



HART DOG ADOPTION PACKET

HART RESCUE

DOG ADOPTION PACKET

Thank You!



HART - Hoopeston Animal Rescue Team
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From HART Team,

Congratulations on your approval of adopting a rescue dog! In this packet, we have compiled information regarding your pet health, safety and overall well being. Take the necessary time to learn about the various ways you can take care of your dog – especially if this is you are a first time adopter! We wish you a long life with your new furry friend!

When you come to pick up your new pet, please bring with you a leash, collar and identification tag that has your full address and your phone number.

HART is always here to help! Our volunteers are a phone call **(217) 283-0779** or email **hartshelterteam@gmail.com** away for whatever your needs are. You can also reach us on Facebook Page **[Hoopeston Animal Rescue Team](#)** and send us a private message. We try to respond as soon as we can.

HART team members appreciate feedback and updated photos of your pet at his new home! We thrive on updates – updates on our pets in their new homes is what keeps us going to save the next animal in need. If you have a good experience adopting from HART please share your story and give a rating on our Facebook page. Also, please invite your friends to “LIKE” our page to help more pets find their forever homes too!

If for any reason the new adoption doesn't work out the pet must come back to HART shelter – no questions asked!

REMEMBER, the first weeks with your new pet are the toughest on both of you. Your new dog will be confused about where he is and what to expect from you. We hope that the information in this packet will help you ease into the transition for you and your new best friend!

Checklist for New Adopters

Before you bring your dog home

Congratulations on adopting a pet! You are embarking on a wonderful and rewarding relationship. Because adopting a new pet comes with a lot of change for both pet and pet parent, we've compiled a checklist to help make the transition as smooth as possible.



Shopping Checklist:

It may be a good idea to wait until you select your new pet before you begin shopping for supplies. For example, some items, such as food and water bowls or collars and harnesses, depend upon the size of the pet you will be adopting.

Also, be sure to start out with the food that we at the shelter feed the dog so that you can provide the same in the beginning, again to ease the transition. After the pet has settled in, talk with your veterinarian about switching to the food of your choice. We always recommend using grain-free dry dog food, right now we feed our dogs Pedigree Dog Chow mixed with other donated dry foods. In this packet, we offer recommendations for healthy food choices for your dog in the following page.

Once you've selected your pet, here's a checklist of supplies you may need:

Necessary Items for Dogs:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food and water preferably glass bowls and Food (canned and/or dry) | <input type="checkbox"/> Super-absorbent paper towels |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Collar | <input type="checkbox"/> Sponge and scrub brush |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Four to six-foot leash (more on leash safety in this packet) | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-toxic cleanser |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ID tag with your phone number | <input type="checkbox"/> Enzymatic odor neutralizer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hard plastic carrier or foldable metal crate | <input type="checkbox"/> Plastic poop baggies (biodegradable ones are best) or pooper scooper |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dog bed | <input type="checkbox"/> Absorbent house-training pads |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Doggy shampoo and conditioner | <input type="checkbox"/> Variety of toys (a ball, rope, chew toy and puzzle toy are good starts) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nail clippers | <input type="checkbox"/> Variety of healthy treats (more on treat choices in this packet) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Canine toothbrush and toothpaste | <input type="checkbox"/> First-aid supplies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brush or comb (depends on your pet's coat length and type) | <input type="checkbox"/> Baby gate(s) |

When you plan your visit to the shelter to pick up your new dog, you will need to bring: Collar; Leash; Your Identification; Adoption fee is either in cash or check or you can make the donation online via hartshelter.org (PayPal, Debit, or Credit Card work).

CARING FOR YOUR NEW DOG

Essential Supplies:

Leash & Collar - A breakaway collar is a good choice for everyday wear. They are designed to unsnap easily if the collar gets caught on something so your dog doesn't get choked. For walks, a buckle collar or harness is a better choice because they are designed *not* to unsnap easily so your dog doesn't run off.



Food - Changing a dog's food abruptly can cause diarrhea, sometimes for several weeks. To avoid this, continue feeding the same food provided by the shelter or mix the old with the new to gradually adjust your dog to a new diet.

Food & Water Dishes - Pick a spot and leave them in the same place so your dog knows exactly where to go for water. Make sure the water bowl is clean and has fresh water at all times.

Crate - Crates make the adjustment period less stressful for you and your new fur-baby. The crate should be big enough for your dog to stand up, turn completely around and lie down comfortably in. However, if the crate is too big your dog may have accidents in it, so pay attention to crate dimensions and the dog weight/height it is recommended for.

