



JANUARY 2026



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

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Hoping all our club members had a very happy Christmas and wishing you all a joyful New Year.

We hope your holidays were filled with love, laughter, and plenty of time with your families and hounds.

Thank you for being such a wonderful community—here's to a healthy, prosperous, happy year ahead for both you and your hounds.

We look forward to seeing you in the coming year at our events.

If you would like to contribute to the newsletter, please contact Kathy Lewis.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER continued

Please consider spending time at our events and helping. It's a lot of fun and you can never have too many friends. A couple hours here and there would help the "regulars" out! Thank you for your consideration!

From the Desk of Rita Cartois



December 1 at 11:59 AM

To my Irish Wolfhound and dog friends nearby and far away!

I think that the information below will certainly interest many of you. And please share as much as you can with your friends!

As you are scattered all over the globe, I thought it best to use Shakespeare's language.

NEW BLOODTEST FOR PREVENTIVE DETECTION OF CANCER RISK IN DOGS !

The first in Flanders (Belgium) to apply this medical innovation is the Clinic for Small Animals "Sanimalia" in Diepenbeek.

Dr Tom Hendrickx, Veterinary Oncologist and Clinical Director of "Sanimalia", who by the way is also my vet, explains:

« Cancer in dogs occurs just as often as in humans. Until recently, there was no simple way to detect it early through blood analysis. This test is the first used in Flanders that makes this possible. The same test was in the meantime also started in Ath in the French speaking part of Belgium.

The aim is to test seemingly healthy dogs, for example during their annual routine check-up. From the age of 7, dogs are considered seniors, and

their risk of developing cancer increases. It is estimated that 1 in 3 of our four-legged friends—who fortunately are living longer lives—will face cancer. Susceptibility to developing cancer is also breed-related. For certain breeds, it is advisable to start screening from the age of 4.

Traditionally, a diagnosis requires taking a tissue sample. However, this was only done when symptoms appeared or a visible tumor was already present. This new method is particularly animal friendly. A small blood sample is taken, centrifuged, analyzed by the test equipment, and in just 6 minutes you receive an indication of whether your dog may be developing cancer.

As to the scientific background: the technology was developed by the American biotech company Volition, which also has a very important facility in Belgium, researching both in the human and veterinary field. The medical denomination is a nucleosome quantitative test because it measures the amount of circulating nucleosomes in the blood. These are fragments of DNA that enter the bloodstream when cells—such as cancer cells—break down. If the result is positive, further tests are needed, such as X-rays or a CT scan. According to extensive studies, the detection rate is between 50 and 75%.

You can find extensive and detailed information under

<https://volition.com/nu-q-vet> and download the brochure for Pet Parents.

The test is available in the USA, Europe, Australia & Asia. So, ask your veterinarian about it when planning the next visit of your four-legged friend.

Currently, the test has only been validated for use in dogs. Efforts are underway to extend it to cats.

The picture is of Dr. Tom Hendrickx with my boy Valgrynn of Beltine.

Fever in Dogs: Signs, Symptoms, Treatments

By AKC Staff, Updated: Oct 28, 2025

You're probably familiar with the tried-and-true method many dog owners have relied on to see if their dog has a fever: feeling their nose. If it's wet and cold, they're fine. If it's hot and dry, they probably have a fever. Simple, right?

While there's nothing wrong with using this old-time gauge, sometimes it's more complicated than that. The nose test alone often isn't enough for an accurate assessment of the presence of fever.

What Is a Dog's Normal Temperature?

Unlike people, who have a normal temperature range of 97.6 – 99.6F degrees, your dog's normal temperature is higher: the range is between 99.5 and 102.5 F degrees. You can take your dog's temperature on a pet thermometer. So now that we know what is normal, let's look at the signs that tell us if our dog is out of range and running a fever.



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What Are the Signs of Fever in Dogs?

Your dog can't tell you when they have a fever, so you should familiarize yourself with the symptoms that can indicate its presence.

Here are the most common signs:

- ✚ Red eyes
- ✚ Lethargy or lack of energy
- ✚ Warm ears

- ✚ Warm, dry nose
- ✚ Shivering
- ✚ Loss of appetite
- ✚ Coughing
- ✚ Vomiting

What Causes a Fever in Dogs?

An infection or inflammation can produce a fever in dogs, as their body attempts to fight it off. They can be internal or external, and include:

- ✚ An infected bite wound, scratch, or cut
- ✚ Ear infection
- ✚ Urinary tract infection (UTI)
- ✚ Infected or abscessed tooth
- ✚ An ongoing bacterial or viral disease
- ✚ Infection of organs, such as kidneys or lungs



Cavan Images/Getty Images Plus

Ingestion of poisonous materials can also cause fever. These include:

- ✚ Toxic plants
- ✚ Antifreeze
- ✚ Human medications

- ✚ Human foods that are toxic to dogs, including foods containing the artificial sweetener xylitol
- ✚ If you think your dog has ingested a toxic substance, contact the <https://www.petpoisonhelpline.com/>

Vaccinations

It's not uncommon for pets (and humans) to experience a low-grade fever 24–48 hours after a vaccination. This usually isn't dangerous and resolves after a day or so, but monitor the situation.

How to Take Your Dog's Temperature

While it may not be the most enjoyable thing you and your dog will ever do together, accurately assessing their temperature can only be accomplished with a rectal or ear thermometer. Nowadays, there are digital thermometers made just for pets. You should have one of these in the first-aid kit you keep for your dog. It can register their temperature in about 60 seconds, cutting down on their discomfort.

For a rectal thermometer, first lubricate it with petroleum jelly or baby oil. Gently insert it about an inch into your dog's anus. Then, remove it as soon as you get a reading.

Ear thermometers are less invasive, yet still a reliable way to take your dog's temperature. It measures the infrared heat waves that are emitted from the area around the eardrum. The thermometer is placed deep into the horizontal ear canal to obtain an accurate reading. Ear thermometers are usually somewhat more expensive, but your dog will appreciate your willingness to shell out a few more bucks.

When using any thermometer, be sure to read all instructions carefully. Note: don't use a glass thermometer when taking a dog's temperature.



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When to Bring Your Dog to the Vet

A dog is considered to have a fever when their temperature reaches 103 degrees or higher. If it does, it's time to head to the vet's office. A temperature of 106 degrees or higher can damage a pet's internal organs and can be fatal, so never wait until it gets to that point.

Once at the vet's office, diagnosing the underlying cause can be tricky. Your vet probably has a record of your dog's medical history, with information about vaccines, surgeries, allergies, medications, and past illnesses. But the vet may also need to know of any recent physical injuries, ingestion of plants or other toxins, insect bites, and so on. It will also be helpful to note when you first noticed the fever.

