

Dog Safety In Cars

Traveling with pets can be a lot of fun and a great experience, for both you and your dog. Short trips around town or a road trip... either can be a pleasure. But there are some things you should do before you load up and hit the open road. The most important thing is to make sure that your dog has ID tags on his collar and that the collar is properly fitted so it won't slip off! There are some general tips for trips, long or short, to make the journey a happy one. Stop frequently to allow your dog to go to the bathroom or just stretch her legs. Make sure that you have plenty of water and food in the car. Also make sure that they can drink comfortably, maybe keep an extra bowl in the car. Either a standard bowl or a collapsible one.

Something else you should plan on before taking to the road is what kind of restraint your dog will use. Seat belts are required for human passengers... so your dog should be restrained as well. But there are so many restraint products on the market. Which one should you choose to use really depends on your dog.

If they are okay with kennels, I really recommend using a kennel as the first, and best method of restraint. Make sure that it is able to be connected to attachment points in the car that can withstand an impact, not just sitting in the back.

If your dog doesn't like being kenneled, there are many seatbelt harnesses on the market. I would recommend one that has been safety tested. There are many on the market, but some that we have featured in NewSpots! before are: Click It Sport by Sleepypod at <http://sleepypod.com/>, and Kurgo Dog Car Impact Harness at <https://www.kurgo.com/>. Both have been safety and crash tested using the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard for child restraint systems.

If going on only a short trip up to a couple hours, about all you should need is the restraint, water and perhaps some food.

If you are planning a longer trip of several days, then you might need to have more plans. Make sure you have plenty of time to make numerous stops. Have enough food, water and treats to cover the trip. Also, don't forget if your dog is on medication, make sure you have enough to last through the duration of the trip and a day or two after you get home. And finally, make sure that your car's air and heating systems are working so that you can keep the temperature inside comfortable for your dog.

You should also research emergency veterinary hospitals along your planned route in case the unexpected happens.

Now that you know your dog will be safe, make sure they are happy! Why not bring along some special, healthy treats. Many dogs love apple slices or carrots. But try not to use greasy treats that might upset their stomachs while on the road. Although it might be tempting to roll down the windows, make sure your dog isn't allowed to hang his head out the window and don't let them become too windblown in the backseat. Also, you should make sure your dog isn't getting carsick. If they do, make sure you stop long enough to allow them to feel better before resuming the trip.

Also, keep in mind that your dog's hearing is more sensitive than yours. So, while you might enjoy blasting your road trip playlist and singing along, your dog might not enjoy it if it's too loud.

The most important thing is to make sure that you and your dog enjoy your trip!



Dalmatian Driver



Dog in Kurgo Impact Dog Car Harness

Thunder and Lightning. Lightning and Thunder.

There's a flash of lightning lighting up the clouds, then the thunder sounds and the rain falls, the earth quakes again... Thunder and lightning can be terrifying to dogs. Dogs sense an imminent storm before humans see or hear anything, and many dogs will simply go to a place they have established as a safe haven, but some dogs will become hysterical with fear and anxiety. It is important to understand that if you have a dog with severe thunder phobia, there is no single quick fix effective for all dogs.



Try to create a safe place for your dog to go when she hears noises that frighten her. This must be a safe location from her perspective, not yours. Notice where she tries to go when she is frightened, and if possible, give her access to that place. NEVER keep her tied up outdoor, and NEVER punish a dog who has destroyed something in a panic.

Some of the most self-confident dogs may begin to pant and pace around the house, hiding or behaving erratically when the lightning flashes and the thunder rolls. Do not coddle or scold your dog for his fears. Try distracting him by engaging him in play or some activity that will refocus his attention.

Don't do anything that will reinforce the idea that there is something to fear. Remain cool and indifferent to bad weather, talking in a calm, reassuring voice, acting as though you enjoy the storm.

Don't pull a fearful dog from his hiding place. If he wants to retreat to a corner or closet, it is because he feels it is a safe haven. Let him venture out on his own, and then try to refocus his attention. If you massage his ears, or give him a body massage, he may relax (or maybe not!).

A fan, radio, or television turned on may help block out storm sounds. Soft classical music often helps, and although there are many CD's that claim to 'calm dogs down', most of them are 'snake oil'. If you have a dog that is fearful, or exhibits other inappropriate behavior during storms, go to www.caninelullabies.com for information on Canine Lullabies, a unique program that incorporates the background of an actual human heartbeat.

