

# *Helping Hands*

*A Handbook for Those Who Rescue,  
Foster and Adopt Cavaliers*



*Edited for Greater Chicago Cavalier Rescue  
by Sandra Jones-Schauble*





## Table of Contents

	Page
Foreword & Acknowledgements by Sandra Jones-Schauble	iii
Chapter 1: Behaviors of Rescue Dogs by Sheila Scaggs	1-3
Chapter 2: Health Concerns in Rescue Cavaliers by Laurel Omert, M.D. & Cindy Kahler	4-10
Chapter 3: Nutrition Guidelines for Rescue Dogs by Anne Copeland & Margaret Rapp	11-14
Chapter 4: Necessary Equipment and Supplies by Sandra Jones-Schauble	15-18
Chapter 5: Grooming Requirements and Equipment by Rita Riordan & Sandra Jones-Schauble	19-25
Chapter 6: House Training a Rescue Dog by Bev Gamache	26-27
Chapter 7: General Training Tips by Anne Copeland	28-30
Chapter 8: Socializing the Rescue Dog by Anne Copeland	31-32
Chapter 9: Benign Leadership by Tim Garner	33-35
Addendum: First Aid and Poisonous Plants by Harts Run Veterinary Hospital	36-42

# Foreword & Acknowledgements

By Sandra Jones-Schauble, Editor

We offer this Handbook to all Cavalier lovers; to those that rescue and transport them from situations that no living being should have to endure, to those that provide foster homes to help the rescued Cavaliers begin to adjust to a better life and finally to those that adopt and love them for the rest of their lives. Whether you have years of experience with dogs or whether this is your first involvement, we hope you will find something helpful in these pages.

This Handbook is the result of many dedicated people, all active in Greater Chicago Cavalier Rescue (GCCR). The concept originated out of online discussions among the GCCR Volunteers with Tim Garner being the first to step forth with ideas for a Handbook.

We wish to thank all those that contributed directly to the creation of this Handbook. Our authors, Anne Copeland, Bev Gamache, Tim Garner, Sandra Jones-Schauble, Cindy Kahler, Laurel Omert, Margaret Rapp, Rita Riordan, and Sheila Scaggs who put their knowledge, thoughts, and experiences in written form. Equally essential are the sharp eyes of the proofreaders and editors, Jane Gedvilas, John Perry, Megan Schlobohm, and Sally Stukel.

We also owe a major thank you to Harts Run Veterinary Hospital in Pittsburgh, PA, who allowed us to use, edit and reformat Pet First Aid and Poisonous Plants.



# Behaviors of Rescue Dogs

By Sheila Scaggs

This section deals with common behaviors found in rescues and which might still be present to some degree after adoption. You will find suggestions on dealing with the specific behaviors following each.

- **The dog may not be housebroken.**

Treat him/her like a new puppy regardless of age. (See House Training a Rescue Dog)

- **The dog will be unfamiliar with grass and defecating outside.**

Place him/her on the grass with kind words of encouragement and repeat for as many times as it takes. It could take a few days.

- **The dog may be afraid of you or hand-shy and may flatten down on the ground.**



Positive reinforcement – kind words, treats, and time – should overcome or minimize this behavior.

- **The dog may be unfamiliar with a collar and leash. The dog might be terrified of the leash and restraint.**

Let the dog drag the leash around to get used to it. Walk around the yard with your dog to insure his/her safety while dragging the leash. Once the dog gets used to the leash, take him/her for a walk. At first let the dog lead; don't tug or pull on the leash. Encourage him/her with "let's go", "walk", "come on", etc.

- **The dog may be afraid of doorways and going through them.**

Give the dog lots of room, hold the door wide open, and stand to the side.



- **The dog may bolt out of an open door leading to an unsecure area; many are "runners".**

Be alert when opening a door that doesn't lead to a fenced area. (See General Training Tips)

- **The dog may not eat for a day or two.**

Don't worry if your new foster or adoptee doesn't eat for a few days as long as s/he is taking in liquid. A healthy dog can go four or five days without food with no serious effect. A healthy dog will eat when it is hungry.

# Behaviors of Rescue Dogs

By Sheila Scaggs

- **The dog may fear being in or going into his/her crate.**

With time, positive reinforcement, feeding the dog in the crate and giving treats, it will come to accept and like the crate.



- **The dog may run from you.**

Don't run after the dog. In time it will learn to trust and come to you.

If it runs away and ignores you when you call, endeavor to catch the dog's attention. Waving an enticing piece of rag, a toy, or even treats are all techniques you can use to get the dog to come.

You can also try running away from the dog. The instinct to chase is very strong. When the dog is running after you, stop and praise him/her, even if the dog does not come all the way up to you. Do not praise if the dog turns and goes away.

- **The dog may not understand your speech or commands (come, sit, stay, good dog, etc).**

It takes time & repetition. The dog may have a temporary hearing loss from the noise in the "puppy mill" or it may have to learn how to "learn".

- **The dog may not know his/her name.**

Repetition, repetition, repetition, and praise, praise, praise!

- **The dog may be a "pooh" eater.**

Pick up waste as soon as possible to avoid this behavior.

- **The dog may run from one "safe spot" to another in your home (couch, chair).**

As the dog gets comfortable in your home, you will see the "safe spot" expand until it extends to the whole house.

- **The dog will not be familiar with stairs, won't know how to go up or down.**

You might need to carry the dog up and down until it gets the idea and the courage to master the stairs. Again, use lots of praise for any attempt.



# Behaviors of Rescue Dogs

By Sheila Scaggs

- **The dog may not be familiar with the TV/radio or mirrors. It might be afraid of them, think what it sees or hears is real and bark at them.**

When the dog acts afraid of something that it should not fear, do not pick it up and ooh and ahh over it. Simply tell the dog it is okay (or if the dog is barking, tell it NO), and show him/her the object, person, etc. Your confidence will make it a confident and dependable dog. If you reinforce imaginary fears, the dog will become a snappy and untrustworthy animal.

- **The dog may exhibit compulsive behaviors, like fly biting, nest building, or paper shredding.**

If the behavior does not diminish as the dog gains confidence, you may need to check for health conditions that could cause these behaviors.

- **The dog may be afraid of thunder/lightening.**

Do NOT coddle and say "Good dog, that's OK" as that rewards the fear behavior. Be as matter of fact as possible. A body wrap or "thunder shirt" or a child's tee shirt pinned tightly around the body will work the same. Confining in a closed crate covered with a blanket so it is dark can be reassuring. There are also calming agents for sale, such as Canine Calm or Rescue Remedy (a Bach Flower Essence). Remain calm yourself and even joke about the noise if you can.

- **The dog may snore!**

No cure!! Try to think of it as cute!



# Health Concerns in Rescue Cavaliers

By Laurel Omert

If you are new to fostering a Cavalier spaniel from GCCR, you can be sure that the dog has been carefully examined by a veterinarian and has been given the appropriate



vaccinations. If you are an adopter, the same is true, but your dog also will have been watched by his/her foster family for less common conditions. If those conditions were found, your dog will have been seen by the appropriate specialist. The medical records will be provided to you. If the dog has any unresolved medical issues, these will be fully discussed with you prior to fostering or adoption to ensure that you are aware of them and that you are willing and able to seek appropriate

treatment as needed. All rescue dogs undergo a thorough dental check with teeth cleaning and extractions if needed and most are spayed or neutered. Foster families are expected to watch their rescue closely for symptoms which may indicate any of the conditions described below.

Cavaliers from reputable breeders can have the same health problems as those adopted from rescue organizations. But rescues, due to the poor breeding practices of puppy mills and backyard breeders, are somewhat more likely to have health issues and may have additional problems based on their recent history.

## Health Concerns Common to all Cavaliers:

- **Mitral Valve Disease (MVD)**

MVD is the leading cause of death in Cavalier spaniels. It is an inherited disease that reputable breeders are working diligently to eliminate. However, because MVD is transmitted via a “polygenetic” inheritance, meaning that several gene pairs are involved, it is difficult to eradicate. Basically, the mitral valve that separates the two chambers on the left side of the heart, the left atrium and left ventricle, begins to deteriorate. Blood then refluxes backward through the leaky valve as the heart contracts. Eventually, blood can back up into the lungs, resulting in the signs and symptoms of congestive heart failure. As the disease progresses, more blood goes backward and less forward to carry oxygen to the organs and tissues of the body.

MVD can be detected by listening to the dog’s heart with a stethoscope. When a heart murmur is detected, the cardiologist “grades” it as a Level 1 (barely audible) to Level 6 (audible without a stethoscope). He may recommend a consultation with a canine cardiologist and/or an echocardiogram (ECHO) of the heart, depending on the loudness of the murmur and the dog’s symptoms. The ECHO, which is based on ultrasound principles and is not painful, will show the size of the atria and ventricles, how well they are contracting, and how much blood is refluxing backwards, as well as providing anatomic details of the valves and structures of the heart.

Dogs with MVD can have no symptoms for years, or they can deteriorate very quickly after the diagnosis and die at a young age. There is no way to predict how the

# Health Concerns in Rescue Cavaliers

By Laurel Omert

disease will progress. Once symptoms develop, the vet will prescribe medications to help manage the disease and keep the dog comfortable. One of the first symptoms is lack of energy and reluctance to exercise. As the atrium grows larger and congestive heart failure develops, the dog's respiratory and heart rates will increase and coughing will occur. When the cardiac output is very low, the dog may faint, especially if he is excited, stressed, or hot.

Management of MVD is primarily medical at this time. Some of the medications prescribed are: diuretics (to remove excess fluid from the lungs), ACE inhibitors (to control high blood pressure), digoxin (to manage irregular heart rhythms), and pimobendan (an inodilator). Pimobendan (Vetmedin<sup>®</sup>) helps the heart contract better and dilates blood vessels so the heart does less work. Attempts were made to replace the valves, as is done in humans, but surgeons encountered two problems. Metal valves require anti-coagulation with powerful "blood-thinning" drugs that are difficult to regulate and can result in fatal bleeding. Tissue valves, which do not require anti-coagulants, would be ideal, but a dog's immune system is so reactive, these valves are quickly rejected and no longer function.

