

*Please bring written comments to the Devon office by Friday 6/12/15.*

**DEVON PET COMMITTEE**

**5/6/15**

**Presented to council and to owners 5/27/15**

*Thank you.*

**Committee Objective:** to establish guidelines for acceptable pet behavior (notably dogs) and recommend solutions for lack of compliance with guidelines. The committee believes that courtesy and good will is very important.

**Local Laws: (paraphrased)**

1. all dogs over 6 months are required to have a state license and must display the license tag. Proof of rabies vaccination is required to get a license
2. all dogs to be kept under restraint at all times
3. owners/keepers are to keep areas where pet is kept free of excretia
4. owners/keepers shall immediately remove, in a sanitary manner, any fecal matter deposited on any street, sidewalk, park or upon any property used without the consent of the owner or tenant of such property. (1 hour to remove)
5. Prohibited: owning, possessing, harboring or controlling any **animal or bird** which causes a noise disturbance by barking, baying, crying, squawking or by making any other noise continuously or incessantly for a period of 10 (ten) minutes or which makes such noises intermittently for one-half (1/2) hour or more (assuming no one is trespassing or provoking the pet).

The city/county/state have financial penalties for violations of the above laws

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New pets must be registered with the Devon office within one week of moving in or acquiring the pet.

Pet size: there is a 20" floor to the shoulder limit at the Devon

**Committee Recommendations:**

1. Owner complaints should be submitted to the Devon office in writing.

2. Dogs must be leashed at all times. When on the sidewalks proximate to the building, in the elevator and public areas, leashes should be no longer than 18 inches, ideally the dog should be at the owner's heel or carried.
3. Pets should enter and exit through the door by the service elevator or basement.
4. Pets should always be transported on the service elevator. When that elevator is not available, pets may go up and/or down in the passenger elevators, but must, again be on a short leash of no more than 18", "at heel," or carried.
5. Pets should not be allowed on balconies. a. Pets have fallen, b. Potential danger to pedestrians/drivers below
6. Pets violating the county/city noise disturbance ordinances will be cited.
  - a. The initial violation will result in a conversation with the pet owner and delivery of referrals to organizations that may help in retraining the pet
  - b. The committee suggests a \$100 fine for the 2<sup>nd</sup> violation and
  - c. a \$150 fine for the 3<sup>rd</sup>.

*(A committee member suggested imposing fines might be hard to enforce and if it entails going to JP Court, would not be a good use of resources – I agree. However, if the council can impose financial penalties, they could/should be considered).*

7. Pets jumping on or leaping at other residents will be cited
  - a. See (a) above
  - b. See (b) above
  - c. See (c) above
8. Biting/nipping at residents or other pets will be cited
  - a. See (a) above
  - b. See (b) above
  - c. See (c) above

Should three violations occur within a 45 day time period, the Devon office will deliver a written notice to the owner requesting that the owner find another home for the pet.

8. These regulations will be presented to pet owners who will be asked to acknowledge their compliance by signing a copy of the regulations.
9. Pets are not permitted to relieve themselves on Devon property – inside or outside. Owners are responsible for cleaning up after their pets, according to local law. The

grassy areas between the parking lots and sidewalks may be used.

10. Pet "accidents" inside the building must be cleaned up by the owner – not left for Devon staff members.

11. Pet excrement should be double-bagged and disposed of in the dumpsters on the Riverview side of the building. The committee requests that cat litter also be taken to the dumpster when the owner is able.

12. Current pets are to be "grandfathered." New owners and owners acquiring new pets will be asked to pay a non-refundable pet fee of \$150 per cat and \$300 per dog to offset wear and tear.

13: Pet ownership limits: 1 dog per unit; 1 dog and 1 cat per unit; 2 cats per unit.

14. The Devon should review the policy of visiting dogs. Visiting or boarding pets should adhere to the 20" Devon size limit and adhere to house policy.

Pet committee:

Lydia Ini

Mary Jane Kirby

Cindy Monaco

Terry Reed

Joan Taylor

### **Owner comments received after the council meeting on 5/26/15:**

1. Cats may not freely wander the public hallways. When outside the owners' units, cats should be carried or (preferrably) transported in a pet carrier.

2. Birds?