

Elvin HOME Pet Policy

We affirm that many of our sponsors commune with a particular animal, otherwise known as a "familiar," and that animals are an integral part of the spiritual experience of the Sanctuary.

To protect and serve every sponsor's liberty, the Governing Council has graciously granted the privilege to pet owners to have their animal in the sanctuary. Recognizing that there are no bad pets, only irresponsible owners, we have set a few guidelines to help protect the liberty of those folks who are bothered by the environment that pets can potentially create. So to preserve this equitable environment, and to provide for the needs of all of our sponsors, we burden the pet owner with the responsibility to preserve the atmosphere that is conducive to all. If the pet owner creates a situation that violates the space of *Sanctuary*, the pet may be asked to take their owner out of the *Sanctuary*, ending that particular visit. Any pet owner who is repeatedly negligent may be asked to leave a problem animal at home permanently, or for a time period that is at the Governing Council's discretion.

The conditions for bringing your pet to Sanctuary include:

(a) Vaccination records must be submitted to Elvin HOME's Secretary to be kept on file. In addition to the vaccinations required by law, Parvo is a vaccination included in the records you must provide. Animals who are infectious, or have a communicable disease or internal parasite (e.g. tape worm, fleas) should not be in the sanctuary. This is to protect the health of not only our sponsors, but also other sponsors' pets. Our sanctuary does not need to become a breeding ground for disease.

(b) If your pet is a service animal, notify Elvin HOME's Secretary of this. Service animals are allowed anywhere on the Sanctuary with you at all times, regardless of any restrictions in this policy.

(b) Pets must be kept under the owner's direct control at all times. That means that the pet must be leashed, if appropriate to the animal (dogs and cats), and otherwise confined so that free range is excluded from the choice of the animal. Animals hunting in the sanctuary is prohibited.

(c) Loud noise continuously emanating from any pet is prohibited. If your pet is disturbing your neighbors, and you cannot still the voice of your pet, you may be asked respectfully to leave the

sanctuary. No noise pollution is a primary rule of the sanctuary and your privilege to bring your pet may not interfere with your neighbors' right to enjoy a peaceful experience.

(d) Pet waste disposal is solely on the owner. If your pet eliminates on a trail, it is the duty of the pet guardian to find a stick and relocate the waste to a "bush" where no human is potentially going to encounter the waste. Composters are also an acceptable place for disposal, but please refrain from adding any plastic material associated with clean-up into the same composter. The compost pile behind the garden shed is probably the "best" place on the field to dispose of pet waste. Disposal of pet waste in designated fire pits is prohibited.

(e) Animals are prohibited in the "long hall" or Radiance shrine, and the Thunder Dome during gatherings. No one, animal or otherwise should ever eliminate on the premises of the Thunder Dome. Animals are prohibited in the Gardens. Please make sure that elimination does not occur around beds of medicinal herbs (frequently located throughout the field). These crops are for human consumption.

(f) Animals are prohibited from camp kitchens and around camp food stuffs.

(g) The act of "marking" tents or other private property is unacceptable.

(h) Not everyone is comfortable around animals. When presenting your animal to a stranger, please ask to make sure that contact is OK, and the person is comfortable with the animal's presence. If someone is uncomfortable with your animal's presence, it is their right to ask you and the animal to leave the area.

(i) Animals who have the disposition for violence (trained attack dogs) or a history of attacks or displays of aggression are prohibited. If your animal is a potential threat, leave them at home.

(j) Exotic animals may be acceptable, but animals of great size, e.g. camels, lammas, cows, etc, are prohibited. There is simply not enough room to accommodate these animals of great size.

(k) Owners are liable for any injuries or damages caused to property, whether it is private property or Elvin HOME's property. Failure to do so may result in arrears and suspension of Elvin home Sponsorship privileges

Additionally, pets may be at our two major festivals (ELF and Wild Magick) ONLY with Governing Council's prior approval. Approval to bring pets to festival is made on a case-by-case basis. Governing Council recognizes that there are some members of our Elvin HOME family who are single care providers for their beloved animals, and that it is impossible for them to come to a fest without their animal. The festival environment is not a good one for your animal; festival noise, darkness, and general chaos can be disconcerting to any animal. These conditions may make an otherwise well-behaved animal loud or poorly behaved in a festival environment. Taking this into consideration, asking for *special permission* is a *LAST* option, for anyone who is unable to make other arrangements for the care of their animal while attending festival. While at festival, you are expected to keep constant supervision of your animal and move to resolve any complaints about your animal without hesitation or question. Failure to resolve complaints surrounding a problem animal at fest may result in being asked to leave without refund. And a chronic offender may be asked to leave specific animals at home permanently. ***A pet at a major festival is a privilege, and that privilege must be earned with compliance. To request to bring your pet to a major festival, contact any Steward or Staff Member or send an email to Lothlorieninfo@gmail.com. If we do not have vaccination records for your pet, provide the record with your request. Requests to bring a pet to a major festival are forwarded to the Governing Council for review.***

These standards, or any request specific to the situation, imposed by Governing Council must be complied with. Failure to do so may result in you and your pet being asked to leave.

In closing, it is important to recognize that these guidelines are made to serve the needs of the pets, the pet owners, and the other patrons of the Sanctuary. These guidelines serve a spirit of inclusion of all paths. And it is the responsibility of the pet owners to shoulder the burden of due diligence and care to ensure that these *privileges* are there for other pet owners in the future. ***Continued compliance combined with continued tolerance will result in harmony that will serve us all.***