

Neighbor Dog Kills Neighbor Cat

Unleashed pets become predator and prey in weekend killing.

A free-running pit bull mix dog from the 700 block of Spring Island Way killed a roaming cat from Crystal River Drive at 7pm Saturday April 28th. A neighbor saw the dog walking down the middle of street shaking the dead cat in its mouth and notified the cat's owner who called Animal Control. Animal Control came out the next day, determined the identity of the dog's owner, and is investigating the incident.

This is not the first problem with this particular dog. In October 2017 this same dog broke through a different neighbor's screened lanai and attacked the small dog that lived there. That dog survived with injuries, but the injured dog's owner did not call Animal Control or file any report.

Free-roaming dogs and cats are not permitted in Orange County. (See § 5-33. "Animals at-large prohibited" http://orangecounty-fl.elaws.us/code/coor_ptii_ch5_artii_sec5-33)

In addition to the pet-on-pet violence described above, loose pets can attack people, kill or be killed by wild animals, or be run over by traffic. If you want to keep your pets around longer, keep them safe. We know that pets can sometimes break out of their fenced area or break loose from a leash or tether. Please be cognizant of this when putting them outside.

If you see something...

Orange County enforces animal leash and animal waste laws, and human violators are subject to fines for non-compliance. If you see something (unleashed pets, etc.), say something to Animal Control at 311 (cell phones only) or (407) 836-3111 or register a complaint online at <http://www.orangecountyfl.net/AnimalsPets/ascForm.aspx#.VNTxUMZ9tiU>.

This is not an HOA matter so please don't contact the HOA board or the property manager.

by Cookie Symons and Dennis Horazak