

BearWise Safety Tips For Dog Owners

<https://bearwise.com/bear-safety-tips/dogs-and-bears>

Editor's Note: In Colorado, bears start coming out of hibernation around the first week of May. So we are sharing the following article in hopes that you and your dog will continue to be safe in the mountains as you start getting out and about with the warmer weather.

If you live in or travel to bear country and own a dog, sooner or later your dog may encounter a bear. Understanding why some encounters end peacefully and others end with dogs and people being injured or killed can help keep people, dogs and bears safe.

Dogs were involved in more than half of all reported incidents involving people and black bears between 2010 and 2015. Just under half (46%) of those dogs were injured or killed; their human companions did not fare quite as well, with 62% of them being injured.* Many of the dogs had been off-leash, a situation that can easily result in the dog chasing or cornering a bear and being injured, killed, or turning tail and running back to its owner with an aggravated bear close behind.

*Source: Hristienko, H., and S. Herrero, 2014. International Bear News 23:19.

Leashes Save Lives

Letting your dog run free in the neighborhood or the woods is usually illegal and always dangerous. A much higher percentage of dogs that get into confrontations with bears are seriously injured or killed when dogs are off leash. The people who try to rescue a dog are also more seriously injured. It may be tempting to let your dog run free, but don't put your dog and yourself at risk. Please, leash up.

[Download Our Free Bulletin About Dogs And Bears](#)

**Making the right choices can keep dogs and people safe and bears wild.
Making the wrong choices can have serious consequences for all. Be BearWise.**

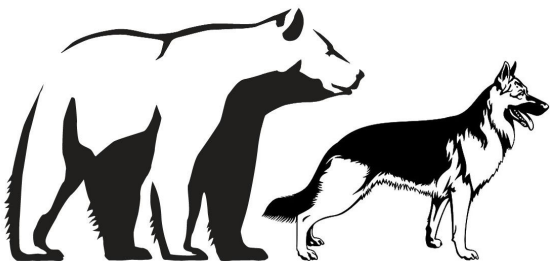
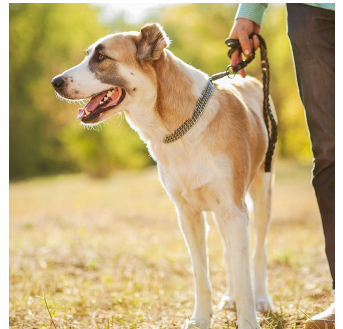
Why Bears and Dogs Don't Get Along

Black bears are neither confrontational nor aggressive by nature.

As a species, black bears evolved in forested habitats where they learned to respond to danger and avoid trouble by climbing a tree or disappearing into the woods. When those options aren't available, a bear's natural instinct for self-preservation kicks in, and the bear will defend itself, its food, or its cubs.

Dog behavior is more complex; not all dogs bark for the same reasons. Some breeds bark, lunge and bite out of fear; others have an innate drive to bark and chase. Protective breeds may be trying to guard their humans. And some dogs just really love to bark.

To a bear, however, your dog's motivation doesn't matter. A barking, lunging, snapping or chasing dog is seen as a threat. It's very likely the bear will respond by defending itself.



Black bears can weigh 300 pounds or more, depending on age, sex and time of year. A popular large dog breed, the German Shepherd, averages only 70 pounds.

Dog vs. Bear = No Contest

Bears Will Protect Their Food And Cubs

Bears will typically defend any food source, particularly something as calorie-rich as pet food, garbage or birdseed. A dog that interrupts a bear's dinner is asking for trouble. A person who comes between a defensive bear and an aggressive dog is putting their life at risk.

Wolves, coyotes, bobcats, eagles and male bears all prey on black bear cubs. To a mother bear, a barking dog is another potentially dangerous predator that means harm; if she cannot quickly or easily get her cubs to safety, she will defend them.



