

Goldiva Goldens

Index of Articles for Your New Puppy

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Please Get a 3-Ring Notebook to Organize Your Articles, Puppy Contract & Vet Records. Bring this Notebook & Puppy Contract with you when you pick up your puppy.

Make a list of any questions ahead of arrival time because most buyers forget their questions when they're holding their new puppy!

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Goldiva Goldens owners, Lauren Faulhaber & Mary Dickinson Cashin, Dogs (l-r): Red Sookie, Sailor in Lauren's lap, Sophie in Mary's lap and blonde Martini. Sookie & Martini are almost American Champions.

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Our Vets are located at Falmouth Veterinary Hospital, 174 Route 1, Falmouth, ME 207-781-4028:

Dr. Doug Andrews, Dr. Oonagh Wack, Dr. Brian Graves, Dr. Cady Lyons, Dr. Katy Hazard, and Dr. Tom Ahlers at Falmouth Animal Hospital, 174 US Route 1, Falmouth, ME 207-781-4028

Dr. Kathy Sneider (Reproduction Specialist) Blue Ribbon Vet, Pembroke, MA 508-830-9943

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Dr. Ruth Marrion (Ophthalmologist) 978-687-7764 Essex County Vet Hospital, No Andover, MA

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Vet Schedule for Vaccines – Bring This With You To Your First Vet Appointment

Goldiva Goldens Vets: Dr. Doug Andrews, Dr. Oonagh Wack, Dr. Brian Graves, Dr. Cady Lyons, Dr. Katy Hazard, and Dr. Tom Ahlers at Falmouth Animal Hospital, 174 US Route 1, Falmouth, Maine 207-781-4028

Litter: Sire: _____ Dam: _____

DOB is _____

Your puppy has had a vet check prior to leaving our kennel. The date of your puppy's Wellness Exam was on _____ at 8 weeks. The vet today was _____.

Your puppy has had its 1st Vanguard 5 Distemper series vaccine without Lepto on _____ at 8 weeks of age including several doses of de-worming medicine at 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8 weeks of age with Strongid-T (Pyrantel Pamoate) for roundworms. As a precaution, we send home Panacur & Metronidazole for a final deworming. Transition from leaving siblings/mom can cause anxiety which makes the coccidian bacteria to stir up in the bowels. You may need Albon if stools are loose & mucus looking. Make sure you're on the same dog food we use or there will be diarrhea. We use Canidae All Life Stages for dry food and wet canned food by Canidae the new Puppy Formula Large Breed Chicken, Duck and Lentil. Do not substitute. Order a case on Amazon before picking up puppy or check www.Canidae.com for stores near you.

PARASITE CYCLE. Even though the mothers are “de-wormed” before conceiving, parasites will still lay dormant in their muscles until the mother's hormone level changes with pregnancy or lactating. Thus, parasites are passed from the mother's milk to the puppies. The mothers clean up the pup's stools which re-infests the mother. The pups are also attracted to poop and sometimes eat it, which is gross but true. It's unacceptable to us but perfectly normal behavior for mothers/pups. This cycle can be broken with frequent de-worming and when the pups are separated from each other. This is why we de-worm several times before the pups leave but they may need additional worming.

For your first vet appointment, you need to set up a schedule for the following:

1. BORDETELLA drops up the nose to protect her from doggie viruses that can be passed. Do this at your first vet check up. Your pup or dog may have a coughing, sneezing reaction for several days as a side affect. All dogs/pups have to have Bordetella drops before being kenneled for vacations, doggie daycare or puppy training classes. Make arrangements with your vet several weeks in advance of your trip to renew your bordetella vaccine before kenneling.

2. DISTEMPER/LEPTO series will be 4 weeks from vet record date of shots: 1st vaccine at 8 weeks without Lepto; 2nd vaccine at 12 weeks; 3rd vaccine at 16 weeks of age with Lepto. There has been a new protocol that Distemper shots are good for 3 years but Lepto is still once a year.

3. LYME vaccine done at 12 & 16 weeks too. Keep some Benadryl (without Sudafed) on hand for any allergic reactions to shots, bee/bug stings....1 pink tablet 25 mg every 4 hours or go back to your vet for an Benadryl shot if it's during business hours.

4. TICKS, FLEAS & MOSQUITOS. Use HEARTGUARD, VECTRA, K9ADVANTIX, SENTINNEL or SENTRY FIPROGUARD or my favorite SENTRY ORGANIC (Sentry available at Petco or thru Amazon.com for \$10 for 4 vials) start April 1st thru November or keep pup on year round. Make sure the product covers whip & hook worms. If you find an engorged tick on your pup/dog, our vet



recommends 5 days of Doxycycline, Lyme test to be sure and you may need to do 3 weeks of Doxycycline.

5. RABIES vaccine at 16 to 20 weeks. Take Rabies certificate to the Town Hall to license your dog. The 1st Rabies shot is good for a year and the 2nd rabies shot is good for 3 years IF the shot is given before 13 months from the last shot, this is the State of Maine mandate.

6. MICROCHIP at 8 or 12 week checkup, simple awake insert under the skin between the shoulder blades. We suggest AKC microchips. They are an International chip; ties in with your AKC registration; register chip for lost/found dog registry only one time, not annually like Home Again or AVID chips. Every dog catcher, animal shelter, canine control officer & vet office has a scanner for this bar coded microchip. It's the only way to prove that "this puppy" is yours. Think of all the pets that were euthanized during New Orleans great flood...or any disaster for that matter.

7. Spay/Neutering should not be done until 10-14 months of age. We firmly believe that early spay/neuter surgery affects the proper development of bones when the hormones have been depleted. Please refer to www.caninesports.com by Chris Zink DVM, PhD.

8. HOT SPOTS do NOT have to be shaved. We clean the area, dry skin and then ice the hot spot to bring the heat of the skin back down to normal. Dry skin again. Next we use Anti-Monkey Butt Powder with Calamine Powder available at CVS, Rite Aid, Walmart. Even the hardware stores carry it. The Calamine Powder stops the itch and dries out the infected area. It's in the jock itch or athlete's foot powder area. They even make Baby Anti-Monkey Butt Powder for diaper rash.



9. YEARLY EXAMS will need to be scheduled to update shots, test for heartworm and do a general check up of your pup/dog's health, bring a stool sample (the size of a marble).

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Goldiva Goldens has been awarded the Breeder of Merit Award for our AKC Champions, Junior Hunters and Obedience titled dogs. We proudly continue competing and titling our dogs for Beauty & Brains and strive for sound genetics with longevity.



Spay-Neuter Considerations for the Canine Athlete

One Veterinarian's Opinion

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www.caninesports.com

reprinted in the National Golden Retriever Club of America's magazine among Breeders

Early Spay-Neuters will Default your Contract with Goldiva Goldens



Those of us with responsibility for the health of canine athletes need to continually read and evaluate new scientific studies to ensure that we are taking the most appropriate care of our performance dogs. This article provides evidence through a number of recent studies to suggest that veterinarians and owners working with canine athletes should revisit the standard protocol in which all dogs that are not intended for breeding are spayed and neutered at or before 6 months of age.

Orthopedic Considerations

A study by Salmeri *et al* in 1991 found that bitches spayed at 7 weeks grew significantly taller than those spayed at 7 months, who were taller than those not spayed (or presumably spayed after the growth plates had closed).(1) A study of 1444 Golden Retrievers performed in 1998 and 1999 also found bitches and dogs spayed and neutered at less than a year of age were significantly taller than those spayed or neutered at more than a year of age.(2) The sex hormones, by communicating with a number of other growth-related hormones, promote the closure of the growth plates at puberty (3), so the bones of dogs or bitches neutered or spayed before puberty continue to grow. Dogs that have been spayed or neutered well before puberty can frequently be identified by their longer limbs, lighter bone structure, narrow chests and narrow skulls. This abnormal growth frequently results in significant alterations in body proportions and particularly the lengths (and therefore weights) of certain bones relative to others. For example, if the femur has achieved its genetically determined normal length at 8 months when a dog gets spayed or neutered, but the tibia, which normally stops growing at 12 to 14 months of age continues to grow, then an abnormal angle may develop at the stifle. In addition, with the extra growth, the lower leg below the stifle likely becomes heavier (because it is longer), and may cause increased stresses on the cranial cruciate ligament. In addition, sex hormones are critical for achieving peak bone density.(4) These structural and physiological alterations may be the reason why at least one recent study showed that spayed and neutered dogs had a higher incidence of **CCL rupture**.(5) Another recent study showed that dogs spayed or neutered before 5 1/2 months had a significantly higher incidence of **hip dysplasia** than those spayed or neutered after 5 1/2 months of age, although it should be noted that in this study there were no standard criteria for the diagnosis of hip dysplasia.(6) Nonetheless, breeders of purebred dogs should be cognizant of these studies and should consider whether or not pups they bred were spayed or neutered when considering breeding decisions.

Cancer Considerations

A retrospective study of cardiac tumors in dogs showed that there was a 5 times greater risk of **hemangiosarcoma**, one of the three most common cancers in dogs, in spayed bitches than intact bitches and a 2.4 times greater risk of hemangiosarcoma in neutered dogs as compared to intact males.(7) A study of 3218 dogs demonstrated that dogs that were neutered before a year of age had a significantly increased chance of developing **bone cancer**.(8) A separate study showed that neutered dogs had a two-fold higher risk of developing bone cancer.(9) Despite the common belief that neutering dogs helps prevent prostate cancer, at least one study suggests that neutering provides no benefit.(10) There certainly is evidence of a slightly increased risk of mammary cancer in female dogs after one heat cycle, and for increased risk with each subsequent heat. While about 30 % of mammary cancers are malignant, as in humans, when caught and

surgically removed early the prognosis is very good.(12) Luckily, canine athletes are handled frequently and generally receive prompt veterinary care.

Behavioral Considerations

The study that identified a higher incidence of cranial cruciate ligament rupture in spayed or neutered dogs also identified an increased incidence of **sexual behaviors in males and females** that were neutered early.(5) Further, the study that identified a higher incidence of hip dysplasia in dogs neutered or spayed before 5 1/2 months also showed that early age gonadectomy was associated with an increased incidence of **noise phobias and undesirable sexual behaviors**.(6) A recent report of the American Kennel Club Canine Health Foundation reported significantly more behavioral problems in spayed and neutered bitches and dogs. The most commonly observed behavioral problem in spayed females was **fearful behavior** and the most common problem in males was **aggression**.(12)

Other Health Considerations

A number of studies have shown that there is an increase in the incidence of **female urinary incontinence** in dogs spayed early (13), although this finding has not been universal. Certainly there is evidence that ovarian hormones are critical for maintenance of genital tissue structure and contractility.(14, 15) Neutering also has been associated with an increased likelihood of **urethral sphincter incontinence** in males.(16) This problem is an inconvenience, and not usually life-threatening, but nonetheless one that requires the dog to be medicated for life. A health survey of several thousand Golden Retrievers showed that spayed or neutered dogs were more likely to develop **hypothyroidism**.(2) This study is consistent with the results of another study in which neutering and spaying was determined to be the most significant gender-associated risk factor for development of hypothyroidism.(17) **Infectious diseases** were more common in dogs that were spayed or neutered at 24 weeks or less as opposed to those undergoing gonadectomy at more than 24 weeks.(18) Finally, the AKC-CHF report demonstrated a higher incidence of **adverse reactions to vaccines** in neutered dogs as compared to intact.(12)



I have gathered these studies to show that our practice of routinely spaying or neutering every dog at or before the age of 6 months is not a black-and-white issue. Clearly more studies need to be done to evaluate the effects of prepubertal spaying and neutering, particularly in canine athletes.

Currently, I have significant concerns with spaying or neutering canine athletes before puberty. But of course, there is the pet overpopulation problem. How can we prevent the production of unwanted dogs while still leaving the gonads to produce the hormones that are so important to canine growth and development? One answer would be to perform vasectomies in males and tubal ligation in females, to be followed after maturity by ovariectomy in females to prevent mammary cancer and pyometra. One possible disadvantage is that vasectomy does not prevent some unwanted behaviors associated with males such as marking and humping. On the other hand, females and neutered males frequently participate in these behaviors too. Really, training is the best solution for these issues. Another possible disadvantage is finding a veterinarian who is experienced in performing these procedures. Nonetheless, some do, and if the procedures were in greater demand, more veterinarians would learn them.

I believe it is important that we assess each situation individually. For canine athletes, I currently recommend that dogs and bitches be spayed or neutered after 14 months of age.



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This article is available for download in Adobe Acrobat PDF format [Early Spay Considerations \(pdf\)](#).

Feeding Schedule for Your New Goldiva Goldens Puppy



Our puppies are raised on Canidae All Life Stages (“ALS”) dog food. It has 4 Proteins (chicken, turkey, lamb & fish), Whole grains- Brown & White Rice listed in the first 6 ingredients. Please be prepared ahead of time and purchase your wet and dry foods Before picking up your pup. For a Canidae store by area code: www.Canidae.com. For cheapest prices, go to <http://www.dog.com/ItemDetail.aspx?ItemNo==350393+005> for Dog.com to ship to your door step or Amazon.

When puppy comes home it will be eating $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1 cup of Canidae 3 times a day; mix with 2 Tablespoons of wet canned Canidae Puppy Formula for Large Breed with Chicken/Duck/Lentil can, $\frac{1}{4}$ cup of water, zap in the microwave and let stand for 5 minutes before feeding. Do at least 2 hot meals 2 times daily and leave some dry Canidae out in between. At 3 months of age stop the wet food. Puppy can eat 3 times a day at 1 cup at each feeding. At 4 months, feed pup 2x/daily at 1.5 cups each feeding. Our adult dogs only eat $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 cups twice

daily.

Monitor carefully, obesity can create health problems. **At 1 year old, Females should weigh around 50-55 lbs and Males around 60-65 lbs. They should only put on 8-10 lbs over the next year.** At 2 years of age, the AKC Standard for weight is: Females should weigh 55-65 pounds and Males should weigh 65-75 pounds. Watch your weight very closely the first 9 mths! Changing food will give your puppy diarrhea, please purchase Canidae before bringing your puppy home.

Do not buy Science Diet, Iams, Eukanuba, Nutro, Blue Seal, Pedigree, Purina or heavily filled corn, wheat & soy products. Our Orthopedic Vet, Dr. Todd Gauger, said that 1 cup of Eukanuba is equal to 8 cups of Canidae. Weigh puppy each month and closely watch for 5-8 pounds per month weight gain. 10-12 pounds per month is excessive and can create bone problems like OCD. Don't overfeed puppy and give into the “hungry” look when they search for more. You want to feel the ribs, not see them; have an hour glass figure not the same width across shoulders/stomach/rump like a coffee table. Regular exercise throughout the day is extremely important. You can do more damage if your puppy only gets exercised after work.



If your puppy inhales his/her food, order a slow feed bowl to avoid bloat, a potentially fatal condition when the stomach turns and blocks the blood circulation. This typically happens within an hour after eating. A



medium size bowl is great for any age Golden. Order thru www.chewy.com for about \$10. It's made out of nylabone plastic.

An overweight puppy will default your contract.

Anybody can create an “oversized” dog by overfeeding and/or create health problems with fat dogs. All parents are bred within the AKC Standard set for Golden Retrievers: Adult Females at 2 years old 55-65 lbs and Adult Males at 2 years old should weigh 65-75 lbs.

HEALTHY PUPPIES, FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

SCOOP THE POOP!!

Parasites can be picked up anywhere from the vets office, anybody's yard or a flea from the neighbors pet, eating dirty stuff, drinking from dirty water or puddles, eating dead animals/rodents, and poop eaters ...dogs will be dogs! FMI - check out www.noworms.com.

1..FECAL samples should be checked if they look strange (mucus or blood in stools could be parasites – get Panacur (Fenbendazole) at Petco, Pet Life, Pet Quarters, your vets or call 800-PET-MEDS for 3 days of deworming powder (just give weight of pup, no prescription is needed) or call Revival for vet meds www.revivalanimal.com 800-786-4751. Other parasites to look for:

Roundworms look like spaghetti when passed thru the stools or vomited;

Tapeworms are caused by infected fleas and are segmented, flat worms that can be passed in a long chain of segments. Segments that break off look like small white square or oblong worms and can move independently of each other. Once the segment dries, it resembles a grain of rice and may stick to the hair around the anus. Panacur is also used to treat.

Coccidiosis infected pups/dogs are given antibiotics sometimes for 10 days or longer usually treated with a drug called amprolium (Corid) which is mixed in their food or Albon. This is caused by drinking from dirty puddles, eating dirty stuff or poop eaters. May look like mucus or blood in stool.

Giardiasis infected pups/dogs are given a medicine called Metronidazole (Flagyl) to firm up the stool & Panacur for 3 days, repeat in 3 weeks for 3 days to get rid of the protozoan. This is caused by drinking from dirty puddles, eating dirty stuff or poop eaters. May look like mucus or blood in stool.

Hookworms & Whipworms can be absorbed thru the paws of the feet thru infected soil. Either Panacur, usually given in a 3 day dose over food; Pyrantel Pamoate (Strongid-T) or Interceptor heartworm tablets will eliminate. If you have whipworm in your soil, it will live for 10 years if not treated with Lyme.

WASH HANDS FREQUENTLY. PARASITES CAN BE TRANSMITTED TO PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY SMALL CHILDREN, EITHER BY DIRTY HANDS, STEPPING IN FECES WITH BARE FEET or EGGS SHED BY CATS/DOGS THAT GET IMBEDDED IN SKIN!!

2. BLADDER INFECTIONS & UTI'S. DISCHARGE or WET between the legs on female/male pups may need to be cleaned frequently to prevent URINARY TRACT INFECTIONS ("UTI") or Bladder Infections. Puppies aren't good at personal hygiene when they are young. Watch for frequent urinating like every 15 minutes, excessive drinking or crystals/sticky hair for signs of an infection as well. Keep hair trimmed if need be. Antibiotics will be necessary if bacteria builds up. UTI infections can lead to kidney problems. Clavamox is the best prescription.

3. EAR FLAPPING could be either yeast or bacterial. Have your vet do a culture to determine which is the culprit and treat accordingly. Use ear wash to remove debris and either Otomax or Panalog ointments depending on the culture. Keep ears dried thoroughly after swimming.

4. HOT SPOTS do not have to be shaved. We clean the area, dry skin and then ice the hot spot to bring the heat of the skin back down to normal. Dry skin again. Next we use Anti-Monkey Butt Powder with Calamine Powder available at any pharmacy, Walmart & hardware stores too. It is in the foot powder & jock itch shelf area. The Calamine Powder stops the itch and dries out the infected area. Photo on page 4 for the Anti-Monkey Butt Powder.

5. HEAT EXHAUSTION. We provide a kiddie swimming pool with cold water each day for our dogs to cool off in when it's summer time. For small pups, use a frozen bottle of water in a tube sock then place in their crate. Puppies overheat very easily, can look drugged/wobble from dehydration. Don't leave a pup/dog in a hot car. Call your Vet



immediately for heat stroke. Don't go from extreme hot condition to extreme cold condition but use cool water over the body to bring down the temperature and cool water to drink in small servings. Dogs perspire thru the pads of their feet, stay to the grass and not hot asphalt.

6. DIARRHEA can be caused by several reasons from nerves, new environment, change in dog food too quickly, eating table scraps or a sick pup that has a virus. Make an observation of what your dog did in the last 12-24 hours to assist your vet in determining the solution. You can give your dog an antidiarrheal like Pepto-Bismol to help control the diarrhea until you can get to the vets. A safe dose is ½ to 1 teaspoon for every 5 pounds the dog weighs, to a maximum of 2 tablespoons up to three times a day. Your vet might suggest medicine called Metronidazole (Flagyl) to firm up the stool

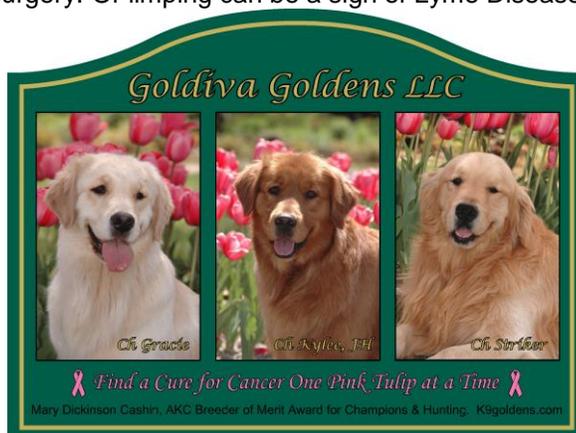
7. ANAL GLANDS can get blocked and irritated. The tell-tale sign is scooting the rear on the ground and dragging to itch. Go to your vets to have the anal glands expressed. It may also be an indication of parasites so bring a fecal sample too.

8. BAD BREATH can be a sign of an infection, gum disease or a bad tooth in need of extraction. Check teeth and clean frequently yourself with doggie toothpaste & toothbrush sold at your vet's office/kennel shop. Or use wet gauze or doggie finger brushes. Schedule a dental cleaning as recommended. Check to see if Pet Insurance will cover dental cleanings. They're approximately \$400 otherwise.

9. ITCHY SKIN can be a sign of fleas, allergies to food ingredients like corn, wheat & soy or environmental. First check for fleas, ask your vet how to treat your pup if infected. All our dogs are on Canidae dog food, if you use something different, check the ingredients for corn, wheat & soy and change foods (read Choosing a Healthy Dog Food in your puppy packet, avoid Science Diet because it also has corn, wheat, soy ingredients). If it's environmental and the above 2 options don't stop the itching, go to a doggie dermatologist for testing.

10. FLEA problems need immediate remedies for bathing, bombing the house, washing all bedding, possible antibiotics and a different de-worming medication. (A word of caution on chemical treatments/poison below causing seizures in small pups.) **CapStar** is an excellent product killing the fleas in 20 minutes after swallowing a pill. Flea larvae eat tapeworm eggs that they find in the environment, and the baby tapeworms develop inside the developing flea. Cats typically groom away 50 percent or more of the fleas on their coats, but swallowing even one infected flea can give a dog or cat tapeworms. Tapeworm medicine is very effective, but you must eliminate fleas, or your pet will be re-infested again and again. Tapeworms are treated with praziquantel (Droncit) available from your vet or a prescription given to 1-800-PET-MEDS. Suggest homeopathic remedies such as Bug Off garlic tablets for fleas.

11. LIMPING in your pup can come from simple stumbles in the yard, playing too hard, sudden stop & start motions with ball playing or over exercising to keep up with you & doggie playmates. If this happens, you must crate or confine your pup/dog for 7-10 days in order for the joint to heal. If your pet can't put any weight on the leg, then have your vet do an x-ray for broken bones. Usually the dog will feel better in a day or two but this will also set up the dog for a harder more serious injury if the joint doesn't heal properly, which can then lead to bone spurs requiring surgery. Or limping can be a sign of Lyme Disease.



KNOW YOUR POISONS & TOXIC INGREDIENTS— Seek Vet Immediately!

According to *The First Aid Companion for Dogs & Cats*, by Amy D. Shojai, **SEIZURES** commonly can be caused by poisoning from:

Antifreeze, Paints, Turpentine, Kerosene, Gas & Cleaning products.
Rat Poison/Pesticides that contain strychnine, bromethalin or cholecalciferol
Plants indoors/outdoor shrubs like azalea & deffenbachia, lily & tulip bulbs & certain perennials like foxglove, rhubarb & bleeding hearts
Mushrooms/fungi
Onions, Grapes/Raisins, Apple seeds & Peach pits, Rhubarb Leaves
Chocolate, especially Dark Chocolate is toxic
Shrimp & shell fish may cause heavy drool and upset stomache
Raw bread dough, the yeast will continue rising, expanding, requiring surgery
Toad & Tree Frog poisoning

Flea treatments absorbed through the skin – don't use Frontline in pups under 6 months of age
Cocoa Bark Mulch is toxic. This is produced by Hershey's Chocolate Co. available at Home Depot, Target and Garden Centers. Even though it says it repels cats and dogs aren't attracted to it, is very untrue. Refer to your puppy packet for more on Cocoa Mulch.

