

If you have a dog in Woodlake, read this:

It doesn't take much to remember that we have pets in our community. In fact, if you don't watch your step, you're likely to step in one such reminder!

Besides being unsightly and smelly, animal waste can be hazardous to the health of our children who play in the community *and to* other pets. One of the most common forms of disease transmission between dogs is through fecal matter.

When walking your pet in our community, remember that it must be leashed. **Also, it is important to immediately clean up after your pet.** Take a baggie with you to pick up waste and then dispose of it properly.

By taking a few simple steps to clean up after your pet, you can contribute not only to the beautification of our community, but also the elimination of one of the most irritating nuisances in our community. Thank you for your cooperation!

5 FACTS about uncollected pet waste in our community:

- The Environmental Protection Agency is becoming aggressive about enforcing the Clean Water Act. Our association can be fined if pet waste isn't picked up! (More fines, less reserve money, potentially higher dues....you see where this goes.....).
- Uncollected pet waste may lead to a special assessment. If fined by the EPA, the association could face a potential special assessment that would be **levied against all homeowners** – not just dog owners.
- It is a violation of Woodlake deed restrictions to NOT pick-up after your pet. The property owners' association **can fine you** for leaving pet waste on someone else's property OR on the street.
- The appearance and quality of common areas are known to affect home sales – not just the selling price but, also how quickly they sell.
- The more residents complain about pet waste, the more time a community director spends on enforcement; rather than serving the association with higher priority issues.
- **Uncollected pet waste spreads disease and attracts rodents who feed on pet waste** (EWWW!). Especially with warm weather coming. More unwanted animals are going to be out and about. Do we want to attract them to our community?