



# Happy Thanksgiving!!



Together  
we give.

GIVING  
TUESDAY

Nov 30, 2021



*Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado is participating in the national day of giving, otherwise known as Giving Tuesday, on Tuesday, November 30, 2021. Please join your friends and neighbors in support of the many spots needing care over this holiday season. Thank you for being the hero for each of the dogs in our care.*

# Thanksgiving Safety Tips For Pets

There shouldn't be as many hazards for your pets during Thanksgiving as there were for Halloween, but there are some things to keep in mind as we gather to give thanks for our many blessings and SPOTS!

Thanksgiving and pets go hand in hand... after all, aren't you forever thankful you adopted your spotted, four-legged friend and welcomed all those cold-nosed kisses into your life? However, before the celebration begins, it's a good idea to make sure your Turkey Day will be as pet-friendly as possible.

## 1. Food Safety



Thanksgiving is largely about food. Of course, not all people foods are safe for pets. Here are some Thanksgiving foods to be careful with:

**Turkey** – A few small, boneless, and well-cooked pieces of turkey should be fine. But never offer your pal raw or undercooked turkey because it could contain salmonella bacteria. Keep the leftover carcass (and all bones) away from your pet, too. Dogs and cats have a hard time processing fatty foods like turkey skin, and even small pieces of bone can lead to gastrointestinal injury.

**Bread Dough** – If your doggie or kitty ingests raw bread dough, the yeast will continue to convert the dough's sugars into carbon dioxide and alcohol, a combination that could become life-threatening for your pal.

**Pies and cakes** – Keep puppy and kitty noses out of the mixing bowl while you're baking because raw eggs can lead to food poisoning. Also, if you're using the artificial sweetener xylitol (found in certain peanut butter brands) in any desserts, be aware that this can be fatal if consumed by pets.

**Chocolates** – A nice box of chocolates looks great on your table. However, chocolate can be harmful to both dogs and cats and can cause vomiting, diarrhea, high blood pressure, seizures, and other symptoms.

## 2. Thanksgiving Costume Reminders

If your dog or cat enjoyed dressing up for Halloween, you might consider an adorable pilgrim outfit or a funny turkey costume to add to the holiday's festivities. Just remember that your pal's costume should never be too tight or too loose, limit mobility, obstruct breathing, get in the way of potty time, or hinder their ability to talk to you. Take care to make sure the costume is free of any choking hazards, such as beads, feathers, or other loose, dangling pieces.

It's also a good idea to let your four-legged friend try their costume on before the big day so they can get used to it. If your pet seems at all uncomfortable, skip the costume (no matter how cute it is!).

## 3. Decoration Dangers

Although pumpkins and decorative corn aren't toxic, ingesting too much can give your li'l buddy a bad case of tummy upset. You'll also want to be careful with candles that curious puppies and kitties could knock over, as well as any decorations that have small pieces that your pet could easily choke on.

For some families, Thanksgiving marks the beginning of the holiday season. If you're using the long weekend to put up your tree and lights, keep glass ornaments (especially the metal hooks), tinsel, pinecones, and light strands out of paw's reach.

## 4. Floral Centerpieces

Many people enjoy brightening up their dinner table with a pretty floral arrangement. Just make sure you are familiar with which plants are poisonous to dogs and cats. Some popular fall plants often found in festive decorations that are toxic to both include:

- Autumn crocus
- Chrysanthemum
- Acorns from oak trees

If you suspect your dog or cat has consumed a poisonous plant or substance, act fast. Contact your veterinarian, an emergency veterinary clinic, or the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center (ASPCA APCC) right away.

## 5. Hosting Guests

Both dogs and cats can become shy, nervous, or overly excited when you have a full house, especially if they have never met your guests before. If your pal seems anxious, try putting them in a quiet room away from the action with a favorite toy and plenty of fresh water.

You should also take care to watch the door when guests are coming and going. Excitable pets, even those who are typically well behaved, may try to make a break for it. Now is a good time to make sure your dog or cat has their proper ID with updated contact information. You may even want to consider a microchip just in case.

## 6. Traveling With Pets

Whether or not you should travel with your pet is a big decision and one that depends on a lot of factors, such as your means of travel, where you'll be staying, and how well your dog or cat copes with new environments.

If you'll be crossing state or international borders, research what requirements are involved. You may need a health certificate from your veterinarian. If you're going by car, remember to restrain your pal with a harness or carrier safely.

