

## **Pet Policy, amended by consensus on September 8, 2007**

(replaces Pet Policy of April 12, 2003)

**INTENT:** In order to promote a harmonious relationship among pets, owners and non-owners, this policy seeks to assure a clean, safe and peaceful environment for all living at or visiting Pleasant Hill Cohousing, especially young children.

### **General Guidelines Applying to All Pets:**

- 1) Pet owners are responsible for their pet's behavior and should see to it that their pet is not a danger or a nuisance to others.
- 2) No animals may be kept in contravention of local, state or federal law.
- 3) All excessive pet noises (i.e. chronic barking / squawking) or offensive smells must be curtailed.
- 4) Not everyone wants interaction with animals, thus pet owners must be considerate of neighbors' needs. Neighbors should let the pet owner know if they are allergic or need distance from the pet.
- 5) Problems regarding pets are to be worked out with the pet's owner. If the problem remains unresolved, it may be brought to the mediation team or the community in general.
- 6) There is no limit to the number of indoor caged pets one may have (fish, mice etc.).
- 7) It is recommended that all pet owners have a written form on file for reference listing their pet's, name, special needs, vet, and at least three neighbors willing to act on behalf of the pet in the owner's absence. This form will be available in the file folder at the bulletin board.

### **Guidelines Applying to Both Dogs and Cats:**

- 1) No 'strictly outdoor' pets are allowed. All pets are to be encouraged to spend the night indoors.
- 2) Dogs and cats must be spayed/neutered and in compliance with state and local animal control ordinances.
- 3) Pet food is not to be left outside.
- 4) Animals are not to be allowed into the Common house or pool area, except for service animals.
- 5) No pets are to be allowed in the sandbox play area.
- 6) Owners are responsible to promptly repair urine kill to lawns or other damage caused by their pets.
- 7) If owners are gone more than 24 hours, a designated pet care person should be posted.

### **Guidelines Specific to Dogs:**

- 1) Dog owners are to pick up their dog's poop right away.
- 2) Dogs must be on leash and under control at all times when in PHCH common areas, including front yards.
- 3) Dogs may not be left tied unattended in common areas, including front yards. A responsible person is to be with them at all times in these areas.
- 4) These guidelines apply to dogs belonging to visitors as well as to residents.

### **Guideline Specific to Cats:**

Owners need to monitor their cat's behavior to minimize problems such as fighting, spraying, and using others' gardens as a litter box.