



*Merry  
Christmas!!*

## *Pet Safety Tips For The Holiday Season*

Below are some tips to help keep your pets safe this December and into the new year as some apply to other holiday festivities as well.

### **Trees and Decorations**

- Avoid using candles. Lit candles can easily be knocked over by pets causing burns or fires! Use flameless LED candles instead.
- Many people like to have holiday plants around their homes. Don't use holly, poinsettia or mistletoe. These are all poisonous to your dog if ingested. If you want the look, it's safest to stick with artificial plants!
- Anchor your tree securely so your pups (and cats) don't have access to it. Trees that fall can injure your pets... not to mention the decorations that might break which can cause cuts.
- If your dog is overly curious about the tree... don't decorate the bottom part of the tree if it will be on the floor. This will prevent your dog from being enticed by easy to reach lights or shiny decorations.
- Avoid silver icicle strands or tinsel. Dogs are attracted to playing with and eating it, but it can cause vomiting and obstructions.
- Try to avoid glass ornaments. When glass ornaments fall or break, your dog can easily eat the pieces!
- If possible, just block the pet's access to the tree with a pet gate.
- Don't use edible decorations like popcorn garlands. They encourage dogs to jump and climb to get to those tasty treats!
- If using a live tree, watch the water in the tree stand. This water is stagnant and can contain bacteria harmful to your dog or cat.
- Keep wiring and extension cords out of reach of your pets. They can get tangled up in them. Or worse, if they bite into them they could be electrocuted.
- Keep wrapped gifts and wrapping paper out of reach. If your dog eats it, it can cause obstructions in the stomach or bowels and upset stomach.

### **Food and Cooking**

- Chocolate is everywhere! Chocolate is a very popular stocking stuffer and Christmas treat, but it is extremely toxic to dogs.
- Be mindful of alcohol. Alcohol and pets don't mix. So keep all alcoholic drinks out of reach of your pets.
- Just say no to table scraps. Table scraps, depending on the food or cooking method, may be dangerous or toxic to your

pets. Not to mention the unneeded weight gain from all the extra calories.

- Don't give your dog any cooked bones. They easily splinter and can cause dental damage and internal perforations resulting in a trip to the emergency vet clinic.
- Be sure you brush up on foods that can be toxic to your dog before you start cooking the meal to make sure (if you do spoil your dog) that you don't inadvertently give them something bad for them.

### Presents and Gifting

- Choose edible gifts wisely. Buy safe treats that are made in reputable countries with healthy ingredients.
- Consider your dog's habits with toys. Don't choose a toy they will tear up in a couple minutes if they are a chewer.
- Stick to toys made specifically for dogs. Kids toys are not the same as dog toys, and may contain toxic substances for your dog and are generally not made to be chewed on.
- NEVER gift someone a live animal! Never assume someone else loves dogs as much as you do or can commit to the years of care and expense of caring for a pet.
- Keep an eye on your dogs... even dogs who dearly love each other can become territorial over a 'special' gift. If they show aggression towards each other, pick up the gifts immediately.
- Make sure you do your research. Check online to see if there are recalls or other safety concerns for anything you buy as a present for your dog.

### Gatherings and Parties

- Educate your guests. Ensure everyone knows that you have a dog, and how they should interact with your pet, including giving food or treats.
- Know when to keep your dog away. If your dog is afraid of strangers, keep them in a room away from your guests and make sure the guests know which room to stay out of!
- Don't serve dangerous (to your dog) party snacks or food. Regardless of how many times you tell your guests not to feed the dog, someone will undoubtedly try to sneak a snack to the dog.
- Introduce other dogs outdoors. If unfamiliar dogs will be at your party, have them both meet outside first to avoid territorial issues.
- Beware of children. Ensure any kids attending your party are familiar with dogs and know how to interact with them safely.
- Keep to your normal schedule if possible. Dogs thrive on routine, so try to maintain their regular routine of feeding, walking and sleeping.



All I want for Christmas is a home for every dog in rescues and shelters!

# Winter Safety Tips

As winter sets in, it's time to think about keeping your dog safe and warm. Besides the obvious (don't leave them outside too long), what kinds of things should we be thinking about?

