L.A.E. website and newsletter).

Remember to make check payable to O.L.A.E.
Thank you.

Current Yappie Club Sponsors:

Scrub-A-Pup: www.edmondsscrubapup.com

Helping Hands Vet Clinic: www.helpinghandsvet.com

B.B. Granda

Coco Beuchet of Hair Company on Greenwood at 84th