



Fur Babies News

Tips, advice and some fun facts about our best little friends who mean so much to us!

A warm hello to you and your dogs as we welcome the official beginning of autumn, which starts September 23. This is a lovely time of year for us all, with cooler temperatures and changing scenery making it all the more pleasant to be outdoors. You may notice a few changes in your dogs at this time as well, as they naturally begin preparing for winter when cooler weather arrives. Of course, this combined with other changes in their environment means it's also time for us to make a few changes to our canine-care routines!

The two primary changes occurring in dogs during autumn are their coats and appetites. Some breeds, especially those with long hair, tend to get a bit fluffier as the months progress. Most dogs are also inclined to eat more in autumn than in the summer, as it gives them a little extra padding for insulation. Whether you need to change their diets really all depends on their needs and environment, though.

If your dogs spend a lot of time outdoors and will be in an exceptionally chilly area this winter, you may want to gradually increase their food intake over the coming months. However, if they're currently overweight or if they're only outdoors for brief walks and stops in the yard, they shouldn't need any extra. The bulking up is really only essential for dogs that mostly live outdoors. But, of course, if you have any questions regarding your dog's nutrient needs, a veterinarian can advise you based on their breed, build, and weight.

These factors should also be considered when deciding on the best way to manage their coats. Long-haired dogs that spend most of their time outdoors will benefit from having fuller coats as the season progresses. However, they may also need more frequent grooming then, as they'll be prone to matting from moisture. It's important they have their mats removed frequently so they won't require a full shave in the midst of winter. On the other hand, if your dogs spend the majority of their time indoors, it doesn't hurt to keep their coats shorter.

Striking the balance between comfort and manageability comes much more easily when we consider their everyday routines and environment. So, if you've any questions or concerns regarding their coats at this time of year, please call. It will be no problem helping you to make any necessary adjustments to their grooming routines!

Additional tips on caring for dogs in the autumn are included in this newsletter. Please enjoy this issue and have yet another wonderful month with your best friends!

Sincerely, Shona, Denise and the staff of Fur Babies

Are you new to this Newsletter or trying to find a good Dog Groomer?

If you're reading this newsletter for the first time or are looking for a Dog Groomer, please read page 2. There you'll find out how we could really benefit you and provide you with exactly what you're looking for.

Inside this Issue:

- Blood Banks for Dogs!
- Safety Tips for Autumn!
- Healthy Snacks for Dogs!
- Avalanche Rescue Dogs!

A Wonderful World of Animals!

New research is showing that animals are much more like us than we might think!

! While the songs of sparrows may sound beautiful to us, they sound violent and insulting to the other sparrows. According to *Orange News*, research shows their singing is a means for males to boast and fling insults at one another to impress the girls. In "*tough neighborhoods*," the males sing the same songs but will sing their own if there's less competition in the area.

! We already knew that children learn by observing and mimicking our behavior, but, according to *BBC News*, our dogs do it too! A study in Austria showed that the way we play with them as pups also influences their ability to imitate us. They can actually learn much more quickly by watching us do something than by having us direct them with verbal and physical cues. Of course, treats speed up this process as well!

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"Grooming your dogs is such a delight, leaving their fur looking great and so fluffy and light"

IF YOU ARE NEW TO THIS NEWSLETTER PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT TO READ THIS PAGE AND FIND OUT MORE ABOUT WHAT WE COULD DO FOR YOU AND YOUR PET!

Five Important points to look for when choosing a good Dog Groomer!

It's important to remember that not all groomers are the same and that the service they provide will not always be what you'd expect. It's so important that the person who grooms and cares for your dog does so to the highest standard. Because it's critical that you have trust and confidence in this person, we have highlighted the five benefits that a good groomer will provide to you:

1. Assurance that the care and welfare of your dog is their top priority:

Any good groomer is first and foremost a dog lover, so caring for your little buddy comes as second nature to them and is given at all times. By providing breaks during the clipping process and by never leaving your dog unsupervised, they reduce unnecessary stress while ensuring safety and security. They also attend to your dog's basic needs by providing them with such things as fresh drinking water.

2. Grooming of the highest standard that reflects the needs of you and your dog:

A good groomer must be able to demonstrate the ability to groom your dog to high standards and to provide an appropriate look for your pet. They must have the ability to accurately determine your needs while advising you on different options for style and finish. A good groomer will never inflict pain or undue stress on your pet just to achieve a certain style.

3. Understanding of the different temperaments and characteristics of dogs:

As not all dogs are the same, they cannot all be approached and handled the same. For example, a shy and slightly fearful dog requires calmness and patience, while a lively bouncy dog may require immediate leadership. A good groomer will be able to adapt their approach to meet the psychological and behavioral needs of different dogs to ensure minimum stress during the grooming process.

4. Quality products and methods that do not risk the health of your pet:

A good groomer will never compromise on the quality of products they use on your pet. Cheap dog products are available everywhere, yet they can cause severe health problems for your dog. Therefore, you must be confident that your groomer uses quality controlled professional grooming products. A good groomer will never cut corners with their products just to save money or to provide cheaper prices.