Holistic veterinarians often suggest Bach flower remedies. Odorless and tasteless, they come in liquid form, and can be given regularly for as long as needed. If you know a storm is coming, you can place a few drops in the dog's water bowl, and even if the storm comes six hours later, as he drinks all day, it gets into his system. For information, go to www.bachflower.com or call 800-214-2860.

Peppermint oil can be purchased at health food stores, and while no one knows why it works, sometimes putting a drop or two of the oil on the bottom of each foot, right on the pad, has a calming effect.

Anxiety wraps are very effective in calming dogs, using gentle, constant pressure, similar to parents' swaddling their babies to act as a security blanket. For more information on the Thundershirt Anxiety Wrap, go to www.thundershirt.com or call toll free 866-892-2078/

NEVER give your dog any over-the-counter or prescription medication without consulting your veterinarian. Drugs should always be a last resort solution and should be prescribed by your veterinarian.

Sometimes nothing seems to work. Behavioral treatment takes two different approaches: desensitization, and counter-conditioning, and neither technique is very effective. Consult with an animal behaviorist, or your vet to discuss your options. This noise phobia is something that your dog cannot control. A dog afraid of storms requires plenty of extra patience and love from the caregiver.

The TLC Crew can be contacted at Paw Prints, Box 373, Newell, Iowa 50568. Or by email to plarsen@rconnect.com. Or you may contact Ellen or Pam at our TLC Canine Center website or Facebook page.

This article is reprinted from the Nebraska Animal Rescue Roundup Yahoo Group.

Please note that using calming products normally requires steady use throughout the season as they are not normally effective with one or two applications right at storm time. Also, some dogs are fine with cotton in their ears. But don't forget to remove it after the storm passes!



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A Note From The President...

I have told people for many years to please do NOT donate to the Humane Society of the US (HSUS) because they do nothing for the dogs that need help with all the funds they collect. Here is a new article that HSUS has been downgraded to a D as a charity. They also are siphoning off funds from local shelters. HSUS is incredibly wealthy and they cheat! And they do not use those many, many millions for shelter animals. The last article I read recently stated that HSUS has not even spayed or neutered a dog, cat, puppy or kitten. SO, what do they do?

If you don't believe me, read the following. So many people at HSUS dedicated to raising money, but never to use it for rescue! Please give to better charities or your local shelter, or even Dalmatian Rescue of CO because you know that every dime donated goes to paying board, vet bills, transports, etc.

- Beth White

President, Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado, Inc.

Humane Society of the United States Using Keywords to Deceive Donors

According to newly-obtained data, the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) is engaged in deceptive fundraising tactics taking money intended for local pet shelters.

An analysis of Google keywords finds more than 60 keywords used by HSUS are aimed at siphoning off donations from local organizations including the Humane Society of Miami, the Humane Society of North Myrtle Beach, and the Humane Society of New York. A full list of keywords is available for [download here](#).

When a user searches for one of the keywords, it triggers an HSUS ad as a sponsored link, taking priority and top-level placement in the search engine results. Though no local humane societies are affiliated with HSUS, it's clear that HSUS is using the similarity in name to deceive and take advantage of those who are uninformed.

It is not known how long this practice has been in effect.

The respected charity evaluator CharityWatch recently downgraded HSUS to a "D" grade. Earlier this year, Charity Navigator also downgraded its rating of HSUS, while the BBB's Wise Giving Alliance pulled its accreditation of HSUS. Tax records reveal that HSUS has placed over \$50 million in Caribbean accounts.

Without any pushback or further exposure, HSUS will likely continue fundraising off the hard work of shelter workers who are actually helping animals.

For the full blog post, [click here](#).



Recent Adoptees!

<p style="text-align: center;">Photo Not Available</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Landon Charlotte, NC</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Photo Not Available</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lola Kansas City, MO</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Photo Not Available</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lucy Port Huron, MI</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Photo Not Available</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Perdy (aka Robin) Evanston, WY</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Photo Not Available</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Harleigh West Seneca, NY</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Photo Not Available</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Mochi (aka Emma3) Omaha, NE</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Photo Not Available</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Raiders Denver, CO</p>	

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



This is the Famous Budweiser Clydesdales and Chip (the Dalmatian) when they were visiting the Army and Air Force Exchange Service on Peterson Air Force Base on June 1, 2013.



