

Springtime Dog Health & Safety Tips

1. Save The Sticks

Sticks - now readily available after the winter thaw - can cause choking and severe injuries in dog's mouths and throats. So if your dog likes to chew and chase, pack a Frisbee, tennis ball or other toy instead.

2. Keep Fido Away From New Plants

Many dogs like to eat grass, but if your dog likes to chew on other plants, now's the time to get out your plant guide. Some native plants can cause vomiting, diarrhea or even death, so before you let your pooch chomp down on those leafy greens, check out this [guide to toxic and non-toxic plants](#).

3. Use Pet-Friendly Products For Spring Cleaning

Spring cleaning is the perfect occasion to review your cleaning products' pet-friendliness. If the bottles do not say their contents are dog-safe, it's best to keep these products where your dog can't get them. If your dog does ingest a household cleaner, the Chicago Veterinary Medical Association recommends you, "do not call a HUMAN poison control center; they do not have any information on pets. Instead contact your veterinarian and/or the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center Hotline (888-426-4435) for accurate information."

4. Watch Your Dog For Signs Of Seasonal Allergies

Some dogs develop allergies to common seasonal plants, like ragweed. But unlike people, these allergies usually present as skin problems in dogs, according to Dr. Stephanie Janeczko, DVM. "Because dogs with atopy (inhaled allergies) are frequently allergic to pollens and grasses, they often have a seasonality to their symptoms but can show signs all year long if they are allergic to something that is always in the environment (such as dust mites)," says Dr. Janeczko.

5. Start Flea And Tick Prevention Early

The American Heartworm Association now recommends keeping dogs on year-round flea and tick preventatives to guard against heartworm disease. If your dog is not already on a preventative regimen, now is the time to start.

6. Prevent Dog Park Bullying By Knowing The Signs

As the weather gets warmer, you may be bringing your dog to the dog park more often. Make sure it's a safe and fun time for all by knowing the symptoms of bullying and how to deal with them. Learn these simple tips for [spotting and preventing dog park bullying](#) and know how to stop a dog fight before it starts.

7. Keep Artificial Sweeteners Away From Your Dog

Springtime and Easter go hand in hand and that means plenty of chocolate and other dangerous dog temptations. Keep your pup safe as you celebrate spring by keeping all sweets, candies and chewing gum away from your dog. While many people know about the dangers of chocolate, only a small amount of the [common artificial sweetener xylitol can be deadly](#).

8. Schedule A Trip To The Groomer

Warmer temperatures can translate to shedding! Dogs and cats naturally like to be clean, but sometimes they need a little help. Grooming can be done at home, or with a professional groomer. In the winter you may have had less outside time with your dog, which can mean their nails didn't wear down like they do in the summer. Be sure to keep nails trimmed in order to prevent splitting and breaking.

9. Update Vaccines

There is a good chance warmer weather will mean more excursions to places where dogs are welcome. If you and your furry best friend frequent the dog park or other public places, be sure they are up to date on all required vaccinations and deworming.

10. Ease Into Activity

If you and your pet have been inactive all winter, ease slowly into activity. Start with leashed walks, and shorter play sessions and gradually work up to maximum activity. Starting all at once can lead to injuries and sore muscles.

The 3-3-3 Rule

The 3 Days, 3 Weeks, 3 Month Rule of Adopting a Rescue Dog

The 3-3-3 rule is a general guideline, every dog is unique and will adjust differently. Give your dog space and allow him to go at his own pace.

3D



In the first 3 days,

- Feeling overwhelmed
- May be scared and unsure of what is going on
- Not comfortable enough to be "himself"
- May not want to eat or drink
- Shut down and want to curl up in his crate or hide under a table
- Testing the boundaries

3W



After 3 weeks,

- Starting to settle in
- Feeling more comfortable
- Realizing this could possibly be his forever home
- Figured out his environment
- Getting into a routine
- Lets his guard down and may start showing his true personality
- Behavior issues may start showing up

3M



After 3 months,

- Finally completely comfortable in his home.
- Building trust and a true bond
- Gained a complete sense of security with his new family
- Set in a routine

The 3 Days, 3 Weeks, 3 Month Rule

In The First 3 Days,

Your new dog will be overwhelmed with his new surroundings. He will not be comfortable enough to be himself. Don't be alarmed if he doesn't want to eat for the first couple of days, many dogs don't eat when they are stressed. He may shut down and want to curl up in his crate or under the table. He may be scared and unsure what is going on. Or he may be the opposite and test you to see what he can get away with, kind of like a teenager.