1. If it's too cold for you, it's probably too cold for your pet.  
Pets can freeze, become disoriented, lost, injured or even killed from being left outdoors in the cold. Keep your pets inside where they can stay cozy and safe. Also, don't leave pets in the car alone as it can act like a refrigerator and hold in the cold air, which can result in your pet freezing and could lead to serious health concerns, including death.
2. After each walk, make sure to wash and dry your pet's feet and stomach.  
You may also want to bring a towel on long walks to clean off irritated paws. While on a walk, your pet may step in ice, salt and chemicals—which can be very painful. Don't forget to check for cracks in paw pads or redness between the toes!
3. Massage petroleum jelly into your pet's paw pads before going outside to help protect from salt and chemical agents.  
Booties can be even more effective in covering and protecting paws when out on walks.
4. Keep your home humidified and be sure to towel dry your pet as soon as they come inside to avoid itchy, flaking skin.  
Repeatedly going into the cold and then coming back to a warm home can cause this skin reaction in pets. Again, paying close attention to their feet and in-between their toes will help prevent and treat skin irritation in the winter.
5. Never shave your dog down to their skin during winter.  
Longer coats provide more warmth, like wearing a winter coat! If your dog is long-haired, just trim them to minimize clinging ice balls, salt crystals and de-icing chemicals that can dry out their skin. And don't neglect the hair between their toes! If your fur baby is short-haired, try getting them a coat or sweater with a high collar or turtleneck with coverage from tail to belly. Your pet will not only be warm, but stylish too!
6. Try not to bathe your pet as often during cold spells.  
Bathing too often can remove necessary essential oils and increase the chance of developing dry, flaky skin. If you must bathe your furry friend, use moisturizing shampoo and/or rinse recommended by your veterinarian.
7. Thoroughly clean up any antifreeze spills.  
Antifreeze is lethal for dogs and cats and pet parents should be extra careful when using this chemical. Consider using products that contain propylene glycol rather than ethylene glycol. Additionally, cold weather chemicals like ice melts can be dangerous when ingested, so always be mindful and keep chemicals up and out of paws' reach.
8. Ensure your furry companion has a warm place to sleep that's off the floor and away from drafts.  
A cozy dog or cat bed with a warm blanket or pillow is perfect.
9. Never let your dog off the leash on snow or ice, especially during a snowstorm.  
Dogs can lose their scent in the snow and easily become lost. More dogs are lost during the winter than during any other season, so make sure your dog always wears an ID tag.
10. Use Leashes When Walking Near Water.  
Keep pets on a leash when walking near frozen bodies of water so they don't run onto the ice. If a pet falls through the ice, do not go onto the ice to rescue them. If you can't reach your pet from shore, call 9-1-1 or go for help.

Be sure to keep these tips top of mind this winter so that you and your furry friends can stay warm, cozy and safe.



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## Drink Coffee. Save Dalmatians.

Every abandoned dog deserves a second chance. At Dalmatian Coffee Co., we use the sale of our single origin and blended coffees to help them find new homes. Twenty percent of our profits benefit Dalmatian Rescue operations (including Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado), no-kill animal shelters, and dog foster care organizations.

You benefit from big, bold flavors — dogs benefit from your giant heart. We don't roast until you order, so your coffee arrives at the peak of freshness.

When you purchase our coffee, apparel, and other items, you'll be part of a small group of rescues listed on our home page that receives an even share of 20 percent of our profits, each quarter.

[Dalmatiancoffeecompany.com](http://Dalmatiancoffeecompany.com)

# Our Wreath Fundraiser has started!

Check out what is available! There are Fall and Thanksgiving options and then so many Christmas Options. We are going with Lynch Creek Wreaths again this year. **There's 8 days left in the fundraiser this year.** So far, we have \$237 of our \$1000 goal. Please help out if you can!

Please note: They ship for free in the contiguous United States via UPS Ground. You select the approximate ship date for your product. If you would like to pay for expedited shipping, that option is also available. They are not able to ship to Hawaii, Canada, or PO Boxes.

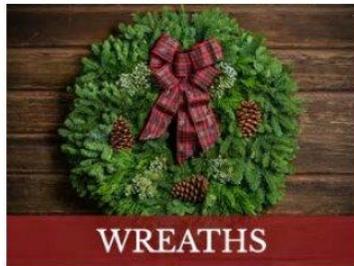
Follow the link below. Our Campaign Code is 299255, so if you get to the website, you can find our page there.