Help support our fundraising campaign!

Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado

We are partnering with Three Rivers Wreath & Plant Company to offer a large variety of fall bulbs. Our group earns up to 50% profit from every item sold! You can immediately help us earn the funds we need just by placing an order from our landing page. Orders will ship directly to you by mid September, just in time for fall planting .

Group Code:

You can make a difference in just two easy steps:

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Dog Abusers Unite (On Animal Abuser Registries)

Look at this beautiful girl, Coco



Gorgeous!

But this was Coco when she was being starved and abused:



Thank God Coco was saved.

There's a special place in hell for animal abusers.

You know how convicted sex offenders have to register with law enforcement? What if animal abusers ALSO had to register?

Cool, right?

Well, in Tennessee they do! In 2016, Tennessee was the first state to adopt such a law.

And Oregon and Washington, among other states, have pending bills that, if passed, would require these sickos to register, just like sex offenders do.

Yeah!

Animal abuser registries can help shelters screen out convicted animal abusers trying to adopt new pets.

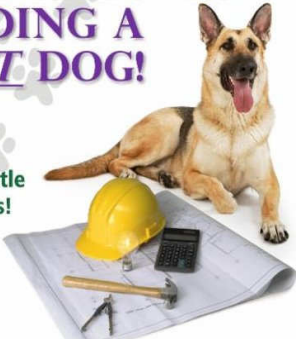
In some states, the proposed laws make the information on the registries available only to law enforcement and animal control and shelter facilities' personnel, while other states' bills would also grant access to the general public.

'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/Miss Manners 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.MissMannersForDogs.com

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Trainer Tips

“The Complete Checklist For Evaluating Dog Boarding, Dog Kennel And Pet Sitting Options”

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Editor's Note: This article is lengthy, so it will be presented in our NewSpots! Newsletter in several parts. If you wish to get the whole article now, please follow this link <https://thelightofdog.com/the-complete-checklist-for-evaluating-dog-boarding-dog-kennel-and-pet-sitting-options/> to read the article in it's entirety. And yes, while it does incorporate some self promotion for the author's business, I feel that it contains a lot of good information that I wish I had known about during a recent vacation when I had to board my dogs briefly.

Most dog owners will need to board their dogs at some point. Some need to board their dogs frequently. For some, it is a rare need. Whether it is due to travel for work, vacation or some other reason, we dog owners need to find others to care for our dogs who will meet our expectations for care and concern of our beloved pets.

That care could be in-home pet sitting, boarding at someone else's home, or a stay at a boarding facility.

We provide boarding as part of our business. Our style of boarding is often called home-style or family-style boarding. It started because we had clients who would not use a traditional boarding facility for their dogs, and needed an option they trusted with their dogs. Over the years, we have further developed our boarding based on our expectations of what we would want if we were boarding our own dogs.

Since our personal and professional lives revolve around dogs, we spend a lot more time thinking about dogs than most people do. And we have very high expectations for how our own dogs are cared for. So, we wanted to lay out in detail our basic premise: How would we want someone else to care for our own dogs?

This is the premise we use when determining how to run our boarding (and everything else we do) so the following list will help you understand how we do things.

You should use this list when considering anyone to take care of your dog when you are not able to so. Whether it is:

1. a pet sitter coming to your home;
2. a family member, friend or neighbor;
3. a business like ours that offers home-style boarding;
4. or, a facility-style boarding operation.

A lot of things on this list may be of less concern to you, and that is fine, but we wanted to be thorough because everything on this list is exactly what we think about when others take care of our dogs, and the standards we use for our boarding services.

Most, if not all, places you look for boarding might not do everything on this list or have even considered some of the things on this list. But you can use this list to help educate others about your expectations for taking care of your dog. Just because you have a family member take care of your dog and you trust them implicitly, they may not think about a lot of things on our list. So by educating them, you are helping them provide care that meets your expectations.

Don't let the length of this article scare you, as we want to be thorough. But to make it easier for you, at the end of this article are several tools created from this article that you can download to help you find others to take care of your dog and to educate them about your expectations for the level of care you want.

Facility Considerations

Visit New Spaces Ahead of Time

If you are not already very familiar with a place (or the people there), plan ahead and make sure you schedule a visit to a boarding location. Never consider a place without doing this first.