After conducting a physical exam, your vet may order routine laboratory tests, such as urinalysis, blood count, or a biochemistry profile. They can offer up useful information about an underlying condition or infection. In the case of infection, your dog may be prescribed medication. More specific testing may also be required.

Sometimes the root cause of the fever can't be determined. Vets even use an acronym for this: FUO (Fever of Unknown Origin).

How to Reduce a Dog's Fever

To help reduce a pet's fever — 103 degrees or higher — first apply cool water around their paws and ears. You can use a soaked towel or cloth, or a dog cooling vest. Continue to monitor their temperature, and when it drops below 103, you can stop applying the water. See if you can coax them into drinking a bit of water. You'll still need to monitor your dog

closely, to ensure their fever doesn't return. Consider taking them to the vet if they exhibit other symptoms. And remember: never give your dog human medications without consulting a veterinarian first.

Study Busts the Myth That Purebred Dogs Have More Health Problems

By Colt Dodd, Published: May 09, 2024 **AKC**

Do purebred dogs suffer more health problems and diseases than mixed-breed dogs? Findings published in *Frontiers in Veterinary Science* suggest the answer is no. In a study involving 27,541 companion dogs, data showed that mixed-breed dogs are just as likely to experience common health conditions as their purebred counterparts. A smaller gene pool doesn't make a purebred dog more likely to have common dog diseases when compared to a mixed-breed dog.

This study, led by the Dog Aging Project, helps debunk the misconception that purebred dogs are at a physiological disadvantage when compared to mixed-breed dogs. A dog's health profile (and longevity) is unique to their genetic makeup, diet, and other related factors — and not breeding alone.



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Research From the Dog Aging Project

The Dog Aging Project is a collaborative partnership involving researchers at the Texas A&M School of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences (VMBS) and everyday dog owners. The organization with the primary goal to “unlock the secrets of aging and accelerate medical breakthroughs for

dogs and humans.” To date, there are more than 45,000 dogs enrolled in the Dog Aging Project’s database.

The study, published in *Frontiers in Veterinary Science*, drew on the health profiles of the 27,000-plus dogs in the selected sample group. Much of the information was submitted from the involved dogs’ owners over a specified period.

The results? According to the Texas A&M School of VMBS: “Some of the most common reasons owners take their dogs to the vet have little or nothing to do with breed.”

A Breakdown of the Study’s Findings

A total of 27,541 dogs participated in this Dog Aging Project study. Researchers identified 25 breeds that made up 60% of the purebred dog population within the sample size studied. These breeds included some of the most popular dogs in the United States, including Labrador Retrievers, Golden Retrievers, and German Shepherds.

Within the 25 breeds selected, researchers reviewed thousands of health concerns submitted by owners, identifying 53 specific diagnoses. Then, they narrowed their findings further, identifying 10 common health conditions that affected the purebred dogs.

When compared to the 10 most common ailments reported by owners of mixed-breed dogs, data showed that, across the board, the routine health concerns both groups experienced were similar.

When it came to longevity and health profiles, mixed-breed dogs didn’t have a medical advantage over their purebred counterparts. Diet, lifestyle, and individual genetic makeup played a more direct role in the health conditions dogs experienced.



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Common Health Concerns Cited in the Study

Frontiers in Veterinary Science reported that within the 10 most frequently reported health conditions across the 25 breeds, the five most common included:

Dental calculus (also known as dental hardening). This condition affected 24 of the 25 breeds

Dog bites. This afflicted 23 of the 25 purebred breeds researched

Extracted teeth. This was reported in 21 of the 25 purebred breeds studied

Osteoarthritis. This affected 15 of the 25 purebred breeds selected

Giardia (an internal parasite). This was reported in 15 of the 25 purebred breeds studied

The study also revealed some slight differences between how often these purebred and mixed-breed dogs experience common conditions.

For example, cataracts and heart murmurs were more reported by purebred dog owners; torn/broken toenail and chocolate toxicity were more reported by mixed-breed dog owners. Additionally, extracted teeth and dog bites were more commonly reported in purebred dogs; ear infections were more common in mixed-breed dogs.

The good news is that with comprehensive veterinary care, dogs with these conditions can fully recover or live comfortably. A dog's ability to combat

an ailment isn't solely dependent on breed, but more on the quality of care it receives.



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Some Health Conditions Are Associated With Specific Breeds

The Dog Aging Project's study focuses on the overall health of purebred dogs versus their mixed-breed counterparts. Still, there are some health conditions that are associated with specific dog breeds. For example, Boxers, Great Danes, and Doberman Pinschers are more likely to experience dilated cardiomyopathy than other breeds. Cavalier King Charles Spaniels have a high prevalence of skin problems, and cardiac and ocular diseases.

While these conditions are important to consider when selecting a dog breed, they're one factor in a whole list of considerations when choosing a dog. There's no accounting for surprise health concerns, and more and more dog owners are getting pet insurance to help in case of emergencies so they can be prepared when their dog needs medical care. Since 2018, the number of insured pets in the United States has increased by about 26.6% each year.

What the Dog Aging Project's Study Means for Owners

The findings discussed in *Frontiers in Veterinary Science* do more than debunk another commonly held misconception about purebred dogs. They also have major implications for people looking for a breed that meets their lifestyle.

There's a lot to consider when choosing a dog. Living space, physical activity, and social level are all things that can help steer someone towards a particular breed. It's important to do your research when looking into a breed to get a full picture of what to expect.

Dog owners play an even larger role in their dogs' lifespan than previously expected. This study found that for many common dog diseases, preventative veterinary care and consulting your vet when emergencies happen have more of an impact on a dog's health than its breed. No dog is immune to injury and disease, but with consistent veterinary care, they have a better chance at a long, happy life.

Finding the Right Shampoo for Your Dog

By AKC Staff, Updated: May 17, 2024

Wavy, curly, silky, short, double, dense, wooly, corded – dog coats are definitely not all the same. There's a wide variation from breed to breed and among individual dogs. Not all dog shampoos are good for every dog, but how do you choose which is the best for your pet?

Finding a shampoo that is tailored to your dog's coat type will enhance the grooming process, maintain the beauty of the fur, and contribute to your dog's overall health. You just need to know what to look for.

When Should You Shampoo Your Dog?

Dog owners know that dogs don't mind being smelly and dirty. In fact, many dogs love to rolling around in stinky things, like brush, mud puddles, and dirt, making a deep clean necessary.

Regularly bathing your dog removes dead hair and skin cells, reduces shedding, and helps keep your dog's skin and coat free of dirt and allergens that can irritate and cause itching and infections.

