

Norton's Shipyard & Marina, Inc.

Telephone: (401) 884-8828 or (401) 884-8770

Greetings to all of our Marina customers & their guests.

This is one of very few mass e-mails Norton's' will ever send out, please forgive our intrusion if this particular issue is not applicable to you. A matter has been brought to our attention that is of great concern to all of us concerning dogs at the Marina. On occasion & especially more recently, there have been a few dogs sighted "off" a leash in our yard.

This is a clear violation of the terms noted within our contracts & on signage throughout the marina, it is also a liability to all of us and poses a danger to dogs & their owners alike.

First, let us say that we understand how we all think we may know our dogs & their personalities, we understand he or she may or may not have had any prior incidents with others, we understand how cute our dogs are; we understand your fellow dock neighbors may not mind *all the time* if the dog is unleashed (though how often is it that people are comfortable telling their boat neighbor tactfully that they do mind?), and we understand how we all think we can control our dogs – small or large. We love dogs & encourage you to bring them here.

We also understand accidents can happen such as:

One dog or another may be having an "off" day; **Maybe** the summer weather is too hot for some dogs on occasion & they have an 'attitude' reaction; **Sometimes** dogs simply have a bad reaction to another dog(s); **People** driving through the parking lot do not always have time to stop if a dog runs out either on its own or due to chasing another dog; **People** sometimes just drive too fast in the lot; or **Some** dogs just do not get along with other dogs, cars, or people, or cats. Unfortunately, it is not enough to put the leash on only when you see management, or when you are halfway down the dock, or after you load your carts up & close your car up. It will only take a moment, just one, for something to go wrong.

We ask everyone to remember & respect that we all share this property (people & other animals), **dogs are welcome here within the established policies, and they are not if these policies cannot or are not adhered to.**

- **No dog *big or small* is allowed on this property without a leash, at any time, period.**
- **You may not think your dock neighbors mind, but marina management does.**
- **Even if you live here or practically do, it is not your property or right to make the decision to unleash your dog when on these premises.**
- **It is an insurance liability risk to the marina, not just to you.**
- **Do you really want to bear the responsibility when something terrible does occur?**
- **You are deliberately putting others & their pets in danger by disregarding this policy.**
- **You may be asked to vacate the premises & your contract may be nullified.**

WE ARE NOT TRYING TO BE DIFFICULT; IF WE WERE WE WOULDN'T ALLOW DOGS AT ALL. WE ARE HOWEVER, REMINDING EVERYONE TO BE CONSIDERATE OF OUR POLICIES & THEIR BOATING NEIGHBORS – WE CANNOT HAVE THE LIABILITY OF DOGS UNLEASHED HERE AT ANY TIME FOR ANY REASON WHATSOEVER.

WE THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR COOPERATION & UNDERSTANDING!