

TAKE-AWAYS FROM THE PARK NEWS BOARD

Only 12 more tiles left to sell for the wall! Think about giving one as a holiday or special occasion gift.

We have great new t-shirts, hats and canvas shopping sacks. These are wonderful gifts as well. They are available on our website or by calling 508-331-2929. We will also be selling them at The Blessing of the Animals Fair on Sept. 30 from 10 to 11 a.m. at the Waquoit Congregational Church and at the Ninety-Nine Restaurant from 5 to 9 p.m. on 11/9!

Part of the proceeds from your bill at the Ninety-Nine Restaurant between 5 and 9 p.m. on 11/9 will go to the Dog Park! Please take a flyer (at the park in the newsletter holders, download from the website events page or call 508-331-2929 to get one).

On 10/12, we will be at the Newcomers' Volunteer Night, sharing what anyone can do to volunteer at the park. You don't have to be a Newcomer to volunteer. Just call 508-331-2929 and we would be so happy to add you to our volunteer list. We need just 15 minutes of your time once or twice a month.

Looking for one person who uses Quickbooks! If you could volunteer to help us,



Why the park needs your annual help

Each year between August and October, we ask all of you to step up and support the park. We put out the sign that shows the money coming in during those months, and we send out a letter to a lot of you to remind you that we need your help.

Some look at the park and say, "I don't see what you need money for." Some think the park is supported by the Town of Falmouth. Others think everyone else will cover the expenses of the park so it will continue to be there for them and their dog.

None of the above are true. First, we need to raise approximately \$10,000 each year to pay for :

- Lawn/snow removal: \$1000
- Mutt mitts/trashbags \$1200
- Poison Ivy Control \$500
- Tree Insecticide care \$1500
- Chamber membership \$200
- Insurance \$2600
- Postage \$400
- Print/sign costs \$625
- Advertising \$175
- Maintenance (includes solar light battery, bubbler/waste can replacement, gravel/sand, driveway/fence repairs, paint/rakes/shovels/brooms/cleaning materials) \$900
- Legal and filing fees \$100
- Accounting/tax prep \$1000

The Falmouth Dog Parks, Inc. Board of Trustees works extremely hard

to raise these funds. We man two tables at the Cape Cod Half-Marathon each year, selling tiles (of which half the money is a donation), hold Brick Kiln Farm Day in June, secure sponsors for our waste stations, run the Sunset Paws Cruise once every two years, sell t-shirts/hats/sacks, partner with Amazon Smile and TD Bank's Affinity program, and constantly look for grants that might help us with our capital improvements. These efforts help us with half of our annual expenses but **we need to still bring in \$5000 from all of you** - the users of the park and those in the community who believe the park is an asset to the Town.

So far, less than 50 people have donated to the park during our annual appeal. That isn't enough for us to provide the clean, safe environment we have managed to provide these past seven years. I hope each of you will take a minute to think what life was like before the dog park, and what those visits mean to you and your pup all summer or all year. **Would it have been worth 25 or 50 cents a visit if you had to pay to enter?** Please give it some thought and support the park with whatever you can afford. We are doing our best to provide you with a great place for you and your pup but we can't do it alone.