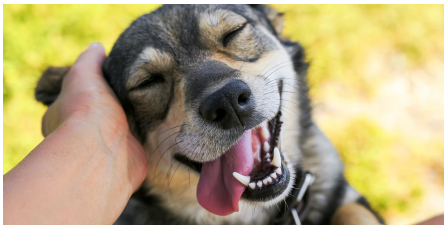




Wags and Purrs Comfort Corner

Responsible Dog Ownership Month



September is Responsible Dog Ownership Month, but what does it take to be a responsible dog owner?

First, when adopting a dog it should always be done with the thought that the dog will be part of the family. Pets need their own time and space, as do children and pet parents, but pets should never be left outside on a chain all day. Pets are social animals and they want to be near their families and as such should be living in their family home.

Health and Wellness, including proper veterinary care, a healthy diet and exercise are the foundations of responsible pet ownership. Dogs should be fed a healthy diet and proper amount for their size. Overweight pets can suffer from many health ailments including joint issues and diabetes. Exercise will help keep pets at a healthy weight and will also give them an outlet for their physical and mental energy. A bored dog is often a destructive dog – play time, walks and mental stimulation toys allow them to have a productive place to let off some of their energy. Pet parents should schedule yearly health and wellness visits for their dogs at least once a year. Yearly checkups with a trusted veterinarian can help keep a pet healthy and if there is an issue that needs addressed, it can be found early and treated.

Training your pet is a huge part of being a responsible dog owner. Untrained pets can cause damage to

Health Tip for the Season

Never leave your pets outside unattended. You may think they are safe in their own yard but more dogs are stolen out of their own yards than anywhere else! If not attended, a pet could also break their tie out, dig under the fence or even jump the fence! Invisible fences also have their flaws, and a scared pet could easily run right through the fence line. For the safety of your pet, always watch them while outside.

Training Tip for the Season

A fun training tip for learning recall is to play hide and seek with your pet! By playing hide and seek with your pet, they will learn to follow your voice and find their way back to you. This can be an extremely handy tip if your pet ever gets lost. Please, only practice this game in a secure, fenced in area or in the house. If your pet is still

the home and property and are a risk to family members, other people, and even themselves. Training should start as soon as the puppy or dog enters the home. Dogs aren't born knowing what is expected of them, and if rescued, a pet may have had other rules at other homes or no rules at all. If help is needed, consider hiring a professional trainer.

All pets need socialization. Socialization isn't just introducing your dog to other pets, it's teaching your new pet to be comfortable in different situations, around other animals and people, household items, places and objects. If you notice your pet is becoming overwhelmed, anxious or stressed, remove them from the situation, object or person. Socialization should always be a positive experience.

Being a responsible pet parent will help build a better bond with your pet, and will keep them healthy and well to be able to make memories with their family as long as possible.

experiencing issues with recall, it may be time to work with a professional trainer to keep your pet safe.

Pet Sitter Tip for the Season

Always keep your pets tags handy and in a place your pet sitter will know to get them. All pets being taken out for a walk must have a current license and rabies tag on them. A pet found to be outside without proper licensing and rabies tags could result in hefty fines for the pet parent. In addition to the legalities of tags, if your pet should get lost, tags will help anyone who finds your pet get in contact with you.

Featured Organization of the Month



C.A.R.T

The Westmoreland/Fayette/Allegheny County Animal Response Team (CART) is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization dedicated to helping animals in times of disaster or emergency. Every County has a CART, which operates under the guidance of the State Animal Response Team (SART). CART Members come from all walks of life but share a love for animals, and are trained, credentialed emergency response officials. CART has two primary missions. The first is temporary

sheltering for animals displaced by emergencies or disasters, such as fires, floods, extreme weather, etc. Like the Red Cross, which opens temporary shelters for people who have had to evacuate their home, CART can quickly set up a temporary animal shelter for animals displaced as a result of a disaster or emergency. It is critically important that when people must evacuate their home that they take their pets with them, and CART can give them peace of mind knowing that there is a safe place for their pets to go while they are in a temporary shelter for people. CART does not just deal with small animals like dogs, cats, reptiles, birds, etc., but can also, if need be during a disaster, arrange temporary sheltering for large animals such as horses as well as livestock. CART can also provide "Pet Care Comfort Kits" of supplies for people who may have lost everything in a disaster.

