

EDOA News Blast

Eastham Dog Owners' Association



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Can't view the document clearly?

Shhh. The best time of the year is coming

[View it on our website.](#)

Upcoming

- Windmill Weekend—September 9—11, 2022.
 - EDOA will have our booth. Stop by and say hello. Better yet, [volunteer to serve in the booth.](#)
 - Walk with us in the parade.
- More info below.

What is EDOA Up To These Days?

- Several members joined the Open Space Committee for their meeting regarding use of and changes to Wiley Park.
- Planning for our booth at the NEW Windmill Weekend.
- Organizing for the Windmill Weekend Parade. We will have a march of the dogs.
- We are soon to be expanding our EDOA Store and our selection of items. Some of our current stock will be ON SALE at the Windmill Weekend.
- Buddy Scholarship needs some help. After our incredible response to the call last year, we hope to add to the assistance to our students this year.
- EDOA encourages a “charm campaign” on social media.
- New bulletin board installed at Wiley Park.
- Planning for the Annual Meeting has begun. October 20, 2022. (add to your calendar).



EDOA Annual Meeting .ics

EDOA by the Numbers

194	EDOA member households.
5	Years of EDOA News Blasts.
0	EDOA Beach Towels in stock.
466	\$\$\$ sales at the Store this month.
1661	Facebook visitors reached.
11	Years as a 501(c)(3).



Using and Sharing Wiley Park—EDOA meets with the Open Space Committee

- Ed Daniels

Those of us using Wiley Park regularly have noticed some changes. Lathe fencing has gone up in the area frequented by dog walkers to access a small portion of Great Pond. Signs have appeared indicating the reason. Because this is an area popular with EDOA members, we decided to take a closer look at what was going on and find out how it might impact us. EDOA was invited to join the Open Space Committee at a recent meeting. EDOA members Tracey Plantier, Tony Cantore, Cindy Nicholson, and I attended.



First a little background. According to town records the park property was donated to the town for the use of “conservation and recreation”. Several town offices take part in the joint administration led by the Conservation Committee and includes the Open Space Committee, Recreation Department, and Natural Resources. Recently, the 1651 Arboretum has been allowed to do some work at the park.

The 1651 group of volunteers’ mission is to re-establish areas of the park with native vegetation as it was found at settlement in 1651. Most recently they have worked on an area near the foot-bridge that has been affected by overuse, particularly dogs meeting and playing. The fencing is there to temporarily protect the tender plantings until they get established.

Our concern is that there might be an attempt to restrict use of the park by dog owners. We pointed out that the users of the park trails are primarily dog walkers who gravitate there for its’ wooded trails and access to fresh water, as well as the social aspects of meeting and exercising our pets. Our concern is that this large cohort of park users might be limited in use of the park because it appears to conflict with the vision of other users of the park. We appreciate that the fencing was not used to cut off the limited access there is to the pond in that area as it is one of the few fresh water access points for dogs away from the areas of public beaches.

We were assured that restriction of dogs was not the goal. During discussion we affirmed the value in maintaining the native condition of the park and its trails as they are enjoyed by our dog owning citizens as well. We concurred that areas of the park were affected by overuse by dogs. We all agreed that the shared use of the park should continue and that the goals of all were not intended to exclude or subvert the goals of others.

We will continue to work with and support the efforts of other park users and stewards to maintain the park for the benefit of all our citizens and visitors.

In the meantime, please continue to respect the dog-less walkers, the cleanliness of the resource, and the work of other groups in their effort to conserve the park for all.



Windmill Weekend—EDOA participation



We are in. EDOA will be marching with our dogs in the big parade during Windmill Weekend. All EDOA members and dogs are invited to join us for the less-than-one-mile walk between Old Orchard Ave and the Green. We plan to have a “float”. Marchers will be provided with gifts and treats for humans and dogs to distribute along the route. Featured will be “Turnip”, our plush giant puppy.

Queuing up at the start with our float—2014

Please plan to join

us. It is a hoot. This is a great PR opportunity for us as there are so many people who enjoy seeing all the dogs being well behaved and friendly. We also get to show off the popularity of dogs in our community as many do not realize how many households do have dogs in town. We will be in contact with particulars as the date nears.

Please plan to join us. It is a hoot.



The raffle choices at our booth.

Dealing with Social Media Negativity

-Ed Daniels

Social media sometimes brings out the worst. For dog owners this includes misinformation and people complaining that dogs are a problem for them. “All dogs are supposed to be on a leash.” “Dogs scare little kids. Do something”. “I saw dog poop. Disgusting!” We can try to defend ourselves but that seems to just result in more people jumping on us. I have decided to take a different tack.

I will continue to correct mis-information, but instead of confrontation I decided to celebrate the joy it brings to have a dog in Eastham. So, I will be posting dogs behaving well, getting along, being enjoyed by people and other dogs. Perhaps you might like to try it too?

Here is one of my early attempts featuring Monty behaving while encountering others in Wiley Park. (About 2 min.)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d19LHX9UBfk>

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