



NEWSLETTER

Spring into Springtime!



Bark your Calendar!

MARCH 8TH:

NAIL CLIPPING \$12

NON- ANESTHETIC TOOTH SCALING \$140

CALL TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY!

(860) 388-1819



OBEDIENCE AND AGILITY CLASSES:

Agility Fun starts March 5th:

6:00-7:00: Come in out of the cold. Have some fun and burn off some energy, while running through agility courses with your dog.

Don't forget our drop-in obedience class on

Mondays: 7:00-8:00 p.m. and our handling class on Tuesdays: 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Is Your Dog in Good Weight?

According to recent surveys, more than half of America's pets are considered overweight or obese. These dogs and cats are at higher risk for developing arthritis, diabetes, kidney and heart disease, high blood pressure, and many forms of cancer. Believe it or not, it's fairly simple to slim down your dog and reduce its risk of these serious diseases. A dog of ideal weight has a slight waist when viewed from above and its ribs can be felt. Here are three simple steps to achieve this condition:

1. Learn Your Dog's Needs

Ask your vet about your dog's body condition score (BCS). Then, using the BCS scale, you can easily determine whether your dog is underweight, overweight, or right on track.

2. Measure Meals

Make sure you know exactly how much you are feeding your dog. Studies have shown that feeding as few as 10 extra kibbles of food per day can add up to a 10% weight gain in a year.

3. Exercise

As little as 20 to 30 minutes of a daily brisk walking is all it takes to boost immune function, improve cardiovascular health, and reduce many behavioral problems as well as weight.

Upcoming Events

Pet First Aid

This course, offered by New London Adult Education, is ideal for all pet owners! “Pet First Aid and Disaster Response” covers common health and safety related issues, CPR, first aid basics, when to seek professional care, and disaster planning steps for proper care of pets.

Tuesday, April 17

Time: 6:00-9:00 pm

Location: Waterford High School

Cost: \$50

Wednesday, April 18

Time: 6:30-9:00 pm

Location: Montville High School

Cost: \$50

Register at www.newlondonadulted.org

Competitions

There are many competitive venues for dogs in Massachusetts and Rhode Island in the month of March. Check with D.Tails for more information if you are interested.

D.Tails has a position available!

Are you looking to work just a few hours a week?

Do you enjoy the company of dogs and don't mind housekeeping chores?

We have the job for you!

Give us a call! (860) 388-1819

Things To Do With Your Dog!

Obedience

What is Obedience?

Obedience is a demonstration of the usefulness of a dog as a companion to humankind. AKC Obedience is a sport with rules, regulations, judges, conditioning, training, placements and prizes.

Dog and handler teams are judged on how closely they match the judge's mental picture of a theoretically perfect performance as they execute a series of specified exercises. Accuracy and precision are essential, but the natural movement of the handler and the willingness and enjoyment of the dog are very important.

Each level of obedience competition, novice, open, and utility, requires mastering a specific skill set, which increase in difficulty, before advancing to the next level.

- The **Novice Class** demonstrates good canine companion skills such as heeling, both with and without a leash, coming when called, standing for a simple physical examination, and staying in both a sit and a down position with a group of dogs.
- The **Open Class** is more challenging as more exercises are done off leash and retrieving and jumping challenges are added.
- The **Utility Class**, which includes scent discrimination, directed retrieves, jumping and silent signal exercises, is the most challenging of the three classes.



To be eligible to compete in obedience trials, a dog must be:

- Registered with the AKC
- Listed with the AKC Purebred Alternative Listing/Indefinite Listing Privilege (PAL/ILP) program
- Listed with the AKC Canine Partners program
- Be a Foundation Stock Service (FSS) recorded breed.
- 6 months of age or older.