

## Holiday Hints

The holiday season should be a joyous one for people and pets, keep some of these tips in mind as you celebrate with family and friends!



### HALLOWEEN

- Candy can make pets sick, so be sure to keep all sweets out of reach of pets. Sugarless candy containing the sweetener xylitol can cause liver damage and even death.
- Costumes can be fun for people and our pets, but some dogs will be frightened of family members in spooky costumes. Be cautious as you approach, if your dog appears to not recognize you or other familiar faces back away. Call your dog to you so that he or she can recognize your voice
- If you do put your pooch in a costume, make sure your dog can move around in it comfortably. Any small or loose parts that can be ingested should be removed.
- If you are expecting a lot of trick-or-treaters or hosting a party at your home, your dog will probably be happier away from all the guests. Let your pooch hang out in a bedroom with a special treat or toy, turn on the television or the radio softly and close the door to make sure your dog remains undisturbed.

### CHRISTMAS

- If you have a real Christmas tree, be sure to keep your pet out of the water in the tree stand. The tree sap in the water can be toxic to your pet.
- Christmas decorations and lights are fun to look at, but all the electric cords can be dangerous to your curious pet. Make sure to keep cords protected from sharp puppy teeth.
- Ornaments on the tree and presents placed below look like exciting new chew toys. Make sure to hang "special" and breakable ornaments high up on the tree to avoid any accidents.
- Tinsel and flocking are also harmful to pets if ingested.



PawPrints is a Pooch Park Publication and produced by the Pooch Park Advisory Committee:

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It's important to read the instructions that come along with the car seat or restraint system — just as you would for a child's seat — to ensure it is properly attached. When using the item for the first time, take it for a "test drive," to make sure it is nice and secure, and won't move around.

And please... NEVER leave your dog alone in the car on a warm day. It only takes a few minutes for a pet left in a vehicle on a warm day to succumb to heatstroke and suffocation. On a 78 degree day, temperatures in a car parked in the shade can exceed 90 degrees and hit a scorching 160 degrees if parked in the sun! Rolling down a window or parking in the shade doesn't guarantee protection either, since temperatures can still climb into the danger zone.

Until next time, stay safe and keep those paws movin'!

## PawPrints CALENDAR

### FIRST POOCH WALK

**Date:** Saturday, October 11, 2008; 9:30 am to noon  
Laguna Lake Park. For details visit  
[www.FullertonPoochPark.org](http://www.FullertonPoochPark.org)

### DOGGIE & ME TRAIL HIKES

This canine-friendly class will introduce you to the best dog hikes of Fullerton. All participants and dogs must be able to walk about 2 miles. Limited to the first 8 pairs (min 6 pairs). Additional restrictions apply. For details or to register, call the Parks & Recreation Department at 714-738-6575 or visit [www.FullertonEconnect.com](http://www.FullertonEconnect.com)

**Date:** Mondays, 8:45 am to 10 am (4 week series)  
11-17-2008 through 12-08-2008  
Cost: Resident: \$21; Non-resident: \$27

# PawPrints

The Official Newsletter of Fullerton Pooch Park

Vol. 1 Spring 2008

## Ready, Set... WALK!



## 1st Pooch Walk

October 11, 2008  
Laguna Lake Park, Fullerton



Registration forms are available at the entrance gates of Pooch Park or available for download at [www.FullertonPoochPark.org](http://www.FullertonPoochPark.org)



Get off the couch and join us outdoors for the 1st Pooch Walk! Bring the whole family for some fresh air, great exercise and outdoor fun.

Established in 1952, Laguna Lake Park is 28.5 acres and guaranteed to please park visitors whether they are nature lovers, hikers, joggers, equestrians, bicyclists or fishermen. Park guests can picnic in the park area just below the dam, stroll around the lake on hard pack dirt trails, or depending on the time year, cast a line for rainbow trout, catfish, bass or bluegill.

The 1st Pooch Walk will take place Saturday, October 11th, 2008 at Laguna Lake Park. Registration is required. Forms are available at the entrance gates of Pooch Park, in the Hunt Branch Library, or available for download at [www.poochpark.org](http://www.poochpark.org). Registration is \$10 per person with up to two dogs or \$15 for a couple or family with up to four dogs- see registration form for complete details.

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[www.FullertonPoochPark.org](http://www.FullertonPoochPark.org)



## Meet A Pooch Park Regular...



Meet Jones and his owner Mary. Jones is a two year old "royal" standard poodle who loves to play with all the dogs at Pooch Park every day around 6 pm.

"He loves to play with the kids at the park and he fully believes his function in life is to be wherever I am," Says Mary. "He loves going "to work".

## Dear Cindy...

**Q:** *I know regular exercise is essential for my dog's health and well being. We are regular visitors to Pooch Park and spend at least an hour there three or four times a week. I think that's plenty of exercise but my friend says it not enough. She says I should take them for walks on the leash every morning. Who's right?"*

**A:** *Exercise is such an individual thing. Age, breed, temperament are all important factors. Young adolescent dogs, especially from working breeds, may need frequent ball play throughout the day in addition to walks. Other dogs, who may be older or who have health issues such as dysplasia or arthritis, will only need little or moderate exercise.*

*What's enough exercise for one dog may be too much for the next. Get to know your dog. As a general rule, if your dog does not readily settle down at home he probably needs more exercise. If he is "acting up" and driving you crazy - he needs more exercise. Let your dog be your guide. Dog parks are an instrumental way to let dogs play, but it may not be enough for some. In addition to exercise, regular walks also provide crucial training and bonding time.*

*Each dog is different and therefore their exercise needs will vary. What is enough for your dog, may not be enough for your friend's dog. No matter how much you exercise your dog always remember to watch if they've had too much. Dogs can overheat easily. So keep exercise to cool hours and always make sure they have access to fresh, clean water. Remember - a tired dog equals a happy owner.*



Cindy Scott has been a Professional Trainer and Behavioral Consultant for over 15 years. She trains dogs and their humans using positive techniques based on learning theory. Cindy is the author of "The Zen Chien - Enlightened Training For A Fabulous Dog". Visit her website at [www.enlightened-dog-training.com](http://www.enlightened-dog-training.com).