Thank you for supporting DRC and we look forward to this Holiday Season!

<https://www.lynchcreekfundraising.com/teams/299255-dalmatian-rescue-of-colorado-holiday-2022>

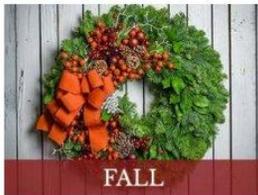
*Please print and share the flyer below to help spread the word and help us raise money for the many dogs in need of our help!*

## Dalmatian Rescue of CO



**WE EARN 15%**

*Supporting our fundraiser is easy...  
Simply decorate your home or send  
an elegant evergreen gift!*



### SUPPORT OUR CAUSE



- 1 Visit [www.LynchCreekFundraising.com/](http://www.LynchCreekFundraising.com/)
- 2 Click on a product category or Shop Online
- 3 Choose a Team Member to support (if applicable)
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ENTIRE PRODUCT AVAILABILITY ONLINE

PREFER TO ORDER BY PHONE? CALL 1-888-426-0781 AND REFERENCE CAMPAIGN #299255

# Recent Adoptees!



**Roxie4**  
Fort Collins, CO



**Sugarfoot (aka Sugar)**  
Lincoln, NE

## Attention Adopters!!!

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!! 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!

[Karl@dalmatianrescueco.org](mailto:Karl@dalmatianrescueco.org)

# See's Candy Fundraiser



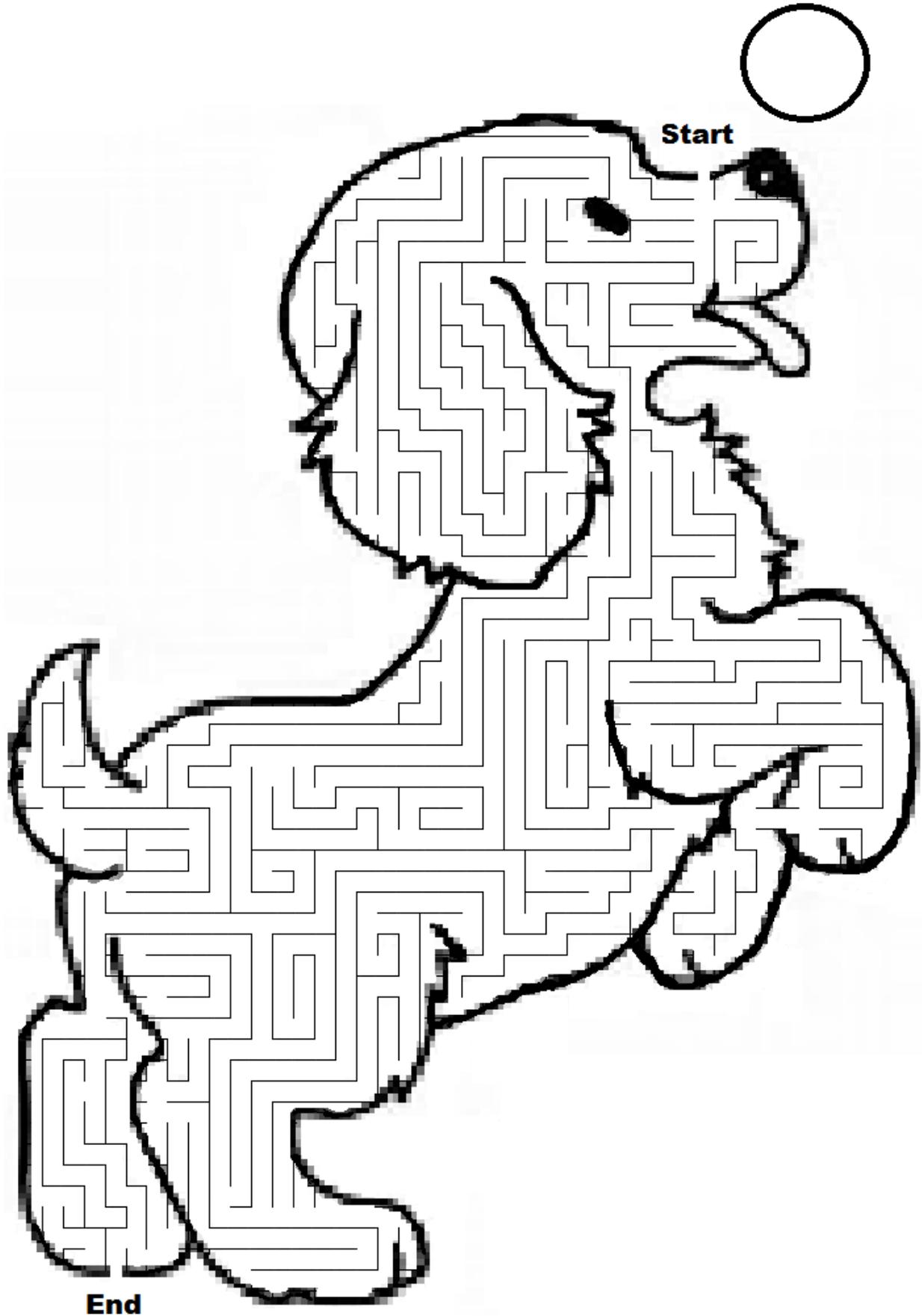
It's that time of year!

