

The Picture of a...

Neighborhood Dog Owner

Is your dog getting a bad rap because someone in your household is not fulfilling the role of a responsible dog owner in a densely populated community?



Noise

You are a neighborhood dog owner if:

- ◆ It's quiet throughout all of South Riding, then your dog goes into the yard and the party starts. You hate to rain on the good time parade but you shush your dog and bring it inside, each and every time.
- ◆ Who doesn't want to howl at the moon especially when it's full, but you know the neighbors have young children that need to sleep, you shush your dog and bring it inside, each and every time.
- ◆ Your dog greets each and every sunrise on the deck with a vocal, repeating "yip, yip, yip", but you know your neighbor works at night and just nicely got to sleep, you shush your dog and bring it inside, each and every time.
- ◆ You listen to your neighbors when they say "your dog barks all day while you're gone", you invest and re-invest in good training for separation anxiety or register the pup in a local doggie daycare.



Free Roaming

You are a neighborhood dog owner if:

- ◆ You understand that unleashed dogs no matter the size can strike fear into the hearts of parents, young kids, other dogs, the mailperson and really anyone who is afraid of man's best friend so you invest in training for a good walking companion and you use a leash from beginning to end, on each and every walk.
- ◆ You avoid giving new faces the "friendly greeting" recognizing many neighbors' have pet allergies ranging from mild to severe, so you use a leash from beginning to end, on each and every walk.
- ◆ You advise other neighborhood dog owners that your dog loves people but not their peers so you use a leash from beginning to end, on each and every walk.

To report a concern regarding a loose or loud dog contact Loudoun County Animal Services at **(703) 777-0406**, after hours contact the Loudoun Sheriff's Office at **(703) 777-1021**.



Last but not least and an all time SRP staff favorite...POO

You are a neighborhood dog owner if:

- ◆ You **PICK IT UP** and dispose of it properly. Call "it" what you like, you **PICK IT UP**.
- ◆ You ensure your kids and members of your household **PICK IT UP**, when out for walks, each and every time.
- ◆ You invest in pet waste bags and a holder that clips to the leash (900 bags for less than \$20 at our favorite internet retailer), or recycle plastic store bags and you **PICK IT UP** each and every time.
- ◆ You recognize your neighbors' deck looks out over your yard and you take the minute or two to **PICK IT UP** routinely or you hire a company that provides this wonderful service.

*Thank you to all the neighborhood dog owners who live in South Riding!
Thank you for keeping South Riding safe and clean for all (and for following the Law, Loudoun County ordinance 612).*