FMI - www.petpoisonhelpline.com 800-213-6680

OUR VETS:

Falmouth Animal Hospital, Dr. Doug Andrews, Dr. Oonagh Wack, Dr. Brian Graves, Dr. Cady Lyons, Dr. Katy Hazard, and Dr. Tom Ahlers 174 US Route 1, Falmouth, ME 207-781-4028

Dr. Kathy Sneider (Reproduction Specialist) Blue Ribbon Vet, Pembroke, MA 508-830-9943

Dr. John MacGregor (Cardiologist) Portland Veterinary Specialists, 207-780-0271

Dr. Ruth Marrion (Ophthalmologist) 978-687-7764 Essex County Vet Hospital, North Andover, MA

Dr. Todd Gauger (Orthopedics), Norway Animal Hospital 207-743-6384.



(Piper on kayak, Marti Stone Photography)

8 REASONS WHY NOT TO SHAVE YOUR DOG

PUBLISHED 2/23/2014 BY EKCGROOMING

There is one issue that I am very passionate about, and if you learn nothing else from this blog, I hope this sticks with you: There is no reason to shave a double coated dog. Why? Let's break it down.

First, some basic information, so we all start out on the same page. A double coated dog is any dog with a harsh outer coat and a soft undercoat. The soft undercoat is what sheds and leaves tumbleweeds all over your house. German Shepherd Dogs, Golden Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, Australian Shepherds, and Siberian Huskies are just a few examples of a double coated dog. (Shih Tzus, Maltese, and Yorkshire Terriers are NOT examples of double coated dogs. This information does not apply to them.) These two coats grow independently of one another and to different lengths. The outer coat is longer, and tends to grow slower. The undercoat is shorter and grows faster, and also turns over, or sheds, twice a year. Now that we all understand basically what we're dealing with, why shouldn't you shave a dog like this?

All of these dogs have a double coat.

1- Dogs with double coats have sensitive skin. This means that your shaved dog is likely to come home with razor burn, irritated skin, and is much more likely to be sunburned. The skin of these dogs is more sensitive, because the thick hair protects it from the sun, bug bites, and anything else that your dog encounters during a hike, a romp in the backyard, or a roll on the carpet. These dogs can end up with hot spots, lick excessively, and are generally miserable. No one wants that for their dog.



Look at the color of the dog's face and the dog's body. His skin is pink and is going to easily become sunburned and irritated.



2- It does NOT make them shed less. Double coated dogs shed twice a year, and that is under coat. The rest of the time, the shedding is normal hair turn over, and that is seen in all animals with hair (including you, your poodle, your Aunt Sally, and the squirrel in your backyard). Shaving them does not prevent this from happening. It makes the pieces smaller, and damages the coat in the process. Instead of having your dog shaved to get rid of unwanted hair, having the dog professionally groomed on a

schedule will remove all the dead undercoat, leaving only healthy coat and stopping those tumbleweeds from rolling across your floor.



Look at all the dead undercoat removed from this Newfie. His coat is shiny and beautiful.



Goldens, www.k9goldens.com

3- It permanently damages the condition of the coat. The under coat, as I said before, is short and dense, while the outer coat is longer, glossy, and harder hair. The undercoat is all that is left when you shave a dog, and as it grows faster than the outer coat, it takes a very long time for the outer coat to catch up, if at all. This means that there is no outer coat to

protect the under coat, which becomes brittle and breaks off, and that there is no shiny, glossy hair on your dog. On some dogs, the under coat never grows back properly, leaving the dog's coat sparse and just plain ugly. It also damages the cycle of the hair, making the shedding times unpredictable and in some cases, never end. It can also mean that you're stuck shaving the dog for the rest of his life.



All three of these dogs have coats that look dirty, unkempt, and in no way pleasing to the eye. All of these dogs have had their coats ruined by shaving them.

4- With so many breeds to choose from, it's easy to find a coat you like. If you don't like the hair of a Collie, go for a Smooth Collie. If you don't want a dog with as much hair as a Golden Retriever, maybe a Boxer will be more your style. The hair of a dog serves a purpose, and is part of the package. A little bit of research goes a long way.

This Golden Retriever is supposed to have hair.



5- The undercoat provides insulation in the winter and cools the dog in the summer. If your dog has a well groomed coat, with no dead undercoat, the coat keeps the dog warm in the winter by providing insulation and keeping the dog's skin dry. In the summer, it provides a sort of air conditioning system to the dog, keeping him cool. Yes, this does mean he needs to be groomed, it just means that he doesn't need to be shaved. He's not going to be hot with all that coat, it's actually keeping him cool and protected. As long as he isn't shaved or severely matted, his coat will do its job and keep his temperature regulated.

See the lighter coat in the center? That's the undercoat. It is healthy and will do well to insulate this Sheltie from heat and cold.

6- It just plain looks bad. The under coat is dull and dense and not visually appealing. A dog in a full, beautiful flowing coat is much more attractive. You're going to spend the same amount of money and I'm going to spend the same amount of effort, so wouldn't you rather your dog look good? It's also going to make you stand out as a dog owner who isn't doing their research and doing the best thing for their dog. No one wants to be that guy.



The dog looks much better with his coat intact. No one can tell me that he looks improved with his coat gone.

7- It is never to breed standard. I know pet owners are fond of saying "Oh, I don't want a show dog!" and I plan to cover that topic all on its own in the future, but the breed standard exists for a reason. Be proud of your dog and his glorious coat, and how educated you are on why he needs that coat.

8- It increases the amount of allergens on the dog's skin. I have heard people say that they shave their dog because they are allergic. That just doesn't make good sense. The dander of the dog is what you're allergic to, and having it right on the surface is not going to help your allergies. Having the dog groomed will keep up with the dander and the loose dead hair, and that will help.

dander of the dog is what you're allergic to, and having it right on the surface is not going to help your allergies. Having the dog groomed will keep up with the dander and the loose dead hair, and that will help.



This dog looks patchy and flaky, and not only will continue to shed big clumps, but will release allergens.

I will not be shaving any dogs this summer, or any summer after that. A dog can't tell you that shaving him makes him uncomfortably hot or gives him sunburn, but I can, and I will try to educate as many owners as I can.

Crate Training Tips

Goldiva Goldens © 2014

Crate training is based on the premise that puppies are unlikely to eliminate in or near an area used for rest. Crate training is popular among owners who cannot continually remain nearby to bring the puppy directly outside especially throughout the night. Puppies should not be placed in a crate during the day for more than 4 hours. This will create a hyper puppy if continually crated both night and day. Crate training works well for most puppies but not all. Many young puppies are simply unable to control immature sphincters, especially when they are anxious or frightened. Some pups may soil themselves and even ingest their own waste. Do not visit your puppy while it's in the crate. Doing so, will encourage attention-seeking behaviors like barking and whining which will frustrate your puppy.

If you choose to try crate training, begin by selecting a crate that will accommodate your dog at its anticipated adult size. Your (adult) dog should be able to comfortably stand and turn to change positions in its crate. You will need to partition off a small area inside for the puppy and increase the space as puppy grows. The crate should be small enough that puppy doesn't have room to walk to one end of the crate to void; then sleep on the clean area.

To introduce puppy to the crate, associate the crate with positive things, such as food and safe shelter. Leave the door open until there is no sign of fear. Cover a section of the floor with the blanket(s) you've rubbed on the siblings. Play with your pup, tossing favorite toys into the crate for it to retrieve. Place food and water in the crate to encourage your pup to consider it a safe place. This also decreases the likelihood that your dog will soil inside the crate. When the puppy enters the crate without hesitation at meal time, gently close the door while it eats. Keep the door closed for about 10 minutes and then immediately go outside to go to the bathroom. Let the pup out when it is calm and quiet.

Take puppy's water up an hour before bedtime. Place a towel over the end of the crate to block your view. Don't place puppy in the crate for the night until you're ready to go to bed. When you cannot be in the same room with your pup, it should be crated, like when you're eating a meal in another room. Puppy will need to go to the bathroom after it wakes up, drinks water, and eats a meal, after play time and in-between.

The crate is your dog's special place where it must never be disturbed or threatened. The crate must not be linked with punishment or your dog will avoid it. Encourage your dog to use the crate as a resting place. When the pup is ready to nap, place it in the crate with a favorite toy or treat, like a rubber Kong stuffed with peanut butter or a marrow bone. Never place your pup in the crate or try to remove it from the crate when you are angry. Do not reach



in and pull your dog out of its crate. A dog that is threatened in its crate may aggressively resist leaving it. Teach your dog to willingly leave the crate on your command, using a simple “come” in a happy tone of voice.

The Umbilical Cord Method for House Training

This method of house training is best used with the other techniques detailed above. Attach your pup to a long leash that is tied to your wrist or waist. This allows it a certain amount of freedom while ensuring your constant supervision over its activity. The pup cannot wander away to have an undetected “accident” and you can anticipate the pup’s need to void, taking it directly outside. Look for signs of sniffing the ground before a squat or walking around in circles before pooping. This method may be applied as an alternative to overnight crate confinement. The pup may be leashed to your bed or at least in your bedroom overnight. While some puppies may have “accidents” where they sleep, they may be less anxious when their owners are nearby, and this may positively affect their behavior.

Outside Exercise Pens & Kennels

If you have a shaded/sheltered area to place an Exercise Pen (large metal play pen); puppy can be in this area for a couple hours on a nice day. Puppies do not do well in excessive heat and will panic in thunder storms if left unsheltered. On hot days, you may need to place a frozen water bottle inside a tube sock so the pup can lay on something cool or provide a fan. Always have plenty of fresh, clean water for puppy to drink.

If you live in a wooded area, never leave puppy unattended, especially if you have coyotes or fishers. Even if you have a fenced in yard, leaving a pup alone in the whole yard, can still get a puppy into trouble unsupervised. Once, we had a puppy get its head stuck in the wheel spokes of the lawn mower! Thank goodness we were home to hear his crying. It was a 2 person job to get him out too! They can crawl into small corners and not figure out how to get back out.

You can also buy outdoor kennels thru a fencing company or farm store for about \$350. Always provide an insulated dog house, or cut a dog door thru the garage. You may only have to buy 3 panels if connected to the side of a building. You need to think about if you’re gone longer than 4 hours, where is the dog going to go. Confining the pup all day and all night is not fair to the puppy. The pup will be starved for attention, will bark out of boredom and be very hyper to escape the confines. Never tie up a dog on a run.

Everyone loves a puppy, but in 6 months they’re almost adult size. Please be prepared so your training is a positive experience. An obnoxious dog is a reflection of its owner’s lack of training.

Favorite Crates:

LL Bean’s Canvas Crate. It goes from house to car in a minute. For some reason they are only available in the Freeport store, but can be ordered by calling the store directly. The model numbers are:

- 5Q944 Small \$99
- 5Q974 Medium \$139
- 5Q975 Large \$159

Check out The Christmas Tree Shop too. This year they had the canvass crates for \$15 instead of the \$75 I spent at the preppy dog store...

For other dog products, we found that Dog.com has the best pricing for our metal crates at \$35 compared to the \$75 we paid at wholesale pet stores in NH. www.dog.com

Tips for Successful Housebreaking

©2014 By Sherry Britton, Trainer, Cape Elizabeth, ME
www.petpositive.net

Please check the website for upcoming puppy classes for local puppies

Scent as a means of social communication for the dog

When a dog voids urine or stool, chemicals called pheromones are left behind, marking the area with strong social (territory) and behavioral indicators. Once the odor of pheromones is present, it is very difficult to neutralize (even with repeated cleanings). Housebreaking problems usually occur when the presence of pheromones tells the dog an area has been used for toileting. The dog will then choose the same area to toilet again. When the scent of pheromones has been left in several areas of a house, indiscriminant toileting will occur. This is probably the most common reason why dogs are given up to shelters.

Preventing the odor of pheromones from being present anywhere in your home should be of top priority.

Crate training

To prevent housebreaking issues, establish a crate as a den- like area where the dog can be safely managed when you cannot supervise him. If you're trying to housebreak a dog, the crate area should be free of bedding or any type of fabric or padding that could condition tactile associations (with other areas of the house where carpeting or fabric are present) in the event the dog urinates on it. Keep the crate VERY clean. Disinfect the area with household cleaners on a daily basis. While it is true that a dog will naturally avoid depositing urine or feces near his den, avoid leaving your pet confined for long periods of time. Any dog must be provided with frequent opportunities to void outdoors in a specified area if housebreaking routines are to be established.

The puppy needs to "GO"

- Immediately after a meal, drinking or chewing (toys, bones, etc). Establish patterns from the beginning. You must supervise your dog's activities to know when to take him out.
- After a period of sleep. Pups take many naps during the day. Be aware of natural patterns of sleeping and waking.
- After a period of play or other activity. Physical activity stimulates the bowels and bladder. Activity levels can be manipulated as a management tool to encourage your pup to eliminate at times which are convenient to you. Try a quick game with a ball, a toy or move around at a brisk pace outdoors with the dog on leash.



- Any other time you think of it. Take the pup out frequently. Confine him when you cannot be nearby. Don't wait until the dog is about to have an accident.

(Fenway & Penski – Can CH Higgins x Sushi, JH)

Establish toileting area

Dogs readily learn to eliminate in established areas when consistently taken to the same place. Typically, pet owners will run into problems when the dog is casually released into a fenced area or just let out the door. You must go with the dog (use a leash) to make sure the toileting area is marked consistently. This area should be established from the beginning. Once the dog has used the

primary toileting area, continue to leash walk until the dog voids again. Exercise will accelerate the process!

What to do if your dog marks in the house

If your dog has an accident in the house, clean the area thoroughly with a good product that neutralizes pet odors (available at pet supply stores). If nothing else is available, use club soda to saturate and blot the area until you can get the right product to properly neutralize the odor.

To mask any remaining odor and train the dog to avoid using the area to toilet again, saturate the affected area with a product called Bitter Apple®. This leaves a strong scent that can be further associated with an unpleasant taste that will cause the dog to want to avoid the area in the future. Saturate a cotton ball with Bitter Apple and lead the dog to the pre-saturated affected area. As he sniffs the area, pop the saturated cotton ball into his mouth. This will associate the smell with a bad taste. When the dog spits the saturated cotton ball, praise him. After a few minutes pass, lead him back to the area and repeat this procedure. Because of the association with the bad taste he should respond by trying to avoid the area (pulling away) as you lead him there. Praise him for attempting to leave the area. Repeat the procedure the next day. Praise for avoidance. Periodically test for avoidance of the affected area by reintroducing the substance to the area, then leading the dog toward it.

©2014 Sherry Britton
Pet Positive Training



8 Week old Striker and Grady December 2004

How to Build a Reliable Recall in Your Pet Dog

©2014 By Sherry Britton, trainer, Cape Elizabeth, ME
www.petpositive.net

The strengthening of any behavior over time through repeated reinforcement is referred to as “building reinforcement history”. The process can be likened to making deposits in a savings account. As more deposits are made, the account (or behavior) grows.

Described in this handout are training sequences I’ve developed for the purpose of building reinforcement history. With consistent practice, these exercises increase the likelihood that your dog will return reliably when called.

Name response (30 reps) Teach your dog to turn toward you on his name, Generalize to all environments. Follow instructions in your Week One handouts. Practice frequently.

Chase and return (30 reps) Once the dog has the basics for name response, introduce the following game : While standing near a wall or a fence, alert your dog to a treat. Toss the treat several feet along the wall , encouraging the dog to go after it. Once the dog has the treat, call his name. When he looks up, click and toss a treat along the wall in the opposite direction (dog chases past you to get the second treat). Repeat this sequence several times (back and forth) before luring the dog in front of you to end the exercise. Purpose: to build reinforcement history on name response, from a distance.

Return from the target (10 reps) Teach your dog to run to a target then return to you (when he hears his name). It may be necessary to follow your dog to the target and interrupt him with a light touch the first few times (if he becomes distracted). Generalize by practicing this game in different locations. Purpose: teaches the dog self-control while building a reinforcement history on returning to you.



Training tips: Make socialization a priority and you’ll have more influence over your dog’s behavior in public. Exposure is key when training a dog to return when called. Socialize your puppy well. Expose him to whatever he may encounter in life. Use people, other animals, cars, children and other distractions. If exposure is provided on a regular basis, the outdoor environment becomes less novel to the dog. Bonding with the handler (provider of safety and reward) offers more appeal. *(Mary with Sushi at Yankee Golden Retriever Specialty Show, Wrentham, MA)*

Bold dog – a poorly socialized dog with a bold temperament is likely to be independent; he may leave you to explore the environment then choose not return when called.

Shy dog – a poorly socialized shy dog is prone to anxiety when in new environments. He is likely to choose to remain close to the handler off-leash but may leave or show a lack attention if something in the environment worries or startles him.

More Training Tips:

* Be consistent when training. Remember to change locations frequently to vary your dog’s exposure to distractions.

* Notice when your puppy is moving toward you of his own volition, reinforce this. Develop a wide range of reinforcers, use food rewards, games, affection or the opportunity to engage in a behavior he likes.

* Use a longline. Have the puppy drag the line on off leash runs. Stop him from leaving you before he wanders out of bounds. Pair the appearance of distractions with rewards for returning to you. Just before he notices a distraction, step on the line, then call him.

* Don't call your puppy unless you have the ability to get him to come to you. Avoid calling your puppy from a distance if he is engaged in play with another dog until you're certain you have a reliable recall. Practice interrupting your puppy from play by calling from close range, interrupting him with a quick tag to the hindquarters, if needed.

* Call the puppy to his food dish at meal time.

* Play games of hide and seek. Begin indoors, later, play outdoors (only in safe locations). Tips for Hide and Seek : Observe your puppy, wait until he is busy sniffing the ground, then duck behind a bush or a shrub. Wait for the



puppy to notice you've left. Remain undercover until he finds you, even if you know he is worried. This game places responsibility on the puppy to keep track of you, he will learn that he must watch for you.

- Never engage in "keep away" games with your puppy. If you notice the pup practicing this game, ignore him rather than chasing after him. Try running in the opposite direction. Reward only for coming to you. Use a long line to keep the pup safe, step on the line before the pup can leave.

Left to right: Samson with Can CH Seaweed, JH)



Am/Can CH Striker baby sleeping with the nasturtiums. Then he ate the flower!

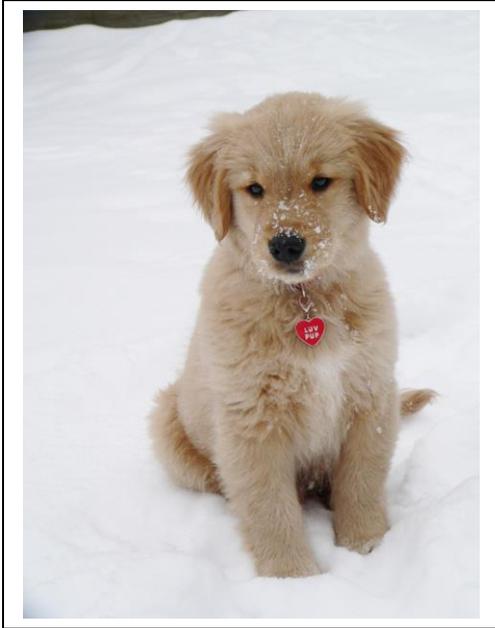
MAGIC CARPET training by Diana Logan

While I was boarding Young Charlie, I took him to Freeport where there's a great little new pedestrian mall area (Goldiva Goldens "Can CH Vegas" ex "Lily" litter 3/7/10). I wanted to practice "Real World" skills using magic carpet as a highly rewardable game. Many distractions came our way, as you will see. I had put my camera on a trash can to capture the scene, so no one knew they were being filmed! Wouldn't you know... a dog trainer from out of state showed up and wanted to play Super Distraction with us to test Charlie's attention skills. He passed with Flying Colors!! Charlie's owners had obviously been doing their homework
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ir4j44z1q3Q&feature=related>

Diana Logan, Pet Connection Maine Dog Trainer, instructor at Poetic Gold Farm, Planet Dog and in-home personal training
petconnectionmaine@yahoo.com

Dog Trainers for Puppies and Adult Dogs

Please send any changes/updates to Mary Dickinson Cashin at Goldiva Goldens, www.k9goldens.com or email in to k9golden@maine.rr.com



Maine Obedience & Agility Trainers:

Jill Simmons at Poetic Gold Farm, 7 Trillium Lane, Falmouth, ME, www.poeticgold.com. 207-899-1185. Email: Ljilly28@me.com. Jill has our boy Tally who is heavily titled in Obedience competitions & tracking. Jill has several other trainers that use her facility: Judy Moore, Amy Hebert, Nancy Freedman-Smith, and Diana Logan. They are 5 miles from our location and it's best to connect with Jill thru her website. Classes offered include: Canine Good Citizen/Therapy Dog Prep; AKC Community Canine Class; Family Dog Manners; Rally Obedience; Reform School; S.T.A.R Puppy 8 weeks to 6 mths of age; Human Directed Aggression (Has your dog bitten someone, growls, guards food, lunged at a person?); Outdoor Adventures; Leash Lungers/Frustrated Greeters; Feisty Fido – Dog to Dog Aggression using Behavior Adjustment Training; RallyFree is Dancing with dogs; Noseworks; and Growly Dogs. **Please read Jill's Testimonial**

Gunner sit & stay (CH Striker x Sushi, JH)

Puddleduck Retrievers, Frances and Stefan Plessner, www.puddleduckretrievers.com email address puddleduck@fairpoint.net, 134 Higgins Hill Road, Morrill, ME 342-5888. Frances has recently been on the news for training Secretary of State John Kerry's Labrador. She did a fantastic job!

Maranatha Kennels: June & Stephen Cawood, www.maranathakennels.com . 26 Junes Way, West Buxton, ME 04093-3251. Telephone: 207-929-5941 E-Mail: cawood@sacoriver.net
My daughter, Lauren Faulhaber worked here. June has put AKC Junior Hunt titles on Ivy, Blossom, Seaweed, Taima, Taboo, Eris and AKC Companion Dog (CD) and Rally O (RN) titles on Halo, Maybe, Sushi & Stella. They also do drop off obedience training where you leave your dog for a month of training if puppy owners have failed at training their dogs properly or to work on particular training issues. Maranatha offers boarding & grooming. Take accept visa/mc for all of the above.

Pet Positive, Sherry Britton, on 541 Ocean House Road, Cape Elizabeth, ME, www.petpositive.net Sherry is great! We have used her for 5 of our dogs in obedience training. We trained Taima, Seaweed, Sushi, Kylee & Blossom with Sherry. Email: sbritton@gmail.com . Phone (207) 767-5815.

My Wonderful Dog, 54 Cove Street, Portland, Maine 04101. 207-780-9792. Elsa Larsen, President. elarsen@wonderfuldogs.org. www.wonderfuldogs.org My Wonderful Dog specializes in the training of service dogs for people with disabilities. We charge a fee for service for our dogs. My Wonderful Dog guarantees follow-up for the



working life of the dog. In addition to our service dogs, we offer services for the pet dog owner which include: basic obedience classes, puppy kindergarten classes, a reactive dog class, a 4 week recall class, puppy playgroups and seminars featuring some of the country's top trainers. In the summer we offer teen camps where kids from 11-14 can come and learn the joys and challenges of training a service dog. My Wonderful Dog uses reward based training only.