English royalty loved all small dogs, letting them sit on their laps during court. Why? Because the fleas favored the dogs over the people, and would jump to the royal pups. And that's where we get the old saying "Lap Dogs."

39% percent of pet parents say they have more photos of their pet than of their spouse or significant other. Just 21% say they have more photos of their spouse or significant other than of their pet.

## Doggie Fun Facts

Did you know there is a dog museum? It's true! In St. Louis, Missouri, you will find The Dog Museum, founded by the American Kennel Club. There are paintings, sculptures, and other works of art that are about dogs or have dogs in them. Dogs have been in artworks that date back thousands of years!



People all over the world love to have dogs as pets. The United States and France have the most pet dogs. Almost one in three families in these countries own a dog. What countries have the least amount of pet dogs? Germany and Switzerland only have one dog for every ten families. They need more dogs!

The Canary Islands were not named for a bird called a canary. They were named after a breed of large dogs. The Latin name was Canariae insulae - "Island of Dogs."

Laikia, a dog, was the world's first ever space astronaut. She was sent into space in an artificial earth satellite in 1957 by the Russian government.

The Doberman breed was created in the 1860's by Louis Doberman, a German tax-collector who created the dog to protect him while he worked.

## Driving Miss Daisy

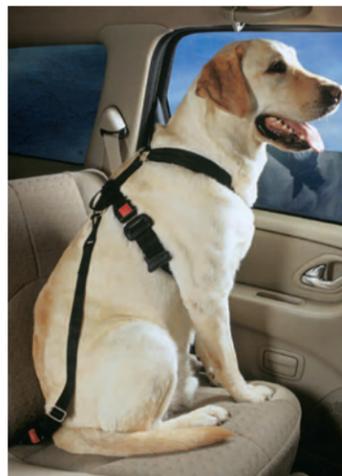


We've all seen them...you're driving to work, and what do you see next to you but a fellow driver too busy to pay full attention to the road because they're talking on the phone, eating a sandwich, putting on make-up or even reading a book. Extremely unsafe, right?

Well, the same can be said for holding your pooch on your lap or allowing him/her to run unthethered during car rides. This not only puts you and other drivers at risk, but also endangers the life of your "baby".

That's why a doggie car seat, restraint system, or crate is as essential for your dog as fresh air and exercise. Human babies are not allowed to roam free in a moving vehicle, so why should it be any different for you four-legged "baby"? A doggie seat or restraint system will not only keep your hands free for undistracted driving but also keep you "baby" safe and secure if you happen to stop short.

Dog car seats, restraint systems, and crates come in a variety of sizes to suit most breeds of pooches. Additionally, your "baby" should wear a comfortable harness so they are securely attached in case of an accident.



*Continued on back cover* ➤

## Top 10 Tips for Safe Car Travel With Your Dog

1. Be sure to keep the dog's leash firmly in hand when loading and unloading the dog from the car.
2. Keep your pets safe and secure with a restraint system, doggy seat or well-ventilated crate or carrier. Get your pet used to the item in the comfort of your home before your trip. Make sure all devices are secure before taking off.
3. Never allow your pet to ride in the front seat, no matter how much your pet enjoys it. Pets riding in the front seat can be thrown into the windshield if you have to make a sudden stop or injured by airbags if an accident occurs.
4. Don't allow your pet to ride with his head outside the window, especially small dogs. Again, if you have to make a sudden stop, pets can be thrown out of the car into oncoming traffic.
5. Get your pet geared up for a long trip by taking him/her on a series of short drives first, gradually lengthening time spent in the car. If using a crate, please remember to always secure the crate so it won't slide or shift in the event of a quick stop.
6. What's in your pet's traveling kit? In addition to travel papers, food, bowl, leash, a waste scoop, plastic bags, grooming supplies, medication and a pet first-aid kit, pack a favorite toy or pillow to give your pet a sense of familiarity.
7. **NEVER LEAVE YOUR DOG ALONE IN A PARKED VEHICLE.** On a hot day, even with the windows open, a parked automobile can become a furnace in no time, and heatstroke can develop. In cold weather, a car can act as a refrigerator, holding in the cold and causing the animal to freeze to death. If you travel frequently with your pet, you may want to invest in rubberized floor liners and waterproof seat covers, available at auto product retailers or pet stores.
8. Make sure your pet has a microchip for identification and wears a collar with a tag imprinted with your phone number and an emergency contact number (like your vet) and any other relevant contact information. Canines should wear flat collars, please. **NEVER USE A CHOKE COLLAR IN AUTOMOBILES!**
9. Traveling across state lines? Bring along your pet's rabies vaccination record, as some states requires this proof at certain interstate crossings. While this generally isn't a problem, it's always smart to be on the safe side.
10. When it comes to H<sub>2</sub>O, we say BYO. Opt for bottled water or tap water stored in plastic jugs. Drinking water from an area he's not used to could result in tummy upset for your pet.