

It's Time To Hit The Trails...

And other outdoor locales. With the nicer weather arriving, we are all tempted to get outside more often. But guess what? Snakes are also more active now too. So, it might be a good idea to take a moment and familiarize yourself with the most common venomous snakes native to Colorado and what to do if you encounter them or heaven forbid you or your dog get bitten by them. There are many snakes in Colorado that are harmless, I won't discuss them. In no particular order, here are the most common venomous snakes you are likely to encounter in our wonderfully wild state.

The Western Diamondback Rattlesnake

Infamous for its signature rattling sound, the Western Diamondback Rattlesnake is a legend of the American West. The Western Diamondback Rattlesnake (Crotalus atrox) is a venomous pit viper species found throughout the southwest. Its signature "rattle" sound is one of the most recognizable and distinct sounds in nature.

The Western Diamondback Rattlesnake commonly grows around 4 feet in length. However, these snakes can reach lengths of up to 7 feet and are considered heavy snakes that can be up to 5 pounds which makes it the largest venomous snake in the United States. They have a triangular shaped head with two dark diagonal lines on each side of their face running from their eyes to their jaws. Their name is derived from the dark diamond-shaped patterns along their back. Their tail has black and white bands just above the rattles. This coloration is more easily visible on young snakes but is faded on older snakes.



Western Diamondback Rattlesnakes can generally be found from below sea level to about 7,000 feet in elevation.

Rattlesnakes may use their rattle to warn that they feel threatened and may be about to strike, but not always will they 'rattle' to warn you... especially young rattlesnakes that haven't developed any rattles yet.

Western Diamondback Rattlesnake Safety Tips

- Know how to identify different types of snakes. The features of a rattlesnake are very distinguishable.
- Try to avoid entering the habitat of a rattlesnake.
- Rattlesnakes are most active on warm days.
- Rattlesnakes like to hide in the rocks and shrubs. Rarely, unless they are moving, will you see them in open areas. They like to avoid contact with predators as much as possible.
- If hiking in rattlesnake country, dress properly. Bites are common on the ankles and feet. For that reason, wear thick boots.
- Always carry a phone with you in rattlesnake country, and hike with a friend, never go alone!
- Keep a sharp eye out for rattlesnakes and watch every step.
- If you spot a rattlesnake, back away quietly and leave the snake alone.
- Rattlesnakes do not always "rattle" before they attack. They may have their head raised or are in a coiled position.
- If you do get bitten by a rattlesnake, follow these steps: 1) Remain calm. This will decrease the spread of the venom. 2) Call 911 or get to the hospital as soon as possible. 3) Do not elevate the spot that was bitten. 4) If possible, clean the wound with soap and water and wrap it with a bandage. This advice applies also to your dog if he or she should get bitten.

The Prairie Rattlesnake

The Prairie Rattlesnake (*Crotalus viridis*) is the most venomous pit viper species found throughout the United States, southwest Canada and northwest Mexico.

The Prairie Rattlesnake commonly grows around 3 to 4 feet in length and are usually only about 1 pound. The prairie rattlesnake has a narrow neck and a flat, triangular shaped head. Like all vipers, it has retractable hollow fangs. The color of the prairie rattlesnake's upper body ranges from light brown to green-gray. Along its back are a series of dark oval patches with narrow white borders. It has dark rings around its tail. The underside of the snake is cream or pale yellow in color.



Prairie Rattlesnakes are generally found between elevations of 330 feet to 9,500 feet.