Please take a look at the See's Candy fundraiser! The event starts today, September 15, 2022. Candy will be available to ship starting November 10, 2022. The event ends on December 2, 2022.

[https://www.yumraising.com/secure/dalmatianroc\\_drc\\_79/JamBoe2529/](https://www.yumraising.com/secure/dalmatianroc_drc_79/JamBoe2529/)



# *For The Kids* (or adults who are kids at heart)





## NATIONAL MUTT DAY | December 2 and July 31

National Mutt Day encourages us to embrace, save and celebrate mixed breed dogs twice a year on July 31st and December 2nd.

### #NationalMuttDay

Desperately longing for a new home, millions of loving and healthy mixed breed dogs in shelters wait for someone to come and adopt them. National Mutt Day provides an excellent opportunity to find the perfect canine companion. Despite the name, a mutt learns, obeys and trains much like purebred animals. While their lineage cannot be traced and their features a bit murky, their companionship will be faithful.

According to the ASPCA, approximately 3.3 million dogs enter shelters every year. When these abandoned and often abused animals find their way to a shelter, each one needs a forever home. Whether you know it or not, their potential is limitless. Some of the benefits of adoption are often hidden. Humans and canines both enjoy increased physical activity. Another boost is social interaction through daily walks. While humans develop patience, their four-legged companion learns to trust and new limits. For example, as dogs explore the many scents of the human lifestyle, they usually discover shoes are off-limits.

No matter the breed, size or demeanor of the human, er, canine, the shelter will take the time to find the right home for their animals. They schedule visits and have procedures in place to promote healthy adoptions for families and individuals. While some dogs experience injury or illness, the shelters work with veterinarians to heal the animals before making them available for adoption.

Of course, shelters always welcome donations and volunteers. Dogs love walking, playing and being loved even if they haven't found their forever home. Every moment they spend socializing increases their opportunity for adoption.

## HOW TO OBSERVE NATIONAL MUTT DAY

Visit a shelter; if you are unable to adopt a dog, you can always volunteer. Post on social media using #NationalMuttDay and encourage others to join in.

Want to learn more about mutts and dogs in general? Read [5 Facts About Dogs](#) to learn more!

## NATIONAL MUTT DAY HISTORY

Celebrity Pet Expert and Animal Welfare Advocate, Colleen Paige, founded National Mutt Day in 2005. Celebrate the day on both December 2 and July 31 of each year. Learn more at [www.nationalmuttday.com](http://www.nationalmuttday.com).

# Help Us Raise Money While You Shop!!

## What's It All About?



## AMAZON.SMILE

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado, every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado.

To shop at AmazonSmile, simply go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) from the web browser on your computer or mobile device and start your shopping at AmazonSmile. You will see eligible products marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail pages. Recurring Subscribe-and-Save purchases and subscription renewals are not currently eligible.

You use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same. On your first visit to AmazonSmile ([smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)), you need to select the charitable organization (Dalmatian Rescue) to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. Amazon will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) will result in a donation.

