

October 2013

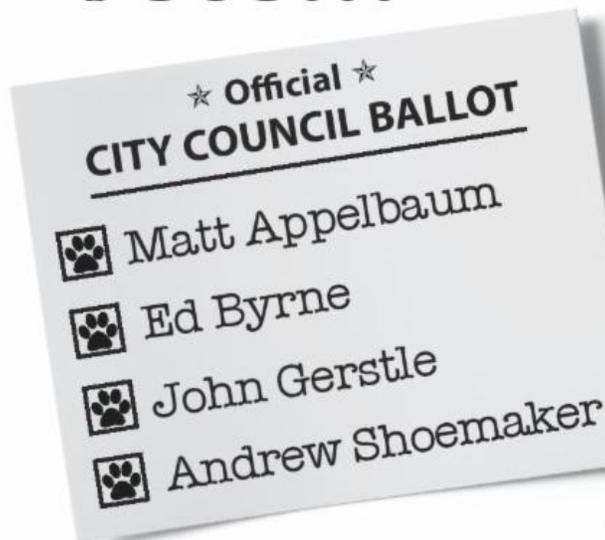


Friends Interested  
**FIDOS**  
Dogs and Open Space

**2013 Election**

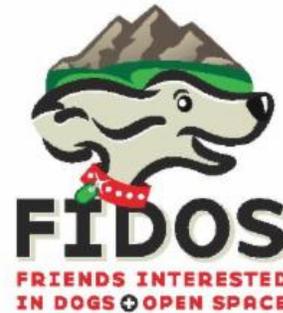
Be sure to VOTE for the DOG Friendly Candidates.

# If your dog could vote...



*Paid for by the Committee for Dog Friendly Candidates*

If you enjoy hiking with your dog on Open Space but are concerned that your Voice & Sight privileges are at risk of being eroded, then be sure to vote for the **FIDOS**-endorsed City Council candidates. We believe these candidates will treat dog guardians fairly and will work to maintain an equitable and reasonable "Green Tag" program for the majority of us who are responsible users of Open Space. We also think that their rational approach towards dogs will serve Boulder well as they take on many other issues facing our city.



VISIT [www.FIDOS.org](http://www.FIDOS.org) to learn more about how FIDOS advocates for your Open Space access

Boulder Council is the most important group of individuals for all lovers of the Open Space. They are the single group which has the final decision over all the rule and law changes. The Council decides who will enjoy the Open Space and who will be burdened with such severe restrictions and costs that they are eventually driven away.

OSMP, once again, is proposing more restrictions to the Green Tag "Voice & Sight" program. It is vitally important that we vote for informed, open-minded candidates to govern Boulder.

This election is mail-in ballot only, you should have your ballot

form arriving any day now.

**Please keep Open Space Access in mind when you cast your vote.**

## Green Tag Program

As a result of the flood, the changes to the Green Tag program have been removed from the Council's Calendar for this session, and will be addressed by the next Council after the election.

This is somewhat of a setback as we had spent quite some time ensuring the current Council Members were informed on all the issues, such as the prohibitive costs, and untenable restrictions on ordinary law abiding dog guardians.

All we can say at this point is "Watch this space" and be prepared to start again.

## Rights of Nature

There is a particularly insidious project being promoted to the County which is nothing less than an attempt to enshrine in law the most extreme demands of Boulder's radical conservationist establishment. Their website is at [Rights of Nature](#).

If this group has their way, visitors to the Open Space, whether with dogs or not, will have their access severely curtailed.

The original idea of Rights of Nature, to fight oil companies drilling in pristine areas, was great! It made the legal costs to the oil companies prohibitive and they backed down, but the idea now is to apply the ideas to visitors to the Open Space.

FIDOS urges you to get educated by checking out the Rights of Nature Website and contact:

Peter Fogg, [pfogg@bouldercounty.org](mailto:pfogg@bouldercounty.org)

expressing your concern and asking rejection of this proposal.

**Remember YOU are considered the villain in this piece,**

The issue will be discussed on October 16, 2013 1:30 of the Planning Commission at:

Boulder County Courthouse,  
3rd Floor, 2045 13th St, Boulder

## To end with a little nonsense

And now for something completely different. Its a dog food add. Stop this video at 7 to 9 seconds and see if you see anything familiar!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xDvYmgDbrll>

## Helping FIDOS

It's surprising how much V&S activity is going on the Boulder and the County which FIDOS members try to cover.

If you'd like to help out, but can't make long term commitments, we are pulling together a list of volunteer activities which simply involve turning up. For example, organizing a social event or attending an OSBT or Council Meeting and reporting back. (These meetings may seem dry, but when you have some skin in the game, such as preserving V&S access, they can be fascinating).

Let FIDOS know if you are interested in these ad-hoc activities and we'll put you on the mailing list.





## FIDOS Meetings, Membership and Feedback

Members of FIDOS include a wide cross section of the Boulder Community, the common factor being an interest in enjoying and protecting the the Open Space, accompanied by our dogs. Many supporters are in fact "between dogs", but value meeting others with their dogs on the trail.

In order to retain and expand this access we each need to be "good stewards" of the lands around us and keep an eye on whats going on on the trails as well as in the meeting rooms.

Let us know if you have any ideas or observations on the direction of FIDOS. New perspectives on V&S are always valuable in developing our arguments.

FIDOS meets on the first Monday of each month, 7pm at the Outlook Hotel, Boulder. The agenda is always published in advance to make sure we hit all the issues. If anyone would like to address the group let us know in advance (mail here) and we'll make time in the schedule.

Sincerely,

Newsletter Team

Friends Interested in Dogs and Open Space

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