Consult your veterinarian first if you're considering air travel. Wherever you go, take a copy of your pet's medical records and make sure they have proper identification. Traveling is another great reason to think about microchipping!

## 7. Preparing for Emergencies

No matter how much you plan, holiday mishaps can still happen. It's a good idea to ask your veterinarian about their holiday hours ahead of time and add the telephone numbers for an emergency veterinary clinic and the ASPCA APCC to your contacts just in case. Keep a pet first-aid kit handy, and remember that in any emergency, the best thing you can do is to stay calm.



# Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado Fundraisers

## See's Candy



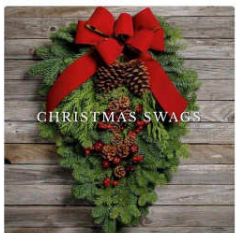
It's that time of year! We are starting our See's Candy Fundraiser. See's makes a great gift or addition to a dinner party, or just because you want a great candy! September 14 through December 3, 2021.

Items from the Winter Yum-Raiser start shipping on November 10th and the event ends on December 3rd. Orders placed now through November 10th will start shipping November 10th. Orders placed after November 10th will ship as they are received through December 3. December 3 is the last day to place orders.

Visit our fundraising page:

[https://www.yumraising.com/secure/dalmatianroc\\_drc\\_christmas\\_22/candy?h=JamBoe2529&c=fb2141](https://www.yumraising.com/secure/dalmatianroc_drc_christmas_22/candy?h=JamBoe2529&c=fb2141)

## Lynch Creek Wreaths



Dalmatian Rescue of CO is trying a new company for our wreath fundraiser this year. Please make sure you are on the fundraising page for DRC. There are a lot of options. You can start shopping now. The fundraising campaign ends on December 5, 2021.

Visit our fundraising page:

<https://www.lynchcreekfundraising.com/team/s/278527-dalmatian-rescue-of-colorado-holiday-2021>

## Our Holiday Auction!

Visit our fundraising page: <https://www.32auctions.com/DRC2021>

**Auction starts November 18, 2021 at noon and ends November 28, 2021 at noon.**

# Why Dog Parks Are Unnatural & How To Properly Socialize Your Dog

By Simone K - Owner and Canine Lifestyle Coach at K9 Possible Dog Training



We all know the importance of socializing our dogs but often this is mistaken by the thought of “My dog has to play with as many other dogs as possible”! So most people think the dog park is a great place for socialization.

Trust us, we do think dog parks are a great idea for some dogs and owners but not really for socialization.

In many dog parks we witness dogs with very poor social skills and owners who do not understand or underestimate their dog’s communication.

Dog park discussion aside for now though as there are other important factors when we talk about socialization.

## What is a “properly” socialized dog?

### People:

A well socialized dog is used to all kinds of people of different shapes and sizes and doesn’t feel the urge to go say hi and jump on everybody. But rather he is simply comfortable mingling between people and is able to ignore them unless somebody is asking for interaction and he is confident enough to do so.

### Different Environments:

A well socialized dog is comfortable and confident in different environments such as close to a busy road, a large gathering of people, different surfaces such as gravel or unsteady ground and so on.

### Dogs:

A well socialized dog is comfortable around different temperaments of dogs and trusts in his handler that they will protect and guide him to the right decisions no matter what. Therefore the dog doesn’t feel the need to react to other dogs in any way, negative or positive. He doesn’t get up and stick his nose deep into every dog’s butt he doesn’t know and then tries to force them to “play”. A well socialized dog understands and respects the space and boundaries of other dogs and simply ignores most other dogs when walking along. He also speaks dog very well and can communicate his wishes in a respectful manner and also will accept the same from another dog.

Back to the dog park...

## Why are dog parks unnatural? I thought they were the best thing ever for my dog?

We all know that dogs are not wolves but there are still some similarities. When you look at an established wolf pack, most of the time the pack consists of close relatives and maybe a couple outsiders that were integrated into the pack for breeding purposes. Wolves and dogs are both social animals and enjoy interaction with trusted companions.

When you observe street dogs, you will notice that they are usually forming packs to serve a purpose such as hunting. It is however very normal that these packs split up randomly and each dog goes its own way again. New packs might form on a regular basis and split up again, some dogs might stay together longer than others and some might form a bonded pair/small pack.

