



MARCH 2026



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Our Specialty Show:

March 29th, Sunday and March 30th, Monday
Harford County Equestrian Center

Your help is needed to help make our show a success. Even a couple of hours each day could make a huge difference. Please contact a board member or the show chair to let us know when you can help. Thank you.

Condolences to Val Sopko on the loss of her hound, Liam.

Congratulations to Eileen & Joe on the new puppy, Fennel and to Val on her new puppy, Finian.

Congratulations to the Coffels on six brand new puppies born on February 23rd/24th to their Sophia and Faoladh. All are doing well.

Board Members Info.PVIWC@gmail.com
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Joe Caballe
Judy Chantelois
Timo Gerlings

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

PRESIDENT'S CORNER continued

LAST CHANCE TO DONATE AND HELP OUT YOUR CLUB

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 Second in each class-\$15.00

Or Sponsor the entire class for \$50.00

Sponsorship of Third in each class-\$12.00

Sponsorship of Fourth in each class-\$10.00

_____ 6-9 mo. Dog 1 2 3 4

_____ 9-12 mo. Dog 1 2 3 4

_____ 12-15 mo. Dog 1 2 3 4

_____ 15-18 mo. Dog 1 2 3 4

_____ Novice Dog 1 2 3 4

_____ AOH Dog 1 2 3 4

_____ Bred-By Dog 1 2 3 4

_____ Am-Bred Dog 1 2 3 4

_____ Open Dog 1 2 3 4

_____ Veteran Dog 1 2 3 4

_____ Stud Dog 1 2 3 4

_____ 6-9 mo. Bitch 1 2 3 4

_____ 9-12 mo. Bitch 1 2 3 4

_____ 12-15 mo. Bitch 1 2 3 4

_____ 15-18 mo. Bitch 1 2 3 4

_____ Novice Bitch 1 2 3 4

_____ AOH Bitch 1 2 3 4

_____ Bred-By Bitch 1 2 3 4

_____ Am-Bred Bitch 1 2 3 4

_____ Open Bitch 1 2 3 4

_____ Veteran Bitch 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

_____ Best of Opposite \$115

_____ Best of Winners \$100

_____ Winners Dog \$100

_____ Winners Bitch \$100

_____ Am-Bred Dog \$30

_____ Open Dog \$30

_____ Best Puppy \$75

_____ Reserve Winners Dog \$50

_____ Reserve Winners Bitch \$50

_____ Bred-By-Exhibitor Dog \$30

_____ Bred-By-Exhibitor Bitch \$30

_____ Best BBE \$40

_____ Am-Bred Bitch \$30

_____ Open Bitch \$30

_____ Veteran Bitch \$30

_____ Best in Sweeps \$75

_____ BoS to BI Sweeps \$50

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: _____

No Preference:



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

My opinion on 'Booties' for my wolfhound.

Susan Wine

There has been a bit of talk about what to use on your wolfhounds' paws to protect them. I have tried a number of kinds of footwear for our wolfhound, Tyr. He got to where he would not walk on tile floors. He slipped once then would not walk on them again. You all know that if your wolfhound does not want to go somewhere it is virtually impossible to make them. He would stand in the hall and just cry. He would not go across the tiled kitchen floor even for his food. We solved the issue in the house by putting rugs everywhere so he would walk into the kitchen. He was a therapy dog. We visited schools, hospitals and other facilities that had tile floors. I needed to find something he would wear so we could continue visiting these places.



If you are just looking for something in your home, I have used children's socks with the gripping stuff on the bottom. I would put them on Tyr and secure them with duct tape. No, I would not tape them onto his leg and hair. I would tape around the top of the sock so it would be tighter and not slip off easily.

The first picture is of something I would use if I only needed it for only a short time. It is basically a thick balloon. The opening is very tight, so you do not want them on for an extended time. It does take a bit to get it on their big paws. But if your wolfhound has a cut or there is another reason you want it to be covered temporarily this works. They are not durable enough for a wolfhound if they are outside walking around. In the house, if there is a cut that was bleeding and you wanted to contain and protect it, this is an option.

Now to get something that is more durable and you can use outdoors. I have tried three different types.



