



Waggin' Tails Dog Rescue

Autumn
2009

A 501(c)(3) non-profit, all-volunteer organization dedicated to rescuing, caring for, and placing companion animals in homes. We educate the public on respect for all animal life including the importance of spaying and neutering to reduce the number of animals euthanized.

October is National Adopt-a-Shelter-Dog Month.

Be an animal advocate and spread the word about all the great dogs at rescues & shelters, just waiting to be loved!

See page 2 for more info.



Rover's Got Game!



Teach your dog to recognize the command to *search*. Start by using your dog's favorite treats. Train him to recognize the command by hiding the treat in different pockets and hands and then say the command. The command can be anything as long as you're consistent. We like the word *search*.

Once your dog can successfully sniff out the treat on your person, move the treat to various areas in your home or yard.

Teach your dog to find his favorite toy, too. Treats will now be used as rewards. Take your dog into one room and let him smell the toy. Go into another room or even an area outside and hide the toy. Let the dog out of the room or area he is in and give the *search* command.

Repeat the process until your dog is successful. Taking him to where the toy is hidden helps him understand that you want your dog to *search*. Each time your pooch finds his toy, give him praise and a treat! Great entertainment for you & Fido!

The scoop on PARVO

Parvo disease is a virus that is extremely contagious and sometimes fatal. Vaccination does not entirely rule out the possibility of a young dog getting it. Symptoms, which may appear between 3 and 7 days following contact with it, include vomiting, diarrhea, dehydration and fever. This virus can live in yards and homes, and even at shelters for many months, and continue to be a threat to any dog who is exposed.

We think this is a crucial issue to discuss with your veterinarian. We want your dog to be safe, happy and healthy.

Read more about Parvovirus and other health issues at www.PetEducation.com



Peanut Butter – Pumpkin Bites



Make your dog howl with anticipation for these homemade treats!

INGREDIENTS

- 2 1/2 cups whole wheat flour
- 2 eggs
- 1/2 cup canned pumpkin
- 2 tablespoons peanut butter
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon



Woody likes his snacks

in a Kong!

DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 350.
2. Mix all ingredients in bowl.
3. Add enough water to make dough workable. Dough should be dry and stiff.
4. Roll dough into 1/2" balls and criss-cross each with fork.
5. Bake until hard, approx 40 mins.



Don't Shop - Adopt!

Every animal lover should be aware of the terrible conditions breeding dogs endure at puppy mills. When consumers stop demanding the 'product' (puppies) from pet stores and online, these mills will go out of business. However, many soft-hearted buyers will be drawn to 'rescue' a sad-faced pup from a store or be deceived by retailers who promise that their puppies do not come from mills. The sad truth is that no matter how good the intention, buying a puppy from a store or online simply makes room for another pup to be produced at a mill.

Visit www.StopPuppyMills.org for more information.

Sure, people think that adopting a 'used' dog is like buying a used car. Who wants someone else's problems, right? If the dog is so wonderful, why would anyone give him away? If he was a stray, why didn't someone try to find him? I'd rather buy a puppy so I know what I'm getting, and besides, they're so cute! All of us in rescue know that wonderful dogs get stuck in shelters. Some just need a little TLC or training and they are good to go! That's why we take these 'used' lost souls into our homes, get to know them, so we can better match them to an adoptive family that will take care of them the rest of their lives.

Check out www.PetFinder.com to search for all of the available pets ready to go to their new homes!

It's inevitable...there's a chill in the night air now but we suggest staying warm by curling up with your furry best bud and a good book! Here are some books we dig:

1. Bonding with Your Dog: A Trainer's Secrets for Building a Better Relationship

By Victoria Schade. Good ideas to build a great friendship with your pooch!



2. Don't Dump the Dog by Randy Grim and Melinda Roth

Simple solutions to your worst dog behavior problems.

3. Dog Park Wisdom by Lisa Wogan

Packed with tips for a happy life with your dog.



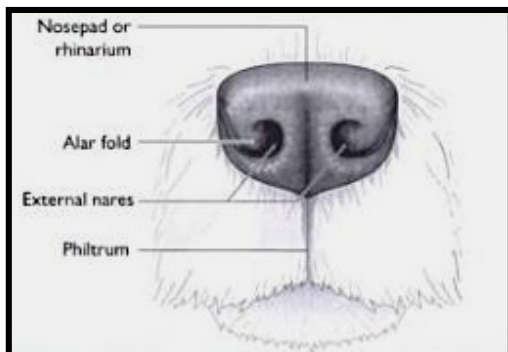
For Kids: Dog Breath!
Horrible Trouble With Hally Tosis
by Dav Pilkey

A story about a dog named Hally who lives with the Tosis family.

Born to Sniff A dog's nose is as important to a dog as our eyes are to us.

A dog's sense of smell dominates his world! Inside the nose are bony scroll-shaped plates, called *turbinates*, over which air passes. This organ is a thick, spongy membrane that contains most of the scent-detecting cells, as well as the nerves that transport information to the brain. In humans, the area containing these odor analyzers is about one square inch in size. In a dog it is 60 square inches! A dog's brain is also specialized for identifying these scents. The percentage of the dog's brain that is devoted to analyzing smells is actually 40 times larger than that of a human!

It's been estimated that dogs can identify smells somewhere between 1,000 to 10,000 times better than us nasally-challenged humans can.



