



June 2018

NEWSLETTER

Fear Free Veterinary Care For Your Furry Friend. That's Franklin Farm.

HOURS:

Monday - Friday: 7:30am-6:30pm

Saturday: 8:00am-1:00pm

Sunday: Closed



POINTS TO 'PAW'NDER

Socializing your dog

Socializing your dog through puppyhood and adolescence is one of the best ways to ensure that they become a friendly and confident adult. In this article, you will learn best practices on how to socialize your pup no avoid issues in adulthood.

Socializing your puppy:

The greatest window for learning in a puppies life starts roughly around three to four weeks of age and closes between sixteen and 20 weeks. This period allows

puppies to be exposed to a wide variety of sights, sounds,



smells, and sensations without becoming fearful. Puppies who miss out on these experiences may never learn to be comfortable around unfamiliar things, paving the way for anxiety, fear, and aggression later on in life.

To help with your puppy's socializing adventure, follow these steps to give your puppy the best start possible:

1) Handling

Young puppies should be cuddled and handled daily by as many different people as possible. Keep the contact gentle and pleasant for the puppy. Hold the puppy in different positions, gently finger her feet, rub her muzzle, stroke her back and sides, look in her ears.

2) Sounds

Acclimate your puppy to lots of different sounds, being careful not to overwhelm him with too much noise too fast. Expose him to kitchen sounds, telephones ringing, children playing, sportscasters yelling on TV, radios playing, buses moving by, and so on.

3) Food bowl exercises

Teach your puppy to enjoy having

people approach her bowl while she's eating. This will help to prevent resource guarding, which occurs when dogs feel anxious about others approaching their own valued resources. Walk up to your puppy while she's eating her food, drop an even tastier treat into her dish, and walk away. Repeat once or twice during each meal until your puppy is visibly excited about your approach. Then walk up, physically pick up her dish, put in a treat, give the dish back, and walk away.

4) Teach your puppy to be alone

Puppies should learn to tolerate being completely separate from you every day to avoid developing separation anxiety.

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5) Prevent Aggression

Confrontational approaches like pinning your dog down or scruffing him frequently backfire and create the aggression dog owners seek to avoid. Instead, Focus on rewarding correct behavior and preventing undesirable behavior to teach your puppy human rules and build a trusting relationship.

6) Introduce your puppy to new people

Introduce your puppy to several new people every day, keeping the interactions very pleasant and unthreatening. Focus especially on setting up pleasant encounters with unfamiliar men and well-behaved children.

7) Prevent biting

Provide appropriate toys to redirect your puppy's biting. When your puppy bites too hard during play, making a sudden noise ("Ow!") & end the game to help him learn to use his mouth gently. Never squeeze your puppy's mouth shut, or yell at him. This will frighten him and likely make biting worse. Note that while puppies under five months tend to explore the world with their mouths, dogs past this age are considered adolescents and should no longer be play biting.

Maybe your K9 is now older and didn't quite get the training needed to be fully socialized. To socialize an adolescent or adult dog, follow these steps:

1) Keep introducing your dog to new people

Dogs only remain social when continually exposed to unfamiliar people. Continued pleasant exposure to new people keeps the idea that strangers are good news in the forefront of your dog's mind.

2) Keep introducing your dog to other dogs

There are lots of ways to do this: dog parks, play groups, play dates with friends' dogs, and simple leash walks can all help accomplish this. Without this experience, dogs can lose their ability to know how to behave appropriately around other dogs.

3) Vary your walks

Try to avoid taking the same walking route every day. Let your dog experience a variety of environments, from sidewalks to dirt roads. This will provide your growing dog with much-needed mental stimulation.

4) Teach your dog to be alone

Scheduling daily alone time with neither people nor other pets nearby is critical to preventing separation anxiety. Use a baby gate

or crates to prevent your dog from shadowing you constantly when you're home. Ask a friend to pet sit for an hour regularly.

5) Don't punish fear

Most displays of aggression are the result of the dog feeling fear. Many owners are caught off guard when their normally easygoing puppy reacts fearfully to a new dog or



person. However, this change often coincides with the end of the sensitive period of socialization. Starting around 5 months old, your dog may start to interpret anything unfamiliar as a threat and will typically either flee or confront what frightens him. Punishing this reaction will only confirm his fear, so instead remove your dog from the situation and ask for a different behavior (like "sit").

6) Continue handling your dog

Make sure your dog is comfortable with different parts of his body being handled. This will ensure that if he must be handled in an emergency he will be less likely to bite. Be on the watch for a stiff body, whites of the eyes showing, a closed mouth, and escape attempts. If you see these signs, stop handling your dog.

A socialized dog is a happy dog!

www.animalhumanesociety.org



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Did you know...

- A cat can travel at a top speed of 31 mph (49 km) over a short distance.
- A cat usually has about 12 whiskers on each side of its face.

Cat's
Corner

- A cat's jaw can't move sideways.
- A female cat is called a queen.

Factretirever.com



Penny

PET OF THE MONTH

Our pet of the month is Penny! She is a sweet, energetic 3-year-old Norwich Terrier who lives with her mother, Diva, and her brother, Pico, here in the Franklin Farm area. Penny is a great patient and is always a good girl when she comes to see us.

Unfortunately, she had a little issue with her anal glands recently which caused pain and mild inflammation in her back end. We applied our MLS® Laser Therapy to the painful and inflamed area, which stimulated blood flow, helped with pain, and sped up healing time. This painless, quick session was successful in helping Penny get back to being herself.

Whether it's an anal gland issue, or a cat with arthritis, our laser therapy sessions can get your fur baby back on the road to feeling better. Give us a call to schedule a treatment today.

In her picture above, Penny is wearing her protective Doggles during her treatment. Safety first!

Did you know...

- A puppy is born blind, deaf, and toothless.
- Dogs can move their ears independently.
- There are an estimated 400 million dogs in the world.
- Dog nose prints are as unique as human finger prints and can be used to identify them.
- Dogs in a pack are more likely to chase and hunt than a single dog on its own.

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IN THE MONTH OF JUNE:

- ⇒ ASPCA's Adopt a Shelter Cat Month
- ⇒ National Dairy Month
- ⇒ National Zoo and Aquarium Month
- ⇒ American Humane's Adopt-a-Cat Month



At Franklin Farm, we believe "RUFFerals" are the greatest form of flattery. That's why, when you refer a furry friend to Franklin Farm, everybody gets a treat!

YOUR PET

Refer a friend and Your pet will receive a \$25.00 credit at your next appointment after your referral has mentioned you!

YOUR REFERRAL'S PET

Your referral's pet will also receive a FREE goody-bag of treats at their first appointment with Franklin Farm!