CART's other main mission is technical rescue, and that generally involves the use of specialized equipment to rescue animals that have somehow gotten themselves "stuck." Just a few of the technical rescues CART has conducted include the rescue of horses stuck in mud or cast in a trailer or stall, the extrication of a calf that had fallen into an abandoned mine shaft, a cat in a wall, and a dog in a sewer line. While all CART Members have completed extensive training, those serving on the Large Animal Team are required to complete specialized large animal technical rescue training due to the dangers involved when dealing with large animals such as horses or livestock, as well as the need to be proficient in the use of specialized rescue equipment.

CART is generally called out through 911 or by other First Responders or the Red Cross. While CART is not authorized to enforce animal cruelty laws, it can be called out to assist Humane Officers or Police for such things as animal hoarding situations. Also, while CART does not normally deal with wildlife, it can provide assistance to the Game Commission or Wildlife Centers by transporting injured wildlife.

CART is especially proud of its Pet Oxygen Mask Program. Program Sponsors provide funding for the purchase of special pet oxygen masks, and CART then distributes the masks to fire departments and other first responders, and also provides them with training on the masks as well as pet first aid and CPR. To date CART has been able to provide over 370 sets of pet oxygen masks to over 125 fire departments or other emergency response organizations.

More information about CART, including how to become a CART Member, sponsor pet oxygen masks, make a monetary donation, or donate items for our Pet Care Comfort Kits, can be found on CART's website:
<http://westmorelandcart.weebly.com/>

You can also find information about recent incidents, activities, etc. on CART's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/WFACART.PA/>

September Birthdays



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

Yoopers Nelson
Stella Adams
Tewa Ellis
Bob Kienholz
Joe Jojo Kienholz
Clio Rubright
Charlie Siskind
Loki Hankins Roberto
Mya Davis
Isabella Botts
Koby Swarts
Millie Verrilla
Mia Marcus
Major Leonard

Happy Birthday, all! Paw-ty hard!

Healthy Homemade Treats for the Season

Peanut Butter Carrot Cake

Ingredients:

- 1 cup flour
- 1 tsp. baking
- soda
- 1/4 cup peanut
- butter
- 1/4 cup
- vegetable oil
- 1 cup shredded
- carrots
- 1 tsp. vanilla



- 1/3 cup honey
- 1 egg

Preheat oven to 350 F

In large bowl mix all ingredients together.
Spread into a greased 8x8 baking pan.
Bake for 30 minutes.
Cool, cut and serve

Carrot and Catnip Cat Treats

Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons oil
- 1 1/4 cups flour
- 1 tablespoon dried catnip optional
- 3/4 cup finely shredded carrot
- 1 large egg, lightly beaten



Preheat oven to 375 degrees F.

Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.

In medium bowl add oil and mix in 1 cup of the flour until mixture looks sandy.

Stir in catnip and carrots.

Mix in egg. Add a little water if the mixture looks too dry and isn't holding together. Add a little flour if the mixture looks too wet and sticky. (Sometimes the carrots can be more wet or dry.)

Sprinkle flat surface with a little additional flour and roll or pat out dough to 1/4 inch thickness. Sprinkle dough with additional flour as needed.

Prick dough all over with a fork. Use pizza wheel to cut dough into 1/2 inch squares.

Arrange squares on prepared baking sheet.

Bake for about 12 minutes or until starting to brown. (Bake longer for drier texture.)

Cool on baking sheet.

Barking Truth

Clients, followers and friends have voiced their appreciation of our educational blogs and monthly newsletters and have urged us to release a pet care podcast. We are excited to announce that we have answered the call with Barking Truth, a podcast exposing the truth in the pet industry to keep all pets safe, healthy and well.

We will be releasing a new podcast every Wednesday and hope you can tune in and support pets everywhere by uncovering the truth of pet care.

Be sure to follow us on Anchor, Spotify or your favorite podcast service.



Barking Truth

By Comfort at Home Pet Services



Wags and Purrs Comfort Corner strives to provide educational, informative and fun content to our readers! We love hearing your feedback on our newsletters and blogs and want to know what you, dear reader, would like to see in future newsletters and blogs. Are there topics you are interested in that we haven't covered or you would like more specific information? Please feel free to let us know. We'd love to hear from you!

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to Jen@comforthomepetservices.com

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