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Pets & Trash at Dumpsters Notice for all MHA Residents:

The McAlester Housing Authority has received complaints from residents about other pet owners' dogs & cats going into their yards using the bathroom.

We are working with McAlester Animal Control regarding the cat problem... McAlester Housing Authority Policies: Only one (1) pet per unit allowed. Pets must be kept in owner's yard, house or on a leash always when outside (no outdoor cages may be constructed). Pets will be allowed only in designated areas (residents own yard) on the grounds of project. Pet owners must clean up after their pets and are responsible for disposing of pet waste.

The McAlester Housing Authority, or any appropriate community authority, shall require the removal of any pet from a McAlester Housing Authority tenant. If their pets conduct or condition is determined to be a nuisance or threat to the health or safety of other tenants.

City of McAlester Pet Ordinance; Animal control officers shall have full authority to gather up and impound or quarantine any cat or dog found running at large within city limits. In addition to the authority provider by the general law and enforcement, officers may pursue animals onto city owned or privately owned property. Pet owners are responsible to pay for any costs that may accrue, impounding fees and licensing fees. If no proof of a current rabies vaccination can be produced, the owner will be charged a rabies vaccination fee.

If you are feeding stray cats, MHA sees that as you are claiming the cats as your own pets. This means you are not following the MHA pet policy of only having 1(one) pet per unit. This could be seen as a reason for termination of your MHA lease.

We are prepared to start live trapping pets whose owner (tenant) does not follow McAlester Housing Authority policies. We will be turning the animal over to Animal Control, as stated above tenants will be required to pay a fine to retrieve their animal.

This is your only Warning, Damage or Removing of traps or Removing Animals from traps may be grounds for Termination of your MHA Lease.

MHA Security, MHA Maintenance, and other MHA Tenants are paying closer attention to who is putting trash beside the dumpsters rather than in the dumpsters. This is a lease violation seen the same as if you are leaving trash in your own yard! MHA is again having problems with animals spreading garbage not being put in dumpsters. If you are seen, you will be receiving a lease violation and possible Termination of your MHA Lease!

Skipton Evans

MHA Executive Director