Facility Type

What to look for:

Choices can be:

- a pet sitter in your own home;
- a home with a family member, friend or neighbor;
- a home that you found through an online service that links you up with another to look after your dog;
- a professional that operates boarding for a few dogs in a home-style environment;
- a facility that operates boarding for many dogs in commercial office/warehouse environment.

What we do:

We are professionals who operate boarding for a few dogs at a time in a home-style environment. Some dogs do not do well in larger boarding facilities. Home-style environments like us or homes of people typically offer more one-on-one care and because there are fewer dogs, there is less chaos and barking, which means much less stress.

Size, outdoor access and number of dogs

What to look for:

- How big is the space in square footage?
- How many rooms are included?
- How many dogs are handled at any one time?
- Is there enough space for your dog to move around during play and when kenneled?
- Is it easy to separate dogs as needed while still giving them enough space if certain dogs do not mix well?
- How big is the outdoor space that is secured where they can freely run around?

What we do:

We typically board two to four dogs, but that can get up to five or six for short periods on overlap (one is coming before another leaves).

Our space includes a large great room that measures approximately 36 x 21, kennel space that measures approximately 14 x 13, a kitchen space that measures approximately 9 x 9, office space that measures approximately 20 x 12, and another small space between our boarding area and our private home space that is approximately 8 x 10.

Our outdoor space is approximately 1/4 acre. Our boarders typically have access to all of this space. In the summer, they can go in and out as they want as we leave the door open outside.

When it comes to space, consider that too small of a space can be more stressful for multiple dogs. Small spaces make it more likely for fights to occur due to the stress of not having a space to move to or space to get out of the way. Some dogs need more personal space than others. On the flip side, the bigger the better, right? Not necessarily. If the space is too large, then if there is a problem (a dog is being bullied by another dog, for example) it is harder for people to intervene quickly. If the outside play area is two acres, let's say, if there is a problem, how quickly can someone intervene? We set up our space to ensure enough space for most dogs to be comfortable without being so big that we cannot intervene quickly if needed.

Ability to separate sick dogs

What to look for:

- Can the dog be separated from others if they are sick or injured and still have ample space both inside and out to move around?

What we do:

While we do not take in sick dogs who could be contagious to others, we also know that sometimes dogs get sick when away from home. We can use our office space to separate out a sick dog from others and through the use of portable 4-foot tall ex-pens, move dogs around as needed. Unfortunately, our office space does not have its own access to the 1/4 acre common outside space. It does have outdoor access to the front of our facility, so if we had to keep them completely separated from other dogs, we can do so. If a dog is injured and needs to rest and not play with other dogs, we can easily separate with the use of ex-pens and baby gates.

Sleeping/Confinement Area

What to look for:

- Where would your dog sleep or be confined if you are not there, and how big is the space?
 - Do owners need to bring bedding and/or crates?
-

What we do:

Our guests sleep and are confined inside one of two 5 x 5 x 6 foot kennels, typically. We have an open floor plan with a half door in the kitchen, so a guest might sleep there if we have more than two dogs. For guests who bark at night (most do not, as we do require that dogs who stay with us will not bark at night when kenneled), they would stay in a crate or a penned area in the office. All our guest are confined when they sleep without access to see outside windows. We make sure this gets blocked off so that they do not see deer or other wild animals milling outside around our house, which is common where we live, which might cause them to bark.

Owners do not have to bring crates unless they want to. They can bring whatever bedding they want. We do not provide bedding unless the owner forgets or if the dog soils bedding that needs washing, in which case we will wash and if not dry, give them bedding to use on a temporary basis. We prefer dogs have their own bedding because it helps them relax and settle down at night when they have something familiar. We like dogs to have some comforts of home with them.

If dogs are not supervised during the day, they are also separated via kennels, crates, baby gates or doors. Per PACFA requirements, dogs must be supervised when loose together. While locations that offer “cage free” boarding might seem ideal, consider whether or not this practice is actually safe (and legal, depending on the regulations that apply in your area). Dogs who do not know each other well, despite how friendly they are at dogs parks or day cares, might encounter issues away from home with dogs they do not know. For example, many of our boarding dogs are single dogs at their own homes. Many go to dog parks or day cares and do just fine. But sometimes we discover guarding issues over food, toys, beds or other resources that they do not encounter at dog parks or day cares. This is a safety issue if dogs are left loose at night or during the day when unsupervised. Do you want to take that chance?