Diamond Dream Dog Center, Tracy Shaw, www.diamonddreamdogcenter.com in Alfred, Maine. Tracy offers: dog training, breed handling, dog grooming, doggy daycare, cat boarding, cat grooming. 185 Mouse Lane, Alfred, ME phone:(207) 490-6542 E-mail: ddd@adelphia.net

It's A Dog's World, 3 White Birch Lane, York, ME 03909. Phone 363-0099
Breed Handling, Training, Agility & Daycare.

K9games, Ginny Seavey, Bowdoinham. Agility, Obedience, Private Lessons & group classes.
<http://home.gwi.net/~k9games/>. (Brunswick/Topsham area) Phone: 207-666-5882 Email: k9games@gwi.net

C and D Obedience, Donna Cassista, Gardiner (Augusta area). 207 377 2436: Located in Gardiner (for the most part) with 17 years teaching experience offering Beginner, Advance, Puppy, Competition Obedience, Rally and Show handling. Donna is also an AKC Rally Judge. Email:Magicshelties@hotmail.com or website:www.cdobedience.com

"Making a Difference in living with Autism" Robert & Lynn Boulier
Tail Waggin Training Center Inc, 84 Brann Road, Levant, ME. We train service dogs for the handicap and specialize also in kids on the spectrum. We have a training facility where we offer classes and we do in home training as well. We also offer support and consultation to individuals who choose to owner train there service dogs. (Bangor area) 207-884-7017 Email: Glofiredachy@adelphia.net

Sue Westlake, 1513 Main Street, Readfield, ME. Email: westlake@gwi.net 685-4510. Sue teaches obedience for Adult Ed at Maranacook High School Monday nights during the school year. She also holds classes at Winthrop Veterinary Clinic on Tuesday nights year-round. Sue does private lessons as well.
<http://www.wwoadogs.com/tag.html>

HighQ Agility Services, Barbara and Gary Simons, 14 Norris Ave, Bar Harbor, Me. (207) 288-3805
HighQ@Prexar.com Agility trainers, offering lessons in Searsport, Prospect and Ellsworth Maine, the lessons are all positive reinforcement, and are small groups. Offering lessons from basic beginner lessons to advanced competition, and also offering a junior handlers program. Barb is a WMAS certified agility instructor who competes at the Nationals levels in the U.S. and Canada, Gary is the secretary and newsletter editor for the Eastern Maine Agility Club. Also offering trial superintendent services, and seminars.

Field Training

Maranatha Kennels, June & Stephen Cawood, www.maranathakennels.com . 26 Junes Way, West Buxton, ME 04093-3251. Telephone: 207-929-5941 E-Mail: cawood@sacriver.net
My daughter, Lauren Faulhaber works here. June is training Ivy for a WC & WCX. We'll send other dogs out this spring with her. Dogs can come home on weekends after the first month. They also do drop off obedience training where you leave your dog for a month of training. Maranatha offers boarding & grooming too.

Puddleduck Retrievers, Frances and Stefan Plessner, www.puddleduckretrievers.com email address puddleduck@fairpoint.net, 134 Higgins Hill Road, Morrill, ME 342-5888. Frances has recently been on the news for training Secretary of State John Kerry's Labrador. She did a fantastic job!

Wassookeag Retrievers, David & Susan Robichaud, Dixmont, ME. 234-4092. Email: wassookg@uninets.net. Website: www.wassookeagretrievers.com. 108 acres fields, woods and a series of ponds designed specifically for retriever training in central Maine. They have a new, fully equipped training facility for year-round field drills, hunt tests/WC, obedience and show handling work, puppy & young dog head start programs. They also offer boarding specializing in Retriever breeds.

Out of State Trainers:

Yankee Golden Retriever Club Puppy Kindergarten, Acton, MA <http://www.yankeegr.com/training.html>

Especially for Pets, 81 Union Avenue, Sudbury, MA 01776. (978) 443-7682

Their website is: <http://www.especiallyforpets.com>

Nashua, NH is www.riversidek9.com - I have really enjoyed working with them.

(Liz Christofferson)

www.canineuniversity.com. They do clicker-training and have come highly recommended from a couple of puppy buyers.

Canine Mastery, Positively a Dog School, 102A Pond Street, Seekonk, MA 02771, 508-399-5867.

Instructors: Kathy Buckley, Ann Chace, Joyce Gauthier, Jan Johnson, Erin Schaefer, Jan Thomas, Kathleen Walsh. Classes in Puppy Kindergarten thru Basic Obedience, Breed Handling, Obedience, Agility, Flyball

Website: [Canine Mastery...Positively A Dog School!](http://www.caninemastery.com)

www.americank9country.com

Waggin' Tail Dog Training Center, Westford, MA. Striker's daughter Stella is taking Puppy obedience & handling classes with Sandy Madden the owner/instructor with puppy boarding owner, Jean DiCearse.

www.wtdtc.com .

**Dog Trainers for Special Needs Adults & Children
Delta Society, The Human – Animal Health Connection
Improving human health through service and therapy animals.**

<http://www.deltasociety.org/dsb7nh.htm>

Bright Horizon Assistance Dogs

- **Contact:** Katrina Jablonsky
- **Address:** 15 School Street , Sterling, MA 01564
- **Phone:** 508 340 1172 Voice/TDD
- **Email:**brighthorizon@comcast.net
- **Website:** www.brighthorizondogs.org
- **Disabilities Animals are Trained for:** Mobility, Psychiatric, Seizure
- **Services Provided :** Multiple disabilities, Own animal, Train handle, Take donations, Test & provide ID, Help select, Children (Based on the maturity of the child)
- **Comments:** Train dogs, Place dogs in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island and Vermont. Children are required to have adult supervision during training process.

Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation

- **Contact:** George Salpietro.
- **Address:** P.O. Box 142; Bloomfield, CT 06002.
- **Phone:** (860) 243-4044.
- **Fax:** (860) 243-7215.
- **Email:** pr@fidelco.org.
- **Web site:** www.fidelco.org.
- **Disabilities Animals Are Trained For:** Guide.
- **Services Provided:** Apprenticeship, Children (16 yrs).
- **Comments:** Provide services Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont. Hearing Ear Dogs Of New England, Ltd.

- **Contact:** Jim Golub.
- **Address:** 420 Groton Long Point Rd.; Groton, CT 06340.
- **Phone:** (860) 446-1576.
- **Fax:** (860) 446-1576.
- **Disabilities Animals Are Trained For:** Guide, Hearing, Mobility, Psychiatric.
- **Services Provided:** Multiple disabilities, Own animal, Train handler, Take donations, Test & provide ID, Children (based on maturity of child).
- **Comments:** Provide services in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont.



(Chloe with Frida pup)

Maplewood Assistance Partners, Inc

- **Address:** 12 Maple Ave, Foxboro, MA 02035
- **Website:** www.pond-house.com/maplewood
- **Type of Animals Trained:** Psychiatric, Mobility, Guide, Diabetes Alert, Epilepsy Alert, Autism
- **Services Provided:** Own animal, Help select, Children (based on majority)
- **Comments:** Train Dogs. Provide services in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Vermont, Connecticut and Maine. Please visit web site before contacting us. Disclaimer **Inclusion on this web site does not constitute endorsement by Delta Society, nor does omission imply disapproval.** The purpose of this web site is to inform members and friends of Delta Society about certain resources that may be available. There may be other programs available in your area that are not listed here. Because Delta Society has no control over the services provided and no mechanism for judging or verifying the competence of the individuals or organizations listed herein (the "listed entities"), no attempt has been made to evaluate the listed entities or exclude unsuitable entities from this web site. The listing of any entity herein does not constitute an endorsement or recommendation by Delta Society, and Delta Society hereby disclaims all responsibility and liability with respect to the performance or nonperformance of any services by any listed entity. Every effort was made to ensure that the information herein was accurate at the time of posting; Delta assumes no responsibility for any changes made by individual businesses.

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It helps to know first aid for your dog

Interview with Dr. Peter Davis, Pine Tree Veterinary, Augusta, Maine



Taima, JH on a land retrieve

Hunting with a bird dog in Maine is all about bright fall foliage, cool, crisp afternoons and the smell of apple orchards and damp earth. No one considers the possibility of tragedy. This is why hunters are often the least prepared.

According to Dr. Peter Davis, of the Pine Tree Veterinary Hospital in Augusta, every hunter can take precautions to ensure their dog's safety and well-being. Davis has been going to camp at Nine-Mile Bridge, just shy of Clayton Lake in the northwestern corner of the state for nearly 40 years. He understands the importance of preparation, and appreciates the remote places hunters frequent.

First, he said, it's important to always carry a dog first-aid kit.

"It should include the same things a person would carry. Something to apply pressure -- Vet Wrap, gauze, Ace bandages. All the usual first aid supplies," he said.

Davis said most hunting dog injuries treated at his hospital are puncture wounds and gashes. Each wound is different, he said. "Puncture wounds most often don't bleed," he said. For that reason, he recommends all hunters check their dog from head to toe, after every hunt. "People often don't notice them until the next day, or even later. That's when problems

start," he said.

He noted that most puncture wounds occur in places that are difficult to spot. For instance, on the dog's underside or inside the leg. The other kind of wound -- a gash -- often bleeds. These can be found anywhere on the body, most often around the foot pads and legs.

"Cut pads bleed a lot and people get very nervous. You must be prepared to slow down the bleeding," said Davis. He advised keeping bandages and gauze on hand in any first aid kit and that VetWrap, a non-stick, self-adhering bandage, is ideal.

Puncture wounds and cuts are not the only ailments dog owners must watch out for. "Lyme disease is becoming more and more prevalent in the southern part of the state," said Davis. He suggests using a tick deterrent on both the dog and yourself.

Camp injuries are also commonplace. "If a dog swallows something it shouldn't have, make him throw it up," said Davis. "The best home remedy is a couple of tablespoons of hydrogen peroxide," he said. This should be done every ten minutes until the dog vomits. "It has a very high safety margin," he said. It's important, he said, to scale the dose to the size of the dog.

Many dog owners believe that a cold, wet nose is a sign of a dog's good health.

"That's an old wives tale," said Davis. He said the best method is to check the color of the dog's gums. "They should be pink if they've been running," he said. If they turn pale, then there's a problem. If they turn pasty white, it's likely a serious emergency, and the dog could be in shock. The hunter who knows his healthy dog's gum color can quickly assess when there's a problem. "Check it often, at all different times," said Davis.

Keeping a dog well fed and hydrated also is important, though Davis cautions that you shouldn't feed them too much immediately before a hunt. Panting, he said, is a sign that the dog is letting off body heat. "Their nose and their paws are the only places they sweat, so panting is natural," he said.

And, one last bit of advice from the doctor -- a dog should always wear a name tag with contact information while hunting. A lost dog, after all, can't be helped.



Blossom's water retrieve



Taima's land retrieve

Bloat in Dogs

Risk Factors and Prevention

by Dr. Debra Primovic

Canine bloat, or gastric dilatation-volvulus (GDV), is the number-one cause of death for several large and giant breeds. It is a life-threatening disorder and if left untreated, results in death.

Bloat occurs when the stomach fills with food, water and/or gas. This results in increased pressure that enlarges and compresses the stomach and eventually causes the stomach to rotate or twist into an abnormal position. When the stomach twists, it actually crimps the inflow and outflow of gastric contents and blood to and from the stomach. This in turn cuts off the blood supply to the organ causing a cascade of events that can eventual cause death. Approximately 30 percent of dogs that develop bloat die or have to be euthanized.

Common signs of “bloat” include excessive drooling and unproductive vomiting. Because the stomach is twisted, the esophagus (the tube that goes to/from the stomach) is crimped; the dog cannot productively vomit or swallow their saliva. The abdomen expands and gets very distended. The abdominal expansion is more obvious in some dogs than others depending on their confirmation because some large deep-chested dogs may have a large portion of their stomachs under their rib cage which makes the distention less obvious. Dogs are often restless and uncomfortable as this is a very painful condition.

(Bowling with Mikimoto - Can CH Striker x Sushi, JH)

Breeds thought to be at high risk include: Akita, Bloodhound, Collie, Great Dane, Irish setter, Irish Wolfhound, Newfoundland, Rottweiler, Saint Bernard, Standard Poodle and Weimaraner.

Risk Factors

Dr. Larry Glickman, an epidemiologist at the Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine, conducted a study on canine bloat, where he followed over 1,900 dogs to help identify risk factors.

(Sake with bowl, CH Striker x Sushi, JH)



Risk factors include:

- The dogs with the greatest risk of developing bloat have deep narrow chests. Breeds at highest risk for bloat include the Great Dane, Bloodhound, standard Poodle, Irish wolfhound, German Shepherd Dog, Irish setter, Akita, and Boxer. All other deep-chested breeds and deep-chested mixed-breed dogs are also at higher risk.
- The risk of bloat is slightly higher in males than females.
- Lean dogs were also found to be at higher risk for developing bloat than overweight dogs. It is unknown why, but some believe it is because fat takes up space in the abdomen allowing less space for the stomach to “rotate” or move around.
- Older dogs are at a higher risk. Some believe that the ligaments that holds the stomach in its normal position stretches with age causing an increased risk. The risk of developing bloat goes up 20 percent each year after the age of 5 in large breed dogs and it goes up 20 percent each year after the age of 3 in giant breed dogs.

- Dogs with relatives that have developed bloat are at higher risk. Dogs with parents or siblings that have experienced bloat are at 60% at higher risk for developing bloat themselves.
- Fast eaters are at higher risk for developing bloat. Many believe this is due to increased swallowing of air when eating fast.
- Elevated food bowls have been shown to increase the risk of bloat. This has been a previously thought “preventative”.
- Dogs with nervous, fearful, or aggressive personalities have a higher incidence of bloat.
- Stress, such as that occurs during kenneling, is an important precipitating factor.
- Dogs fed dry food only or fed one large daily meal where at a higher risk for bloat. The theory is that the stomach is weighed down and maximally stretched during the one large meal.
- Dogs fed foods in which an oil or fat ingredient, such as sunflower oil or animal fat, were listed among the first four ingredients. This was associated with a 2.4-fold increased risk of GDV.
- Most cases of bloat occur after 6 pm.



Several previously popular theories regarding the risk factors for bloat were not substantiated during Dr. Glickman’s study. There was no correlation of bloat risk to exercise before or after eating or to the timing or volume of water intake before or after eating. There was also no correlation of bloat to vaccinations or to a particular brand of food. In a newer study published in January/February 2006 issue of the Journal of the American Animal Hospital Association (JAAHA), also found “ Neither an increasing number of animal-protein ingredients nor an increasing number of soy and cereal ingredients among the first four ingredients significantly influenced GDV risk.”

To order Go-Slow feeding bowls, go to www.chewy.com. A Medium size bowl works great for Goldens.



Mikimoto in garden (CH Striker x Sushi, JH)

Top 10 Pet Poisons and Toxicities

Tips to Keep Your Pet Safe

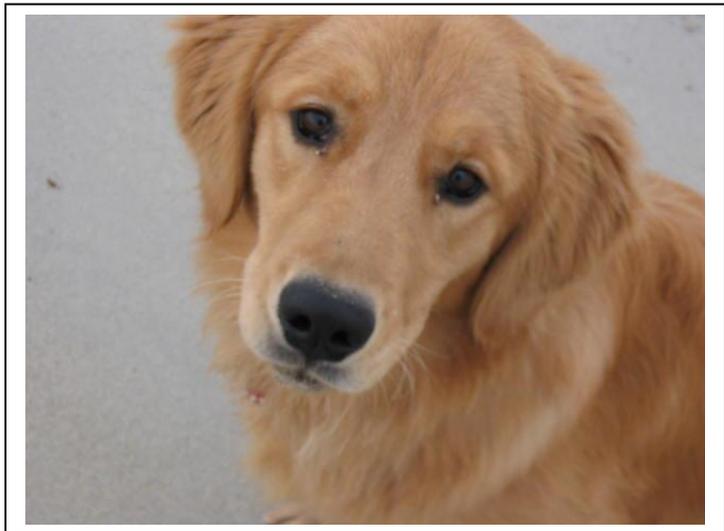
Courtesy of ASPCA

Each year, the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center receives tens of thousands of calls involving animal exposures to potentially poisonous substances. In 2005, the Center managed more than 100,000 calls pertaining to a seemingly inexhaustible variety of items. Below is a compilation of the types of calls that the Center assists with, listed in order of the frequency reported:

1. Human Medications - In 2005, more than 46,000 calls involving common human drugs such as painkillers, cold medications, antidepressants and dietary supplements were managed by the Center. "Ingestions of certain medications could be very harmful or even fatal to pets," cautions Dr. Steven Hansen, Senior Vice-President of the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center. "Owners should never give their pet any medication without the direction of a veterinarian, as even 1 extra-strength acetaminophen can be deadly to a cat, and just 4 regular-strength ibuprofen can lead to serious kidney problems in a 10-pound dog". Medications should always be stored in a secure cabinet above the counter and out of the reach of pets.

2. Insecticides - over 21,000 cases pertaining to products used to kill fleas, ticks and other insects were handled last year. "While there are products for eliminating fleas, ticks and other pesky bugs that are safe for use in households with pets, a key factor in their safe use is reading and following label instructions exactly," advises Dr. Hansen. "Some species of animals can be particularly sensitive to certain types of insecticides, so it is vital to never use any product not specifically formulated for your pet." Never give medication labeled for dogs to a cat. It is also a good idea to consult with your pet's veterinarian before beginning any flea and tick control program.

(Cali at the beach – Can CH Boomer x Lovey)



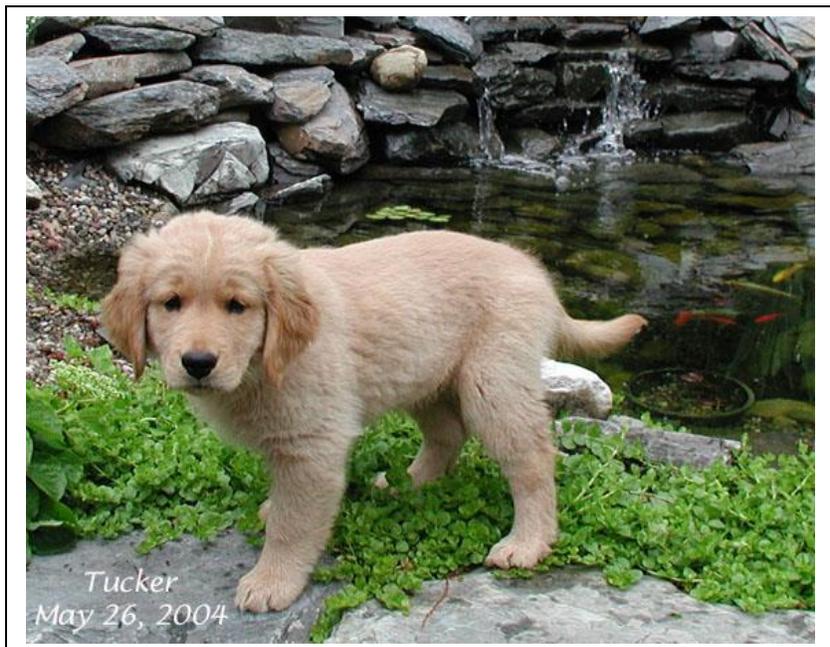
3. Rodenticides - In 2005, approximately 6,900 calls about rat and mouse poisons were received. Depending on the type of rodenticide, ingestions can lead to potentially life-threatening problems including bleeding, seizures or even damage to the kidneys or other vital organs. "Should pet owners opt to use a rodenticide around their home, they should make sure that the bait is placed only in areas completely inaccessible to their animals," Dr. Hansen instructs.

4. Veterinary Medications - Close to 6,200 cases involving animal-related preparations such as non-steroidal antiinflammatory drugs, heartworm preventatives, dewormers, antibiotics, vaccines and nutritional supplements were managed by the Center last year. "Although these products are formulated for use in pets, it is very important to always read and follow label directions for use exactly," advises Dr. Hansen. "As with flea and tick preparations, many medications are intended for use in certain species only, and potentially serious problems could result if given to the wrong animal or at too high of a dose."

5. Household Cleaners - In 2005, approximately 5,200 calls pertaining to cleaning agents such as bleaches, detergents and disinfectants were received. "Household cleaners can be quite effective in disinfecting surfaces in the home when used appropriately," says Dr. Hansen, "but gastrointestinal irritation or even severe oral burns could result with some cleaners depending on the circumstances of exposure." Additionally, irritation to the respiratory tract may be possible if a product becomes inhaled. "All household cleaners and other chemicals should be stored in a secure location well out of the reach of pets," Dr. Hansen recommends.

When cleaning your pet's food and water bowls, crate or other habitat, a mild soap such as a hand dishwashing detergent along with hot water is a good choice over products containing potentially harsh chemicals.

6. Herbicides - Around 4,600 calls pertaining to various types of herbicides came through the Center's lines last year. Most herbicides are considered to be relatively safe when used appropriately. However, directions such as "keep animals away from treated area until dry" need to be adhered to in order to avoid the potential for problems such as damage to desirable vegetation, minor skin irritation or stomach upset if ingested.



7. Plants - Over 4,400 cases involving plants were handled by the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center in 2005, including such varieties as lilies, azalea, rhododendron, sago palm, kalanchoe and schefflera, among others. "There are many different species of plants that could be harmful to pets if consumed in large enough quantities," cautions Dr. Hansen. "For example, just one or two sago palm nuts can cause vomiting, diarrhea, depression, seizures and even liver failure, while lilies are highly toxic to cats and even in small amounts can produce life-threatening kidney failure." While poisonous plants should certainly be kept away from pets, it is also a good idea to discourage animals from nibbling on any variety, as even

non-toxic plants could produce minor stomach upset if eaten. (*Tucker's Goldfish – Can CH Boomer x Lovey*)

8. Chocolate - More than 2,600 chocolate calls were received by the Center last year. Depending on the type, chocolate can contain large amounts of fat and caffeine-like substances known as methylxanthines. If ingested in significant amounts, chocolate could potentially cause vomiting, diarrhea, panting, excessive thirst and urination, hyperactivity and in severe cases, abnormal heart rhythm, tremors, seizures and could even be fatal. "Typically, the darker the chocolate, the greater the potential for poisoning," says Dr. Hansen. "Baking chocolate contains the highest amount of methylxanthines, and just two ounces could cause serious problems for a 10 pound dog."

9. Home Improvement Products - In 2005, approximately 1,800 cases involving paint, solvents, expanding glues and other physical hazards were managed. While the majority of water-based paints are low in toxic potential, stomach upset is still possible, and artist's paints can contain heavy metals that could be poisonous if consumed in a large quantity. Solvents can be very irritating to the gastrointestinal tract, eyes and skin, and could also produce central nervous system depression if ingested, or pneumonia if inhaled. "Prevention is really key to avoiding problems from accidental exposures," says Dr. Hansen. "Pet owners should keep pets out of areas where home improvement projects are occurring, and of course label directions should always be followed when using any product."

10. Fertilizers - More than 1,700 calls pertaining to plant fertilizers were handled last year. In general, most fertilizers are fairly low in toxicity. However, the consumption of significant amounts can lead to vomiting, diarrhea and abdominal discomfort. Additionally, some fertilizer formulations may also contain insecticides, which could potentially lead to further problems if eaten.

For more information on other substances potentially hazardous to animals, log onto: www.aspc.org/apcc

Is THAT Poisonous?

Vet Corner, select article for Is That Poisonous?

<http://www.petpoisonhelpline.com/>

WINTER

This is the time of year when we see more hazards in the home than outside. Many pets are kept inside and exposed to tasty foods and treats, household products, human medications, and other substances. In the North, as the temperature declines, many large dogs are kept in the garage where they have free access to many potentially harmful substances. If you think your pet has consumed a poisonous substance check with your veterinarian or the professionals at the Pet Poison Helpline™ before starting any therapy.



