

O.L.A.E. Newsletter

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Why Dogs on-Leash are a threat in an off-leash area!

Recently we have had a couple of complaints of dog owners who are bringing their dogs in on a leash and leaving them on-leash. Recently, an on-leash pit bull had a fight with an off-leash husky and both were injured.

Dog owners need to realize that dogs on-leash pose just as much of a threat as an aggressive dog. While this issue escalated to a "dog fight", it is not the dog fight that is the issue, it is the fact that the dog owner need to understand how dogs react to one another, aggressive or non-aggressive when on-leash. Further, not many people like pit bulls and those that are "okay" with pit bulls usually harbor a secret fear that the pit bull could snap at any moment. So adding an aggressive dog into an off-leash area and leaving him/her on-leash is like a double whammy.

While we acknowledge that some pet owners are attempting to "train" their dogs on how to act in an off-leash area and will have their dogs left on-leash. This method of training should be limited to when the off-leash area is quiet.

Please, park users, if your dog cannot have fun and enjoy the area off-leash, it is best to keep the dog outside of the park. For more information about dog users and how to work with dogs, visit our website www.olae.org and click under handbook.

YOU, YOUR PET, AND THE INTERNET

When it comes to your pet, there's a wealth of information available on the internet. The problem with this plethora of information is that not all websites are created equal – and the content on some sites may be outdated, misleading, or even inaccurate.

Remember to use common sense and if you have some health issues with your pet, ask your veterinarian about the best sites for pet health and links to other reputable sites that can help you complement your pet's care.

Social media

O.L.A.E. has a new website with wonderful links to books, current and historical information, a volunteers manual relating to dog behavior in off-leash areas, all our Halloween Howl pictures and much more. So take a few minutes and visit <http://www.olae.org/> to have a peek at our new and wonderful website. Also, O.L.A.E. is on FACEBOOK and we have many pictures posted of the beach by FACEBOOK friends. For those of you that have mobile application options, we have an application found at <http://gettag.mobi> and you can find all types of information like a tide table and news from the website.

The top ten PET- FRIENDLIEST CITIES

A recent survey of Livability.com showed which American cities are best for pets. They boast pet-friendly parks and trails, quality veterinary care, active animal-welfare groups, as well as an abundance of pet boutiques. Here is the list and two of the cities are in Oregon:

1. Portland, Ore
2. Colorado Springs, Colo
3. Rock Mount, N.C.
4. Boulder, Colo
5. Santa Cruz, Calif
6. Eugene, Ore
7. Asheville, N.C.
8. Albuquerque, N.M.
9. Nashville, Tenn
10. Louisville, Ky

Build Your Own Agility Course

Dog Agility is a rapidly growing sport worldwide and O.L.A.E. is thinking of adding an agility course to our beach. On an agility course the dog is challenged to confront several obstacles and pass over, under or around them successfully. The dog works with a handler or the owner on a regulation course.

You can bring dog agility to your own backyard, and you can do it if you are on a budget. In order to start

your dog in agility, you need to have several pieces of equipment. These obstacles include:

- A teeter board
- Tunnel
- Collapsed tunnel
- Standard Jumps
- Tire Jumps
- Weave poles
- Pause table
- Dog Walk

Any dog, no matter what breed, would benefit from being involved in agility. Agility not only exercises the body, but it also refreshes and stimulates the mind. Not to mention, the added exercise can be beneficial to a dog owner's waistline.

However, agility equipment can be expensive, so consider building your own. Check out thrift stores, toy stores, a bike shop and a plumbing supply store for parts.

These plans are just to get you jump-started. Once you begin building this course, you will be surprised what you can find too add to the course just by visiting thrift stores and garage sales and swap meets.

Check with the local kennel club if you are thinking about putting your dog into competition. They have regulation heights and widths for each obstacle. But if you simply want to keep your dog active and not bored, then the height is up to what you believe your dog can achieve without injury.

TO TREAT OR NOT TO TREAT

Whatever treats you give, be sure to count the calories. Too many pet treats are calorie grenades laden with sugar and fat. If you're going to give you pet treats choose low-calorie, sugar-free options. Consider single-ingredient treats like sweet potatoes, baby carrots, green beans, celery, cucumbers, sliced apples or bananas. As few as 30 extra calories per day means your pet may gain three pounds in a year.

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. We are still looking to expand our base of volunteers. Please let us know at 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 Best Friends 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:

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Alicia Brattin
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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.