The next time your dog is sniffing at the ground, get close and watch him in action. You may catch the air folds (or Alar fold) at the sides of his nose expand as he exhales air. This helps to dispel air away from the actual scent the dog is taking in and analyzing.

Your dog's nosepad (or rhinarium) also has a pattern of ridges and dimples that, in combination with the outline of its nostril openings (the external nares), make up a *nose print* believed to be as individual and unique as a human being's fingerprints.

So, the next time you're on a walk with your dog, remember to let him get his sniff on. He needs to be a dog and do what comes natural. He just needs to read his pee-mail!

Halloween Safety for your Pooch

Keep your pets safe and stress-free this time of year



That bowlful of candy is for trick-or-treaters only! Chocolate in all forms, especially dark or baking chocolate, can be dangerous for dogs, if ingested. Also, candies containing the artificial sweetener xylitol can be poisonous for your dog. Even small amounts of this sweetener can cause a sudden drop in blood sugar, which leads to depression, lack of coordination and seizures. Ingesting tin foil and cellophane candy wrappers can pose a choking hazard or cause intestinal blockage.

If you do dress up your pet, make sure the costume isn't annoying or unsafe. It should not constrict the animal's movement or hearing, or impede his ability to breathe or bark.



All but the most social dogs and cats should be kept in a separate room away from the front door during peak trick-or-treat visiting hours. Too many strangers can be scary and stressful for pets. When opening the door for trick-or-treaters, take care that your cat or dog doesn't dart outside. Always make sure your dog has proper identification. If for any reason your pet escapes and become lost, a collar and tags and/or a microchip can increase the chances that he or she will be returned to you.

Tips from the Trainer

by Judi Hales, Certified Dog Trainer and Waggin' Tails Volunteer



Judi – Please Help!

My dog, a 75lb Shepherd / Labrador Retriever mix, jumps up on us to greet us every time we come in the door. He is a really great and loving dog, but we're afraid someone is going to get hurt. How can we stop him from jumping up?

– At my wit's end in Wixom

Dear Wixom dog lover,

Don't lose hope! Please keep in mind that jumping is a natural instinct for dogs. What we need to do is help your dog to unlearn a natural behavior that has been reinforced by getting what he was seeking... Attention. Even bad attention. Dogs do what works for them, and if jumping up on someone got him attention, then he will continue to do it. Always remember that patience and consistency with all the family members is crucial. One thing that bothers me, that I keep hearing from dog owners, is to knee the dog in the chest if you want to teach him to not jump up. Picture yourself seeing a good friend of yours, walking up to that person to give a warm, friendly hug and in return your friend punches you in the stomach. Would you be happy about seeing your friend again?

What we need to do is take away what the dog is seeking. Attention. When your dog jumps up on you, you need to turn your back, give a practiced no-reward marker, such as Eh Eh or No, and offer an alternate behavior that your dog knows well, like SIT. If your dog sits, reward him by slightly bending to his level and petting calmly. If you give too much praise at this time, the dog will likely jump up again in his excitement. Keep in mind, with many learned bad behaviors, there may be an Extinction Burst from your dog, meaning, it may get worse before it gets better. An example is getting on an elevator and pushing the floor button, if the doors don't close, you would likely keep pushing the button to make it work. Your dog may jump more and even add barking. Be strong and do not look at him or give him attention. Attention should only be given when your dog is behaving appropriately. You may have to reward for small improvements and build on these. Patience is important! After all, a 75lb dog can easily knock someone over.

Special Thanks

Our organization simply could not exist without the kindness and support of the community. We'd like to thank the following businesses for their generosity, which allows us to help so many needy dogs.

Dean Gardner of Walk This Way Dog Training

Dog's Bow Wow, Livonia
A-Quality Vet Care, Livonia
Breckenridge Veterinary, Novi
Griffith Veterinary, Whitmore Lake
Home Health Care for Pets, Whitmore Lake

All About Animals, Warren

Meadowbrook Veterinary Clinic, Novi
Parkway Veterinary Clinic, Canton
Roose Animal Hospital, Plymouth
My Dog's Groomer, Canton



Tall Oaks Kennel, Whitmore Lake
Thanks for all you do for us and the dogs!

ADOPTION EVENTS

PETCO, Canton
Every 2nd Saturday, 12:30 - 4:30

PETSMART, Canton
Every 4th Saturday, 12 - 3pm



Busch's Market - Livonia and West Bloomfield

SUPPORT WAGGIN' TAILS in the U of M BIG HOUSE-BIG HEART Run/Walk
Sunday, Oct. 4th Check our website for more details. Go Blue & Go Tails!



Kady

Ask us about Fostering!

These cuties are just begging for a fresh start.



Rowan



Mila



Zeus



Rusty

Visit our booth at Whitmore Lake's Harvest Festival
It's sure to be a doggone good time in downtown Whitmore Lake, Sept. 26th

Full Bowls, Full Bellies Pet Food Program

We offer assistance and secure donations of food and money, specifically to help people in our own community feed their pets. If you know of a dog (we feed kitties, too) whose owners have fallen on hard times and their pet(s) needs nourishment or would like to donate to this program, please call our main voicemail hotline at 248-788-7050 or send us an email at FullBowlsFullBellies@yahoo.com.



Friend us on **facebook**

Follow us on **TWITTER!**

Waggin' Tails Dog Rescue
PO Box 438
Northville, MI 48167



Voicemail Hotline: 248-788-7050
Email: wtdr2008@yahoo.com
Website: www.WagginTailsDogRescue.org



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