After 3 Weeks,

He's starting to settle in, feeling more comfortable, and realizing this really may be his forever home. He has figured out his environment and is getting into the routine that you have set. He lets his guard down and may start showing his real personality. Behavior issues may start showing, this is your time to be a strong pack leader and show him what's right and wrong.

After 3 Months,

Your dog is now completely comfortable in his home. You have built trust and a true bond with your new dog, which gives him a complete sense of security with you. He is set in his routine and will come to expect his dinner at his usual time.

NATIONAL K9 VETERANS DAY



March 13th recognizes National K9 Veterans Day and the dedicated K9 units who've served since World War II.

A lot of things changed after the bombing of Pearl Harbor in 1941. We rationed oil, leather, and rubber. The military drafted men into service. Women rolled up their sleeves and built war supplies.

And dogs were called to duty. During the first world war, the United States took notice of the European use of canines as sentries, message carriers, and several other functions.

A private citizen, Mrs. Alene Erlanger initiated a program called Dogs for Defense. Along with the American Kennel Club and a handful of breeders, the group aimed to train the dogs for military use.

By November of 1942, the military prepared the first Dogs for Defense for duty in North Africa. While at first, they were gun shy, they proved to be well trained.

As the war progressed, Dogs for Defense was unable to keep up with the demand, and the Remount Branch, Service Installations Divisions took over the training of the dogs.

Over the years, the military, police, and rescue have developed a variety of training methods for K9 units. Their training is tailored to meet the demands of the job, and each animal and handler carries out his or her duties to the fullest.

HOW TO OBSERVE #NationalK9VeteransDay

Recognize a K9 veteran. Learn more about their service, history, and training. Attend a ceremony honoring the working dogs in military units and working dogs across the country. Use #NationalK9VeteransDay to post on social media.

NATIONAL K9 VETERANS DAY HISTORY

National K9 Veterans Day is celebrated on March 13th on the official birthday of the [US Army K9 Corps](#), which was formed in 1942. Joseph White, a retired military working dog trainer, originated the idea for the day.

Recent Adoptees!



Breezy
Portales, NM



CHIP & PAYLAY

Chip2 & Paisley (aka Paylay)
Sterling Heights, MI



XENA

Xena
Colorado Springs, CO

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

If animals could speak, the dog would be a blundering outspoken fellow, but the cat would have the rare grace of never saying a word too much.

