Housing Pet Policy

The purpose of this policy is to provide reasonable standards that ensure the best possible environment for both pet owners and non-pet owners. Pets covered by this housing policy are limited to domesticated cats and dogs. Service animals are addressed through the ADA accommodation process lead by the Human Resource department. All tenants who wish to house a pet on campus must read and sign a copy of this policy. The ability to bring a pet to campus is limited to pet friendly, family housing, which is located at the MBL Cottages. Note that submission of a completed housing/pet application does not guarantee the ability to bring your pet to campus.

- Any tenant who wishes to have a pet in Campus Housing shall inform the Marine Biological Laboratory ("MBL") during the application process, and must register his or her pet in accordance with this policy.

Prior to arrival tenants who register a pet must:

- Sign a pet waiver
- Pay a $250 pet fee
- Submit a copy of pet’s Veterinarian Report to housing, 30 days prior to arrival

* The Municipal Code of the Town of Falmouth requires that all dog owners who are tenants of the Town of Falmouth for more than fifteen (15) days comply with all annual pet licensing requirements, including the fact that all dogs must be vaccinated for rabies at six (6) months of age and every three years thereafter, or more frequently if deemed necessary by the veterinarian. All pet owners in Campus housing must comply with this and any other state or local regulation regarding pets.

- Registration of a pet shall be for the current term of the tenant’s housing agreement and must be renewed each time a tenant’s lease is renewed or extended. Failure to register will result in MBL requiring the removal of the pet within three (3) days.
- No tenant shall have more than two pets at any given time.
- Pet owners must control their pets at all times. If the MBL determines that a pet constitutes a nuisance (e.g., odor, excessive noise, or other disturbances) to other tenants, the owner may be required to remove the pet from his or her leased premises.
- Only pets who are well controlled and have appropriate personality, energy levels, and sociability may be registered. Pit Bulls, Staffordshire Terriers, Doberman Pinchers, Rottweilers, Chows, Presa Canarios, Akitas, Wolf Hybrids, and Huskies are specifically prohibited in Campus Housing.
• All pets must be on a leash or in a carrier when on MBL property outside of the Tenant’s unit.
• Pet’s must wear identification collars and rabies tags at all times.
• Pets (excluding service animals) are not permitted in eating or gathering areas.
• Pets may be excluded from some research labs as they could affect lab animals.
• Tenants are responsible for the proper care and feeding of their pets
• Tenants are responsible for keeping pets contained when staff need to enter residence for improvements/repairs
• Tenant will be responsible for any and all damage repair/replacement costs to the apartment space beyond those of normal wear and tear.
• All liability for the actions of the pets (bites, scratches, etc) is the responsibility of the owner. MBL suggests that pet owners obtain liability insurance relating to their pets.

**Tenants agree to promptly and regularly perform the following with respect to having a pet in MBL housing**

• Keep premises clean of any pet odors, insect infestations, pet feces, urine, waste and litter
• Prevent the pet from gnawing, chewing, scratching, or otherwise defacing the doors, walls, windows, and floor coverings of the unit, landscaping, and shrubs.
• Immediately clean up and appropriately dispose of any feces, waste, and litter deposited by tenant’s pet on the common grounds, shrubs, flower beds, sidewalks, accessways, parking lots, and streets of the facility.
• Comply with any and all laws in connection with their housing and ownership of all pets.

**Damages to the unit/contents:**

• If a unit is damaged, there will be a minimum $175 charge to assist with required cleaning/repairs.
• The tenant can be subject to additional charges based on the extent of the repairs/cleaning needed.

Flea infestations must be attended to promptly. Housing should be notified as soon as a flea infestation is discovered. Pets that travel outside on a regular basis must be on a flea and tick prevention program.