

TETHERING

The information below is from Deb Duncan (<http://www.thedogspeaks.com>). Please consider this if you currently tether or are considering tethering.

I do not believe the tethering or the Invisible Fencing are safe for the dogs in any circumstance. The only alternatives I know of are to either not have a dog in a Condo or like situation unless you can walk him for appropriate exercise and potty breaks OR have a pet walker do it for you. Beyond this, I do often suggest to people that they get an exercise pen to carry outside (dog would still need supervision). You might chain the pen outside like you would a bicycle or use the stakes you can buy from most catalogs that sell the exercise pens to anchor them securely.

APARTMENT/CONDO COMMUNITIES

If several pet owners band together and get permission from the people in charge of the facility, you may then purchase chain link 'pen'-like structures from Lowe's or Home Depot. (You will also see these in many of the pet catalogues or at fencing stores.) Each person who helps pay for this would have access for their dogs. Each owner would make sure their pet is provided with water and shade if left out for any length of time. If used for more than just a potty area, then a schedule has to be worked out so all people are able to have appropriate access to the pen and their dogs be kept safely apart. All people using the pen are responsible for cleaning up the area after each time their dog or dogs use the pen. A few people have taken these ideas and made a great situation. Some are just basic small potty areas. Some allow others to use it for a small usage fee. Two groups reported back

that the people in charge of the communities or apartment complexes actually liked the whole concept and THEY undertook the task of getting this done. One set up three of these and pet owners paid a monthly fee. Another one purchased a larger area and put together several of the chain link pens with separate areas. This way, a couple of dogs could be out at the same time, but in a private section. One really classy place, set up a very elaborate area, provided shaded areas, etc. AND, had someone on duty for all but the late night times to oversee the set up and the dogs. (Like a lifeguard on duty.) Needless to say, the fee for use was set high enough to make this feasible.

Deb Duncan
COME, SIT, STAY...Canine Etiquette
Behavior & Training Consultations
<http://www.thedogspeaks.com>