The first pair, black and grey, I tried are from Top Paw. They worked okay. I found they came off easily. There is only one velcro strap at the top to hold them on. They were a little short so made it difficult to secure them for really rough terrain or extended walking. He could easily pull them off. The second pair, blue and grey, are from Acadia Trail. They worked better. The top was a little longer so had more room to secure them. The velcro seem to work better. Again there was only the one velcro strap to hold them on. Tyr wore both of these and wore them out. You can see how the bottoms were getting smooth.

The best pair I found were also from Acadia Trail. They upgraded their product. These worked very well. There were three methods to secure them on tightly so they would not randomly fall off. There was a cord at the top to tighten and a velcro strap around the top. A velcro strap across the foot. The bottom had very durable tread. They also came in a nice pouch with a caribiner to easy transport.



One question I was always asked is if he liked wearing them. No, he did not like wearing them, however, he did stop walking funny after a short period of time. He tolerated them. He knew he would not slip if he had his shoes on. If one came off when we were walking, he would sit down until I put it back on. We walked an entire parade with him wearing one on only one paw. It did stay on the entire time. With these on Tyr and I were able to continue visiting facilities with tile floors.

This is not an endorsement of a product. It is just something that worked for us. I know that products purchased for a wolfhound can get expensive because you must get the largest size. I hope this helps, so you do not have to buy several products to find what will work for your hound. Acadia Trail is available through PetSmart. I am sure you can find them on other websites. Finding products that are durable is a challenge. I find looking at sites that gear their products toward working dogs such as military or police forces have a more durable product. Products that cater to hiking or sled dogs where they are in extreme terrain also work. They also have reviews from individuals that have used them.

Dublin Coddle

shared by Eileen Menzil

Adapted from The Gourmet Slow Cooker by Lynn Alley, 2003 Ten Speed Press.

A warming and unassuming Irish stew, this recipe doesn't require a lot from the chef or from the grocery store. A note on the sausages– use any you like, but Italian sausages haven't worked too well for us.

Ingredients

4 slices bacon

6 to 8 pork bangers or other mild pork sausages

2 yellow onions, sliced

2 to 3 large potatoes, peeled and sliced

2 carrots, peeled and sliced

1 cup of chicken stock, hard cider, ale, or water

Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Directions

Pull out your Dutch oven or other sturdy oven proof pot. Preheat oven to 300F.

Fry bacon in pot until crisp, then remove from pot and set on a paper towel lined plate to drain.

Add sausages to pot and brown on all sides on medium-high heat. Remove from pot.

Add onions to pot and saute until soft. Remove half of onions from pot and set aside.

Layer all ingredients in the pot in the following order, sprinkling lightly with salt and pepper after each layer:

Half of onions.

Half of potatoes, spread out in a uniform layer.

Strips of bacon.

Sausages.

Carrots.

Remaining half of onions

Remaining half of potatoes.

Pour one cup of liquid over the top, then bake, covered, in a hot oven for 45 minutes. Check the doneness of potatoes and carrots and decide how much additional time you need. Doneness will depend on how thinly (or not) you've sliced your vegetables.

Can be made in a slow cooker- sauté your bacon, sausages, and onion in a separate pan, then layer ingredients in your slow cooker in the order above. Cook on low 6 hours, or until you get back from a St. Patrick's parade and need a hot and comforting bowl of Dublin Coddle.

Baltimore County Animal Services

06 February 2026 at 6:36 am

Rabies Vaccine Recall Notice – Additional Information for Pet Owners!!

This week, Baltimore County Animal Services was notified by our rabies vaccine distributor, Boehringer Ingelheim, of a voluntary recall involving the IMRAB rabies vaccine, serial number 18665. There is no risk of harm; the recall is being conducted as a precautionary measure, and we recommend all impacted pets be re-vaccinated to ensure they develop protection.

What's next:

→BCAS has identified the doses from this serial number were used in our facility from October 2025-January 2026 and has emailed/sent letters to the contacts associated with impacted pets.

→Pet owners can also review their pets' Rabies Certificate for the impacted serial number: 18665.

If your pet received a vaccine from the recalled lot, BCAS will provide re-vaccination at no cost. Call 410-887-7297 or animalservices@baltimorecountymd.gov to schedule an appointment.