Aside from being a necessary part of grooming, bathing your dog can be a bonding and trust-building experience. The right shampoo, if it feels refreshing, gentle, and is easy to rinse out of the coat, will help make the bathing process a positive experience.

Why Different Dogs Need Different Shampoos

Of course, different dogs require different bathing regimens. Single-coated dogs, such as Greyhounds, Dalmatians, and Boxers, may not require baths as frequently as other breeds with thicker coats. But when they do, a shampoo that is gentle on their skin and coat while repelling dust and dirt is the best choice.

Double-coated dogs, for example Golden Retrievers, Border Collies, and German Shepherd Dogs, have a shorter undercoat and a dense, longer outer coat. They require a shampoo that penetrates through to the undercoat and skin.



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What to Look for in Dog Shampoos

Selecting the right dog shampoo for your dog can depend on many different factors. But no matter what type of coat your dog has, you should always look for naturally-derived ingredients. Some common ones in dog shampoo include:

- ✚ Aloe vera: Both antiseptic and moisturizing, aloe is a popular ingredient that can aid in cleansing, moisturizing, and protecting against future irritations.
- ✚ Vitamin E: Also moisturizing, vitamin E can nourish skin and detangle coats.
- ✚ Vitamin B: Common in oats or oatmeal, vitamin B penetrates deeply to deliver moisture.
- ✚ Coconut oil: Coconut oil cleanses and moisturizes skin and coats.
- ✚ Charcoal: This can be a powerful and natural cleansing agent for the skin.
- ✚ Choose soap-free options that soothe and hydrate rather than drying out skin and coat. Use "made in USA" products for quality of manufacturing and ingredients.

Don't use human shampoo on your dog: the pH level won't be right, and it can cause skin irritation. Artificial fragrances can be tempting, but try to avoid them. They are usually derived from chemicals that can cause allergic reactions. You should also stay away from dog shampoos that include paraben and dyes. Both can cause serious health problems such as skin irritation and certain cancers.

Types of Dog Shampoos

There are many different types of dog shampoos, so try to find the one that's specific for your dog. If you're not sure which dog shampoo would be best for your dog, talk to

your veterinarian. They'll also be able to help you leverage any health concerns that your dog may have in order to choose the best shampoo for your dog.

Medicated Dog Shampoo

Vets may recommend medicated dog shampoo to your dog for a variety of reasons. Common medicated shampoos include anti-itch, anti-fungal, hot spot relief, antibacterial, antiseptic, hypoallergenic, and allergy relief dog shampoos.

Dry Dog Shampoo

Washing your dog completely with water isn't always an option. Dry dog shampoo can be good fix when your dog needs to freshen up between baths. Dog dry shampoo doesn't require water,

Dog Flea and Tick Shampoo

Flea and tick season is something that dog owners need to prepare for, in some places year-round. Dog flea and tick shampoo is can not only help prevent fleas and ticks, but it can also be recommended for dogs that have fleas.

If your dog is on topical flea and tick treatment, you'll want to bathe them with a specific soap that doesn't reduce the effectiveness of the flea-and-tick preventative. This could mean a soap-free dog shampoo, or a specific flea and tick shampoo that was made with this in mind.



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Puppy Shampoo

Puppies are still growing into themselves, so it's good to use puppy shampoo specifically when you're washing them. Puppy shampoo will help nourish and hydrate puppy's sensitive skin.

Dog Shampoo for Sensitive Skin

Dogs with dry or sensitive skin need to get clean too! Dog shampoo for sensitive skin is specifically made for these dogs. Sensitive skin shampoos wash your dog without stripping moisture or worsening existing skin conditions. Sensitive skin can happen in dogs for many reasons, so talk to your vet about which kind of shampoo would be best for your dog's specific needs.

Dog Shampoo for Shedding

If your dog is a breed that frequently sheds, you may consider dog shampoos for shedding. While these shampoos don't stop your dog from shedding, they can help reduce how much your dog sheds. Many of these shampoos contain ingredients that are known to reduce excess shedding, like omega-3 or omega-6 fatty acids.

Skunk Shampoo for Dogs

When your dog gets sprayed by a skunk, you'll likely want to bathe them immediately to get rid of the stench. Skunk shampoo for dogs can help get the smell off of their coat, while giving them a good thorough bath at the same time.

If you can avoid it, don't bring your dog in the house if they've been sprayed by a skunk. As long as the skunk oil is on your dog's coat, the smell will linger everywhere. Homemade dog shampoos can help mask the skunk odor, but they don't eliminate it like skunk shampoos do. Just make sure that you're extremely careful using shampoos with potent formulas around your dog's eyes.

Scented Dog Shampoo

While artificial fragrances should be avoided in dog shampoos, there are safe scented dog shampoos that can leave your dog smelling fresh and clean after their bath. After all, you don't want that stinky smell or the wet dog smell to linger after they're clean. Look for natural scents like kiwi or coconut.

Some shampoos that target different things, like sensitive skin, also have pleasant scent due to their ingredients. Some plant-derived dog shampoos smell fresh and clean because of the ingredients. Oatmeal in dog shampoo is a common ingredient for sensitive skin. Dog shampoos for sensitive skin will often have a lingering, yummy oatmeal smell as a result.



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Tips for Enjoying Bath Time

Once you find the shampoo that works best for your dog, you can teach your dog to enjoy the attention and time in the bath. Professional groomers stress the importance of getting your dog accustomed to bath time. First, make sure you're relaxed and calm. If you're bathing your puppy, let them get used to standing in an empty tub first, reward them with praise or treats.

When you're ready to shampoo your dog, take them for a walk first to get some of the energy out. You're going to get wet, so dress accordingly. Brush your dog before shampooing to remove loose hair, dirt, and debris. Before getting your dog wet, check the water temperature to be sure it's slightly warm but never hot.

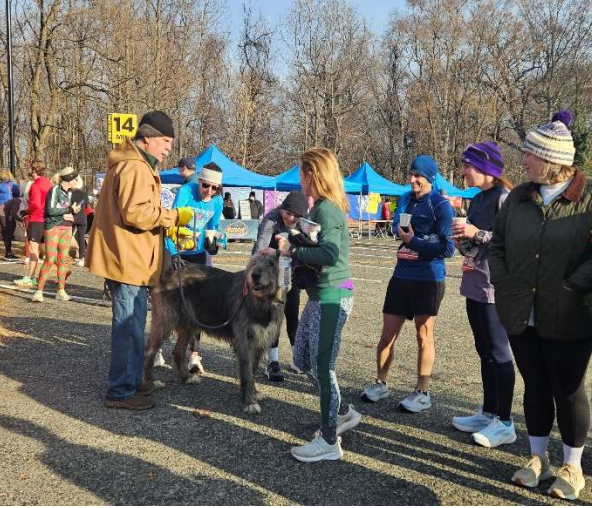
Get started by using a soft stream of water to wet your dog's coat thoroughly. Once your dog is wet down to their skin, lather in the shampoo. Make sure to avoid getting shampoo in the dog's eyes, nose, mouth, and ears. Adding a nice massage over the suds will help your dog stay relaxed, as well as make sure the shampoo is applied evenly throughout their coat.