Toys - Safe toys help dogs ease stress and, of course, have fun! Having toys available will ease the adjustment period. Always supervise your dog when playing with toys. You can leave him alone with heavy duty toys like Kongs, but check for damage periodically to avoid choking hazards.

Dog Proofing: Make sure your home is a safe place for him by putting yourself in his paws. Crawl around on the floor and check out any potential dangers. Electrical cords, poisonous houseplants, and any item small enough to swallow are just a few of the things that should be out of his reach. Veterinarians perform more surgeries to remove strange objects that a dog has swallowed than for anything else.

Meeting the Children: Your kids probably can't wait to play with him and show him just how much they love him. Prepare your children ahead of time so that they understand the boundaries.

- When the new dog does come home, keep him on leash and have your children sit down to say hello.
- Always supervise children with dogs, no matter how small the dog.
- Teach your children not to pinch, pull, or squeeze the dog.
- If your dog is nervous, ask the children to give him a break until he gets comfortable with them.
- Don't let children feed your new dog until he is settled in.
- Don't let your children take the dog's toys, and don't let your dog take the children's toys.



- Don't let children walk the dog without adult supervision.
- Set up a "safe" place for your new pet that is off limits to children. A crate is great for this. Instruct the children not to try and play with him when he is in his safe place.

Meeting the Other Pet(s): Hopefully, the pets you already have are just as excited about the new addition as you are. Here are some tips to help make sure of it.

- When the new dog does come home, introduce all pets with the new dog in a crate for safety. Wait until all pets are calm and relaxed, even if that takes several hours, before introducing each pet on leash. Watch for signs that either pet is stressed, and separate if necessary. Do not try to push them to be friends too fast. Slower is better!
- Don't change the routine for the resident pet.
- Crate the new dog periodically to give your resident pet a break, especially if he seems stressed or annoyed with the new dog. Your new dog may spend a lot of time crated in the first week or two, but a slow introduction is better in the long run for everyone.
- Spend time individually with the new dog and the resident pet.
- Supervise playing with toys to prevent spats. Providing one more toy than there are dogs is a good practice. This way, if one dog gets tired of a toy, there is an option other than stealing from the other dog. Wait a couple of weeks before giving them something of high value such as a stuffed bone.
- Enforce the rules right away with the new dog. Dogs thrive on rules and consistency. It can make them anxious if another pet breaks the rules.
- Even if the resident pet is not a dog, many of the same tips apply. Supervise all interactions. Observe all pets for signs of stress and separate them to give them a break. Cats should always have a quick escape route!

Training & Behavior:

- Just like children, dogs need to be taught good behavior. Whether you're bringing home a puppy or an adult, you can expect that he will do some things that you don't approve of and maybe have some bad habits. Your dog will need to be taught how you want him to behave. The easiest and most fun way to teach your dog is to take him to "school" (training classes). You both get to meet other people and dogs. You get the benefit of expert knowledge and immediate feedback. Your dog gets socialization. Both of you may even make a new friend there.
- You can also work on teaching your dog yourself. There are lots of resources available, but it can be difficult to determine which information is bad and which is good. If your dog has habits you'd like to break, don't give up on him. Teach him instead! Consistency and persistency are key. Be consistent with your verbal cues and hand motions - "sit" and "sit down" sound very different to a dog. One word commands combined with a hand signal are best! Be persistent with your training and set aside time to practice every day until (and even after) your dog reliably responds to your commands.
- Training also makes dogs happy. Studies on the brain show that animals like to have their brains challenged. The mental exercise can be just as rewarding (and exhausting) to your dog as physical exercise. As long as you use positive methods to teach your dog, he will LOVE learning. Training also helps your dog understand that they are supposed to take direction from you.

Tips for the First 30 Days of Dog Adoption

The first few days in your home are special and critical for a pet. Your new dog will be confused about where he is and what to expect from you. Setting up some clear structure with your family for your dog will be paramount in making as smooth a transition as possible.

Before You Bring Your Dog Home:

- Determine where your dog will be spending most of his time. Because he will be under a lot of stress with the change of environment (from shelter or foster home to your house), he may forget any housebreaking (if any) he's learned. Often a kitchen will work best for easy clean-up.
- If you plan on crate training your dog, be sure to have a crate set-up and ready to go for when you bring your new dog home.
- Dog-proof the area where your pooch will spend most of his time during the first few months. This may mean taping loose electrical cords to baseboards; storing household chemicals on high shelves; removing plants, rugs, and breakables; setting up the crate, and installing baby gates.