The Massasauga Rattlesnake

The Massasauga Rattlesnake (*Sistrurus Catenatus*) is named for the Chippewa word for 'great river-mouth' referring to the snake's preference for wet habitats. They are the smallest rattlesnake in the United States. Massasaugas are medium-sized, stout-bodied snakes with heart-shaped heads and vertical pupils similar to those of a cat. The average length of an adult is about 2 feet. Adult Massasaugas are gray or light brown with large, light-edged saddle-shaped markings on the back and smaller blotches on the sides. Young snakes have the same markings, but are more vividly colored. Massasaugas live in wet areas including wet prairies, marshes and low areas along rivers and lakes. In many areas Massasaugas also use adjacent uplands during part of the year. They often hibernate in crayfish burrows but may also be found under logs and tree roots or in small mammal burrows. Unlike



other rattlesnakes, Massasaugas hibernate alone. The Massasauga is listed as endangered, threatened, or a species of concern in every state and province where it is found. Massasauga Rattlesnakes are generally found between sea level and about 7,000 feet.

The Midget Faded Rattlesnake

Midget Faded Rattlesnake (*Crotalus oreganus concolor*) are small (usually to about 20 inches), slim snakes with broad, triangular heads and rattles on the tail. A broad, dark facial stripe extends across the eye to the corner of the jaw. The dorsal pattern is variable, ground color usually tan. Dark blotches on the back have a light center and narrow, white margin. Dark spots on the sides are solid. Only a short section of black and white tail rings. These snakes are venomous. Do not attempt to handle rattlesnakes; rather, enjoy your good luck of finding one from a distance (minimum 4 feet away) and leave them alone. They are native to eastern Utah, western Colorado and southwestern Wyoming. Typically found in rocky outcrops. The species' potent neurotoxic venom is among the most powerful of any North American viper. Midget Faded Rattlesnakes are relatively docile and reclusive, preferring creviced dens in rock outcrops to burrows in



open areas.

As you can see, all the venomous snakes you are likely to encounter while out and about are all species of rattlesnake. So, the safety tips (listed above) for the Western Diamondback Rattlesnake apply to all of them. The biggest thing to remember is to pay attention to the rattle and leave them alone! In case of a bite, remain calm, seek immediate medical (or veterinary) attention. If possible, try to get a picture of the snake for positive identification... but again, stay clear of them and hopefully there won't be any need for medical intervention!

Speaking of snake bites, this just in from Dalmatian Rescue of Southern California...

Sparky, one of our active seniors in foster care, was bitten by a rattlesnake Saturday evening... he had a very bad reaction despite having received a rattlesnake (anti-venom) vaccine and has been in intensive care at the emergency vet's since early Sunday. The snake bit him in the chest, so both front legs are very swollen with fluid along with his chest, shoulder and face. He had 2 vials of anti-venom, 2 blood transfusions (he is still very anemic and may require a third transfusion), X-rays and various other tests and 24/7 iv care since Sunday. We thought we were going to lose him Sunday night, but he rallied around after he got the anti-venom vaccine and hopefully should be able to leave the vet hospital soon. This is quite the unexpected expense, but Sparky is one of our long-time favorites and so needed our help. I am sure he will be very happy to return to his foster home in the next couple of days. We could use any help you can provide in paying the large vet bill, expected to exceed \$5000 and possibly go as high as \$6500. We are a 501c3 authorized non-profit charity and all donations are tax deductible.

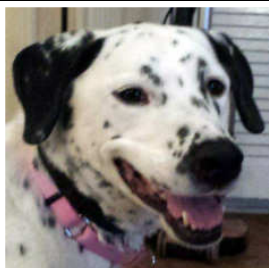


Donations can be easily made via PayPal to dalrescue@sbcglobal.net or by mail to Dalmatian Rescue of Southern California, Inc., 20301 Riverside Dr., Newport Beach, CA 92660. So very glad we were able to save Sparky. He is a sweetheart. Thanks!

Margaret Maas
Dalmatian Rescue of Southern California, Inc.
www.dalrescuesocal.com
20301 Riverside Dr.
Newport Beach, CA 92660

Editor's Note: Tonight (04/29/18) on the news (Channel 11, KKTV, Colorado Springs, CO) was a story about the second rattlesnake bite in two days in a local park... so they are definitely out and about now. PLEASE be careful out there!!!