Once that's done, rinse the shampoo out with warm water. Some of the suds can be hard to get out, so even when you think you've rinsed out all of the suds, rinse again.

To dry your dog, use a few thick, absorbent towels and blot out, not rub, as much of the water as you can. When you take your clean dog out of the tub, give them some treats, and stand back – because all dogs will shake off vigorously, and many wet dogs get the zoomies.

Druid Hill Winter Solstice 5-Miler







While the Holiday Party was canceled...

due to snowy and icy weather, two of our long-distance members missed the messages and braved the snow and ice. They were treated to a fabulous feast by our own Susan Montgomery and Bill Montgomery plowed out the long driveway for them!





Why Is My Dog's Nose Dry?

By Jan Reisen, Published: Sep 21, 2021 AKC



Most dog owners would probably tell you that a cold, wet nose on their canine companion signals a healthy pup. Likewise, many believe a dog is sick when his nose is dry — but is this true?

Before we get into that debate, we first need to understand why dogs have wet noses. The answer is simple: wet noses work better. Dogs depend on their highly developed sense of smell to interpret their world, and scent particles stick better to moist surfaces. That wet nose also cools your dog down on hot days, similar to how panting regulates his body temperature.

The lining of your dog's nose contains special mucus-producing glands that keep his nasal passageways moist, along with producing a clear, watery fluid that helps keep him cool. Dogs also lick their noses on a regular basis to keep them clean. All that sniffing can result in dirt and pollen collecting around your dog's nostrils, and licking serves two purposes: not only does it keep your dog's nose wet, but pups can also interpret smell through taste, thanks to a highly specialized olfactory organ called the Jacobson's organ.

So, What Does It Mean When a Dog's Nose Is Dry?

As convenient as it would be to have an easy way to gauge sickness in dogs, there are several perfectly normal reasons why a dog's nose might be warm or dry, and it is worth noting that sick dogs can have wet noses, too.



Let's take a look at some possible explanations as to why your dog's nose might be dry:

- ✚ **Your dog was napping.** Sleeping dogs don't usually lick their noses, so they may wake up with warm noses.
- ✚ **Dehydration from exercise.** Strenuous exercise is dehydrating, which can lead to a dry nose.
- ✚ **Exposure to the elements.** Exposure to hot sunlight, wind, or cold can dry your dog's nose, and, in some cases, may result in chapped or sunburned snouts. Lying next to a source of heat, like a fire or a heat vent, can also cause dry skin on your dog's nose.
- ✚ **Age.** Some dogs develop dry noses with age.
- ✚ A hot, dry nose doesn't always mean trouble, but it can certainly be a sign of fever, dehydration, or even conditions like dry eye. If your dog's dry nose is accompanied by other symptoms, like lethargy, vomiting or diarrhea, or changes in activity or appetite, contact your veterinarian for advice.

Looking and touching your dog's gums and noting their color can yield more accurate information than his nose. If gums are moist, that's a sign of good hydration. If they're very dry, or tacky, it could be a sign of dehydration. If gums are a nice pink, like a person's, it's a good sign. Pale gums could be an indication of anemia or low blood pressure. If your dog has bright red-purple or pale blueish gums, he should be examined by a veterinarian right away.

Common Reasons Your Dog's Nose is Dry

Your dog's nose is dry while he's sleeping. This happens simply because your dog is not licking his nose while he's asleep. His nose should be wet again within 10 minutes of waking up.

Winter is tough on a dog's nose. Do you ever wake up with a dry, scratchy throat during the winter months? That's probably due to the flow of warm air from heating vents. Warm airflow can have the same effect on a dog's nose. Has your pup been sleeping right next to a vent to keep warm? That warm air can dry out his nose and things should return to normal once he moves away from the heat source.

Along with indoor heating, the cold air and winds of winter also cause a dry nose. Think of how dry and chapped your lips get when you're outdoors in winter. That's similar to what happens to a dog's nose.

Older dogs may have drier noses. If you notice this as your dog ages, a dab of nose balm will help keep his nose moist.

Brachycephalic breeds are prone to dry nose. Dogs with short snouts, like Pugs and Bulldogs, often have difficulty licking their nose. You may have to apply moisturizer to keep it moist. Other breeds, Lhasa Apsos, for example, are prone to blocked tears ducts, which can also cause the nose to dry out.



Conditions or Illnesses that can Cause a Dog's Dry Nose

Allergies can cause dry nose. Dogs can have allergies just like humans, and one of the symptoms is a dry nose. Talk to your veterinarian about determining the cause of the allergy and getting a prescription allergy medication to relieve your dog's dry nose.

A dry nose can be a sign of sunburn. Some breeds, especially those with thin coats or pink or pale nose and eyelids are especially susceptible to sunburn. But even thick-coated breeds aren't immune. This is especially prevalent in the summer months. Use sunscreen to protect your pet.

Dehydration causes a dry nose. This could be the result of strenuous exercise, especially in hot summer weather. Make sure your dog has access to plenty of cool, fresh water. Stay alert to other signs of dehydration; you may need to consult your vet.

Dry nose is sometimes a sign of an auto-immune disease. Although this isn't the first thing to think of when your dog's nose is dry, discoid lupus erythematosus or pemphigus – both auto-immune diseases – can cause a dog's nose to dry out, crust, and crack.

Most of the time, a dry nose is just a dry nose. If it's chronic and your veterinarian sees no signs of allergies or disease, you may need to use a prescription lotion or balm to keep his nose moist. Because dogs lick their noses so often, whatever you use should be safe to eat. The nose is a dog's chief sensory source of information, and you want to keep it in top working order.

Avoid a Sticky Situation: How to Get Sap Out of Dog Fur

By Gemma Johnstone, Updated: Mar 11, 2025 **AKC**

Sugary tree sap can be the bane of a dog owner's life during the spring and early summer when it flows most freely. This super-sticky substance is notoriously tricky to remove from fur. Plus, scratchy pine needles and other debris can get glued to it, turning your dog's coat into an uncomfortable mess.

