

Wallingford Community Senior Center

Animal Policy

Participants' animals are allowed on WCSC premises as described below. If the presence, behavior, or actions of any animal constitutes an immediate risk or danger to people or property, the participant can be asked to immediately remove the animal and 911 (emergency assistance) may be contacted.

The owner of any permitted animal must immediately clean up after the animal and properly disposing of the animal's waste or other debris. The owner is responsible for any damage or injury caused by the animal.

Service and Therapy Animals

A service animal is an animal that is trained to do work or perform tasks for an individual with a disability, including physical, sensory, mental, psychological, intellectual, or other mental disabilities. A therapy animal is trained and certified to provide emotional support or passive comfort that alleviates one or more of the identified symptoms or effects of a disability.

WCSC complies with all federal, state, and local laws to provide reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities. WCSC does not restrict the type of animal that can serve as a service or therapy animal, as long as the animal is allowed under law, and is trained to do work or perform tasks for a participant with a disability. All service and therapy animals must be kept under their direct control at all times, such as by a harness, leash, or other tether; however, if the use of a harness, leash, or other tether interferes with the animal's safe, effective performance of work or tasks, or if the participant's disability prevents the use of such devices, then the animal must be under the owner's control through voice control, signals, or other effective means.

A service or therapy animal may be restricted from specific areas when consistent with other WCSC policies, state, and/or federal laws or regulations. Examples of these areas include food preparation areas and areas where medically-sensitive participants are served.

Companion Animals

For the purposes of this policy, companion animals, or pets, are animals that are not service or therapy animals. In accordance with the policy set by Historic Seattle for the Good Shepherd Center, companion animals are permitted provided they are with their owners at all times and safely secured

by harness, leash, or cage. Harnesses and leashes cannot present a tripping hazard to other participants. Pets are never permitted in the kitchen and are not allowed in the multipurpose room while lunch is being served. Avoid excessive noise. If a pet presents a hazard, is disruptive to programs, or offensive to participants, WCSC management may require the owner to remove the pet from the premises.