

PUPPY CARE

MURPHY ROAD ANIMAL HOSPITAL

972-496-4126

www..murphyroadah.com

6114 Murphy Rd

Sachse, Texas 75048

"Whoever said you can't buy happiness
forgot little puppies."

~Gene Hill

GENERAL INFORMATION

972-496-4126
973-496-4136 fax

www.murphyroadah.com

HOURS OF OPERATION:

Monday	8:00 am . 6:00 pm
Tuesday	8:00 am . 6:00 pm
Wednesday	8:00 am . 6:00 pm
Thursday	8:00 am . 6:00 pm
Friday	8:00 am . 6:00 pm
Saturday	8:00 am . 12 Noon

BOARDING DROP OFF . All regular business hours

BOARDING PICK UP . All regular business hours

Saturday and Sunday at 5:00 pm

Lake Ray Hubbard Emergency Pet Care Center

130 and Broadway in Mesquite

open 6:00 pm to 7:00 am

972-226-3377

www.emergencypet.com

Emergency Animal Clinic

Pres George Bush Turnpike / 190 just west of Central

972-479-9110

www.dallasemergencyanimalclinic.com

MURPHY ROAD ANIMAL HOSPITAL

MISSION STATEMENT

Our goal is to be an important part of our community through the healthcare we provide for family pets. We believe these important family members contribute significantly to your daily lives and family values. We hope to help our patients thrive through client education, preventative medicine, and compassionate medical and surgical treatment.



James R. Moebius, DVM

Dr. Moebius graduated from Texas A&M in 1990. He opened Murphy Road Animal Hospital in January 1998. He and his wife, Carrolyn, have 3 children and 3 dogs.

Member of:

American Veterinary Medical Association
Texas Veterinary Medical Association
Texas Academy of Veterinary Practice
Board of Directors, Lake Ray Hubbard Emergency Pet Care Center
Member of the Sachse Chamber of Commerce
Board of Directors of the Murphy Chamber of Commerce

Katherine A. Mathes, DVM

Dr Mathes graduated from Purdue University and moved to Texas in 1995. She has practiced in several areas including emergency medicine for 5 years. Dr Mathes joined our staff in 2001 as a relief Doctor and is now a full time member of the Murphy Road Animal Hospital team.

Member of:

American Veterinary Medical Association
American Association of Feline Practitioners
Veterinary Cancer Society

Dr.Shaye D. Hohner

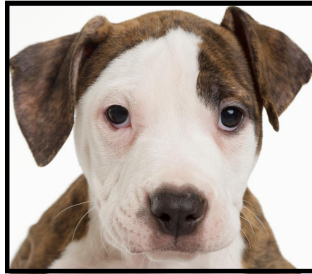
Dr. Hohner was born and raised Oklahoma City. She attended college at Texas A&M University and then returned and attended Oklahoma State College of Veterinary Medicine, graduating in 2004. After working as an environmental chemist for two years, she began practicing veterinary medicine in Oklahoma. Two years later she moved to Ft. Worth, Texas where she has worked until joining our staff March 28, 2011. Dr. Hohner and her husband are expecting their second child in February.

Member of:

American Veterinary Medical Association
Texas Veterinary Medical Association
Tarrant County Veterinary Medical Association

What is Petly?

Petly is a secure, private pet health website that gives you direct access to manage your pet's health 24/7. We're happy to provide Petly free of charge to all clients who have an active email address.



What can I do with Petly?

- View pet information
- Request appointments
- Receive important medical alerts and clinic news
- Post photos of your pets
- Order prescription refills
- Create and print instructions for pet sitters or kennel staff
- Access reliable information on a wide range of pet health topics
- View vaccination history
- Request email reminders about when to give your pet's medication
- Set up your account for receiving text appointment reminders

How can I get a Petly account?

It's simple! Just give us your email address and we'll email you an invitation. Follow the instructions in the invitation. We use email to alert clients about important practice and animal health news, such as updates to our services or product recalls.

Go to WWW.MURPHYROADAH.COM and click on Petly at the bottom of the page

See your pet on **Petly**
As your pet's personal health page,
Petly is a special place for you and
your pet. You're just one click away!



And Baby Makes... Adding a Baby to the Family

Newsletter of the American Animal Hospital Association

The arrival of a baby is a wonderful and joyous occasion for a family, but there is one member of the household – the family pet – who might need some special attention and understanding to cope with the new addition.

Most pets will need some extra attention when a family introduces a new baby to the order of the home. Dogs in particular may find it confusing and invasive when a new “member of the pack” enters the scene. A dog socializes in linear packs, which means it considers some family members as dominant to its own position and others as submissive. Initially, a dog probably sees the new baby in a lower pack order and may display dominant behavior. Watch for signs of aggression such as growling, ears down or laid back over the head, and crouching. Dogs who form deep bonds with their owner may also become depressed and stop eating.

Cats are less social than dogs and may choose to ignore the baby altogether. They do not socialize in packs, so they have little need to show aggression.

For them, the most annoying part of living with children is being bothered, although some cats form very close bonds with their owners and may feel rejection. Cats may also stop eating. If you observe aggressive behaviors in your pets, quickly correct them, but do not punish. Serious or lingering behavior problems should always be discussed with your veterinarian.