According to Dr. Chris Orton from Colorado State University who is a pioneer in this field, transcatheter mitral replacement will be a better approach for dogs because of the severity of their disease at heart failure. This type of approach does not require an "open chest" incision, but can be done with radiologic assistance. Studies are ongoing in this area, but the best way to control the disease is to ensure careful breeding practices so the trait is not passed on.

- **Flycatcher's Syndrome**

This is another inherited disease that varies in its presentation, combining the symptoms and signs of epilepsy and compulsive disorder. Affected animals may try to snatch non-existent items out of the air, as if they are catching flies. Some will also turn in circles; others will chase their tails. These behaviors can persist for hours. The diagnosis revolves around identifying whether the primary disorder is anatomic (epilepsy) or psychological (compulsive). Extensive workups including brain CT, MRI, and/or EEG are sometimes recommended; another option is to try various treatment modalities to identify one that works. For example, if epilepsy is suspected but there is no response to anti-seizure meds, treatment for compulsive disorder with SSRIs (selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors) and behavior modification can be attempted. There is an association between Flycatcher's Syndrome and Syringomyelia, discussed below.

- **Syringomyelia (SM)**

Syringomyelia (SM) is an inherited neurologic disease that results from malformations of the Cavalier spaniel skull. One common malformation is an occipital bone (back of skull) that is too small and squeezes part of the brain out of the skull. These malformations prevent the normal flow of cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) that should



# Health Concerns in Rescue Cavaliers

By Laurel Omert

circulate freely between the brain and spinal cord. When the flow of CSF is blocked going into the brain, it backs up into the spinal cord under pressure and causes fluid-filled cavities to develop called syrinxes. It is estimated that as many as 50% of Cavaliers have anatomic characteristics of this disease, although some will never develop symptoms or require treatment.

Symptoms of SM can vary, but the most common is pain and sensitivity over one side of the neck and shoulder. This may result in repetitive scratching behavior (air scratching), yelping when the neck area is touched, and sleeping with the head elevated. Seizures, extremity weakness, and unstable gait are also associated with this disease. SM can be virtually asymptomatic with occasional air scratching as its only symptom, or rapidly progressive to a state of severe pain and debilitation. Symptoms may occur at any age, although the more severe cases tend to manifest in younger dogs.

The definitive diagnosis of SM can only be made with an MRI. In mild cases, this may be deferred as long as the dog is comfortable with treatment. The medical management of SM includes analgesics for pain, steroids to reduce inflammation and pain, agents that decrease CSF production, and gabapentin, an anti-seizure medication that is useful for chronic pain of neurologic origin. Surgery is indicated for severe pain and neurologic deficits and usually involves removal of part of the skull that is compressing the brain. Surgical treatment has the best results if it is performed before permanent neurologic damage occurs. Although it is usually successful, the signs and symptoms of the disease can reoccur after months or years.

- **Hip Dysplasia**

Although more frequently seen in larger dogs, hip dysplasia does affect about 10% of Cavaliers. It is probably an inherited condition if it occurs in a young dog, or may be acquired as the dog ages. Hip dysplasia can be diagnosed by x-rays. As the condition progresses, the hip joints degenerate and weight-bearing becomes painful. Dogs will have difficulty getting up from the down position, jumping, or walking up stairs. Treatment is primarily medical with anti-inflammatory agents and analgesics, but in some cases surgery may be necessary.



Normal Hip



Bilateral Hip Dysplasia

# Health Concerns in Rescue Cavaliers

By Laurel Omert

- **Luxating Patellae**

In this condition, the dog's knee caps (patellae) luxate or "pop out" of the joint. Dogs with luxating patellae are graded on a scale of 1-4 depending on the severity. Asymptomatic dogs may not require treatment, but any dog that experiences pain or becomes lame will need surgical correction of this condition. This is also an inherited disease and the final "cure" is careful breeding to eliminate this trait.

- **Anal Gland Infections/Abscesses**

New Cavalier owners often wonder why their dog is "scooting" across the floor on their butt, and can mistakenly think this is a cute "doggie trick". Unfortunately, this behavior usually signifies a problem with the dog's anal glands and the Cavalier should have manual expression of the glands sooner rather than later. If the condition is unrecognized, it can lead to localized infection and abscess formation. Recurrent abscesses and/or the inability to express the glands due to scarring are indications for surgical removal. An easy prevention for this condition is to include bran or plain pumpkin in the dog's meals. Two tablespoons of bran cereal or pumpkin per meal work well. Most dogs respond positively but it is a lifetime treatment.

- **Platelet Abnormalities**

Between 30% and 50% of Cavaliers have a low number of platelets in their blood, a condition called thrombocytopenia. Many of these dogs also have giant sized platelets. Platelets are responsible for blood clotting and occasionally veterinarians are unfamiliar with this characteristic of Cavaliers and become quite alarmed. In fact, this is usually a harmless condition and the dog's blood usually clots normally. There is some evidence that the large platelets may be linked to MVD.

## Health Concerns Often Seen in Rescue Cavaliers:

- **Ear Infections**

All Cavaliers can develop ear infections since their long, silky ears retain moisture and provide a favorable environment for yeast, mites, and bacteria. A musky unpleasant odor will alert the Cavalier owner that there is a problem, but this often goes untreated in a backyard breeding, puppy mill, or neglect situation. Ear mites in particular cause persistent scratching that can result in mats that are unable to be combed out. (Rescue Cavaliers often need to be completely shaved due to excessive matting all over.) Your veterinarian will show you how to clean the ears and apply antibiotic drops or ointment. Many Cavalier owners use snoods to keep their dogs' ears from getting wet or filled with food, which can help prevent ear problems.



# Health Concerns in Rescue Cavaliers

By Laurel Omert

- **Pyotraumatic dermatitis (Hot Spots)**

A hot spot begins as a small sore that is initiated by trauma, scratching, or biting and can rapidly worsen due to the accompanying bacterial infection (usually *Staphylococcus species*). Hot spots often occur in areas where moisture is trapped, such as under long ears or on the feet. The lesions are both painful and extremely itchy, which results in more scratching and biting to the area, and hence, worsening of the condition. As the sore grows larger, hair loss, redness, and inflammation occur, and it will begin to drain foul-smelling pus.

Diagnosis of the cause of the hot spot and treatment of it should occur simultaneously. The most common causes are injury (scrape from a branch, small scissor nick), insect bites, parasites (mites, fleas), or allergies. A rare cause is a psychological factor, such as stress or boredom that prompts the dog to chew on itself.

Treatment of hot spots centers around keeping the area clean and dry. Hair around the lesion should be trimmed or shaved. This may be very painful to the dog, so a muzzle may be needed. Cool compresses with black or green tea bags relieve the itching. A treatment regimen using common household items begins with a spray of Listerine® Original as a disinfectant and dusting with Gold Bond® powder to keep dry. As a preventative, add Missing Link® powder to the dog's meals and give Omega 3 and Omega 6 oils daily. If the hot spot doesn't begin to heal in 3 or 4 days, a visit to the vet is recommended. The vet may apply a topical steroid cream, prescribe oral antibiotics and/or a short course of oral steroids, and recommend a special shampoo. An Elizabethan collar can help prevent further biting or scratching of the area. Again, a diligent search for the cause of the hot spot should be ongoing during treatment to assure no recurrence.

- **Interdigital Cysts (by Cindy Kahler)**



Interdigital cysts may be viewed as a more severe variant of hot spots that occurs on the feet, both on top in between the toes and on the pads. The cause is not known, but the prevailing theory is that the condition is caused by bacteria present at the puppy mill that set off an autoimmune response in the dog. This response in turn causes the production of too much of an oily substance that clogs the cells. The area then begins to grow and expand, similar to the way a cold sore or acne develops. Eventually, large blisters or papules filled with a bloody purple/rust colored substance appear. These will eventually burst and drain. The papules are very painful as they are erupting through the skin and the dog's paw becomes red and swollen. Signs that a papule is getting ready to appear include licking and chewing of the paw for several days prior. The dog may also be hesitant

# Health Concerns in Rescue Cavaliers

By Laurel Omert

to walk on the affected paw. Very often, more than one papule will rise in more than one place, or on more than one foot.

Treatment of interdigital cysts is difficult, as even vets from veterinary teaching hospitals admit. Through much trial and error, a treatment plan has been developed for several rescued Cavaliers that is usually successful, although every dog responds differently. When the papule erupts through the skin, a topical powder called Neo-Predef with Tetracaine<sup>®</sup> can be applied to help dry up the sore. Neo-Predef<sup>®</sup> is a combination of three drugs: neomycin, isoflupredone, and tetracaine. Neomycin is an antibiotic, isoflupredone is a corticosteroid, and tetracaine is a topical anesthetic. It can be obtained online without a prescription or from the veterinarian. Soaking the paw(s) in warm water with epsom salts with a little hydrogen peroxide and iodine can help draw the sore and cause it to burst in a controlled, sterile environment. Neo-Predef can also be used on the drained sore after the paw is dried. In severe cases, a cortisone/steroid shot and oral antibiotic can be added to the regimen. A daily dose of an antihistamine such as Benadryl<sup>®</sup> (25mg) has proven to be successful in controlling the symptoms in several puppy mill rescues, probably due to suppression of the immune response. (Histamines may trigger the overproduction of the oily matter that clogs the cells.) In some cases, the daily dose of antihistamine has been given for as long as one year, then discontinued gradually with no recurrence of the condition.

Surgical excision of the cysts has been attempted with poor results. The only successful treatment of this condition is to attempt to manage the immune response and prevent the body from manufacturing too much of the oily substance. As with any autoimmune disease, the condition generally improves with proper nutrition, exercise, and removal of the dog from the stressful puppy mill environment. Some internet articles cite that removing the dog from an area where the dog is forced to stand on concrete or wire also improves this condition.