If you need help identifying if your pet is impacted, please message us on Facebook. Please do not email or call, as staff are busy scheduling appointments in addition to daily tasks.

We appreciate the community's understanding and cooperation as we take these proactive steps to ensure the continued health and safety of pets in our care and the community.

RABIES VACCINE

RECALL

Baltimore County Department of Health

410-887-PAWS

Rabies Vaccination Certificate

Impound Number [REDACTED]
Name [REDACTED]
Species Cat
Primary breed-type DOMESTIC SHORT HAIR
Secondary breed-type
Color/pattern TORBIE /
Gender Female
Age 10 Months
Altered Yes
Weight 7.0 lb
Microchip [REDACTED]
Rabies tag no. [REDACTED]
Owner Name Baltimore County Animal Services
Owner Address 13800 Manor Road, Baldwin, Maryland 21013
Owner Telephone 410-887-PAWS

Our vaccine distributor is initiating a recall of a batch of rabies vaccines.

There is no risk of harm, but the vaccine may not have been effective.

BCAS will reach out to impacted owners.

Pet owners can also check their pets' rabies certificate for the recalled serial number.

Rabies vaccine manufacturer/date/type Boehringer Ingelheim Rabies Vaccine Killed Virus Imrab® 3 TF
Rabies vaccine serial number 18665
Date Vaccinated 10/30/2025
Vaccination Expires 10/30/2026

Preparing Your Dog for Spring

By Harriet Meyers, Updated: Mar 26, 2025 **AKC**

When the flowers start to bloom and spring fever strikes, you'll want to make sure you and your dog are ready. Luckily, there are steps you can take to ensure that this lovely season is an enjoyable and safe one.

Spring Health Preventatives for Dogs

Spring checkups are a great time to check to see if your dog's weight changed over the winter months. Be sure to discuss any medical or behavioral changes you've noticed in your dog with your veterinarian. Knowing your dog has a clean bill of health can allow you and your dog to better enjoy any outdoor activities.

Heartworm in Dogs

Heartworm is a threat to dogs when mosquitoes breed in warm weather. When infected mosquitoes bite, the worms embed into the dog, eventually damaging the dog's heart, lungs, and arteries. To prevent heartworm, veterinarians recommend having your dog tested annually and dosing them with a heartworm prevention medication year-round.

Dog Flea and Tick Prevention

Fleas and ticks are also more prevalent when outdoor temperatures rise. Fleas are irritating to a dog's skin and difficult to get rid of. Certain types of ticks can carry dangerous conditions, such as Lyme disease and Rocky Mountain spotted fever. To protect your pet, ask your veterinarian for preventatives such as a prescription pill, topical ointment, or a flea collar. Be sure to check your dog when coming back from wooded or grassy areas, too.



RichLegg via Getty Images

Spring Allergies in Dogs

Spring allergies sometimes cause uncomfortable reactions to pollen in dogs, as well as humans. However, instead of a runny nose, dogs typically get very itchy, especially on their feet, front legs, ears, and face, causing them to scratch, lick, or bite. While some breeds are more susceptible, any dog can suffer from allergies. Allergy shots, special shampoos, washing their bedding, and wiping off their feet and legs after they're outside may help relieve these reactions.

Bee Stings in Dogs

Bee sting allergies are rare in dogs, but they're serious and potentially deadly. If your dog is allergic to bee stings or has a history of anaphylaxis, your veterinarian may prescribe an EpiPen, and you'll need to keep it readily available when your dog is outdoors.

Spring Home Care for Dogs

As the weather warms up, it's important to make a few adjustments to ensure your dog can be comfortable and safe at home.

Spring Grooming for Dogs

Spring grooming for dogs comes to mind when temperatures rise and shedding increases. Brushing your dog can remove dead hairs. Shaving the coat of double-coated breeds, such as Labrador Retrievers and Australian Shepherds, however, is a bad idea. Losing the protection of their coat can make dogs hotter. Leave at least one inch of hair to protect your dog from sunburn, skin cancer, and bug bites.



Agnes Scholiers / Alamy Stock Photo

Keeping Your Dog Inside

Screens on windows and doors keep insects outside and your dog inside. Dogs love to look out the window and may not hesitate to jump out to chase a squirrel, even from a second floor. Check your screens to make sure they're strong and secure.

