

Winter Health Hazards

As winter settles in, here are a few tips to remember to ensure a healthy season. As most pet lovers know, winter can be a challenge for our pets. This article will explore some common dangers to watch for, and what to do to avoid problems.

Antifreeze (Ethylene Glycol)

This is actually a winter and summer potential problem. Cats and dogs are attracted to the sweet smell and taste of antifreeze, and will often sample some if left out in a container or spilled on the garage floor.

Antifreeze is highly toxic - it is rapidly absorbed (initial signs appear approximately one hour post-ingestion), and there is a high mortality rate. Other sources of this deadly chemical are: heat exchange fluids (sometimes used in solar collectors), some brake and transmissions fluids as well as diethylene glycol used in color film processing.



Acute cases (within 12 hours of ingestion) often present as if the animal was intoxicated with alcohol: stumbling, vomiting and depression are common signs. The kidneys are most severely affected, and even if the animal seems to improve initially with treatment, they may succumb shortly after to kidney failure. The kidneys shut down, and the animal is unable to produce urine. This type of kidney failure usually happens 12-24 hours after ingestion in cats, and 36-72 hours post ingestion in dogs. Success of treatment is dependent upon quick treatment. If you suspect that your animal has come into contact with antifreeze, contact your veterinarian immediately.

A safe alternative to Ethylene Glycol antifreeze is available, it is called propylene glycol, and while it does cost a small amount more than 'regular' antifreeze, it is worth the peace of mind.

Arthritis and Winter

Cold, damp weather aggravates arthritis in dogs and cats. Arthritis can appear in young pets, but is most common in the middle age and geriatric pets. A fracture can also make the bone susceptible to arthritis after the injury is healed. Overweight pets suffer from arthritis more than their normal-weight counterparts.

If your pet is having trouble getting up or laying down, navigating the stairs, or has started to snap or cry when picked up, a visit to the veterinarian is in order. Many new arthritis treatments are available, both natural and medicinal. NEVER medicate your dog with human prescription or over-the-counter medications without consulting your veterinarian first! One Tylenol™ tablet can be fatal to a cat.



Staying Fit

As always, exercise is important. If there is snow on the ground, check your pet's paws for ice balls or injuries. Rinse feet off if your pet has walked where deicers have been used. Some deicers are toxic when ingested (when pet licks paws). If your pet is having difficulty exercising due to depth of snow, slick icy surfaces, or appears to be winded, shorten the usual exercise times and monitor for any unusual signs. If you need to use deicers on your sidewalks or driveways, please look for pet safe deicers.



Also, if you plan outdoor activities for your pet you might want to look into getting a coat and boots for your friend to wear. You wouldn't go out for extended periods of time without dressing properly for the weather, why should your dog go out unprepared for the weather? And make sure to bring plenty of fresh water, even in the winter. You don't want them eating snow to get fluids!



Recent Adoptees!



Lizzie
Calhan, CO



Nova
Fort Collins, CO

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

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

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

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



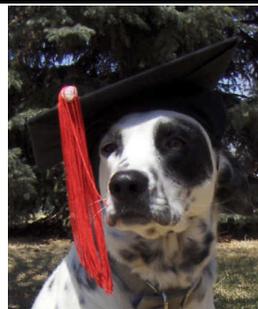
I wanted to share this with the folks in the Denver area. I like her motto:
"Contact us FIRST for training so you won't need us later for rescue"

– Beth White

Winter sleepwear... sleep like your dog? Get these at Target stores or Target online. \$24.99

Women's relaxed fit, fleece, lightweight, pajamas with round neckline, long sleeve, ribbed cuff. One piece footie pajamas with half-length front zipper closure and a side slit pocket.

Care and Cleaning: Machine wash, warm Bleach when needed Tumble dry, normal, low heat Do not iron; Do not dry clean



Radar at his Therapy Dog Graduation

Radar is a TV star!!!

Radar and his buddy Triton were on television recently to help introduce the community to the benefits of Therapy Dogs. Check out the video of their appearance by clicking this link:

http://kwgn.com/2014/10/13/therapy-dogs/#oid=9kNnMycTpppes_tdG3sdXw9D_D0_8JhC

Doggie Parenting

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Been There, Done That

A Yard Is Not Sufficient For A Dog

I signed up a new reader recently who said he loves dogs but doesn't have one because he doesn't have a yard.

I asked him what having a yard has to do with having a dog.

He said. "Dogs need yards."

I said, "No they don't. It's NICE for a dog to have yard, that's for sure. But it's certainly not *necessary*."

He said he lives in an apartment.

I said terrific... Get a dog. I told him that Jetta and I lived in an apartment for eight years. It's not ideal, but it certainly shouldn't hold someone back from having a dog if they really want one.