- **Keratoconjunctivitis Sicca (Dry Eye Syndrome)/Cataracts**

Keratoconjunctivitis Sicca (KCS) is an inherited disorder that occurs in approximately 10% of Cavaliers. In this condition, not enough tears are produced. Symptoms and signs include blinking, redness, and thick discharge with a filmy appearance to the eye. Routine vet care can detect this condition and it is simply and effectively treated with eye drops. Rescue dogs may have severe secondary conditions to KCS because it was not diagnosed and managed appropriately. These can include eye ulcerations that can progress to blindness.



Cataracts can occur in any Cavalier due to the aging process or diabetes, but cataracts in young Cavaliers are either inherited or secondary to poor nutrition. Inherited cataracts can be present at birth or develop in the puppy and generally lead to blindness. Medical management includes eye drops until the cataracts impair

# Health Concerns in Rescue Cavaliers

By Laurel Omert

the dog's vision to the point where surgery is needed. Lens implants are successful in restoring vision unless the cataract is due to a problem with the retina, in which case there is no treatment. Board certified veterinary ophthalmologists should examine and "clear" any Cavalier that will be bred to avoid passing on the trait for hereditary cataracts.

- **Veterinary Emergencies**



All pets may require first aid from time to time. An excellent source of information on pet emergencies is *The First Aid Companion for Dogs and Cats* by Amy Shojai that details 150 accidents and emergencies. Familiarity with the information in this manual combined with knowledge of the closest 24-hour Animal 911 facility is the best preparation for any life-threatening situation.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Savant-Harris M and Hunthausen W, Chapter 8, "Health of Your Cavalier King Charles Spaniel", in *The Cavalier King Charles Spaniel*; T.F.H. Publications, 2009: p. 151-198.  
Ross Smith S, *For the Love of Ollie*; 2006  
<http://cavalierhealth.org>  
Shojai Amy, *The First Aid Companion for Dogs and Cats*, St. Martin's Press, 2001

# Nutrition Guidelines for Rescue Dogs

By Anne Copeland & Margaret Rapp



Many of the rescue dogs we foster and adopt have been neglected, abused, and malnourished. They have to be slowly taught to eat high quality food that will help them recover and will support a healthy lifestyle.

There are some general rules about nutrition that apply to all dogs. The label on dog food provides information about ingredients. Some ingredients are healthful; others are “filler” and provide no nutritional

value. All pet owners should be able to determine how much food to provide to achieve weight gain, weight loss or to maintain a dog’s ideal weight.

## What to Feed

Examine all food for the phrase “For All Life Stages” or a similar statement. This means that the food has been tested and meets the AAFCO (Association of American Feed Control Officials) standards for proper nourishment from puppyhood through adulthood and senior years. The choice of canned, dry kibble, frozen raw, homemade raw or dehydrated raw food is based on the time that can be devoted to meal preparation. The following rules of label reading apply to all of these choices. Ingredients on the label are listed in order of quantity by weight.

1. **PROTEIN:** Quality protein should be one of the first three ingredients on the ingredient list; preferably the first. Quality protein is named protein such as beef, whitefish, eggs, or chicken, not “by-products”. By-products are usually not readily digestible.
2. **CARBOHYDRATES:** Carbohydrates should include whole grains such as rye, oatmeal, and quinoa that provide fiber to the diet. The following carbohydrates should be **AVOIDED** if at all possible: wheat, corn, or soy in any form since these frequently cause allergic reactions in dogs. In addition, very little of these carbohydrates are actually digested, rather they provide bulk and are excreted. (which you eventually must pick up). Most of the high quality foods also contain fruits and vegetables in varying quantities. These provide antioxidants as well as fiber and some micronutrients.
3. **FAT:** Most foods also contain a fat source and should be stabilized or preserved with some form of tocopherols but **NOT** ethoxyquin.
4. **SUPPLEMENTS:** Vitamins and supplements are often added to the complete diet.

# Nutrition Guidelines for Rescue Dogs

By Anne Copeland & Margaret Rapp

These include fish oil, probiotics, Coenzyme Q-10 (Co Q-10), and glucosamine. Fish oils such as wild salmon oil, krill oil or Ultra oil are a source of Omega 3 and Omega 6 fatty acids. Fish oils are good for the heart, the skin, and the coat. The label should indicate that the oil is mercury-free. Probiotics such as plain yogurt or kefir can be added to the diet as powdered supplements or as dairy products with active cultures. These supplements maintain bacterial balance in the gastrointestinal tract, promote better digestion, and support immune system function. Co Q-10 is a compound that helps produce ATP, a major energy source for the body and is thought to be helpful in the prevention of heart disease. Glucosamine-Chondroitin supplements can be provided for muscle and joint health. Cranberry juice capsules are good for the urinary tract and bran cereal (All Bran) helps maintain healthy anal sacs.

## How Much to Feed

Almost every brand of dog food grossly overestimates the needed amount of calories. Even if the dog does not become overweight eating that much food, you will be wasting your money, as the excess food will pass through the GI tract and will result in larger and often softer feces to clean up.

How much to feed depends on the condition of the dog. If it is severely underweight, feed more initially until the dog approaches its ideal weight. If it is overweight, feed about 30% less than the quantity needed to maintain ideal weight. The formulae below illustrate how to calculate caloric intake to maintain or lose weight.



## Calculation to Maintain Weight

The number of calories your dog needs each day is the sum of 30 multiplied by weight in kilograms (pounds/2.2) plus 70.

*Example:*

$$\frac{22 \text{ lb dog}}{2.2} \times 30 + 70 = 370 \text{ calories per day to maintain weight}$$

## Calculation to Lose Weight

Dogs should not be deprived of food to lose weight. This is dangerous and abusive to the animal. A safe weight loss formula provides 70% of the calculated maintenance calories until ideal body weight is achieved.

*Example:*

$$\frac{22 \text{ lb dog}}{2.2} \times 30 + 70 = 370 \text{ calories per day} \times 70\% = 259 \text{ calories to lose weight}$$

# Nutrition Guidelines for Rescue Dogs

By Anne Copeland & Margaret Rapp

Here is a link to a simple [Excel spreadsheet for determining food portions](#). Input should be limited to the two yellow areas only. Most quality dog foods list the number of calories per cup on the package. If not, contact the manufacturer to find out the calorie count of the food you are using.

Remember that treats and supplements (fish oil, yogurt, or kefir) count toward the daily calorie total. A few pieces of kibble can be saved from a meal to use as treats. Other low calorie foods are baby carrots or small pieces of cauliflower. A great idea for training class rewards is to put Cheerios in a plastic bag with a smelly bacon-flavored treat. After a few days, the Cheerios will smell bacony and are a yummy and low calorie snack at 3 calories each.

## When & How to Feed

Many of us were taught that our dogs only need to be fed once a day. However, for most dogs, mealtime is the highlight of their day and it probably is better for digestion if the daily amount of food is divided into two meals instead of one. People who give two meals generally provide one early in the morning and another in late afternoon or early evening. Free feeding (leaving food out all the time) is strongly discouraged. This practice can result in “picky” eaters and it is difficult to determine whether the dog is getting the proper amount of nutrition, especially in a multiple-dog household. In addition, the food can spoil and cause illness. Leaving food out can lead to obesity, especially in a food-oriented breed like the Cavalier.

Meals should be offered at the planned time of day, preferably in a non-plastic dish.



Plastic tends to scratch and harbor bacteria, as well as leach chemicals which have been found to bleach the color from the dog’s nose. Ceramic bowls can also chip and harbor bacteria in the chipped areas. The best bowls for long term use are stainless steel.

Some foster dogs have never eaten from a dish and are reluctant to put their noses into a bowl. You can try feeding these dogs off a flat plate or a paper plate. If necessary, start out by feeding them on the floor, since that is probably the way they were fed if they came from a puppy mill.

Many foster dogs do not know what a treat is and have never taken food from anyone’s hand. Take your time with them, and, if offering a treat, either put it on the floor (watch the other animals if you already have dogs in your home) or put it on the floor of their crate. Over time you can begin to keep your hand in the area near the treat and slowly move closer until the dog gets used to the idea that food from your hand is safe.



# Nutrition Guidelines for Rescue Dogs

By Anne Copeland & Margaret Rapp

Don't worry if a new foster or adoptee doesn't eat for a few days, as long as he is drinking liquid. A healthy dog can go four or five days without food with no serious effect and will eat when he is hungry. Keep offering food at the planned times and if it isn't eaten in 20 minutes, remove it until the next regular feeding time. Offer NO TREATS or other goodies until the dog is eating regularly. You aren't doing the dog any favors by teaching it to hold out until you offer something "better" like hot dogs, chicken, or steak.

The benefits of good nutrition are multiple, and will be increasingly evident as time passes. The dog will have more stamina, will sleep less, and will be able to walk longer distances. The most obvious change will be the absolute metamorphosis from having a dull, dry, brittle coat to the soft, shiny mantle of feathery hair that characterizes the well-nourished Cavalier.



# Necessary Equipment and Supplies

By Sandra Jones-Schauble

## Every Cavalier needs the following:

- **A crate or kennel.** 20" high by 18" wide by 20" to 24" long. The dimensions can vary by a couple of inches in any direction, but start with these. The crate/kennel can be fiberglass or wire, as you prefer. I prefer a wire crate so the dogs can see around themselves, and the wire allows for better air circulation. The wire crate/kennel will come with a floor tray that slides out the front and will have a door in front or on the side or both. I like the doors on both the front and the side. I have a small car, and the side opening door on the crate allows me to place the crate side to side rather than back to front in the car's cargo area. Do not get a soft-sided kennel or a wooden kennel (lovely pieces of furniture as they are) as your primary kennel. I have a girl that, if suitably motivated, can tear through a soft sided kennel in ten minutes. I have others who will chew on wood bars or wood edges out of boredom.