Don't force a mother black bear to defend her cubs. (Photo: Warren Holland, Durango, Colorado)

When Dogs Chase Bears

Bears can run faster than an Olympic sprinter for short distances; if you're lucky, the bear will escape from your dog. If you're not lucky, the bear will have to defend itself against your dog. Dog vs. bear seldom ends well for the dog. If you are very unlucky, the dog will realize it has picked a fight it can't win, turn tail and run back to you. If the bear gives chase, you and the dog become one big problem the bear needs to neutralize so it can feel safe again.



Bears Don't Like To Be Cornered

A black bear's natural instinct is to avoid confrontation. That's why the most common bear sightings consist of the tail end of the bear disappearing into the trees. If you encounter a bear AND your dog is on a leash AND you can keep it from lunging at the bear, the bear will most likely run away. If your dog is not on a leash, you are increasing the chances that a bear encounter will escalate into a dangerous situation.

Checklists for Dog Owners

Living With Dogs In Bear Country

- Feed pets indoors. If you must feed pets outside, feed only single portions and remove bowls as soon as your pet is finished.
- Keep your dog on a non-retractable leash even if you're just going to the car.
- Install motion-activated security lights. Check the yard and bang on your door before you let your dog out.
- If you see a bear, bring your dog inside. Don't allow it to bark at or harass the bear, even from inside a fenced yard.
- Pet doors should open into completely enclosed areas; some bears can squeeze through openings as small as nine inches high. Cubs (and other critters you don't want in the house) can fit through even smaller openings.
- If your dog gets into an encounter with a bear, don't try to rescue it. If you can do so from a safe distance, use your bear spray or a high-powered garden hose.

Out Walking Your Dog?

- Keep your dog on a non-retractable leash at all times.
- Carry bear spray and know how to use it.
- Stay alert; music and phones are distracting.
- Avoid walking at dawn, dusk or at night in areas with known bear activity.
- If you see a bear, turn around and leave.
- Don't let your dog bark at, harass, chase, or corner a bear.
- If your dog gets into a fight with a bear, don't try to rescue it. You will get injured. Instead, use your bear spray.



And Watch For The Snakes, As Well

As temperatures begin to warm, wildlife starts to become active. Many animals will come out of hibernation to find food and mates. This includes snakes. They have spent the winter in hibernation and are just as ready to enjoy the warmer weather as you and I. However, dogs and snakes don't normally go well together. Dogs tend to think of snakes as self powered toys! But an encounter between a dog and a snake usually ends badly, often for the snake - but sometimes an encounter with a snake could end very badly for the dog. The information about snakes below is an aggregate from several web sources.

In Colorado, we have more than 30 species and subspecies of snakes, but only three species of venomous snakes: Prairie Rattlesnakes, Midget Faded Rattlesnakes and two subspecies of Massasauga Rattlesnakes.

The Prairie Rattlesnake



The Prairie Rattlesnake is the most common pit viper found in Colorado. They are found all over Colorado and they have a variety of habitats. They grow anywhere from 3 to 5 feet long. They are tan colored with varying colors of brown blotches covering their bodies. They are identified by their keeled scales, triangular-shaped head with pit sensory organs on either side. A light stripe runs diagonally from the back of its eye to its jaw and another stripe runs diagonally from below its eye to the corner of its mouth and a rattle or button on the end of its tail.

Prairie Rattlesnakes are mostly ground snakes, but they occasionally climb into shrubs, bushes, or trees. Their venom is both hemotoxic and neurotoxic.

Prairie Rattlesnake bites' signs and symptoms include extreme pain, blistering, swelling, nausea, and vomiting. The venom can impair blood coagulation and break

down the red blood cells, leading to tissue necrosis, shock, and rarely multiple organ failure.

The Midget Faded Rattlesnake



Midget Faded Rattlesnakes are cream, brownish-gray, or a straw-like color. They are found in extreme west-central Colorado. This species is actually a subspecies of the Western Rattlesnake. They are typically smaller than Prairie Rattlesnakes but their venom is far more toxic. They can grow to 20 to 30 inches in length with males usually being longer and bigger than females. Rocky areas that have many places to hide are a normal habitat for the Midget Faded Rattlesnake. This species bite can inject you with neurotoxic venom.