First Day

- We know moving is stressful — and your new dog feels the same way! Give him time to acclimate to your home and family before introducing him to strangers. Make sure children know how to approach the dog without overwhelming him.
- Once home, take him to his toileting area immediately and spend a good amount of time with him so he will get used to the area and relieve himself. Even if your dog does relieve himself during this time, be prepared for accidents. Coming into a new home with new people, new smells and new sounds can throw even the most housebroken dog off-track, so be ready just in case.
- For the first few days, remain calm and quiet around your dog, limiting too much excitement (such as the dog park or neighborhood children). Not only will this allow your dog to settle in easier, it will give you more one-on-one time to get to know him and his likes/dislikes.

Following Weeks

- People often say they don't see their dog's true personality until several weeks after adoption. Your dog may be a bit uneasy at first as he gets to know you. Be patient and understanding while also keeping to the schedule you intend to maintain for feeding, walks, etc. his schedule will show your dog what is expected of him as well as what he can expect from you.

- After discussing it with your veterinarian to ensure your dog has all the necessary vaccines, you may wish to take your dog to group training classes or the dog park. Pay close attention to your dog's body language to be sure he's having a good time — and is not fearful or a dog park bully.
- To have a long and happy life together with your dog, stick to the original schedule you created, ensuring your dog always has the food, potty time and attention he needs. You'll be bonded in no time!
- If you encounter behavior issues you are unfamiliar with, ask your veterinarian for a trainer recommendation. Select a trainer who uses positive-reinforcement techniques to help you and your dog overcome these behavior obstacles.



Congratulations! If you follow these tips, you'll be on your way to having a well-adjusted canine family member.



Source: <https://www.petfinder.com/dogs/bringing-a-dog-home/tips-for-first-30-days-dog/>

Learn about Healthy choices for your pets

The brand you feed is the most important decision you can make as a pet parent. Because your pets eat the same food every day, it's the primary source of nutrition. According to most recent [research](https://www.petful.com/brands/lifes-abundance/) (<https://www.petful.com/brands/lifes-abundance/>), Life's Abundance has never been recalled.



Life's Abundance...Enriching Life One Product at a Time®

Health is more than just eating right and exercising – it's about cultivating the right attitude and making a commitment to feel better... to be better. At Life's Abundance, we understand commitment. We're pledged to providing the best possible products for our customers, to help them live longer, healthier and happier lives. We provide an array of superior quality, safe and effective products that are inspired by nature, informed by science and born of a commitment to improving the health of people, pets and the planet. Welcome to Life's Abundance... we're paving new roads to wellness, every day.

Learn more and shop for your pet at

<https://www.lifesabundance.com/Home.aspx?realname=40056643&cat=0&hdr=&Ath=False>



Wise Choices on Treats

Not surprisingly, the same brands of jerky pet treats that are suspected of causing illness and death in thousands of pets – brands finally pulled from the market a year ago – are headed back to store shelves.

Recommendations for avoiding toxic pet treats include buying only treats with ingredients that have been sourced in the U.S., offering fresh human foods as treats, and preparing treats at home for your pet.



Potentially Tainted Treats Are Back on Store

Shelves. Nestle put their still-made-in-China Waggin' Train treats back on store shelves, and Del Monte will return their treats to the market this month. For the record, Del Monte says its Milo's Kitchen Chicken Jerky Strips and Chicken Grillers Recipe treats are made from "U.S.-sourced meat," and Nestle has announced that in addition to their China-supplied treats, they will also introduce "new products sourced entirely in the U.S."

Important note: "Made in the USA" may or may not mean all ingredients in the product were made in the USA. As long as the product was assembled here, regardless of where the ingredients come from, manufacturers can stamp "Made in the USA" on the package.

Recommendations for Avoiding Toxic Pet Treats. There's no shortage of commercial pet treats on the market today. They come in every conceivable shape, size, smell, flavor, color and texture. The challenge is finding safe, high-quality, species-appropriate treats in a sea of products claiming to be "all-natural" and "made in the U.S.A." The following recommendations will help point you in the direction of selecting safe, wholesome treats for your furry family member.