- **Dishes.** Stainless steel is the best. They will go in your dishwasher and come out germ-free. They don't chip (chips harbor bacteria) or break. There is a style for everyone's taste. I like the ones that hang on the side of wire crates, as I don't have to go "fishing" for them when they're empty. A word about dishes and holders. Don't raise the dish to a dog's chest or chin. In order to eat without taking in too much air, which can cause bloat, a dog needs to have his/her head down. There are a lot of very attractive dish holders for sale, but buy one that keeps the dishes close to the ground. Get two dishes – one for water and one for food.



- **Rugs.** You will need a couple of washable rugs or crate pads. The Dollar Store is a good place to get inexpensive rugs. Crate pads are also available relatively inexpensively at PetSmart and other pet supply stores.



- **Collar & leash.** I like the adjustable snap collars. Once you get them adjusted to your dog, they go on easily and quickly. The dogs seem comfortable with them, too. Be sure you have identification attached to your dog's collar. I like a plain, six-foot



leather lead. It's strong and soft to the hand. But the leashes that match the collars are fine, too. If you get a flexi lead, be sure you also get a regular six-foot

# Necessary Equipment and Supplies

By Sandra Jones-Schauble

lead. Some dog parks and all dog shows prohibit the flexi lead. If you prefer to use a harness instead of a collar, there are many available to choose among.

- **Toys.** Try to buy those that are appropriate to the size of your Cavalier. My dogs like the soft, plush toys, especially the AKC brands with the “lifelike sounds”, and also the flavored Nylabones. I do not give them rawhide chewies, as my dogs



have long, heavily coated ears, and they will carry the chewies around in those ears. They also love to play fetch with a tennis ball. Do not use anything smaller, as there is a danger of swallowing small balls, which will require surgery to remove.



- **Shampoo and conditioner.** At some point you will have to bathe that Cavalier. Buy a high end shampoo at a dog supply shop or on-line. I like “The Stuff” as a conditioner, but there are many other dog conditioners that are equally good. Use as directed. You may also wish to use Dawn dishwashing soap on the ears, but only the ears. It will strip the oils out and leave the ears looking clean and fluffy. (For complete information on grooming, see Grooming Requirements and Equipment.)
- **Old towels.** These are good for drying your wet Cavalier, whether from the bath or rain, and for drying feet. You will probably also need a handheld hair dryer to dry your dog after his/her bath.
- **Grooming essentials.** (See Grooming Requirements and Equipment.)
- **Spray bottles or squirt guns.** Get ones that produce a strong squirt without a lot of mist. These are essential for training! When you see your sweet rescue chewing on an electrical cord – the word NO and a strong squirt of plain water will stop the behavior. Then you can distract him/her with a toy. There will be hundreds of times when you will need to stop a behavior. When you can’t reach the dog – squirt! So get lots of these bottles and put them in handy locations around the house. I prefer the bottles, as sometimes the guns leak.
- **Dog-proofing your home and yard.** Cavaliers are not generally known as diggers or climbers, but a rescue can have learned all kinds of behaviors that are atypical. So walk your fenced yard slowly and carefully, covering every square inch. Pick up any attractive bits a dog might think look tasty. Check for dips under



# Necessary Equipment and Supplies

By Sandra Jones-Schauble

the fence, however slight, that might tempt a digger. Check to be sure there is nowhere that a climber could get over your fence. Get a good book from the library about poisonous plants and transplant outside the yard any that might tempt a chewer. Go into your garage and toss out, or put out of reach, antifreeze, paint thinner and any other possibly poisonous compounds.

Walk through your house equally carefully. Cover the whole house, whether you intend to let the dog in a particular room or not. Put away small objects that could look like toys. Make sure all cleaning agents and medications are in cabinets where you do not keep any food items. Transfer all food items to overhead cabinets if possible. Check electrical cords and put excess cord under a rug or wrap and bind the excess or even run the cords through PVC piping.

Do not leave socks or undergarments where your dog can get them. For some reason (your scent probably) dogs seem to go through a phase where eating a sock or an undergarment seems like a good idea – to them perhaps; to us it can mean a very expensive trip to the vet to have the item surgically removed from the dog's gut. As you inspect your house and yard, use your creative side to think like a dog!

## Optional, but nice:

- **Pet beds.** I have several, but the one they use the most is sized for a single Cavalier and sits in the bottom of my computer cabinet. There are usually three Cavaliers in it at any one time. From which I gather that it is the placement rather than the bed that counts.



- **Toothbrush & toothpaste.** Most veterinarians recommend a regular tooth brushing for dogs, but use the doggy toothpaste and a small, very soft toothbrush. If you don't brush their teeth regularly, you will need to have the teeth cleaned and scaled by your veterinarian once a year. For more information, see the chapter on Grooming.

- **Coat & boots.** If your Cavalier has a nice heavy coat of its own, you may not need a coat; and if you live in the suburbs or country you may not need the boots either. But a lot of rescues come with a thin coat and need the protection against the cold and the elements. The best coats have a Velcro closure across the chest and another under the



# Necessary Equipment and Supplies

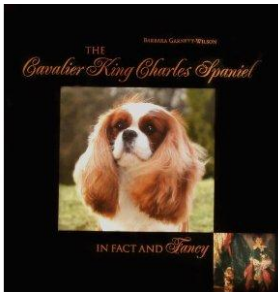
By Sandra Jones-Schauble

tummy. With this design you don't have to wrestle with your dog to get legs into sleeves. Boots are really good to protect against streets and sidewalks that have been treated with salt. The brand that seems to be most recommended is Pawz Disposable Boots, available on-line at Amazon or check with your local PetSmart. You can also coat the pads of their feet with a mixture of Vaseline and Bag Balm and just wash it off when you get home.



- **A book about Cavaliers.** A recent publication that seems to cover most topics is: *The Cavalier King Charles Spaniel*, by Myra Savant-Harris with consulting veterinary editor, Wayne Hunthausen, DVM. T.F. H. Publications, Inc. 2009

- **(Optional):** An absolutely gorgeous coffee table book about Cavaliers that just happens to have some good information as well: *The Cavalier King Charles Spaniel in Fact and Fancy*, by Barbara Garnett-Wilson. Cascade Publications, 2007.



# Grooming Requirements & Equipment

By Rita Riordan

Your new Cavalier comes to you with grooming requirements. Cavaliers are one of those breeds that require daily grooming to keep their skin and coat in great health. So assemble your grooming tools and begin this daily activity that will contribute to the growing bond between you and your fur baby. When you buy your tools, do not buy the cheapest you can find. They won't last and will damage your dog's coat. Most median priced grooming tools will be adequate for pet grooming. If you have dreams of showing someday, go for the pricier lines.

## Grooming Tools:



- A pin brush and a bristle brush (can be one double-sided or 2 separate tools)



- A comb with pivoting/rotating teeth



- Three sturdy combs with fine, medium, and wide teeth (Greyhound combs are super)

- A 1 or 2 row coat rake



- Claw clippers

# Grooming Requirements & Equipment

By Rita Riordan



- Thinning scissors (these have one blade that looks like a shallow-tooth)



- Short blade ball-tipped scissors (you can use the rounded tip cuticle scissors)

- Vaseline or other non-medicated petroleum jelly
- Coarse terrycloth washcloths (discount stores often sell these cheaply in bundles)
- High protein dog shampoo (do not use human shampoo, as the Ph levels are wrong)
- Bath sheet or beach towel

## You may wish to include the following in your grooming kit:



- Bag Balm (very safe Vaseline-like topical ointment)

- Fur conditioner (Cowboy Magic, Oakwood, "The Stuff", or Mane 'n' Tail work well)
- Apple cider vinegar (dilute with water – 1 part vinegar to 3 parts water -- for ear cleaning)
- Clippers with comb attachments
- Cornstarch or Kwik Stop (to stop blood on those rare claw clips that are too close to the quick)
- Baking soda (alternative to canine toothpaste)
- Dog toothbrush (you can, alternatively, use a washcloth or your fingers to clean your dog's teeth)
- Baby's hairbrush (very soft bristles)
- Baby body wash

# Grooming Requirements & Equipment

By Rita Riordan

## Daily Grooming Routine:

Let's move from your dog's top to bottom, front to back for this discussion. Using a washcloth or a baby's hairbrush, gently go over your dog's face and muzzle to gather up loose hairs. Use a separate, clean washcloth to clean the areas around your dog's eyes. Use your ball-tipped scissors to clip any longish whisker-like hairs that are around your dog's eye area.

Check your dog's nose. If it appears to be dry, apply a very small dab of Vaseline.

You may want to reserve cleaning your dog's teeth and gums until you've finished all the other daily grooming actions. You can safely mix baking soda with water to use as a tooth cleaner on a dog toothbrush or on a corner of yet another rough washcloth (now you know why it's wise to buy them by the bundle!) Alternatively, you can use dog toothpaste. We'll address this process in detail at the end of the daily grooming routine.

Clean the underside of your dog's ears using a dampened clean washcloth. You can use the diluted apple cider vinegar, diluted baby body wash, or just plain water to dampen that washcloth. Clean gently around the ear opening. If there are long hairs on the underside of the ear leathers, you may wish to clip those shorter using the ball-tipped scissors.

Using the pivot tooth comb held at a 45 degree angle to the dog's ears, gently comb the fur on the top of the ears in short strokes. You can use this same comb held at the same angle to comb the chest fur and front leg feathers. Avoid using the comb for the dog's legs; legs and tops of paws can be done using a bristle brush or the baby hairbrush.

**Tip:** In winter indoor dryness, hair and fur brushes seem to exacerbate static. Spritz the top of the bristles with a fine mist of water or a mixture of water and coat conditioner to keep down the static.

Examine your dog's paw pads and the skin between each digit. If the paw pads are cracked and/or dry, dab a bit of Vaseline or Bag Balm on each pad and massage that into the hide. Any lumps or wounds on the skin between the digits, both top and bottom, need vet attention. Clean the bottom of your dog's paws with the washcloth. Use the ball-tipped scissors to clip fur between the pads and keep this fur growth relatively short.