Other names for this snake are the Faded Rattlesnake and Yellow Rattlesnake.

A Midget Faded Rattlesnake neurotoxic bite's signs and symptoms include extreme pain, blistering, swelling, nausea, and vomiting. The venom can impair blood coagulation and break down the red blood cells, leading to tissue necrosis, shock, and rarely multiple organ damage.

The Desert Massasauga Rattlesnake



The Desert Massasauga Rattlesnake is a small snake that reaches a length of about 21 inches. It has a pale gray body with dark brown blotches. It has a dark stripe that goes from the side of its head and across its eye. It is given the nickname “buzztail” for its high-pitched rattle sound, which is different from other rattlesnakes. These snakes are found in the sandy terrain of southeastern Colorado.

The venom of the Desert Massasauga Rattlesnake is cytotoxic venom that destroys tissue. The cytotoxic venom contains digestive enzymes that disrupt blood flow and prevents blood from clotting. A bite to a human is rare. Most bites occur after someone deliberately handles them or accidentally steps on one. The specific antivenom is not easily acquired.

The Western Massasauga Rattlesnake



The Western Massasauga Rattlesnake grows to a length between 14 - 36 inches. Their body is a light gray with dark brown blotches. They are similar to the Desert Massasauga Rattlesnake but are lighter in color. They also have a dark stripe that goes from the side of their face and across the eyes. These snakes are found in the sandy terrain of southeastern Colorado. Also known as “buzztail”, like the Desert Massasauga Rattlesnake as their high-pitched rattle is different from most other rattlesnakes.

Also, like the Desert Massasauga Rattlesnake, the Western Massasauga has a cytotoxic venom that destroys tissue. The cytotoxic venom contains digestive enzymes that disrupt blood flow and prevent blood from clotting. A bite to a human is rare. Most bites occur after someone deliberately

handles them or accidentally steps on one. The specific antivenom is not easily acquired.

If you suspect your pet has been bitten, prompt medical attention is very important as it can be a life threatening incident. Rattlesnake venom quickly immobilizes the victim, starts to break down blood cells and tissue, and disrupts the body's ability to coagulate the blood. Snake bites are also extremely painful.

Remain calm and try to limit the dog's movement by carrying him. Get back to a vehicle as quickly as possible and continue to restrict movement while someone else drives to the veterinarian.

Try to keep the area of the bite below heart level and never above heart level. This will reduce the venom's spread.

Since the snake bite site will swell, remove any collar or other things like bandanas if they are near the bite..

DO NOT try to kill the snake as this might result in you being bitten also!! If possible, get a photo of the snake (if taking a photo is not possible, try to remember what it looked like) this will help the veterinarian to determine what snake it was and what antivenom to use.

DO NOT try to suck out the venom!

**Most importantly, this bears repeating...
seek medical attention as soon as possible!**

Recent Adoptees!



Maizey
Hermosa, SD



Maya2
Denver, CO



Morgan
Ovilla, TX

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



DALMATIAN



20% OF PROFITS BENEFIT
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AND OTHER GREAT RESCUES.

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Drink Coffee. Save Dalmatians.