Tip #1: Don't Overfeed Treats to Your Pet. Dog or cat treats – even very healthy ones – should not constitute more than 15 percent of your pet's daily food intake, and preferably less than 10 percent. And it's best to limit them to training and behavior rewards, as a bedtime ritual, or as a "time to get in your crate" enticement - things of that nature. Treats should be offered primarily as rewards during house training, obedience training or other similar activities, and not because the rest of the family is sitting down with a bowl of popcorn to watch a movie. Also keep in mind that cat and dog treats are not a complete form of nutrition for your pet, and should never be substituted for balanced, species-appropriate meals. Overfeeding treats on top of daily food intake will result in an obese pet. Overfeeding treats while underfeeding balanced meals will result in a dog or cat with nutritional deficiencies.

Tip #2: Treats Should Be Sourced in the U.S. and Made in the U.S. Legally, pet food manufacturers can make the "made in the U.S.A." claim as long as the product was assembled in this country – even if the ingredients are imported. So when you're shopping for safe treats, it's not enough that a product claims to be made in the U.S. You want to be sure all the ingredients



originated here as well.

The U.S. certainly produces its own share of tainted products, but as a general rule, the contaminating agent is quickly identified and these days, immediate action is taken to remove the product from store shelves.

The chicken jerky dog treats and other treats suspected of causing illness and death in so many pets have ingredients imported from China. Despite the efforts of the FDA and independent laboratories to isolate the contaminant, nothing has been identified, and over five years after the first reports of sick and dying pets, the treats are still being produced by major pet food companies and sold by major retailers. **So we would certainly strongly recommend avoiding any product containing ingredients sourced from China.**

That said, there several excellent quality treats from New Zealand and Canada. The important point is to know and trust your treat company's commitment to purity and quality control.

Tip #3: Treats Should Be High-Quality. A high-quality pet treat will not contain grains or unnecessary fillers, rendered animal by products, added sugar (sometimes hidden in ingredients like molasses and honey), chemicals, artificial preservatives, or ingredients known to be highly allergenic to pets. These criteria rule out the vast majority of commercial pet treats on the market.

As is the case with commercially available pet foods, high-quality pet treats aren't likely to be found in big-box stores, large pet store chains, your local supermarket, or your vet's office. Your best bet shopping locally is to visit small, independent pet stores with knowledgeable staff who can answer customer questions and are competent to recommend products that make sense for individual pets. Another option is to shop online, especially if you've done your research and know exactly what you're looking for.

Tip #4: Offer Fresh Human Foods as Treats. Avoid all grain-based treats. Your dog or cat has no biological requirements for the carbs in these treats, and in addition, they are pro-inflammatory.

Consider instead living "human" foods. Berries are a great treat because they're small and loaded with antioxidants. You can also offer small amounts – no more than 1/8 inch square for a cat or small dog and a 1/4 inch square for bigger dogs – of other fruits (melons and apples are good fruits to start with) as well as cheese.

Many cats enjoy bits of zucchini or cantaloupe. You can also try offering some dark, green leafy veggies as treats for your kitty. It might even keep her away from your houseplants!

Excellent training treats for dogs include frozen peas and raw almonds, cashews and Brazil nuts (**but NEVER macadamia nuts**).

Tip #5: Prepare Homemade Treats for your Pet. If your dog happens to be wild for dehydrated chicken strips (chicken jerky), you can make your own quite easily. Just buy some boneless chicken breasts, clean them, and slice into long, thin strips – the thinner the better. Place the strips on a greased or non-stick cookie sheet and bake them for at least three hours at 180 degrees. The low temp dries the chicken out slowly and the strips wind up nice and chewy. Let the strips cool, and then store them in plastic bags or another airtight container. You can also freeze them.

10 Reasons Not to Use a Retractable Leash

1. The length of retractable leashes, some of which can extend up to 26 feet, allows dogs to get far enough away from their humans that a situation can quickly turn dangerous.

2. In a scenario where your pet is approached by an aggressive dog, it is nearly impossible to get control of the situation if the need arises. It's much easier to regain control of – or protect -- a dog at the end of a six-foot standard flat leash than it is if he's 20 or so feet away at the end of what amounts to a thin string.



3. The thin cord of a retractable leash can break – especially when a powerful dog is on the other end of it. If a strong, good-sized dog takes off at full speed, the cord can snap.

4. If a dog walker gets tangled up in the cord of a retractable leash, or grabs it in an attempt to reel in their dog, it can result in burns, cuts, and even amputation. In addition, many people have been pulled right off their feet by a dog that reaches the end of the leash and keeps going. This can result in bruises, "road rash," broken bones, and worse.