5. Advice and information on all aspects of dog ownership:

It's important that you have someone to turn to when you need advice or help with your dog, and a good groomer will be this person. While groomers cannot offer all of the answers, such as a medical diagnosis, they should be knowledgeable enough to offer some assistance and to point you in the right direction. A good groomer will always attempt to identify and inform you of any physical or behavioral changes that may indicate a health problem. This can make all the difference in recovery, as early detection ensures early treatment.

As groomers, the above five benefits are the guide by which we provide our services. Dogs and grooming are our passion, not just our business. By bringing your dog to us for grooming, you can be assured that you and your dog will receive all five benefits as well as the care and service that you deserve.

What you can Expect if you Bring your Dog to Us!

Would you like your dog groomed so that she's looking gorgeous and left just the way you want her to look? Do you want her coat smelling delightful so there's no more 'doggy' smell in your home? Would you like her coat feeling as soft as velvet and just a dream to cuddle? And above all, do you want reassurance that your dog is getting the same gentle care and kindness during grooming that you give her at home?

Well, you've just found a groomer that can provide everything you want, plus much, much more!

With us, you can be sure that your dog will be groomed to the highest standard. You'll be so pleased with how she looks that you'll be proud to walk her down your street and show her off to your neighbors - just like the many other clients we have.

When we advise you on grooming styles for your pet, we always take your preferences, lifestyle and your dog's character into account. The health, safety and welfare of your pet are always our priority, so you can have peace of mind knowing that you'll get the best advice available to help you choose the right options for your dog.

As a good and caring dog owner, you'll want your pet to be healthy and happy. Therefore, it'll be reassuring to know that with us you'll have someone looking out for potential health issues and changes in your dog - some that may only be noticeable during grooming. Early detection of worrying ailments can make all the difference to your pet, so we make sure to keep a close eye during grooming.

Your dog will be well looked after and will always get the 'one to one' attention that she needs. You'll always feel confident that she's in the safest of hands with us; we can assure you of that.

Your pet deserves the best so we only use the best and safest products that will get her coat looking gorgeous but won't ever harm her. Others may choose to use cheaper, inferior products in grooming but that's something we simply will not compromise on.

With us, you'll also have someone to turn to if you have issues or worries about your pet. Advice and help is a free extra service we're more than happy to provide. You can call us if you ever have any problems or just need to chat about your little friend.

So if you're looking for a groomer who will leave your dog looking fantastic then give us a call. You'll be over the moon when you see what we can do for you and your little furry friend.

Fur Babies Dog Grooming

"Expert in leaving your dog looking gorgeous"

- ✓ **Have your dog gorgeously groomed so that she is left looking and smelling wonderful. You'll be delighted with how she'll look and you'll be so proud to show her off to your family and friends.**
- ✓ **You'll never have to worry when you leave your pet with me. She'll be groomed in a clean, relaxed environment where only the best and safest products are used.**
- ✓ **As a customer of ours, you'll get the respect and service from us that all good dog owners like you deserve.**
- ✓ **Help and advice is freely given so you'll always have someone to turn to if you ever have a problem or a worry about your little friend.**
- ✓ **We use a calm, 'tender loving' approach when grooming, where patience, praise and kindness is assured.**
- ✓ **And of course, kisses and cuddles for your little buddy are provided in abundance. She'll just love being groomed with us and you'll love how she looks afterwards!**

Call for an appointment today. Tel: 905-792-0428

The Doggie Best-Sellers List!

"Why People Throw Sticks, and What to Do About It"
– by FetchBoy the Golden Retriever

"Teach Your Human to Heel" – by Ruff Rottweiler

"How I Licked the Toilet Bowl Habit" – by Sammy Snauzer

"101 Ways to Skin a Cat" – by Duke Dingo.

"Stop Chasing Cats and Start Catching Them" – by Dr. Rover Tilted

Blood Banks for Dogs!

When dogs are in need of emergency surgery for major injuries or illness, they may need blood transfusions to help them recover. Oftentimes, these life-saving transfusions are possible thanks to blood donations from healthy dogs.

The donation process is similar to that of human blood donations. Clinics host collection sessions in various locations, and pet owners can take their dogs in for donations up to four times yearly. Each donation can save up to four dogs' lives, according to *BBC News*.

These donations are virtually painless for the dogs, as they're given local anesthesia to numb the skin.

People who are interested in helping other dogs in need can call their veterinarians to learn more about listing their dogs as donors. The banks are in need of positive and negative blood types but are especially in need of negative-type blood. Breeds with this type include Dobermans, Rottweilers, greyhounds, German shepherds and boxers.

To be eligible as a donor, the dog must be up-to-date on vaccinations, weigh more than 50 pounds, and be between two and eight years of age.

Word Scramble!

Unscramble the letters for these dog training words!

- | | |
|--------------|---------------------|
| 1. eleh | 8. iveg em uory wpa |
| 2. its | 9. omec |
| 3. ytas | 10. ropd ti |
| 4. raspie | 11. efcth |
| 5. raetst | 12. hevibora |
| 6. lolr vero | 13. eald |
| 7. eapsk | 14. fof |

See page four for the answers!

