

O.L.A.E. Newsletter

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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 becoming a volunteer and/or Director contact Diane@olae.org or visit www.olae.org for more details.

MORE PET FOOD RECALLS

Last month, Costco announced a recall of its NUTRA NUGGETS "Lamb & Rice" formula (40 lb bags). Costco had removed the product from the sales floor and will refund anyone that wishes to return product. For all recall updates check the FDA www.fda.gov/oc/opacom/hottopics/petfood.html site and subscribe to their email list.

LOOKING FOR ANOTHER PET?

The non-profit group Rescued Paws ("Rpaws") based out of Longview, WA, formed in November 2006 as part of the growing group of "no kill" organizations. These organizations help animals that have been abandoned, abused, or marked for destruction because of medical reasons. As of the end of May, "Rpaws" had saved 361 animals with a BIG percentage of animals being from the Seattle area. Through donations, "Rpaws" obtains whatever medical intervention is necessary to make the animal adoptable. Most of the adoptions come off of the Petfinder website, so if you are interested in either adopting a pet (cat or dog) or donating funds to this rescue group, visit www.rpaws.petfinder.org.

TIMID DOGS

Our goal is to make the off-leash area in Edmonds an enjoyable place for everyone. Lately, we have had complaints about all types of aggressive activity both by dogs and dog owners. As such, we will continue to deal with tough issues in this newsletter such as recognizing and handling timid dogs.

Dogs that roll on their back are signaling that they are withdrawing from active social interaction. If their limbs and tail are flaccid and their neck exposed, they are inviting other dogs to come and engage in a passive interaction (sniffing, etc.) If a dog rolls on their back, tucks their tail, and puts their paws over their chest and groin, they are withdrawing completely.

Owners with timid or overwhelmed dogs need to introduce their dog gradually to a dog park. Dogs that are timid need to build their own confidence around other dogs. Owners should not try to intervene while their timid dog is socially interacting unless it is necessary (e.g. safety of the dog). Otherwise, the message the owner is sending out is that the dog can't handle the situation and therefore the owner will be considered the "protector."

All dogs play differently and dog owners must remember to calmly address other dog owners if they feel their dogs are playing inappropriately.

SEQUIM DOG PARK NOW OPEN

The Sequim Dog Park is officially opened after a grass-root effort by local dog users convinced the City that the off-leash area was needed. The Sequim Dog Park Pals is a fabulous group of volunteers that steward the area located at Carrie Blake Park. For more information about this group and the area visit www.SequimDogPark.org.

SHOREDOG NEEDS YOU

Shoreline's grass-roots off-leash area organization, ShoreDOG has hit the skids again. If you live in that area and/or would like to help Anna and others, contact her at shoredog@gmail.com.



ASK DR. G

Since our volunteers are still daily PICKING UP DOG FECES LEFT BY LAZY DOG OWNERS, let's revisit what can happen if dog poop is left lying around on the ground. Also, this was brought up on Oprah™ in an "Ask Dr. Oz" segment when a woman caught worms from her child.

Question: Am I in danger of catching worms from my dog?

Answer: Yes, unless some easy precautions are taken! The potential of these infections is huge. Forty million households own 73 million dogs. Unfortunately, public awareness of animal-to-human parasite infection is low. Over 80% of dog owners don't realize that the dog waste poses a human health threat. The Center for Disease Control reports that over 10,000 cases of roundworm infections occur annually. The main source of human infection with these parasites is environmental contamination with pet and wild animal feces. One very interesting fact about these parasites is that the feces need to sit in the environment for more than a week for the parasites to be infective to humans. So, timely removal of dog and animal feces can be of great value.

Dog roundworm is the most common cause of animal-to-human parasite infection. The roundworm larvae migrate through, and persist in, different organs including the eye. This larva could also invade the nervous system. Hookworm is also another important human disease, which can be transmitted from dog feces. We need to remember that cats, raccoons and opossums could also be the carriers.

We should bear in mind that children and people with an immune-compromised system (AIDS, radiation and chemo patients, etc.) are at especially higher risk. When infected dog, cat, or wild animal waste is left on the ground, worms can remain viable in the soil for years! As a result, anyone contacting the soil (or sand) can also come in contact with the infected eggs. Since children are prone to putting their hands to their mouths, they are more susceptible to infection.

Though all this sounds unnerving, simple precautionary care is all that is needed. **The foremost issue is picking up after your dog and to educate your children to do the same. Don't let someone else do it for you! Don't plan picnics in a dog-park.** Do carry towlettes to wipe children's hands. There are multiple safe options for regular deworming against round and hookworms.

Ask your vet to formulate a plan for your dog, with once or twice a year fecal testing. Feed only cooked food. Cover sandboxes when not in use. Wash fruits and vegetables from your garden thoroughly before eating. Wash hands adequately. For questions contact: Goutam Mukherjee, DVM, MS, PhD, at the www.helpinghandsvet.com

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.
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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

Coco Beuchet of Hair Company (Greenwood at 84th)

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 and look under rules and responsibilities.