5. Dogs have also received terrible injuries as a result of the sudden jerk on their neck that occurs when they run out the leash, including neck wounds, lacerated tracheas, and injuries to the spine.

6. Retractable leashes allow dogs more freedom to pull at the end of them, which can look like aggression to another dog who may decide to "fight back."

7. The handles of retractable leashes are bulky and can be easily pulled out of human hands, resulting in a runaway dog.

8. Along those same lines, many dogs – especially fearful ones – are terrorized by the sound of a dropped retractable leash handle and may take off running, which is dangerous enough. To make matters worse, the object of the poor dog's fear is then "chasing" her, and if the leash is retracting as she runs, the handle is gaining ground on her – she can't escape it.

9. Retractable leashes, like most retractable devices, have a tendency to malfunction over time, either refusing to extend, refusing to retract, or unspooling at will.

10. Retractable leashes are an especially bad idea for dogs that haven't been trained to walk politely on a regular leash. By their very nature, retractables train dogs to pull while on leash, because they learn that pulling extends the lead.

If your dog is well trained, gentle mannered and smart enough to master a regular leash and a retractable leash without being confused, you could be one of the rare guardians that can walk your pooch on any kind of leash without increasing risks to either one of you.

PetSmart Adoption Kit

Your adoption packet includes a PetsMart adoption kit that features what you'll need for your newly adopted pet with a lot of savings. **It includes:**

- A free bag of food from exclusive brands
- A free can of food from exclusive brands
- Over \$475 in coupon savings
- New Pet Checklist

Participating Food Brands:

- Authority
- Good Natured
- Simply Nourish
- Dentley's



Coupons in the packet from PetsMart includes:

- | | |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> FREE bag of your pet's favorite food <input type="checkbox"/> \$5 on any Simply Nourish dry cat food <input type="checkbox"/> \$5 on any Authority dry cat food <input type="checkbox"/> \$5 on any Good Natured dry cat food <input type="checkbox"/> \$2 on any two Whisker City cat bowls <input type="checkbox"/> 1 FREE can of any Simply Nourish cat food <input type="checkbox"/> 1 FREE can of any Authority cat food <input type="checkbox"/> 1 FREE can of any Good Natured cat food <input type="checkbox"/> \$2 on any Simply Nourish cat treats <input type="checkbox"/> \$2 on any Authority cat treats <input type="checkbox"/> 50% on ExquisiCat Grreat Choice cat litter <input type="checkbox"/> \$2 on any Whisker City hooded pan <input type="checkbox"/> \$3 on any Grreat Choice plastic carrier <input type="checkbox"/> 50% on carrier mat w Petmate carrier <input type="checkbox"/> \$3 on any Sentry calming product or cats <input type="checkbox"/> \$1 on any Jackson Galaxy cat toys <input type="checkbox"/> \$2 on any Whisker City cat bed <input type="checkbox"/> \$1 on any Whisker City food storage item <input type="checkbox"/> \$1 on any brush <input type="checkbox"/> \$1 on any shampoo or wipe <input type="checkbox"/> \$1 on any PetSafe Come with me Kitty <input type="checkbox"/> \$1 on any Whisker City collar <input type="checkbox"/> \$5 on any Simply Nourish dry dog food <input type="checkbox"/> \$5 on any Authority dry dog food <input type="checkbox"/> \$5 on any Good Natured dry dog food <input type="checkbox"/> \$2 on any Dentley's chew treats or natural chews | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 1 FREE can of any Simply Nourish dog food <input type="checkbox"/> 1 FREE can of any Authority dog food <input type="checkbox"/> 1 FREE can of any Good Natured dog food <input type="checkbox"/> \$2 on any Simply Nourish dog treats <input type="checkbox"/> \$2 on any Authority dog treats <input type="checkbox"/> \$5 on any Top Paw dog bed <input type="checkbox"/> 50% on any KONG crate mat (with any crate purchase) <input type="checkbox"/> \$4 on any two Top Paw bowls <input type="checkbox"/> \$2 on any Top Paw or Grreat Choice dog toy <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 on any Pawsitively Clean by Bissell carpet-cleaning machine rental <input type="checkbox"/> \$2 on any 50 count dog training pads <input type="checkbox"/> \$1 on any Grreat Choice stain&odor product <input type="checkbox"/> \$2 on any shampoo, spray or wipe <input type="checkbox"/> \$2 on any brush <input type="checkbox"/> \$7 on any Top Paw wire crate <input type="checkbox"/> \$5 on any Top Paw soft-sided carrier <input type="checkbox"/> \$2 on any GNC Pets Vitamin or Supplement <input type="checkbox"/> \$2 on any KONG harness <input type="checkbox"/> \$1 on any Top Paw collar, leash & harness <input type="checkbox"/> \$1 on any Top Paw food storage item <input type="checkbox"/> \$1 on any Tagworks tag <input type="checkbox"/> FREE half hour private training session with PetSmart accredited pet trainer <input type="checkbox"/> FREE Doggie Day Camp session for new campers only <input type="checkbox"/> FREE overnight stay in PetSmart PetsHotel <input type="checkbox"/> 50% on puppy or dog bath or full groom <input type="checkbox"/> 50% on kitten or cat bath or full groom <input type="checkbox"/> FREE exam & consultation at Banfield Pet Hospital |
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\$5 on 6 months of heartworm prevention