Even then, dogs do only closely interact (or play) with other dogs they trust and know. It is unnatural to adult dogs to just go and play with another dog they have never met before. The reason for this is simply because dogs that haven't been a part of the pack are strangers!

Imagine if you were sitting in a café, enjoying a cup of coffee and a stranger walks up to you, gives you a hug, possibly a kiss on the cheek, sits down and tells you his life story! A little awkward OR even threatening don't you think? Why? Because he's a stranger!

On the other hand, if the person would approach you and say "Hi, my name is Randal, would you mind if I have a seat?" he is being polite and you actually have a choice to say yes or no. If you say no, he should respect that and go away and if you say yes and he's polite, he may sit down and you can slowly get to know each other.

This is how a normal dog interaction should go... polite and slowly getting to know each other.

So in the dog park, when you do think "let's go and socialize my dog by playing with strange dogs", you put them into a situation that is kind of awkward for them. Some dogs are happy go lucky and do enjoy those interactions and play fine with everybody but be aware of your own dog's limitations and who you might meet there.

In my personal observation I find that oftentimes dogs that want to play right away with any given dog, have very poor socialization or dog to dog communication skills and most of the times interact inappropriately and rudely.

## What is proper dog to dog socialization:

In the "wild" dogs don't run around like maniacs with each other but rather they just mingle... They just hang out.

You don't throw a party every time you see your friends, you just like to hang out and maybe have a good chat and a drink. If you throw a party every time and get drunk, oh well, maybe you are still in your teen stages, just like the adolescent dogs that still have to learn that it is NOT normal ;)

## So how can you properly socialize your dog with other dogs in a controlled and structured environment?

Find somebody, a friend or maybe somebody you meet at the dog park and go for on leash walks with your dogs in a neutral environment. No pressure to interact, no play on leash or excitement... just walk together. This is a great way for the dogs to familiarize themselves with each other and get to know each other better. They can sniff the other one by simply walking along with them and get a feel for each other of who they are. Once you have done that with them a few times, maybe let them hang out (no play, just hang out) while you have a coffee.

After a few meetings the dogs know each other, they are not strangers anymore and one might politely encourage the other for a play session. If your dog still seems a little pushy, then it's on you to teach your dog the right manners and intervene if you do think the other dog might not agree just yet.

Again a well socialized dog is a dog that typically ignores other dogs that don't belong to his "pack" but is comfortable with polite interactions with strange dogs. He respects their space and boundaries they communicate.

## Now we don't want to keep you from the fun of attending a dog park.

Dog parks are often one of the only areas where your dog can be off leash so please grab your dog a ball and enjoy him if you feel your dog is well suited for a dog park. Going to the dog park doesn't mean your dog has to play with other dogs, he can also just play with you, but be prepared that other dogs might interrupt you and you want to ensure that your dog will be okay with that.

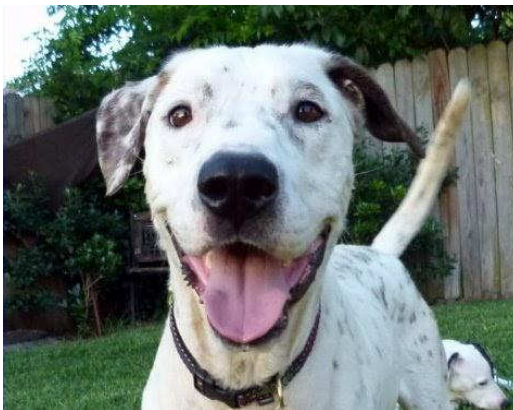
(What's) important is that you choose wisely. Choose a park that is big enough so that you can get away from other dogs if needed and just enjoy the time with your own dog. Also look for a park where you know the people and maybe the other dogs. Get to know everybody and see who you think would be a good play partner for your dog. **Be picky and better be safe than sorry!** If you find somebody suitable, maybe take the dogs for a stroll together so they have a chance to sniff each other first without any pressure of having to interact, let them get to know each other slowly. And once your dogs are comfortable with each other and in fact do like each other, then give them a safe play date where you can control your dog's behaviour if needed.