Activity level at location

What to look for:

- The more activity there is, the more potential for stress. Every dog has their own trigger point when a certain level of activity raises their stress levels; for some dogs that trigger is very sensitive, while for other dogs it is not. What is it for your dog? If you have a dog who triggers quickly, you need to find a location with low activity, which is typically (but not always) a home or home-style situation. Or possibly a boarding facility that can separate out dogs with less tolerance for chaos, depending on their set up.
- Activity comes from number of dogs, number of staff, proximity to parking lots, roads, sidewalks, construction, or anything else going on nearby that dogs can see and hear, like equipment operating or high volumes of people and activities.

What we do:

We offer a fairly low level of activity with the low number of guests that we board at any one time. For humans, typically it is just Sue and Ed. We have occasional help maintaining our property, and we have other people and their dogs coming for training using space and buildings separate from our boarding area. We have clients arriving to drop off and pick up their own dogs, and an occasional visitor who pops in for a brief visit.

We live in a rural area so have much less noise as compared to suburban or urban areas, although we do occasionally hear gunfire from ranges that people have nearby on their property. Gunfire is no less than 1/2 mile away, so it is not loud given the distances traveled. If dogs are afraid of the gunfire noise, we bring dogs in, close windows and turn up the radio to help block noise. It's rarely an issue if dogs are indoors. And most dogs are not bothered by it when outside due to the distance away.

Climate Control

What to look for:

- Are there sufficient climate control systems to maintain adequate cool and heat, even if a power outage occurs?
- Is there ventilation to draw in fresh air?
- Is the ventilation able to draw in fresh air, or does the proximity to a highway or industrial operation make that harder to do?
- Is there plenty of opportunity to get out of the sun and find cool spots?
- Are outdoor areas protected from wind, rain, and snow? What are protocols for lightning in the area?

What we do:

We do not have air conditioning and do not need it at our location, which is 6200 feet above elevation in a rural area. Yes, we get hot days, but we have rarely seen it climb past 85 degrees inside. For guests that truly cannot tolerate temperatures above that we are not able to accommodate. We have ample overhead fans to move air and have excellent ventilation to allow air to move through. Our rural location gives us access to air that is typically less polluted than in suburban and urban areas. Given our ventilation capabilities and our location, we cool down quickly at night to replace warm air.

While we have shade outside, if it is hot out, typically our guests come back inside since we usually leave open access from inside and outside when we are here and supervising.

We have ample heating capacity for winter use.

For power outages, we have power generation capabilities onsite to run our facility and can do so for an extended period of time, if need be.

There is some protection from wind, rain and snow outside, but we do not leave dogs outside when there is adverse weather, unless they want to be outside. If there is lightning potential within five miles, we keep them inside.

Surfaces

What to look for:

- What are the surfaces where dogs can play and sleep?

What we do:

Our great room and office has shock-absorbing, industrial grade, anti-fatigue mat to play and rest. Kitchen is tile and the kennel space has laminate flooring.

Our backyard is dirt with some indigenous grass ground cover here and there that we keep mowed. In the shaded areas dogs can dig to create a cooler dirt space to lie on.

Facility Hazards

What to look for:

- Do you see any hazards in the facility where dogs can hurt themselves?
- Is there adequate lighting at night outside in fenced areas to monitor dogs or retrieve them?
- Are there risk of wildlife entering protected areas?
- If dogs are walked, what risk exists on walks?

What we do:

Look for potential hazards for dogs during their stay. For example, are there rugs that can be chewed on if your dog is a chewer? Are there access to toxic plants or other items dogs might chew on? Are there areas where ice can build up and cause falls? Is there landscaping like metal lawn edging that dogs can cut their feet on?

If dogs try to play on our tile kitchen floor and one falls, that could hurt them, but we rarely see that and move them away if they do. We have a rug at the entrance in case any dogs try to come running through the doorway. Dogs love playing on our shock-absorbing mats indoors.

We have very large windows with superb outside views, but that can be a danger for some dogs, particularly ones that have higher separation anxiety from their owners and jump or scratch at the windows to try and get out. We cannot accommodate those kinds of dogs or if we find ones exhibiting that kind of behavior, we can use ex-pens to keep them away from the windows. Other windows from the backyard to the inside we fence off so dogs cannot jump on and break them.

