

Eastern Gardens

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April 9, 2010

To: All Members/Residents of Eastern Gardens Cooperative, Inc.

Subject: Animals Running Free

Dear Members/Shareholders:

It has been reported to the Board that management has received several complaints from concerned members of animals running loose defecating in flower beds and lawn areas, more specifically, cats within the grounds of Eastern Gardens. The Board would like to remind each member of the co-ops current animal policy (Members Handbook, pages 74-76) as well as current County ordinances, which No animal is permitted to roam free. This includes dogs, cats, and other animals. There are several county ordinances that apply: The "Animal at Large" ordinance states no animal is permitted to roam free. If an animal leaves the owner's or custodian's property, i.e. your apartment unit, it must be under the control of a responsible person and wearing a pet license. It is illegal to just open the door for the dog or cat to go to the "bathroom" and wander about the neighborhood. Not only does this subject our members to unhealthy conditions but the animal as well. Dogs and cats running loose in the neighborhood are exposed to many dangers every day, including, but not limited to:

- automobiles (the #1 killer of loose dogs and cats)
- becoming lost
- being stolen
- abuse by people
- fights with other animals
- diseases
- poisons (including antifreeze and rat-bait)
- extreme weather (winter and summer)
- lack of proper food and clean water
- injury or death from belts or rotating blades in car engines (cats often crawl under car hoods to escape the cold in winter, dying when the car is started)

The easiest way of protecting your animals from these hazards, not to mention fines and the removal of the animal from the premises, is to avoid them altogether.

Dogs. Whenever outside of the apartment unit, your dog should always be on a leash. This way you can ensure that he or she is always under control. Even the best obedience-trained dogs can be frightened by sudden movements or loud noises, causing them to bolt.

Cats. Cats never need to go out of the house. They lead perfectly contented--and much longer--lives if they remain indoors at all times. If it is necessary to transport a cat, a secure animal carrier should always be used.

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Therefore, in the interest of health and safety, the Board has instructed management to enforce its current animal policy, i.e., document and submit a written warning notice to any member who violates these conditions.

Should you have any concerns, inquiries or if there is an objection by the membership as to the decision(s) made by the Board or management, then membership is expected to follow Eastern Gardens established procedures, which is, submit in writing, a letter to the Board of Directors expressing your concern(s) or request a personal audience of the board.

This is your home, Management and the Board of Directors is entrusted to provide a safe and healthy housing for everyone.

Sincerely,
EASTERN GARDENS COOPERATIVE, INC.

Frank Lenhart *James Patrick* *Donna Schmelz*
Ed Healy *Merritt Miller* *Rick Caughey*

Eastern Gardens Board of Directors