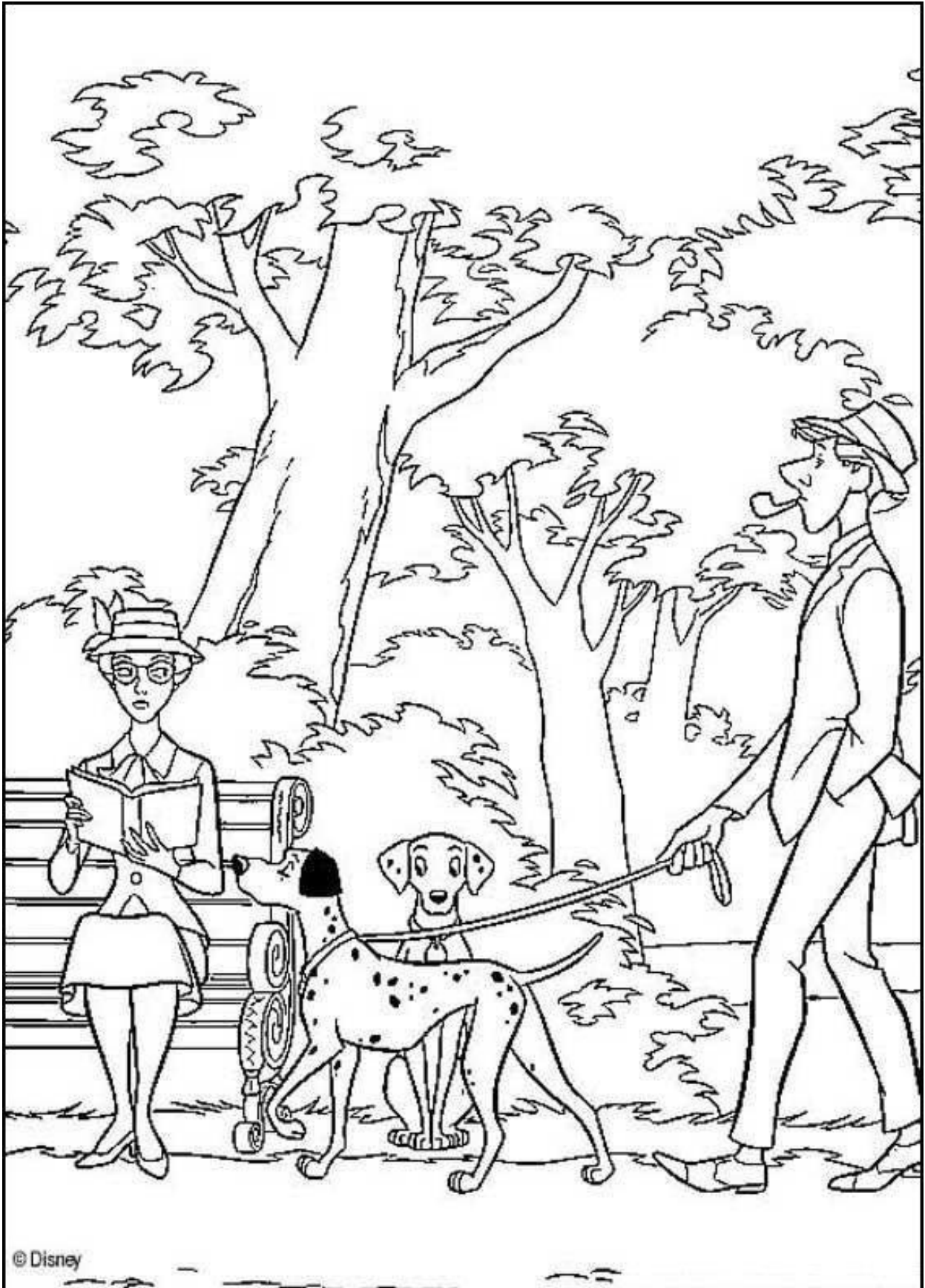
Every abandoned dog deserves a second chance. At Dalmatian Coffee Co., we use the sale of our single origin and blended coffees to help them find new homes. Twenty percent of our profits benefit Dalmatian Rescue operations (including Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado), no-kill animal shelters, and dog foster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

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



May 8th Is National Animal Disaster Preparedness Day



Natural disasters or other emergencies happen. You need to be prepared. There are a lot of things to consider in preparing for them. In addition to making sure you are ready to handle them, it is also important that your pet's needs are met as well. If a tornado, pandemic, hurricane or storm is dangerous for you, they are also dangerous for your pet.

