

Did Santa bring a new four legged friend to your house this year? Pets make a wonderful addition to any family but remember part of being a pet owner is making sure your pet is not a nuisance to others.

#### Pet Owner Basics

- If your pet is barking, bring it inside so it doesn't disturb the neighbors
- Pick up after your pet. If you take your pet for a walk bring several baggies so you can pick up the feces. Yes, it is gross and yes, you have to do it. One bag may not be enough. Also remember to clean your yard of feces weekly so the smell does not spread from your yard.
- When your dog is not in an enclosed area, remember to keep your pet on a leash. Arizona State Statues requires that dogs be leashed when in public parks and school, but the county laws and city laws are generally more restrictive, but vary from place to place. Become familiar with the leash laws in your area.

#### Neighboring a Dog or other Pet

- If your neighbor's dog is barking, *KINDLY* contact the neighbor to let them know of the problem. They may not be home to be aware of the problem. Remember the old saying about catching more flies with honey than vinegar. Pounding on someone's door and yelling obscenities is not likely to help the situation and will only cause the dog to bark more.
- If you see pet feces in the common area be a good neighbor and clean it up so that someone else doesn't step in it. *Remember if you see a problem and do nothing to correct it, you become part of the problem.*
- If you see a dog not a leash, remind the owner that it must be restrained by a leash. If a gentle remember does not work, report them to the police. *The HOA can not enforce city laws, this is what the police are for.*