

## Wags and Purrs Comfort Corner

## **Updating Pet Identifications**



December is usually a fast paced month, full of rushing to prepare for the holidays, shopping, visiting friends and planning gatherings with family. It's easy to see how the mundane can easily get lost in the shuffle.

As the month begins, and before everything gets too hectic, take this time to renew your pet's license with your local county. All dogs three months or older must be licensed by January 1 of each year and forgetting to do so could land you a hefty maximum fine of \$300 per violation plus court costs.

Not only is licensing your pet the law, if your pet ever gets lost, having a current license tag on your pet's collar is the fastest way to get them back home if someone finds them.

While updating your pet's license, take this time to make sure all ID tags and microchips contain current and up-to-date information and phone

# Health Tip for the Season

Winter weather can be very dangerous for our pets' paws! Exposure to cold temperatures and snow increase the risk of frostbite and deicing salt can cause irritation or burns. Applying an all natural wax, such as Mushers Paw Protection wax to pet's paws can provide a much needed barrier to keep out the elements.

Frostbite and hypothermia are serious concerns in the winter months. Susceptible areas like ears, tails and paw pads are the first areas affected. If you notice your pet is getting too cold, remember to warm them up slowly. A warm blanket from the dryer is an easy way to warm your cold pet.

# Training Tip for the Season

The holidays can be a fun and festive time for us, but they can lead our pets into danger. Family coming in and out, doors numbers. Many found pets are scanned for microchips but sadly only a fraction of them are registered to their current owners and have updated information. This is also a great time to make sure your pet has their current rabies vaccination tag as well.

Thankfully, renewing your pet's license and updating microchip information is easier than ever with most counties having online renewal services. For more information on dog license renewals, visit <u>http://www.licenseyourdogpa.pa.gov/</u> Please be aware there is a scam going around this year regarding pet licensing. If you are planning to renew online, don't use the search engine, instead type the above address directly into your browser or click the link above. When in doubt, call your county treasurer's office.

#### Allegheny County Treasurer's Office:

https://www.alleghenycounty.us/treasurersoffice/dog-license.aspx

(412) 350-4103

#### Westmoreland County Treasurer's Office

https://www.co.westmoreland.pa.us/121/Dog-License

(724) 830-3195

While changing your pet's ID tag on their collar, this is the perfect time to check for any loose clips, buckles, D-rings or fraying pieces on their collar. A broken collar is the second most common reason a pet gets lost. By assuring the collar is secure and in good working condition, you reduce the risk of a lost pet.

By making it a habit to do this every December, you can guarantee to never miss a renewal.

opening and closing, and yummy food and candy set about - all can put pets at risk.

Whether it's to keep pets safe or give them a place of their own to relax, the beginning of December is a good time to go over crate training with your pet. Our article <u>Crates</u> -<u>Why They Are Important</u> is a great refresher article for this.

# Pet Sitter Tip for the Season

The holidays bring many fun and exciting experiences with them, but for some of us, they also bring stress. Fighting crowds, running around, baking, planning and more planning, it can leave us all frazzled. This is especially true for pet sitters who are not only dealing with the same things, but are in a very busy time of year for them. We realize unplanned things can pop up during the holiday season - and will try our best to accommodate -but please realize, we don't always have the availability to accept last minute requests.

Featured Pets of the Month



## 3 Black female kittens

Comfort at Home Pet Services recently came into custody of 3 gorgeous black kittens and are in need of donations for their care.

All 3 are black, spayed females with rabies vaccinations. Two of them are around 3 months old and one is a bit older at around 6 months.

We are in need of food, litter, blankets and monetary donations to help cover the cost of their vet bills to get them fully vaccinated and examined to prepare them for their forever home. Anything would help us greatly!

All 3 are currently looking for a forever home, so please share them and help make their holiday dream come true! Please contact Jen Sybol at 724-366-1568 or Jen@comforthomepetservices.com with any adoption inquiries.

Monetary donations can be made via paypal to jennifersybol@yahoo.com and all donations of food, litter and blankets can be marked "Comfort at Home" and left for pick up during your visit or contact Jen Sybol for a scheduled pickup.

Any donations not used for the care of the kittens will be donated to CART to help any pets during a disaster.

### Thank you for helping us to help them!

**December Birthdays** 



These pets will be celebrating a birthday in the month of December!

Lizzy Bytner Lux Clark Candy Clemente **Beppe Diorio** Kara Doyle-Bucci Elu Ferson Moose Ferson Lewie Fine Maggie Gavaler Olivia LaBella Jake McCrory Maverick McGowan Blaze Rubright Taylor Schroeder Cheerio Sybol Reginald Tarbett

## Happy Birthday, all! Paw-ty hard!

## Healthy Homemade Treats for the Season

### Christmas Cookie Dog Biscuits

#### Ingredients

- 21/2 cups oat flour
- 1 cup finely ground almond flour
- 4 large strawberries, diced
- 1/3 cup pure pumpkin puree
- 1/3 cup water
- 2 tablespoons coconut oil



#### Directions

Preheat oven to 350°F. Line two baking sheets with parchment paper. Set aside. In a large bowl, mix all dry ingredients together.

In a separate bowl, mix all wet ingredients together.

Add wet ingredients to dry ingredients and thoroughly combine. Mix with a spoon or fork.

With your hands, knead dough for several minutes, eventually forming a dough ball.

Let dough rest for about 10-15 minutes in the freezer before rolling flat. Sandwich dough ball between two sheets of parchment paper and roll flat (about 1/4" thick) with a rolling pin.

Using a cookie cutter, stamp out biscuits.

Place biscuits on baking sheet and bake 30 minutes.

Transfer biscuits to a wire rack to cool.

### Crispy Liver Morsels

#### Ingredients:

- 1/2 cup cooked chicken livers
- 1/4 cup water
- 1 1/4 cup whole wheat flour
- 1/4 cup cooked carrot, mashed
- 1 tablespoon soft margarine

#### Directions:

Preheat the oven to 325 F. Place well-done livers in a blender with 1/4 cup water.

In a bowl, combine flour and margarine.

Add liver mixture and carrots and knead dough into a ball.

Roll dough to 1/4 inch thick and cut into one-inch sized pieces.

Place cookies on a greased cookie sheet and bake at 325 F for 10 minute

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