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*What did the Dalmatian say after eating Thanksgiving dinner?  
Never underestimate the power of a good nap!*

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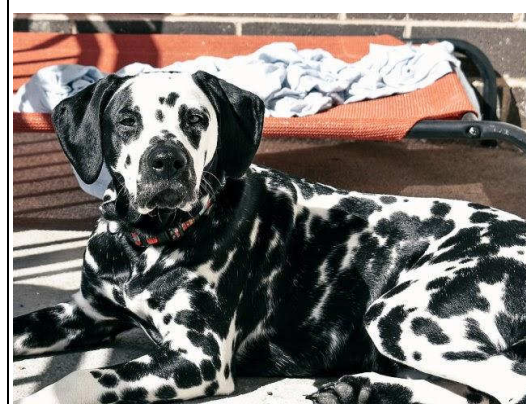
# Recent Adoptees!



**Aaron**  
Colorado Springs, CO



**Aidan**  
Sugar Land, TX



**Bernie Louise**  
Denver, CO

Photo  
Not  
Available

**Ember**  
Fairmount, GA

# 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!  
[DalmatianRescueOfCO@comcast.net](mailto:DalmatianRescueOfCO@comcast.net)

*Today, I am thankful for the muddy paw prints in my kitchen,  
the hair on my clothes, and the dog in my bed...  
Because, one day, all of this will surely be missed. 🐾*

# Pet Evac Pak

<https://petevacpak.com/>

Pet Evac Pak is a company that has helped Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado immeasurably in the past. Pet Evac Pak was founded by Michelle Danielson and her friend, Claudia. Michelle has trained, fostered and transported many dogs for Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado. In addition, her company, Pet Evac Pak, has very generously donated Evac Paks and Dog First Aid Kits to our auctions!! Here's a little bit about them, directly from their website:

## The little company with a big passion for pets!

In the wake of the 2017 fires in Napa and Sonoma Counties, Southern California, and Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria, it was heartbreaking to see the pets that had been left behind.

After Hurricane Harvey, Michelle collected donations, filling a trailer, and "Marshall's Mission" (named after her dog) was born. They drove from Nevada to Texas. "Marshall's Mission" delivered the much-needed supplies to shelters and, along the way, rescued four awesome dogs who were about to be euthanized. Back at home she was able to find them the perfect families. This trip inspired her to partner with her friend, Claudia, to start Pet Evac Pak.

Michelle and Claudia, with their therapy dogs, Marshall and Echo, visit a residential treatment facility for kids. Michelle and Marshall also visit seniors at a retirement home. Claudia and Echo go to the VA hospital and hang out with passengers at the airport.

I urge everyone to visit their website and check out their great products! I can honestly say that I actually have a Pet Evac Pak in my RV, just in case!! I bought it during one of our auctions!

Some of the Pet Evac Pak offerings are:



**Pet Evac Big Dog Pak**  
\$79.99

For dogs between 30 and 70 lbs., the Pet Evac Big Dog Pak is designed with your pet in mind. Everything you need to be prepared for an emergency, evacuation or travel. Starting with the red and black backpack to the well thought out first aid kit, this pack has everything to keep your pet safe for up to 72 hours. You will have peace of mind that you are ready for any situation.



**Pet Evac Ultimate Cat Pak with Carrier**  
\$99.99

For cats up to 16 lbs., the Pet Evac Ultimate Cat Pak is your cat's home away from home. Starting with the airline-approved Prefer Pet PREMIUM Hideaway carrier that can either be used as a backpack or shoulder style duffel bag, making it easy to get out quickly. The cinch bag included contains everything you need to keep your cat safe for up to 72 hours should you need to evacuate from any disaster such as earthquake, hurricane, flood, or fire. Items are packed in the cinch bag so you can just remove it to place your pet in the carrier. You will have peace of mind that you are ready for any emergency, evacuation, or just travel.



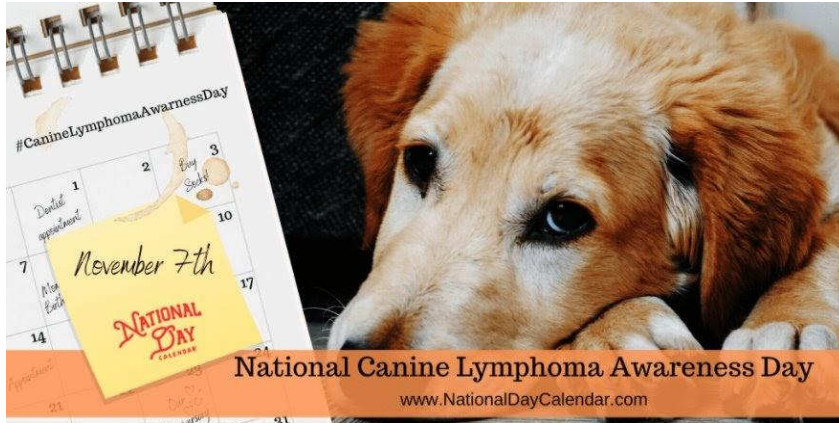
**Pet Evac Small Dog Pak without Carrier**  
\$64.99

