

- Melody Ranch HOA -

Volume 2, Issue 6

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An issue that will always be with our HOA is how to handle dogs. We have a large number of homeowners who have dogs and a large number who do not have dogs. It's important that a common respect be given to everyone so that we can live in harmony. Here are some things we all need to be aware of:

Non-Dog Owners need to understand that they live in a neighborhood that allows people to have dogs. They should expect to hear the occasional barking, see people walking their dogs down the street, see people playing with their dogs in the open space, and more. If they see dogs roaming or being a nuisance, they should contact GTPM for a course of action. In some situations, the HOA can take action and in some cases the complaining property owner will need to call the County dog catcher. Non-dog owners should not have to pick up after other owners - especially in their own yards.

Dog owners need to understand that they live in a neighborhood that has rules for ownership and that not everyone enjoys dogs as much as they do. In Melody, dogs are required to be kept restrained. This means that if you let your dog out, it must be restrained in your yard with fences or other means. Dogs should never be let out without being restrained. When walking down the street, dogs should be on a leash or under strict verbal command. If your dog does not come back to you when first called, it is not under strict verbal command.

The HOA has spent money to install signs and mutt mitt stations along the pathways. Dog owners are required to pick up after their dogs every time. There currently is only one park that is designated a no dog park - the park at Chickadee Circle. This park is used heavily by kids and they should have a space that is clean and clear of feces. This is just one small space compared to all the open space available for dog owners.

PAWS of Jackson Hole believes that cleaning up after your pet is a mandatory obligation for dog owners. There are 10,000 dogs in Teton County, WY. If we allowed 10,000 dogs to poop twice a day without picking it up, in one year there would be 1.8 million pounds of dog waste on our trails and roads. This is not only a huge mess, but it is an environmental hazard.

The scoop on poop:

- Dog waste on the ground poses a greater environmental threat than poop that is disposed of safely in the trash. Poop left on the ground will flow directly into our lakes, ponds, and streams. Leaving poop near water, on sloped ground, or on pavement is irresponsible and will result in water pollution. It can carry viruses and bacteria and increase the growth of damaging algae and aquatic weeds in our local waters.
- Letting waste decompose "naturally" is not a good solution. Natural decomposition is a slow process. With the large number of dogs using off-leash areas, poop accumulates faster than it decomposes. This accumulation exposes pets to harmful parasites and our shoes, cars, and homes to unpleasant poop contamination.
- Disposing of poop in biodegradable mutt mitts is safe and environmentally friendly. The bags used in the mutt mitt dispensers are non-toxic, biodegradable and decompose with or without sunlight. They are safe in landfills or incinerators and the decomposition starts as soon as the mutt mitt is used.
- With 10,000 dogs in our area, it is imperative that people pick up after them. This effort should begin in our neighborhoods and in our backyards.

COUNTY DOG CATCHER

Please contact Teton County Sheriff's office at 733-2331 to speak to the dog catcher. Please contact the dog catcher if you see a roaming dog, a dog that is a nuisance (barks non-stop) or if a dog is aggressive. GTPM does not have the legal authority or the training to deal with roaming or aggressive dogs.

MUTT MITT BAGS

Please remember to pick up your mutt mitt bags after using them. The HOA does not have anyone cleaning the pathways. Grand Teton Property Management does empty the buckets on a weekly basis.

COMING SOON.... NEW MUTT MITT LOCATIONS

Two new mutt mitt locations will be added to east section of Melody Ranch. The new stations will be found near the storage unit on Melody Ranch Dr. and near Chickadee Circle and Melody Ranch Dr. Thank you for continuing to use these stations.

VISITORS & DOG/HOUSE SITTERS

Please be sure to tell your friends and dog/house sitters to leave their pets at home if you own two household pets already. All homes may have up to two generally recognized house or yard pets. All dogs must be restrained or leashed at all times.

SUMMER VACATION SPEED LIMIT - 15 MPH!

School is out and the children are outside playing. Please be conscious of your vehicle speed through Melody Ranch Subdivision. The speed limit is 15 MPH. Please be sure to tell your guests and renters the speed limit in Melody Ranch.

VACANT LOT OWNERS & NOXIOUS WEEDS

Noxious and invasive weeds are an issue in Teton County and Melody Ranch is no exception. All vacant lot owners need to maintain their vacant lot. This includes spraying for noxious weeds this summer.

HOA PAYMENTS

Please do not leave any checks or correspondence for the HOA in the mailbox next to the old sales office. The sales office no longer processes HOA dues. All correspondence and payments should be mailed to:

**The Meadows at Melody Ranch
PO Box 4337
Jackson, WY 83001**

All checks need to be written out to:
The Meadows at Melody Ranch

Be sure all emails are sent to:
info@melodyranchhoa.com

Please contact Cynthia or Tina at GTPM to address all inquires. They can be reached at 307.733.0205

MARK YOUR CALENDAR.....

Typically the Board of Directors meets the third Tuesday (June 15th) of each month at 5:00. Please call GTPM for the exact date and time, as they are sometimes moved to accommodate peoples' schedule.

Every second Thursday (June 10th) of each month the Architectural Review Committee meets at 4:30. All items need to be turned in by noon the Friday prior to the ARC meeting.

All meetings are held at Grand Teton Property Management located at 610 W. Broadway, Ste 203. Please let GTPM know if you would like to be put on the agenda.