Keeping Your Home Cool

Cooling down your home is important for your comfort and critical to your dog. Air conditioning and fans are great, but it's also important to be prepared in case you lose power. Cooling cloths, pads, and vests can help keep your dog's body temperature regulated. Rubbing alcohol and spray bottles of water will also cool down your dog.

Outdoor Protection for Dogs

While it's fun to spend time outside with your dog, warm weather and certain outdoor activities come with some risks. Here's some precautions you can take while enjoying the outdoors.

Garden Hazards for Dogs

Garden hazards become an issue when the weather is nice, and your dog will spend more time in your yard. You'll need to ensure that your yard is secure, and check if your plants, fertilizers, and mulch are poisonous to dogs. Be sure to review which plants are poisonous to dogs before purchasing any new bulbs or plants for your yard. It's also a good idea to clean up the ground under bird feeders because dogs can develop gastritis from eating moldy seeds or bird droppings.



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Sunscreen for Dogs

Sunscreen can help protect dogs who are susceptible to sunburn. If your dog has a thin or white coat or is a hairless breed, you need to provide your dog with plenty of shade and apply only a sunscreen made especially for dogs or babies.

Heatstroke in Dogs

Heatstroke becomes a bigger threat as your dog spends more time outside. Be sure to keep plenty of fresh water available, and, as the temperature rises, monitor your dog's exercise routine. While they might be delighted to spend all day retrieving a tennis ball, be sure to keep track of when it's time to call it quits. Never leave a dog unattended in a car with closed windows any time temperatures are greater than 60 degrees Fahrenheit.

Outdoor Events with Dogs

Barbeques and backyard parties are occasions for tasty food and fun, but they can also come with some hazards for dogs. Make sure your yard is secure when you and your guests are coming and going, keep your dog away from hot grills and fire, and remember that some foods and drinks, such as grilled hot dogs, chicken bones, corn cobs, ice cream, or beer, can upset your dog's stomach and may even be toxic.



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Spring Outings with Your Dog

Whether your seasonal plans include hiking, road-tripping, or just a day at the park, a little preparation goes a long way in keeping your dog safe and happy during outings.

First Aid for Dogs

Planning and packing for emergencies will help keep your dog safe when you travel. Up-to-date microchip information and collar tags allow someone to contact you if you and your dog are separated. A first-aid kit for your dog is essential in emergencies.

Importance of Car Safety

Never leave your dog alone in your vehicle. Although the weather may seem pleasant to you, a car will heat up quickly, even with the windows cracked open. Many states have laws that prevent people from leaving dogs unattended in vehicles.



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Refresh Obedience Training

Reinforce your dog's obedience training before you head into the woods. With distractions like rabbits and other wildlife, your dog may be tempted to run off. Teach your dog to come when called, even when they'd like to ignore you.

Grass-Awn Disease in Dogs

Grass-awn disease can occur after a dog runs through a field containing foxtails or other barbed grasses. Foxtails enter a dog through the toes, ears, eyes, mouth, or nose. They're painful, cause swelling, and can travel into the lungs and result in pneumonia. The best prevention is to keep your dog away from areas with foxtails or fields of tall grasses.

Water Safety for Dogs

Not all dogs are natural swimmers, and keeping your dog safe around water is essential. Whether you're heading to the pool, the beach, or a lake, here's some safety tips to keep in mind.

Dog Pool Safety

Pool safety is important. Dogs should never have access to a swimming pool when you're not there to watch them. Consider fencing your pool to avoid your dog accessing it when you're not around. Teach your dog where to enter and exit a pool. Don't allow your dog to swim while wearing a dangling tag that can get caught in a drain. Purchase a life jacket for your dog, especially if you take them boating or swimming in open water.



Going to the Beach with Your Dog

Beach trips can be fun outings for you and your dog, but make sure to protect them from swallowing lots of salt water, sand, or seaweed. Keep them in the shade and apply sunscreen specifically formulated for dogs. Prevent your dog from eating sand and remember that hot sand can hurt your dog's paws. If temperatures soar, leave your dog home.

