

Ask Animal Control Officer Jessica Gilginas?

We received a complaint about dogs running free in other areas along our coastline. We asked Senior Animal Control Officer Jessica Gilginas this question and here is her response:

“It has been a continuous issue of dogs being off-leash except in the designated areas. Our two animal control officers attempt to patrol the beaches heavily to educate and reduce violators. We do currently focus on education over enforcement, citation issuance for repeat offenders which we keep track of. It is required that dogs be immediately leashed upon contact, or the individual is requested to leave the area if proper control (leashing up) cannot be obtained. In addition, we are incorporating public education through our community relations personnel.

As you mentioned, we too would like to increase infraction issuance for even first-time violators. To accomplish this, we have requested enhanced signage at all parks. Upon meeting with our Parks and Rec department this year, Director Feser mentioned an issue with sign fatigue and lack of clear communication where dogs are permitted.

Citizens have also mentioned confusion when the law was changed to allow dogs on the grassy area (though not the beach) on the north end of Marina Beach and the foot path at Brackett’s Landing. I think this is a positive, particularly with the growing number of dog owners and the need for them to exercise. However, these changes requires signs clearly informing citizens. The parks department has recently moved signage closer to paths, increasing visibility. Most importantly was that our meeting determined the need to condense signs to one board (at all park entrances) that clearly outlines where dogs are permitted, to perhaps include a map and/or QR code that will display a list of explanations why the

beaches are protected from dogs. People tend to have better compliance with an understanding and respect for the rules and regulations. With such clear signage, our animal control department will have greater support to issue violations for first time offenders.

But for now, a complete list of rules are at: <http://www.edmondswa.gov/police/animal-control-parking-enforcement.html>.

Just prior to publication, a concern came from the Dive Park volunteers in that a dog mauled a baby seal in the Brackett’s Landing area. According the Parks and Recreation Director Angie Feser, these on-leash areas will be brought forth to Council attention for review of these two areas.

Yappie Yahoo to the “Welcome Magazine”

Our off-leash area was highlighted in Snohomish County “Welcome Magazine”. The Welcome Magazine is the premier business and leisure publication serving Snohomish County and the Pacific Northwest region. The magazine highlights the natural beauty, dining, shopping, and the casual living style in our region and offer entertaining and insightful stories designed to inform and inspire. Articles and features showcase local businesses leading the way in technology, sustainability, manufacturing and development. We look forward to covering the topics, influencers, and entrepreneurs that are shaping our future.

WELCOME Magazine is distributed throughout Snohomish County and the surrounding cities and towns and publication can be found in many locations through out the region including; Paine Field Airport, select grocery outlets, restaurants, bookstores, tourist destinations, resort and hotel concierge, rooms, spas, wineries, and financial

institutions. A recent article called "It's a Dog's Life: Pup-Friendly Outings & Goods in Snohomish County" by Richard Porter is a great source of information for all dog lovers who like to take the pup(s) out for adventures and here is the link: https://welcomemagsnoho.com/magazine_article/its-a-dogs-life-pup-friendly-outings-goods-in-snohomish-county/?fbclid=IwAR1HfdjjNsTH_8N76-DsBvYJkjpXBJ669rfsWEE

While this is great news, we still must be diligent and remember to kindly educate new dog park users the importance of scooping the poop and there are smaller dogs and/or young children and baby seals, which means please pay attention.

Leave Baby Seals Alone- It's the Law

Recently a baby seal was mauled by a dog at the Brackett's Landing Park and as noted in the newsletter, the City changed the allowance of dogs to walk on-leash along the pathways of Brackett's Landing and Marina Beach Park. Some citizens are requesting that this rule be revisited. So, Stay Tuned.

It is important that when you see any baby seals on the beach – please leave them alone. It's also against the law, if you see a baby seal, please contact Seal Hotline 206-905-7325 and to learn more about the baby seals and the organization visit <https://www.sealsitters.org/index.html> and its a volunteer wonderful group, like OLAE, to help keep these lovely animals safe.

About US

O.L.A.E. (Off-Leash Area - Edmonds) became a non-profit organization in August 2005, to fulfill our mission to steward and maintain the off-leash dog area in Edmonds. Please visit www.olae.org to learn more about us and our mission. WE ACCEPT DONATIONS ONLINE or you can snail mail us at P.O. Box 1562, Edmonds WA 98020

Become a Member

There are a lot of good reasons to become a member. Member dues go towards promoting and improving our dog park. Members will receive a subscription to our quarterly newsletter which provides information on upcoming events, news and educational features. All donated funds are TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

We now have PAYPAL so you can go to our website

Off Leash Area Edmonds (O.L.A.E.)
P.O. Box 1562
Edmonds WA 98020 - 1562
EIN #16-1730771

Please check one: New Member Renewal
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 Sassy Supporter
- \$100 Best Friends Lounge
(free advertising on O.L.A.E. website).
- \$200 Yappie Club Level
(free advertising on O.L.A.E. website & newsletter).

Make check payable to **O.L.A.E.** Thanks!

Current Yappie Club Sponsors:

Blue Collar Dog House (www.bluecollardoghouse.com)

Pearl Jam's Vitalogy Fund (<https://pearljam.com/vitalogy>)

VSC – Lynnwood (www.thrivepetcare.com)

Jolene Otter from Quilts from the Heart

Gallaghers' Where U-Brew (www.whereubrew.com)

McDonald McGarry Ins. (www.mcdonaldmccgarry.com)

John Weiss

Brian Albright and Kiko (woof)

Note: O.L.A.E. is not responsible for any illness or injury incurred during park visit. For information, please visit www.olae.org and look under rules and responsibilities.