## Pet Ownership, Commitment and Responsibility

Animals are a big part of our lives and important family members. More than half of the households in the U.S. own a pet. Statistics show that people with pets live longer, healthier lives. Walking our pets gives us more exercise. Pets help lower blood pressure and lift our moods. Animals are also used in hospitals for therapy to aid in healing from injury or illness. While everyone loves a puppy or a kitten, older animals make great companion pets for seniors that live alone or those who are disabled.

Along with the joy and benefits of pet ownership, comes commitment and responsibility. Pets require exercise and must be walked daily. For the safety of all pets and the safety of residents, animals should always be walked on a leash. Allowing animals to run loose in the Twin Oaks Community is a violation of the deed restrictions. Unattended animals can cause damage to property and present health risks in the event of an attack on a person or a fight with another animal.

Although there is currently no "leash law" for Fort Bend County, our Twin Oaks Community Deed provisions state,

[Article III, Use Restrictions, 3.12. Animal Husbandry]

No animals, snakes, livestock or poultry on any kind shall be raised, bred or kept on any Lot except dogs, cats or other common household pets may be kept provided they are not kept, bred or maintained for commercial purposes. If common household pets are kept, such pets must be restrained and confined on the Owner's back Lot. It is the pet owner's responsibility to keep the Lot clean and free of pet debris. Pets must be on a leash when away from the Lot.

If you are a pet owner, we ask that you accept this responsibility and properly attend to your animals. If you are the owner of poultry, we ask that you find another place to raise your poultry, as this violates the terms of the deed restrictions.

If you know of anyone violating these restrictions, you may report the violation to <a href="ry@sterlingasi.com">ry@sterlingasi.com</a>. Please be sure to include descriptions, dates, times, locations and photos if possible.

By everyone working together to abide by these Use Restrictions, Twin Oaks Village Community can continue to be safe and healthy place for our residents and our pets.