If you need to evacuate your home, make sure that you take your furry, scaly or other textured pet with you. If you are going to hunker down and ride it out, make sure you're stocked up on supplies, including those for your pet.

Most of us worry about our pets in a natural disaster, but I'm willing to bet that less than half of us have the proper supplies and essentials. While having extra food, water and medicine on hand is always a good idea, there's a lot more to it - especially if you don't have power or access to a vet.

These are some tips and guidelines to consider when preparing for disasters or other emergencies. This is, by no means a comprehensive list, and of course, each animal has its own needs.

At a minimum, you need to have your pet's food, some water and their medications (if they have any) ready to do. These are the most important items and must be prioritized.

The ASPCA recommends:

1. A week's worth of food, including bowls and a travel can opener, if needed
2. One gallon of water per person/animal pet day for at least a week, plus an extra gallon (minimum) to use for cleaning.
3. Medications for your pet.
4. A waterproof container or bag with your pet's medical records, vaccination records, pet insurance information.
5. A Pet First Aid Kit and a pet first aid book to educate yourself on how to do basic first aid like cleaning a wound, making a splint and how to perform CPR on a dog.
6. Sturdy leashes and carriers to help in transporting animals.
7. A harness with reflective material to be seen in the dark.
8. ALWAYS make sure your dog's ID tags are current! Also try to include in your bag with their medical records a recent photo of you and your pet together (to help prove ownership) and detailed descriptions of your pets. You could also include feeding/medication instructions if you have to board or place them in a temporary shelter.
9. Poop bags! Always have poop bags on hand, disaster or not. Litter, litter box and litter scoop, if you have a cat.

You'll want to make sure, ahead of time, that you keep your dog's vaccinations up to date since you won't be able to do that during the disaster and your pets might be exposed to diseases through contaminated water or through contact with other animals.

Other useful items to consider

If space and circumstances permit, these are also good to have in your pet's prepper pack:

1. Grooming tools and shampoo. Include paper towels and disinfectant wipes to help keep your pet clean.
2. Blankets or towels for warmth and dryness.
3. If your dog is not a strong swimmer, or even if they are (because they will be stressed beyond belief) a dog life jacket will be very helpful if you should have to evacuate a flood and your pup needs help swimming or staying afloat.
4. Flashlights and batteries are essential to help you navigate at night during a power outage.
5. For snakes, gerbils, hamsters or other small reptiles, pillowcases are a good makeshift carrier for transport.
6. If in flea/tick season, don't forget the essential flea and tick preventatives. Heartworm medications are good to have, as well, since mosquitos (which transmit heartworms) love water and during floods, there will be plenty of standing water after the initial surge!

Tips For Riding Out The Storm With Your Pet

During a storm, you will want to stay with your pets as much as you can. They will rely on you to feed, water and comfort them. If possible, you should try to keep yourself and them in an interior room preferably away from windows. Try to distract them while the storm is raging. You can do this with treats or their favorite toys. You can also use CBD products, or check with your vet beforehand about a sedative. Make sure to indicate to rescuers that there are pets in your home by placing signs or stickers on the front door.

After the storm passes, make sure that you allow your pet to get outside and relieve themselves - but make sure your yard is safe BEFORE you let them out. Ensure the fence hasn't been damaged and will still keep your pet in the yard. Make sure there is no storm debris that could present a hazard, such as fallen tree limbs or other debris that might have blown into your yard.

Pets Are Our Family

Pets count on us for safety, so it's up to us to take care of them during disasters. The best way to keep them safe is to be prepared ahead of time. That is why disaster preparedness for pets is so important. Be proactive while you still have electricity, gather items into a bag so you're ready to go at a moment's notice. If your dog does get into harm's way, having a pet first aid kit can be a lifesaver.

