



▶ DOGS NEEDING HELP



○ May/June

○ 2013



▶ COMMUNITY



▶ RECREATION

# EDO A focus

*Eastham Dog Owners' Association  
Advocating on issues effecting dogs and dog owners  
in Eastham, Massachusetts*

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## Facts and Insights from the EDOA Dog Park Survey - Tracey Plantier, Survey Committee Chair - Ed Daniels, EDOA President

Thank you for the OUTSTANDING response to the Dog Park survey. Participation was several times higher than is usual for this type of request. Most impressive are the notes, showing clearly the careful consideration of many respondents. See the entire survey including excellent charts and those interesting notes posted on our website; <https://easthamdog.org>

### Facts and Insights from the EDOA Dog Park Survey

1. We had 48 EDOA members respond to the survey, 40 full time residents and 8 part-time residents.
2. The average number of dogs owned by respondents was 1.5.
3. Locations where dogs are exercised was spread fairly even between Beaches (29), Trails (28), Roads (25) and Parks (23).
4. Out of 48 respondents, 30 have visited a dog park, locations included both on cape and off.
5. The top three dog park models favored: fenced (16), unleashed public parks (16), unfenced unleashed dog designated area (12).
6. Respondents that preferred not to use a dog park (9).
7. The top three concerns regarding dog parks were - Dogs Banned from Dog Friendly areas (22), By-Law Changes (9), and Maintenance (9). 15 respondents had (0) concerns regarding dog parks.
8. \*Respondents opinion that Eastham was Dog Friendly: average is 7.02 and median is 8. (Range 1-10)
9. \*Respondents interest in a dog park: average is 5.75 and median is 5.5 (Range 0-10)

What the EDOA survey committee found interesting about the data is that the additional comments that were entered by some respondents helped us understand why a member was either interested or not interested in a dog park. Interest level depended on their personal situation with their dogs. For example, if a dog owner felt comfortable walking their dog on leash or off leash in an open environment, there was little interest in a dog park, if a dog owner felt more comfortable allowing their dog to exercise in a protected fenced area there was much more interest in a dog park. The specific question asking for a rating on Dog Park Interest was pretty closely cut down the middle.

Another insight was from the question regarding preference of dog park models. (9) respondents preferred not to use a dog park, (16) respondents preferred a fenced dog park, (2) respondents gave no answer, which left (21) respondents that given a choice of a dog park preferred an off-leash open environment, whether or not it was formally designated or a de facto dog exercise area.

\*both the average and median are provided for these results, median is a mid-point of all answers which is felt to be a more robust statistic than average, as it is more resistant to swings from data outliers

**The Takeaway:** While there is interest in a dog park there is also concern that the status quo would be threatened by the creation of a dedicated park. While numbers tell a story they do not tell the whole story. A survey like this does not take into consideration the passion a respondent has for their point of view. Only live and open discussion can plunge those depths.



EDO A'S BOW WOW BASH WAS HELD IN MAY AT FIRST ENCOUNTER BEACH

With legitimate opinions to the contrary, members generally see Eastham as rather dog friendly. There seems no imperative from these results for EDOA to press for a dog park given the risks and costs (both financial and political). However, if circumstances change the EDOA will revisit this position.





April's Dog of the Month, Cooper, a 3-legged hound/collie mix owned by EDOA Board Member, Kathy "k2" Mueller.



2013 Buddy Scholarship recipient Katie Flanagan. Congratulations!

### IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR!

Fleas and ticks love Cape Cod almost as much as people do, especially during the months of May, June & September. For useful information on how to remove a tick the right way, here's some advice from the ASPCA's recent newsletter <http://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/pet-care-tips/how-to-remove-a-tick-from-your-pet>. And similar advice from [VetStreet](http://www.vetstreet.com).

Not only that, but, the upcoming warm weather warrants a reminder about leaving dogs locked in parked cars. Simply put, don't do it! Most dogs love to go for rides, and it's up to us responsible humans to set boundaries and know when to leave a hound safe at home while we run a few errands. If leaving Fido home isn't an option, bring another human along to help dog-sit while you briefly exit the car. If you see a dog locked in a hot car, call local police, report the make, model and license number of the car and location.