Now address the fur on your dog's back, sides, and belly. Use a medium tooth comb or the pivot tooth comb, again held at an angle. Hold the dog's skin firmly behind its skull, and use long strokes from neck to base of tail down the dog's back. If this isn't gathering up fur, use the coat rake in the same manner. Gently comb the dog's shoulders and sides using the same tools. When you've finished combing, run your



# Grooming Requirements & Equipment

By Rita Riordan

fingers slowly over all parts of your dog's body. You may use the comb to gently part the hair and examine the skin on the dog's chest, back, and sides. Check for lumps, any tenderness, dandruff or short coarse hair areas. Note those to bring to the vet's attention.

Our Cavaliers have fur "chaps" (feathering) on their legs. Comb through these gently; you won't need the coat rake on the chaps.

If your dog's tail is relatively tangle free, use a brush on the tail hairs. Alternatively, you can use the comb, but don't tug to get through snarls. Work through snarls using short, gentle strokes with the comb. Work from the outside edge of the snarl, slowly detangling, until you get to the skin.

Do the same procedures on the dog's back legs and paws as you did on the front.

Use a washcloth to clean your dog's rectal area. If you notice any irritation in that area, apply a dab of Vaseline or Bag Balm; persistent external rectal irritation needs vet attention. The same process should be done on female vulva areas and male penis areas.

Gently brush your dog's underside. Note the condition of the dog's nipples.

Now we can address those teeth! Here are a vet technician's recommendations for this process:

## Canine Tooth Brushing:

Canine tooth brushing is very similar to how you brush human teeth. To introduce your dog to the daily ritual of canine teeth cleaning, it is best to step them into it. The entire job should take no more than 30 seconds and will go a long way toward prevention. Your dog's teeth should be brushed between 2 to 7 times per week. We prefer daily brushing. Steps for brushing are:

1. **Start fresh** – This means have your veterinarian do a thorough teeth cleaning.
2. **Taste** – Use specially formulated toothpaste for dogs, available in multiple flavors – beef, poultry, and malt flavor is both popular and yummy – from most veterinarians. To familiarize your dog with the toothpaste, have your dog taste a small amount. Another option for canine tooth brushing is to introduce the brush first. Try using the brush without paste 2x a day for two weeks. Once your dog is comfortable with the brush, add toothpaste.

Do not use human toothpaste. Unlike ourselves, human toothpaste requires someone to spit it out. Unless your dog can spit on command (which would be a neat trick), avoid it.

# Grooming Requirements & Equipment

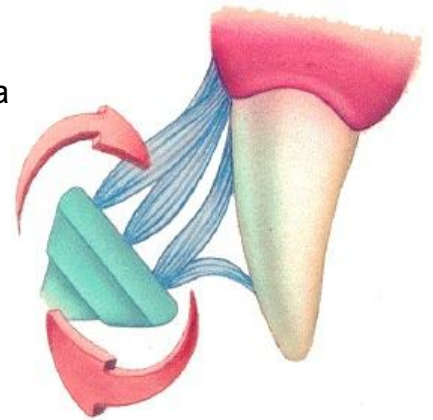
By Rita Riordan

3. **Touch** – The next time, have your dog taste the toothpaste and then run your finger along his upper gums. Give your dog a treat or some loving afterward. Use gauze or a nylon stocking around one finger to get them used to the idea of brushing. Try not to go longer than a minute.
4. **Brush the upper teeth** – Get a soft toothbrush with bristles and use along the gum line instead of your finger. Use circular motions with the brush from back to front along the gum line. Hold the brush at a 45° angle (slightly tilted). You can use a soft human child's brush or one made for dogs. For many dogs a child's toothbrush is still too hard, so stick to one made for dogs. They also sell brushes that fit onto the index finger.

An alternative to a brush is your finger. Wrap a cloth around a finger, put a bit of paste on the end, lift the dog's lips, and rub in a circular motion along the teeth and gums. Focus on the outside of the teeth as your dog's tongue does a pretty good job inside.

Canine tooth brushing should use 10 up and down motions, covering 3 to 4 teeth at a time.

5. **Brush all the teeth** – Always start with the upper since these are more vulnerable to plaque. After the top, go ahead and brush the bottoms. Put the toothpaste between the bristles instead of on top of the bristles. This will allow more of the toothpaste to come in contact with the teeth.



**Tip:** Make your canine tooth brushing routine part of your own. Let your dog see you brush before you brush theirs. They will see it is a normal part of what your dog's best friend (you) does.

## Bleeding Gums after Canine Tooth Brushing

If you see bleeding after canine tooth brushing there may be some periodontal disease. Brushing tightens the gums and bleeding should stop. If it does not, see a veterinarian.

## Homemade Dog Toothpaste

You can make toothpaste at home using one tablespoon baking soda with one teaspoon of water.

## Weekly Grooming Routine:

Typically, claw trimming is something you can do once a week vs. daily. Before you start addressing those claws, it might be a good idea to mix a small amount (1/2 tsp.) of cornstarch with enough water to make a paste. You can also buy Kwik Stop from your

# Grooming Requirements & Equipment

By Rita Riordan

local pet supply store. You can use either of these to stop any bleeding that might happen (oops!)

Your dog's nails should just touch the ground when s/he walks. If the nails are clicking on the floor or getting snagged in the carpet, it's time for a pedicure.

Start at the tip of the nail and snip a little at a time. Look at the cut edge of the nail. When you start to see pale pink tissue near the top of the cut edge (the quick), stop. Be extra careful when cutting dark nails, because the quick is difficult to see. You can use a nail file to smooth the edges further.



If the tip of the nail begins to bleed, apply the cornstarch paste and pressure using a washcloth, paper towel, or gauze pad. Avoid wiping the blood clot off the tip of the nail once the bleeding has stopped. Do not be too concerned if you nick the quick. As the old time breeders used to say “No dog ever died of hemorrhage of the toenail”. It's unpleasant for you and your dog, but not life threatening. Remember to trim the dewclaw nail on the inside of the leg. Since it doesn't touch the ground, it wears down less rapidly than the others and can actually grow into the flesh behind it.

## Bathing:



Do not bathe your dog more than once a week, preferably only once a month so as not to dry out the skin and hair. Set out your shampoos, conditioners, and at least two big fluffy towels. Bathe him/her in a relatively large sink. The kitchen sink is a good choice, as most have a spray faucet and a height which is easier on the back. Do NOT use a human shampoo; the pH balance is all wrong. Buy a high end shampoo (Isle of Dogs is good) at a dog supply shop or on-line. “The Stuff” is a good conditioner, but there are many other dog conditioners that are equally good. Use as directed.



Wet the dog thoroughly. Then from the back of the head down the spine to about the middle of the tail apply a line of shampoo. Rub or massage the shampoo into the coat.



Don't worry if you don't get a lot of suds. You're going to do this twice and you'll get plenty of suds the second time. Leave the shampoo in the coat while you soap up the ears. You may use Dawn dishwashing soap on the ears, but only the ears, to cut the oils and make them fluffy. Wash each ear thoroughly, being careful not to get the soap in the dog's eyes. You will only need to wash the ears once if you really get them clean the first time.

# Grooming Requirements & Equipment

By Rita Riordan

Rinse your dog thoroughly and then repeat the soap step again. Soap up the body coat and feathering really well the second time. Be sure to get the chest, stomach, and “private parts” clean too. Wash the feet and between the toes. Now rinse again, being sure to get absolutely all the soap out of the coat and include a second rinse of the ears. Now apply the coat conditioner as directed. Let it sit on the coat as you give your dog yet another massage. Dogs love the bathing process because of all the massaging! Now rinse out the conditioner. Even if the directions say you can leave it on the coat, don't. If left in the coat, the conditioner will only attract dirt and another bath will be needed sooner.

Before lifting your dog out of the sink, squeeze the ears, tail, body, and legs to get more water off. Now, throw one of those nice thick absorbent towels over the dog, wrap the towel around the dog, and lift the dog out of the sink onto a flat surface. Briskly towel the dog dry - as best you can. If you need two or three towels, that's ok.

If your Cavalier has a rough or wavy coat you may want to try a drying coat. A drying coat is made of a light-weight spandex type of material and keeps the hair flat and in



place while the dog is drying. Put the dog, in his/her drying coat in a wire crate.

Place a towel on the bottom and hang a towel/s over three of the four crate sides. This will allow warm air to escape, but still keep most of the warm air circulating around your dog. Lodge the nozzle of a hair dryer between the wires on the front of the crate (this may take a bit of ingenuity, but it can be done) and turn it on cool but full power.

Now go get yourself a cup of coffee and a good book to read for an hour or so. When you come back your dog should just be slightly damp.

Put your dog back on that flat surface, take off the drying coat, and start combing and blow drying. Do this while the dog is damp and your dog will have a straighter, flatter coat. Your biggest challenge is the ears. All I can say is keep blowing and combing. And when you think you have them dry, take a break and then go back to them, because they probably weren't dry! Good luck and enjoy your nice clean, shiny dog!

# House Training A Rescue Dog

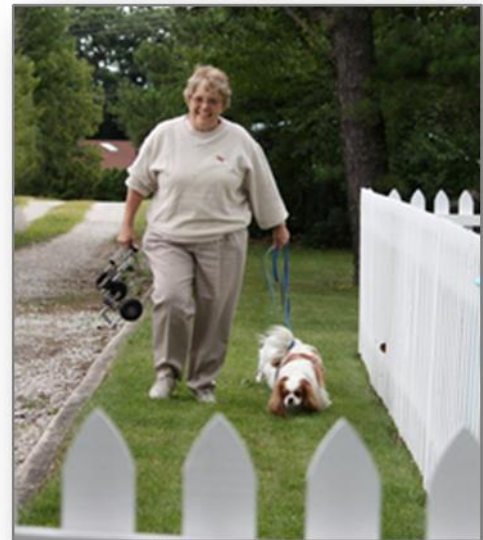
By Bev Gamache

## **Supplies Needed: Leash, Crate, Enzymatic Urine Cleaner, and Paper Towels. Gym shoes are optional.**

Any new dog that you bring into your home may have an accident. Dogs that are house trained in one environment will backslide when placed in a new home. They are in new surroundings that they are unsure of, with people they are not completely familiar with, and daily routines that they have not been exposed to. The key is to not get frustrated with this, as most dogs are quite eager to please.