Chocolate: Tasty Valentine's Day candies, especially dark chocolate ones, generally spell trouble for dogs. Eating more than a taste or two of chocolate often results in vomiting and diarrhea. Ingestion of large amounts causes more serious signs. Some dogs are so greedy that they eat an entire box of candy, wrappers and all. They may need to see their veterinarian, not only for treatment of chocolate toxicity, but because the wrappers are stuck somewhere in their stomach or intestines. (*Poster Chick Sangiovese –Am CH Gabe x Tilly*)

Ethanol: Dogs, cats, pocket pets and even birds seem to like the taste of alcohol. It is not hard to understand why when one considers that it is often masked in creamy eggnog, sweet orange juice, or other flavorful mixes. Pets often take the opportunity to drink a cocktail or two that is left where they can access it or they may be intentionally fed alcohol for the entertainment value.

Ethanol (ethyl alcohol) is rapidly absorbed into the blood stream. Generally, a pet will begin to show symptoms of intoxication within the first hour of ingestion. The primary physiological effect of alcohol is central nervous system depression. The result of this can range from mild inebriation to a full coma. Ethanol intoxication can cause severe gastro-intestinal irritation with electrolyte abnormalities and metabolic acidosis. Dangerous drops in blood glucose, blood pressure and body temperature as well as seizures can occur. Ultimately, a full shutdown of the respiratory center takes place resulting in death. Due to alcohol's rapid onset of effects, it is not recommended to

make your pet vomit at home. If you know that your pet has consumed an alcoholic beverage, he or she should immediately be seen by a veterinarian for supportive care. Intravenous fluids, warming measures, blood monitoring, and medications to protect the lining of the stomach will be utilized. Abnormal blood pressure, blood glucose levels, or electrolyte imbalances will be corrected. Your pet will be closely monitored for seizure activity and the proper anti-convulsants will be delivered as needed. Quick action is important. The prognosis for a full recovery will be excellent with prompt medical care.

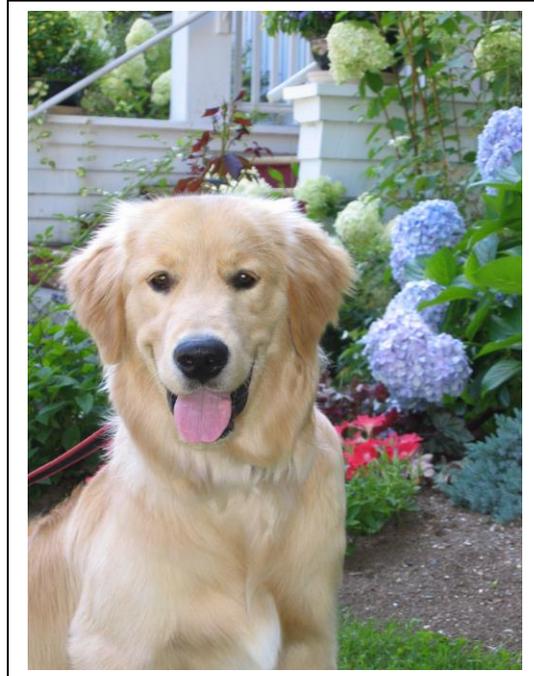
Ethylene Glycol: Antifreeze has a pleasant taste and smell which seems to attract dogs and cats. Sadly, even small amounts can be deadly. It takes less than a teaspoonful of antifreeze to kill a small cat. Spills from leaking automobile radiators should be cleaned up immediately and antifreeze stored in an area not accessible to pets. If you keep your dog in the garage or storeroom be sure to secure antifreeze in a locked cabinet. Pets ingesting antifreeze need to see their veterinarian immediately – don't wait for signs to develop or it may be too late.

Foods: Many foods eaten by human beings can spell trouble for pets. Party foods, especially chocolate, nuts, and alcoholic drinks, should be disposed of before pets have access to them. If your pet eats or drinks any of the products listed below contact your veterinarian or the Pet Poison Helpline™ for advice:
Alcoholic drinks

Chocolate – especially dark chocolate
Coffee – including coffee grounds and espresso beans
Grapes and raisins
Macadamia Nuts
Moldy or spoiled foods
Onions, onion powder
Salt
Xylitol containing products
Yeast dough

Hops: People making beer from kits they received for Christmas need to be alert to the danger of hops. Spent hops plugs are far more dangerous than hops pellets. Some breeds of dogs, in particular Greyhounds and other sight breeds, can develop a condition known as malignant hyperthermia. Signs include an elevated body temperature, increase in rate, and elevation in muscle enzymes. If you make and own a dog with this breeding, be alert to the presence of these signs. Should they occur take your animal to your veterinarian immediately.

(Remy's Hydrangea's – Can CH Higgins x Blossom, JH, owned by veterinarian Dr. Kate Domenico, Saugus, MA)



heart
beer

Liquid Potpourri: Simmering pots of liquid potpourri are attractive to cats. Cats are exposed by licking liquid directly from the pot or from spills from an open container. Sometimes they rub against the pot, knock it over and walk through it. Grooming the liquid from their feet and hair coat often results in exposure. Depending on the ingredients, cats may develop serious oral and gastrointestinal lesions, skin sores, and ocular burns.

Medications: All medicines, both over the counter and prescription, should be kept locked or closed away from pets. Even small amounts can be deadly. Remember that the average cat is no bigger than many new born babies! Pets should not be deliberately treated with human medications as several “safe” human medications are very harmful to pets. This includes many of the over the counter pain medications, in particular aspirin, acetaminophen, ibuprofen, and naproxen.

Snow and Ice Melt Products: Products designed to melt snow and ice are usually irritating to the skin. Pellets often become stuck between the toe pads and dogs chew on their feet to remove them. If ingested, drooling, vomiting and diarrhea frequently occur.

SPRING

Garden Fertilizer: There are hundreds of varieties of garden fertilizers on the market. While most of them are not harmful to our pets, some contain iron, insecticides, or other compounds that can be quite dangerous. These compounds will be listed on the product label so it is a good idea to have that close by when calling for assistance.

Cocoa Bean Mulch: The rich chocolate smell of freshly applied cocoa bean mulch is enough to entice many dogs. Sadly, eating large amounts of this product can result in signs of chocolate poisoning in many dogs. It is best to use this product in moderation and keep dogs and other pets away from it.

Snail Baits: There are many non-toxic methods to deter pests in the garden or the lawn, however, a large number of commercial garden molluscicides and insecticides do contain ingredients highly toxic to domestic animals. A particular ingredient, metaldehyde, causes life threatening convulsions and seizures when eaten in even small quantities. Please read the ingredients and keep them far away from your pets.



Tulips: These beautiful flowers can be irritating to the skin and gastrointestinal tract. Life-threatening toxicity is not likely, but medications may need to be administered to calm a queasy stomach. Be sure to keep the bulbs away from pets as they have the potential for more serious toxicity.

Grass Seeds: Tiny grass seeds, even if they are treated with fungicides, are rarely considered toxic. Real danger can present, however, if a dog eats large quantities of the seeds which can clump up in the stomach resulting in gastric obstruction. This may result in a trip to your veterinarian and surgery to remove the foreign body. Care needs to be taken as well to

keep these tiny seeds out of our pet's eyes, ears, nose, and footpads. (*Bella's 1st Easter – Can CH Higgins x Blossom, JH*)

SUMMER

As the calendar moves towards summer, pets are often left in the yard for longer periods of time. This allows a curious puppy or enthusiastic dog to become exposed to many harmful substances. Outside pets should be confined to a safe area or supervised at all times. Bottle, bags, and other containers should be tightly closed and locked away in the garage or basement.

Heat and humidity: While not poisonous substances, heat and humidity from summer weather can be deadly to pets. Most pets don't perspire like humans, but use their lungs to get rid of excess heat. As the ambient temperature and humidity rise, their ability to cool in this manner fails and they suffer from heat stroke. Common signs of heat stroke include rapid heart rate, heavy and noisy breathing, dazed appearance, glazed eyes, drooling or vomiting, and collapse. If your pet shows any of these signs bathe him with cool, not cold, water and seek immediate veterinary care.

Pets should not be left in a car on a hot day or allowed to ride in the back of open trucks. Pets left in cars quickly develop heatstroke as the temperature inside the car reaches 160° in just a few minutes. Dogs riding in the back of open trucks can suffer from heatstroke as well as sunburn or thermal burns from the truck's hot metal areas. Rocks, dirt, and other pieces of flying debris can injure the dog's eyes and face.

Flea and tick products: Take the time read the product label before applying topical flea and tick products to pets, especially cats. There are a number of "on" products on the market labeled "for in dogs only". While safe when used according to package directions, inappropriate use of these products on can result in illness and death. Consult your veterinarian before using flea and product on very young or old pets, pregnant or nursing pets, or those with a chronic illness.



to

"spot
use

cats
with
tick

(Beach Buddies: Alec chases Caleb)

Mushrooms: It is wise to keep mushrooms out of the pet's yard and play area. Many mushrooms are not harmful, but there are a few that are deadly and it is very, very difficult to tell them apart. If your pet eats any portion of a mushroom, contact your veterinarian or the Pet Poison Helpline immediately. An entire mushroom or at least a good portion of it should be placed in a labeled brown bag and refrigerated for later identification by a trained mycologist. Signs are not specific and may not develop for hours to days.

Firecrackers: Many pets are frightened by the noise from fireworks and should be kept in a safe, quiet environment when fireworks are used. Some pets, however, seem to enjoy the commotion and physically chase or chew on fireworks. Depending on the product, this can result in thermal or chemical burns to the paws, mouth, face, and gastrointestinal tract or other problems such as bone marrow depression and kidney failure.



Plants: Many pets chew on plants in the yard and garden. Fortunately for dogs, who seem to enjoy eating grass and then vomiting, most grasses are non-toxic. Holiday ornamental plants such as poinsettias and Easter lily are often put outside for the summer. Ingestion of poinsettia stems and leaves may cause some mild gastrointestinal irritation and vomiting but is not deadly. Ingestion of all parts of the Easter lily causes depression, vomiting and diarrhea in cats. Left untreated most cats die of kidney failure. Tulips (bulbs), Lily of the valley, oleander, kalanchoe, and azaleas are spring and summer plants that can be deadly to pets if ingested in large enough quantities. Dogs should be watched carefully when these plants are being cared for.

(Sangiovese's 1st Halloween, Am CH Gabe x Tilly)

Rodenticides: Summer is the time when pets dig up or discover long forgotten rodenticides brought to the surface by melting snow or spring rains. Whatever the case, once found they are harmful to pets. Several different types of rodenticides are found on the market, but those containing strychnine and zinc phosphide are the most deadly. Generally these products have been placed below ground to kill

gophers or moles and are found by dogs that dig up or forage under buildings. Ingestion of these products is a life threatening emergency. There are a number of products designed to kill rats and mice in and around your house and garage. As a rule, this type of product contains an anticoagulant and can be deadly if not treated appropriately. Fortunately, an antidote is available for ingestion of anticoagulant products.

Fertilizers, Herbicides and Fungicides: The most commonly used lawn care products are fertilizers, herbicides and fungicides. When applied according to package instructions, or by a qualified lawn care service, most of these products are not harmful. Pets are primarily poisoned by contact with concentrated products. This may occur from inappropriate storage, failure to read package instructions, or by intentionally using more product than needed. Dogs are especially good at finding poorly stored containers, chewing them up, and eating or drinking the contents. Ingestion of large amounts of fertilizers usually causes moderate to severe gastric upset and in some cases, gastrointestinal obstruction. A few fertilizers contain heavy metals such as iron which can result in serious poisonings if enough is ingested. Make sure your pets do not go on lawns or in gardens treated with fertilizers, herbicides or fungicides until the time listed on the label by the manufacturer. If you are uncertain about the usage of any product, contact the manufacturer for clarification before using it. Always store pesticides, fertilizers and herbicides in areas that are inaccessible to your pets, and be sure to read the label carefully for proper usage and storage instructions.

Insecticides, pesticides and snail & slug killers: Pet owners should be especially vigilant when using these products as they have a higher degree of toxicity. Dogs may be exposed by digging up treated earth, chewing on pellets, or rooting around ant mounds shortly after insecticides are applied. Snail bait containing

metaldehyde should be used with extra caution around pets; methomyl containing fly baits and disulfoton or disyston containing insecticides also require special attention. Pets ingesting any of these products should be seen immediately by their veterinarian.

Grass Seed and Mulches: Most grass seed and mulch products are generally not associated with toxic problems in pets. Cocoa bean mulch is perhaps the only mulch type product currently known to cause poisoning in dogs. This mulch is made from the hulls of cocoa beans and - when fresh - has a rich, chocolate aroma associated with it. Some larger breed dogs have actually eaten several pounds of the mulch, more than enough to develop poisoning associated with the chocolate remnants. Signs include vomiting and diarrhea along with muscle tremors and seizures. These over eager dogs should be kept away from the mulch until the aroma has dissipated. Generally a heavy rainfall or thorough watering is all that is required.

FALL

As the seasons change from summer to fall, so do the substances that are harmful or poisonous to pets. Sunscreen and insect repellents are replaced by rodenticides, ethylene glycol (antifreeze), and yard products such as arsenate containing herbicides and iron based fertilizers. School supplies often become tasty objects



to unsupervised pets. Halloween brings a special problem with chocolate candy, candy wrappers and sticks, and glow jewelry or sticks.

The onset of cool weather: Even as early as late August, the onset of cool weather sends rodents scurrying into the warmth of our houses. The rodenticides used to control them are almost always harmful to pets. The most common rodenticides are long acting anticoagulant products that work by preventing the pet's blood from clotting. Most of these products are packaged and sold as tray or boxes of blue green pellets, although a few are sold as red or blue green waxy blocks. Less commonly used rodenticides are cholecalciferol and bromethalin based. Cholecalciferol products cause calcium in the pet's blood to rise to very high levels and

bromethalin affects the nervous system. If you suspect that your pet has ingested any amount of these rodenticides contact your veterinarian or the Pet Poison Helpline.

(Jake's first Halloween (Am CH Gabe x Tilly))

Ethylene glycol or antifreeze: This liquid is very sweet tasting and pets often lick up spills on the pavement or drink from open or tipped over containers. The potential for harm is greatest in the fall when people begin to service their cars for winter. Even small amounts are deadly and early treatment is necessary for pets to survive ingestions of antifreeze. It is vitally important that your pet see their veterinarian immediately if you suspect it has ingested any amount of antifreeze.

Fertilizers and herbicides: These products are generally not a problem once they are applied to the grass. Pets licking up concentrated spills or chewing on bags of the product, however, may become ill in a short period of time. Signs vary from mild vomiting and diarrhea to neurological signs.

School supplies: Supplies such as pens and pencils, non toxic glue, felt tip markers, and erasers are not necessarily poisonous. They can, however, become stuck or lodged anywhere in a pet's stomach or intestines if they are chewed up and swallowed. Surgery to remove the foreign objects is often the only therapy.



Halloween: This time of year is an especially trying time for pets. Tasty candies, especially chocolate ones, generally spell trouble for them. Eating more than a taste or two of chocolate often results in vomiting and diarrhea. Ingestion of large amounts causes more serious signs. Some dogs are so greedy that they will eat an entire trick or treat bag full of candy - sticks, wrappers, and all. They may need to see their veterinarian, not only for treatment of chocolate toxicity, but because the sticks or wrappers are stuck somewhere in their stomachs or intestines.

Glow sticks and jewelry: These items have become popular at fall festivals and Halloween,

especially in decorations and costumes. The products cause only mild irritation to the mouth if a pet tastes or swallows the liquid. More important, however, is the risk of an obstruction if an entire stick or necklace is chewed and swallowed. (*Sangiovese's 2nd Halloween (Am CH Gabe x Tilly)*)

If you suspect your pet has ingested any of these items or any other questionable substance, call your veterinarian or the Pet Poison Helpline for assistance. Accurate and timely identification of the suspected substance is truly important. Having the container, package, or label in hand will save valuable time and may save the life of your pet.

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Am CH Goldiva's Love on the Wild Side "Sookie"

POISONOUS PLANTS

The following plants are considered TOXIC (poisonous, possibly dangerous). These plants contain a wide variety of poisons and symptoms may vary from mild to fatal. Contact the local Poison Center for more specific information on these or other plants that may not be on this list. Many other plants not listed here will cause Dermatitis (skin rash). Exercise caution when using these plants around children and pets! NOTE: Plants marked in bold are known to have caused human fatalities.
ANNUALS, PERENNIALS, GROUNDCOVERS, & VINES

Botanical Name	Common Name	Toxic Parts
Aconitum	Monkshood	all parts
Anemone	Windflower	all parts
Arisaema	Jack in the Pulpit	all parts
Clematis	Clematis	all parts
Convallaria	Lily of the Valley	all parts
Datura	Jimsonweed	all parts
Delphinium x belladonna	Larkspur	all parts
Dicentra	Bleeding Heart	leaves, roots
Dictamnus	Gas Plant	all parts
Digitalis	Foxglove	leaves
Echium	Blueweed	leaves, stem
Euphorbia	Spurge	all parts
Gloriosa	Gloriosa Lily	all parts
Hedera helix	English Ivy	all parts
Helemium	Sneezeweed	all parts
Helleborus	Hellebore	all parts
Iris	Iris	roots, leaves
Lantana camara	Lantana	seeds, unripe fruit
Lathyrus Perennial	Sweet pea	seeds
Lobelia	Cardinal Flower	all parts
Lupinus	Lupine	all parts
Nicotiana	Nicotiana	all parts
Papaver	Poppy	all parts
Parthenocissus	Virginia Creeper	berries
Parthenocissus	Boston Ivy	all parts
Peyote	Mescal	all parts
Phoradendron	Mistletoe	all parts
Primula	Primrose	leaves, stems
Pheum	Rhubarb	leaves
Rudbeckia	Coneflower	all parts
Solanum	Nightshade	berries
Toxicodendron spp.	Poison Hemlock Poison Ivy	all parts
Wisteria	Wisteria	seeds
	WOODY PLANTS	
Aesculus spp.	Buckeye, Horse Chestnut	nuts, leaves, twigs
Azalea, Rhodeodendron	Azalea, Rhododendron	seeds, leaves, flower
Clycanthus spp.	Carolina allspice	sap
Hydrangea macrophylla	Hydrangea	flower bud
Ilex spp.	Holly, American Holly, English Holly	Fruit
Kalmia	Mountain Laurel	leaves, nectar
Laburnum	Goldenchain Tree	seeds

Goldiva Goldens, www.k9goldens.com

Ligustrum vulgare	Privet	all parts
Prunus spp.	Apricot, Cherry, choke cherry, Peach, Plum	Kernel in the pit
Sambucus	Elderberry	all parts
Taxus	Yew	all parts
Wisteria spp.	Wisteria	all parts
BULBS		
Amaryllis	Amaryllis	bulb
Caladium	Caladium	all parts
Colchium	Autumn Crocus	all parts
Crocus	Crocus	all parts
Galanthus	Snowdrops	all parts
Hyacinthus	Hyacinth	bulb
Narcissus	Daffodil	all parts
Ranunculus	Buttercup	all parts
Scilla	Bluebell	all parts
Tulipa	Tulip	bulb
HOUSE PLANTS		
Aloe	Aloe	sap
Anthurium	Flamingo Flower	all parts
Areca catheau	Betal Palm	seeds
Caesalpinia	Bird of Paradise	seeds, pod
Cycas	False Sago Palm	seeds
Diffenbachia	Dumb Cane	all parts
Epipremnum	Pothos	all parts
Iuphorbia	Crown of Thorns	sap
Lantana camara	Lantana	green berries
Nerium	Oleander	all parts
Poinsettia	Poinsettia	leaves
Philodendron	Philodendron	leaves, stem
Ricinus communis	Castor Bean	seeds, leaves
Solanum spp.	Jerusalem Cherry	all parts
Zantendschia aethiopica	Calla Lily	leaves, roots

Additional info: <http://home.sprynet.com/~rmatty/poison.htm>



A PetPartners, Inc. Publication

• **Emergency Care Tips For Your Pet**

This is not intended as a substitute for expert veterinary care. Ask your own veterinarian clinic if they hold pet first-aid classes for owners. Many are now doing this, sometimes in partnership with other clinics in their area.

Heat Stroke, Hyperthermia

Pets cannot tolerate high temperatures as well as people can and they rely on rapid breathing to exchange hot air for cool air. Pets' temperatures are higher than ours -- a dog and cat have an average temperature of 101.5 degrees Fahrenheit.

Common situations and features that can predispose a pet to overheating:

1. Being left in a car in warm weather, even if the windows are left slightly open.
2. Having a muzzle on while a pet is being groomed, and/or leaving the muzzle on while a pet is put in a drying cage.
3. Short-nosed breeds such as pugs, bulldogs, boxers and Persian cats.
4. Any pet with an airway disease.
5. Being confined outside without shade or an adequate supply of fresh water.

Suggested treatment when this condition occurs:

1. Mild Hyperthermia can sometimes be treated by simply removing a pet from the situation and/or environment where overheating has occurred, and placing it in a cool place in the shade or in an air-conditioned room.
2. If a pet is unsteady on its feet and you have moved it to a cooler location, you can start cooling it by placing cool water on the feet. Rubbing alcohol on the skin of your pet's stomach (with a fan blowing on the pet) can also aid in cooling.
3. While these steps are in progress, have someone call your veterinarian so that they can determine if you should bring your pet in for treatment.

Note: it is very dangerous to cool an overheated pet too quickly. Never put a pet in an ice bath, or use ice cold water, unless under the direct supervision of your veterinarian. Cool water is best.

The most common sign of hyperthermia is restlessness and agitation, with vigorous panting. A pet's saliva may be thick, and the gums and tongue may be bright red. Depending on the severity of the hyperthermia, the gums can also be very pale and a pet may be lying down with its head, neck, and limbs extended and thick saliva coming from the mouth and nose.

Always call your veterinarian, even if the pet appears to have recovered from hyperthermia, after you have administered any of the treatments above. Your veterinarian may not want to see your pet if it has recovered, but it is always best for them to determine whether or not your pet needs to be examined.

Choking

Choking is caused by a foreign object being lodged in the pet's airway and adding pressure to the trachea or windpipe. To avoid a choking incident, always provide your pet with toys that are the appropriate size. Toys that are too small (relative to your pet's size) can be easily swallowed and become wedged in your pet's airway.

It's important to provide supervision when an edible treat is being chewed. Some treats that dogs enjoy, such as rawhide, cow hooves, and pig ears, can break off in pieces and may not be small enough for your pet to swallow completely.

Always remove strings, foil, and feathers from cat toys -- these items can be enjoyable to your cat but may potentially become caught in its throat or intestinal tract.

Indications of choking:

1. Noisy and labored breathing sounds – your pet will have difficulty inhaling
2. Pawing at the nose and mouth
3. Gums may be white or blue
4. Excessive drooling
5. Unconsciousness

Determine if your pet's airway is able to be cleared by performing a finger swipe of the mouth -- this is accomplished by placing your finger on the side of the pet's mouth and sliding it down and toward the center of the throat. If no foreign object or substance is removed and your pet is still having breathing difficulties, contact your veterinarian for immediate instructions and care. Do not try and perform CPR or the Heimlich method unless instructed by your veterinarian.

Bleeding

A physical trauma can cause pets to suffer blood loss. Regardless of what caused the trauma to your pet, immediate attention to blood loss is required.

Pressure:

Apply gentle pressure to the bleeding; do not remove a cloth or bandage even if it becomes saturated, simply apply additional layers. The bandage can be held in place by bandage material if you need to free your hands. Elevation can be used to aid in stopping the bleeding, but try to continue applying direct pressure to the wound. Try to keep your pet calm, and contact your veterinarian immediately, or if the situation warrants it, begin transporting your pet to the veterinarian while controlling the bleeding.