I explained that dogs need to run every day. Preferably, twice a day. I tell my students that if they did not consider their schedule or their desires or the weather or anything about *them*, if they consider only what their dogs need, their dogs would run twice a day. And I mean RUN.

Dogs need to RUN every day!

Walking on a leash is not sufficient exercise for MOST dogs. (Exceptions: Teeny tiny dogs, big huge dogs, sick dogs, old dogs.) I teach my students that if they exercise their dog, and they come home and that dog is following them around and getting into this and barking at that, he did not get enough exercise! When dogs are properly exercised, they SLEEP and they sleep long and HARD.

If a dog gets proper exercise, he can live in a car, assuming weather permits.

I ran Jetta twice a day, every single day. I would never miss her exercise any more than I would miss feeding her. When she was in my apartment, she was asleep.

The other thing is that dogs need socialization and mental stimulation. If they are "yard bound," they are not getting those needs met. "Been there, done that." So ideally, dogs are in public running twice a day. (I teach my students that if they do once a day and have good behavior, I am cool with that.)

Lack of proper exercise can stress dogs out and lead to all kinds of behavior and stress-related problems.

And, it's hard to run a dog who is not trained. Training and exercise go hand-in-hand. Training, exercise, socialization, mental stimulation. Oh yeah... And food and water. Dogs have needs... It's often very inconvenient... But needs are needs and needs are indisputable and nonnegotiable.

So, in conclusion, I told my new reader that if he was committed to doing what's best for his dog, he could get a dog whether he had a yard or not. This seemed to please him. Some dog is going to get very lucky.

'Til next time, "kiss the kids"

Tori (Mom of Jetta WAC, CGC)

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

Victoria Rose/Nanny 911 For Dogs Training and Behavior Modification offers dog training/behavior modification in-home, by phone and via her "Baby Steps" training manual. All services are guaranteed; payments accepted. Visit

www.Nanny911ForDogs.com



Trainer Tips

“Exposure to new things, Halloween version – The Zuzu Chronicles”

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Puppies go through a critical development phase during which exposure (safely and positively!) to new things is critical for their development. The more exposure they get in safe, fun, positive ways the better for their social development.

However, it's just as important to continue their socialization and exposure to different environments throughout their adolescence. That's why I make an effort to keep getting Zuzu out and about even as she's nearing her first birthday. One of the places we go is Aspen Grove Shopping Center in Littleton, CO. They have many dog-friendly stores and it's a great place to work on her polite behavior with people.

At this time of year, there is a seasonal Halloween store that provides some environmental stimuli that we don't see at other times of the year. So I took Zuzu recently to visit some stores, including the Halloween store. When Romeo was a puppy, I took him too. The store was a lot less scary just a few years ago. Now, it's filled with creepy motion-activated characters.



Zuzu on a walk

We kept our distance from most of them, but I allowed Zuzu to watch the cat with the big glowing eyes. I thought we were far enough from it to not activate it, but when she let out a slight woof, the cat leaped at her. Yikes! She scrambled back to get away from it but slipped on the floor. I helped her up, and she didn't try to run away from it. I led her away shortly after so she would not bark and disturb the other store patrons. Once we got outside, she was fine.

I didn't plan to scare her with anything – was trying to avoid it really. But she showed that while it startled her, it did not completely frighten her. She has great coping skills. And that comes with exposure to things in small doses as well as the chance to observe (from a safe distance) and overcome her initial fears and concerns. It's perfectly acceptable and expected to jump back when something leaps out at you, but she didn't overreact to it. That tells me I have been providing her exposure in the right ways.

Does your dog have great coping skills when confronted with new, scary things? Halloween can be a scary time for many dogs, and unfortunately, many people think it's funny to scare the heck out of dogs. Give your dog a chance for some Halloween-themed exposure in small, manageable doses, but don't overdo it.



If you have an issue you would like addressed in a future installment of Ask the Trainer, please send your question to: sbrown@lovemydogtraining.com or Sue Brown, Love My Dog Training, 1494 S Perry Park Road, Sedalia, CO 80135.

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

Please send questions to: sbrown@lovemydogtraining.com



www.lovemydogtraining.com

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(This “Ask The Trainer” article is reprinted with permission of Sue Brown, owner of Love My Dog Training and a Certified Dog Behavior Consultant. Love My Dog Training is located in and services the Denver Metro Area. <http://www.lovemydogtraining.com>).

Bits & Pieces

Do you have a business or a hobby that other adopters, fosters, and volunteers might be interested in? Let us help you spread the word by 'advertising' in Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado's monthly newsletter – NewSpots! We currently notify a little over 450 people of the new editions of NewSpots! That's a lot of word of mouth and print advertising for FREE!! **Below is an advertisement appearing for the first time in NewSpots!!**

Advertising in NewSpots! is free!!