Some dogs chew on the shock-absorbing mats, but it is rare and when we see that, we are able to redirect quickly. Some dogs chew on our scrub oak branches and we have never had issues with them doing this. Scrub oak do produce acorns in late summer and early fall. Some dogs do eat the acorns and that can cause for loose stools, but we have never run into anything more serious than that. We do not give dogs access to indoor plants that can be toxic to them.

Some dogs like to dig holes to help burn off energy. Generally we see them do that in specific areas where past holes have been dug that are out of the traffic zones where they tend to play. But for holes in high traffic areas, we discourage digging in those spaces and refill holes when they do occur. While some people do not want dogs digging holes at all, we do our best to allow dogs to be dogs and have fun as long as it's not causing any undue dangers for themselves or others.

We have a raised deck in the back yard from a door into the north side of our home. We have added fencing in between the wood slats to prevent dogs from climbing/jumping off the deck onto the ground.

Our back deck faces northeast, so ice can accumulate on it if the sun has not hit the area. We limit issues there by closing them off from access to the deck or placing obstacles at the entry of the deck from the ground level of the yard so they slow down when running from yard to deck. Even in summer water on the deck can increase slippage, so barriers to the deck to slow them down helps immensely.

Our outdoor lighting floods from 3 corners of the yard so we can see the backyard fairly well at night.

We have various wildlife that can climb fences and be harmful to dogs, including skunks, porcupines, coyotes, bobcats, mountain lions and bears. We are very careful about when we let dogs out, especially at night. Typically our dogs will sense wildlife close by when they are inside and start barking, even in winter when no windows or doors are open. This is a very clear sign to us to not let any dogs out until we have visually inspected the space.

For walks, please read below about managing escape risk. Other hazards on our property for walks are mainly foxtails, which dogs can ingest, inhale through the nose, enter through the eye or burrow in through the skin. We typically mow our property at the end of the growing season (early June) to help minimize the risk of foxtails, which become a problem at the end of the growing season when they dry out. But the risk does not completely go away even with mowing. As a rule, we inspect dogs every day to catch issues like this that might arise from foxtails.

Escape Risk and Containment

What to look for:

- How secure is the facility to protect a dog from escaping?
- If a dog escapes, are there secondary protections to safely and quickly retrieve them?
- Are dogs walked outside of the facility and what security measures are in place to prevent escape?
- If a dog escapes, is there a plan to get them back?

What we do:

We always keep an ex-pen around the front door to our facility to keep dogs away from anyone entering or exiting the door.

Our back fence is about six feet high and rocked in at the base to prevent dogs from digging out. We do not accept dogs that have or show potential to escape a six foot fence.

Our secondary line of protection is a four foot fence around the lower eight acre portion of our property that is closest to the road. Ideal would be six feet, but that would significantly curtail the natural movement of the wildlife in the area, such as deer, which we do not wish to do.

We do not use cell tower tracking devices that can be attached to the dog. Our mobile phone coverage in our area is spotty, so the reliability would be an issue, but that may change as mobile coverage gets better in our valley.

If an escape happens, we typically use a positive and happy voice to call the dog to us. If needed, we run in the opposite direction of where the dog is traveling. Most dogs will run after you because your voice and actions indicate that you are going to where there might be something fun and exciting. We also carry high value treats to offer extra incentive to return to us.

When out on the property, we carry walkie talkies to communicate quickly with each other and coordinate our activities if needed.

Be sure to come back next month for the second part of this very informative article.



Maggie, Scout and Sadie enjoying some time on the deck

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



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<https://thelightofdog.com/>).

“The World Through Dexter’s Eyes

• The Foibles of a Too Big, Deaf Dalmatian and the Power of Love”