- Mark Twain

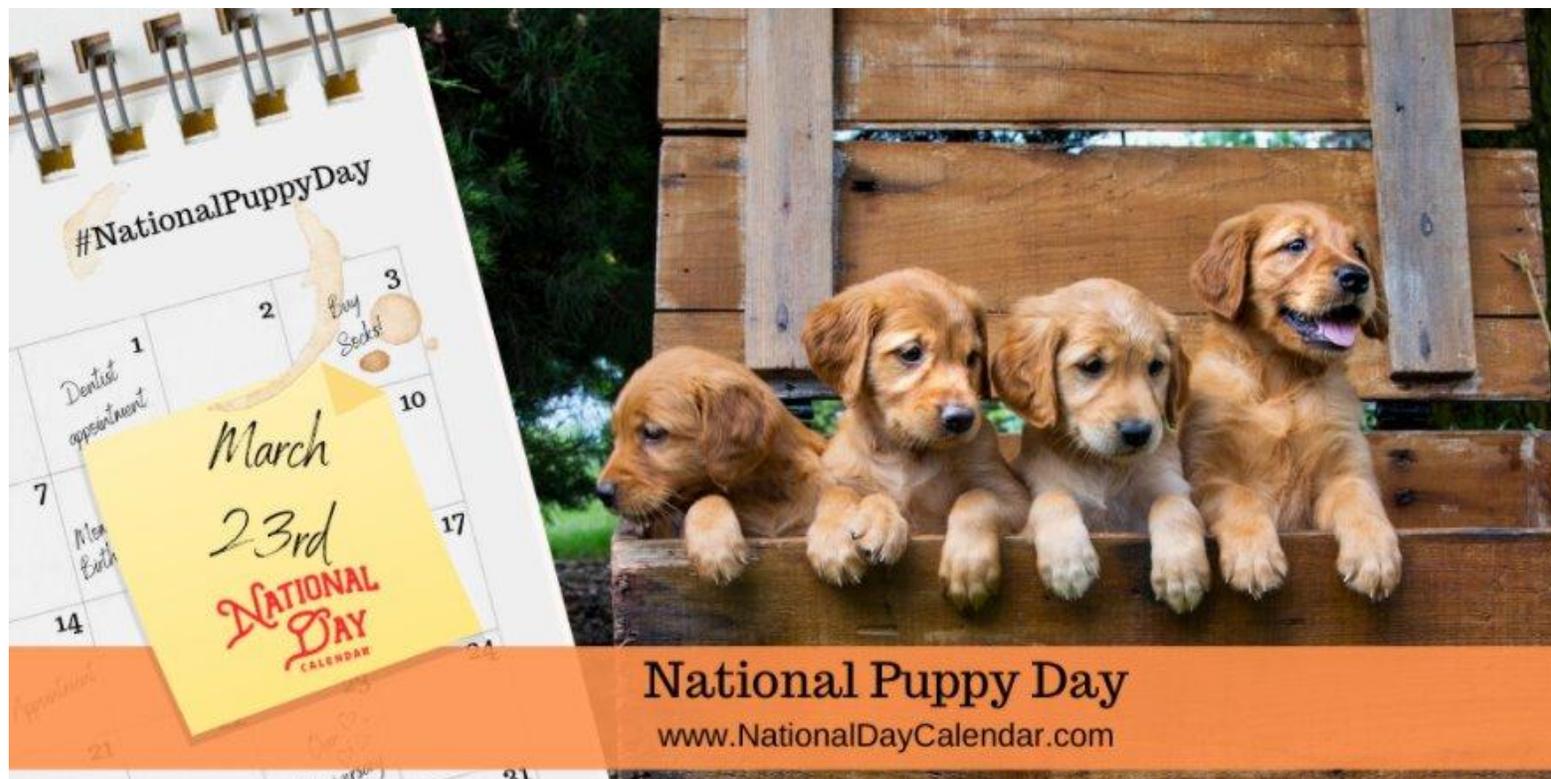
“Meow” means “woof” in cat.

- George Carlin

For The Kids



NATIONAL PUPPY DAY



Observed each year on March 23rd, National Puppy Day celebrates the unconditional love and affection puppies bring to our lives. Their cuddles and wiggles make us smile and without a doubt, there are squeals of delight when there are puppies around!

The day also brings awareness to the need for care of and homes for orphaned pups as well as to educate people about the horrors of puppy mills across the country. Puppies are a big responsibility. Be sure to consider everything involved and adopt from a shelter. The puppies there need love and a home just as much as any other and they grow into loyal pets, too!

According to the ASPCA, approximately 3.3 million dogs enter shelters every year. Some of these dogs come with litters of puppies. If you're seeking a puppy to start your furry family, check the shelters first. When these abandoned and abused animals find their way to a shelter, each one needs a forever home and their potential is limitless.