Thankfully, you don't need to avoid your daily woodland dog walks at this time of year. You've likely got all the tools you need to get sap out of your dog's fur at home. And, if you act fast and come armed with treats, it doesn't have to be a task you and your dog dread.

Why Is Sap a Problem for Dogs?

It's not just the uncomfortable matting that makes removing sap from your dog's fur a priority. Some tree saps, like pine sap, can be mildly toxic to your pet. Sap can cause itchy hotspots, rashes, or even allergic reactions if left to linger. If your dog tries to get the sap off their paws, they can further irritate their skin or develop granulomas from excessive licking.

While sap is unlikely to cause serious problems, avoiding sap ingestion removes any risk. Depending on the tree type, licking sap can lead to stomach upset, vomiting, lethargy, drooling, or lack of appetite. If your dog displays any of these symptoms after ingesting tree sap, consult your vet.



Mary Swift via Shutterstock

Steps for Sap Removal

Don't put off sap removal. The longer it sits in your dog's fur, the more likely it is to cause irritation, tummy troubles, or messy matting. Check your dog over after every tree-lined walk. If you need to rid them of syrupy attachments, be ready with their favorite treats or a tasty food-filled chew toy to distract and build positive associations. Here's how to get sap out of dog fur.

Soften the Sap

Hard sap is problematic and painful to remove from fur—you can only cut it out in this state. If the sound of a blow dryer doesn't upset your dog, using it on the lowest setting can soften the sap, making it easier to separate from fur. Ensure the dryer isn't too close or too hot for your dog's delicate skin.

Apply Oil

Pet-safe oil-based lubricants are your best friend for getting sap out of dog fur. They help further soften and loosen the sticky substance. Vegetable or olive oil are the most common secret ingredients, but you can also try

smooth peanut butter (your dog might try to lick it, so make sure it is xylitol and sugar-free), soft butter, or mayonnaise.

Thoroughly work a generous amount of oil into the affected fur with your fingers. If your dog is calm and patient, massaging it in for a few minutes gives it a chance to really work its magic. For dogs with sensitive skin, you could purchase a tree sap removal product specifically formulated and tested for pets.

Break Up the Sap

Slowly and gently work the sap out using your fingers or, better still, a wide-toothed comb. Have a paper towel on-hand to wipe up loose pieces of sap. If the sap isn't coming off freely, don't tug. You'll hurt your dog, and they'll understandably be less accommodating the next time you need to tackle this task.

Be patient, and don't expect a large glob to slide off straight away. You might need to add more oil, especially as chunks come off in bigger pieces.



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Pay Particular Attention to the Paws

Paws are the most frequent victims to fall foul of sap attachment. They're also the trickiest spot to remove it from. If you're struggling to work the oil in between fluffy toes and paw pads, try using a soft bristle toothbrush.

Cut Out the Stubborn Stuff

If you've had several oil slathering sessions and some sap doesn't want to budge, you might need to admit defeat and cut out a small patch. Where possible, use blunt-tipped pet grooming scissors.

Be extra careful when trimming off sap stuck close to your dog's skin. Your local groomer or vet can help if you don't feel confident or your dog isn't keen.



©Artem Zakharov - stock.adobe.com

Give a Cleansing Bath

After all the sap is out, you still have to contend with a greasy dog. They'll need a bath with warm water and dog shampoo to rinse out any remaining sap residue and oil. Focus your lathering efforts on the slick fur and be ready to do a couple of rinses.

What Not to Do When Getting Sap Out of Dog Fur

Steer clear of astringent solvents, chemical detergents, petroleum products, and alcohol. They're harsh on sensitive skin, not good for your dog to lick, can irritate eyes, and won't always break up the sap the way an oil-based substance will.

How to Prevent Sap Getting Stuck in Dog's Fur

There isn't a miracle solution for avoiding sap sticking to your dog's fur. Keeping the hair around the paws trimmed short means big globs are less likely to get attached.

If you have a sap-producing tree in your yard, you could also try fencing off the area immediately around it during peak sticky season.

Can Dogs Cry? Do Dogs Cry Tears?

By Jan Reisen, Updated: May 08, 2024 **AKC**

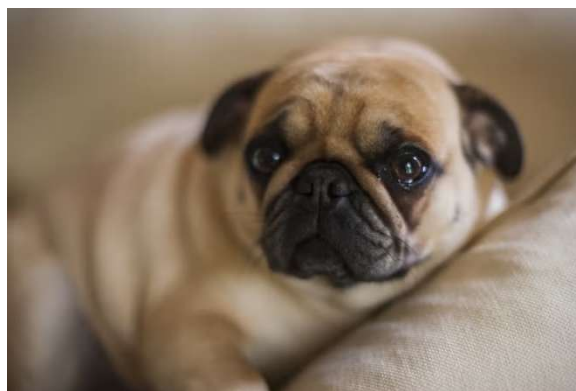
You know that your dog feels emotions. Dogs are sensitive animals, prone to joy, fear, sadness, and a range of other emotions. And, of course, like most mammals, dogs have tear ducts. So, is there a connection between a dog's brain and their tear ducts? No.

While canines express needs and wants vocally, there is no scientific evidence proving that dogs, or any other animals, actually produce tears as a response to what they're feeling. We seem to be the only species capable of breaking into emotional tears.

Reasons For Dog Tears

What know that dogs can have empathetic, compassionate responses when we find ourselves wiping tears away and snuffling into a tissue. An interesting study shows that comforting may be hardwired into dogs.

Dogs use a number of vocalizations to express themselves. Puppies learn to whine or whimper to get their mother's attention. This behavior often carries into adulthood. Your dog may let you know they need something — food, water, a potty break, or just a friendly pat — by "crying."



claudiadoenitzperez/Getty Images Plus via Getty Images

We've all fallen for the sad gaze and heartbreaking whimper. But if your dog's eyes are tearing or you see traces of fluid, something else could be going on. Tear ducts keep the eyes clean and functioning correctly. Unlike in humans, however, the liquid drains back toward the throat and nose.

So, what does it mean if your dog seems to be crying?

They may have allergies. If they have a sensitive or allergic reaction to something — pollen, food ingredients, smoke, dander, or dust, for example — their eyes may water.

They might have a blocked tear duct, which causes their dog's eyes to be damp and possibly irritated.

Wet eyes can also be caused by infection. If the fluid is yellow or bloody, this could be a symptom of an eye infection. Other symptoms include irritated or swollen eyes.

There could be a speck of dirt in their eye. The tears, in this case, should be temporary. If not, consult your vet.

They may have a scratched cornea, which is more common in active dogs. They might also paw at their eye, blink more than usual, or have inflammation around the eye.

There are many different causes for excessive watering of the eyes in dogs, so it's imperative to consult your veterinarian for an official diagnosis.