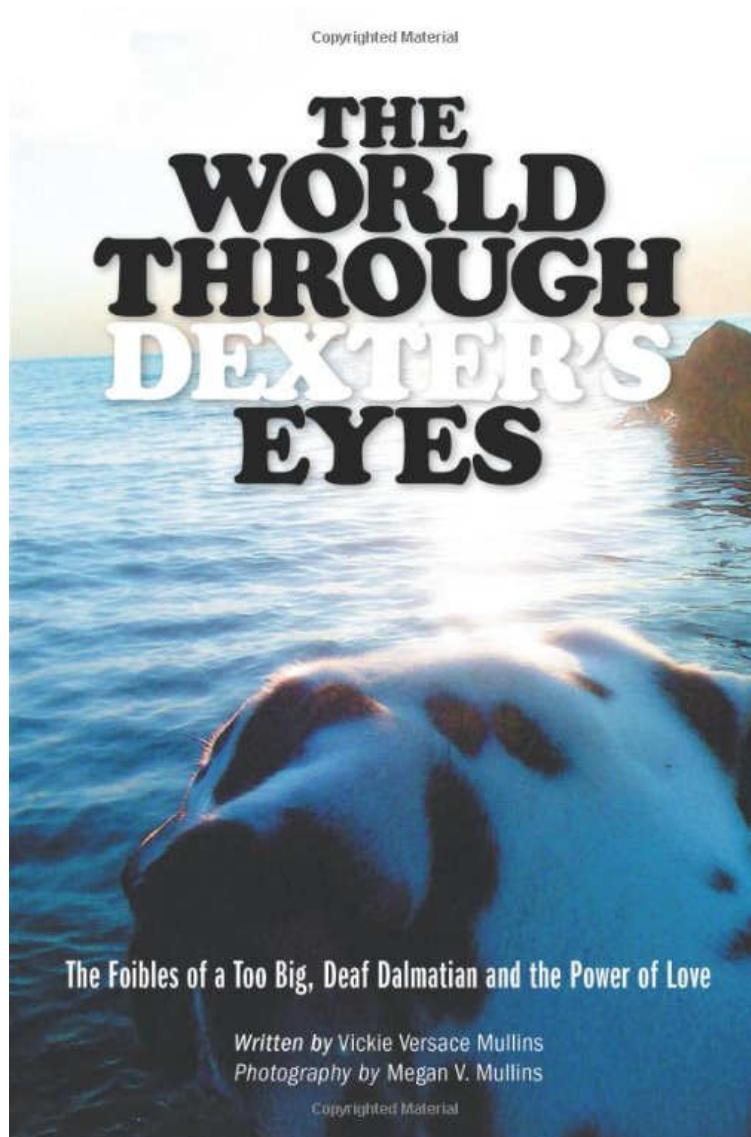
Dexter comes into the world with many problems, and he turns his family’s life upside down. Outside and lonely, he pulls the siding off the house, destroys the back door, chews up the cable wires and wood patio furniture. Inside, he does more of the same. He appears to not be trainable, so out of frustration, Mom contacts a dog whisperer who tells her Dexter died in a storm in a past life. And when he could not find his family on the other side, he grabbed the first body back, into the world, to try again.

There is something very familiar about this story to Mom. Then again, maybe she just feels sorry for the poor deaf guy. Whatever, Mom has tremendous compassion towards Dexter, and there was never such a bond between master and dog; one so strong, he telepathically conveys his story, to her.

This book is funny, sad, sweet and deep and a little inverted as it is from Dexter’s point of view. For all his antics, he is redeemed as all he wants to do on this earth is love. And it isn’t until he and Mom figure out the riddle the dog whisperer presented to them, that Dexter becomes the dog he was meant to be. Then miracles happen; grannies die, daughters go away to school, marriages fall apart, but love prevails.

About the author

Vickie Versace Mullins is a bubbly spirit who prefers laughing through life rather than all the other alternatives. She has a B.A. in English Literature from Cleveland State University in Cleveland, Ohio. She is a poet, and Dexter’s story is her first attempt at prose. She has published poems in various local literary magazines. She lives with her family in Cleveland, Ohio.



"The World Through Dexter's Eyes ~ The Foibles of a Too Big, Deaf Dalmatian and the Power of Love" by Victoria Mullins, is a book we all should read to understand deafness and how it is not the worst thing. There are many sites on-line to order the book and a portion of the proceeds are most generously donated to Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado. Thank you, Victoria! - Beth White

What a delightful read and clearly written from the heart. This is a true story as told to us through the eyes of Dexter a Deaf Dalmatian who, as it turns out, is a larger-than-life character in more ways than one. This author’s ability to entertain us when sharing our lives with a beloved pet, cannot be understated as she makes it so easy for us to make connections. Whether there is a pet in your life or not, Dexter’s story will warm your heart and you will catch yourself chuckling out loud at his exploits as well as at the vulnerability of mankind when it comes to life with a pet. You come to realize that what one person deems useless will make another person’s life perfect. And, as if that is not enough, this author has kindly donated proceeds from the book to Dalmatian and animal rescue, so you are passively doing a good deed when you read it... Clearly, this is a win win situation and a story to add to your “must read” list. – Michele Winner

Please help support Dalmatian Rescue and get yourself (and a friend) this really great book!

