

O.L.A.E. Newsletter

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Summer's coming!!

Summer is not only a time for people to be out and about. Neighborhoods will be busy with people walking their dogs and just like people, dogs can be outgoing or shy, friendly or fearful, easygoing or nervous. Their personalities can be determined by breed or genetics, but they can also be a result of how each dog has been socialized. What is socialization? Basically, it is the process where a dog learns to relate to other people, dogs and animals based on direct experience.

Here are 3 points to remember:

#1 – Socialization begins at home.

It is important to start socialization early. Not too early of course. Between the ages of 3-12 weeks, we need to keep our pups in a protected environment; petting, holding, and speaking to them in a soft, friendly voice. Be sure that any human visitors greet your furry friend in a friendly manner too.

#2 – Puppy School

About 3 months of age, your pup should be ready to leave your home and meet other dogs. This is an arena where your dog will have the chance to engage and play with other young dogs of different breeds. One of the important things your dog will learn during this play time is bite inhibition. Think of it as "biting etiquette". Your pup will come away learning if he bites too hard and causes pain, the other pups won't want to play with him/her anymore and this is bad. This is a very crucial part of your dog's socialization and extends to his/her interaction with humans.

#3 – Consistency

Yes, socialization begins early in life, but it is a process that needs to continue throughout their furry life. Just like we humans, dogs go thru phases ; i.e. adolescence. Our pups will go thru personality changes between the ages of 8 months – 2 years. Take your dog out with you to public places like parks where dogs are allowed. Arrange play dates with other dog owners to make sure your dog has fun and rewarding contacts with people and other dogs. A well socialized pup is a happy pup!

In Memoriam

We received two generous donations to our Best Friends Lounge in memory of a loved one:

- Jack Parks in loving memory for Nalu
- Julie Mackin in loving memory of a wonderful woman and long time park user -Mertie Bourque

It's summer! I want to take my dog with me.

We all love to take our pups with us when we go out. They are, after all, part of our family. But, we need to remember that even on a cooler day, cars can heat up to dangerous temperatures and dogs, just like people can succumb to heatstroke. When we're out and about we usually end up having to make a couple stops. If you have someone with you, it is easy to have them sit with your dog in a shaded spot and keep the car windows down and doors open. But, when you're alone, this just isn't possible.

Here are some ideas:

Use the drive-thru when available.

Shop in pet-welcome stores

Use a travel kennel outside the car – NOTE! Use this last suggestion with **caution**. DO NOT USE in parking lots or areas where your pet can be pestered by bystanders, etc. Travel kennels are a great way to keep your pup safe while in fresh air and with cool water.

Fleas, Ticks and Poisonous Plants – Oh my!!

Summer time is a time for outdoor activities and fun. Remember, this is also a time for our six-eight legged and winged friends to be out too. It is vital for our pups' health to remember to guard them against fleas and ticks.

- + A female flea can lay up to 50 eggs per day
- + Fleas love temperatures of 65 degrees F-80 degrees F and prefer humidity of 75% to 85%.
- + Fleas live and average of 113 days on the host animal.
- + Female fleas can consume *15 times* their body weight in blood *daily*.

Ticks are spider like insects that have something in common with fleas and vampires. They suck their host animal's blood. Ticks are found in grassy woodland areas and are common throughout the U.S.

Be sure to speak with your vet about flea and tick preventative medications available to your furry friend. And like socialization, be consistent with use and application of these meds.

Remember – prevention is the best medicine!!

Sometimes we get so excited we wet our plants. Ha! Seriously though, many of us love to be out in our gardens planting flowers and cleaning up weeds. Do you know what plants are harmful to your dog?

Here are some beautiful yet deadly plants to Fido: Autumn Crocus, Azalea, Cyclamen, Kalanchoe, Lillies, Oleander, Dieffenbachia, Daffodils, Lily of the Valley, Sago Palm, Tulips, and Hyacinths

This is only a partial list of poisonous plants. There is a full list of poisonous plants that can be found at <http://www.petpoisonhelpline.com/poisons>. If you suspect your dog has ingested any of these, contact your vet immediately or call the Pet Poison Hotline at 1-800-213-6680.



10th Annual Halloween Howl is set for October 18th

Save that date for the 10th Annual Halloween Howl set for October 18th, 2014! Rain or shine we will be there and if you are interested in participating contact us at o.l.a.e@comcast.net Please visit www.olae.org to get all the details.

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. We always need volunteers and financial donors. Please visit www.olae.org to learn more about us and our mission.

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
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 Barking 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!

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FIND US
ON



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.