Recent Adoptees!



Dixie10
Mandeville, LA



Clover
Edmonds, OK



Lisa
Vail, CO

Attention Adopters!! – Yes, I'm talkin' to you!

If you haven't already submitted your Happy Beginnings Story, PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE take some time to do it now! Yes, I am begging. We really would like to have your stories on the website and make you a star here in the NewSpots!! So, what are you waiting for? Submit your stories and a new photograph of your fur kid(s), and yourself if you want, to me today! dalmatianrescueofco@comcast.net

GIVE BACK PROGRAM

Support Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado with purchases from

Tagawa Gardens
7711 South Parker Road
Centennial, Colorado 80016

Valid April 1, 2018 through June 1, 2018

1. This card may not be distributed on Tagawa Gardens premises. Representatives may not solicit guests of Tagawa Gardens that are not their organizations patrons.
2. Purchases made by presenting this card will be totaled at the end of the program.
3. A percentage of the total sales will be donated to Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado.
4. This is not a discount card.
5. Your support for this worthy cause will not cost you anything extra.



GBP100102

Be sure to show this card or mention Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado at checkout.

(303)690 4722 ext 148

www.TagawaGardens.com



CAR TEMPERATURE PET SAFETY CHART

How long does it take
for a car to get HOT?

Outside Temp (F)	Inside Temp (F)	
	10mins	30mins
70°	89°	104°
75°	94°	109°
80°	99°	114°
85°	104°	119°
90°	109°	124°
95°	114°	129°

DOGS DIE EVERY SUMMER
In minutes your
car temps are deadly!

VeterinaryClinic.com

A Special Note From The President Of Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado

I just looked at the Happy Beginning page on our website (http://dalmatianrescueco.org/cgi-bin/dr_happy_beginnings.pl) and sadly there are still only TWO Happy Beginnings stories for 2018. We have adopted over 25 dogs so far this year but seems that new owners don't want to share their new companion with the world. Please send us your HB story and if you are not sure of the history before you, please send the story and pictures to Beth at beth@dalmatianrescueco.org and she will fill in the earlier history to make a complete story.

Yes, we usually say something about new adoptions on Facebook, but in two days that story is forgotten. On our Happy Beginnings page, your rescue story lives on forever. Won't you please send your story today? Look at other stories there if you don't know what to do to tell the world about your new buddy. Please and double please!

– Beth White, President
Dalmatian Rescue of CO

Want To See Your Dog In Print? (or on our website or advertising flyers, etc.)??

We are seeking reader submitted photos! So, get busy with your camera and start sending the photos in today.

We prefer either TIF or JPG format and sized no smaller than 640 x 480 pixels. Please include some descriptive text to help identify what's happening in the photo(s) and be sure to include your dog's name(s), your name, city and state (so that I can give you credit for the photo). Send photos to me at dalguy@comcast.net. I cannot guarantee that we will use all photos submitted. The more interesting and unusual the photo, the better the chance of it being used. Some ideas of photos could be your dog 'reading' a newspaper (hint, hint) – even better if he'll wear glasses while doing so; your dog watching television; sitting in the driver's seat; wearing a harness (this one could be used for a safety article); costumed up ready for Halloween. So, there you have it... time to get busy with the camera and submit your photos today!

*People who say
"money can't buy
you happiness"
have never paid
an adoption fee*



“The World Through Dexter’s Eyes

• The Foibles of a Too Big, Deaf Dalmatian and the Power of Love”