Already have a carrier for your dog? This is the perfect companion to get you prepared for an emergency, evacuation or travel. The cinch bag includes everything you need to keep your pet safe for up to 72 hours. You will have peace of mind that you are ready for any situation.

Visit and get your Pet's Evac Pak today!!!

**PET EVAC PAK**

## NATIONAL CANINE LYMPHOMA AWARENESS DAY - NOV. 7TH



On November 7th, National Canine Lymphoma Awareness Day educates and creates awareness about canine lymphoma.

In 2011, the well-known and respected dog agility trainer and competitor, Terry Simons, received devastating news. The veterinarian diagnosed Simon's "heart and soul" dog, Reveille, with Lymphoma. As an educated dog owner, Terry did all he could for Reveille. However, he soon discovered how elusive accurate information regarding options and treatment could be. Soon, Terry connected with professionals. They helped him choose the best path for his beloved companion.

Reveille not only competed in dog agility throughout her treatment but thrived. She even attained the best agility

year of her career. When Terry chose to let Reveille go, he knew he was making the right decision for her. However, grief does strange things. It can destroy, and it can inspire. In Terry's case, Reveille inspired him to form a foundation. In Reveille's honor, Terry created CLEAR (Canine Lymphoma Education Awareness and Research). The foundation dedicates its efforts to providing information, resources, and research into the devastating disease. Reveille's legacy ensures dog owners know their options. They become empowered advocates of their four-legged family members.

### HOW TO OBSERVE #NationalCanineLymphomaAwarenessDay

You can help raise awareness for canine lymphoma in many ways. You can learn to recognize the signs, how it affects dogs, and what to expect. Many organizations are committed to researching the disease and improving treatment. You can donate to their efforts or host a fundraiser. All your efforts help clear a path to care. Use #CanineLymphomaAwarenessDay to share on social media.

## NATIONAL ADOPT A SENIOR PET MONTH - NOVEMBER

When the weather turns chilly, Adopt a Senior Pet Month reminds us some four-legged friends need a family, too. In November, consider making a home for an older furry pet during Adopt a Senior Pet Month.

While the wriggly puppies and kittens make us smile with delight, you'd be surprised how well an older animal might fit into your lifestyle. Often, they have mellowed and lost some of their toddler energy. They don't need the extra attention a puppy or kitten would require. If they need training, it is only specific to your home and routine.

There may be some adjustment with an older animal. Like humans, they may be set in their ways. But, in most cases, their history is known, and they can be easily matched with the right family or individual. So, if you are looking for a new companion, don't overlook an older animal. You may be ignoring a loyal pet with a lot of life left in her.

Things to consider might be whether the fur baby has medical needs or requires a lot of space. Did he or she come from a home with children or other pets? If any of this information affects your adoption, you will need to reconsider.

Keep in mind the lifespan of many healthy dogs extends into their upper teens depending on their breed. When it comes to cats, it can be a little harder to predict. Since their lifespan ranges 10-15 years, those nine lives may not last as long as we thought. Even so, with good veterinarian care, you and your senior cat can enjoy many happy years together.

### HOW TO OBSERVE

If you are looking for a new pet, adopt an older one. Use #AdoptASeniorPetMonth to post on social media.

### HISTORY

The ASPCA and petfinder.com founded Adopt a Senior Pet Month to improve the perception of senior pets as quality animals for adoptions. They are just as, and sometimes, more adoptable than younger animals. Consider adopting an older animal when you look into adopting this year.

