

# O.L.A.E. Newsletter

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## THIRD ANNUAL HALLOWEEN HOWL

Mark your calendars for October 20th when O.L.A.E. will host its 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Halloween Howl from 11 am to 3 pm. There will be three best dog costume categories based on height requirements and one category for best costume of dog and handler! Costume judging starts at 3:00 pm, so don't be late.

We will have a reduced-fee micro-chipping clinic (\$25 cash) provided by Dr. G. of Helping Hands Veterinary Clinic. There will be raffles with wonderful prizes and a silent auction. Local businesses displaying their pet-friendly products and services will also be there to answer any and all of your questions.

Check the O.L.A.E. website [www.olae.org](http://www.olae.org) and look under archives to view pictures of the last two years' costume contest winners. You don't want to miss the fun! Let's start thinking sunny thoughts for that day!

## NO SMOKING LAW NOW IN EFFECT

Parks in Edmonds are now "smoke free". Please abide by the law and refrain from smoking in all city parks, including the off-leash area.

## HEALTH ADVISORY AT THE BEACH

Many of you may not know that the Department of Health periodically tests beaches around the Puget Sound. Our waters at the off-leash area were recently tested and a high bacteria count was found. Signs were installed by the City of Edmonds Parks and Recreation Department warning children and chronically ill folks to refrain from recreational water activities. According to Snohomish County Water Waste Division, pet waste is one of the leading causes of stream

contamination and many streams empty into the Puget Sound. An area with off-leash access on the Puget Sound means bacteria enters the Sound directly. The solution to help "clean up" our streams and the Puget Sound is so simple: 1) scoop the poop, 2) put it in a plastic bag, 3) put the bag in a garbage can and, 4) always remember to wash your hands. For more information from Snohomish County on pet waste visit [www.petwaste.surfacewater.info](http://www.petwaste.surfacewater.info) and for more information about the Puget Sound visit: <http://www.psp.wa.gov/> or [www.pugetsound.org](http://www.pugetsound.org).

## EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT IN OFF- LEASH AREA

Kevin Govan of Boy Scout Troop 312 decided that his Eagle Scout project would be to build a double gate entry at the entrance of the off-leash area. With donated materials and approval from the City of Edmonds' Parks and Recreation Department and advice and donated materials from folks at Town and Country Fence of Edmonds, the project was completed Tuesday, September 11<sup>th</sup>.

Kevin became interested in O.L.A.E. after visiting the park with his puppy, Kona. He wanted to do a project that could locally benefit many people and their four legged friends. Members of O.L.A.E. suggested the project to improve the safety of the entrance area.

Kevin is a senior at Meadowdale High School and plays in the Jazz Band Ensemble. His parents, Dave and Ellen, are members of O.L.A.E. Thank-you Kevin and Boy Scout Troop 312 for making this happen! Volunteering is a wonderful gift to give!

## BEACH CLEAN-UP

June 23<sup>rd</sup> was a BUSY day for volunteers at the off-leash area. Volunteers participated in the semi-annual beach clean-up; grass was cut and the evasive and not pet-friendly bush commonly known as scotch broom was removed. We did not get an estimate of how much debris was removed, but anyone visiting the beach that

weekend could see that "WOW" it was a lot! Special thanks to B.B., Lori, Glenda, Tom, Janice, Hope, Corinne, Gustavo, and Diane for all their hard work.



## ASK DR. G

**Question:** I saw the sign at the Edmonds Off-Leash Area that stated there was a health advisory and that the beach was "not suitable" for recreational water activities. The sign also states that children or chronically ill people are at higher risk for illness.

If these waters are unsafe for humans, how is it that the water would be safe for dogs? Are the readers of this sign supposed to understand that it's not safe for their dogs either?

**Answer:** Lynn Schinder of the Department of Health will have a more knowledgeable answer for this question since I have not been provided with the specific species and genera of the bacteria. So this question is difficult to answer. However, considering the circumstances, common sense dictates thoroughly washing your dogs after they have been playing in the water and closely watching them in case of diarrhea or other symptoms that are atypical to your normal beach visits (most dogs, if they drink the Puget Sound water, will also get diarrhea due to the heavy salt content). If your dog seems to have developed symptoms not normal to his/her daily routine, consult your veterinarian.

The City of Edmonds Parks and Recreation Department has stated that they will keep us (O.L.A.E.) informed and we will pass the news along to you.

## ABOUT US

O.L.A.E. (Off-Leash Area-Edmonds) was formed in August 2005 as a non-profit 501(c)3 organization in order to help steward, maintain and operate the off-leash dog area in Edmonds. Volunteers help sustain the area in many ways (clean-up, grass removal, fundraising, and education). If you are interested in helping out by becoming a volunteer, visit [www.olae.org](http://www.olae.org) for more details. The annual meeting for O.L.A.E. will be November 14, 2007 and all are welcome. Please provide any comments to [O.L.A.E@comcast.net](mailto:O.L.A.E@comcast.net) and we will address them in future newsletters.

## BECOME A MEMBER

There are a lot of great reasons to become a member of O.L.A.E. Member dues go towards promoting and improving our off-leash dog area and providing financial support to maintain the area. 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.

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

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 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:**

Etta Says! <http://www.ettasays.com/home.php>

Lucky's Affordable Pet Service:

<http://www.luckypetservice.com/>

Helping Hands Vet Clinic: [www.helpinghandsvet.com](http://www.helpinghandsvet.com)

Coco Beuchet of Hair Company (Greenwood at 84<sup>th</sup>)

Petosa's Family Grocery

Adam Bock

B.B. Granda

Steve Tholl

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