

## DOG FRIENDLY TRAILS, BEACHES & MORE

Tis the season for lots of hiking, the weather is just right and the seasonal colors are magnificent. Don't forget that it's also hunting season, protect you and your pet by wearing blaze orange accessories on the trails! And don't forget to bring plenty of water and a bowl for your dog, don't let him or her drink water you would not drink yourself.

After a long hike or walk, a great bite to eat is in order... Check out our "Things to Do, Places to See and Stuff to Remember" binder for a list of Dog Friendly Restaurants in Southern Maine! We love to add info and events to this book and welcome anything you can add to our community resource!

Check out the added section, it includes Jack and Amos's Great Summer Vacation complete with all their trip highlights and photos! We welcome your photo journals!

## GROOMING DOES MAKE FOR A HEALTHIER HAPPIER DOG

Appearance aside, proper grooming minimizes painful matting, skin and ear infections as well as other health issues. True, groomers are not Vets however, groomers can alert owners to potential problems which are easily masked by heavy coats and dirt - often smell is associated with being dirty when in fact an infection is brewing unbeknownst to owners. Dogs react to feeling pain and discomfort much like humans with a change in attitude and behavior, dogs may exhibit aggression when in fact they simply feel awful and want to be left alone. Partner with your groomer to determine the best maintenance schedule that meets your dogs health needs and your pocketbook.

**SOMETHING NEW JUST FOR YOU!** We are now offering Standing Spa Appointments to our Daycare Clients! This takes grooming appointments off your list of things to do and moves it to ours! We will automatically fit your dog in for grooming on a regular basis - generally every 4-6 weeks (*you tell us*). We keep track of the scheduling and will invoice you for the service. This is especially handy for our big hairy dogs whose grooming needs can easily get out of control. If you don't wish to have your dog on a Standing Spa Reservation, please remember that we usually schedule out at least one week in advance - and during busy times: like spring, summer and holidays, up to two weeks out. As always, our groomers will work with you to meet your pet's unique grooming needs.

## OUR HOLIDAY & VACATION "CLOSED" DAYS FOR THIS LAST QUARTER

Thursday, November 26 - Thanksgiving

Friday, December 25, Christmas

Friday, January 31, New Years Day

## ADJUSTED HOURS - HOLIDAY EXTENTIONS

Friday, November 27<sup>th</sup> - Open by Advance Reservations Only

Thursday, December 24<sup>th</sup> - Closing at 4pm

We want our Staff to enjoy these Special Holidays with their Families



4th quarter Newsletter 2009 - Issue 4

Dear Friends,

With the cooler weather now upon us, we have decided to dedicate this issue to Health and Safety for our four legged family members as well as our valued staff. Pet safety is very important all year round; especially when the seasons change and we get busier and busier as the holidays creep up on us. During the summer we humans are very good about making sure our pets have plenty of water but, in the fall we tend to get lax simply because it's cooler and perhaps we seem less thirsty. Dogs are different and more susceptible to dehydration which can cause kidney and bladder problems. Be sure to always leave out plenty of fresh clean water all year round.

On to winter.. Did you know that your pet can get frost bite? Their poor little foot pads are always on that cold hard ground; sure they toughen up but, not so much that it will keep them from getting frost bite. If you enjoy winter outings with your dog, long walks, snowshoeing, etc; get your pet some little boots to keep the snow from getting stuck between their toes and to keep their feet a little warmer. Another option is "Mushers" a natural wax that eliminates snowballing for those breeds with a lot of fur under their feet.

The snow is actually the least of all our problems; the ice is the true menace to any being that stands on any number of legs. The majority of chemicals used to melt ice can burn your pet's foot pads; you'll see Fido lifting his/her feet alternately. There are milder substitutes; we recommend "Safe Paws" as the preferred ice melt that is safe for pets & the environment. There are other brands but, we've found some have little rubber particles which do not disintegrate, and track into your home.

In closing; beware of Chocolates and Antifreeze; both are tasty to your pet but highly toxic! We all want our pets safe and healthy during the upcoming holidays & throughout the winter season.

*Jeanne & Bob*

## HEALTH AND SAFETY

Over the past several months many of you have found notices attached your leashes, these vary from holiday hours, thank you notes and vaccination updates. We have continued to update our data base with important information and retrieve from it, information about birthdays, vaccinations and more. We are so very appreciative to the fast responses we've seen, especially in the past few weeks in response to the Fecal Testing.