# For The Kids

## 101 Dalmatians Word Search

G A E N N P J V L F D H G C N O T N M A H Q J B X  
 I W D W A S P N D T A Q B U N J P A F K S Y E M M  
 E O A A F R K E C W W Y U U L O B S O Z S A T N Z  
 Y Z T W L P G L R G C U V I N J A H P M S T T C M  
 C Y V G U M W G N D S C A G K J H E R A B U O U K  
 D R N W X V A P G M I I O W F U B R E E R Q T P G  
 W N E B V X X T L O K T L P F T B O G W V K Q C S  
 P E R M W F V P I E D Z A V I V T P O A S O Y R O  
 R R A N L V F B G A I F C C D U C F R R D S R Y R  
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 E M E Y B B N N N V A X P O G H Y K N I L L F D C  
 A B Q U S M X N I U Q N E P D V O V L H C O I G I  
 G N U K R B R U N O E D G L U C K Y T G R P Q S K  
 Z Z I D L A R C G M Q L J A G R C D Z T S D F X M  
 Q P J W D Y K Z C M X M K A D N A P Q T Q R B K I  
 U U N D G Y B I A H L I S C B C W M I X X W P T B  
 A E F T O P E A L L E U R C E E V C P S C A E D I  
 Z H R E T S U B X Q T T J Y C R K E U K K Z N J Z  
 E H Q D G F V T M U T B Y I A W F I D S D F N F R  
 Y Q M F W L H G O S C A M P F E M G D U P X Y V Q  
 F G N Q V X H C H E C K E R S D K P L V X R F G P  
 R T T W V D S H A D X U P L Z W W H E C X F K X T  
 N O J M T X M Z A Y N V M P P Q O P S U S R E D V  
 F V Y N Q L Z M N J A G W I Y N N A N G G I X P Y

### Word List

Ace	Dottie	Nanny	Roger
Bruno	Freckle	Panda	Rover
Buddy	Hero	Penny	Scamp
Buster	Inky	Penquin	Scout
Checkers	Jett	Perdita	Sparky
Cruella	Jynx	Polka	Spots
Dalmatians	Lightning	Pongo	
Dipstick	Lucky	Puddles	

# Help Us Raise Money While You Shop!!

## What's It All About?



## AMAZON.SMILE

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado, every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado.

To shop at AmazonSmile, simply go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) from the web browser on your computer or mobile device and start your shopping at AmazonSmile. You will see eligible products marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail pages. Recurring Subscribe-and-Save purchases and subscription renewals are not currently eligible.

You use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same. On your first visit to AmazonSmile ([smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)), you need to select the charitable organization (Dalmatian Rescue) to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. Amazon will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) will result in a donation.

You can change your charity any time. Your AmazonSmile purchases after the change count towards your newly selected charity. To change your charity, sign in to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) on your desktop or mobile phone browser and simply select "Change your Charity" in "Your Account." You can choose from over one million eligible 501(c)(3) public charitable organizations. Look for Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado to make us your charity of choice!

## KING SOOPERS/CITY MARKET COMMUNITY REWARDS



For Colorado supporters (or anywhere King Soopers or City Market operates), Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado has also enrolled in the King Soopers and City Market Community Rewards Program.

To Use the King Soopers or City Market Community Rewards Program, simply visit the appropriate link below.

For King Soopers Stores - go to <http://www.kingsoopers.com>

For City Market Stores - go to <http://www.citymarket.com>

Once logged in to your King Soopers or City Market account, search for Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado, Inc., either by name or FR415, and then click Enroll. New users will need to create an account which requires some basic information, a valid email address and a loyalty card.

\*Customers must have a registered King Soopers or City Market loyalty card account to link to our organization. If you do not yet have a King Soopers or City Market loyalty card, they are available at the customer service desk at any King Soopers or City Market.

REMEMBER, purchases will not count for our organization until after you have registered your loyalty card (the same card that you use to build fuel points). You must swipe your registered King Soopers or City Market loyalty card or use the phone number that is related to the registered King Soopers or City Market loyalty card when shopping for each purchase to count. This does not affect your fuel points!



## Trainer Tips

# “Harness Recommendations”

© 2004-2021 The Light of Dog

What equipment is best to use for walking your dog?

Well, the short answer is, it depends!

In part, it depends on your preferences. But mostly it depends on your dog and what will work best and make the most sense for them.

Some people prefer collars of some sort. And there are several different types.

Some people prefer harnesses.

Some prefer other options such as head collars.

For our own dogs, we use harnesses. I rarely ever use a collar on my own dogs. But there are times when it makes sense to do so.

I never use choke chains, prong collars or shock collars on my dogs or my client dogs. But I have plenty of clients who come to me currently using those products.