Tourniquet:

The use of tourniquets can be dangerous and cause damage to the limb if applied incorrectly. A tourniquet should only be used if the pet is experiencing a life threatening situation, due to the amount of blood loss that is occurring from a limb or tail.

How to Move and Transport an Injured Pet

An injured pet is unpredictable, regardless of its personality. When pets are in pain, they react instinctively and unpredictably and cannot be held responsible for their actions.

Always take precautions to protect yourself, and your pet, from further injury when transporting to the veterinarian. An emergency muzzle' can be made from a neck tie, silk stocking, a section of linen fabric, or other strong material. Using the middle of the material, make a loop and place it around your pet's muzzle. Bring the ends under the chin and tie snugly around the back of the head under the ears.

If your pet is unable to walk, or you have determined that walking may cause further injury or damage, a blanket can be used as a transport device. Gently lift the pet onto the blanket, and grip the edges of the blanket to lift and place the pet in the vehicle. Covering your pet is important to prevent heat loss and can create a calming effect.

Smaller pets can be transported in a carrier or a box (with holes large enough for air to allow for adequate breathing) with a lid. Try to minimize the amount of movement, and make your pet as comfortable as possible. Always try to contact your veterinarian, in advance, to share as many details as possible, and the estimated time that you will arrive at the clinic.

Snake Bites

The first thing you must do if you think your pet has been bitten by a snake is to stay calm. Do not add any additional excitement to the situation. Your pet will need to be examined to determine if and where the snake bite occurred, and there may be more than one location, so examine carefully. A constrictive bandage can be placed on the limb involved, above the bite. A bandage will need to fit firmly on the leg, but not too tightly.

If possible, try to identify the snake – you should attempt to determine the size, color, the shape of the head, and if there was a rattle at the end of the snake's tail. Do not risk injury to yourself in attempting to get this information.

Carry the pet to the vehicle or, if too large to carry, walk it slowly to your vehicle and go to the nearest veterinary hospital. (This may not be the hospital that you regularly use, but immediate care is required for a snake bite.) In the meantime, keep your pet as calm as possible.

Contact your veterinarian if you think a snake bite may have occurred, but you are unable to find the fang marks. Your veterinarian may want to examine your pet to insure a bite mark was not accidentally overlooked.

Spider Bites

Veterinary treatment is required for any spider bite. Unfortunately, you will probably not know when your pet has received a spider bite. Spider bites can be painless when they occur. What you may see is a patch of skin where the hair has thinned; there may be a single hole visible, with skin discoloration around the hole. The skin may be a dark purple or black in color.

There might be lameness in the limb other than where the bite occurred, as well as fever and chills. Spider bites can be life threatening to you and your pets.

5 Important Reasons to Clean up Pet Waste

Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff



Dealing with pet waste is one of those topics that every pet owner must deal with but no one likes to talk about. The fact is that the majority of community and neighborhood pet problems result from the inappropriate handling of pet waste. In addition, pet waste is the greatest source of potential health risk for your pet and your family. This article will highlight the five most important reasons to properly dispose of pet waste and will also give you some tips and products to make this chore easier.

(Piper, photo by Marti Stone Photography)

1. Disease Control

There are several very common diseases that can be transmitted to dogs, cats and people through feces. These include Giardia, roundworms, hookworms, Salmonella, and E.coli. Did you know a heavily infected puppy can pass over a million roundworm eggs everyday? In addition, your dog can spread or contract parvovirus or coronavirus through infected feces. All of these diseases are very serious and common and every

effort should be made by pet owners to keep their pets and family away from potentially infected feces. One of the easiest ways to do this is to install an in-ground stool digester like the [Doggie Dooley](#). These digesters work like mini septic systems, safely breaking down feces and then allowing the residue to harmlessly sink into the surrounding soil. These handy little gadgets are one of the best ways to deal with dog or cat waste.

2. Make your Yard more Useable

Nobody likes to walk through a yard that is hiding "doggie land mines." If you and your children are afraid to use your yard because of the dog, then you are wasting one of your biggest time and financial investments. In addition, the pets will get less interactive exercise and suffer as well. Once or twice a day 'scooping' off your yard with a shovel or [Grabber](#) pet waste shovel will only take a couple of minutes and make it a place where everyone enjoys spending time.

3. Fly Control

Flies will consume and lay eggs in feces. These same flies will then come into your house and then spread disease as they pause on your counter and food. Need we say more about keeping feces cleaned up to prevent this cycle?

4. Responsible Pet Ownership

Your responsibility to clean up after your pet doesn't end when your dog leaves your yard. There are probably fewer things that aggravate neighbors more than a dog that 'goes' in their yard. Pet owners need to clean up after their pet every time they go to the bathroom. Period. No exceptions. If you are walking in the woods and your dog goes, then bury it. If you are in a park or neighborhood, pick it up with a plastic bag or a [Dispoz-a-Scoop](#). If you don't have a yard, then walk your dog on a leash or get an electronic fence. Don't make your responsibility somebody else's problem.

5. Preventing Stool Eating

While most dog owners think this doesn't apply to them or their dog, the shocking truth is that most dogs will engage in this unsavory practice at some point in their life. Dogs evolved as carnivore/scavengers and feces were considered fair game in lean times. To prevent this occasional indiscretion from becoming a life-long habit, clean up feces as soon as possible, especially in young dogs where the problem is most prevalent. At the first sign of this bad habit consider adding an oral product like [Dis-Taste®](#) to your dog's food to decrease the palatability of the stools.

Diseases that can be Spread Through Feces

Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff

Dogs smell it, roll in it, walk in it, even ingest it. And, oftentimes, pick up serious diseases from it. Animal feces are one of the most common sources of the following diseases:

Parvovirus is one of the deadliest diseases in the dog population, particularly among puppies. Gaining entry through the mouth, the virus attacks the digestive tract and kills cells that are critical in the absorption of nutrients. Severe fluid loss through diarrhea and vomiting can lead to death. Parvo also temporarily affects a dog's immune system and can lead to heart failure in some young dogs.

Whipworms are blood suckers, tunneling into the wall of the intestine for their blood meals. Vomiting, diarrhea, and weight loss are common symptoms, and in large numbers, these parasites can cause anemia. Difficult to diagnose, they are even harder to eliminate because they are often present in very large numbers.

Hookworms are blood suckers attaching to the intestinal wall where they suck plugs of the intestinal tissue into their mouth structures. Anemia and/or intense inflammation can result. Hookworm infections can be passed to humans.

Roundworms (ascarids) can affect the lungs and the digestive system, with typical signs being vomiting and diarrhea. Convulsions can occur with heavy infections and the disease can spread to humans.

Giardia are one-celled parasites that can cause diarrhea in dogs and cats. Infection with Giardia is often difficult to diagnose and treat effectively.

Coccidia are also one-celled parasites that can cause diarrhea, especially in puppies & kittens.

The best way to prevent these, and the many bacterial infections dogs can acquire from stools, is to remove feces at least weekly (more often if possible) and keep current on your vaccinations, fecal examinations and [deworming](#). Also pick up waste before a rain which breaks up or scatters the feces and allows the worms or germs to spread into the environment.



Randy Brown's mud pups

Why Do Dogs Eat Feces?

Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff



Some dogs, especially those in kennel situations, may eat feces because they are anxious or stressed.

One researcher suggests that dogs who have been punished by their owners for defecating inappropriately start to think any defecation is wrong, so they try to eliminate the evidence.

Another theory is that coprophagy (stool eating) is a trait passed down through the ages. Dogs' cousins, wolves and coyotes, may often eat feces if food is in short supply. Feces from herbivores (plant eaters) contain many vital B vitamins. Some researchers suggest that wolves (and some dogs) may eat feces to replenish their vitamin supply.

Dogs who eat their feces usually do not have a dietary deficiency. Some medical problems, however, can contribute to coprophagy including severe disorders of the pancreas (pancreatic insufficiency) or intestine, severe malnutrition from massive parasitic infestations, or starvation. These cases are rare.

In some instances, coprophagy may be a behavior learned from watching other animals. It may also become a habit in the course of play and puppies having to try out the taste of everything.



Goldiva's Bubble Pop Electric "Gwen" proudly carrying a frozen poopsickle
By Julie Bishop Photography

Stool Eating: How Can I Break My Dog From This Nasty Habit?

Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff



Any owner who catches their dog eating stool is sure to be disgusted at least, wondering what could bring their family pet to resort to such a nasty habit. Yes, it's gross to humans. No, it doesn't mean your dog is abnormal.

Although there are many theories why dogs sometimes eat their own stool or that of other animals, what's important is how you can help break your dog from this unappealing and potentially unhealthy habit. Start early - as a pup - since feces is a source of germs and parasites, and dogs not curbed of this habit as a puppy will have a harder time stopping later in life.

If Your Dog Eats His Own Stool. . .

If your pet is not being fed a quality dog food, increase the quality and quantity of the dog food you feed your dog. Store-bought foods are not digested as fully, and food that passes through the digestive system only to remain in the feces may actually make the stool taste appealing. For pets already on a high quality food, divide the daily intake into several smaller meals.

You can make stool taste repulsive to dogs using a vegetable-based chewable tablet like [Dis-Taste](#), or by sprinkling some [For-Bid](#) over his food bowl.

Keep your yard clean and feces free.

Keep your dog active, since some dogs have been known to eat droppings as a negative behavior associated with boredom. Give them stimulating toys and interact with them on a daily basis.

If your Dog Eats Other Dogs' Stool. . .

Always walk your dog on a collar and lead or leash. If you see your dog going for it, give them a firm "no" command and keep them walking.

If your Dog Eats From the Cat's Litter Box. . .

Sprinkle some [For-Bid](#) over your cat's food to make her stool less appealing to the family dog. Consider getting your cat a litter box with a built-in cover like the [Hooded Litter Pan](#) or [Catty Corner Litter Box](#) to limit your dog's access to the litter.

As vile as you may view this behavior, our veterinarians emphasize you should never punish your dog for stool eating. To curb the habit, try the recommendations listed above, and if your dog continues, consult with your veterinarian.

Solutions for Urine Burns on Lawns

Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff



If you have a dog and a lawn then you've probably experienced the unsightly yellow spots caused from urine killing the grass in your yard. These problems are more common in households with large female dogs with well-kept lawns. However, they can show up even in lawns where the weeds outnumber the grass.

There are lots of old "theories" circulating about just what in the urine causes the killing off of your prized Bermuda grass. The most common of these misguided opinions is that the urine is acidic and 'burns' the grass. As a result, a host of home remedies have arisen including adding baking soda, tomato juice, or Vitamin C to the diet. While these products rarely work, once in a while they do help because they make the dog thirstier and they then drink more water and dilute the urine. The real culprit in urine burns is nitrogen.

Because dogs are carnivores and eat a high level of protein in their diet, they break the protein down and excrete it as nitrogen in the urine. The result is a killing of the grass from an overload of nitrogen. You will get the same kind of burn if you put a concentrated handful of fertilizer in one spot. These urine burns will often have a characteristic green ring around the outside edge where the urine was dilute enough to actually work as a fertilizer. This characteristic ring can also help distinguish urine burns from a grub infestation that will also create similarly looking brown spots.

There are a few things that make urine burns more prevalent:

Urine burns tend to be worse with female dogs because they squat and deposit their urine in one place.

They also are worse in large dogs because they deposit a larger quantity of urine.

They are worse on yards that are already fertilized regularly.

Grasses like bluegrass or Bermuda grass are much more sensitive to nitrogen than rye or fescue.

Lawns that are stressed from drought or disease, or those that are recently sodded or seeded are more susceptible to lawn burn.

Home remedies that help some of the time include diluting the urine through increasing water consumption. Adding water to the food or adding non-salted broth to the drinking water may help. Canned food has a lot more water in it but it also has its drawbacks. Feeding a high quality diet may also help since the protein is more digestible and there are fewer waste products. Watering the yard daily helps in some cases but it may not be enough. Backing off the fertilizer on your yard may help as well. And finally, you might try planting some tougher species like rye or fescue.

We also have several oral products that you can add to your dog's diet. [Green-UM](#) is a natural blend of amino acids and herbs that binds up free nitrogen in the urine and neutralizes it. [G-Whiz](#) is a similar product that can be put directly in the dog's food or water. Our [Drs. Foster & Smith Lawn Guard Tablets or Treats®](#) contain *Yucca schidigera* which binds ammonia in the urine. [Green-UM Xtra](#) also contains helpful bacteria and green tea extracts that break down nitrogen wastes. All of these products work well when combined with some of the remedies listed above. Another product that works well is [Dogonit](#). This product is organic and is sprayed on the urine spot and will neutralize some of the nitrogen allowing new grass to grow back more quickly.

Fishing with Your Dog, Don't Let Him Get Hooked

By: PetPlace Veterinarians

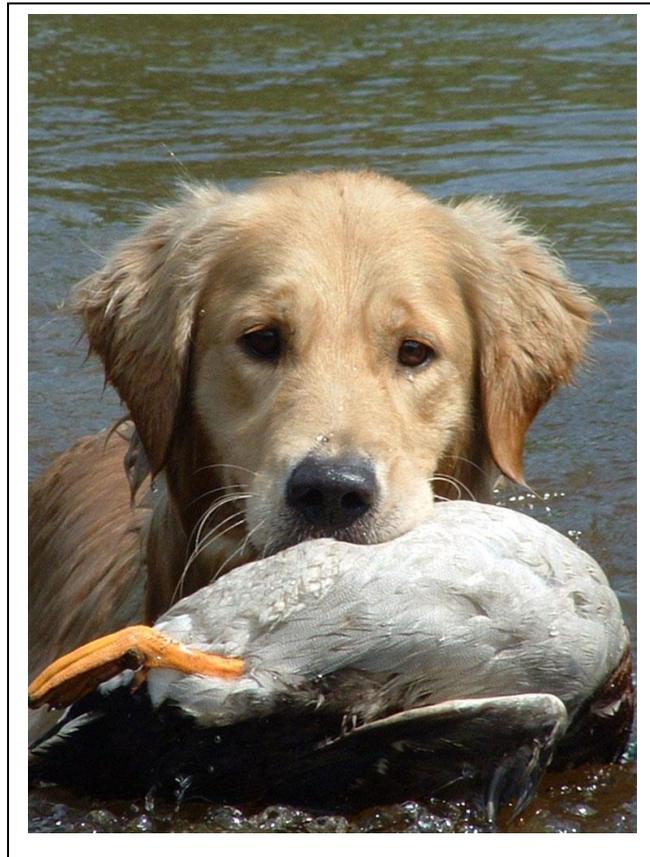


A treble hook can easily lodge itself in your dog's esophagus.

Don't Let Your Dog Get Hooked

Spring slowly turns into summer, bringing longer days and warm weather. During this time of year, you may want to grab your fishing gear and head for the peace and tranquility of nearby lakes or rivers. Frequently, you may want to take your pet with you, but unfortunately, fishing and pets don't always go hand in hand. If you like the company of your pet, take care to keep him safe, especially around the fishhooks. Fishhooks can be ingested, embedded in the lips and the face, as well as the legs and paws.

There are two main types of fishhooks, the treble hook and single hook. Treble hooks have three hooks attached together, while a single hook is just what the name implies; just one hook. To entice the fish, the hook is adorned with bait. However, this bait may also entice your pet, and hot dogs, worms and even stink bait are quite tasty to dogs and cats. Commercial lures also turn a fishhook into tempting playthings as they fly through the air or flicker through the water.



Signs

Usually you will see immediate signs that your pet has either ingested a fishhook or has one stuck in his skin. You might notice the following:

- Fishhook protruding from the skin or fishing line protruding from the mouth or anus
- Loss of appetite, painful mouth or excessive drooling

What You Should Do

If your pet has ingested a fishhook, transport him to your veterinarian immediately. Removing fishhooks can be risky, especially if stuck in the intestinal tract. DO NOT pull the fishing line in an attempt to pull the hook out of the throat. Just as in a fish, the hook will grab onto a piece of the stomach or esophagus and becoming imbedded, making surgery the only option for treatment. (*Goldiva's Splendor N Bloom, JH*)

If the hook is embedded in the skin outside the body (and not in the mouth), some pets may allow you to remove it. Try the following:

- Push the hook through the exit wound until the barb is visible, and remove the barb with a wire cutter. Pull the hook out backwards, the same way it went in.

Blossom, JH with mallard

- Place a clean dressing on the wound.
- Take your pet to your veterinarian.

Veterinary Care

Diagnosis

Fishhooks stuck in the skin can be seen readily without any tests. However, fishhooks that have been ingested require additional diagnostics.

Your veterinarian will most likely take an x-ray of your pet to help determine the location of the hook and help decide on the best way to remove the hook. Because hooks are made of metal, they are readily visible on radiographs (x-rays).

Treatment

Depending on the tolerance of the pet, placement of the hook and type of hook, sedation may be required, since removal of the hook can be painful.

- Hooks stuck in the skin, paw, lip or face: Most fishhooks have a barb at the tip, and cannot be removed by simply pulling it in the reverse direction. The hook must be driven through the skin until the barb is exposed on the other side. With single hooks, the eye of the hook may need to be removed with a wire cutting pliers or scissors, and then the tip is driven through the skin until the barb is exposed. At this point, the tip of the hook, including the barb, can be removed with the wire cutters and the rest of the hook backed out. Or, the rest of the hook can be pulled through until the hook is removed.

Treble hooks: A treble hook has three separate hooks attached together. Initially, any hooks that are not embedded are cut off. Then, each hook embedded in the skin is removed as with single hooks. Treble hook removal is more likely to require sedation since it requires more time and effort than single hooks.

- Hooks stuck in the gastrointestinal tract: (esophagus, stomach, and intestines): Removal of hooks in the gastrointestinal tract requires more extensive treatment. Fishhooks located in the esophagus and stomach can be removed by using an endoscope or may require surgery. The most difficult hook to remove is one lodged in the esophagus as a result of pulling on the fishing line in an attempt to remove it. Fishhooks can also be found in the intestinal tract. In some situations, surgery is not performed immediately; the hook may even pass on its own. However, if your pet begins vomiting, not eating or seems to have abdominal pain, immediate surgery is recommended.



Home Care

If your pet ingests a fishhook that is attached to a fishing line, DO NOT pull on the fishing line. Let the dog swallow the hook, then take your pet to the veterinarian. Gently hold the line to keep your pet from ingesting it. You can try tying the line to the collar unless your pet continues to chew.

You can try to remove the hook at home if it is stuck in the skin (as illustrated above). If your pet is not cooperative, do not force restraint. Have your veterinarian remove the hook.

Preventative Care

Keep all fishing equipment safely stored away. Do not allow your pet free access to hooks and bait. Be very careful when walking your pet around lakes or ponds where fishing is allowed.

Water Safety

Poisoning, Fishing & Swimming

By: PetPlace Staff



Dogs are susceptible to diseases and injuries from different bodies of water.

Poisoning, Fishing & Swimming

Water water everywhere, and not a drop to drink.

– Samuel Coleridge

Unlike the ancient mariner of Coleridge's famous poem, your dog may not see the ocean or any body of water as dangerous or undrinkable. And he doesn't realize the price he could pay from drinking or swimming in a body of stagnant water.

In the summer, water safety for your dog extends beyond the prevention of drowning accidents. Dogs are susceptible to diseases and injuries you may not have considered, even if they do not go into the water at all. You both can have a lot of fun, but you should be aware of the following potential dangers.

Always bring extra water and a bowl for your dog, so he won't be tempted to slake his thirst from a questionable water source.

Poisoning and Parasites

One danger is drinking from a body of water contaminated by parasites or bacteria, such as Giardia. Both are common in stagnant bodies of water, such as ponds, bogs and small lakes. You should be concerned if your dog shows the following symptoms after drinking from a stagnant water source:

- Diarrhea
- Vomiting
- Some weight loss, as a result of the diarrhea
- Excessive gas, caused by the parasite

A specific type of algae – called blue-green algae – is extremely dangerous to your pet. It is found primarily in stagnant water with the algae concentrated on the downwind side. Blue-green algae is mostly present in late summer/early fall, but it can occur any time conditions are ripe. Even a small amount ingested can kill your dog within an hour.

Then there's your pool. Blue, beautiful, without a trace of algae, so it must be safe, right? Think again. If he drinks from the pool, he's absorbing all that chlorine, algaecides and baking soda you dumped in to turn your pool from swamp green to sparkling blue. Too much can make him ill. For more information on pool-related hazards, see [Your Pet and Pool Safety](#).

At the beach, your dog may swallow too much saltwater while romping in the surf. Excessive saltwater can make him quite sick. Sea lice and jellyfish are other concerns to watch out for at the beach.

During summer the water warms up as well, spurring the growth of "sea lice," which are microscopic organisms that can cause severe itching. Warnings are usually posted when lice are present in great numbers. However, after swimming in the ocean, you and your dog should rinse thoroughly with fresh water immediately. If you see red bumps, and your dog is scratching furiously, take him to a veterinarian for

treatment.

Jellyfish can sting your pet, causing extreme pain and swelling. See a veterinarian as soon as possible if your pet has been stung.



Fishing

The scene of the faithful dog and owner, sitting together on a dock at sunrise, is something right out of a Norman Rockwell painting. For many, taking along the dog during a fishing trip is as close to nirvana as possible.

But this idyllic scene can come to an end with a common accident: swallowing the fishhook. There are two types of fishhooks – the treble and single. Treble hooks have three hooks attached together, while a single hook is just what the name implies; just one hook. Bait is placed on the hook to attract fish. Unfortunately, the bait may also attract your pet, especially if you use hot dogs, worms or (believe it or not) stink bait.

If your pet has ingested a fishhook, transport him to your veterinarian immediately. Removing fishhooks can be risky, especially if stuck in the intestinal tract. DO NOT pull the fishing line in an attempt to pull the hook out of the throat. Just as in a fish, the hook will grab onto a piece of the stomach or esophagus and become imbedded, making surgery the only option for treatment. See [Fishing With Your Dog](#)

Swimming

Your dog may be an excellent swimmer, but age, his physical condition, tides and other factors can make the exercise a delight or a danger. Never throw your dog into the pool, assuming he can swim. He could panic and drown before you have the chance to rescue him. If he falls in, he may not be able to climb out by himself, so you should observe pool safety as you would a child.

Swimming in lakes and ponds may not be a good idea for either one of you, unless your local municipality or state government has approved the area for general use. The body of water could contain harmful bacteria or algae. In addition, lakes and ponds may be deeper than they appear, and many have sudden drop-offs that could endanger the both of you.



In the ocean, and in larger bodies of water, be aware of rip currents and undercurrents. Both can carry your dog away from shore, in spite of his best efforts to swim. These currents can quickly tire him out. If you take your dog boating, always put a canine-approved life jacket on him, in case he falls out.

(Randy Brown & Rocket)

Your Pets and Pool Safety

By: Alex Lieber



Pool safety issues for pets are almost synonymous with those for children.

Pool Safety

On a blistering hot day, owning a pool definitely has its advantages as refuge from the heat. It also holds potential for a family tragedy all year round if you are not careful.

Pool safety issues for pets are almost synonymous with those for children, and they go far beyond just careful supervision. With pets and kids, you can never assume that can watch them all the time. It only takes a few minutes of distraction either one to fly out the door and the pool. In fact, one study showed in the case of children, supervision failed in 69 percent of the drowning incidents.

("Grady pup" from CH Striker x Can CH Kylee, JH)

With that said, pools can be great for your pet. Here are just a few of the issues you should consider:

- Although many dogs love the water, don't assume they can swim naturally. Never throw a dog into the pool; he may panic and not be able to climb the slick sides to get out of the pool.
- Even excellent swimmers will gradually lose their ability as they age and become weaker. In addition, senior dogs are more prone to slipping and falling into a pool.
- Heat and sunlight are more intense around a pool. Your dog cannot keep as cool as you, so watch for signs of overheating. Don't let your dog drink from the pool; the chlorine will make him sick.
- In the same vein, you should be aware that chlorinated water may irritate your dog's eyes. When the two of you are finished playing in the pool, hose your dog down with fresh water to get the chlorine out.

