

# O.L.A.E. Newsletter

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## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO US!

Can you believe we made it to our one year anniversary? Some members during the summer months did not think we could go the distance. Thanks to the huge volunteering support of six key members and your financial help and support in keeping the park clean, we made it! O.L.A.E. (Off-Leash Area - Edmonds) became a non-profit organization in August 2005, in order to fulfill our mission to steward, maintain, and operate the off-leash dog area in Edmonds. Please visit [www.olae.org](http://www.olae.org) for information.



## HALLOWEEN HOWL

Sunday, October 22 was a great day for the 2nd Annual Halloween Howl! The sky was sunny and temperatures mild so folks showed up in fashion to meet O.L.A.E. volunteers and/or chat with participating vendors and folks in costume. O.L.A.E. volunteers estimated about 200 folks with their furry friends visited the off-leash dog area that day. We had a lot of people and dog matching costumes so next year that maybe a category. About 25 dogs enter the costume contest and it was O.L.A.E. Board members' opinions that every dog should have been a winner. To see all photos and dog winners, visit [www.olae.org/archives](http://www.olae.org/archives).

## A REFRESHER FOR THE USER

"What can I do", you might ask, "to help out?" Here is a short list of things to think about and/or do: 1) Read the short list of **Doggie Do's** and **follow them. Encourage new park users to do the same.** 2) If you haven't joined O.L.A.E., **join today!** Your funds help subsidize the park expenditures as the City of Edmonds does not supply garbage bags or the QFC bags used for poo disposal. 3) **Volunteer!** We need volunteers

desperately. To date, we only have six key volunteers that steward the park. 4) **Keep the park clean!** Pick-up after your dog and kindly remind folks to pick-up if you see their dogs taking a "poop" and they are not doing anything about it. Kindly give them a plastic bag and show them where the dog left it. The adverse effects of feces left on the ground is highlighted in an O.L.A.E. Newsletter under Ask Dr. G. (refer to [www.olae.org/archives](http://www.olae.org/archives) and look under Summer 2006).

## DOGGIE DO'S

- DO** clean up after your pet. Plastic bags are there for you, please **USE THEM!**
- DO** stop bothersome dog behavior immediately.
- DO** keep your dog on leash in parking lot and make sure you shut the gate after entry and exit.
- DO** be respectful of all users in the off-leash dog area and keep an eye on your dog at all times.
- Please remember this area is a dog playing area!** Kids should not be running and hugging dogs; remember food can be tempting; and bicycles should remain out in the park area.
- Dogs in heat should not come to park or puppies under 6-months of age.
- Public opinion** is based on the **behavior of you and your dog.** The success of this dog area depends on what you **DO!**

So be **PROUD** and be **RESPONSIBLE!**

## WATER NOW OFF

The water at the off-leash dog area and Marina Beach Park has been turned off for winter, so remember to bring water for your furry friends.

## GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND

Guide Dogs for the Blind, Inc. is a wonderful service that provides enhanced mobility to qualified individuals through partnerships with dogs whose unique skills have been developed and nurtured by dedicated volunteers and professional staff. The organization established in 1942, thrives today by its teamwork between volunteers, and trained staff professionals and generous donors.

Puppy Guides of Snohomish County is a puppy raising club for Guide Dogs for the Blind, Inc. The puppies will eventually train as guide dogs for people who are blind or visually impaired. Volunteer raisers provide the foundation for this guide work. For additional information about puppy raising or club activities please see <http://www.puppyguides.org>, or contact Carol at [cjcookusa@yahoo.com](mailto:cjcookusa@yahoo.com)



### ASK DR. G

Send Questions to [Diane@olae.org](mailto:Diane@olae.org).

**Question:** My 3 year old dog just loves to eat dirt, his dog toys and chew wood, including my expensive baskets. Is this because he has a vitamin deficiency? Do dogs need vitamins?

**Answer:** An issue like this is likely to have multiple causes. Two major concerns could be either physiological or psychological. However, both could be a contributing factor. Sometimes I have seen dogs eat dirt from possible gastrointestinal discomfort like intestinal parasites or worms. Pica, the abnormal desire to eat strange things, has sometimes been attributed to mineral deficiency. Psychological issues also need to be ruled out.

To answer the other part of the question, I do not believe in feeding dogs just dog food. In my mind there is no such thing as "100% nutritionally complete commercial dog food". I always recommend that my clients fortify their dog food (if they cannot cook at home) with fresh (not raw) food. I do recommend high quality vitamin mineral supplements. Interestingly my choice is not the dog brands. Discuss with your veterinarian for their advice for your dog.

## 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 dog area and providing financial support to maintain the area. Members will receive a subscription to our quarterly newsletter. This newsletter provides information on past and upcoming events, park clean-up parties, educational features, and more.

**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 on Greenwood at 84<sup>th</sup>

Adam Bock

B.B. Granda

Steve Tholl