Blue-Green Algae and Dogs

Blue-green algae, potentially deadly to dogs, is found in some lakes and ponds during warm-weather seasons. Keep your dog on a leash around bodies of water, don't allow them to drink from a pond or lake, and look out for signs posted that warn of algae.

What to Do if Your Puppy Keeps Going Potty in the Crate

By Harriet Meyers, Published: Jan 06, 2021, Updated: Sep 23, 2023 **AKC**



@duncanandison – stock.adobe.com

Many owners use a dog crate to help potty train their puppy. Crates can be extremely helpful in house-training dogs, but some puppies soil their crates – the very problem you're trying to avoid by using the crate in the first place. What do you do if your puppy's regularly peeing or pooping in their crate?

Why Is My Puppy Soiling Their Crate?

The first consideration is how often this happens. A few accidents when your puppy's been in the crate for too long may not be a cause for concern. After all, most puppies sometimes get upset stomachs, which can result in crate soiling.

Unless the dog is making it a frequent habit to pee or poop in the crate, there's no cause for concern. But if eliminating in the crate is becoming a habit, you can take steps to figure out why this is happening, as well as ways to prevent it.

How to Deal With Puppies Going Potty in Crates:

Consider Taking Your Dog to the Vet

Bringing your dog to the vet for a check-up is a great idea to rule out any underlying medical conditions. The vet can make sure your puppy doesn't have a urinary tract infection or any other type of illness that could physically prevent them from holding their bladder for an adequate period of time. A medication your puppy is taking or a vaccine they've received may also be causing this side effect.



pyotr021/Getty Images Plus via Getty Images

Keep an Eye on What They Eat

Watch what your puppy eats off the ground when you're outside. Eating something that upsets their stomach could result in doggie diarrhea or loose stools, and you may see a puppy pooping in crates.

Talk to your vet about whether your puppy's food or treats could be irritating their stomach.

Listen to Your Puppy

If the problem is happening at night, it may be that your puppy and their bladder haven't developed enough to hold it all night long. Many young puppies will need to be carried outside quietly once during the night until they are several months old. Keep an ear open at night so you can hear if your dog is indicating they need to go out.

Make Sure Your Dog's Been Introduced Properly to the Crate

Your puppy should see their crate as a quiet refuge or den, rather than a space that causes them anxiety. If they're unsure about the crate, build up positive associations with the crate. During the day, give them their puppy food, puppy chew toy, or puppy toy stuffed with a spreadable treat while they're in the crate. When your dog goes into the crate willingly, give them a puppy treat.

Keep Track of Time

There's a general rule of thumb for calculating how long your puppy can "hold it" before needing to go outside. You add the number of months in age they are, plus one, and get the number of hours possible. So if your puppy is 3 months old, they should be able to go about four hours before needing to go outside.

Before you put the puppy in the crate, take them outside and watch to see that they do their business every time. If they're still peeing in the crate, they may need more frequent potty breaks, whether with you or a dog walker.

Set a Feeding Schedule

Keep your puppy's meals on a regular schedule. This will give you an idea of when the puppy will need to go out. Young puppies eat three times a day. What goes in on a regular schedule will come out on a regular schedule. For example, if you feed your puppy at 8 a.m., noon, and 5 p.m.,

their elimination schedule should become pretty predictable. This may prevent puppy pooping in crates.



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Limit Space in the Crate

Your puppy's crate should be just big enough for them to turn around and lie down. Many crates have dividers to keep the space small until your dog starts to grow – and then you can remove it.

Dogs are naturally clean and don't like to soil where they sleep. So you don't want the crate to be so big that the puppy chooses one side as the bathroom area. Use a separate dog pen, rather than the crate, to contain your puppy for longer periods of time.

Take Bedding Out of the Crate

If you follow the above steps and your dog is still soiling their crate, consider removing the puppy's bedding. Some dogs learn that they can soil the crate and cover the mess with their bedding, while some puppies prefer to pee or poop on something soft, like their bed.

Removing the bedding for a short time can teach your dog that it's in their best interest not to soil the crate, since they won't want to lie in their pee or poop.

