

TOWN HALL PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

The Mayor of this Corporation hereby wants to publicly announce that, in accordance to article 22 of the Ordinance on Development of Quality in Urban Maintenance, and article 15 of the Ordinance on Animal Control (both regulating the behaviour of pet owners and of pets, regarding the topic of animals waste collection), from the present public communication and in the future, the aforementioned Ordinance shall be more strictly enforced.

The Local Corporation has the power to regulate all aspects affecting the cleanliness of public streets, and according to current legislation:" Any person in charge of dogs or other animals, when walking them in public streets, is obliged to remove the animal's stools from the public streets, public promenades, gardens and any other spaces destined for pedestrians. People in charge of animals, when walking them in public roads and streets, must try to lead the animals to the edge of the paved streets and close to the gutters or sewerages, when there were not specific signalled spaces for animals wastes, or lead them to non-pedestrian areas or to areas that are not playgrounds, and must remove in all cases the animal's excrements and clean other possible dirt affecting the public streets, roads and pathways. According to this, the person walking an animal must proceed in the following ways:

- a) remove the excrements with a waterproof plastic bag
- b) deposit the waterproof bags properly closed, tied or sealed into the public garbage bins or other similar containers provided for these purposes by the municipal authority
- c) only where specific areas for dogs and other animals were available, excrements may be left in such spaces without wrapping or covering, as well as in the sewage systems when dropped directly into the them".

The above mentioned Ordinance also establishes the following infractions and fines:

* Minor Infractions:

- Leaving the animal's excrements on pedestrian and/or public streets, playgrounds, etc.. and not picking the animal's wastes in the terms regulated in the ordinance mentioned above, by not using waterproof plastic bags when required or not cleaning all the area affected by the animal's wastes.
- Discharging dirty waters into the public streets, such as animal's wastes, waste cleaning and household water (...)

Fine: up to 750 euros

* Grave Infractions: committing another minor infraction

Fine: up to 1500 euros

* Very Grave Infractions: committing another grave infraction

Fine: up to 3000 euros

Following the latest laxity in the compliance of the above mentioned ordinance, and the worrying rates of dirtiness and unhealthiness displayed on public spaces by dog's owners, whose conducts not only deteriorate the public image of our town but the necessary sanitary conditions for the whole community, and also create a sense of unfair disadvantage in comparison with those dog's owners who do follow scrupulously the legislation on animal waste collection - and to whom we sincerely thank for their civic manners-, Torrevieja Town Hall shall consequently and thereafter proceed to more strictly apply the above mentioned Ordinance for the sake of improving the hygiene, the healthiness, the civic coexistence and the image or our Town

Signed by José Manuel Dolón García, Mayor of Torrevieja, on the 23rd of November, 2015