My goal, ultimately, is to help my clients train their dogs well enough that it does not and should not matter what we use. If your dog has great leash manners and is under good control (with verbal cues and hand signals) then the product you have on your dog is far less relevant.

I generally prefer harnesses so that we are not putting pressure on our dogs necks/throats. I have had clients whose prior dogs have had serious damage done to their throats from the use of certain collars.

On our property, our dogs are typically off leash and we have lots of scrub oak that they run through when looking for bunnies, exploring smells, etc. And I normally do not want a collar on my dog in the case it gets snagged on a branch.

If a harness gets snagged, I have far less concern about a dog getting strangled. They might get stuck, but I can crawl in there and get them loose. If a collar snags and starts to strangle them, I have a far more concerning and urgent situation on my hands.

For those clients whose dogs are big pullers and find it difficult to walk their dogs before we are able to develop better leash manners, I sometimes recommend a front-clip harness.

For my own dogs, I use a back clip harness.

For the dogs really difficult to control, sometimes a head halter makes sense. Not always, but sometimes.

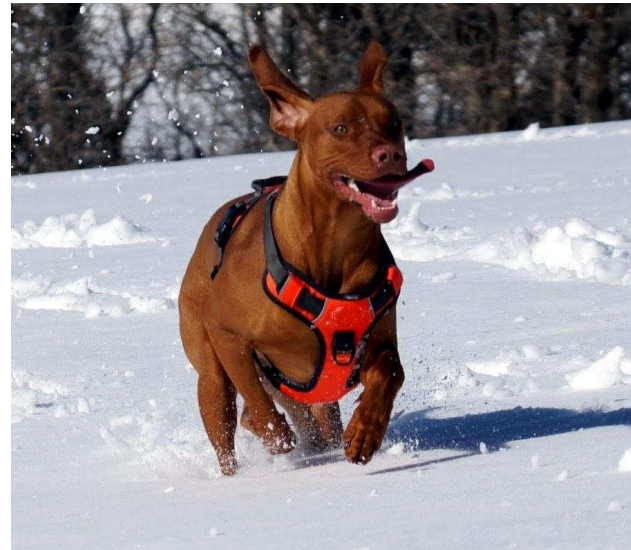
Generally speaking, I like the harnesses that have both a front clip and a back clip option so that we have some flexibility in how we use it.

When it comes to harnesses, I also want to make sure they fit properly and do not impede the natural shoulder movement of the dogs. Not all harnesses take that into careful consideration.

A few of the harness options for front and back clip options that I recommend include:

- Ruffwear – they have several styles, only some of them have front and back clip options. Take a look at their [website](#) or check Amazon from link below.
- Embark – they have a few styles, again you have to look to find which one has the front clip option. (I currently use an Embark for Blitzen). Take a look at their [website](#) or check Amazon from link below.
- Freedom No Pull Harness – Take a look at their [website](#) or check Amazon from link below.

There are others out there, but these are the ones my clients and I have generally used and liked.





## “Begging”

### Question:

I was told that we should not feed our dog human food because it will teach our dog to beg for food. Is that true, and should we never feed our dog human food?

### The Trainer Answers:

Whether or not your dog should eat “human food” really depends on which human food it is. Unhealthy, processed foods are definitely best avoided. We should avoid them too! Using healthy, natural, whole food, such as unprocessed meats, cheese, fruits or vegetables can make better treats for your dog than some of the dog treats you find in stores.

Just because treats are made and marketed for dogs, it does not mean they are healthy, appropriate treats for your dog. Treats that contain such ingredients as meat by-products, sugar, salt, artificial colorings and flavors are best avoided. “Human food” such as chicken from the deli or baby carrots would be a better choice.

There are plenty of very good, healthy choices in dog treats, but you don’t need to rule out other choices simply because they are considered “human food”. If you are unsure of what is a healthy choice for your dog, do some research and consider talking to someone well-versed in canine nutrition.

The true answer to your question has very little, if anything, to do with human food vs. dog food. It has to do with the situation in which you are feeding your dog. If you are giving your dog any kind of food – human or dog – what really matters is what the dog did right before you gave him the food. If he was barking at you, pawing at you, or otherwise actively seeking your attention, then you are rewarding him for “begging” and it doesn’t matter what food you are using.