When designing safety measures, many people find it helpful to think of "layers of protection" to guard against the unforeseen. For instance, when you are away, what's to stop someone else's pet (or child, for that matter) from wandering into your backyard pool? The following are a few tips that can avert tragedy:

- Install a see-through pool fence or barrier. This is your first and best line of defense. There are many quality pool fences on the market. Once installed, keep it closed at all times, even if you leave the pool area to go inside for a few minutes. The fence should have a self-closing, self-locking gate.
- Keep doors to the pool securely closed. Many dogs and cats can nose open doors, so make sure there is no gap between the door jam or sliding glass door runner and the door itself.
- Purchase a floating pool alarm device. These float in your pool and go off if the surface of the pool is disturbed. You should have it designed so the alarm sounds both outside and inside your home. Infrared beams can also alert you to danger.



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For your health and the health of your pet, make sure your pool's chemical balance is correct. As any pool owner knows, it takes very little to throw your pool out of balance; your pet can get sick if he drinks or is exposed to the green algae that inevitably invades your pool now and again.



A Note About Beach Safety

If you take your dog to the beach, watch for signs of overheating and sun exposure carefully; the sand gets very hot, the sun is more intense and dogs perspire through the pads on their feet.

During summer the water warms up as well, spurring the growth of "sea lice," which are microscopic organisms that can cause severe itching. Warnings are usually posted when lice are present in great numbers. However, after swimming in the ocean, you and your dog should rinse thoroughly with fresh water immediately. If you see red bumps and your dog is scratching furiously, take him to a veterinarian for treatment. (Jane with Gus out of Am CH Gabe x Molly)



"Alec's Beach Day" CH Striker x Lady

Sea Dogs: The Best Boat Breeds

By: Alex Lieber



Before boarding your dog, be sure you have the proper safety devices, including a doggie flotation device.

Boating with Your Dog

In sailor slang, a salty dog is a person with years of experience and proven seamanship skills. Now, a salty dog can refer to a canine with a sixth sense of the sea.

The times, they are a-changing. Dogs are more welcome on boats than ever before. Some boat shows even feature dog competitions to see which pooch shows the best form. The annual Seattle Boat Show, for instance, puts dogs through the paces to see who wins the title “Super Boat Dog.”

These competitions test crucial water skills: fetching a personal flotation device from a jumbled stack of boating equipment; swimming out to dinghies and dragging them back to a boat; and hauling a bucket of nautical supplies to the owner. (Some dogs were also trained to bring a beer to the owner and their spouse across a heaving boat, without spilling a drop.)

But which breeds are the best for boats? Naturally, breeds specifically bred for the water work best. These breeds are generally medium-sized, have water-resistant coats and webbing between their toes. Breeds such as these include [Labrador](#) and [Golden Retrievers](#). These dogs are excellent swimmers, having been bred to retrieve prey from the water.

[Newfoundlands](#) are also great water dogs. They often accompany fishermen and are very popular with search and rescue teams. They have shown extraordinary courage during trying times. And, of course, there is the famous [Portuguese Water Dog](#). For centuries, this dog was a constant companion of Portuguese fishermen. Very athletic and active, the dog is definitely designed for the outdoor-type. In fact, the Portuguese Navy routinely employs the breed on its ships.

(Randy Brown's pups front cover of the Golden Retriever Club of America, July/August 2006)



See Spot Swim

Don't discount the traditional "landlubber" breeds; many individual dogs are intrepid enough to learn the ways of the sea. There are some things to consider, however, before you bring any dog out on the boat:

- Make sure you have the proper safety devices, including a doggie flotation device. Even if your dog is an excellent swimmer, he can get tired quickly, or might suffer an injury falling overboard. There are many excellent safety vests designed just for dogs. The vest should be comfortable for him, and made in a bright, easy-to-see color.



It is very important that your dog is comfortable in the vest, so be sure to try it on before taking him out on the boat. If he struggles or tries to chew his way out of a vest, select another type. Your dog should float in a horizontal position, and there should be handles in the middle of the back to make picking your dog out of the water easier.

- All dogs need time to get their sea legs. Even water-bred dogs need time to adjust to a rolling and pitching deck. They can also get seasick, like any

person.

- The sun and the heat can be more intense on the open water. Dogs get overheated more quickly than people, and on the water this is especially true. If it is a particularly hot day, consider leaving him home, or make provisions to cool him off periodically. Dogs can also get sunburned. To learn how to prevent heatstroke or sunburns, see [Keeping Your Dog Cool in the Summer](#).
- Dogs with short legs, like dachshunds, or those with low body fat, such as Dobermans and boxers, will have trouble swimming. Also keep in mind the age of your dog; older dogs will tire more easily.

Always keep food and fresh water for your dog on the boat, and don't forget that a dog needs the opportunity to relieve himself. One last point: it is a good idea to practice dog drills to familiarize your canine and your human shipmates on what to do in an emergency.

(Jim and "Moses" Can Boomer x Amber)



CH

Dock Diving with Maggie
(Can CH Vegas x Piper)

Ms.

The History and AKC Standard of the Golden Retriever

College Essay by Lauren Vessey Faulhaber



Golden Retrievers are one of the most popular breeds of dog in the country, with nearly 70,000 registered with the AKC (American Kennel Club) each year. In fact, there are more Goldens alive today than there were registered with the AKC from 1925 to 1980. Unfortunately, many of these dogs lack the qualities that make the Golden Retriever such a desirable breed. It is for this reason that only the best Goldens should be carefully bred.

(Am/Can CH Nautilus Goldiva's Good N Plenty "Striker")

The Golden Retriever originated in Scotland during the mid-19th century. In

the early 1800s game was plentiful in Scotland and England, and hunting was both a sport and a practical way of obtaining food. Retrievers came into status because of the desire for a medium-sized dog that would do well in wild-fowling, both upland game and waterfowl. The development of the Golden Retriever came about during the 19th century at the Guisachan estate of Lord Tweedmouth at Inverness-Shire. Lord Tweedmouth bought his first Yellow Retriever, the only one from a litter of all black pups, in the mid-19th century.

The location of Tweedmouth's estate on the Tweed River had a direct bearing on the breeding program pursued by Tweedmouth to produce the characteristics he desired in his Yellow Retrievers. Located along the shores of this river was the light-colored Tweed Water Spaniel. This was a hardy type of spaniel used for retrieving and known for their intelligence, courage, and ability. The Tweed Water Spaniel is now an extinct breed. However, the Tweed Spaniel had a huge influence on Tweedmouth's developing breed. He bred his original stud "Nous" to "Belle," a Tweed Spaniel, to produce four yellow puppies. Later on in his breeding program he incorporated cross-breeding with Irish Setters, Bloodhounds, and more Tweed Water Spaniels to obtain the Golden Retriever we acknowledge today.

Yellow or Golden Retrievers became popular in England towards the end of the 19th century, and they were first shown in England, listed as Golden Flat-Coats, in 1908. In 1913 they obtained separate status when the Golden Retriever Club (of England) was formed. The breed arrived in North America in the 1920s. The first Golden was registered with the AKC in 1925, and the breed prospered in the 1930s and '40s. Used predominately as hunters, Goldens proved strong in the show ring also. Over the years the Golden retriever has grown to become one of the most successful, recognizable, and popular breeds in history in all areas.

That being said it is hard to find a Golden today that meets the true standard established by Lord Tweedmouth and organizations such as the AKC. Most of the ones seen out in public places have at least one fault that is visibly noticeable. These dogs tend to be too tall, overweight, and body parts are in proportioned. These undesirable characteristics are generally the result of what is known in the dog breeding business as "back yard breeders." These are breeders who raise dogs for the sole purpose of generating an extra income and they do not put care into obtaining health clearances or staying true to the standards. A person considered a back yard breeder can also be thought of as this if they do not have their dogs compete in show or hunt and are just running a "puppy mill."

Since Goldens are larger in breed, and weight for a male is 65 to 75 pounds, females are 55 to 65 pounds, they can have hip related problems occur. While respectable breeders wait till the dog is two years of age, has obtained their heart, hip and eye clearances before breeding; a back yard breeder does not. A back yard

breeder is not concerned with the type of dog they are generating as long as they are generating a profit. In many cases they do not obtain clearances or ignore unfavorable clearances. In rare cases they will obtain false documents so they can breed with more reputable people. This is how you end up with dogs that are over weight, have hip problems, heart murmurs or eye problems.

A true Golden is symmetrical in appearance. They are powerful, muscular, active dogs, which are soundly put together. They are neither clumsy nor long in leg. Their personality is one of self-confidence, alertness and an eagerness to please; while their facial expression is kindly and of intelligence. Males are to stand 23 to 24 inches in height at their withers (back of the shoulder bone) and females are 21½ to 22 ½ inches. Dogs more than one inch outside of the standard height will be disqualified from show.

Their head should be broad in the skull, with a slightly boxy shape. The Stop (back of the head bone) should be well defined but not abrupt. Their muzzle should be short and straight. Looking at many of the local Golden Retrievers you can observe a more triangular shaped head and long muzzle. Their eyes should be dark in color, not light brown, and the skin pigment around the eyes and on nose should be black. Their ears should be short, falling close to the cheek and attached back and just behind the eye. The length of the ear should be long enough to come just to the inside of the eye when pulled together and no longer. Low, hound-like ears are unacceptable. Teeth should form a scissor bite; this is where the outer side of the lower canine teeth touches the inside of the upper canine teeth. Overbites, under bites and misalignment of teeth are serious faults and undesirable to the breed.



Teeth should form a scissor bite; this is where the outer side of the lower canine teeth touches the inside of the upper canine teeth. Overbites, under bites and misalignment of teeth are serious faults and undesirable to the breed.

The body of a Golden true to standard is well balanced and deep through the chest. The chest should be prominent and the distance between the two front legs should be at least as wide as a man's fist including the thumb. The ribs should be long and well sprung, but not have the appearance of a barrel. The loin or stomach should be short and wide, but with a definite waist. The tail should be thick and muscular at the base. When tail is held straight out behind dog there should be a clear dip at the base of the tail where attached to body. The tail should be carried level to back or with a slight curve. It should never be curled over back which is called a "gay tail."



From the wither to the front of the chest to the elbow should form a ninety degree angle. This is true with the hind legs. From the hip to the knee or the pelvis to the femur, a ninety degree angle is formed. The gait, or way the dog walks, is smooth and powerful. The front legs should look like they are reaching forward and not kicking out. Viewed from any angle it should be apparent that the legs do not turn in or out, nor do the feet cross over each other.

The coat of a Golden is water-repellent and dense. The coat lies close to the body and neither coarse nor silky. Hair on the chest back of the thighs and under tail is long and feathered, while hair on the head, paws and front of legs is short and even. Feathered hair may be lighter than the rest of the coat. The color of Golden Retrievers range from light gold/cream to dark red. Any area of black or off color hair is a serious fault.

The temperament of a Golden is one of the things that make them such a desirable animal. They are very friendly, reliable and wanting to please. They are extremely easy to train because of their level of intelligence and eagerness. They should not be timid or nervous; after all, they are hunting dogs and can't be jumpy around loud noises like a gun shot. Hostility towards other dogs or people is uncharacteristic of them and can be blamed on the environment in which they were raised and their parents personalities.

Goldens are a sporting dog and should be raised and bred for that purpose and structure. The point of breeding any animal should never be to make money; instead it should be looked at as what can the breeder do to better the breed. With the demand from the general public to own such an animal the breeder should be striving to supply the healthiest and closest to breed standard as they can.

(Can CH Goldiva's Jump N Jive, JH "Kylee")



3 Majors for Goldiva's Love On The Wild Side "Sookie" Photo by Jill Simmons
Professionally handled by Karen & Sam Mammano

Memorial Day Tribute: Dogs Serving America

By: Alex Lieber



Military dogs come exclusively from Europe, and are procured by the 341st Squadron, based at Lackland Air Force Base, in Texas.

Government Service Dogs

In 1793, the U.S. government paid the princely sum of \$3 for a dog named Nero. His job was to guard the new U.S. Treasury building, and he was encouraged to attack any unauthorized persons attempting to enter the building at night – which meant everyone but the night watchman.

The sad fact was, there wasn't much to guard in the Treasury because the infant United States was almost bankrupt. Nevertheless, Nero's job was so important that only the night watchman was permitted to feed him. Treasury officials didn't want the dog to be friendly with anyone else.

Officially or unofficially, dogs have served America since the beginning, but the canine's role has changed over the years. Today, they are trained to perform many roles in the military, the federal government and all levels of law enforcement. They perform search and rescue missions; help military and civilian police on patrol; detect bombs and drugs; hunt down criminals; and help investigate cases of arson.



But no matter what job they are assigned or trained for, all dogs in government service – military and civilian – must have the same basic characteristics. Once those are met, individual dogs must meet specific criteria for the jobs they do, whether on patrol, sniffing for explosives, drug detection, or helping with investigations.

- All dogs must be generally alert, active, outgoing, curious and confident.
- They must display basic socialization and tolerance to people.
- They must allow themselves to be muzzled and must not show aggression toward people or other dogs (unless directed to attack).
- Dogs that bite the leash and will not release on command are unacceptable.
- Dogs that are not interested in completing tasks are unacceptable.

These dogs come from many sources, both in the United States and from Europe. Military dogs come exclusively from Europe, and are procured by the 341st Squadron, based at Lackland Air Force Base, in Texas. The squadron is responsible for procuring all dogs for the Department of Defense, as well as the Secret Service, the Federal Aviation Administration and other federal agencies.

The military mainly uses three breeds: the German shepherd, the Belgian malinois and the Dutch shepherd. These breeds have proven to be the best because of their keen sense of smell, endurance, speed, strength, courage, intelligence and adaptability to different climates.

Law enforcement agencies operate under a different set of conditions. German shepherds are often chosen

for patrol work, but they also use Labrador retrievers (for sniffer roles) because they tend to be friendlier. This is why they are often used as guide dogs for the blind. Many of the dogs, in fact, come from guide dog schools.

Duties of a Military Dog

The basic military working dog no longer serves as a scout with a platoon, as he did in World War II, Korea and Vietnam. In those wars, dog scouts entered combat zones to help sniff out the enemy.

Their roles are more in line with their civilian K9 counterparts, patrolling military bases and installations.

Patrolling

All canines are evaluated as potential patrol dogs. They must pass a prey test, which evaluates the dog's natural tendency to chase, bite and carry a moving object. They are taught to ride quietly in patrol vehicles; to find a suspect in a building or open area; to attack, without command, anyone who attacks his handler; to stop an attack on command.

The dog must not show any fear and must not retreat. If startled, the dog must quickly recover his composure without showing aggression (unless so ordered). These duties are so important that any drop in proficiency in any one of these tasks may result in the complete retraining of the dog.

Dogs have a repertoire of responses to choose from: a defensive posture (growling, baring teeth while standing his ground); non-threat bite (the dog bites the sleeve and holds on, without injuring the person); and the threatening bite (the dog's desire to protect himself and his handler).

In addition, dogs must remain confident, still, curious or show little reaction to gunfire, unless so directed by the handler.

Drug and Contraband Detection

The war in Vietnam had the unhealthy side effect of encouraging drug use among the troops. In 1971, the military began training dogs to detect marijuana and other drugs. A good "sniffer" dog must have an excellent retrieve and hunt drive to be accepted into the program. Some can detect a single odor, while others maintain a "library" of smells that they will react to.

Dogs are also employed by U.S. Customs (which has its own facilities to train dogs and their handlers) to find illegal agricultural products coming into the United States. Smuggling illegal foods or grain is a serious crime because the products are not regulated by the government and could be dangerous to use. They also may bring in hazardous diseases that can pose a threat to the environment and livestock (such as foot-and-mouth disease).

Bomb Detection

The British were the first to train dogs to detect bombs. The Irish Republican Army had begun planting bombs in Northern Ireland, and the dogs proved exceptionally capable in finding them.

Impressed, the U.S. Air Force decided to launch its own program in 1971. Officers discovered that the dogs put electronic detection equipment to shame – in a trial run, dogs discovered bombs five out of five times. Technology averaged about three out of five times.

Some dogs are so proficient they can detect the odor concentrations as small as 1 to 2 parts per billion. In several tests, the dogs detected concentrations too small to measure with current equipment.

Dogs were also trained to detect mines, but since the end of the Vietnam War, the military has not trained its own dogs. Private companies currently train mine dogs for the U.S. State Department, which uses them for humanitarian mine-clearing missions around the world.



Duties of a Civilian Police Dog

Civilian police and military duties are very much the same, except there is more emphasis on search and rescue – even people who would rather not be “rescued,” such as escaped convicts.

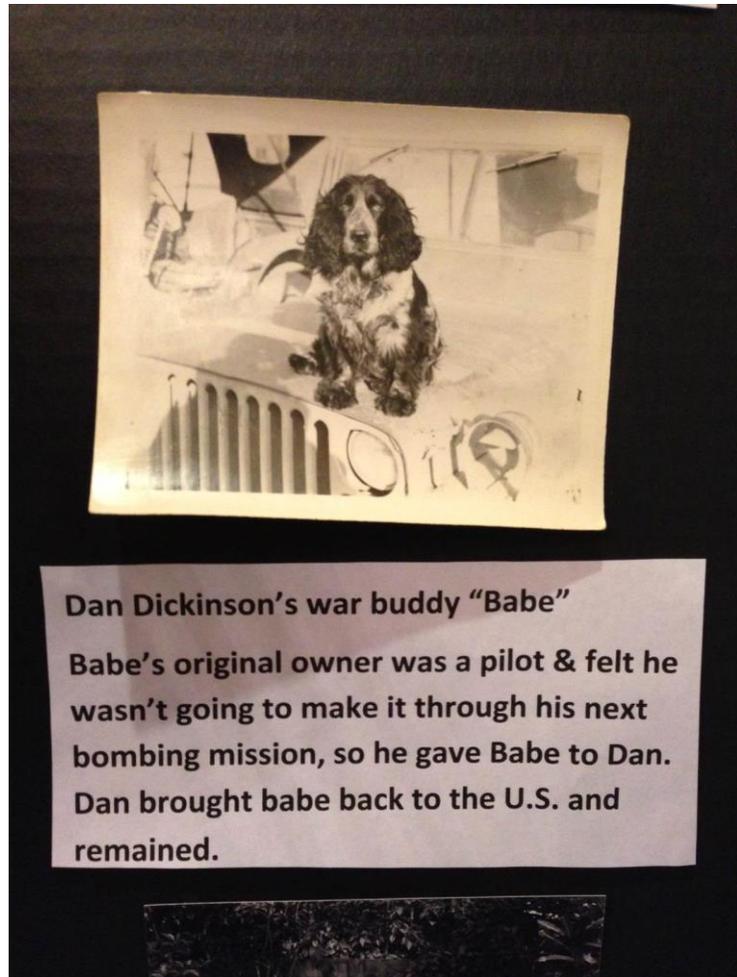
However, not all breeds have the same search capabilities. Labradors and German shepherds were used to search the ruins of the World Trade Center because they are excellent off-leash dogs. They are also good at tracking people in buildings and other urban settings because they can scramble over obstacles more nimbly than other breeds, such as bloodhounds.

But over a wide area, their skills diminish, especially as the trail grows older. For these types of searches, bloodhounds are far superior. While not as agile as other breeds, they can follow a trail for miles, and still pick up the scent of a particular person after days have gone by.

Fire departments have turned to the canine for help in arson investigations. Professionally, these four-legged investigators are called “ignitable liquid detecting dogs.” They do exactly what their names imply and are a vital tool in detecting deliberately set fires. Here again, Labradors are usually used because of their friendliness and work ethic.

Their sense of smell helps human investigators pinpoint the location of accelerants at fire scenes, thus detect eight different substances used to start fires: gasoline, kerosene, odorless lamp oil, lacquer thinner and lighter fluid. The dogs will pick up on any of these liquids, even if less than a drop has been spilled.

(WWII My father’s war dog “Babe” was his faithful companion and returned to the States with dad.)



Recommended Reading

☆☆ **"Puppy Primer"** , Patricia McConnell. An understandable and user-friendly primer. Includes socialization, how to raise a confident puppy, basic manners, children and puppies, how to praise and correct, housetraining, and problem solving.

☆☆ **"Click for Success"**, Lana Mitchell. Explains the basic concepts and techniques of using operant conditioning and the clicker in training a dog. Highly recommended, especially for family members who are not able to attend class.

☆ **"Clicker Fun"**, Deb Jones. Another excellent book on the basics, including how to train tricks.

☆☆ **"Beginning Family Dog Training"** , Patricia McConnell. Designed to teach you how your dog thinks, how they communicate, and how they learn. The basics for beginners, using reward techniques to get a great start.

☆☆ **"The Perfect Puppy"** , Gwen Bailey. Excellent basic text about living with and training a family pet.

☆ **"The Culture Clash"**, Jean Donaldson. Excellent book dispelling the myth that "dogs are furry humans" or Disney characters. Learn to appreciate the true strengths and abilities of our canine companions--what really makes a dog tick, what motivates him, and how to get the behavior you want by applying scientifically sound learning principles. A breath of fresh air!

☆☆ **"On Talking Terms with Dogs: Calming Signals"**, Turid Rugaas. A guide to understanding the body language communication of dogs, especially the signals used to maintain social hierarchy and to resolve conflict within the pack. By understanding the language of our dogs, we increase our ability to communicate with them.

☆ **"In Tune with Your Dog"**, John Rogerson. General overview of behavior and training techniques from one of the very best trainers in the world.

Food for Thought -- Read the Label CHOOSING A QUALITY DOG FOOD

By: Stacey Amirov, Nutritionist & Mary Dickinson © 2014

Prepared for Goldiva Goldens

Goldiva Goldens are raised on Canidae All Life Stages dog food from hot & mushy at 3 weeks throughout their lives. Canidae ALS has 4 Protein Sources: USDA Choice Grade Chicken, Turkey, Lamb & Fish, Whole Grain Brown & White Rice listed in the first 6 ingredients. We also add a little wet canned Canidae Large Breed Puppy Formula with Chicken, Duck and Lentil. Buy one case to mix for the first month for the hot mush 2x/day. Leave dry Canidae ALS out for open feed the first month too. We do not use products with corn, wheat or soy. Please do not change the feeding schedule or food when puppy is going home and going thru transition. We have been on Canidae for over 10 years. IF you do change dog food at any point in your dog's life, please learn how to Read the Label and how to transition slowly over to a different food.

There are so many brands and price ranges to choose from when choosing a dog food that it can be overwhelming to the average consumer. Some will choose a food recommended by their vet or breeder; some will go with the most advertised product; and some, the cheapest. None of the above reasons are sufficient to determine what your dog will be eating everyday! Many dogs are allergic to wheat, corn and soy beans. The wrong diet can lead to flaky, dry skin and coat, allergies, ear infections, "hot spots", digestive problems, and more. It is worth the cost to choose a high quality dog food- you will save money in veterinary bills in the long run! It is a big mistake, however, to simply go with the recommendation of someone without doing your own research. A prime example of this is the fact that most vets sell and recommend Science Diet (which contains wheat, corn, soybeans) more on this to follow.

READ THE LABEL

The number one rule to follow is to READ THE LABEL, and to know what those ingredients actually are. Also, be aware that ingredients are listed in order of highest content to least. So, if a food lists corn as the first ingredient, this means you are buying a product that contains more corn than anything else. If a product lists lamb, ground rice, rice gluten, rice bran, - you are STILL getting a bag of food that contains more grain than anything else, because when you add up all of that rice, it amounts to more than the amount of lamb. This is a deceitful way some companies label their food to make you believe you are getting more meat- don't be fooled. An honest way of labeling this food would be: rice, lamb, etc.