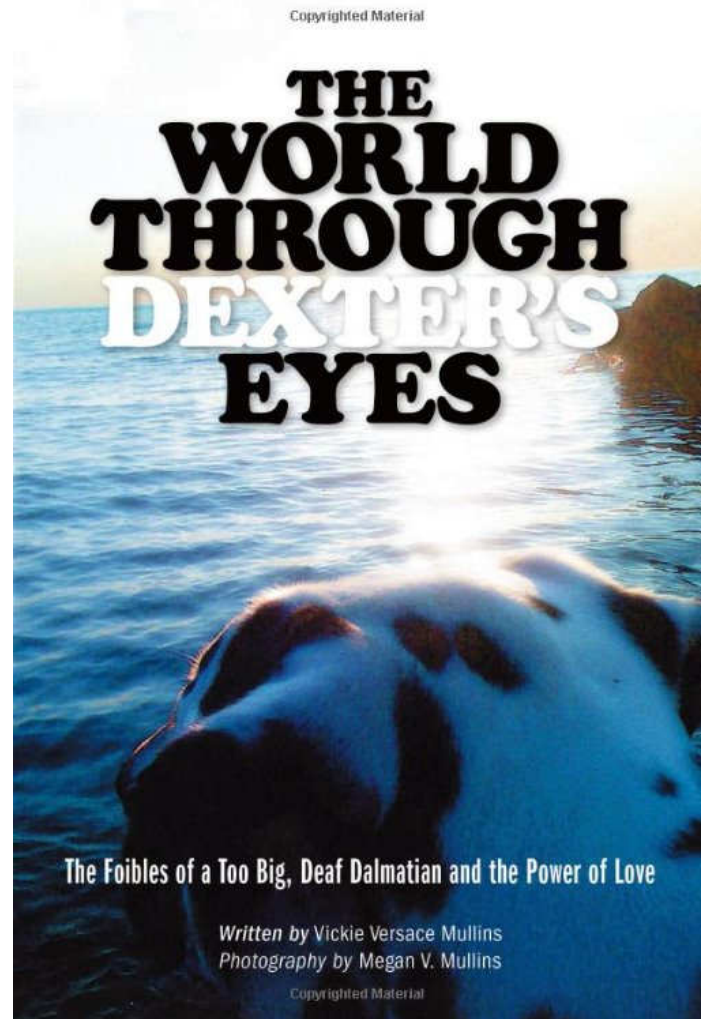
Dexter comes into the world with many problems, and he turns his family’s life upside down. Outside and lonely, he pulls the siding off the house, destroys the back door, chews up the cable wires and wood patio furniture. Inside, he does more of the same. He appears to not be trainable, so out of frustration, Mom contacts a dog whisperer who tells her Dexter died in a storm in a past life. And when he could not find his family on the other side, he grabbed the first body back, into the world, to try again.

There is something very familiar about this story to Mom. Then again, maybe she just feels sorry for the poor deaf guy. Whatever, Mom has tremendous compassion towards Dexter, and there was never such a bond between master and dog; one so strong, he telepathically conveys his story, to her.

This book is funny, sad, sweet and deep and a little inverted as it is from Dexter’s point of view. For all his antics, he is redeemed as all he wants to do on this earth is love. And it isn’t until he and Mom figure out the riddle the dog whisperer presented to them, that Dexter becomes the dog he was meant to be. Then miracles happen; grannies die, daughters go away to school, marriages fall apart, but love prevails.

About the author

Vickie Versace Mullins is a bubbly spirit who prefers laughing through life rather than all the other alternatives. She has a B.A. in English Literature from Cleveland State University in Cleveland, Ohio. She is a poet, and Dexter’s story is her first attempt at prose. She has published poems in various local literary magazines. She lives with her family in Cleveland, Ohio.



"The World Through Dexter's Eyes ~ The Foibles of a Too Big, Deaf Dalmatian and the Power of Love" by Victoria Mullins, is a book we all should read to understand deafness and how it is not the worst thing. There are many sites on-line to order the book and a portion of the proceeds are most generously donated to Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado. Thank you, Victoria! - Beth White

What a delightful read and clearly written from the heart. This is a true story as told to us through the eyes of Dexter a Deaf Dalmatian who, as it turns out, is a- larger-than-life character in more ways than one. This author's ability to entertain us when sharing our lives with a beloved pet, cannot be understated as she makes it so easy for us to make connections. Whether there is a pet in your life or not, Dexter's story will warm your heart and you will catch yourself chuckling out loud at his exploits as well as at the vulnerability of mankind when it comes to life with a pet. You come to realize that what one person deems useless will make another person's life perfect. And, as if that is not enough, this author has kindly donated proceeds from the book to Dalmatian and animal rescue, so you are passively doing a good deed when you read it... Clearly, this is a win win situation and a story to add to your "must read" list. - Michele Winner

Please help support Dalmatian Rescue and get yourself (and a friend) this really great book!