If by crying we mean whimpering, howling, mewling, or whining, then yes, dogs most certainly do cry. But only in humans are tears mysteriously connected to our hearts and brains.

Military Bowl Parade



Irish Wolfhound Pneumonia Protocol



UPDATE WINTER 2021

BY MARIELLEN DENTINO, MD (PADRAIC) AND MELANIE MERCER, DVM (WYVERN GAZEHOUSES)

DIAGNOSIS

Irish Wolfhounds have a higher incidence of pneumonia than most breeds.

Symptoms

- Early symptoms may be subtle.
- Cough and fever may or may not be present.
- Lethargy and anorexia are usually present.
- The hound may be reluctant to lie down.
- Distinctive for the hound to hold the head forward and elevated and pant (see photo shown below).



Photo credit Edita Beresova

Exam

- Audible respiratory sounds are usually coming from the upper airways (nose and throat), while pneumonia requires listening with a stethoscope.
- Early in pneumonia the clinical exam may show normal breath sounds and need to be repeated.

Testing

- Early x-rays may be normal and need to be repeated.
- Tracheal wash is often recommended for diagnosis, however this requires sedation and results are often inconclusive. The results may not be available for a few days.

TREATMENT

Irish Wolfhounds with untreated pneumonia can become severely ill in hours.

- The usual organisms for bacterial (responds to antibiotics) canine pneumonia have been documented and beginning broad spectrum antibiotics to cover these organisms in a timely manner (even before x-rays) is required.
- A combination of two antibiotics to cover the usual bacteria causing canine pneumonia is recommended.

- Ceftiofur (Naxcel[®]) and clindamycin (Antirobe[®]) are recommended by the IW Health Group.
- Amoxicillin/clavulanic acid (Clavamox[®]) and enrofloxacin (Baytril[®]), a fluoroquinolone, is a well-tolerated and effective therapy recommended on the Veterinary Information Network. Ciprofloxacin (another fluoroquinolone) is NOT RECOMMENDED as it is not well absorbed by some dogs. Enrofloxacin (Baytril[®]) and clindamycin (Antirobe[®]) is recommended by the International Society for Companion Animal Infectious Diseases.
- A macrolide like azithromycin (Zithromax[®]); cephalosporins like ceftiofur (Naxcel[®]) or cephalexin (Keflex[®]); and tetracyclines, like doxycycline, can also be considered as part of the therapy combination as long as the combination collectively covers the gram-negative, gram-positive and anaerobic organisms known to cause canine pneumonia.

OTHER SUPPORTIVE CARE

- If oral antibiotics are tolerated your hound will hopefully avoid hospitalization.
- If your hound is not drinking, he will likely need subcutaneous or IV fluids.
- Coupage (patting chest with cupped hands) and sitting in a steamy bathroom with your hound may be helpful.
- Cough suppressants are not recommended but medications to thin mucus such as N-acetylcysteine (Mucomyst[®]) may be helpful.
- The hound should begin to clinically improve within a few days. It may be slow, but he should not be getting worse. If he is not improving, consider changing the antibiotic or undergoing bronchoscopy to provide a specific diagnosis. Also consider fungal pneumonia which will not respond to antibiotics.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- Treatment stopped too soon often leads to recurrent pneumonia. Usual duration of treatment is to treat another two weeks after all signs of infection gone but if it is recurrent pneumonia, 4-6 weeks of antibiotics may be helpful.
- If pneumonia is recurrent, further health evaluation is needed urgently.
- Please see "Causes and Risk Factors for Pneumonia" *Harp & Hound* Autumn 2018, Page 55-56.

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Causes and Risk Factors for Pneumonia

BY MELANIE MERCER DVM

In a Swedish study published in 2017¹, the most common causes of death in Irish Wolfhounds were: 1- Cancers (24%), 2- Cardiac disease (18%), and 3- Respiratory Disease (16%). Thirty-seven percent of the dogs in this study had experienced at least one episode of pneumonia during their lifetime and fifty-three percent of those dogs had more than one episode of the disease. Most importantly, the occurrence of this disease had a statistically significant effect on lifespan in our breed, shortening it by an average of 175 days. Pneumonia is a significant problem in Irish Wolfhounds. However my impression from clinical veterinary practice is that it is NOT similarly a problem in mixed breed dogs or in most other breeds of dogs, and this underlies much of the reason that the average general practitioner is slow to diagnose the condition and may not treat it as aggressively as is recommended by the Irish Wolfhound Health Group or the Irish Wolfhound Foundation.

Respiratory infections may involve either the upper or lower respiratory system. An infection of the upper part of the respiratory system is above the lungs and may affect the throat, pharynx, nasopharynx, sinuses, larynx, and the upper portions of the trachea. These are rarely life threatening. Lower respiratory infections involve the lower portion of the trachea and the lungs (the bronchi, bronchioles, and alveoli), and produce decreased lung sounds, crackles, or wheezes when listening with a stethoscope. Audible wheezes, gurgles, and congestion heard without a stethoscope are generally coming from the upper airways. Pneumonia is any inflammation of the lungs and airways that causes breathing difficulties and a deficiency of oxygen in the blood due to the accumulation of fluid and debris inside the alveoli (the smallest portion of the airway where the transport of oxygen occurs into the blood stream) or a thickening of the tissues between the alveoli. Not every dog who coughs has pneumonia and not every dog with

Most importantly, the occurrence of this disease had a statistically significant effect on lifespan in our breed, shortening it by an average of 175 days. Pneumonia is a significant problem in Irish Wolfhounds.

pneumonia coughs. Pleurisy, inflammation of the lining around the lungs, may occur as a complication of pneumonia.

The body has evolved some ingenious defense mechanisms to protect itself from injury and infection.

- **Aerodynamic filtration** - the nasal passages are designed to mechanically filter out larger particles, and warm and moisten the air as it enters the respiratory system. Smaller particles are deposited lower in the airways captured in a mucous covering on the mucosa.
- **Physical barriers to aspiration** - The larynx allows passage of air into the trachea while preventing the entrance of food or fluids. When swallowing, the epiglottis, a leaf-shaped flap of elastic cartilage, folds over to prevent blockage of the airway. Other portions of the larynx, the arytenoid cartilages, flex partially open and closed during respiration.
- **Cough reflexes** - These reflexes are mediated primarily by the vagus nerve. Receptors in the epithelium of the respiratory tract are sensitive to both mechanical and chemical stimuli. The bronchi and trachea are so sensitive to light touch that slight amounts of foreign matter or other causes of irritation initiate the cough reflex. Coughing removes the foreign material from the respiratory tract before it reaches the lungs. Coughing can only expel material from the trachea and major bronchi.
- **Tracheobronchial secretions and mucociliary transport system** - This system removes materials deposited in the lower 2/3 of the airway system.