In closing, we all want to be able to survive a trying situation, and our pets rely on us to help them survive. We have to be ready, so that they are ready. You might want to consider printing this article and posting it on your refrigerator as a handy checklist for your pet's emergency preparedness. In times of panic, you might not be thinking clearly. Having a checklist to refer to will help you not forget anything!



Pet Emergency Plan:

Disaster Preparedness
for Your Pets

We can count on our pets to keep us happy.
Let's make sure our Pets can count on us
when disaster happens.

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!

NATIONAL RESCUE DOG DAY - MAY 20th



On May 20th, National Rescue Dog Day recognizes all the benefits of allowing a four-legged canine to adopt you into their immeasurably lovable life. According to the ASPCA, about 3.3 million dogs enter rescues every year. When these abandoned and abused animals find their way to a rescue, each one needs a forever home and their potential is limitless. They're rescue dogs. No matter their size, color, or breed, dogs will find a way to nuzzle, fetch, or beg their way into your heart. You will find it hard not to scratch one behind the ear.

Rescue dogs often overcome extreme obstacles. And yet, they provide comfort, security, and friendship as family pets. Rescue dogs are also capable of much more. With training, they contribute to the independence of people with disabilities as service animals

and give comfort to the elderly. In these circumstances, they become our eyes, ears, or legs as well as our best friend.

Rescue dogs provide a variety of therapeutic benefits, too. Children, teens, and adults with autism may benefit from services provided by trained rescue dogs. As emotional support companions, rescue dogs help to relieve anxiety, depression, and PTSD among the military or those who suffer from mental illness. They make excellent teachers, too. Rescue dogs show children about caring and kindness. Rescue dogs can even be trained to rescue us from dangerous situations or help to investigate the cause of a fire.

When it comes to four-legged friends, they improve the human condition by leaps and bounds, barks, and yips. It is hard to imagine a more helpful, worthy companion. It's time to give them a treat!

HOW TO OBSERVE National Rescue Dog Day

Get involved in the lives of rescue dogs. There are a variety of ways to share puppy love. Volunteer at your local rescue or shelter. Taking dogs for walks, grooming, and giving them plenty of affection improves their socialization. Rescues always need donations. Financial donations are always welcome. Most have a list of constant needs, such as food, blankets, bleach, toys, treats, and leashes. If there is room in your life for a rescue dog, consider adoption and giving one a forever home. Consider fostering. Many dogs in rescues require some medical care or rehabilitation in a home setting before an adoption can take place.

Use **#NationalRescueDogDay** to share your rescue dog's story on social media to inspire others to adopt and make their own stories.

NATIONAL DOG MOM'S DAY – 2ND SATURDAY IN MAY



During the second Saturday in May, National Dog Mom's Day sends out a chorus of yips, barks, and howls of praise for all the dog mommas! Our dogs are our family members, whether they came into our lives unexpectedly or as carefully planned additions. We adopt them as puppies, adolescents, or fully mature animals with a bit of baggage, and yet, we find common ground, a connection, and bond like families do. They know our moods, and we know theirs. We care for them, shelter them, and share an immeasurable loyalty with them. National Dog Mom's Day recognizes the bond women share with their fur kids. When they humor us, charm us or even when they are naughty, they are like any other child to us.

HOW TO OBSERVE #DogMomsDay

Celebrate by making sure to get some extra cuddles. Bake up some yummy homemade puppy treats. Plan for some double pampering – a pedicure for you and [paws for the puppies](#). Then take an extra special selfie with your fur baby to mark the occasion. Use #DogMomsDay to share on social media.

NATIONAL PET WEEK – FIRST SUNDAY THROUGH SATURDAY IN MAY



Beginning the first full week in May, National Pet Week celebrates the relationship and the circle of life between pet and human. The week is also an opportunity to review your pet's health to help ensure a long and lasting relationship. The relationships between animals and humans have developed for thousands of years. Dogs provided protection and improved hunting. They also rid farms and homes of vermin as do cats. Pets also provide companionship. Taking care of our pets is part of the relationship between humans and animals. They require our care to feed, shelter, and care for their health. Having a pet is a long-term commitment involving training, grooming, nutrition, exercise, and visiting the veterinarian. This cycle continues daily throughout the life of the animal.