Doggie Parenting

Tips and tricks on loving and living with dogs!

Miss Manners for Dogs

Victoria Rose

Simple, gentle techniques - Quick results

In-home lessons - Money-back guarantee!

971.813.8333

www.MissMannersForDogs.com

Hot Dogs Break My Heart

It KILLS me when I am out walking and pass people walking with their dogs who are HOT and PANTING HARD (even HEAVING) and clearly needing water... and they don't have any with them.

Dogs get HOT when walking or running. They NEED water. When I say something about their dog's discomfort ("Silence is the voice of complicity"), they usually say there is water in the car or that the dog can get water when they get home.

Grrr...

Dogs must have water on their walk/runs (year-round), not waiting for them back at home or in the car. For dogs, same as humans, it's UNCOMFORTABLE to be thirsty and not be able to drink.

And if dogs get hot enough, they can suffer heat stroke and die.

I love the Water Rover™ (www.waterrover.com or 866-229-3447).



It has an attached bowl, and you never have to unscrew the top (even when filling it), flip open the bowl or even squeeze the bottle. You just lift the stopper tab, hold the bottle horizontally (or lay it on the ground) and the water flows into the bowl. After the dog drinks, tilt the bottle up, and the water flows back inside. No waste!

Water Rover comes in various colors and sizes. It's easy to carry by holding onto the bowl or by clipping onto your belt or pants and is very reasonably-priced.

Dogs NEED (not just want) water while walking or exercising, especially in warm weather. The Water Rover makes it EASY!

I also love the "Water Hole" for the car!

The Water Hole holds 48 ounces of water and will not splash in the car.

I always kept Jetta's in the car 365 days a year. Dogs need access to water 24/7.

These bowls cost about \$10. Just Google to check 'em out!



'Til next time, "kiss the kids"
Tori (Mom of Jetta WAC, CGC)

Want more Doggie Parenting tips and tricks? Visit my website below to subscribe to my free 4,000-subscriber e-newsletter. I have *hundreds* of tips to help living with dogs easier and more enjoyable.

Victoria Rose/Miss Manners For Dogs Training and Behavior Modification offers dog training/behavior modification in-home, by phone and via her "Baby Steps" training manual. All services are guaranteed; payments accepted. Visit www.MissMannersForDogs.com



Trainer Tips

“Rules for hiking with your dog”

© 2004-2018 The Light of Dog

Here's our rules for hiking with your dog:

1. Maintain excellent health through proper diet and exercise. This makes it less likely they will eat inappropriate things due to nutritional deficiencies and will help ensure they are not overweight and have the stamina for hikes.
2. Keep up with appropriate vaccinations (or titers) and vet checkups to ensure their best possible health.
3. If they are off lead, have an excellent recall. We carry treats with us to provide extra value for coming when called, staying close and checking in with us on their own.
4. Use walks or hikes to practice your training, provide extra mental stimulation, and help maintain a solid connection with you. Play fetch, practice agility, or other tricks and exercises. This keeps their brain working and focused on you, not on other things that might distract them.
5. Keep them close and within sight at all times, especially small dogs who are more likely to get snatched by a cunning coyote.
6. Inspect them after each hike for scratches, bite marks, skin irritations, or the presence of ticks and fleas and remove or apply first aid as needed.
7. Do not let them drink from water sources that are accessible by wildlife, especially birds. This applies even if you keep a water dish outside for your dog and birds also drink from it.
8. Do not let them put their noses into a small hole in the ground to sniff. Fleas, especially, can lie in wait at the base of a hole to latch onto their next host when one comes by and takes a sniff. A solid 'Leave It' can help with this.
9. If they do capture an animal or find a dead one, even if it is a low threat to biting your dog, remove the animal from them as quickly as possible. Teaching a reliable 'Drop It' can be valuable here.
10. Try to never let your dog ingest an animal part they might find. A wild animal can carry fleas or bacteria that can transfer to your skin.