NO BY-PRODUCTS – NO MEAT AND BONE MEAL

With that said, the first thing you should look for on the label is a high quality protein source listed first (and not followed by grain listed three or four times in fragments!) By high quality, this means NO by-products and NO meat and bone meal! By-products contain parts of an animal unfit for human consumption and may include heads, feet, feathers, intestines, etc. Meat and bone meal may be ANY meat, including meat from dying and diseased animals, or animals that arrived at the processing plant dead. This meat may even include euthanized cats and dogs from a local animal shelter- this is not a myth meant to scare you, this is the cold, hard truth. See the Animal Protection Institute's website for more information on this topic at www.api4animals.org, or read the book:

<http://www.homevet.com/petcare/foodbook.html>

Food Pets Die for: Shocking Facts About Pet Food

By [Ann N. Martin](#)



HIGH QUALITY PROTEIN SOURCES

High quality protein sources include: Chicken, Turkey, Lamb, Fish, Venison, Bison, Duck, Beef, etc. You should know exactly what animal the meat is coming from. Chicken Meal, Turkey Meal, etc. are also great sources of protein. "Meal" is simply meat with the water removed. Since the ingredients on a bag of dog food

are listed by weight, a food that lists “Chicken Meal” first will have more actual chicken in it than a bag that lists “Chicken” because the weight of fresh chicken is much higher due to water content. Also, keep in mind that the chicken will end up dried either way, since the moisture has to be removed to manufacture a dry kibble. A dog food with both Chicken and Chicken Meal is ideal, since the Chicken Meal ensures that you are getting a higher quantity of meat, and the fresh chicken only has to be processed once, and therefore, may retain more of its nutrients.

CARBOHYDRATES & DOG ALLERGIES

Most commercial dog foods will contain a significant amount of carbohydrates. Dogs are carnivores by nature, so it's best to pick a food with the majority of ingredients are coming from meat and which uses only highly digestible grains. Grains listed on a label should be whole grains- NOT fragments such as Corn “Gluten”, “Brewer’s” Rice (these are leftover, broken fragments of white rice- a by-product of the milling process), “Mill Run”, or “Middlings”. The only exception to this rule is Bran. Rice Bran is a good source of vitamins and coat conditioners- but if the food were to simply use whole grain brown rice, the bran would be included without having to be listed separately. Because the bran has been removed from it, white rice is not as nutritious as brown rice. Many dogs are allergic to wheat and corn. It is best to pick a food that does not contain these grains. In addition to being hard to digest, they are often the cause of itching, scratching, dry, flaky skin and other ailments. Soybeans are also notoriously difficult for dogs to digest and are best avoided. Acceptable carbohydrate sources include Whole Brown Rice, Oats, Barley, Rye, Potatoes, Sweet Potatoes, Millet, Amaranth, Quinoa and Sorghum (aka Milo). There are also grain-free dog foods on the market which more closely emulate a dog's natural diet and are great for dogs with allergies and digestive troubles, such as The Honest Kitchen's Force and Embark formulas (dehydrated human grade foods), Evanger's canned “Dinner” formulas, Nature's Variety canned formulas, and the many prepackaged raw diets.

GOOD FATS – BAD FATS and PRESERVATIVES

Fats are a very important component of a dog's diet. They play an important role in skin and coat health and even immunity. High quality fats include Chicken Fat, Olive Oil, Canola Oil, Rice Bran Oil, Walnut Oil, etc. A great dog food should also include a source of Omega 3 Fatty Acids, such as: Flax Seed, Flax Seed Oil, Herring, Salmon, Tuna or Fish Oil. One particular fat to stay away from is “Animal Fat” (again, this may include ANY animal) and it is important to notice how the fat is preserved. BHA and BHT are chemical preservatives that are banned for human consumption in many countries. Propylene Glycol is another chemical to steer clear of. Make sure that the food you buy is naturally preserved. Some acceptable natural preservatives are: Mixed Tocopherols (Vitamin E), Vitamin C or Citric Acid, and Rosemary.

AVOID ARTIFICIAL COLORS, FLAVORS & SWEETENERS

There is absolutely no reason to use artificial colors, flavors and sweeteners in a pet food! Your dog doesn't care what color his food is, and artificial colors have been linked to cancer, allergies and behavior disorders. Stay far away from any product that lists “Red40”, “Yellow5”, “Yellow6”, “Caramel Color” etc. Also, do not buy any food which contains Sugar or Corn Syrup. There is no room in a carnivore's diet for these unhealthy ingredients, and they lead to an increased risk of diabetes. Some natural products list “Natural Flavors” and “Natural Caramel Color”. These are far better alternatives. “Animal Digest” is used as a flavoring agent in low quality pet foods. Just like “Animal Fat” and “Meat and Bone Meal”, you'll never know where the meat came from. A high quality dog food will be palatable without having to add ingredients like this.

SCIENCE DIET & CHEAP DOG FOODS

Now that you know what to look for on a dog food label, let's compare the popular, vet recommended Hill's Science Diet to a healthy food. The following is a list of ingredients in Hill's Science Diet's canine adult formula:

Chicken, Corn Meal, Ground Grain Sorghum, Ground Wheat, Chicken By-Product Meal, Brewers Rice, Soybean Meal, Animal Fat (Preserved with mixed Tocopherols and Citric Acid), Chicken Liver Flavor, Vegetable Oil, Dried Egg Product, Flaxseed, “vitamins & minerals.”

Here we have a food manufactured for carnivores, which consists primarily of grains. Yes, they list Chicken first, but it only weighs more than the Corn Meal because of its water content, and they list three different grains after it. As if that weren't bad enough, the grains include Corn and Wheat- two very common allergens which are also difficult to digest. Next, we have Chicken By-Product Meal- basically all the parts

unfit for humans- heads, feet, beaks, intestines, etc. Then, more grain, and this time, we have Brewer's Rice which has been stripped of its most nutritious component- the Bran, and Soybean Meal- very indigestible.

For fat, they list "Animal Fat"-very low quality and of unknown origin. The "Vegetable Oil" they list is the cheapest on the market- it's Soybean Oil-low in important fatty acids and unable to make up for their poor quality animal fat. Way, way down on the list you'll see Flax Seed- a high quality source of important Omega 3 Fatty Acids- unfortunately, it is listed so far down on the ingredient list, that there probably isn't enough of it in there to do your dog any good.

This is supposed to be premium pet food! This is what vets are recommending! They make a huge profit from selling this garbage, and also from the increased visits to them from all the ailments feeding low quality food like this causes. Some vets may not have devious intentions- in that case, they are just sorely lacking in pet nutrition knowledge!

BOTTOM OF THE BARREL:

This isn't even the worst. Take a look at a bag of Kibbles and Bits, Ol' Roy, Alpo, Cycle, Gravy Train, Blue Seal, etc, and you'll be horrified at their use of low quality ingredients, allergenic ingredients, chemical preservatives, etc. All of the household name brands like Purina, Pedigree and Iams/Eukanuba are just as bad. Another reason I don't like Iams/Eukanuba is all the rumors that they do inhumane testing on animals. Look at what a simple Google.com search on "Iams" brings up!

<http://www.google.com/search?hl=en&q=lams&btnG=Google+Search>

The company was bought by Proctor and Gamble a few years ago. They changed the quality of ingredients and many dogs started to have problems with it- those big corporations are always looking to save a buck! I won't ever recommend Iams/Eukanuba products- even if they claim to make a dog have 25 puppies per litter.

Here are the first ten ingredients in Pedigree's Complete Nutrition Large Crunchy Bites formula:

Ground Yellow Corn, Meat and Bone Meal, Corn Gluten Meal, Chicken By-Product Meal, Animal Fat (Preserved with BHA/BHT), Wheat Mill Run, Natural Poultry Flavor, Rice, Salt, Potassium Chloride, Caramel Color, Wheat Flour, Wheat Gluten, Vegetable Oil, "Vitamins and Trace Minerals."

No comment necessary!

HIGH QUALITY DOG FOODS:

CANIDAE

Now that you know better, do better! There are high quality dry dog foods out there that won't cost you a small fortune, like \$30 for a 40 lbs bag (37% actual meat in each bag or 50% protein combined from grains). Yes, they will cost a little more, but you will have a healthier dog, lower veterinary expenses, and a clearer conscience. These are the ingredients in Canidae's maintenance formula for all life stages:

Chicken Meal, Turkey Meal, Brown Rice, White Rice, Lamb Meal, Chicken Fat (preserved with Mixed Tocopherols, Rosemary Extract), Herring Meal, Flax Seed, Sun Cured Alfalfa Meal, Sunflower Oil, Chicken, Rosemary Extract, Sage Extract, Yeast Culture, Folic Acid, Dried Papaya, Natural Probiotics, Chelated Vitamins and Minerals.

The first two ingredients are high quality sources of protein, 4 sources of proteins in all. They use meal which is highly concentrated, as well as fresh chicken and Lamb meal. They use whole grain rice with more brown rice than white rice – and no brewer's rice or rice particles. The other grains they list are not allergenic and they are whole grains. They use chicken fat and preserve it naturally. Canidae includes two sources of Omega 6 & 3 fatty acids- herring meal and flax. With a food like this, you know exactly what kind of meat your dog is eating. You know which parts you are getting- no heads and feet! There are no chemical preservatives, artificial flavors or artificial colors in this. You won't find "animal digest", grain fragments, or allergenic grains. There is no corn syrup or sugar in this food. The things that you will NOT find in a good food are just as important as the things you should look for. They even add Glucosamine and Chondroitin- excellent for cartilage and bone health! Of course, you won't find any By-Products, Animal Fat or Digest, Wheat, Corn, Soy, BHA, BHT, "Brewers" Rice or Artificial Colors in this food.

For more information: www.canidae.com. Canidae does have a frequent buyer program for puppy owners (buy 12 get 1 free) and Breeders Program (buy 5 get 1 free) with saved UPC labels/receipts. It ranges from

\$29 - \$36 for 40 lbs depending on which store you buy it from. Check out www.amazon.com for direct shipping to your house at \$29/bag.

CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE PET LOVER'S SOUL (adult dog formula) Use for training treats – too rich for everyday diet. Canned wet dog food was recalled in April/May 2007 but not the dry food.

Chicken Soup has 7 high quality sources of protein (40% actual meat in formula). They use Fresh, never frozen meats, four of them: Turkey, Chicken, Duck, Salmon, Eggs as well as high grade-low ash Turkey Meal and Chicken Meal. They use Whole Grain Rice, with more Brown Rice than White Rice – and no Brewer's Rice or Rice particles. The other grains Chicken Soup lists are not allergenic and they are whole grains. They use Chicken Fat and preserve it naturally. They also include two sources of Omega 3 Fatty Acids- Salmon and Flax.

Chicken, Turkey, Chicken Meal, Turkey Meal, Whole Grain Brown Rice, Whole Grain White Rice, Oatmeal, Potatoes, Cracked Pearled Barley, Millet, Chicken Fat (Preserved with Mixed Tocopherols), Duck, Salmon, Egg Product, Flaxseed, Natural Chicken Flavor, Kelp, Potassium Chloride, Salt, Choline Chloride, Chicory Root Extract, Carrots, Peas, Apples, Dried Skim Milk, Cranberry Powder, Rosemary Extract, Parsley Flakes, Vitamins and minerals.

Fresh Meat means your pet receives the true, purest form of meats to provide a highly digestible, highly palatable protein source. Dietary protein consists of two types of amino acids:

1. Essential—Which the body cannot produce enough of to satisfy its needs, and
2. Non-Essential—Which the body can produce quickly to sustain itself.

Dietary protein supplies essential amino acids which results in a balance of essential and non-essential amino acids. These amino acids are critical to the body's ability to maintain and repair tissue, keep the immune system in peak performance, and ensure proper central nervous system function. Antioxidants Vitamin E, Selenium, and Beta-Carotene. One of the most versatile antioxidants, Vitamin E is vital to your pet's continued long-term health. Vitamin E supports healing, helps fight off neurological and heart diseases, strengthens the immune system response, and reduces the effects of aging. Selenium is a trace mineral and works with Vitamin E to protect cells from damage. Left uncontrolled, high levels of Selenium are toxic to dogs and cats. Beta-Carotene strengthens the immune system and fights diseases such as cancer. For more information: www.chickensoupforthepetloverssoul.com.

TIMBERWOLF ORGANICS

This is top-of-the-line dog food. You won't find better in a kibble form. Timberwolf Organics uses organic meats which are certified hormone-free. The kibble is composed of 47% meat or fish- the highest on the market. They have many formulas for dogs with different dietary needs. This food is a little harder to find and sometimes has distribution problems. It's a little more expensive than Canidae, but it well worth the effort and definitely worth its price, \$46-\$49 for 33 lbs bag plus shipping. It can be ordered from their website, or from a list of retailers provided on their site (Sorry, but no distributors for Maine). And no, I don't work for them! I have nothing to gain from recommending this food, other than feeling good about giving dogs better nutrition.

The following are the ingredients in their Ocean Blue Canid Formula:

Low Ash White Fish Meal, Salmon, Potatoes, Sardine/Mackerel/ Anchovy/Tuna Oils, Kelp, Alfalfa Leaf, Potassium Chloride, Amaranth, Carrot, Watercress, Spinach, Celery, Parsley, Fennel Seed, Blueberries, Cranberries, Pears, Figs, Thyme, Anise Seed, Ground Cinnamon Bark, Fenugreek, Garlic Pieces, Sunflower Seeds, Sesame Seeds, Apples, Natural Probiotics, Chelated Vitamins and Minerals.

The first two ingredients are low ash (very important) fish meal, and fresh salmon. Potatoes are a grain-free source of carbohydrate. They have added an excellent blend of fish oils for omega 3 fatty acids, as well as herbs, probiotics and enzymes. Also, notice what you don't see: grains, by-products, fillers, salt, sugar, artificial colors and flavors, animal fat, etc. This formula will do wonders for a dog's skin and coat, immunity and general health. They also recommend their food for large breed dogs and have a very informative FAQs page on their website: www.timberwolforganics.com

NATURE'S VARIETY

Nature's Variety puts raw food benefits into a kibble. They have an assortment of products: 1) Raw Frozen and Freeze Dried Diets (95% meat). 2) Raw Frozen Bones include meaty ham bones, lamb femur bones, bison bones, split beef knuckles, turkey necks, and meaty beef femur bones; 3) Variety Dry Kibble; Canned Diets (95% quality meat & organs); Dry Roasted Treats and, 4) Supplements. Pricing is around \$35-\$40 for 30 lb a bag of dry kibble.

All Nature's Variety Prairie Brand Kibble Diets are now coated with freeze dried USDA raw chicken, beef or lamb along with liver and freeze dried Norwegian Salmon Oil (95% meat). This coating greatly increases enzymes, unaltered bio-available amino acids, essential fatty acids, vitamins and minerals that may otherwise be degraded during the processing necessary to produce kibble diets. This cold processed, living food is made available in its natural, nutritious state – ready to release its health enhancing benefits when consumed by your pet.

Often known as one of the best complete foods, eggs provide a complete amino acid profile including other essential nutrients necessary to ensure optimal health. Nature's Variety has chosen a wide variety of eggs, including the shells for additional natural calcium and to ensure a better and more complete nutrient profile.

Quality ingredients include: Chicken, Beef, Lamb, Whole Eggs (Chicken, Duck, Quail & Pheasant), Menhaden Fish, Venison. Bones, Ground Bone (A significant source of Glucosamine and Chondroitin, naturally occurring compounds associated with joint health.) Alfalfa Sprouts, Apple Cider Vinegar, Apples, Barley Sprouts, Blueberries, Broccoli, Lettuce, Spinach, Brown Rice, Carrots, Flaxseed, Garlic, Grapefruit Seed Extract, Honey, Inulin, Kelp, Norwegian Virgin Salmon Oil and Virgin Olive Oil, Millet Sprouts, Montmorillonite (combination of 50 organic trace minerals), Persimmons, Parsley, Quinoa Sprouts, Rosemary, Sage, and Clove, Sweet Potatoes, Wheat Sprouts.

Be sure to pull up www.naturesvariety.com for an explanation of all these ingredients and their health benefits under "Natural Ingredients."

WELLNESS DOG FOOD is well marketed but makes for overweight dogs. Not recommended for daily use. We'd rather feed a dog more and feel full, than feed less to equal the calories.

Different dogs have different needs. For example, if you have a large breed puppy, or an inactive or overweight dog, you may want a food with less protein and fat but watch the calories per cup which is higher. Here's their Adult Super 5 Mix Lamb formula:

This food has 22% protein and 12% fat (actual meat % in formula is unknown. Protein can be derived from grains too. The offices of Wellness refused to disclose how much actual meat was in the bag).

Lamb, Lamb meal, White fish, Ground Brown Rice, Ground Barley, Oatmeal, Rye Flour, Ground Millet, Amaranth, Flax Seed, Canola Oil (Preserved with Rosemary, Vitamin C & E), Dried Peas, Dried carrots, Whole Sweet Potatoes, Glucosamine, Chondroitin Sulfate, Beta-Carotene, chelated Vitamins and Minerals, Folic Acid.

Here is another example of a good dog food, \$33-42 for 30 lbs bag. It includes Fresh Lamb, Lamb Meal and fish as the first three ingredients, which are all excellent quality proteins, and since they include both Meal and Fresh Lamb. Wellness uses only hormone-free and antibiotic-free New Zealand lamb meat in their foods. The next six ingredients are easily digestible, non allergenic whole grains. This food does have a higher grain content than the Chicken Soup brand, but in the case of a large breed or overweight dog, this is necessary to bring down the protein and fat levels. The food is also oven-baked at a low temperature to make those grains easier to digest. This food contains a decent amount of Flax Seed for Omega 3 Fatty Acids, and Naturally Preserved Canola Oil. There is an impressive amount of healthy vegetables and fruits listed, and the minerals are chelated, which makes them easier for the body to absorb and use.

DON'T BE FOOLED BY ALL "NATURAL" PRODUCTS

Don't be fooled by some companies who call their foods natural but use a lot of cheap fillers and/or low quality ingredients! Nature's Recipe, for example, uses "Animal Fat" in their chicken formula, and Wheat in their "lamb and rice" formula. This would be a terrible food to feed to a dog with allergies! Nutro is a tremendously popular food and they are guilty of deceitful ingredient listing. In their Natural Choice lamb and rice formula, they list Rice in four different parts! You will find Rice Flour, Ground Rice, Rice Bran, and Rice Gluten on the label. If you were to put all those parts together, you would end up with whole grain brown rice, but because of the way they list it, they are able to list Lamb Meal as the first ingredient by weight. Science Diet's all natural "Nature's Best" adult dog food contains Brewer's Rice as the first ingredient, not to mention Wheat, Corn, Soy, Animal Fat, etc.

CANNED DOG FOOD

Some owners prefer to give their dogs canned food. A pregnant or nursing dog or a puppy requires extra nutrients, and some older dogs may have to be tempted into eating enough. If you have a small dog, you might not mind the extra expense of canned food, and you might enjoy giving your dog food that smells and

looks so palatable. Canned food also tends to be higher in meat and lower in grains. A high quality canned food can be just as good or better for your dog than a dry food, but it doesn't have the benefits for his teeth-crunching kibble helps scrape tartar off of a dog's gums. You could, of course, feed both canned and dry or feed canned alone and brush your dog's teeth as well as provide crunchy biscuits and raw vegetables to munch on. Just be aware that once you start feeding canned food, you may create a finicky eater! Also, note that a canned food's protein and fat content is much lower than on a bag of dry food. This is not because the food is lower in these nutrients- it is because there is so much water in the food. If a canned food lists 9% protein and 6% fat, it is the equivalent of a dry food with 28% protein and 18.5% fat. If the canned food lists 8% protein and 5% fat, it is the equivalent of a dry food containing 25% protein and 15.5% fat.

BARF DIET (Bones And Raw Food)

A growing trend in pet nutrition is the feeding of all raw meat, raw vegetables and raw bones. There are some who sing the praises of this diet, and will tell you how much healthier and vibrant their dogs are on the raw diet. They are positive that this is the diet that dogs naturally evolved to eat, that a dog's intestinal tract can handle any amount of bacteria, that it is impossible for a dog to have internal problems from eating raw bones, and that it is the best thing in the world that you can do for your dog. This theory is becoming more and more popular among breeders and pet owners. There is also a group of people who warn about the dangers of a raw diet. Vets will tell you that they are seeing an increased rate in pancreatitis and kidney failure, that they are operating on more dogs with bones lodged in their intestines, and that many dogs on the BARF diet have nutritional deficiencies and imbalances, especially with calcium and phosphorus ratios. It's very difficult to decide who to believe, because there is probably truth to both sides of the story. It does take a lot of research and dedication to feed your dog a properly balanced and safe raw diet.

The BARF diet is such a complex subject, this article won't attempt to cover it in depth. There are many informative books on the subject and websites with information- just be sure to do your own research and come to your own informed opinion on the pros and cons of this method of feeding. There are base mixes available to which you can add fresh meat and raw vegetables. There are also companies which sell complete frozen or freeze-dried raw diets for dogs. The benefits to feeding a pre-made raw food are convenience, a balanced formula, and the fact that the bones are ground, which prevents the danger of your dog choking on a bone or having it lodged in his digestive system. The disadvantage, of course, is the expense.

If you don't mind spending the time and energy required to learn about this diet and how to balance it correctly, or the money to pay for these highest quality ingredients, then it may be the way to go for you and your dog. If, on the other hand, you are the average pet owner whose head is already spinning from reading all of these dog food labels, you are on a budget, or you can't even find time to cook for yourself, then find a high quality dry or canned food using the above guidelines, and rest assured that you are doing your best to fulfill your dog's nutritional needs.

MAKING THE SWITCH IN DIET; A NOTE ON TREATS

The best way to switch your dog's food is to start with 25% new food and 75% of his old food. Feed that for a week, then feed half new and half old food for a week, then a week of 75% new food and 25% old, then all new food. This way, you won't disturb his digestive system. Some dogs are more sensitive than others. If you have a dog with a strong digestive system, it may be possible to switch him over faster. Make sure that after you put your dog on a healthy diet you're not sabotaging it with junk food treats. Please read the ingredients on his biscuits and use the same guidelines as you would for his food. (You will not find quality dog treats or dog food in your grocery store- go to the pet store!) Freeze-dried raw diets, such as Nature's Variety make excellent treats for dogs. Wellness, Solid Gold & Old Mother Hubbard make excellent treats for dogs too. Also, fresh vegetables are great for your dog- as long as you provide them in moderation and your dog's digestive system doesn't suffer from them, except onions, mushrooms and grapes. Small bits of cooked chicken breast or other real meats can also be used as treats or training aids.

HEALTHIER DOGS

This may all seem overwhelming, but once you (gradually!) switch your dog over to a healthy, quality food, you will see many physical benefits, and often an improvement in behavior (allergies may contribute to hyperactivity and other behavior disorders). Even if your dog is the type who can eat and digest anything without suffering, you will appreciate the decrease in shedding, shinier, healthier skin and coat, and easier to clean up stools- and who knows how much you'll save on veterinary visits for hot spots, ear infections, etc,

that you never had to go to? Whatever you do, don't blindly trust anybody's nutrition information- including your veterinarian! Read the labels, research, and in the end it will pay off for you and your dog.