The question as to whether feeding a dog human food causes begging depends upon how and when you are feeding your dog. What causes begging behavior is more dependent upon the method, not the actual food you are feeding. For example, you are sitting at the dining room table eating dinner with your family. Your dog approaches, and barks or paws at you. You take a piece of food off your plate and give it to him. In this scenario, you are rewarding your dog for begging or attention-seeking behavior while you are at the table eating your meal.

Now, let’s take the exact same scenario, but this time, instead of taking food from your plate, you give your dog a dog treat that you have sitting in a jar on the table next to you. In this scenario, you are also teaching your dog to beg at the table. It has less to do with what you are giving him as the situation in which you are giving it.

Take the same two food options – human food and dog treats – and put them in a different context. I ask my dog to go lie down on his bed, and give him a reward for doing so. It does not matter which type of food I am giving him, what matters is what he is doing at the time I am giving the food. In this case, I am rewarding him for lying down on his bed. Even if I am rewarding him with “human food” it will not cause begging behavior because I am reinforcing a different behavior – one that I like and want to encourage!

However, the dog’s behavior will be affected by how much the dog likes what he’s getting – so if you have some really tasty, smelly food, then your dog will be far more likely to beg to get more of it than some boring mediocre food that isn’t nearly as exciting. Whether it is tasty human food or tasty dog treats does not matter, but the value to the dog will matter.

I encourage you to use healthy treat choices, whether they are marketed as dog treats or human food. Just be sure to only give them to your dog when he is performing a behavior you like and want to encourage!

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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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(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/>).

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## Bits & Pieces

### *Advertising in NewSpots! is FREE!!!*

Do you have a business or a hobby that other adopters, fosters, and volunteers might be interested in? Let us help you spread the word by 'advertising' in Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado's monthly newsletter – NewSpots! We currently notify about 700 people of the new editions of NewSpots! That's a lot of word of mouth and print advertising for FREE!

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

## *Foster Homes Needed!!*

*\*\*\*\*\* Be a Pal, Save a Dal \*\*\*\*\**

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

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

## *Reader Recommendations and Tips*

This is where we share recommendations and tips from and for our readers. Our newsletter is read by as many as 1800 people each month. That number constantly increases as we have more adopters and adopters recommend it to their friends and family as well. So, go ahead... share your tips and recommendations. Please send along any information you want to share with others, like products that you would recommend, dog toys, great pet insurance, good vets (or bad ones to avoid as well), etc. Is there anything you wish someone had told you about that you have found? Pass it along. Send your ideas, recommendations and tips to Karl at [karl@dalmatianrescueco.org](mailto:karl@dalmatianrescueco.org) for inclusion in the next issue.

*We NEED your participation to make the Reader Recommendations and Tips segment a successful segment. We received a couple recommendations a couple months ago, but nothing since. It is nice to be able to pass along information, tips and suggestions that you have found useful or helpful so that others can benefit as well, but without your participation it doesn't work! So please submit your ideas!!*

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



**Mandy**



can't be crated, he's been trained to wear a basket muzzle while unsupervised in his home. This prevents him from finding destructive pastimes but isn't restrictive. He's very tolerant of wearing it. Arson likes other dogs but does not like cats. At all. So he needs a home with NO CATS. Arson is healthy, heartworm negative, current on vaccinations, and neutered. He is located in Las Vegas, NV. His foster is willing to drive a couple of hours in any direction. Arson WILL NOT be placed on transport. So, if you are looking for a handsome, spotted, velcro boy to give all your love and attention to, and you think you might be a good fit, please contact Andy at [firemans@embarqmail.com](mailto:firemans@embarqmail.com) or Tena at [tjp@mygrande.net](mailto:tjp@mygrande.net) for more info. Applications may be submitted at [www.dalmatianrescueco.org](http://www.dalmatianrescueco.org). Adoption \$400

*We still need your Happy Beginnings Stories!!*

*We have had many adoptions in 2021 but have received NO Happy Beginnings Stories submitted for any of those dogs!*

*Please help us to get the word out to all adopters from 2020/2021 (or any year, since it's never too late!) to submit their Happy Beginnings Stories.*

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

If you have adopted your pup from us, regardless of when, and have not submitted their Happy Beginnings story yet, please do it now while it's fresh on your mind.

**These stories are the "pay" that fosters get for all their hard work!**

*About Us*

NewSpots is published and released on the first calendar day of the month. The deadline for submissions for future issues of NewSpots is the 25<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:karl@dalmatianrescueco.org).

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

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