HOW TO OBSERVE #NationalPuppyDay

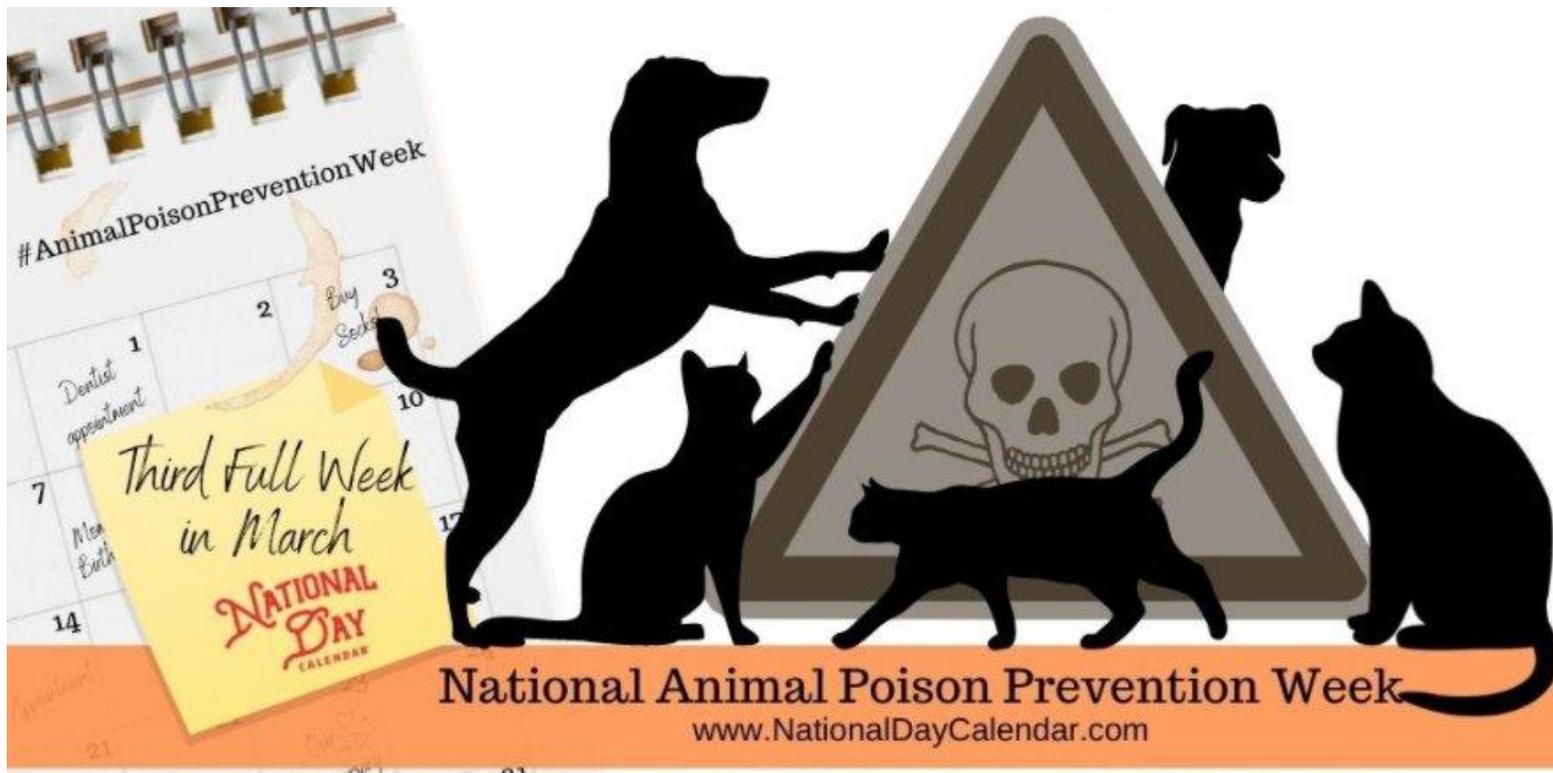
- Use #NationalPuppyDay and post photos of your puppy on social media.
- Go to the dog park and let your puppy play.
- Pick up a special treat for your puppy.
- Go for a walk with your young friend.

NATIONAL PUPPY DAY HISTORY

National Puppy Day was founded in 2006 by Pet Lifestyle Expert, Animal Behaviorist and Author, Colleen Paige. Paige is also the founder of National Dog Day and National Cat Day.

Happiness is a warm puppy.
- Charles M. Schulz

NATIONAL ANIMAL POISON PREVENTION WEEK



National Animal Poison Prevention Week during the third week in March focuses on educating owners on what can poison their pets, identifying the signs they've been poisoned, and how to prevent poisoning. The week is tied to National Poison Prevention Week. Spring is a good time to remind pet owners of springtime dangers of poisonous material such as plants, herbicides, fertilizers, and pesticides.

Take a look around your home, both inside and out, and identify any potential dangers for your pet.