Dog's Body Language

Because dogs don't speak our language, the only way to truly comprehend and communicate with them is for us to understand and appreciate what they are telling us through their body and vocal language. Often, gestures or actions that we assume mean one thing are actually the dog telling us the exact opposite, and determining what that wagging tail or exposed tummy really means can sometimes be the difference between a belly rub and a bite. Dogs communicate using a complex language of body signals that reflect what they are thinking and feeling. They use these signals consciously and unconsciously to communicate intent and ensure their personal safety by affecting behavior in others.


ALERT

SUSPICIOUS

ANXIOUS

THREATENED

ANGRY

"PEACE!"
look away/head turn

STRESSED
yawn

STRESSED
nose lick

"PEACE!"
sniff ground

"RESPECT!"
turn & walk away

"NEED SPACE"
whale eye

STALKING

STRESSED
scratching

STRESS RELEASE
shake off

RELAXED
soft ears, blinky eyes

"RESPECT!"
offer his back

FRIENDLY & POLITE
curved body

FRIENDLY

"PRETTY PLEASE"
round puppy face

"I'M YOUR LOVEBUG"
belly-rub pose

"HELLO I LOVE YOU!"
greeting stretch

"I'M FRIENDLY!"
play bow

"READY!"
prey bow

"YOU WILL FEED ME"

CURIOUS
head tilt

HAPPY
(or hot)

OVERJOYED
wiggly

"MMMM...."

**"I LOVE YOU,
DON'T STOP"**

Heartworm in Dogs

What is heartworm disease?

Heartworm disease is a serious and potentially fatal disease in pets in the United States and many other parts of the world. It is caused by foot-long worms (heartworms) that live in the heart, lungs and associated blood vessels of affected pets, causing severe lung disease, heart failure and damage to other organs in the body. Heartworm disease affects dogs, cats and ferrets, but heartworms also live in other mammal species, including wolves, coyotes, foxes, sea lions and—in rare instances—humans. Because wild species such as foxes and coyotes live in proximity to many urban areas, they are considered important carriers of the disease.



The dog is a natural host for heartworms, which means that heartworms that live inside the dog mature into adults, mate and produce offspring. If untreated, their numbers can increase, and dogs have been known to harbor several hundred worms in their bodies. Heartworm disease causes lasting damage to the heart, lungs and arteries, and can affect the dog's health and quality of life long after the parasites are gone. **For this reason, prevention is by far the best option, and treatment—when needed—should be administered as early in the course of the disease as possible.**

What are the signs of heartworm disease in dogs?

In the early stages of the disease, many dogs show few symptoms or no symptoms at all. The longer the infection persists, the more likely symptoms will develop. Active dogs, dogs heavily infected with heartworms, or those with other health problems often show pronounced clinical signs.

Signs of heartworm disease may include a mild persistent cough, reluctance to exercise, fatigue after moderate activity, decreased appetite, and weight loss. As heartworm disease progresses, pets may develop heart failure and the appearance of a swollen belly due to excess fluid in the abdomen. Dogs with large numbers of heartworms can develop a sudden blockages of blood flow within the heart leading to a life-threatening form of cardiovascular collapse. This is called caval syndrome, and is marked by a sudden onset of labored breathing, pale gums, and dark bloody or coffee-colored urine. Without prompt surgical removal of the heartworm blockage, few dogs survive.

When should my dog be tested?

Testing procedures and timing differ somewhat between dogs and cats.

