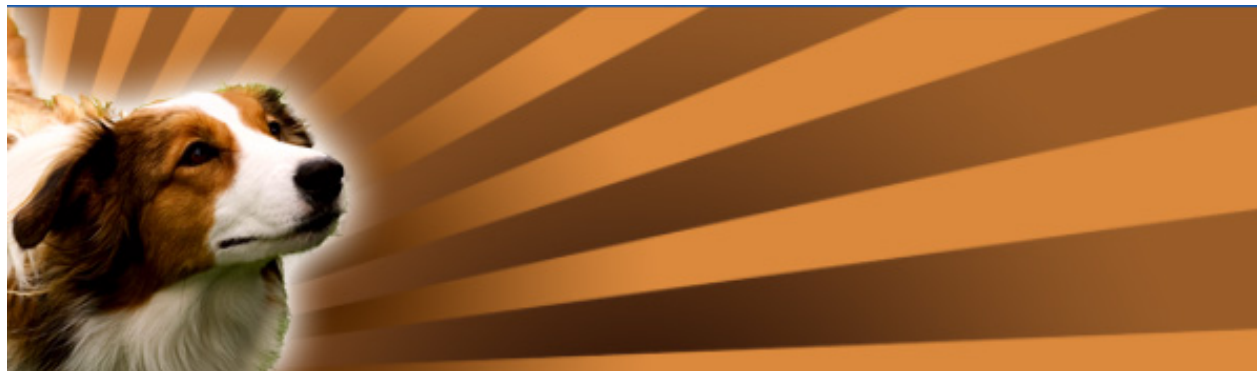


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Important Green Tag Program Update and OSBT Meeting



URGENT FIDOS INFORMATION

Open Space and Mountain Parks (OSMP) Staff has just released their recommendations on the revisions to the Green Tag Program at:

http://www.bouldercolorado.gov/files/openspace/pdf_osbtmemos/10-10-2012%20Tag%20Program%20OSBT%20Memo%20for%20web.pdf

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The proposals are on page 2 and are short, easy reading.

Some of their recommendations are severe, and would significantly impact future voice and sight access for dogs on Open Space.

We need your support at the upcoming Open Space Board of Trustees (OSBT) meeting to discuss these recommendations.

This meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 10th at 6 PM in the City Council chambers - 1777 Broadway.

The Green Tag discussion is scheduled to begin at 7:15. The full agenda is here.

http://www.bouldercolorado.gov/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=2782&Itemid=1089#.UHIva_9ueU4.email

If you care about continued voice and sight access for you and your dog, please attend this meeting. **It is our last chance to influence the proposals before they are presented to City Council in November.**

All interested dog guardians are encouraged to share their thoughts about OSMP's recommendations with the OSBT. Your attendance alone, wearing something like a draped leash to show support for dogs, will be a huge help. If we can get a good turnout for this meeting, we have a better chance for a favorable outcome.

We apologize for the short notice. OSMP staff, however, has a history of operating in a

way that gives us very short notice, typically days, to mobilize our membership.

The eight OSMP recommendations are listed below, along with a brief summary of FIDOS view on each recommendation.

Very briefly, FIDOS accepts recommendations 1, 5, and 7, and opposes 3, 4, 6, and 8.

OSMP STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. Require all program participants attend an information session.** New program participants must attend a session before they can register in the program. Existing participants will have a one year period after implementation to attend the information session. - [FIDOS accepts as reasonable](#)

- 2. Require that dogs managed under voice and sight control will be registered in the program only if proof of current rabies vaccination/City of Boulder dog license is provided.** - [Although we don't object to this recommendation, we hope that this does not mean that County residents must now obtain City Licenses.](#)

- 3. Fines for B.R.C. 6-13-2 Voice and Sight Evidence Tag Required are increased to \$100, \$200, and \$300 (minimum) for first, second and third or more convictions.** - [Doubling the currently existing fines seems unnecessarily severe, considering the nature of these violations.](#)

- 4. Revocation of program privileges will occur with one conviction of Aggressive Animal Prohibited (B.R.C. 6-1-20) or Failure to Protect Wildlife (or livestock) (B.R.C. 8-3 -5).** Revocation of program privileges will occur with two convictions in two years for all other dog-related violations on OSMP property. - [This recommendation is too severe.](#)

- 5. Encourage courts to order watching the voice and sight video, community service, or attending the voice and sight information session, dog training, or demonstration testing for egregious or repeat dog-related violations.** - [FIDOS accepts, although OSMP is contradicting their own recommendation #4.](#)

- 6. Modify the program registration process and fees to include the following:**
 - a household fee of \$20 for Boulder County residents;
 - a household fee of \$30 for non-Boulder County residents;
 - a \$5 fee for each additional household participant; and, an annual household renewal fee of \$10, \$15, and \$20 based on City of Boulder, Boulder County, and non Boulder County address. - [FIDOS has no problem with this as a concept. However, the fee schedule as presented would be too rigorous and expensive. An annual renewal fee is somewhat extreme, considering that Voice & Sight dog guardians are the only user group who is required to pay for access. FIDOS recommends that any renewal fees be no sooner than every 3 years.](#)

- 7. Additional education and outreach strategies as recommended in Attachment B.**
 - [FIDOS fully supports and hopes to participate in all of the additional outreach and strategies listed in Appendix B.](#)

- 8. The program performance standard will be 90 percent compliance for voice and sight controlled dogs responding appropriately to a guardian's commands and the standard will be assessed three years after program enhancements are implemented.** The program performance standard will indicate if additional adaptive management enhancements are necessary including but not limited to requiring a demonstration test before participants register in the program. - [This is a highly troubling and extreme recommendation, and needs thorough discussion](#)

FIDOS - Secretary

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