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

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

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

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

Reader Recommendations

This is worth sharing. Hard to watch this woman whose dog has died but a very teachable moment, especially when it begins to breathe again.

<http://boxerfanclub.com/video-dog-trainer-saves-boxer-dog-with-cpr/>

Tena P.

Many people are now singing the praises of the Walk In Sync, which helps us walk strong dogs. Be sure to read the testimonials because this comes highly recommend. Barb just attended a training seminar where these harnesses were recommended too and she saw them in action. She was very impressed. Check them out! They're no cheap but appear to be worth every cent!

<http://dogwalkinsync.com>

If you jog with the older recommended Easy Walk Harness, you'll find that the constriction on the dog's shoulders is actually detrimental to the dog. It can cause muscle soreness and possibly even structural damage if used steadily for long periods. Walking won't cause issues but jogging and biking sure can. Check out the Walk in Sync harness!

Beth White



Wanted – Someone to run eBay Auctions

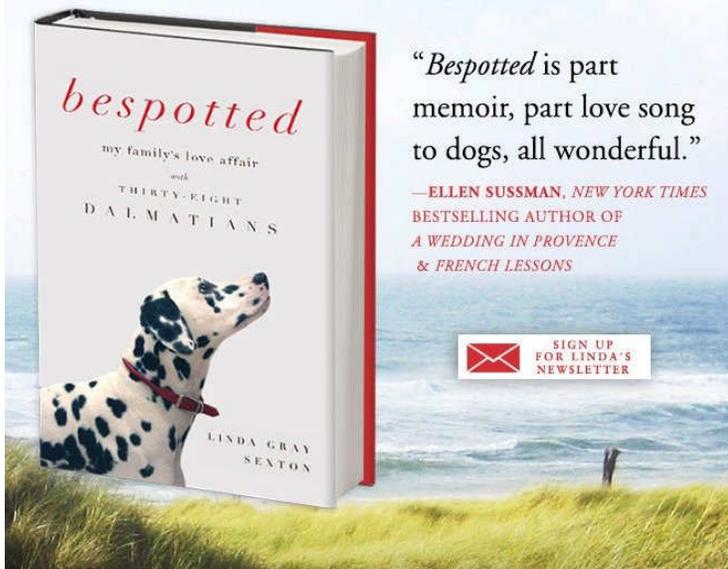


It is not hard to sell on eBay. Go to the eBay site and look at the tutorials. You would need photos, descriptions and need to do a bit of research on each item to know its value. For most items, you would need to put a reserve on them - meaning the lowest bid you will accept. Otherwise, things worth \$50 may go for \$2. Go to eBay, type in Dalmatian collectibles. Get a feel for how things look and sell. You'll need to set up an account under your name. It is important for you to ship things out quickly. I usually take the pictures then go ahead and box the item to ship so it is sitting, ready.

But sometimes items don't sell so it's really up to you. Try a few items, see how it goes and learn what works best for you. I haven't put anything up in a long time but remember it being very easy. You are notified via email of the auction ending and the winning bid. Keep in mind that it costs a percentage to put the item up for auction so you'll need a bit of money in the account to start. \$20 should cover till you sell some things.

Of course we can fund the shipping and the eBay account. So if you have the time to devote to this, please contact Beth White to get the scoop!

LINDA GRAY SEXTON



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Bespotted is a page-turning and compelling look at the unique place dogs occupy in our lives. It captures another piece of this literary family's history, taps into the curious and fascinating world of dog showing/dog fancy. *Bespotted* is an upbeat and commercial memoir by one of the most critically acclaimed memoirists of our time.

BESPOTTED

MY FAMILY'S LOVE AFFAIR
WITH THIRTY-EIGHT DALMATIANS

Dear Beth,

Marilyn Monroe once said: "Dogs never bite me. Just humans." My young stepdaughter informs me that dogs "rock." And my husband wisely opines: "When I die, I want to come back as one of Linda's Dals."

Do you know how many dogs live with owners today in the U.S.? The number is nothing short of amazing: 78.2 million. There are more dogs in American households than there are children. What is it, I wonder, that makes dogs so irresistible and special that we just don't seem to be able to live without them?

There are all sorts of interesting scientific reasons. For one, while gazing into our dogs' eyes, our oxytocin levels increase--oxytocin being the same hormone that floods our systems when we bond with our human babies at birth and later with our small fry. Another: dog owners recover at a faster rate from heart problems (among other health issues) than do non-pet owners. And I love this fact the best: eighty-four percent of dog owners consider their dog to be their child. I get that one, big time. And, when you have a very "special" dog in your life, he or she can get you through the greatest of difficulties.

