

Vision

CoHo Ecovillage members acknowledge the fun, affection, comforts, and meaning these companion animals add to their families' lives. We also acknowledge that some members may prefer neither to have pets nor to interact with others' pets. This policy regarding pets is intended to promote a harmonious relationship among pets, pet owners, and non-pet owners and a peaceful, clean, and safe environment for all. We also value native wildlife and the environment and want to protect it from the negative impact of pets.

Needs/Requests

Need for fun, affection, comfort and meaning attained through the companionship of pets.

Need for ease in not being affected by others' pets.

Need for harmony amongst our neighbors and our pets.

Need for a peaceful, clean and safe environment.

Vision and Values

Our Pet Policy supports our community Values of:

- Cooperation and Friendship.
- Environmental Sustainability.
- A Diverse Community.
- Safety and Trust.
- The Interconnectedness of Life.

Facts

CoHo community owners have pets.

Assumptions

Pets will remain a part of the CoHo Ecovillage community in the future.

Policy

Guidelines for pets

- Individuals must be responsible for their own pets
 - Caring for them
 - Keeping them under control

- Owners are expected to be responsive to concerns expressed by others regarding problem behavior (e.g. noise)
- Owners are expected to minimize their pet's impact on wildlife.
- Members are encouraged to notify the CoHo community via email, the common house bulletin board and at a community meeting either before getting a new pet or within one week after getting a new pet. Anyone that wants to meet and learn about the animal will have the opportunity to do so. This allows members to meet the new pet and express or clarify any concerns.
- Any concerns about a specific animal should be addressed first by speaking directly to the owner. If no resolution is reached then the conflict resolution process will be used. Dog owners who are involved in repeated conflicts are encouraged to complete an AKC Canine Good Citizen course (or something similar) to aid the dog in being a respected member of the community. (See resource section.)
- When outdoors, dogs should either be confined to a yard, on a leash, or under voice control and supervision. This means that the owner is aware and attentive to their behavior at all times.
- Service animals are the only animals allowed in the common house.
- In common areas, owners are responsible for thoroughly cleaning up their animal's feces at the time of deposit.
- Out of respect for our desire to protect wildlife, cats may be outdoors only if confined in a yard or on a leash. Exception is made for elderly or infirmed cats as long as their owners are present and attentive to their behavior.

This policy does not cover farm animals.

Appendix

Resources:

AKC Canine Good Citizen course
Best Friends Obedience, Agility, and Doggy Daycare
126 SW Avery, Corvallis, OR 97333
541-754-6956

Julie Flanery, Wonderdogs
1379 North 9th Street, Philomath, OR 97370
541-929-3915
www.wonderdogsonline.com

Wendy McCoy
k9calling@yahoo.com

Revision History

This policy was created and initially approved 20050821.

This policy was revised and consensed upon on 20100725.

This policy was reviewed and approved without revisions on 20130610.