

## Newsletter

August 2010

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### Training Tips

- Use variable rewards with your dog to reinforce good behavior after she has made the association between a verbal cue and a behavior.
- Be sure to communicate that your dog did something good with the word "yes".
- Keep your dog's attention by showing enthusiasm.

### Health Tip

If your veterinarian does not offer 24 hour emergency services, ask them for a recommendation in the area. Make sure to keep that number handy in case of emergency.

### Visit Our Friends



### Quick Links

[Our Website](#)  
[Training Programs](#)

### Greetings!

Thanks for subscribing to my monthly newsletter! Tell your friends about upcoming dog friendly events by forwarding this email using the link at the bottom of this newsletter.

### Preventing Bad Behavior



Leashes prevent jumping

In positive reinforcement training, we teach, acknowledge, and reward good behavior. But what about the bad behavior dog owners face daily from their best friend? Unwanted behavior should be prevented, ignored or redirected. That's a simple answer but incorporating the answer in every day life is a little more complicated. In this issue I will discuss the prevention portion of this strategy.

When I ask my clients about their goals with their dogs, they usually respond with a list of unwanted behaviors. Some of the more popular complaints are jumping up, running away, leash pulling, stealing, trash surfing, chewing, and house soiling. Here are some tips on how to prevent bad behavior.

1. Get organized. A puppy or adolescent dog can get into anything. Even the dog trainer's adult dog gets curious when she leaves the nightstand drawer open. Evidently pumice stones are irresistible to dogs - along with receipts and various foot lotions. Dog proof your house. Put away valuables like your cell phone, shoes, remote control, glasses, or anything else you value. Also put away items that could be dangerous to your dog like medicine, alcohol, cleaners, etc. Once you have everything put away keep the drawers and closet doors closed.

2. Use tools. Leashes prevent running away and jumping up. Crates prevent house soiling and chewing. Special head harnesses like the Gentle Leader prevent leash pulling. Dog trainers also like to use tools that are not specifically designed for dog training. Bedroom and bathroom doors and baby gates prevent dogs from doing bad behaviors where you are not supervising them or have not dog proofed the area. A well maintained outdoor fence will prevent your dog from running into the street. My favorite, the lidded trash can prevents trash surfing.

3. Satisfy your dog's basic needs. Give your dog appropriate exercise, nutritious food, mental stimulation, and attention. A satisfied dog is less likely to seek mischief.

Consult a dog trainer if you need help with equipment like leashes, crates, and collars. Set yourself up for success. Following these tips will make it easier for you to manage your dog's behavior.

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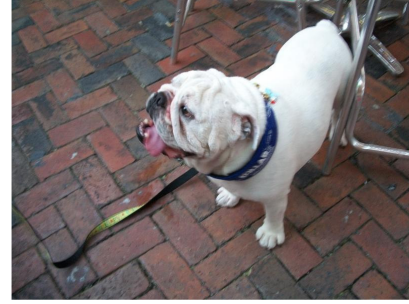
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## Keeping Your Dog Cool

There are wonderful products out there to help your dog. Last month, at the American Cancer Society Bark for Life, a 4 legged participant modeled the Kool Collar product. Brachycephalic or short nosed dogs are more susceptible to heat. This is a fabulous product so your dog can socialize even on a hot July evening.



The collar has ice

## Upcoming Events

**Dock Jumping and Dog Beach:** City of Dania Beach has a dog beach and dock for jumping open. Tigertail Lake is located at 280 Gulf Stream Way, Dania. [more details](#)

## Upcoming Classes at Oh Behave

September 11: Basic Obedience Lessons - Plantation Heritage Park  
Imagine teaching your dog basic commands sit, down, come, stay, and heel to the beat of your favorite tunes from the 80's and theme songs from your favorite movies and tv shows. We will address problem behaviors like jumping up, leash pulling, and play biting. Our positive, reward based program is a great bonding experience for you and your dog in a lovely shady setting at Plantation Heritage Park. Join us on Saturday mornings for more fun than humans should be allowed! [Click here for details and required registration forms.](#)

Puppy Kindergarten - Arfington Pet Resort - Tuesday Evenings 6pm  
Our positive, reward based program is a great bonding experience for you and your pup. Arfington™ Pet Resort is a safe, clean, and fun facility. The American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior (AVSAB) believes that it should be the standard of care that puppies should receive socialization before they are fully vaccinated. This introductory class covers housetraining, mouthing and play biting, social skills, handling, and an introduction to basic commands. Join us on Tuesday evenings for more fun than humans should be allowed! Pre-registration is required, but enrollment is open. [More info...](#)

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