Dogs have a strong sense of integrity and character. They never know what is coming and live joyfully in the moment. They savor the good, do their best to endure the bad, and, if we are smart, we learn from their example. Find out more about how our dogs come to be such pivotal mainstays in our lives by reading this fresh new piece, "Dogs Are Everyday Miracles."

Yours,



Breeze



Cody



Mac



Sea Dals. 2014.

Professional Pet Portraits by Colorado Artist, Mary Blichmann



Call to commission a portrait.
25% of proceeds go directly to
Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado.
All calls returned promptly.

970-319-0918

Mary Blichmann, Dal lover and artist, has created an original Christmas card perfect for Dalmatian lovers.

This card is printed from an oil painting she did. Cards are 4" x 6", blank on the inside.

Cards are \$2 each or a 4-Pack for \$6. 25% of cards sold goes to Dal Rescue of CO!

To purchase these, please send an email to Mary at poco2@centurylink.net, and you can always call her at 970-319-0918. Mary is a pet portrait artist and would be happy to commission a painting or pencil drawing for your special spotty friend!



In The Doghouse... Our Featured Dalmatians

Tank

3 Years Old, Black Neutered Male
Reason Available: Abandoned
Foster Home: Concordia, MO

*******URGENT*******

URGENT! TANK needs a home! He may not have lots of spots, but he's a great Dalmatian Wannabe anyway! Tank is his name because he is a BIG ole boy, about 70 pounds, who was tossed into a shelter when the landlord changed his mind about him. He needs a 6-foot fence; otherwise he will go a walking if a squirrel makes him jump! This boy is good with female dogs but is a little nervous (timid) around some male dogs. Tank does take his share of the furniture, but what a sweetie. He is good in the house, housebroken, and a good companion who likes to sleep on the couch at night. Currently in Concordia, MO, you can talk to his foster mom Jon at js86bacon@gmail.com. Adoption \$150. How about a Happy MO BIG BOY for your couch?



Sam2



1½ Years Old, Black Neutered Male
Reason Available: Owner Surrender
Boarding Kennel: Aurora, CO

*******URGENT*******

Sam is a very handsome, distinctive looking young adult male Dalmatian mix who was pulled from a TN shelter. He is housebroken; crate trained and LOVES being a copilot in cars and trucks. Sam's first owners, upon discovering that he was mildly heartworm positive, turned him into the shelter in Feb., admitting that they'd never used a heart worm preventative. The shelter cured the heartworms and he had a short-lived adoption in May, until the resident male dog decided Sam was in his way. The shelter staff adored him, saying that he was the happiest, sweetest and most loving dog there. They even call us frequently to check up on him, and that just NEVER happens! Sam is in boarding in CO now and desperately needs a home of his own. Unfortunately, due to many reasons, most not having to do with Sam, he has been bounced around. Sam is rowdy when he plays and sometimes can become overbearing, but he means well. No cats for Sam and he definitely needs a 6' fence. But for all this, Sam is worth the investment in time and attention. He's love starved and wants to just cuddle and hang out with you and go in the car/truck as often as he can! He'd make a fabulous jogging/biking partner too! Adoption \$200. Sam is an extraordinarily loving boy who often has two nylabones in his mouth even when he goes to bed. He loves to cuddle close and give kisses. He needs an experienced home where he will receive lots of exercise because of his high energy level. He consistently seeks approval from his humans but is unsure of how to earn it. He needs to learn boundaries. He gets along with most dogs but is best with bigger ones. He would be amazing with older children but he is too active for kids under 6 probably. His fence should be at least 5' and he likely would love to chase cats. There is a ride to CO in late August if he has a spot to land. He is currently in a kennel in TX, greatly needing more exercise and he so wants his own family again! It's hot in TX too! With training he will be an extraordinary companion. He has won a permanent place in the hearts of almost everyone he has encountered. Why not consider Sam as your loving companion? Probably no other dog will love you as much!! For more information, contact Beth White at melodee101@gmail.com. Adoption \$200.

Happy Beginning Stories

Sorry...

**There are no Happy Beginning
Stories yet again. ☹️**

**Please, if you haven't sent in your
story yet, please do!!**

Send your story and photos to

spotted-dog-designs@comcast.net

Please don't forget... if you haven't sent in your Happy Beginnings Story yet, why not do it right now while it's fresh in your mind! It's never too late to see your story in print!! NewSpots is published and released on the first calendar day of the month. The deadline for submissions for future issues of NewSpots will be the 25th of the previous month. Submissions received after the deadline may be delayed in publication until the following month, subject to the Editor's discretion.

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

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

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

<http://www.dalmatianrescue.org>
