



CHESAPEAKE HAVEN HOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION

158 Ohio Avenue Earleville, MD 21919

www.chesapeakehaven.com and <https://chesapeakehaven.nextdoor.com>

Dear Homeowners and Residents,

As warmer weather encourages more neighbors to spend time outdoors, we would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone about our community pet policies and expectations. Additionally, we want to clarify the regulations regarding the operation of ATVs, dirt bikes, scooters, minibikes, golf carts, and other similar recreational or unlicensed motorized vehicles within our neighborhood.

We love our furry residents, but for everyone's safety and enjoyment, all pets must be properly restrained while outside. This includes always keeping dogs on leashes and under control in common areas and shared spaces. Allowing pets to roam freely can create safety concerns for neighbors, children, other pets, and vehicles.

We also ask all pet owners to clean up after their pets promptly. Pet waste left on lawns and in common areas is unsightly, creates health concerns, and impacts the enjoyment of our neighborhood for everyone. Please carry waste bags during walks and dispose of waste properly.

Concerns have been raised regarding speeding, noise, unsafe riding, and damage to common property. These activities create safety risks for pedestrians, children, pets, and other motorists and may expose both operators and property owners to liability.

Parents are asked to ensure that minors understand and follow these rules. Residents are also reminded to supervise guests and visitors who may bring such vehicles into the neighborhood.

Please refer to the laws and regulations outlined on the following page.

Your cooperation helps keep our community clean, safe, and welcoming for all residents. We appreciate everyone doing their part to be considerate neighbors, responsible pet owners, and safe recreational vehicle riders.

Thank you for your attention and continued support in maintaining the quality of our community.

On Behalf of the CHHOA Board of Directors,

Francy Cross

President

Cecil County Pet Laws and Regulations

In Cecil County, MD, it is illegal for a dog owner to allow their pet to defecate on private property, including neighbors' yards, without the owner's permission. According to Cecil County Code § 142-22, pet owners are responsible for immediately removing any waste deposited by their animal on public or private property, with violations resulting in fines up to \$100.

- **Property Owner Rights:** You are not required to clean up another person's dog waste from your property. The owner of the animal is legally responsible for removal.
- **Legal Standing:** Violations of animal waste rules fall under "Standards for Care and Keeping of Animals" (Chapter 142-22).
- **Enforcement:** Cecil County Animal Welfare Enforcement handles these issues as part of its responsibilities or the Animal Care and Control Authority's responsibilities.

Steps to Take:

1. **Direct Communication:** If you know the neighbor, ask them politely to clean up after their pet.
2. **Document Proof:** Use photos, video, or cameras to identify the dog and owner, if necessary.
3. **Report Violations:** Contact Cecil County Animal Welfare Enforcement to report violations and request an investigation for the sanitation issue.

ATV Laws and Regulations in Maryland

Before you rev up your ATV engine, it's crucial to familiarize yourself with Maryland's ATV laws to avoid any legal issues. Here are some important things to know:

ATV vs. UTV Laws: It's important to understand the distinction between ATVs (All-Terrain Vehicles) and UTVs (Utility Task Vehicles) because they have different regulations. ATVs are typically designed for single riders, while UTVs have side-by-side seating and are considered more like small off-road cars. While the regulations for both types of vehicles are similar in many cases, some laws differ, so be sure to check which category your vehicle falls under.

Age Restrictions: Maryland has specific age restrictions for operating an ATV to ensure safety. Riders must be at least 12 years old to operate an ATV on private property and at least 16 years old to ride on public lands. For public roads, riders under 16 are prohibited unless they are accompanied by an adult. To legally operate an ATV on public roads, the rider must either hold a valid driver's license, possess a Maryland learner's permit and be accompanied by a licensed driver, or be 12 years or older and ride with a parent or legal guardian who holds a valid driver's license. These rules are in place to ensure young riders are properly supervised and equipped to handle an ATV safely.

Safety Equipment: Safety is a top priority in Maryland. Riders must wear a helmet and eye protection when operating an ATV. Additionally, the [ATV](#) must be equipped with necessary safety features, such as working brakes, lights, and reflectors.

Driver's License: You'll need a valid driver's license to operate an ATV in Maryland, whether you're riding on public roads or off-road. Be sure to check with your local DMV.

Insurance: While insurance is not mandatory for all ATVs in Maryland, it's highly recommended. If you plan to ride your ATV on public roads or in designated off-road areas, having liability insurance can protect you and others in the event of an accident.