If You Find an Accident, Carry Them Outside

If you do find an accident in the crate, carry the puppy outside to their potty spot. Next, clean up the crate with a dog-safe cleaning product that will neutralize the odor, and wash the bedding.

Many puppies may have an occasional accident in the crate for a number of reasons, but if the behavior becomes frequent, talk to your veterinarian. You may also want to consult an animal behaviorist.

In the meantime, stay calm and be patient. Since dogs can sense people's stress, we don't want to accidentally make the puppy more anxious. This may make the problem worse.

***For all of us who have had to make the hardest decision
for our beloved hounds.***

The Last Battle

If it should be that I grow weak,
And pain should keep me from my sleep,
Then you must do what must be done,
For this last battle cannot be won.
You will be sad, I understand;
Don't let your grief then stay your hand.
For this day more than all the rest,
Your love for me must stand the test.
We've had so many happy years –
What is to come can hold no fears.
You'd not want me to suffer so;
The time has come, so let me go.
Take me where my needs they'll tend
And please stay with me until the end.

Hold me firm and speak to me
Until my eyes no longer see.
I know in time that you will see
The kindness that you did for me.
Although my tail its last has waved,
From pain and suffering I've been saved.
Please do not grieve – it must be you
Who had this painful thing to do.
We've been so close, we two, these years –
Don't let your heart hold back its tears.

Poem is by an unknown author

Expert Tips for Issues Between Multiple Pets

By Stephanie Gibeault, MSc, CPDT, Published: Nov 03, 2023 **AKC**



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AKC GoodDog Helpline (GDH) is our telephone and video dog training consultation service, offering live, personalized help with to answer

questions about training your puppy or dog! We're celebrating GoodDog Helpline's tenth year in 2023, so we've rounded up the most common questions that our dog trainers hear from owners just like you. A common question is, "How do I handle multiple pets?"

When you love animals, it's tempting to have lots of pets. After all, if owning one dog is wonderful, it must be even better to have two or three! But living in a household with multiple dogs comes with its own special challenges, like preventing a free-for-all at mealtimes. And having cats and dogs in the same house can require extra effort to maintain order between the species. So, how do you handle multiple pets?

Whether you want to prevent jealousy, minimize conflict, or bond with each animal, there are ways to manage a multi-pet household. These 10 tips will allow you to balance the needs of your pets so you can all truly benefit from each other's company.

10. Establish a Stable Routine

Routine is comforting for dogs, and that's particularly true for multi-pet homes. Knowing when to expect exercise, playtime, meals, etc. can ease anxiety and boost confidence. You don't have to be overly rigid but plan your pets' schedules and try to be consistent. Make sure every day involves interaction with each pet. But it's also important to include daily alone time for young dogs (cats have that down pat) as that can help them learn to be independent and will go a long way to preventing separation anxiety.

2. Set Aside Time for Each Pet

Each of your pets should get a chance to spend time with you every day. It might be tempting to focus on a new puppy rather than a well-behaved older dog. Or to assume your cat is fine living solo. But favoring one pet over the other can lead to jealousy and behavior problems. After all, acting up is a great way to get the attention your pet is likely craving. Try to combine meeting the needs of your pets with your own needs. For example, if you need to unwind each evening, that's a great time to hang out with your cat, but you can increase your step count by hiking with your dog.



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3. Provide One-on-One Play and Bonding Time

Training, exercise, grooming, and just plain hanging out are all important, but make sure your schedule includes one-on-one time with each pet for play and bonding too. Consider each pet's favorite activities and build them into your day. That might be playing fetch for one dog and agility training for another. Or consider taking your dogs for walks individually so each pet gets special time with you. While you are with one pet, make sure the other is happy on their own. Consider placing them in a crate, exercise pen, or gated pet-safe area with a much-loved treat like a food-stuffed chew toy.

4. Train Pets Separately

One of the trickiest elements of dog training is teaching your dog to ignore distractions. And what's more distracting than another pet? It's impossible for puppies to learn when there are more exciting things to do than listen to you! And even well-behaved dogs can lose their focus when another pet runs across the room. That's why you should train your dogs separately. Work with one dog at a time and place the other dog in a crate or a different room. You can also use a leash or tether to prevent dogs from interfering with each other while you train.

