



A FRIENDLY REMINDER TO DOG OWNERS

PLEASE BE CONSIDERATE OF YOUR NEIGHBORS AND YOUR DOG!

As the saying goes, “No man is an island” and it is ever more so here in Colecroft where, sometimes, only a fence separates one and one’s dog from the neighbors. Thus, being a considerate dog owner can contribute much to pleasant neighborly relations and a good living environment.

Dogs can make wonderful companions, but unfortunately they are also one of the pets most widely complained against. This is not surprising as they can often be seen (e.g., during walks in public places, etc.) and heard by others. Dog owners can avoid having their pets become a nuisance through proper care and supervision, obedience training, sufficient socialization, and adherence to the local pet laws.

LEASHES - Whilst owners may derive great joy from their dogs, it is important to consider those that do not like or are fearful of animals. In public places, dogs should be kept on a properly fitting collar/harness and leash – using the wrong type will not give the owner sufficient control of the dog. Dog owners are required by law to leash a dog in public.

WALKING AND CLEAN UP - At Colecroft, the preferred place to walk your dog is behind the satellite parking lot at the end of Oronoco Street and/or along the linear Metro pathway. It is common for dogs to use their walks as a toilet break, and when this happens, owners should have a plastic bag ready to clean up. Not cleaning up after your dog can lead to foul smells, staining, transmission of infectious/parasitic diseases, and become a fly nuisance. In addition, someone might accidentally step on it! Dog owners are required by law to clean-up after their pets.

BARKING - At the residence, excessive barking can be a really big problem. Generally, the use of training and socialization together is the best way to control barking. Obedience training will help the dog understand and obey commands such as “Quiet” and socialization will help it realize when barking is more appropriate. Additionally, don't leave a dog that likes to bark alone in the house for extended periods. Neighbors can usually hear it. If you work long hours, consider a pet sitter or doggie daycare. Also, be sure to leave the proper toys to provide stimulation and ease boredom, and make sure your dog gets plenty of exercise.

Having a pet is a personal choice, but when it becomes a nuisance it can involve a lot of other people. Be a considerate pet owner and everyone will be happy, including your pet!