May's dog of the month (above) is Sophie Jo, a black Lab owned by EDOA board member Cindy Nicholson.



Photos wanted! EDOA's Windmill Weekend Slideshow will showcase photos of Eastham dogs. Submit your photos by email to [k2@easthamdog.org](mailto:k2@easthamdog.org)

## NEWS & EVENTS

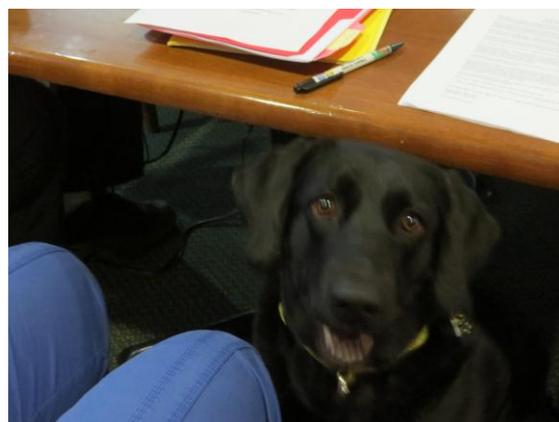
The Buddy Scholarship committee has selected its 2013 scholarship winner. The \$1,000 scholarship was presented to Nauset High School graduate and UMass Amherst pre-veterinary student Kaitlin Flanagan in May at EDOA's Bow Wow Bash. Many thanks to all Buddy Scholarship donors who made this award possible. Donate for next year's winner at [Buddy Scholarship](#)

Nauset Pet Services is offering a 10% discount to EDOA members for its dog-walking service.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- Hands on the Arts; Saturday, June 15 at the Windmill Green in Eastham.
- Paws for Celebration; Saturday, June 22 from 11am-3pm at Nauset Middle School, Orleans.
- Windmill Weekend; September.

Find out more on EDOA's calendar at [www.easthamdog.org](http://www.easthamdog.org)



# LOST DOG NETWORK

## LOST DOG



"Beau Barber"  
Male Rat Terrier, Black an

## LOST DOG



Ruger  
Male German Shepherd missing Sunday 11/11/12  
from Thumpertown Road in Eastham

The EDOA Lost Dog Network held a team meeting in April and has already helped assist with four lost dogs in 2013! (all with happy resolutions); the LDN is gearing up for the start of the season, has placed "Find Fido" brochures at various locations in Eastham, and distributed accessories to the team for use when searching for lost pooches. Check out our web site for up-to-date Lost Dog Network info:

[www.easthamdog.org/id46.html](http://www.easthamdog.org/id46.html)

[Therapy dogs from American Humane Association](#), and ["Comfort Dogs" from Lutheran Charities](#)

brought k9 kindness to Bostonians in their time of need last month. Think your dog has that special something to become a therapy dog? Check out some local agencies and their requirements, [here](#).

Some dogs have another special gift of being able to sniff out medical danger including seizure-prediction, cancer, diabetes and more. [The nose knows!](#)

Kids and pets go together like hot Cape Cod days and ice cream! But young children often need to learn about [being kind to animals](#) and how to properly behave around dogs or cats. See what the Dog Whisperer himself suggests about kids and dogs: <http://bit.ly/183F5PB> and read about dog bites and kid/dog safety here: <http://bit.ly/10tL4uP>

### Special Thanks to:

- The seven EDOA members who volunteered at the Eastham Rabies Clinic in March.
- Agway for continuing to supply Mutt Mitts at several dog-friendly locations for 2013.
- All EDOA members who responded to the recent dog park survey.

### EDOA's Board of Directors

Ed Daniels, President; Cindy Nicholson, VP; Lu St. Aubin, Treasurer; Kathy Herrick, Secretary; Cindy Blum; Per Bentsen; Katrina Boucher; Karie Miller; Kathleen Mueller; Ellen Murray; Tracey Plantier and Larry DiBona

Click [here](#) for more Lost Dog News!

Check out EDOA's web site [here!](#)