Upon arrival into your home, immediately take your dog out to the place in your yard where you would like to have your dog relieve itself. Make sure the dog is on leash and that you are with him/her. This serves two purposes. One, you have control over where the dog is in your yard (not peeing in the rose garden). Two, you are sure exactly what business the dog does or does not do. Both these rules may be relaxed later, as both you and your dog know the routine.

If you have the opportunity, put on your gym shoes and take them for a walk. This will relax, exercise, and tire them. A relaxed, tired dog is not as likely to make a mess, and it gives you a chance to bond with your new friend.



If your dog has pooped or peed, make sure that you praise him/her, with excited words and a good petting. Then bring the dog in the house and let it play, but do not give her/him the run of the house. Make sure she/he is within your sight. After an hour or so, place the dog in a properly sized crate and let it rest for another hour. Then again take him/her out on leash and repeat this process throughout the day.

If at any time you take your dog out and it does not pee or poop, return the dog to its crate and try again in another hour.

After four to five days without any accidents, you can expand the time in between taking the dog out, until generally you have her/him going out about four to five times a day.

# House Training A Rescue Dog

By Bev Gamache



By following these steps, you are well aware of when your dog poops and pees and what signals they give off to show that they need to go. Each dog has its own signal or set of signals. The sooner you learn his/her signals, and the dog learns yours, the better it is for both of you.

If your dog does have an accident in the house, do not scream, yell, or rub their nose in it. This will only confuse the dog. If it is in the process of going, get his/her attention, or quickly pick up the dog, and take it immediately outside to the spot you have chosen; if it finishes outside, praise the dog. If she/he does not finish, then place the dog in the crate again for an hour. Then let it outside again. Clean up messes while the dog is outside or after it is in its crate. The most important thing is to get the dog outside quickly!

Remember that dog messes must be completely cleaned. Wipe or pick up the mess with a paper towel. Then saturate the area with an enzymatic cleaner. Remove any excess cleaner with a clean paper towel.

**ALWAYS** take a dog out first thing in the morning and last thing at night.

If all these steps are followed, the training should be relatively quick and easy for both you and your new best friend.

# General Training Tips

By Anne Copeland

Unless the dog you are fostering or adopting is a slightly older, owner turn-in, there is a good chance that the dog does not know the most basic doggy household behavior. You will have the advantage of not having to break old training habits, but you will most likely have the disadvantage of having a dog that has not yet learned how to learn. While the most modern training methods promote positive reinforcement training using treats, toys, and praise, you may be working with a dog that is still too nervous and anxious to play or even eat near you. Positive methods are even more critical with these dogs, as they must learn that responding to you will give them a pleasurable experience. In the very beginning you might even find that the most reinforcing treat for the dog you are training is for you to leave the vicinity or move further away from the dog.

Most people find that teaching the dog to sit on command is about the easiest default behavior to teach the dog, since virtually every dog will sit on its own sometime during the day. All you have to do at first is simply reward the dog each time they do it, even if you haven't said "sit." If the treat, toy, etc., is something the dog craves, they will soon be sitting nearly every time they see you and you can now start saying "sit" as you see them begin to park their bottom.



We won't go into the suggested methods to teach all the other household commands such as down, stay, wait, leave it, but it is beneficial to both the family and the dog to gently begin to teach the dog these things, as they make life much more pleasant and help the dog learn to learn. However, it is very important for the dog to learn a command such as "wait" when you don't want it to move from the general area. This is especially important around open doors that do not lead to fenced areas. A frightened dog suddenly loose in the open is in danger and is not likely to allow strangers (which in the beginning includes you) to approach it. So, any time you don't want a dog to go through a door or walkway or anywhere else, use a "body block", which means put yourself between the dog and the location it is trying to reach. If you can manage to also move into the dog's space while you are blocking him/her, the dog is likely to back up to maintain whatever is a comfortable distance. While blocking, if the dog stops moving, say "Wait" and give a reward!

If your new dog is really frightened of new people or situations, you will have to begin socializing it slowly. Never force a dog to accept something that it fears. If the broom sends the dog running into a crate or behind the furniture, do not keep bringing the

# General Training Tips

By Anne Copeland

feared object closer to it, a technique known as “flooding”. Take that object and put it in sight, but far away from the dog so that it eventually becomes another piece of furniture and less scary. Imagine how you would feel if you feared spiders or snakes and someone wanted to help you overcome your fear by bringing the spider or snake closer and closer to you telling you “See how harmless it is, it won’t hurt you!” I doubt you’d get over your fear very quickly. But if the feared object is where it can be seen, yet not in your fear zone, eventually you will get used to it being around and won’t panic at just the sight of it.



If the dog is fairly accepting of strangers being nearby, you should probably enroll it in a puppy or socialization class with someone who uses positive training. There are several trainers who have volunteered to allow our foster dogs to attend their socialization or puppy classes without charge. If you are interested, contact [www.gccavalierrescue.org](http://www.gccavalierrescue.org).

We don’t recommend using chain/choke collars on our Cavaliers. In fact, it will probably take a little while for your new dog to get used to wearing a plain buckle collar or harness. When it is first put on, the dog will probably scratch at it, rub on the floor trying to get it off, or even just freeze in place, afraid to move. Praise and reward the dog as soon as it stops that kind of behavior and ignores the collar. If at all possible, don’t try putting a leash on the dog and walking it until the dog is used to the collar or harness.



If you are in a position where you must take the dog out on a leash to potty, and if the dog refuses to walk on the leash, carry it to whatever spot you want it to use as a toilet, put it down and try to keep the leash slack so there is no pressure on the neck from the attached collar or harness. Do not try to drag the dog around with the leash; that will only frighten it even more. Most of these dogs have never even seen a collar and leash, let alone worn one. To help the dog get used to the leash, you might want to leave it on in the house and let the dog drag it around while you watch. That way the dog won’t get caught on anything, or hurt or more frightened.

If you have made some progress with your foster or adoptee and want to continue with training, some of the proponents of positive motivation training that you can look up on the internet are:



# General Training Tips

By Anne Copeland

Ian Dunbar

[http://www.siriuspup.com/about\\_founder.html](http://www.siriuspup.com/about_founder.html)

<http://www.dogstardaily.com/>

Victoria Stillwell

<http://animal.discovery.com/convergence/its-me-or-the-dog/bio/bio.html>

Karen Pryor

<http://www.karenpryoracademy.com/>

<http://www.clickertraining.com/>

Susan Clothier (super knowledge of fearful dogs)

<http://www.flyingdogpress.com/>

There are many other good trainers, but those listed above are some of the first to develop and use reward-based methods as opposed to punishment. Their methods are very forgiving of the novice trainer and have stood the test of time. Remember, Cavaliers instinctively want to please, so show them lots of love and patience, and proceed at their pace. The results will reward both of you!

# Socializing the Rescue Dog

By Anne Copeland

When a dog arrives in a rescue organization, most often it is coming from conditions of neglect and often abuse. Occasionally dogs are owner turn-ins and sometimes street strays, but usually the dogs coming in are from puppy mills and back-yard breeders. These dogs have not had the ordinary exposure and socializing that pets get. They are not used to household noises, different ages and sizes of people, various surfaces on which to walk, and most human contact has at best been brief and at worst, abusive.



These dogs must learn that humans can be kind and are the source of all good things in life: food, water, housing, play and love. Remember, these animals did not become fearful or shy in just a couple of weeks and they won't become social beings in just a couple of weeks either. Depending on their earlier experiences, as well as the individual's genetic make-up, some will be forgiving and loving within a few months and others will still be uneasy and skittish two or three years after adoption.

First thing to remember when working with a shy or fearful dog is to give them as much "personal space" as possible. When you can, allow them to approach you and when they do, praise and reward them for it. If you have other pets in the home, the new animal often will follow the established one(s) in approaching people. Try not to make quick moves and keep your voice low, slow, and soothing. Try not to take the newly rescued dog to large, noisy gatherings with lots of new people and dogs. When possible, see if you can arrange home visits with one or two other people and dogs and reward the new rescue when they make any overtures toward the strangers.

If the new rescue seems to be accepting new people and dogs with minimal distress, you might want to consider taking them to a low-key training class. Some groups have puppy socialization classes and Greater Chicago Cavalier Rescue has a list of training locations on file that will allow foster dogs to attend their classes at no charge. Not only does going to a training class help the dog to meet more people in a controlled situation, but it also builds a bond between the handler and the dog and the dog learns to trust that the handler can keep them "safe."

While the GCCR events can be fun for most Cavaliers, for the newly rescued dog, the high level of activity can be overwhelming. Please do not bring a shy or fearful dog to these events and just "dump" them into the fray. While the majority of rescues get along well with other dogs, the number of strange people who probably will be reaching to pet or trying to hold that new rescue can be scary to them and reinforce their fears, setting back your socialization efforts.



If you take exposure to new people, new places, and new situations slowly, calmly, and with lots of support, most of the

# Socializing the Rescue Dog

By Anne Copeland

rescues will be ready to move on to more activities within a couple of months from the time they began their foster life. However, if the dog you are caring for is still shy, fearful, and reluctant to meet strangers even three, four, or six months into their rehabilitation, don't take it as a personal failure. Not all dogs are party animals; some prefer the quiet home life with minimum change and turmoil. With love and care, almost all of them soon will become loving companions to their new owners as the resilience of the Cavalier spirit is legendary. And lastly, but absolutely not least, the Cavalier has been bred to be a family companion and will suffer greatly if not allowed to be in the home with the family. It is not a breed to be turned out into the yard for hours and hours without human interaction and never, never should be tied outside for hours and hours (nor should any dog.) Some guard dog breeds can fare just fine left to patrol the grounds and watch the flocks; the Cavalier is definitely not one of them.