You can change your charity any time. Your AmazonSmile purchases after the change count towards your newly selected charity. To change your charity, sign in to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) on your desktop or mobile phone browser and simply select "Change your Charity" in "Your Account." You can choose from over one million eligible 501(c)(3) public charitable organizations. Look for Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado to make us your charity of choice!

## KING SOOPERS/CITY MARKET COMMUNITY REWARDS



For Colorado supporters (or anywhere King Soopers or City Market operates), Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado has also enrolled in the King Soopers and City Market Community Rewards Program.

To Use the King Soopers or City Market Community Rewards Program, simply visit the appropriate link below.

For King Soopers Stores - go to <http://www.kingsoopers.com>

For City Market Stores - go to <http://www.citymarket.com>

Once logged in to your King Soopers or City Market account, search for Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado, Inc., either by name or FR415, and then click Enroll. New users will need to create an account which requires some basic information, a valid email address and a loyalty card.

\*Customers must have a registered King Soopers or City Market loyalty card account to link to our organization. If you do not yet have a King Soopers or City Market loyalty card, they are available at the customer service desk at any King Soopers or City Market.

REMEMBER, purchases will not count for our organization until after you have registered your loyalty card (the same card that you use to build fuel points). You must swipe your registered King Soopers or City Market loyalty card or use the phone number that is related to the registered King Soopers or City Market loyalty card when shopping for each purchase to count. This does not affect your fuel points!



## Trainer Tips

# “Set your dog up for success over the holidays!”

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The holiday season tends to be very hectic for most of us. This means some of our usual routines go out the window. Unfortunately, for our dogs, this often includes training, walks and other important bonding and exercise time.

When people travel without their dogs, many people see their dogs' manners and training take a nosedive. Dogs are often boarded at a kennel where it can be noisy and stressful. Dogs are bombarded with barking dogs and get very little, if any exercise. Other dogs are able to stay in their own homes with a pet sitter or stay in the home of friends or family. In most cases, the dogs' normal routines, training, and manners are not kept up. When you return home, you feel like you're starting over again.

Even if you don't travel, simply not keeping up with your dogs' routines, training and manners can cause dogs to revert back to their former trouble-making selves. People often think this is due to their dogs being mad or spiteful at not getting enough attention. That's not true! They don't sit around plotting their revenge. But they do have a lot of energy that is not being constructively channeled, and it has to come out somehow.

Prevent naughty behaviors from cropping up (or escalating) by sticking to your dog's routine as much as possible – or even better, increasing his constructive activities! By scheduling in time for walks, play time and training, you will help prevent bad things from

happening and both you and your dog will be much happier. A thirty minute brisk walk is far less time-consuming than cleaning up the mess your dog might create if left alone to his own devices. Plus, a walk is much more fun than cleaning!

If you can't be watching your dog, prevent problems by managing your dog. Don't leave him in the kitchen for a few minutes while you step away to handle something else and he helps himself to all the good smells on the counter. Take him with you, give him a few minutes outside or put him in his kennel with a bully stick for a short time.

Try to include your dog in as many activities as you can, even if it means having him on leash next to you to manage him. Have some of his food or tasty (healthy) treats with you so you can reward him for being calm and well-behaved. Teach him a couple of new tricks to show off. Practice his nice calm greetings with all of your visiting family rather than keeping him locked away.

If you are traveling and leaving your dog behind, ask the people taking care of him to keep up some of his manners and training while you are gone. You'll be much happier when you return, and your dog and your dog's caretaker will be much happier while you're gone!

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/>

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(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

### *Advertising in NewSpots! is FREE!!!*

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 1200 people of the new editions of NewSpots! That's a lot of word of mouth and print advertising for FREE!

Simply contact the editor, Karl Schill, at [karl@dalmatianrescueco.org](mailto:karl@dalmatianrescueco.org) and he will work with you to provide your ad and place it prominently within the newsletter.

## *Foster Homes Needed!!*

*\*\*\*\*\* 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 closest 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 1800 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 [karl@dalmatianrescueco.org](mailto:karl@dalmatianrescueco.org) for inclusion in the next issue.

