



**AMBERLY GROVE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION
NPC**

REGISTRATION NUMBER: 2005/032100/08

Pet Policy

09 February 2025

Amberly Grove Pet Ownership Requirements

No resident may keep a pet in the estate without the prior written approval of the Home Owners Association. The Home Owners Association, as a condition of its approval to the keeping of any pet, may prescribe such conditions as it sees fit.

- **Pet Limit:**
 - **Dogs:** Maximum of two (2) medium-sized dogs per household.
 - **Medium-sized dogs:** Typically weigh between 10 and 30 kilograms when fully grown.
 - **Cats:** Maximum of one (1) cat per household.
- **Fencing Requirements:**
 - **Dogs:** Dog owners must fence off a designated area of their property to confine their dogs. The fence needs to meet the Directors' approval and must not go past the garage entrance, except for house 17 and 19 which is adjacent to the communal area because of its property layout.
- **Prohibited Animals:**
 - **Birds & Reptiles:** Not permitted without prior written consent from the Directors.
- **Identification:**
 - **Collars & Tags:** All pets must wear collars with current identification tags (name, owner's contact information) and be microchipped.
 - All cats must have a bell attached to their collar.
- **Leash Law:**
 - **Communal Areas:** Pets must be leashed and under the control of a responsible person when walking in common areas.
- **Waste Removal:**
 - **Pet Waste:** Owners are responsible for promptly removing their pet's waste from common areas.
- **Pet Removal:**
 - **Unattended Pets:** Unattended or unidentified pets in common areas may be removed by the Directors at the owner's expense.
- **Sterilization:**
 - **All Pets:** All pets must be spayed or neutered, unless a vet certifies that this would unduly impair the health of an old dog or old cat that is adopted.
- **Visitor Pets:**
 - **Short-Term Stays:** Visitor pets are permitted for short periods. They must be leashed and under control at all times.
- **Pet Breeding:**
 - **Prohibited:** Pet breeding is strictly prohibited within the complex.

Socialization & Community Considerations:

- **Considerate Behaviour:** Be mindful of your neighbours. Minimize noise from barking, meowing, or other disturbances.
- **Cleanliness:** Maintain a clean and hygienic environment for both pets and humans.
- **Training:** Ensure your pet is well-trained and behaves appropriately in all situations.
- **Communication:** If your pet causes a disturbance, address the issue promptly and take steps to prevent future occurrences.
- **Missing Pets:** If your pet is missing, notify neighbours immediately.
- **Sleep:** As cats are nocturnal, it is recommended they sleep indoors with you at night. Dogs should also sleep indoors at night.

Health & Safety:

- **Preventative Care:** Keep your pet's vaccinations, deworming, and flea/tick prevention up-to-date.
- **Damages:** Residents are personally responsible for damage claims in respect of pet ownership.

Dispute Resolution:

- **Informal Resolution:** Attempt to resolve neighbour disputes amicably through direct communication.
- **HOA Involvement:** If informal resolution fails, contact the Home Owners Association for assistance.

By adhering to these guidelines, we can ensure a harmonious and pet-friendly living environment for all residents of Amberly Grove.

Pet Ownership Guidelines for Cats and Dogs

Pet Ownership: A Lifelong Commitment

- **Lifespan:** Pets have varying lifespans (dogs and cats typically 10-20 years). This is a significant commitment, requiring long-term care and responsibility.
- **Life-Stage Needs:**
 - **Puppies/Kittens:** High energy, require intensive training, patience, and consistent socialization.
 - **Adults:** Need regular exercise, mental stimulation, and ongoing companionship.
 - **Seniors:** Require love, understanding, and potential assistance with age-related issues (arthritis, mobility problems, incontinence).

Pet Insurance:

- **Benefits:** Provides financial security for unexpected veterinary expenses (accidents, illnesses, emergencies). Consider comprehensive coverage including routine care, accidents, and illnesses.

Choosing the Right Pet:

- **Thorough Research:**
 - **Breed/Species:** Investigate breed characteristics (size, temperament, energy levels, grooming needs) and species suitability for your lifestyle.
 - **Individual Temperament:** Even within breeds, individual personalities vary. Consider adopting from shelters or rescues to find a compatible match.
 - **Environmental Needs:** Assess your living space (size, yard, access to outdoor areas) and ability to provide adequate exercise and stimulation.
- **Lifestyle Compatibility:**
 - **Time Commitment:** Can you dedicate time for daily walks, playtime, training, grooming, and feeding?
 - **Financial Resources:** Factor in ongoing costs (food, veterinary care, grooming, toys, training, pet insurance).
 - **Household Dynamics:** Consider compatibility with other pets, children, and family members.
- **Key Questions to Ask:**
 - Can you provide enough space for the pet to exercise and thrive?
 - Is the pet's temperament suitable for your household and lifestyle?
 - Can you afford the ongoing costs of pet ownership?
 - Are you prepared for the time commitment required to care for a pet properly?

Essential Pet Care:

- **Identification & Safety:**
 - **Microchip:** Microchip all pets for permanent identification.
 - **Collar & ID Tags:** Ensure a collar with updated ID tags (name, phone number, address).
 - **Leash Law:** Always keep your dog leashed when walking in public areas.
- **Waste Management:**
 - **Clean Up After Your Pet:** Promptly remove pet waste from all common areas. Dispose of cat litter responsibly in sealed bags with household waste.
- **Socialization:**
 - **Positive Introductions:** Gradually introduce your pet to various environments, people, and other animals.
 - **Prevent Disturbance:** Avoid excessive barking, meowing, or other disruptive behaviours.
- **Daily Interaction:**
 - **Quality Time:** Spend quality time with your pet daily through play, grooming, and affection.
 - **Health Monitoring:** Regularly observe your pet's behaviour and appearance for any signs of illness.

Veterinary Care:

- **Regular Check-ups:** Schedule annual wellness exams for preventative care, vaccinations, and parasite screenings.
- **Vaccinations:** Keep vaccinations up-to-date to protect your pet and others from preventable diseases.
- **Sterilization:**
 - **Spaying/Neutering:** Sterilize all pets to prevent unwanted litters, reduce behavioural issues, and improve overall health.
- **Dental Care:**
 - **Oral Hygiene:** Regular dental check-ups and at-home dental care (brushing, dental chews) are essential.
- **Parasite Prevention:**
 - **Year-Round Protection:** Use veterinarian-recommended flea, tick, and heartworm preventatives.

Lifestyle & Enrichment:

- **Nutrition:**
 - **Balanced Diet:** Provide a high-quality, age-appropriate diet. Avoid overfeeding and limit human food.
 - **Fresh Water:** Ensure constant access to clean, fresh water.
- **Exercise:**
 - **Physical Activity:** Daily exercise is crucial. Engage in walks, playtime, and interactive activities.
- **Mental Stimulation:**
 - **Enrichment:** Provide toys, puzzles, and training games to keep your pet mentally engaged.
- **Grooming:**
 - **Regular Care:** Brush regularly, trim nails, and clean ears according to breed-specific needs.
- **Socialization:**
 - **Gradual Exposure:** Expose your pet to various environments, people, and other animals in a controlled and positive manner.
- **Sleep:**
 - **Indoor Rest:** Provide a comfortable and safe sleeping area indoors.