All dogs should be tested **annually** for heartworm infection, and this can usually be done during a routine visit for preventive care. Following are guidelines on testing and timing:

- Puppies under 7 months of age can be started on heartworm prevention without a heartworm test (it takes at least 6 months for a dog to test positive after it has been infected), but should be tested 6 months after your initial visit, tested again 6 months later and yearly after that to ensure they are heartworm-free.
- Adult dogs over 7 months of age and previously not on a preventive need to be tested prior to starting heartworm prevention. They, too, need to be tested 6 months and 12 months later and annually after that.

If there has been a lapse in prevention (one or more late or missed doses), dogs should be tested immediately, then tested again six months later and annually after that.

Annual testing is necessary, even when dogs are on heartworm prevention year-round, to ensure that the prevention program is working. Heartworm medications are highly effective, but dogs can still become infected. If you miss just one dose of a monthly medication—or give it late—it can leave your dog unprotected. Even if you give the medication as recommended, your dog may spit out or vomit a heartworm pill—or rub off a topical medication. Heartworm preventives are highly effective, but not 100 percent effective. If you don't get your dog test, you won't know your dog needs treatment.





Illinois law makes it illegal for pet owners to leave pets in extreme hot or cold conditions.

Source:

<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/fulltext.asp?DocName=&SessionId=88&GA=99&DocTypeId=SB&DocNum=125&GAIID=13&LegID=&SpecSess=&Session=>

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

Section 5. The Humane Care for Animals Act is amended by changing Section 3.01 as follows:

(510 ILCS 70/3.01) (from Ch. 8, par. 703.01)

Sec. 3.01. Cruel treatment. No person or owner may beat, cruelly treat, torment, starve, overwork or otherwise abuse any animal.

No owner may abandon any animal where it may become a public charge or may suffer injury, hunger or exposure.

No owner of a dog or cat that is a companion animal may expose the dog or cat in a manner that places the dog or cat in a life-threatening situation for a prolonged period of time in extreme heat or cold conditions that results in injury to or death of the animal.

A person convicted of violating this Section is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor. A second or subsequent conviction for a violation of this Section is a Class 4 felony. In addition to any other penalty provided by law, upon conviction for violating this Section, the court may order the convicted person to undergo a psychological or psychiatric evaluation and to undergo any treatment at the convicted person's expense that

the court determines to be appropriate after due consideration

of the evidence. If the convicted person is a juvenile or a companion animal hoarder, the court must order the convicted

person to undergo a psychological or psychiatric evaluation and

to undergo treatment that the court determines to be appropriate after due consideration of the evaluation

A cartoon illustration of a white dog with black spots, wearing blue pants and black shoes. The dog is standing on a grey surface, looking up at the large text above it with a concerned expression. Its right paw is raised towards its chest.

TOO HOT FOR SPOT!

AIR TEMPERATURE		ASPHALT TEMPERATURE
77°	—	125°
86°	—	135°
87°	—	143°

 **CRAZYREBELS.COM**

BE AWARE OF HOT ASPHALT BEFORE WALKING YOUR DOG

Data Source: Berens J. Thermal contact burns from streets and highways. Journal of the American Medical Association; 214 (11): 2025-2027.

Winter Weather Tips

for your four-legged friends!

It's a common belief that dogs and cats are resistant than people to cold weather because of their fur, but it's untrue. Like people, cats and dogs are susceptible to frostbite and hypothermia.

1. Keep Pets Inside

Longer-haired and thick-coated dog breeds, such as huskies and other dogs bred for colder climates, are more tolerant of cold weather; but no pet should be left outside for long periods of time in below-freezing weather.

2. Provide Choices

Just like you, pets prefer comfortable sleeping places and may change their location based on their need for more or less warmth. Give them some safe options to allow them to vary their sleeping place to adjust to their needs.

3. Make Some NOISE!

A warm vehicle engine can be an appealing heat source for outdoor and feral cats, but it's deadly. Check underneath your car, bang on the hood, and honk the horn before starting the engine to encourage feline hitchhikers to abandon their roost under the hood.

4. Play Dress Up!

If your dog has a short coat or seems bothered by the cold weather, consider a sweater or dog coat. Have several on hand, so you can use a dry sweater or coat each time your dog goes outside. Wet sweaters or coats can actually make your dog colder. Some pet owners also use booties to protect their dog's feet; if you choose to use them, make sure they fit properly.