RECOMMENDED FOODS

DRY FOODS:

- *CANIDAE All Life Stages www.canidae.com;
best pricing: <http://www.dog.com/ItemDetail.aspx?ItemNo==350393+005>
- *TIMBERWOLF ORGANICS www.timberwolforganics.com
- *THE HONEST KITCHEN's Force; Embark formulas www.thehonestkitchen.com
- *NATURE'S VARIETY www.naturesvariety.com
- *CHICKEN SOUP for the Dog Lover's Soul www.chickensoupforthepetloverssoul.com
- ARTEMIS Fresh Mix adult dog formula www.artemiscompany.com
- C&P's Organix Canine Formulas
- C&P's Ultramix Canine Formulas www.castorpolluxpet.com
- Dick Van Patten's NATURAL BALANCE; Organic formulas www.naturalbalanceinc.com
- EAGLE PACK Holistic Select www.eaglepack.com
- FROMM Four Star Nutritionals formulas www.frommfamily.com
- HOLISTIC BLEND www.holisticblend.com
- MERRICK (six flavor varieties) www.merrickpetcare.com/store/dry_dog_food.php
- NATURA Healthwise
- NATURA Innova www.naturapet.com
- PINNACLE Trout and Sweet Potato formula (Breeder's Choice)
www.breeders-choice.com
- PRECISE Plus www.precisepet.com
- SOLID GOLD: Wolf King, Wolf Cub (large breed formulas) and "Just a Wee Bit" small breed formula
www.solidgoldhealth.com
- WELLNESS super5mix Lamb and super5mix Puppy www.omhpet.com
- WYSONG Synorgon www.wysong.net

*top picks

CANNED FOODS:

- *NATURE'S VARIETY (95% meat) <http://naturesvariety.com> (no "www.")
- *EVANGER'S: organic turkey and potato formula, duck and sweet potato formula, and whole chicken dinner are best www.evangersdogfood.com
- *MERRICK www.merrickpetcare.com venison, trout, cowboy cookout, pot pie, and thanksgiving formulas are grain free.
- *NEURA 95 chicken formula and lamb formula are grain free
- *CANIDAE www.canidae.com
- *CHICKEN SOUP for the Dog lover's Soul brand www.chickensoupforthepetloverssoul.com
- Dick Van Patten's NATURAL BALANCE www.naturalbalanceinc.com
- EAGLE PACK Holistics www.eaglepack.com
- EVOLVE Duck, sweet potato and avocado formula www.petfooddirect.com
- NATURA Innova www.naturapet.com
- NATURAL LIFE Lamaderm www.nlpp.com
http://www.petfooddirect.com/store/dept.asp?dept_id=2&brand_id=13
- NEWMAN'S OWN www.newmansownorganics.com
- PETGUARD turkey and lamb formulas www.petguard.com
- PINNACLE Chicken and Oat formula or Trout and Sweet Potato are best (made by Breeder's Choice)
www.breeders-choice.com
- SOLID GOLD www.solidgoldhealth.com
- WELLNESS www.omhpet.com

COMPLETE FREEZE-DRIED DIETS AND MEAT ROLLS- PERFECT TREATS and meal replacements

- *NATURE'S VARIETY Freeze dried raw diet www.naturesvariety.com
- *STEVE'S REAL FOOD FOR DOGS freeze-dried raw diet <http://www.stevesrealfood.com/products/fd.html>
- *NATURE'S MENU freeze-dried raw diet <http://www.naturesmenu.com>
- *TIMBERWOLF ORGANICS fermented meat rolls www.timberwolforganics.com

BASE FOODS (to which fresh meats and raw vegetables are added):

- *AMIXX PETS <http://www.amixxpets.com/>
- *URBAN WOLF www.urbanwolf.cc
- *SOJOS EUROPA <http://www.sojos.com/europa.cfm>
(Wendy Volhard's mixer and others were purposely excluded from this list because of their grain content).
- *top picks

COMPLETE RAW DIETS:

- *NATURE'S VARIETY <http://naturesvariety.com> (no "www.") 95% meat
- *FARMORE Raw food diets www.farmoredogfood.com
- *NATURE'S MENU www.naturesmenu.com
- *HOMEMADE 4 LIFE frozen, raw, organic pet food www.auntjeni.com
- NORTHWEST NATURALS www.nw-naturals.com
- PEPPERDOGZ www.pepperdogz.com (expensive to order online)
- STEVE'S REAL FOOD for dogs <http://www.stevesrealfood.com/canine.html>
- BRAVO (diets must be supplemented and are not complete as-is.)

HEALTHY TREATS:

- *CHARLEE BEAR Natural Nutrition Snacks- grain free! <http://www.charleebear.com/>
- *HALO Liv-a-Littles freeze dried chicken, beef, cod or salmon <http://shop.halopets.com/>
- SOLID GOLD: *Dragonette biscuits, *Dragon's Teeth biscuits, Cinnabone biscuits, Dyna Bone biscuits, *LA Treats (lamb appeal), Natur-Bone biscuits and *Petzyme treats (dehydrated green tripe). www.solidgoldhealth.com
- *WILDERNESS real meat pet treats: lamb, venison, beef, chicken & venison, fish & venison and lamb liver varieties. <http://www.realmeattreats.com/products.htm>
- SIMON & HUEY'S: Many varieties, including Tantalizing Turkey Bites, Savory Salmon Snackers, Teriyaki Chicken Chicks, Venison bits, Lamb Flips, Luscious Liver Lips, low fat, and special diet treats. <http://www.simonandhuey.com/>
- CANIDAE Snap biscuits <http://www.canidae.com/index.html>
- WELLNESS treats http://www.omhpet.com/dogs/wellness_detail.asp?pCode=trtDogWbarFshSwtPot

*top picks

RESOURCES & WEBSITES

Information and online retailers:

- <http://alpha-nutrition.site.yahoo.net/index.html> Healthiest foods, supplements and mixers.
- www.sitstay.com/ Nature's Variety frozen raw, supplements, dry and canned foods, etc.
- www.petfooddirect.com This website sells a lot of natural pet foods, including Old Mother Hubbard's Wellness, Natura Innova, Canidae, Artemis, C&P's Organix and Ultramix, Chicken Soup for the Dog Lover's Soul, Natural Balance, Solid Gold, Merrick, Evanger's and Nature's Variety freeze-dried and canned foods.
- www.waggintails.com Online retailer of natural pet foods.
- www.onlynaturalpet.com Online retailer of natural pet foods.

Information:

- <http://www.dogaware.com/dogfeeding.html> TONS of info, links and recommended reading on commercial pet food, raw food diets, suppliers of raw meat products, supplements, etc. etc. Although I would not recommend some of the foods on their list, this is still an extremely informative and useful website.
- <http://www.homevet.com/petcare/foodbook> An excerpt from the book "Food Pets Die For" by Ann M. Martin. Explains what meat and bone meal, animal fat and by-products really consist of. Note: most beet pulp has had sugar removed; feeding fish is only a concern with cheap, unethical pet foods.

www.naturapet.com A great website that will describe all of the ingredients in pet foods and allows you to compare different brands to each other. Go to the "Comparison Wizard". Manufacturers of Natura Innova, California Natural and Healthwise brands.

www.whole-dog-journal.com

www.cvm.uiuc.edu/petcolumns/showarticle.cfm?id=113 An informative article on ruling out food allergies, from the College of Veterinary Medicine.

The Bones and Raw Food Diet controversy:

<http://rawfed.com/myths/> (need to copy and paste as is) Dispelling the raw food myths

<http://www.healthyhappydogs.com/Article.PetFood> A very informative article on feeding dogs

<http://home.earthlink.net/~pawsreflect/nutrition.html> A website dedicated to the benefits of a raw food diet, with recommended reading listed.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR STACEY AMIROV: I worked as an animal care technician at an animal shelter, as a veterinary technician in an animal hospital and as a salesperson at a pet store throughout the 1990's. While I worked at the pet store, I developed a strong interest in pet nutrition. I read every label on every bag and can of dog food. I bought books on pet nutrition and spoke with representatives from the pet food companies (who you can't always trust because it's in their best interest to promote their own food). I also requested pamphlets and information from every major dog and cat food manufacturer. I informed as many customers as I could about the quality of their dog's food, and many of them switched to healthier, natural brands. It was so rewarding for me when people would come back to the store just to tell me what a difference I had made for their dog! Some were relieved of allergies that even their vets couldn't remedy, and all had shinier, healthier skin and coats and grateful owners. Since then, I have continued my research by searching for unbiased nutrition information, healthier alternatives, and the best commercial foods on the market, as well as subscribing to Whole Dog Journal for their unbiased information (they do not accept advertisements from pet food companies). I have compiled these years of research into this article. My goal is to educate people on what's really in their dogs' food, and hopefully persuade them to choose a healthier alternative so that their pets can lead longer, healthier lives.

Parasites in Dogs

<http://www.petplace.com/search.aspx?q=Parasites&c=1&p=1>

1. [Fenbendazole \(Panacur®\)](#)
Fenbendazole is used to remove certain gastrointestinal parasites from the stomach and intestines of animals.
2. [Lufenuron and Milbemycin \(Sentinel Flavor Tabs®\)](#)
Lufenuron and milbemycin (Sentinel Flavor Tabs®) are used to control heartworms, fleas and several common internal parasites including roundworms, hookworms and some whipworms.
3. [Amitraz \(Mitaban®, Preventic®\)](#)
Amitraz is a topical parasite control agent. It is suspected to work by interfering with the nervous system of susceptible parasites. Amitraz is often used in dogs for management of a serious skin parasite that causes demodectic mange.
4. [Ivermectin \(Ivomec®, Heartgard®\)](#)
Several drugs have been developed to kill or prevent parasites such as fleas, ticks, mites, and worms. Ivermectin and related drugs are among the most effective of these.
5. [Moxidectin \(Pro Heart®\)](#)
Moxidectin is a parasite control drug. It affects the nervous system of parasites, leading to their death, but is considered non-toxic to mammals.
6. [Pyrantel Pamoate \(Nemex®, Strongid® T\)](#)
Pyrantel pamoate is one of the most commonly used drugs for de-worming puppies and kittens. It can also be used for parasite control in adult pets and is relatively safe when administered to sick or debilitated animals requiring de-worming.
7. [Piperazine \(Pipa-Tabs®\)](#)
Piperazine belongs to a class of drugs known as ascaricides. These drugs are used to remove certain gastrointestinal parasites from animals.
8. [Metronidazole \(Flagyl®\)](#)
Metronidazole is a synthetic antibiotic and antiprotozoal used to treat and prevent bacterial infections, and to treat certain parasite infections. It is most often used to treat Giardia infections.
14. [Milbemycin/Praziquantel \(Milbemax\)](#)
Milbemycin/Praziquantel (Milbemax®) is used to control hookworm, roundworm, certain whipworm, and tapeworm infections in dogs and cats.
15. [Milbemycin Oxime \(Interceptor®\)](#)
Milbemycin oxime is used orally to control hookworm, roundworm and certain whipworm infections in dogs and cats. The drug is also a highly effective preventative of canine and feline heartworm disease.
16. [Praziquantel \(Droncit®, Drontal®\)](#)
The primary use of praziquantel is the control and elimination of tapeworm infections in dogs and cats.

It impairs the function of the parasite's sucker and helps dislodge the worm.

17. [Milbemycin Oxime \(MilbeMite\)](#)
Milbemycin has been found to be a highly effective and safe medication to treat ear mite infections in cats. It kills 99 to 100 percent of ear mites within 30 days, often within one week.
18. [Nitroscanate \(Lopato!®\)](#)
The primary use of nitroscanate is the control and elimination of tapeworm infections, fluke, roundworm, and hookworm infections in dogs.
19. [Diethylcarbamazine \(Filaribits®\)](#)
Diethylcarbamazine is primarily used to prevent heartworm infections. It also can be used to treat roundworm infections, but is infrequently employed for that purpose.
20. [Thiabendazole \(Tresaderm®\)](#)
The thiabendazole-containing preparation, Tresaderm®, is indicated for the treatment of acute and chronic otitis externa (ear infection/infection) caused by bacteria or ear mites.
21. [Melarsomine \(Immiticide®\)](#)
Melarsomine is used to treat heartworm infection in dogs. The precise method used (one or two stage) depends on the severity of the disease and the need for supportive care.
22. [Lufenuron \(Program®\)](#)
Lufenuron inhibits insect development within the insect egg. This prevents the egg from maturing to an adult insect. It is most commonly administered for flea control in dogs and in cats. It does not control ticks.
23. [Chlorhexidine](#)
Chlorhexidine is a topic solution used to kill and prevent the growth of microorganisms. It is classified as a disinfectant or cleanser agent.
24. [Nitenpyram \(CAPSTAR®\)](#)
Nitenpyram is indicated for the treatment of flea infestation in puppies, dogs, kittens, and cats. Nitenpyram kills fleas rapidly and safely.
25. [TrizEDTA \(Dermapet\)](#)
TrizEDTA is a buffer solution used primarily to treat ear infections, especially those contaminated with the bacteria Pseudomonas.
26. [Enrofloxacin \(Baytril®\)](#)
Enrofloxacin is used to treat a variety of infections, including skin infections, urinary tract infections, respiratory infections and wound infections. While enrofloxacin is highly effective, some bacteria are resistant to it.
27. [Amoxicillin](#)
Amoxicillin is prescribed to treat or control infections caused by susceptible bacteria. Infections treated with amoxicillin often include wounds, tooth abscesses and bladder infections.
28. [Cefadroxil \(Cefa-Tabs® and Cefa-Drops®\)](#)

Cefadroxil is used in both dogs and cats to treat bacterial infections, including skin infections and bladder infections. Cefadroxil is very similar to the popular drug cephalexin, and veterinarians often use the two drugs interchangeably.

29. [Cephalexin \(Keflex®\)](#)
Cephalexin is used in both dogs and cats to treat a variety of bacterial infections. Cephalexin is similar to the veterinary drug cefadroxil, and veterinarians often use the two drugs interchangeably.
30. [Chloramphenicol \(Chloromycetin®\)](#)
Chloramphenicol is an antibiotic used in dogs and cats. It inhibits bacteria by suppressing growth. It is effective against a range of bacteria and also may be effective against some one-celled pathogenic organisms.
31. [Clindamycin \(Antirobe®\)](#)
Clindamycin is used in both dogs and cats to treat bacterial infections, including skin infections, wound infections, bone infections, pneumonia, tooth infections and other infections of the oral cavity.
32. [Erythromycin](#)
Erythromycin is used in both dogs and cats to treat bacterial infections, including skin infections, wound infections, bone infections, pneumonia and sinus infections. It also has been used for some tick-borne infections, such as Lyme disease.
33. [Fluconazole \(Diflucan®\)](#)
Fluconazole is effective only against fungal or yeast organisms. These fungi are the ones that cause skin infections commonly known as “ringworm” and toenail infections.
34. [Griseofulvin \(Fulvicin®\)](#)
Griseofulvin is effective only against fungal organisms that affect the skin and hair. These fungi, which cause skin infections, are commonly known as “ringworm” and toenail infections.
35. [Trimethoprim/Sulfadiazine \(Tribrissen®\)](#)
Trimethoprim is an effective antibiotic that becomes even more effective when combined with a sulfonamide (sulfa drug). The combination exhibits a greater spectrum of activity against microorganisms that cause infectious disease.
36. [Clotrimazole \(Otomax® , Otibiotic®\)](#)
Clotrimazole is prescribed to treat or control infections caused by susceptible fungi (yeasts and molds). Clotrimazole is most often used in veterinary medicine as a combination product designed to treat ear infections.
37. [Nystatin \(Panalog®\)](#)
Nystatin is prescribed to treat or control infections caused by susceptible fungi (molds, yeast). It should be stressed that some fungi are resistant to the effects of the drug.
38. [Orbifloxacin \(Orbax®\)](#)
Orbifloxacin is a broad-spectrum antibiotic used to treat infections in animals caused by susceptible bacteria.
39. [Ampicillin \(Polyflex®\)](#)

Ampicillin is an antibiotic related to penicillin used to treat and prevent bacterial infections.

40. [Fipronil \(Frontline®\)](#)
Fipronil is a phenylpyrazole antiparasitic agent primarily used to kill adult fleas and ticks. It works by interfering with the brain and spinal cord of insects, resulting in death.
41. [Ciprofloxacin \(Cipro®, Ciloxan®\)](#)
Ciprofloxacin is a broad-spectrum antibiotic used to treat infections in animals caused by susceptible bacteria. This drug is classified as a fluoroquinolone antibiotic.
42. [Cefazolin \(Kefzol®, Ancef®\)](#)
Cefazolin is used in both dogs and cats to treat a variety of bacterial infections, including skin infections, wound infections, bone infections, pneumonia and bladder infections.
43. [Cephalothin](#)
Cephalothin is an antibiotic of the cephalosporin class. It is related to the penicillin drugs in how it kills bacteria, but cephalosporins have a much broader range of activity against bacteria than penicillins.
44. [Lincomycin \(Lincocin®\)](#)
Lincomycin is an antibiotic that is used in dogs and cats. It inhibits bacteria by suppressing protein synthesis and growth.
45. [Penicillin G](#)
Penicillin G is an antibiotic used to treat and prevent bacterial infections. This is a natural penicillin and is cultured from a bacteria.
46. [Rifampin \(Rifadin®, Rimactane®\)](#)
Rifampin is a semi-synthetic antibiotic used to treat infections in animals caused by susceptible fungi. This drug is commonly administered in conjunction with amphotericin B and flucytocine.
47. [Selamectin \(Revolution®\)](#)
Selamectin is an antiparasitic agent primarily used to kill adult fleas and ticks. It also kills ear mites, feline hookworms, feline roundworms and sarcoptic mange. It also prevents heartworm infection.
48. [Sulfadimethoxine/ Ormetoprim \(Primor®\)](#)
Sulfadimethoxine and ormetoprim are two different antibiotics compounded into one drug.
49. [Cefpodoxime Proxetil \(Simplicef®\)](#)
Cefpodoxime proxetil is an antibiotic of the cephalosporin class. It is related to the penicillin drugs in how it kills bacteria.
50. [Oxytetracycline \(Terramycin®, Liguamycin®\)](#)
Oxytetracycline is used in both dogs and cats to treat bacterial infections, including respiratory infections of the sinuses, wound infections, pneumonia, infections of the oral cavity and infections of the blood cells.

51. [Ketoconazole \(Nizoral®\)](#)
Ketoconazole is used in both dogs and cats to treat infections caused by fungi. These infections may affect the skin, claws, lymph nodes, respiratory tract, bone and other tissues.
52. [Ceftriaxone \(Rocephin®\)](#)
Ceftriaxone is an antibiotic, characterized as a third generation injectable cephalosporin used to treat serious infections, particularly those caused by susceptible strains of Enterobacteriaceae.
53. [Cefotixin \(Mefoxin®\)](#)
Cefotixin sodium is an antibiotic. It is further categorized as a second-generation cephalosporin produced by *Streptomyces lactamdurans*.



Moses on his perch (Can CH Boomer x Amber)

AKC'S GUIDE TO SYMBOL LEGEND ON YOUR PEDIGREE

AFC or AFCh	Amateur Field Champion
AKC	American Kennel Club
AX	Agility Dog Excellent
BIS	Best in Show (Conformation)
BB or BOB	Best of Breed
CD	Companion Dog (1st level Obedience Title)
CDX	Companion Dog Excellent (2nd level obedience title)
CKC	Canadian Kennel Club
Ch	Champion (Conformation)
CT	Champion Tracker - dog has completed TD, TDX, VST
DC or DCh	Dual Champion (FC +Ch)
FC or FCh	Field Champion
FDHF	Field Dog Hall of Fame (GRCA Award Grand Champion
GCH GRCA	Golden Retriever Club - The national (Parent) club for the GoldenRetriever, representing the breed in the AKC
HIT or HSDT	"High in Trial" or Highest Scoring Dog in Trial
JAM	Judges Award of Merit
JH	Junior Hunter
MH	Master Hunter
MX	Master Agility Excellent
NA	Novice Agility - 1st level agility title
NAFC	National Amateur Field Champion
NFC or NFCh	National Field Trial Champion
OA	Open Agility - 2nd level agility title
OD	Outstanding Dam - GRCA Award
ODHF	Obedience Dog Hall of Fame - GRCA Award
OFA	Orthopedic Foundation for Animals, Inc. - registry for Golden Retrievers (and other breeds) with normal hips
OS	Outstanding Sire - GRCA Award
OTCh	Obedience Trial Champion
SDHF	Show Dog Hall of Fame - GRCA Award
SH	Senior Hunter
TD	Tracking Dog
TDX	Tracking Dog Excellent
UD	Utility Dog (3rd level Obedience title)
UDT	Utility Dog Tracker (UD +TD)
UDTX	Utility Dog Tracker Excellent (UD + TDX)
VC	Versatility Certificate (GRCA title)
VCX	Versatility Excellent Certificate (GRCA title)
VST	Variable Surface Tracker
WC	Working Certificate (GRCA title)

WCX Working Certificate Excellent (GRCA title)
WB Winners Bitch
WD Winners Dog

* WC

** Any placement or a JAM in Derby or a 3rd or 4th placement or a JAM in a Qualifying Stake, in an AKC Licensed or Member Field Trial

*** "Qualified All-Age dog" (1st or 2nd placement in Qualifying Stake, or any placement or a JAM in Open All-Age Stake at an AKC Licensed or Member Field Trial giving championship points.



American Champion title in Conformation for our Striker!
He's Am/Can CH Nautilus Goldiva's Good N Plenty, professional handled by Mark & Pam Desrossiers

Vacationing With Your Pet

www.petfriendlytravels.com is personally recommended by Dr. Jude & Kate Malican on our Testimonial page.

Airlines that Ship Pets

Pets Alaskan Airlines

Cargo Customer Service Center:

1-800-225-2752

www.alaskaair.com

Air Canada

www.aircanada.ca

American Airlines

www.aacargo.com

Continental Airlines

www.cocargo.com

Delta Pet First

Air Logistics professionals:

800-DL-CARGO (800-352-2746)

www.delta.com

Northwest Airlines

1-800-NWCARGO (1-800-692-2746)

www.nwa.com

United Airlines

United Cargo at 800-UA-CARGO

www.ual.com

Organizations that Ship

www.Jet-a-Pet.com

888-JET-A-PET. I Personally used this service a few years ago when a client from CT came to visit my kennel. She was moving to Singapore with her family and wanted to have her 3 month old Golden puppy shipped to her. Mel Goldman is the owner and was very easy to work with. They shipped the crate to me and picked up the pup to transport to Logan Airport at 2 am for a 6 am flight. They have offices in Westport, CT; New York, NY; Boulder, CO; Los Angeles, CA; and in Ohio. *(Mary Cashin)*

Healthy Dog Treats

Liver Treats for Dogs

- 1 cup beef or chicken liver
- 2 c. oats
- 1 c. rice, rye or barley flour
- 2 eggs
- 1 1/2 T. garlic
- 1 T. parsley

Sautee liver in bacon grease for about 15 minutes. Then simmer for 30-45 minutes. Add a little water if necessary. Let cool for about 30 minutes, and chop into small pieces. Or you can add all the ingredients in a food processor. After chopping, add all other ingredients. Place in shaped spoonfuls on a baking sheet on 250 for 45 min. to an hour or set outside in hot sun to dehydrate. Let cool overnight.

Salmon Cookies

In memory of Cosette

- 15oz can of Salmon or Jack Mackerel
- 1 cup barley or rye flour
- 1 egg
- 1 tsp of salt
- 1 tsp of baking powder
- Optional: add sprinkle of garlic powder if desired

Mix together fish, plus ALL liquid from can, salt & baking powder, add enough flour for texture

Spread out on cookie sheet

Score into sections (easier to break apart when done)

Bake at 350 degrees for about 30 minutes or crust is golden

Store in container in frig or freezer for longer periods of time

(you can also use millet flour, amaranth, quinoa, rice or chickpea flours in any of these recipes- available at health food stores.)



3 Lovely Champions, Left to right: Can CH Duchess, Am CH Sookie, Can CH Martini (10 AKC pts)