Foreign material, including viral and bacterial particles, which become trapped in the mucous secretions are propelled by cilia, small hair-like structures that produce a wave like motion. This produces a steady movement of foreign materials up the airway.

- **Cellular inflammatory response.** Alveolar macrophages ingest and inactivate inhaled particles, especially at the alveolar and small airway levels. Viral infection of the lungs depresses bactericidal activity of the macrophages
- **Local and systemic immunity.** Specialized cells located throughout the respiratory system act directly against viruses and bacteria and produce antibodies, proteins that identify and destroy virus and bacteria as well as fight infection. The tonsils have especially high concentrations of these cells.

When the normal defenses are overwhelmed or undermined and the lining of the alveoli becomes inflamed, normal gas exchange is compromised, air movement into and out of the lung tissue is decreased and hypoxia (low blood oxygen levels) may occur.

CAUSES OF PNEUMONIA

Primary viral, bacterial, and fungal infections occur, but pneumonia may complicate ANY pulmonary disease process. In wolfhounds, when we think of cases of pneumonia, we are primarily thinking of disease caused by bacteria, but it is uncommon for healthy dogs to develop these without underlying causes.

- **Infections** caused by viruses, such as influenza or distemper virus, fungal

infections, or even parasitic infections may damage the lung tissue and lead to secondary infections caused by bacteria.

- **Suppression of the immune system** increases the risk of infections by any organism. This immunosuppression may be caused by other infections, drug usage, or other severe metabolic disease.
- **Cancer** of any portion of the respiratory system
- **Prolonged recumbency** causes lung tissue on the lower side of the body to not be fully inflated. It is important to regularly turn patients who cannot get up on their own. This can cause collapse of the small airways and alveoli, increasing risk of infection. It is further complicated by any loss of consciousness or abnormal mental status, increasing risk of aspiration.
- **Anesthesia** stops the swallow reflex and relaxes the muscles at the entrance to the stomach that leads to gastric reflux. It also suppresses the cough reflex.
- **Trauma** may cause compromise of blood flow to the lungs and inflammation, providing conditions favorable to bacterial growth
- **Any compromise** of the physical defense mechanisms of the respiratory system. These may be acquired or congenital (present from birth) and these may have a heritable genetic component.
- **Ciliary Dyskinesia** is a defect in the activity of the cilia, small hairs that sweep mucous and trapped debris out of the airways. This may be a primary genetic disorder passed as an autosomal recessive trait, but this system can also be depressed by noxious substances and may be depressed by some viruses for as long as a year. Primary Ciliary Dyskinesia, or PCD, can only be definitively diagnosed by electron microscopy on samples of respiratory epithelium or spermatozoa and is therefore uncommonly made.

- **Laryngeal paralysis**, or LP, is an inherited congenital condition not reported in the Irish wolfhound. Acquired LP may be associated with hypothyroidism, but analysis does not support a causal relationship. Dogs diagnosed with LP should be tested for thyroid function, but treatment of this condition does not result in resolution of symptoms. LP may be the earliest sign of progressive generalized neurologic dysfunction, and while a definitive cause has not yet been found, an inheritable condition may be present in these individuals. Stridor, a harsh noise when breathing caused by failure of the arytenoid cartilages to relax, is the most obvious clinical sign.

- **Anatomical abnormalities**
- **Regurgitation**, vomiting or problems swallowing can lead to aspiration.
- **Megaesophagus** involves a decrease in normal muscle function and dilation of the esophagus, which causes retention of food without passage into the stomach and leads to a significant increased risk of aspiration. It can present as a congenital condition or in an

adult-onset form associated with a variety of conditions including myasthenia gravis.

- **Gastric reflux** occurs when stomach contents back up from the stomach into the lower esophagus. This is the primary mechanism by which anesthesia is a risk factor for aspiration pneumonias. Overproduction of stomach acid, the presence of hiatal hernias, and obesity make this condition much more likely.
- **Damage** to the respiratory epithelium from smoke inhalation, chemicals, or near drowning.

In any case of an individual dog who suffers from more than one episode of pneumonia in its lifetime or in cases where closely related dogs show this problem, it is imperative that we not only look closely for predisposing causes, but also consider that there is an inheritable risk factor in the line and plan future breedings accordingly.

¹ Occurrence of cardiorespiratory diseases and impact on lifespan in Swedish Irish Wolfhounds: a retrospective questionnaire-based study. Orleifson et al. *Acta Veterinaria Scandinavica* 2017; 59: 53.



Photo courtesy of Beth Renstrom

Hello Fellow PVIWC Club Members and Supporters,

I hope this message finds you and your hounds doing well. Our 2025 Irish Wolfhound Specialty Dog Show was a success! For those of you that supported your Club, THANK YOU! For those of you that may not know what a Specialty Dog Show is all about, I encourage you to join us for two days to see and watch a dog show only for Irish Wolfhounds.

As a valued member of the Potomac Valley Irish Wolfhound Club, you and your family have opportunities to join the Club in the events throughout the year as well as help at the dog show. Plan to join us March 29-30, 2026. PLEASE READ: The Club could use you! We are an independent specialty show. Most of the same people have carried the specialty for years, and age and health are taking their toll. No Skills Required: If you can read, write, have a great speaking voice, or if you are the quiet type, the Club can use you. If you want to sell raffle tickets, the Club can use you. We need you as a Club member.

Do you already know your schedule for March 2026, and know you can't make it? That is okay, you can still help by financially Sponsoring ribbons, trophies, prizes, or make a General Show Fund Donation for 2026. How? Easy, simply make a check out payable to PVIWC Treasurer (memo note "General Show Funds", or ribbons, etc,) and send to: PVIWC Treasurer, 1348 Sycamore Ave, Annapolis, MD 21403. You may also pay via PayPal using the email pviwctreasury@gmail.com. Please add a note breaking down the amounts of the payment – dues, trophies, ribbons, General Show Fund, rescue, etc. If you have questions about your Club Membership dues or if you think you have already paid, please send an inquiry to: pviwctreasury@gmail.com or to the Club's Secretary, Susan Wine at sulowine@aol.com

Remember, PVIWC welcomes volunteers for the following positions:

Set up (Friday or Saturday requirement) / Catalog sales / Armbands / Stewards /
Grounds / Breakdown (needed Monday afternoon)
and Judges Hospitality (responsible for judges' transportation, taking them out to
dinner, escorting
them to the ring, and so on)

SAVE the DATE:

PVIWC 2026 Specialty Show

Sunday and Monday, March 29-30, 2026

Interested in volunteering? Please contact Tammy at elkhorniws@gmail.com



Dear Friends of the Potomac Valley Irish Wolfhound Club,

The Potomac Valley Irish Wolfhound Club's (PVIWC) Specialty is scheduled to take place March 30-31, 2026. Every year members, friends, and exhibitors financially contribute to sponsor trophies and ribbons, either in whole or in part. It has been through these generous contributions that the PVIWC specialty is a success.