5. Feed Pets Separately

One of the most important things in your pets' lives is food. That's why it can often be the source of competition and resource guarding. Prevent

issues by feeding your pets in separate areas. That includes high value treats and food-stuffed toys too. For example, you might feed each dog in their own crate which has the bonus of building positive associations with that space. Or feed your cat on an elevated surface to keep your dog away. Plus, separating pets at mealtimes makes it far easier to manage your dog's weight and nutrition or notice when a pet has lost their appetite.

6. Provide Private Areas for Each Pet



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Ensure each pet has a private place for rest or alone time. These personal retreats will help alleviate conflict and allow each pet to get away when they aren't in the mood to socialize. Cats can use elevated areas like cat trees or windowsill perches to avoid your dogs' attention. And a cat door can keep your dog out of the room containing the cat's litter box. Place dog crates in a quiet location for when your dog wants to unwind.

7. Make the Crate a Happy Place

Because they provide so many benefits, particularly in a multi-pet home, it's important to teach your dogs to love spending time inside their crates. Make the crate a relaxing and positive place. Always provide your dog with a treat or toy when they're inside to occupy their time and build happy associations. If you've placed your dog inside so you can focus on another pet, move the crate to a secluded area so the dog doesn't get jealous of the other pet receiving attention nearby.

8. Supervise Interactions Between Pets

Although you can foster harmony between your pets, not all animals will get along. And even the best of furry friends can have spats. That's why it's important to supervise interactions between pets, particularly in the beginning when you're unsure of the outcome. You don't want a more rambunctious pet, like a new puppy, to bother an older or calmer pet. And you don't want fights over resources like toys or your attention.



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9. Separate Pets During Times of High Activity

When your household is bustling, such as when you have holiday visitors, it can become impossible to supervise your pets. Plus, that extra commotion may cause them stress and anxiety as their usual routine has been disrupted. In such situations, it's best to separate your pets. That will avoid conflict between them, help them stay calm, and prevent problem behavior.

10. Limit High-Arousal Play and Competitive Activities

As dogs can get jealous of other pets in the home, it's important not to encourage rivalry. That means minimizing competitive activities like having two dogs chase after the same ball. You want your pets to see each other as friends not opponents. It also helps if you don't rile up your pets while they're around each other. The more excited your dogs become, the more they may lose emotional control. An aroused pet is more likely to forget their manners and act badly.

If you need expert advice from experienced trainers or have additional dog training questions, visit the AKC GoodDog! Helpline page for an online chat or to register for the GDH program.

8th February Horse Arena Play Date





Sibling Rivalry

from [Wolfhound Poetry](#) by

[Philip Santilhano](#)

The gobbed on head, the pilfered meal
the biscuit meant for me
no car space right up next to dad
that's sibling rivalry

The push to say good morning first
the howling for mom's tea
the shoulder shove for ear scruffles
that's sibling rivalry

The ruck to get first to the leads
tummy rub opportunity
the face washing and the begging eyes
that's sibling rivalry

But when my family's sick or sore
then first in line I be
to lick their wounds and cheer them up
that's sibling rivalry

Dougal

(Dad's note: A blast from the past from the late, much missed Dougal. I had forgotten how sweet the young Dougal was.)



PVIWC List of Meeting & Events 2026

January 11	Regular Meeting
January 24	<i>Irish Wolfhound Association of Lake Erie Specialty Bayfront Convention Center, Erie, PA</i>
February 8	Regular Meeting
March 2026	<u>St. Patrick's Day Parades</u>
• 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	<i>Irish Wolfhound Assoc of the Carolinas Specialty Durham Kennel Club, 7318 Guess Road, Durham NC</i>
March 14	Westminster Celtic Center
March TBD	<i>Ellicott City Historic Downtown</i>
March 29 & 30	<i>Specialty Harford County Equestrian Center, Bel Air, MD (Meeting Following Judging)</i>
April 17 & 18	Dills Celtic Festival, Dills Tavern, 237 Baltimore St, Dillsburg, PA
April TBD	<i>Southern MD Celtic Festival</i>
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	<i>PA Renn Faire Shamrocks and Shenanigans Weekend</i>
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 5Miler, 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.

Need Volunteers to Host meetings.