**Attention Pet Owners and
Concerned Citizens Near Chatham Park**

We're issuing this alert regarding recent reports of raccoons attacking dogs in the 8th ward near the Chatham Park and Juniper Road area. There was also a report of a raccoon walking around Grange Field. These incidents pose a significant threat to both pets and humans alike. Here's what you need to know to keep your furry friends safe:

1. Stay Vigilant: Keep an eye out for raccoons in your neighborhood, especially during dusk and dawn when they are most active.

2. Secure Your Garbage: Raccoons are attracted to food sources, so ensure your trash bins are tightly sealed to prevent scavenging.

3. Limit Outdoor Time: If possible, keep your pets indoors, particularly during peak raccoon activity hours.

4. Supervise Outdoor Activities: When your pets are outside, supervise them closely and keep them on a leash if necessary.

5. Secure Pet Doors: Ensure pet doors are secured at night to prevent raccoons from entering your home.

6. Install Motion-Activated Lights: Bright lights can deter raccoons from approaching your property.

7. Keep Pets Vaccinated: Ensure your pets are up-to-date on vaccinations, including rabies shots, to protect them from potential diseases carried by raccoons.

8. Report Sightings: If you spot a raccoon behaving aggressively or exhibiting unusual behavior, report it to local animal control authorities immediately by calling 9-1-1.

9.Do Not Approach: Never approach or attempt to handle a raccoon, especially if it seems aggressive or sick. Leave it to the professionals to handle.

10. Spread Awareness: Share this information with your neighbors and community to ensure everyone is informed and prepared.

Remember, prevention is key to keeping our beloved pets safe from raccoon attacks. By taking proactive measures and staying informed, we can all work together to mitigate the risks and ensure the safety of our furry companions. Stay safe, stay vigilant, and look out for one another!