Despite all the responsibilities that come with pet ownership, homes with pets are on the rise. So, National Pet Week serves to provide resources and support to pet owners to guide them on their way to a happy and healthy relationship.

HOW TO OBSERVE #NationalPetWeek

Check-in with your vet and confirm your pets are up-to-date on their care.
Share your favorite pet stories and use #NationalPetWeek to share on social media.

Share stories about your pet.
Volunteer at a shelter and consider adoption.
Take your dog for a walk.
Inspect your pet's toys and throw out any that are damaged.
And then buy them new ones!



Trainer Tips

“Walk The Dinosaur - I Mean, The Dog”

Leash Manners With Zooka

© 2004-2023 The Light of Dog



Remember the song Walk the Dinosaur? You know the song by Was (Not Was) released in 1988. Maybe you don't. I was an 80's girl. Play 80's music for me and I feel right at home. But I digress.

Does walking your dog sometimes feel like walking the dinosaur? Some dogs quite naturally pick up nice leash manners without much effort. Consider yourself quite lucky if you get one of those! Because most of us don't get those dogs.

More often, we are likely to get the dog who does not feel the leash is necessary for them. Who likes to be restrained, after all? We have been working on Zooka's leash manners since we picked him up from his breeder in July 2019 at nine weeks old. At this writing, he's 8.5 months old. We got lots of chances to practice as we made our three day drive home from North Carolina to Colorado. Fortunately, the breeder had already done some work to acclimate all of the puppies to a leash before we picked them up. (Most pups have never been introduced to a leash – or perhaps even a collar – by the time you pick up a puppy.)

We work with Zooka on a variety of length leashes. But we never use retractable leashes. (That is a whole other conversation that we don't have time for in this post.) For Zooka, we use eight foot, ten foot and twenty foot lines. I am sure at some point we probably used a six foot leash in there too, but we rarely ever use a six foot leash.

Regardless of what length of leash you use, you should have clear expectations for what behaviors you want (and don't want) when your dog is on leash. When we have students struggling with leash manners, in most cases, there really is not a clear enough expectation. And if there is, it has not been clearly communicated to the dog.

Whether Zooka is on an eight foot, ten foot or twenty foot line, his expectation is the same. We expect a loose leash. We expect him to be tuned in with us. With the person holding the leash. We expect some checking in. Checking in voluntarily. Not just when we ask for it.

We also expect that Zooka will do some exploring and sniffing. We WANT him to do that! But not at the expense of tuning us out. Those two things might seem contradictory but they are not. It takes some work to learn how to do both. But it's do-able and preferable, as far as we are concerned.

We expect Zooka to keep a loose leash, but he can walk ahead of us, behind us or even cross sides. We do NOT expect him to walk at our left side for an entire walk. Though there are times I do expect him to come to my side or even stay at my side for a short stretch.

Your expectations might depend on where you walk. Crowded areas? Sidewalks? Along busy streets? Past soccer games at the park? In (dog-friendly) stores? On hiking trails? On bike paths? In open fields? Clearly in more crowded places, you need your dog closer to you and under better control. In more wide open spaces without others around, your dog can have more freedom.

For Zooka, most of his walks are on trails on our property or out on hiking trails where there are not many other people around. So Zooka's walks are more often on a 20 foot line than on an eight foot leash. The eight foot leash is for areas where we need to keep him closer. The vet's office. The local dog-friendly stores. Etc.

As Zooka gets older and listens better, he gets some walk time off leash. Our goal with him is the same as it was for our previous dogs. Off leash control so that most of their walks can be off leash.

We still have the same expectations. Stay tuned in. Check in with me regularly without me having to ask for it. Listen when I ask you to do something. Have fun. Have fun WITH ME.