For additional training tips and information, you can read our blog at <https://thelightofdog.com/read/> or find us on Facebook and Twitter.



<https://thelightofdog.com/>

Copyright © The Light of Dog. All worldwide rights reserved

(This “Ask The Trainer” article is reprinted with permission of Sue Brown, co-owner of The Light Of Dog, a Certified Dog Behavior Consultant. The Light of Dog Training is located in Sedalia, CO and services the Denver Metro Area.

<https://thelightofdog.com/>).

Bits & Pieces

Do you have a business or a hobby that other adopters, fosters, and volunteers might be interested in? Let us help you spread the word by 'advertising' in Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado's monthly newsletter – NewSpots! We currently notify about 700 people of the new editions of NewSpots! That's a lot of word of mouth and print advertising for FREE!!

Advertising in NewSpots! is free!!

Simply contact the editor, Karl Schill, at dalmatianrescueofco@comcast.net and he will work with you to provide your ad and place it prominently within the newsletter.

*******Be A Pal, Save A Dal*******

PLEASE – They need YOUR help!! Remember when your rescue Dalmatian came home with you, from the warmth of a loving foster family? If we hadn't had foster homes, you probably would not have gotten YOUR dog. PLEASE think about fostering a dog for the Dalmatian Rescue where you obtained your Dal, or the one closet to where you now live, so they can save lives like they saved your dog's life!! PLEASE give a warm home to a dog who can relax, show his true personality, enjoy a thick bed rather than a concrete floor in a shelter and get ready for a new home. PLEASE help rescues and the dogs so that others might have a dog that is well socialized, trained and ready to love. PLEASE think about this... Dalmatians are everywhere and are literally dying to meet you or someone willing to give them a "spot" to LIVE until their forever home comes along. PLEASE be a spot for rescue and for them?

We thank you and you know any dog you help your local rescue save will be eternally grateful! PLEASE submit a foster application if you can possibly help your local rescue and them! PLEASE take your cookie... good boy/girl!

Reader Recommendations and Tips

This is where we share recommendations and tips from and for our readers. Our newsletter is read by as many as 650 people each month. That number constantly increases as we have more adopters and adopters recommend it to their friends and family as well. So, go ahead... share your tips and recommendations. Please send along any information you want to share with others, like products that you would recommend, dog toys, great pet insurance, good vets (or bad ones to avoid as well), etc. Is there anything you wish someone had told you about that you have found? Pass it along. Send your ideas, recommendations and tips to Karl at dalguy@comcast.net for inclusion in the next issue.

Unfortunately, we have no Reader Recommendations and Tips for this issue. ☹️



In The Doghouse... Our Featured Dalmatians

Cinder

7 Years Old, Black Neutered Male
Reason Available: Owner Surrender
Foster Home: Manvel, TX

Cinder is a happy laid-back kind of guy abandoned by the owner to be put to sleep due to family squabbling! Shelter would not put down such a nice dog and neither would we. He loves to lounge but also has a playful side to him as well. He loves his floppy raccoon, but fetch is not one of his favorite games! He is good with cats and small children! Cinder can be selective about other dogs, so we prefer an only dog home or a home with an experienced adopter and stable dogs. He doesn't mind a kennel but does not need one. He also loves car rides and does great on walks, even walking next to a stroller. He does not pull while being walked on a leash as well. Thunderstorms mean nothing to him and Cinder prefers his bed over a couch but doesn't mind giving some snuggle time if you ask for it. He knows basic commands and loves being rewarded with treats. Says his first foster mom: Cinder is such an amazing dog and we have been honored to have him in our home. Cinder is now in Manvel, TX foster home. For more information contact Tena at tena@dalmatianrescueco.org. Applications may be submitted at www.dalmatianrescueco.org