- Secure chemicals in a location your pets can't access.
- Keep medicines secure.
- Dispose of harmful food or keep them out of your pet's reach.
- Explore your yard for poisonous plants and bulbs.
- Remind guests that you don't feed your pet table scraps.

Protecting our pets takes more than regular walks and visits to the veterinarian. It includes knowing what can make them ill or worse kill them.

HOW TO OBSERVE #AnimalPoisonPreventionWeek

Visit the [ASPCA Animal Poison Control](https://www.aspca.org/pet-care/animal-poison-control) website for more information on how to protect your pet and who to contact in case of an emergency. Pet-proof your home both indoors and out. If you're moving into a new home, check the landscape for plants that may be poisonous to your pet. If you aren't sure, contact your veterinarian to confirm.

Use #AnimalPoisonPreventionWeek to follow on social media.

NATIONAL ANIMAL POISON PREVENTION WEEK HISTORY

The National Safety Council first began promoting National Poison Prevention Week in 1961. National Animal Poison Prevention Week is a natural extension of the preventative observance to protect both our families, furry members, and livestock, too.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME - MARCH 13, 2022 SPRING FORWARD!!!!



Daylight Saving Time is currently put to use on the second Sunday in March in the USA. The practice is designed to give people an extra hour of sunlight in the evening hours. This is done by setting the clock ahead one hour at a predetermined date each year. The practice of Daylight Saving Time (DST) advances clocks during the summer months. It causes us to lose an hour for one day. However, the practice allows people to get up earlier in the morning and experience more daylight in the evening. Typically, users of DST adjust clocks forward one hour near the start of spring. Then, they change them back again in the autumn.

The system has received both advocacy and criticism. Setting clocks forward benefits retail business, sports, and other activities exploiting sunlight after working hours. However, the practice causes problems for evening entertainment and other activities tied to the sun or darkness. For example, farming and fireworks shows are both affected.

Although some early proponents of DST aimed to reduce the evening use of incandescent lighting (formerly a primary use of electricity, modern heating, and cooling), usage patterns differ greatly. Additionally, research about how DST currently affects energy use is limited or contradictory.

Problems sometimes caused by DST clock shifts include:

- they complicate timekeeping
- can disrupt meetings, travel, billing, record keeping, medical devices, heavy equipment,
- it especially impacts sleep patterns

Software can often adjust computer clocks automatically, but this can be limited and error-prone. Programming is particularly problematic when various jurisdictions change the dates and timings of DST changes.

HOW TO OBSERVE #DaylightSavingTime

Besides adjusting our clocks, it's important to adjust our sleep schedules, too. Many of us go into the time change sleep deprived. Don't do this during Daylight Saving weekend. Start preparing your body and anyone in your household for an earlier bedtime. That includes pets. Their potty and feeding schedules will need to be adjusted, too. Start a few days before if at all possible. In the end, you and your entire household will be able to benefit from the additional sunlight in the evenings by enjoying outdoor activities without feeling the drag of lack of sleep.

Another way to celebrate the day might include writing your representatives in Congress. According to the National Congress of State Legislatures, nearly every state has tackled the issue of daylight saving time and whether to end it or not. Even at a federal level, the issue has been brought to the table a time or two. Once again in 2021, a bill is being introduced that could stop the clock – or at least stop it from changing. It's called the Sunshine Protection Act. If it passes, this is one holiday we won't be celebrating anymore.

Of course, most importantly, be sure to turn your clocks forward and use #DaylightSavingTime or #SpringForward to post on social media.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME HISTORY

George Vernon Hudson from New Zealand proposed the modern version of daylight saving in 1895. Germany and Austria-Hungary were the first countries to use it starting on 30 April 1916.

The energy crisis in the 1970s accelerated the growth of Daylight Saving Time. It has been argued that more natural light in the evening hours uses less electricity due to less artificial lighting requirements. Many retail shops and tourist attractions also enjoy more business.

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, 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 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), 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 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 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

“A Joxer Story: From Poor Social Skills To Super Helper Dog”

© 2004-2022 The Light of Dog



Joxer was my Smooth Collie. When he came to me, he was lacking in social graces when it came to other dogs. He was friendly but his social skills were just not there.

I adopted him through Collie Rescue back in 2001. We think he was around 3 years old or so at that point. He'd spent eight months in rescue waiting for a new home.

