



NEWSLETTER



Bark your Calendar!

APRIL 12TH:

NAIL CLIPPING \$12

NON- ANESTHETIC TOOTH SCALING \$140

CALL TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY!

(860) 388-1819



UPCOMING CLASSES:

Beginner Obedience starts April 12th:

7:00-8:00 p.m.: Basic leash work for you and your dog. As well as socialization and problem solving. Material covered: focus, heel, automatic sit, patience, stand, down, stay and come.

Prerequisite: Dogs must be at least 16 weeks of age.

Equipment needed: 6' Leather or cotton leash

April is Prevention of Animal Cruelty Month

This the perfect time to remember how lucky we are to have our furry friends in our lives and to learn how to keep them safe.



Calla when she first came to us.



Three months later.

Know the Signs of Animal Cruelty:

- Wounded animals, either with open wounds or scarring. Limping or other difficulties moving around can also be indicative of abuse.
- Animals who are left outside with no shelter from the elements and/or are chained for extensive periods of time.
- Emaciated animals. An emaciated animal has visible bone protrusions, usually around their ribcage or along their spine.
- Hair loss, skin lesions or matted fur.
- Animals who are forced to live in their own excrement.
- Animals who are crated in a space that is too small to move in comfortably or are kept in a crate for extensive periods of time.

Tricks Class on April 26th:

6:00-7:00 p.m.: No prerequisite required, just come and have fun with your dog and learn some new and exciting tricks!

Handling Class with AKC judge Madge Fish

April 17th: 6:30-7:30 p.m.: Come dressed to show for this special handling class instructed by AKC judge Madge Fish.

Fleas and Ticks

Natural Pest Repellant

Fleas and ticks cause a variety of problems in pets. They feed on animal blood and can trigger problems including skin irritation, allergic reactions, anemia and in rare cases, death. They can also carry tapeworms and diseases such as Lyme, ehrlichiosis, babesiosis, and Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever.

However, some of the toxic repellants and pesticides commonly used to treat and repel these pests can damage the brain and nervous systems, disrupt the hormone systems, and can even cause cancer. Both over-the-counter and veterinarian-prescribed flea-killing topical treatments are pesticides that pose some degree of health risk to humans and animals. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released a report earlier this year that detailed many injuries, hazards and deaths among dogs that were given the typical poison-based solutions on the market today. However, safe alternatives are not too hard to find; natural home repellants are easy to make or buy.

You can make your own natural repellant spray for both yourself and your dog! Below are two effective home made repellants.

In 8 oz of water, mix 5 drops of lavender, cedarwood, citronella, lemongrass, eucalyptus, and rose geranium. Then, add about 1/2 tsp of white vinegar and 1/2 tsp of liquid glycerine. Put the liquid into a spray bottle, spray your dog down with the repellant, and give him a really good brushing.

Take the rind of 1 lime, 1 lemon, 1 orange, and 1 grapefruit and a handful of rosemary. Mix these together and pour a quart of boiling water over all of it. Let it stand overnight and then strain the mixture through a cheesecloth and put the liquid into a spray bottle.



The natural shoo!Tag Dog Flea Repellent is easy to use - simply remove from the packaging and attach to the dog's collar with the provided split ring...that's it! No toxic chemicals means there are no side-effects of any kind. The tags are 100% safe and free of toxins. Each tag has an electromagnetic strip that starts working effectively after 24 hours and repels fleas for up to 4 months. Effective, economical and eco-friendly, the shoo!Tag Dog Flea Repellent uses your dog's own bio-energetic field to create a three dimensional electromagnetic barrier around your pet. Each type of shoo!Tag is calibrated to specific animals and specific insects to repel targeted pests. Shoo!Tag products are waterproof (including saltwater).

The eco-friendly shoo!Tag is made of biodegradable, recycled plastic and when your shoo!Tag Dog Flea Repellent has diminished in efficacy you can return it to shoo!Tag to be recycled.

Things To Do
With Your Dog!

Flyball

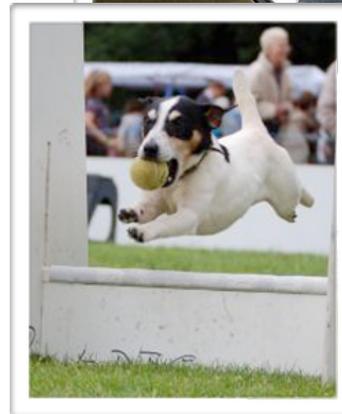
What is Flyball?

Flyball is a sport in which teams of dogs race against each other from a start/finish line, over a line of hurdles, to a box that releases a tennis ball to be caught when the dog presses the spring-loaded pad, then back to their handlers while carrying the ball.

Flyball races match two teams of four dogs each, racing side-by-side over a 51 foot long course. Each dog must run in relay fashion down the jumps, trigger a flyball box, releasing the ball, retrieve the ball, and return over the jumps. The next dog is released to run the course but can't cross the start/finish line until the previous dog has returned over all 4 jumps and reached the start/finish line. The first team to have all 4 dogs finish the course without error wins the heat.

Jump height is determined by the smallest dog on the team. This dog, called the "height dog", is measured at the withers. That number is rounded down to the nearest inch and another 5" is subtracted to get the jump height (with the minimum jump height being 7".)

The North American Flyball Association (NAFA) tournaments are divided into divisions so that teams compete against other teams of equal abilities. All dogs including mixed breeds are eligible to compete and earn titles in NAFA sanctioned tournaments. Titles are earned via a point system based on the time it takes a dog's team to complete each heat race. NAFA sanctions over 300 tournaments a year across North America.



Want to learn more?

There are over 375 active clubs registered with NAFA across the United States and Canada.

Visit www.flyball.org for more information and tips on how to get started.