My dogs all learn that walks WITH ME are way more fun than walks without me. I want them to assume walks are always done as a team. Walks are a social activity between us. Sometimes with friends.

My dogs also learn that we do NOT greet other dogs on walks. We are on OUR walk. Those other dogs and their people are doing THEIR walk. We mind our own business. This is a hard one for Zooka, and he's still learning. He wants so badly to socialize with EVERYONE.

Again, I have clear expectations. If he does get to greet people, he has to be polite. People need to ask if they want to greet. Zooka needs to ask if he wants to greet. But mostly, we are doing our own thing.

His walks in his usual areas are great. He understands his expectations and does quite well with them.

His walks in other areas, such as local stores or parks, are more challenging at this stage. We just have not been getting out to them often enough that his manners are as solid in those areas. He is still very distracted by everything and everyone. He's getting better, but if we don't get out regularly to practice, it's easy for those things to backslide.

We still have lots of work to do before he's where I want him to be everywhere and anywhere. But we'll get there! I have lots of patience and clear expectations. So we will meet our goals. I am not worried. He's a very good boy. He will be a great young man.

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/>).

I think the reason we are born with two hands is so that we can pet two dogs at once.

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 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. 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

Dexter



5 Year Old, Black, Neutered Male
Reason Available: Owner Surrender
Foster Home: Waco, TX

Meet Dexter, aka Batman! (Look at those ears!) This amazing boy is a petite 36 lb, 5-year-old Dalmatian. Dexter is blind in his right eye from an unknown, long-ago injury but that doesn't stop him from being a happy, playful boy. He's neutered and up-to-date on vaccinations. Dexter is heartworm-positive and undergoing slow-kill treatment. Meds and support are provided by DRC.

Dexter is housetrained and loves to go on car rides, play fetch, and tug of war. True to his Dalmatian spirit, he LOVES to cuddle. Dexter has never met a stranger and loves kids and adults alike! Everyone who meets him has fallen in love.

Dexter gets along with other dogs but has shown some minor resource guarding. His foster has been working with him on this and he's shown great improvement. We would recommend an experienced owner if there are other dogs in the home. No cats.

Dexter is ready to find his forever home! He's got a few edges to polish, but it's the challenges you tackle together that build the strongest bonds and this boy has so much love packed inside his 36 lbs that we know he's worth it.

For more info, contact Tena at tjp@mygrande.net. **FENCED-IN YARD IS REQUIRED.** Dexter is located in Waco, TX. Adoption \$400. Applications may be submitted at www.dalmatianrescueco.org

Selene

3 Year Old, Black, Spayed Female
Reason Available: Stray
Foster Home: Waco, TX

Meet Selene! She had a really rough start, somehow finding herself in the Laredo, TX shelter. But, thanks to a friend, she made her way out of there and is now with her DRC foster. This beautiful girl is a smiler! She has the cutest little underbite and loves to play. Selene loves to chew on her bones, knows sit, and is pretty good at walking on a leash. She does well with males and is selective with females. Selene is not fond of cats or small dogs. She is about 58 lbs, crate-trained, house-trained, microchipped, current on vaccinations, and spayed.

Selene is located in Waco, TX. Applications may be submitted at www.dalmatianrescueco.org. For more information, please contact Tena at tjp@mygrande.net. Adoption fee \$400.



Happy Beginnings Stories

Lily



Lily has had a wonderful transition into my home. She already knows her commands, enjoys plenty of toys and has plenty of playtime with both Wren and Turbo (my sister's dog). She loves being outside but is always willing for a nap when we are indoors. She is a dog that hops when she is excited and is such a wonderful dog when meeting new people. She thinks she is a lap dog and is never afraid to hop into someone's lap and try to kiss people. She really is a tremendous dog!

Sean G.
Denver, CO



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

We got three Happy Beginnings Stories submitted last month!! Lily's story will be in the next issue! Let's keep them coming! 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!

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