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 about 700 people of the new editions of NewSpots! That's a lot of word of mouth and print advertising for FREE!!

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!

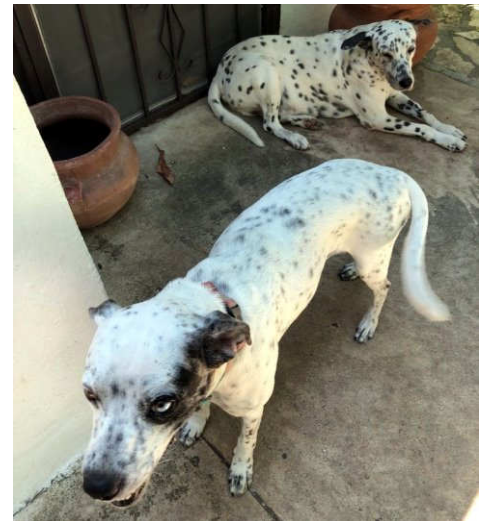
Reader Recommendations and Tips

This is where we share recommendations and tips from and for our readers. Our newsletter is read by as many as 650 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 dalguy@comcast.net for inclusion in the next issue.

No Reader Recommendations and Tips this time around...

If you have some to share, please let me know!!

DaliDos (Dolly aka Indy) is doing great. She runs like a horse every morning. Pepper adores her and won't eat until she has finished. Hector loves her personality.



In The Doghouse... Our Featured Dalmatians

Goose

2 Years Old, Black Spayed Female
Reason Available: Owner Surrender
Foster Home: Colorado Springs, CO

Goose... who names a pretty dog Goose? Does she have a long neck or make a funny sound? Naw, she's just fondly called Goose because the shelter name stuck. Now in a foster home in Colorado Springs, Miss Goose has shown herself to be a good house guest, good with dogs and fun to have visit. She is a little lady (about 35#), housetrained, crate trained and good on the leash. The shelter report states she was aggressive to smaller dogs, but she has not shown that to be the case. She fetches, answers to her name Goose, and rides well in the car and absolutely LOVES belly rubs! Her ears point up occasionally, but she has them flat most of the time. She gives kisses readily. She's in really good condition, heartworm negative, good weight, good appetite. We don't know why she was surrendered as she has been a lovely foster dog living with many dogs. Goose has a real affinity for being a lap dog and her size is just right to fit in your lap. And she never really wants to be very far from her people. Goose is such a lover that I can't for the life of me understand why anyone would have given her away. Don't you want a Silly Goose all your own? For more information contact Karl at dalguy@comcast.net. Adoption \$250.



Jace

2 Years Old, Black Spayed Female
Reason Available: Owner Surrender
Foster Home: Colorado Springs, CO



No dog should go thru what little Jace suffered... but he's doing great now! Found in a large city shelter, terrified, starving and so sick, this tiny guy is lucky he lived. It took nearly three months for him to regain his strength and health after coming to us, but what a recovery he has made! His past has not phased him whatsoever, Jace LOVES people! Wherever his foster parents are, he has to be there too, his absolute favorite thing to do is to cuddle on the couch with his humans. Jace loves chewing on dog toys (especially antlers), he is crate trained, potty trained, and knows how to use a doggy door! He sometimes can take a day to warm up to new dogs, but he gets along with the male Dalmatian in his Omaha foster home wonderfully and ignores the two resident cats. This little guy (and we mean little, only 20 pounds) is ready to fit in your pocket or claim your couch! For more information, contact Erin at erinholste@yahoo.com. Adoption \$300

Happy Beginnings Stories

Unfortunately, we don't have any Happy Beginnings Stories this month. We have adopted over 100 dogs into wonderful, loving homes this year, but sadly we have only NINE Happy Beginnings Stories posted on our website for this year.

Happy Beginnings Stories are our paycheck for doing what we do in rescue.

**Our paychecks are WAY OVERDUE!!
Please send in your Happy Beginnings Stories right now!**

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** Fax: 970-377-9509

<http://www.dalmatianrescueco.org>