Safety Tips for Autumn!

As noted earlier, this is an absolutely wonderful time of year to venture outdoors with the dogs. The cooler air helps us all stay comfortable during long walks, and there's lots of gorgeous scenery to observe in the countryside. So, in the spirit of keeping this season nothing but enjoyable, here are a few tips for keeping it safe for you and your dogs.

While we all get out to revel in the last of the warm weather, a few other creatures are out looking for a place to hibernate—which can mean trouble for curious dogs. The ASPCA warns of snakes being "grumpy" this time of year, making them more likely to bite if disturbed. Because rats and other rodents also tend to invade indoor areas at this time, there's an increased chance of toxic rodenticides being left in places dogs can access.

Unfortunately, it's not always possible to monitor a dog's every move, but paying closer attention to the surroundings can help you see and avoid potential risks. For example, steering clear of deep brush and rocky areas can help you stay out of a grumpy snake's path. Routinely practicing obedience commands with your dogs can also help you get them away from a dangerous situation, as they'll be more apt to listen even if excited.

If you've gotten into a routine for walking each day, you may also want to consider changing the time for your walks during the upcoming months. The days will be growing shorter, leaving less light for the trip home if you go in the evenings. Of course, if your schedule doesn't allow an adjustment, you can always take other precautions such as putting reflectors on the leash or going to a well-lit area.

Omega-3s For Healthy Skin and a Shiny Coat!

While omega-3 fatty acids are often touted for human health, they're also beneficial to skin and coat health in dogs. Unfortunately, most dog foods have a much higher level of omega-6 fatty acids.

One way to help dogs achieve a better balance is to provide them with a low-fat dog food and supplement it with omega-3s. Doing so can reduce problems with inflammation and improve the feel and appearance of their hair.

This type of supplementation can take time to show results, and it can also cause negative side effects such as loose stools. So, prior to making such adjustments to their diet, it's good to speak with the veterinarian, especially if your dog has any skin problems or if they're taking any medication.

Healthy Snacks for Dogs!

Although treats are really helpful with training and absolutely loved by most dogs, they can greatly contribute to obesity and other health problems. This is especially true of chewy store-bought treats that are loaded with fat and sugar.

Rewarding them needn't be unhealthy, though. Dogs enjoy many of the same nutritious foods we eat, and using those foods as snacks helps keep them healthy while also being easier on your budget.

Some of the healthiest snacks include small bits of vegetables, such as carrots and celery. Your dogs may initially turn their nose up at veggie treats, but once they have them a few times, they tend to develop a taste for them.

They also like small bits of fruit, which you can blend with yogurt for an even tastier snack. Some foods should be avoided, however, as they can be poisonous to dogs. These include grapes, raisins, onions, and potato skins.

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This newsletter is provided to you every month so that we can give a little bit extra back to you. The content has been carefully selected in order to provide you with the best possible information. Hopefully you find it entertaining and useful.

Much of the information and articles have been sourced from a Dog Grooming publication company and it is strictly copyright protected. So we're afraid it can't be copied or re-used. If you are ever given a newsletter from another groomer with similar information and articles, we'd be grateful if you'd let us know.

Word Scramble Answers!

- | | | | |
|-----------|---------------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1. Heel | 5. Treats | 9. Come | 12. Behavior |
| 2. Sit | 6. Roll over | 10. Drop it | 13. Lead |
| 3. Stay | 7. Speak | 11. Fetch | 14. Off |
| 4. Praise | 8. Give me your paw | | |

Avalanche Rescue Dogs!

People who are swept into avalanches have a small chance of survival after only 15 minutes of being trapped in the snow, and finding them can be incredibly difficult. But this is yet another job a dog can do quite well. A dog in Austria once found a person buried beneath 39 feet of it!

Avalanche rescue dogs learn this skill by searching for their handlers on snowy mountains. They follow their scent, and are then rewarded once they find the person. The trainers also bury themselves in pockets of snow so the dog learns to sniff and dig them out.

Fully trained dogs begin the search by sticking their noses into open pockets of snow throughout the area. If the scent weakens, they move to another area. However, if the scent becomes stronger within the pocket, they begin digging the snow away themselves. The rescue workers then help the dog dig deeper.

Having one rescue dog on the scene is the equivalent of having twenty people searching on foot. They're able to scan the area much more quickly by following their noses. Their ability to do the job quickly can depend on a variety of factors, however, such as the wind and depth of snow.

These dogs spend their days in snowy destinations such as ski resorts, where they're available 24 hours daily in case of emergency.

Get This Newsletter Every Month!

To continue to provide you with information, help and a little bit of fun, we publish this newsletter at the beginning of every month. There will always be a copy available for you. So, in a month that's between your appointments please drop in to pick one up (it'll be nice to catch up as well). Or if you'd like your newsletter emailed to you every month just leave us your email address or request your newsletter by sending us an email. Once you're on our list we'll send you a copy every month.

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