Many individuals contribute in various ways: some work up front under the main tent; some work behind the scenes to ensure the rings, tables and tents are up for the shows and help breakdown the same, after the final show; some make donations to the raffle; and some through monetary donations. On behalf of the PVIWC, I express great appreciation to past contributors.

I ask you to consider sponsoring or making a financial donation to this year's general trophy fund. Your donation(s) will help sponsor the trophies and ribbons this year. There is no such thing as a donation too small.

To contribute, please complete the attached form and mail it along with your donation (**check payable to PVIWC**) to:

Christina Buckner

PVIWC Treasurer and Show Secretary

1348 Sycamore Ave., Annapolis, MD 21403

Or, if you prefer to donate via PayPal, you may do so via our club website, pviwc.org.

Under the tab "About Us", scroll down, click yellow donation link, and be sure note that it is a specialty/trophy donation.

Your donations for the 2026 Specialty are greatly appreciated. Thank you for your continuing generosity.

Sincerely,

PVIWC Trophy Committee

Ribbon and Trophy Sponsorship Specification and Guide

Sponsorship of First in each class-\$18.00

Sponsorship of Third in each class-\$12.00

Sponsorship of Second in each class-\$15.00

Sponsorship of Fourth in each class-\$10.00

Or Sponsor the entire class for \$50.00

_____ 6-9 mo. Dog 1 2 3 4

_____ 6-9 mo. Bitch 1 2 3 4

_____ 9-12 mo. Dog 1 2 3 4

_____ 9-12 mo. Bitch 1 2 3 4

_____ 12-15 mo. Dog 1 2 3 4

_____ 12-15 mo. Bitch 1 2 3 4

_____ 15-18 mo. Dog 1 2 3 4

_____ 15-18 mo. Bitch 1 2 3 4

_____ Novice Dog 1 2 3 4

_____ Novice Bitch 1 2 3 4

_____ AOH Dog 1 2 3 4

_____ AOH Bitch 1 2 3 4

_____ Bred-By Dog 1 2 3 4

_____ Bred-By Bitch 1 2 3 4

_____ Am-Bred Dog 1 2 3 4

_____ Am-Bred Bitch 1 2 3 4

_____ Open Dog 1 2 3 4

_____ Open Bitch 1 2 3 4

_____ Veteran Dog 1 2 3 4

_____ Veteran Bitch 1 2 3 4

_____ Stud Dog 1 2 3 4

_____ Brood Bitch 1 2 3 4

_____ Obedience - \$50

_____ Rally - \$50

Trophy Sponsorship/Mementos to Challenge Trophies Donation

_____ Best of Breed \$125
\$50

_____ Reserve Winners Dog

_____ Best of Opposite \$50	\$115	_____ Reserve Winners Bitch
_____ Best of Winners \$30	\$100	_____ Bred-By-Exhibitor Dog
_____ Winners Dog \$30	\$100	_____ Bred-By-Exhibitor Bitch
_____ Winners Bitch \$40	\$100	_____ Best BBE
_____ Am-Bred Dog \$30	\$30	_____ Am-Bred Bitch
_____ Open Dog \$30	\$30	_____ Open Bitch
_____ Best Puppy \$30	\$75	_____ Veteran Bitch
_____ Best in Sweeps \$50	\$75	_____ BoS to BI Sweeps

Name Phone

Address E-mail

City, State Zip

To secure recognition in the Premium/Catalog, donations must be received no later than 14 November. Please make known the class you wish to sponsor in preferential order. All attempts

at accommodating your request will be made. If you have no preference place an "X" in the no preference box.

First Choice Class Donation: _____

Second Choice Class Donation: _____

Third Choice Class Donation: _____
Preference:

No

Feel free to contact Christina Buckner via e-mail at: ckallay@verizon.net



PVIWC List of Meeting & Events 2026

- January 11** **Regular Meeting - Zoom**
- January 24** *Irish Wolfhound Association of Lake Erie Specialty Bayfront Convention Center, Erie, PA*
- February 8** **Regular Meeting**
- March 2026** **St. Patrick's Day Parades**
- March 7 Alexandria, VA
 - March 8 Annapolis, MD
 - March 14 Manassas, VA
 - March 14 Gaithersburg, MD
 - March 15 Baltimore, MD
 - March 21 Harrisburg, PA
- March 8 & 9** *Irish Wolfhound Assoc of the Carolinas Specialty Durham Kennel Club, 7318 Guess Road, Durham NC*
- March 14** Westminster Celtic Center
- March TBD** **Ellicott City Historic Downtown**
- March 29 & 30** *Our Specialty at Harford County Equestrian Center, Bel Air, MD (Meeting Following Judging)*
- April 17 & 18** Dills Celtic Festival, Dills Tavern, 237 Baltimore St, Dillsburg, PA
- April TBD** **Southern MD Celtic Festival**

May 28 & 29	Annapolis Irish Festival, Anne Arundel County Fairgrounds, 1450 Crownsville, MD
May 2 & 3	Faerie Festival Marshy Point Rocky Point Park in Baltimore County, MD. 2200 Rocky Point Rd, Essex
May 17	Show Wrap Up Meeting
May 18-21	<i>IWCA National Specialty Purina Farms St Louis, MO</i>
June 13 & 14	Carroll County Celtic Festival, Carroll County Ag Center, Westminster, MD
June 21	Regular Meeting
June 20	Penn Mar Irish Festival, Shrewsbury, PA
June	<i>Celtic Fling (with a concert on Friday night) PA Renn Faire grounds</i>
August 9	Regular Meeting
September 13	Fun Day
September	PA Renn Faire Shamrocks and Shenanigans Weekend
October	<i>Irish Wolfhound Assoc of the Delaware Valley Specialty</i>
October 18	Regular Meeting
November 13, 14 & 15	Maryland Irish Festival, Timonium, MD
November 15	Regular Meeting
December 13	Holiday Party
December	<i>Druid Hill Winter Solstice 5-Miler, Baltimore, MD</i>
December	<i>Military Bowl Parade, Annapolis, MD</i>

Dates, Time, or location to be determined and subject to change on some events.

Volunteers needed to host meetings or to make arrangements for a place to meet.