# Benign Leadership

By Tim Garner

Dogs instinctively are pack animals and their pack is comprised of all the animals in their home – including humans. They prefer an obvious leader or they may step in to fill the void. When a dog is allowed to become the pack leader, behavior problems often appear including: aggression, barking, and not following commands. When humans are viewed by the dog as having a higher rank in the pack, the dog is normally happy, well behaved, and a joy to be around.



To become a pack leader you must understand how dogs decide who is a leader. The leader is usually the biggest and strongest dog. The leader eats first and then allows the others to eat and determines what they eat. The leader gets the best spots and usually sits in a place above the other dogs. The leader is the first to greet or check out newcomers to the pack. In general, the leader is in charge.

Cavaliers are a soft, unaggressive breed and normally will give in easily to the more confident owner. With a Cavalier, treats are great tools to correct a dog's behavior. However, in households where there are children, it is still important to ensure that a Cavalier knows where it is in the pecking order. Small children are less confident and knowledgeable around dogs and need to be taught how to handle dogs. Remember, dogs are a reflection of your leadership and small dogs have a tendency to get away with things larger dogs would not.

Now that you have a basic understanding of what a leader is, let's talk about some common things you can do to be viewed as a pack leader in your house. (Every human in your house needs to be viewed as out-ranking the dog, so teaching children how to act around dogs is very important to having a well behaved dog as well). This is a very brief explanation of being a benign leader. If you need more information than presented here, please do a Google search for Pack Leader or Alpha Dog for hundreds of pages of information about becoming a benign leader.

Below are some of the ways you may want to become a pack leader in your house:

- Have scheduled feedings at set and regular times. Free feeding is a poor practice for a number of reasons, including leadership. If a dog has not eaten all its food in 20 minutes, remove the food.

# Benign Leadership

By Tim Garner

- Encourage the dog to respond to a command before eating. For example, tell the dog to go in its kennel/crate and sit quietly. Others use a Sit and Stay, Leave It, or Wait command as they place the food on the ground and then release the dog to eat.
- If you have multiple dogs, always feed the same dog first, as this is another form of keeping order in the pack.
- Sit down at your table (with your family) and eat before you feed your dog. Humans should eat before the dog(s), as the leader eats first and eats the best food.



- If possible, greet people before you greet your dog(s).
- Children are better off on the furniture with the dog next to them or with the dog on the floor.
- Reward your dog with treats or praise when he/she listens to you; do not keep repeating yourself! Dogs hear much better than we do. He/she heard you. Now is the time to back up your command with action. (See

## General Training Tips)

- Sit down on the couch before your dog does. If a dog runs into a room and jumps on a chair, tell it to get down (or pick it up and place it on the floor), and praise it for doing so. Then you sit down, and invite the dog back up and praise it again. You will be particularly glad you've done this when visitors come!
- If your dog is lying in your way, do not walk around the dog. Either have the dog move, and praise it when it does so, or walk over it. Humans should always have the right of way. This is another one to watch for when dealing with children.

As you can see from the earlier points, routine and habit are important. Remember, there are many ways to be viewed as a leader in your house. Some things you may choose not to do and other things you may want to do. The feeding activities are considered by many to be the most important leadership activity with Cavaliers, as most of them are extremely food motivated.

Here are three points to remember when working with your Cavalier:

1. Don't set your dog up to fail through lack of supervision. Teach your dog; don't punish.

# Benign Leadership

By Tim Garner

2. Be consistent with your rules and expectations.
3. Do not yell at your dog or hit your dog.

Once again, please look up being a pack leader on the internet for more information. You can also watch programs like “It’s Me or the Dog” with Victoria Stillwell. The leadership you provide your dog depends on you!

# Pet First Aid & Poisonous Plants

By Harts Run Veterinary Hospital

## Pet First Aid

- **Abscess, Bite Wound** – Keep clean with hydrogen peroxide. Apply warm compresses. If pus-like discharge persists or if the wound is large, have pet checked by a veterinarian.
- **Allergic Reactions** – Swollen muzzle and eyes – Watch for respiratory problems, vomiting, or collapse – These indicate a severe reaction and pet should be seen by a veterinarian as soon as possible, otherwise call for advice \*See “Itch”
- **Back Injuries** – Arched back, tense abdomen, reluctance to jump or climb steps – Strict cage rest – If persists, or walks with wobbly gait, have checked by a veterinarian.
- **Bloat** – Enlarged abdomen behind rib cage, may be associated with non-productive vomiting or retching – EMERGENCY!!! Call a veterinarian immediately.
- **Constipation** – Make sure anal area is not covered by matted hair or feces. Use a suppository, non-prescription stool softener, Metamucil. Bran or oral Vaseline (1-3 tbsp) – Call veterinarian for advice.
- **Cough** – Over the counter cough medication, i.e. VICKS Formula 44 Plain – 1 teaspoon per 25# dog. If cough persists, see a veterinarian.
- **Diarrhea** – No food, water only for 12 hours, then small amounts of bland diet for 2-3 days with gradual return to normal diet.
- **Dry Skin** – Put corn oil or safflower oil on food 1 to 2 times per week dosage: 1 TBS per 30 lbs.
- **Ears** – Never use Q-tips down in the ears, only on the outer portion of ear! If waxy discharge – clean with baby oil – If puss like discharge use hydrogen peroxide and have checked by a veterinarian – Can also use vinegar and water 50/50, few drops.
- **Eyes** – Call a veterinarian for advice! You can use warm compresses to remove discharge around eyes.
- **Fever** – Not always bad – Normal temperature 101 to 102 – If over 103 see a veterinarian.
- **Foreign Body (Swallowed)** – Call a veterinarian for advice – will often pass through system on its own – if sharp object, toxic object, or if pet is vomiting or in distress – see your veterinarian.
- **Fractures** – Immobilize limb, temporary splint or just keep animal quiet. If bone exposed cover wound with a clean dressing – then see a veterinarian.

# Pet First Aid & Poisonous Plants

By Harts Run Veterinary Hospital

## Pet First Aid – cont.

- **Frostbite** – Grey skin – rapid warning at 85 degrees – bath or warm compresses.
- **Heat Stroke** – Temperature 104, panting, prostrate – Cold bath – ice on head – Alcohol on body – Then see a veterinarian.
- **Itch** – Check for fleas first – Antihistamine may have a tranquilizing effect – i.e. Allerest or Dristan – Cold water baths with 1 cup cornstarch/1 cup baking soda, or Avon Skin So Soft – 1 ½ oz/gal of water.
- **Lacerations** – Call a veterinarian for advice – Use a pressure bandage – May need a tourniquet if artery is involved.
- **Nails** – If bleeding, pack with corn starch, flour, or use a styptic pencil.
- **Nose Bleed** – Get animal to a place where blood will not stain carpet, furniture, etc. – Use ice packs, sedation (Whiskey and sugar water)
- **Pain** – Rest and aspirin if prescribed.
- **Poison** – Call Animal Poison Control Center 888/426-4435. If caustic – NO vomiting, i.e. lye, acid, alkali, kerosene – Feed bulky meal. If directed to induce vomiting – Hydrogen peroxide – 1 Tsp every 15 minutes or syrup of Ipecac – or moist salt.
- **Pyometra** – (Infected uterus) – 4 to 6 weeks after heat – drinks excessively – urinates excessively, listless, usually pus like vaginal discharge – See your veterinarian **ASAP**.
- **Seizures** – Try to calm pet afterwards; NOT during seizure. (Be careful not to get bit! Pet is unaware of what it is doing!) Use whiskey and sugar water – Make sure animal doesn't injure itself or you – Time the durations and record events before, during and after episode – If one after another after another, or if actual seizure lasts longer than 5 minutes, CALL your veterinarian.
- **Sprains/Strains** – Cold compresses for 24 hours – then warm soaks for 3 to 4 days – For dogs you can use Ascriptin – If lameness persists, SEE your veterinarian.
- **Trauma** – Call veterinarian **ASAP!** – Check for shock – pale gums or conjunctiva – rapid shallow breathing – EMERGENCY!!!
- **Vomiting** – Remove food and water for 12 hours – Then clear liquids for 24 hours such as water, Gatorade, chicken broth, etc. in small amounts at a time only! Pepto Bismol or Kaopectate – May give ice cubes or popsicles.



# Pet First Aid & Poisonous Plants

By Harts Run Veterinary Hospital

## Dosages and Special Diets

### Antihistamine

Small dog	children's dose
Medium dog	½ adult dose
Large dog	adult dose

### Ascriptin (Aspirin coated with Maalox)

Large dog	2 tabs
Medium dog	1 tab - Up to 3 times per day
Small dog	½ tab

Dogs only – **Do NOT give to CATS!!!**

### Bland Diet

Cooked Rice (1part meat to 3 parts rice)  
Boiled chicken or lean ground beef  
Cottage cheese or plain live cultured yogurt mixed in.

### Ipecac (To induce vomiting)

Dog less than 15 lbs	½ to 1 ml per pound
Dog more than 15 lbs	1 TBS

Give every 20 minutes and follow up with water until dog vomits

### Kaopoectate – for cats and dogs

 Every 3 to 4 hours

Large pet	3 TBS
Medium pet	2 TBS
Small pet	1 TBS

### Pepto Bismol – not for cats!

 Every 3 to 4 hours

Large pet	3 Tsp (1 TBS)
Medium pet	2 Tsp -
Small pet	1 TBS

### Whiskey and Sugar Water – large pet (Sedative)

Whiskey	1 oz. (2 TBS)
Water	1 cup
Sugar	2 to 4 TBS

**Cut in half for smaller pet**

# Pet First Aid & Poisonous Plants

By Harts Run Veterinary Hospital

## Poisonous Plants

- I Mild Reaction
- II Moderate to Severe Reaction (not likely to be life threatening)
- III Severe Reaction (possibly life threatening)
- IV Contact Animal Poison Control Center 1-888-426-4435

- |   |                   |    |                            |
|---|-------------------|----|----------------------------|
| 1 | Oral Irritant     | 6  | RBC Toxic (Red Blood Cell) |
| 2 | Cardiac (Heart)   | 7  | Neurologic                 |
| 3 | Gastrointestinal  | 8  | Contact Irritant           |
| 4 | Renal (Kidney)    | 9  | Cardiac Glycosides         |
| 5 | Decreased calcium | 10 | Liver                      |
|   |                   | 11 | Miscellaneous              |

(The following lists are not exhaustive, but most plants found in the Midwest are included.)