Joxer had a rough start to life. His original family never taught him much other than that lots of stuff in this world was scary. He was afraid of: children, balls, things that drop or fly through the air, loud noises, high pitched noises, and squeaky toys.

The one thing he was not afraid of though was other dogs. He really really wanted to make friends with other dogs.

He clearly had very poor social skills when it came to other dogs, though. As much as he wanted to meet and greet all the other dogs

we saw, he really had no clue how to be socially appropriate.

When it comes to greeting other dogs in an appropriate way, dogs with good social skills understand that you should NOT rush up in someone else's face. Fast approaches are a no-no. Direct head-on approaches are a no-no. Direct eye contact is a no-no.

Joxer did all of those things. He did not have a mean bone in his body. He really was very very sweet. But the other dog being approached in that manner did not know that.

As with many other things we had to work through, it took some time. I had to teach Joxer how to approach other dogs. We approach slowly. We do not stare at them. We do not come head on.

It took some work, but Joxer learned how to approach in a calmer, less confrontational way.

He then became my helper dog as I worked with clients whose dogs also had poor social skills. He was a fantastic helper once he understood how to do things in a nonthreatening, more friendly, more socially appropriate way.

He was actually one of my best helpers when it came to working with other dogs.

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

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 700 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 dalmatianrescueofco@comcast.net 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 for inclusion in the next issue.

We NEED your participation to make the Reader Recommendations and Tips segment a successful segment. We finally received a couple recommendations. 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!!

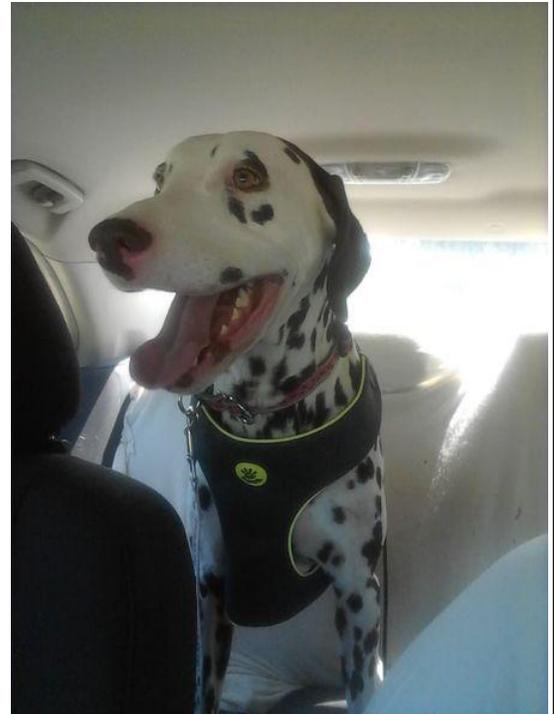
**SADLY, THERE ARE NO READER
RECOMMENDATIONS AND TIPS THIS
MONTH.**

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

Morgan

1½ Years Old, Liver Neutered Male
Reason Available: Owner Surrender
Foster Home: Yorkville, IL

Morgan is a loving, affectionate, eager to please and a very smart young boy. He is not leash trained but has been taught sit, lay down, shake, toys, be easy, good boy and we have been working on wait. He is all muscle and incredibly strong. He will benefit greatly from obedience class.



Maya A



2 Years Old, Black Spayed Female
Reason Available: Stray
Foster Home: Boarding Kennel; Colorado Springs, CO

*******URGENT NEED FOR FOSTER OR ADOPTION*******

Nearly all white with bright blue eyes, Maya is a sweet young dog who loves kids. She might be afraid of cats. She is an adorable companion who loves cuddling and playing with both her human and doggy brothers and sisters. A friendly, happy furbaby, Maya is looking for her permanent home and family to complete her life.

For more information, please contact
jeannine@dalmatianrescueco.org. Adoption donation: \$350.

Happy Beginnings Stories

Sadly...

There are no Happy Beginnings Stories to share this month. If you haven't submitted yours yet, please do so

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 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 karl@dalmatianrescueco.org.

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

3428 CR 27, Loveland, CO 80538

Rescue Hotline: 303-281-8963

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