



Wesley Place Homeowners Association

Animal Control Policy

Article VIII, Section 3 of the DCCR states that, "the Association may regulate the keeping and maintaining of household pets." Pursuant to this section, the Wesley Place Board adopted the following Animal Control Policy at its August 6, 2024, meeting.

Designated Dog Bathroom Areas

Designated bathroom areas for dogs are all common areas **excluding** (1) every owner's entire front yard from home to curb and (2) backyards, from home to Wesley Place property boundaries where applicable (i.e. backing up to either Bennington, Highgrove Gardens, Village at Roefield, or Westland Drive).

Preferred areas are (1) Honeysuckle Lane (i.e. the stretch of Wesley Place between Phase 3 and the mail station) and (2) the Ebenezer entrance area.

Rules

1. **Pickup dog waste.** Dog owners are to pick up waste wherever it is left.
2. **Dogs should use the designated bathroom areas.** This applies to both solid and liquid waste. When your dog can't make it, using the street is better than using your neighbor's yard. Your dog may use your own yard but follow rule 1 even there.
3. **Dogs should be on a leash at all times.** This follows the guidance of Knox County ordinance 6-32 (b). Electronic leashes are acceptable when control equivalent to a physical leash is maintained.
4. **External animal cages and houses are not allowed.**
5. **Dogs cannot be left outside (even if fenced or tethered) while the owner is not home.** Please exercise other options such as leaving the dog inside, hiring a dog sitter, doggie daycare, or veterinarian boarding.
6. **Dogs cannot be left outside overnight.** Be aware that skunks frequent our neighborhood overnight.
7. **Only service animals are allowed inside the clubhouse and the pool area.**

Nuisance Noises

Since Knox County ordinance 6-33 already provides remedies for problems with barking dogs, the Association does not have additional rules for these cases. However, homeowners lodging a complaint with the Association may request that the Association send the offenders a letter stating the following:

1. Someone (not named) has complained to the Association about their dog(s) barking.
2. If true, they may be in violation of Knox County Ordinance 6-33.
3. If true, their neighbor could file a complaint with the Knox County Sheriff's office if the problem continues.

Animal Control Policy

References

1. DCCR Article VIII, Section 3. Animals

*No animals, livestock, or poultry of any kind shall be kept or maintained on any Lot or in any dwelling except that dogs, cats, or other household pets may be kept or maintained provided that they are **not kept for commercial purposes**, and provided further that **the Association may regulate the keeping and maintaining of household pets**.*

2. Knox County Code of Ordinances / Chapter 6 – Animals

*Section 6-32 – Animals at large. (a) **No person** owning or having possession, charge, care, custody or control of any animal **shall cause, permit or allow the animal to stray** or in any manner to run at large in or upon any public street, sidewalk or park **or upon the property of another**. (b) Every person owning or having possession, charge, care, custody or control of any animal shall keep such animal exclusively upon his own premises; provided, however, that **such animal may be off such premises if it is under the direct control of a competent person**.*

***Direct control** means immediate and continuous physical control of an animal (excluding herding dogs, dogs in the process of hunting, police dogs, dogs participating in organized field competition, and community cats) at all times such as by means of a fence, leash, cord or chain of sufficient strength to restrain the animal.*

*Section 6-33 – Animals creating a nuisance. (a) The owner having control or custody of any animal or livestock which: (1) **Habitually barks**, whines, meows, squawks or causes other objectionable noise resulting in a nuisance to a neighboring resident, shall be deemed to be committing an act in violation of this article. For purposes of this article, "habitually" shall mean **continuously for a period of ten minutes, or intermittently for one-half hour or more**.*

*Section 6-48 – Leash requirement. [NOTE: this requirement applies only while on **Knox County Park Property**. But 6-32 (b) requiring "direct control" applies anywhere in Knox County.]*

Adopted by the Board August 6, 2024