### I Mild Reaction

- |  |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| Acacia                                   | Hyacinth, 8            |
| Arrowgrass, 3                            | Indian Laurel, 8       |
| Asparagus Fern, 8                        | Indian Rubber Plant, 8 |
| Birds Eye Primrose, 1, 3, 8              | Kidney Bean Tree, 3    |
| Bleeding Heart, 8                        | Lords & Ladies, 1, 8   |
| Bullnettle, 1, 8                         | Lovage, 3              |
| Calla Lilly, 1                           | Love Apple, 3          |
| Century Plant, 1, 8                      | Marigold, 8            |
| Chrysanthemum, 8                         | Marguerite, 8          |
| Cockleburr, 8                            | Miniature Croton, 3    |
| Croton, 3                                | Mock Orange, 3         |
| Crown of Thorns, 3, 8 (mild to moderate) | Naked Lady, 3          |
| Cuban Laurel, 8                          | Nettles, 8             |
| Dicentra, 8                              | Nettle Spurge, 1, 3    |
| Emerald Feather, 8                       | Pencil Cactus, 8       |
| Emerald Fern, 8                          | Plumosa Fern, 8        |
| Eucalyptus, 8                            | Poison Ivy, 8          |
| Evergreen, 3                             | Poison Oak, 8          |
| Fiddle Leaf Fig, 3, 8                    | Poison Sumac, 8        |
| German Primrose, 1, 8                    | Pothos, 8              |
| Giant Hogweed, 8                         | Primrose, 3, 8         |
| Greasewood, 8                            | Tansy Mustard, 8       |
| Hedge Plant, 3                           | Trumpet Creeper, 8     |
| Hops, 8                                  | Weeping Fig, 3, 8      |

# Pet First Aid & Poisonous Plants

By Harts Run Veterinary Hospital

## II Moderate to Severe Reaction (Not likely to be life threatening)

Alocasia, 1  
Aloe, 3  
Amaryllis, 3  
American Bittersweet, 3, 7  
Apple Leaf Croton, 3  
Baneberry, 1, 3, 4  
Belladonna  
Bird of Paradise, 3  
Branching Ivy, 3  
Buddist Pine, 3  
Burning Bush, 3, 7  
Caladium  
Charming Dieffenbachia, 1  
Christmas Rose, 3  
Cordatum, 1  
Corn Plant (aka cornstalk plant), 2, 3  
Crocus Autumn, 3, 4  
Cutleaf Philadendron (ceriman), 1  
DatfodU (bulb), 3  
Daphne, 3  
Datura, 2, 7  
Deadly Nightshade, 3, 7  
Death Camas, 1, 3, 7  
Devil's Ivy, 1, 3  
Dieffenbachia, 1  
Dracaena Palm, 2, 3  
Dragon Tree, 2, 3  
Dumb Cane, 1  
Elaine, 3  
Elderberry, 3  
Elephant Ears, 1  
English Ivy, 1, 3  
Euonymus, 3  
European Bittersweet, 3, 7  
European Spindle Tree, 3, 7  
Fiddle Leaf Philodendron, 1  
Florida Beauty, 2, 3  
Fruit Salad Plant, 1  
Giant Dumb Cane, 1  
Glacier Ivy, 3  
Gold Chain, 3  
Gold Dieffenbachia, 1  
Gold Dust Dracaena, 2, 3  
Golden Pothos, 1  
Green Gold Nephtysis, 1  
Hahn's Self Branching Ivy, 3  
Heartleaf Philodendron, 1  
Hemlock, Poison, 1, 3  
Henbane, 7  
Holly, 3  
Horse Chestnut, 3  
Horsehead Philodendron, 1  
Hurricane Plant, 1  
Iris (bulb), 3  
Ivy, 1, 3  
Jack in the Pulpit, 1  
Janet Craig Dracaena, 2, 3  
Jerusalem Cherry, 3, 7  
Jimson Weed, 2, 7  
Jonquil, 3  
Kalanchoe, 3  
Lacy Tree Philodendron, 1  
Lantan, 2, 3  
Madagascar Dragon Tree, 3  
Monchineel, 1, 3, 8  
Mexican Breadfruit, 1  
Monkshood, 2, 3  
Morning Glory, 3, 7  
Mother-In-Law Tongue, 1  
Narcissus, 3  
Needlepoint Ivy, 1, 3  
Nephtytis, 1  
Nightshade, 3, 7  
Nipple Fruit, 2, 3, 7  
Peyote, 2, 3  
Philodendron, 1  
Philodendron Pertusum, 1  
Poinciana, 3  
Pokeweed, 3  
Poinsettia, 3  
Poison Hemlock, 1, 3  
Potato, 3  
Prinet, 3  
Privel, common, 3  
Psilybin Mushrooms, 7  
Red Emerald, 1  
Red-Margined Dracaena, 1  
Red Princess, 1  
Rhododendron, 3  
Ribbon Plant, 2, 3  
Saddle Leaf Philodendron, 1  
Satin Pothos, 1  
Schefflera, 1  
Silver Pothos, 1  
Skunk Cabbage, 1  
Snow of the Mountains, 3  
Snowdrops, 3  
Spotted Dumb Cane, 1  
Star Potato Vine, 3  
Striped Dracaena, 2, 3  
Sweetheart Ivy, 3  
Swiss Cheese Plant, 1  
Taro Vine, 1, 8  
Tomato Plant, 3, 7  
Tree Philodendron, 1  
Tropic Snow Dieffenbachia, 1  
Trumpet Vine, 2, 7  
Tulip (bulb), 3  
Variable Dieffenbachia, 1  
Variegated Philodendron, 1  
Virginia Creeper, 1  
Walnut, 3  
Wameckel Dracaena, 1  
Wild Call Wisteria, 3  
Wisteria, 3  
Wolfsbane, 2, 3, 7

# Pet First Aid & Poisonous Plants

By Harts Run Veterinary Hospital

## III Severe Reaction (Possibly life threatening)

Almond, (kernel in the pit), 2, 3, 7  
Angel's Trumpet, 2, 7  
Apple Leaf Croton, 3  
Apple Seeds, 2, 3, 7, 9  
Apricot (pits), 2, 3, 7, 9  
Autumn Crocus, 1, 3, 4  
Avocado (fruit pit), 3  
Azalea, 2, 3, 7  
Beet Tops, 4, 5  
Black Locust, 3, 4, 6  
Blue-Green Algae, 2, 3, 7, 9  
Buckeye, 3  
Buckthorn, 7  
Buttercup, 1, 3, 4  
Castor Bean, 2, 3, 4, 6  
Cherry (Ground), 3, 7, 9  
Cherry (Laurel) 3, 7, 9  
Cheny (Wild) 3, 7, 9  
Chinaberry Tree 2, 3, 7  
Chlorophytom  
Cineraria, 10  
Clematis, 1, 4  
Coriaria, 7  
Cycads, 2, 3, 6  
Cyclamen, 3  
Day Lily, 4  
Dock, 4, 5  
Easter Lily (in cats), 4  
Foxglove, 2  
Garlic, 6  
German Ivy, 10  
Glory Lily, 4  
Heliotrope  
Hellebore, 2, 3  
Hemlock (water), 7  
Hydrangea, 3, 7, 9  
Indian Tobacco, 3, 7  
Japanese Show Lily (in cats), 4  
Japanese Yew, 2  
Jequirity Bean, 3  
Jessamine, 7  
Laurel, 1, 2, 3, 7  
Lily, 4  
Lily of the Valley, 2  
Lobelia, 3, 7  
Lupine, 7  
Macadamia Nut,  
Marble Queen, 3, 7  
Marijuana, 3, 7  
Mauna Loa Peace Lily (aka Peace Lily), 4  
Mescal, 2, 3, 7  
Mistletoe, 2, 7  
Moonseed, 7  
Mushrooms:  
    Amanita Phalloides, 3, 7  
    Gyromitra, 4, 6, 7, 10  
    Coprinus, 2  
    Inocybe, 2, 3  
    Clitocybe, 2, 3  
Oleander, 2  
Onion, 3, 6  
Oriental Lily (in cats), 4  
Palma Christi, 2, 3, 7  
Peace Lily, 4  
Peach (pits), 3, 9  
Precatory Bean, 3  
Rhubarb, 4, 5  
Rosary Pea, 3, 4, 6  
Sago Palm, 3, 7  
Sloe, 3, 9  
Sorel, 4, 5  
Star of Bethlehem, 2, 3  
Stargazer Lily (in cats), 4  
Tiger Lily (in cats), 4  
Tobacco, 2, 3, 7  
Water Hemlock, 3, 7  
Yews, 2  
Yucca, 9

# **Pet First Aid & Poisonous Plants**

By Harts Run Veterinary Hospital

**IV Contact your local veterinarian or the ASPCA Animal Poison Control  
1-888-426-4435\***

\* A \$65 consultation fee may apply.

Asian Lily  
Australian Nut  
Baby's Breath  
Chinese Evergreens  
Dianthus  
Flamingo Plant  
Geranium  
Gladiolas  
Heavenly Bamboo  
Lace Fern  
Orange Day Lily  
Queensland Nut  
Red Lily  
Rubber Plant  
Rub ram Lily  
String of Pearls  
Wood Lily  
Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow

**Please contact your local veterinarian or the ASPCA  
Animal Poison Control Center at  
1-888-426-4435 with any questions\*.**