5. Provide Shelter

We don't recommend keeping any pet outside for long periods of time, but if you are unable to keep your dog inside during cold weather, provide them with a warm, dry, solid shelter against wind. If you're able to, consider providing shelters for stray cats in the neighborhood.

6. Be Prepared

Cold weather also brings the risks of severe winter weather, blizzards and power outages. Prepare a disaster/emergency kit, and include your pet in your plans. Have enough food, water and medicine (including any prescription medications as well as heartworm and flea/tick preventives) on hand to get through at least 5 days.



More pets get lost on July 4th than any other day of the year.

Source: HomeAgain

Keep your dog safe this Independence Day.
Share these eight tips for enjoying the Fourth of July with your dog.



Be sure your dog is wearing an up-to-date and visible ID tag on her collar at all times.



Take a current photo of your dog, just in case.



Exercise your dog early in the day before parties begin.



During cookouts, ask guests to play with your dog away from the flames.



Keep dog treats on hand for those who want to give your dog food.



Leave your dog at home with a frozen stuffed treat during the fireworks.



If your dog is afraid of loud noises, leave gentle music playing to cover the fireworks.



Keep charcoal, fireworks, sparklers and glow sticks far from curious canines.



Petfinder
SUMMER Pet
Safety

Learn more at www.petfinder.com/SummerPetSafety



HART; Who Are We?

HART (Hoopeston Animal Rescue Team) is a registered 501 c 3 (NFP) Gifts are Tax Deductible **No Kill, Open Admissions**, Volunteer, Animal Rescue. We believe that Every Pet Matters-No Pet Should Suffer. HART provides an open door shelter as a no kill safe environment for lost, unwanted, abused, sick and injured animals. HART ensures that those animals receive love and medically necessary care to enjoy quality of life and to find FURever homes by way of adoption.

HART's Community Projects include but are not limited to:

1. Low cost, wellness, spay neuter programs
2. TNR -Trap Neuter Return for free roaming cats
3. Emergency vet care for resident pets
4. Transportation for resident pets
5. Houses Pets in times of domestic violence, HART even treats those pets for any medical conditions and returns them when it's safe.
6. Free pet food for residents having a difficult time
7. Offers free boarding for outdoor pets during extreme weather, and in emergencies, including when people are rushed unexpectedly to the hospital
8. Dog houses and dog crates are collected and distributed to residents to help keep their pets safe, with encouragement on bringing pets inside
9. Offers pet care education - Teaches classes at DACC and other locations
10. Assistance with wildlife, livestock and other animals
11. Animal rescue missions both local and non local
12. Serves as emergency housing during disasters
13. Serves as animal control to house all area strays
14. HART's team is on call 24/7

HART opened its doors as a shelter and evolved into a rescue team in 2013. Since then HART has made huge strides in the community, concerning animal welfare. HART has helped thousands of stray and owned animals with medical care, housing and finding shelter pets permanent homes. The shelter continues to grow for the good of the community.

HART recently purchased 6 acres of land in Hoopeston to erect a larger shelter facility. HART's goals are to expand to better accommodate the animals and the community it serves.

We rely on volunteers, fundraising and donations for food and to get the medical attention our animals deserve.

For any inquiries please visit our website [at hartshelter.org](http://hartshelter.org); email us at hartshelterteam@gmail.com or give us a call (217) 283-0779.



HART PET WISHLIST

hartshelter.org
217-283-0779
hartshelterteam@gmail.com



*Can you help HART
homeless pets?*

Drop off locations: PetsMart, 2017 N Prospect Ave. Champaign, IL OR HART Shelter, 901 W Main St., Hoopeston, IL

WHAT WE ALWAYS NEED!

Vetoquinol Nutri Cal Paste

Purina Kitten & Cat Chow

Purina Cat Chow Indoor Adult Dry Cat Food

Purina Fancy Feast Seafood/Poultry/Gravy/Classic Pate Wet Cat Food Variety Pack

Purina Friskies Savory Shreds Adult Wet Cat Food Variety Pack

Cat litter **PELLETS ONLY**

Cat toys (balls, teasers, wands, with catnip, scratch posts, etc.)

SMALL Quilted Fleece Pet Bed – **FOR CATS**

Grain free dog and puppy dry food (any brand)

Dog and puppy dry food (any brand)

Dog toys (Kongs Extreme extra extra large AND Large Nylabones)

Lots and lots of original peanut butter (no sugar free, no artificial sweetener no palm oil)