It is important for the health and safety of all dogs attending daycare that everyone be current on all of their vaccines, specifically Rabies, DHLPP (Distemper, hepatitis, leptospirosis, parvo and parainfluenza) as well as Bordetella vaccine (also referred to as the kennel cough or intranasal vaccine). We do accept Titters in place of some vaccines, which measure the antibodies your dog has; your veterinarian can discuss this option with you. Everyone must also be current on heartworm, deworming, flea & tick prevention and fecal testing.

Our research of dog health & safety shows that our list (see below) of required vaccines, prophylactic tests and treatments are in line with Animal healthcare professional organizations as well as quality doggy daycares and Kennels.

- Rabies 1 - 3 year vaccine as prescribed by your veterinarian
- DHLPP 1 - 3 year vaccine/titer as prescribed by your veterinarian
- Bordetella 2 times per year (Every 6 months) or as prescribed by your veterinarian.
- Heartguard Plus (or other) monthly treatment year round
- Frontline (or other) monthly treatment year round
- Fecal Testing 2 times per year (Every 6 months) or as prescribed by your veterinarian.
- DeWormer - routinely as prescribed by your veterinarian

We are cognizant of the financial impact of these requirements and have remained conservative with our guidelines and currently defer to your veterinarian's recommendation. Understand that our staff's dogs are held to the same standards and fully appreciate the expense.

**LYNNS NOT-SO CRANKY CORNER** October is Lynn's most favorite month because it has her most favorite holiday - HALLOWEEN! We've recently learned it is this one day that she is permitted to ride her broom!

All kidding aside, Injured & Recuperating dogs and doggy daycare are not always a good combination. Currently our ability to accommodate recuperating dogs (ie; dogs recovering from an injury/surgery or other ailment with restrictions) is limited to providing extra down time in a crate. We do not have a special section or room where dogs that have these types of special needs can be more closely monitored. It is something we are talking about doing as part of the grooming expansion. Your ideas and suggestions would be hugely helpful as we plan how we might use space to meet special needs. In the

mean time, Dogs with open wounds, stitches, and any potentially contagious health issues should be kept at home. We ask that any strict play/rest restrictions come from your Veterinarian in writing, a simple note on a fax sheet that a) states your dog can attend daycare and b) what the restrictions are and c) for how long.

**WELCOME TO THE PACK!** - And the puppies keep on coming! It continues to stay busy in the new pooch department - we conducted 28 evaluations in the 3rd quarter!

Lexus - a playful 1 year old female Boxer is full of joy  
Gabe - is a lively young male Bulldog who joined the pack on 7/14  
Lacey - a delicate and bouncy 8 mo old female Goldendoodle  
Harley - a 4 mo old very masculine German Shepherd  
Samantha - a sweet little Golden Retriever puppy joined on 7/20  
Bailey - Little Joe's new sister is a sweet yellow Lab joined us on 8/3  
Dolce' - feminine and lively describes this Shiba Inu mix  
Ganouche - a beautiful brindled male Boxer pup  
Sadie - a Collie pup, vacationed with us in August  
Copper - his name matches is color, a sweet red Lab pup  
Rudi & Sophie - we welcomed back these beautiful Labs in August  
Rudy - a 2 year old male Bouvier who's happiest with his daddy  
Bowdoin - this funny noodley legged Lab pup is learning his place in the pack  
Mimzy - this itty bitty Yorkiepoop is Denise's new love - she adopted her!  
Marley - is a 6 year old female mellow yellow Lab  
Homer - this sweet little Beagle fit in with Denise's Little's in a snap  
Jade - a playful 8 mo old Lab puppy loves to romp with Bowdoin  
Kovar - this obedience class grad is a handsome German Shepherd  
Molly - happy go lucky and ready to play describes this young Lab  
Eli - we welcome back this 3 year old Labradoodle  
Fenway - this beautiful Black & Tan Coonhound joined us in September  
Sweetpea & Mac - now enjoy grooming and daycare together  
Cadi - this petit Welsh Corgi loves making new friends  
Emalee - once shy and fearful is now a happy and playful ShihTzu  
Bayley - this young lady is a beautiful & playful Golden Retriever  
Raki - is a cute little Maltese pup who is also Chowdah's new brother  
Gus - a friendly young male Boxer who loves to jump and run  
Sadie - this little Shih Tzu joins our senior pooch group  
Foxy - this gentle lady St. Bernard fast became Stella's best bud!

**BIRTHDAY CORNER** - Keep those birthdates coming ☺ We have a great poster we update each month with our Canine Birthdays and a few special folks! We welcome your ideas & suggestions to make birthdays special. This continues to be a work in progress project throughout the year.

FMI call 207-283-6642 or check out our website at [www.paw-zn-around.com](http://www.paw-zn-around.com)