***We NEED your participation to make the Reader Recommendations and Tips segment a successful segment. It is nice to be able to pass along information, tips and suggestions that you have found useful or helpful so that others can benefit as well, but without your participation it doesn't work! So please submit your ideas!!***

# In The "Spot" Light... Our Featured Dalmatians

## Killian

**6 Year Old, Black, Neutered Male**  
**Reason Available: Owner Surrender**  
**Foster Home: Lenexa, KS**

Killian is a very beautiful, happy male Dalmatian. He gets along with other dogs and really loves people -- all people. And loves to just run in the backyard.

Killian is a very sweet boy and definitely wants to please you. He actually climbed into his foster's lap the first-night lap and I mean all of him. She was so surprised and delighted at the trust which he showed. He loves earning treats and they started working on some simple commands. It appears the only thing he knew was sit. He has proven to be a quick learner + is highly motivated.

His foster Mom has called him a complete joy!!

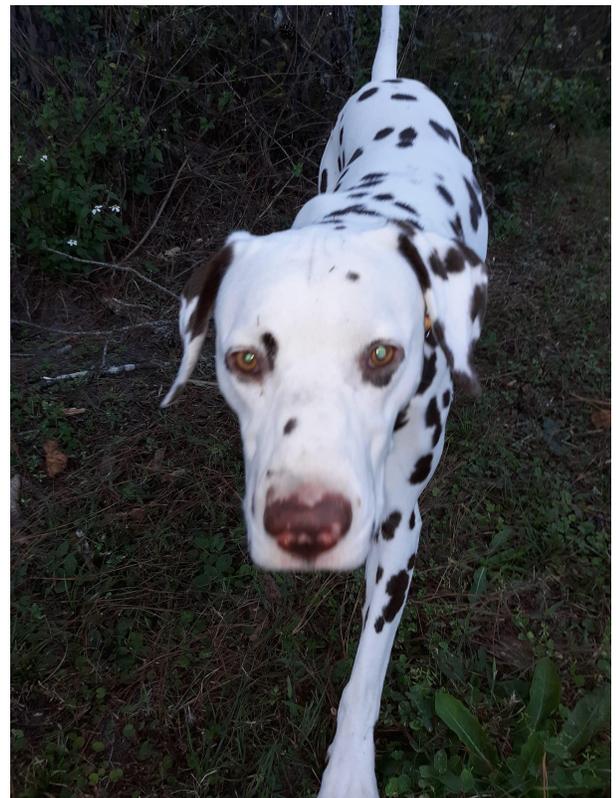


## Murphy

**2 Year Old, Liver, Neutered Male**  
**Reason Available: Owner Surrender**  
**Foster Home: Archer, FL**

Murphy is a gorgeous, green eyed liver boy who has had an extraordinarily difficult earlier life. He lived with 2-3 small kids, 2 small dogs and his "parents" in a rented farmhouse in Joliet IL. Male owner was seen hitting him on the head and shoulder a number of times. One day they drove away and abandoned him in the house with no food or water. 2 days later he was found terrified by the farmer. We sent him to a boarding kennel to decompress and it seemed to work. He was adopted by a very, very loving woman in FL but she was unable to stop constantly cuddling and kissing him; that terrified him because they didn't know each other. He shook and trembled and they soon became leery of each other. We decided that this was a poor match although he did beautifully with the older female rottie.

He needs slow intros and to gain confidence. Murphy has been with a great behaviorist and trainer near Orlando for the last 9 months. He's gained enormous confidence and learned to love and trust someone. He adores everyone there. He is protective of his person while allowing them space which he also wants. Like all dogs, he needs a job. His is agility and he's taught himself the basics. He has energy, drive and focus. He'd also be a happy companion for a runner while being happiest doing agility. Once he knows and cares for you, you are his world.



# *Happy Beginnings Stories*

*Sadly, we have no Happy Beginnings Stories to share with you this month.*

*If you have adopted a dog from Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado (at any time) and have not submitted their story, please take some time (and photos) and submit it today!*

**It's never too late to see your story in print!**

If you have adopted your pup from us, regardless of when, and have not submitted their Happy Beginnings story yet, please do it now while it's fresh on your mind.

**These stories are the "pay" that fosters get for all their hard work!**

## *About Us*

NewSpots is published and released on the first calendar day of the month. The deadline for submissions for future issues of NewSpots is the 25<sup>th</sup> 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 [karl@dalmatianrescueco.org](mailto:karl@dalmatianrescueco.org).

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

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Website: <http://www.dalmatianrescueco.org>