Duke

9 Years Old, Black Neutered Male
Reason Available: Owner Surrender
Current Location: Foster Home, Manvel, TX

Poor Duke. He was a family pet and then rehomed because the children were too active and rambunctious for him. After several years, Duke was found as a stray in a large TX city and landed in a large, high-kill shelter. There was no response from the second owner, who apparently no longer cared...if they ever did. His first owner tried to make a home for him but the other dogs in the home kept attacking Duke, so he is now one of us. Duke is a really sweet guy who is quick to offer you a Dally smile. He is currently living with many dogs, both male and female, but would like a quiet home of his own and a person/family he can adore. In his foster home near Houston, Duke is crate trained, tho he doesn't really need it. He is housebroken and walks well on a leash and has never met a stranger. Duke hasn't been tested with cats, so he is unknown with them. He is heartworm positive and currently being treated. Wouldn't you like a smiler to brighten your day? For more information, contact Tena at tena@dalmatianrescueco.org. Adoption \$250.



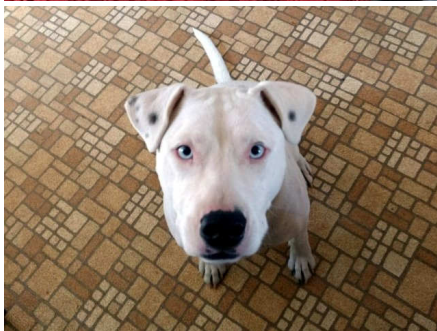
Happy Beginning Stories

Whisper (aka Robbie)



I have 3 dogs and one day I really started noticing two of them would snuggle and play and the last one seemed like the awkward third wheel. I started looking at available dogs and fell in love with Robbie. After about a month of talking, planning, and working out logistics, my husband and I went on a 7-hour drive and brought him home.

Robbie, now Whisper, did proper introductions to his new doggy siblings and quickly decided he had a new playmate in a Ridgeback named Bubbles. No more awkward third wheel!!



Because Whisper is deaf, he has a long road ahead of him where he'll learn American Sign Language and lots of new tricks. He's already learned our signal for sit, "look at me" and come.

Whisper is our first ever deaf dog and the benefits of him being deaf is great! He's probably the only dog in existence not afraid of the vacuum!! It's been a learning experience with reflections off windows or mirrors, but it's been worth it. He's a very sweet dog and such a comedian.

– Patrick and Michelle

Unfortunately, Whisper's and Autumn's are the only Happy Beginnings Stories we have - so far - this year. But as you saw, in the recently adopted section above, we have adopted many dogs (over 25 this year) already. If you haven't already sent in your dog's story, please do send it in very soon along with some great photos of your doggo. These stories are the payment our volunteers work so hard for, so... PLEASE pay them!!!!



Please don't forget... if you haven't sent in your Happy Beginnings Story yet, why not do it right now while it's fresh in your mind! It's never too late to see your story in print!!

NewSpots is published and released on the first calendar day of the month. The deadline for submissions for future issues of NewSpots will be the 25th of the previous month. Submissions received after the deadline may be delayed in publication until the following month, subject to the Editor's discretion.

Send submissions to the Editor at: spotted-dog-designs@comcast.net

Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) Non-profit organization. Donations are tax deductible!!

6828 Rim Rock Trail, Fort Collins, CO 80526 [Rescue Hotline: 303-281-8963](tel:303-281-8963) Fax: 970-377-9509

<http://www.dalmatianrescueco.org>
