

# O.L.A.E. Newsletter

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## We Love Our Pets License Plates

Each year nearly 150,000 cats and dogs end up in shelters across Washington State. With the purchase of a "We Love Our Pets" Washington State license plate, you will help spay and neuter more pets and save lives. Spaying or neutering is the most humane and effective method for reducing the number of homeless pets, and provides dogs and cats with significant health and behavioral benefits. Reducing pet homelessness means less suffering for stray and abandoned animals, as well as fewer tax dollars spent on caring for animals in need.

The license plate features lovable characters designed by artist and author Brian Bassett, and are available for purchase at all Washington State Vehicle Licensing Offices. Learn more about how organizations can apply for the license plate fund grants, including a list of groups who have been awarded since granting began in 2007 at <http://www.dol.wa.gov/vehicleregistration/spcreatene.w.html>.

**What does it cost?** The original cost to purchase a plate is \$40 plus applicable licensing fees. When the vehicle registration comes due, you will need to pay an additional \$30 to keep the plate on your vehicle even if you have not had the plate for a full year. Plates are available for registered passenger vehicles, light duty pickups, trailers, motorcycles and campers in Washington State.

## Prevent Your Pet from Getting Lost

An ID tag can mean the difference between life and death for a dog or cat. Even indoor-only pets need tags. Also consider getting your companion micro-chipped as a way to permanently identify your dog or cat. Microchips cannot come off like a collar and tag, and give you an extra "insurance policy" in case your pet becomes lost again.

Most veterinary clinics can microchip and register your companion with a national database service for a one-time fee under \$50

## Bulletin Board

Thank-you Mr. Rich Lindsay and the Parks and Recreation Crew for re-orienting the Bulletin Board built by the Lynnwood Pack 363 Webelos I and II last year. We will now be updating it soon, so stay tuned. Also, the WATER is NOW ON and remember to be conservative with its' use.

## Spring book review!

"Merle's Door" by Ted Kerasote is a book of lessons from a freethinking dog named Merle. As a dog biography, Merle's Door is both humorous and tear-jerking and the ending definitely will have you reaching for tissues on more than one occasion.

This book is definitely a rag to riches story as Merle pops into Ted's life when he is on a river trip with friends in San Juan Rver, Utah. From there Ted takes Merle home to Kelly, Wyoming where he is allowed to roam free and since Merle is "street smart" he is not shot by farmers or hunters or hit by a car as he makes his rounds in the perfect dog utopia of Kelly, Wyoming.

Ted's "method of teaching" Merle is loving him and providing him more personal freedom and less control. He says, "His (Merle's) lessons weren't about training, but about partnership. They were never about method; they were about attitude."

The partnership between these two take them on a many different paths and rather than make Merle a bird dog (which by breeding, he should be), he allows Merle to be himself and while Merle at one time shows Ted he understands how to be a bird dog, it is something he just doesn't care to do; in so doing, Ted eventually finds his own deep needs are met in ways that he could never had predicted.

The book also tries to be two things: tell the story of Ted and Merle and their life together "talking to one another" and the behavioral treatise on dogs and even wolves. While at times the dog behaviorist selections are a bit long and may not apply to all dogs, it will make you think and look at your own dog differently. I found the wolf research to be especially interesting and for anyone wishing to look up the

facts after finishing the story, the extensive index at the end will prove helpful. .

## PREPARING YOUR PETS FOR AN EMERGENCY

Just as you do with your Family's emergency supply kit, make sure that you have one for your pet(s).

**Food.** Keep at least three days of food in an airtight waterproof container.

**Water.** Store at least three days of water specifically for your pets in addition to water you need for yourself and your family.

**First Aid Kit.** Talk to your vet about what is most appropriate for your pet's emergency medical needs. Include a pet first aid reference book.

**Picture of you and your pet together.** If you become separated from your pet during an emergency, a picture will help you document ownership.

**Familiar items.** Put favorite toys, treats or bedding in your kit.

Plan how you will assemble your pets and anticipate where you will go. If you must evacuate, take your pets with you, if practical. If you go to a public shelter, keep in mind your animals may not be allowed inside. Also, develop a buddy system to make sure that someone is available to care for or evacuate your pets if you are unable to do so.

Gather contact information for emergency animal treatment. Keep one copy of these phone numbers with you and one in your pet's emergency supply kit. Obtain "Pets Inside" stickers and place them on your doors or windows including information on the number and types of pets in your home for firefighters and rescue workers.

With these simple preparations, you can be ready for the unexpected. Take the time now to get yourself and your pet ready.

## 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](http://www.olae.org). We are still looking to expand our base of volunteers. Please let us know at [volunteerdogs@gmail.com](mailto:volunteerdogs@gmail.com).

## 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.

**Off Leash Area Edmonds (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 & newsletter).

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

Current Yappie Club Sponsors:

All the Best Pet Care ([www.allthebestpetcare.com](http://www.allthebestpetcare.com))

Bailey and Banjo ([www.baileyandbanjo.com](http://www.baileyandbanjo.com))

Edmonds Westgate Vet Hospital ([www.evwh.com](http://www.evwh.com))

Blue Collar Dog House ([www.bluecollardoghouse.com](http://www.bluecollardoghouse.com))

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

Petosa's Family Groc. ([www.petosasfamilygrocer.com](http://www.petosasfamilygrocer.com))

The PETCO Foundation ([www.petco.com](http://www.petco.com))

Alicia and Mark Brattin

Jennifer Susan Lill and Eric Johnson

Shay, Dean, and Kyle Hastler

B.B. Granda

Steve Tholl

Note: 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.