Before bringing baby home from the hospital, expectant parents should allow their family pets to go into the baby’s room and investigate the crib and other new furniture. If there are baby powders or others smells that the pets will eventually associate with the baby, let them explore the scents. It is probably best, however to keep your pets out of the room after the baby is home. Carefully allow your pets to see and smell your baby. Parent who panic and pull the child away when a dog or cat approaches are possibly sending the message that the baby is a threat. Plan to spend time with your
pets

Let them know they have not been replaced in the household. Pets may fear abandonment or rejection when the focus is switched to the new baby. Plan to take regular walks or have a game of fetch with your dog, or play favorite games with your cat. Give them personal time, just you and them.

Even with these precautions, some pets may never get used to children. Like people, they either accept children or they don’t. If a pet is raised around kids, generally there will be no real behavior problem. If the pet has not seen a “little person” before, you may have to closely supervise the interaction for a while. Also, if you have a pet that has been teased or mistreated by a child in the past, there will be significant obstacles to overcome.

As your children get older, it is imperative they learn how to respect and treat the family pet.

They should know that pets feel pain and get lonely when no one is around – just like people. Praise your children for gentleness and correct them for rough and unkind behaviors toward your pets. Children should also learn that dogs naturally chase, herd, catch, and fetch. Playfully grabbing a tail or running in the yard may be a dog’s invitation to chase and jump – a very natural response for a dog.

Remember in many instances, your pets were your “babies” first. They don’t really understand what is happening. Find ways to show them you love them just as much as always. Take quiet walks or hang out in the yard on a cool summer evening. Make meal times special times to be with you. A little bit of affection goes a long way toward making your furry family members happy

Fleas and Ticks

Fleas and ticks may pose a very real threat to the health and comfort of your pet. In addition to extreme discomfort, fleas and ticks can also cause serious health problems in pets and people.

Fleas



Few creatures can inflict more misery, ounce for ounce, than fleas. These tiny, **almost invisible** pests can make life miserable and disrupt your household with a vicious cycle of **biting and scratching**. Fleas may also cause flea **allergy dermatitis** in some pets.

Ticks



Often too tiny to be seen, ticks **attach to pets** and feed on blood until they are engorged. They thrive in high humidity and moderate temperatures, but can be found all over the country. Ticks may **carry and transmit diseases**, including Lyme disease, that can cause **serious health problems** for pets

At

Murphy Road Animal Hospital, we recommend NexGard Chewable for prevention of fleas and ticks.



Advantages of Spaying and Neutering Your Pet

We love our pets and want them to live a long and healthy life. One of the ways we can help your pet have a healthy life is to spay or neuter them.

The procedure prevents unwanted behaviors such as marking and aggression. It also reduces the chance of mammary cancer in females and prostatic disease in males, and controls the pet population crisis by avoiding unwanted pregnancies.

This is a surgical procedure performed optimally around 6 months of age. With the anesthetics we currently use the procedure is very safe.

Sedatives are used for initial relaxation and pain control followed by the latest and safest gas anesthesia. This allows for quick and smooth recoveries once the procedure is finished. Surgical monitors for respiration, temperature, ECG, oxygen saturation and blood pressure give a continuous update on the anesthetized patients condition.

Altering your pet will does not cause them to become fat and lazy or change their personality except to make a calmer, more devoted pet.



Brush my Pet's WHAT?



What would happen if you stopped brushing your own teeth? Even if you only ate hard food as most pets do, there still would be problems. You should be brushing your pet's teeth at least twice weekly, daily if you can manage it. It's not as difficult as you might imagine.

What are the benefits? Brushing removes the daily accumulation of plaque from the teeth. Even though pets do not commonly get cavities, they do suffer from periodontal disease. If untreated the gum disease can lead to pain and loss of teeth.

How to brush your Pet's Teeth

Step 1 - Select an appropriate time

Find a quiet, convenient time when you and your dog are both relaxed.

Step 2 - Acquaint your dog with the process.

For the first few sessions don't even use a toothbrush. Hold your dog the same as when you are cuddling her. Gently stroke the *outside* of her cheeks with your finger. After she becomes comfortable with that, place a dab of toothpaste on your finger and let her taste it. We usually suggest starting with C.E.T. poultry flavored toothpaste, because pets like the taste..



Step 3 - Introduce the Toothbrush

Place a small amount of toothpaste on the brush. In a slow circular motion, brush one or two teeth and the adjoining gum line. The purpose of this step is to get your dog accustomed to the feel of the brush.

Step 4 - Begin Brushing

Over the next several days, gradually increase the number of teeth brushed. It is important to eventually brush the rear teeth where plaque and tartar have a greater tendency to accumulate. Go slowly and gently.. Stop brushing when *you* decide to stop, before your dog begins to fuss. If she learns to dislike the procedure and finds out that more fussing makes you stop quicker, then this brushing business is going to get harder, not easier. Build up to about 30 seconds per side. Dogs don't get much tartar on the inside surfaces of their teeth, so you only need to worry about the outside surfaces. Be sure to brush the big teeth way in back.

MAKE TOOTH BRUSHING A PLEASANT EXPERIENCE.

Proceed slowly and gently. Stop each session while it is still fun and lavishly praise your dog afterwards. She will soon start looking forward to tooth brushing and it will become a pleasant activity for both of you.

New puppy?

Puppies are like babies. They need lots of love, attention and care . . .

They'll want to explore every part of your house and put everything into their mouths. For your puppy's safety, and your peace of mind, you will need to "PUPPY PROOF" your house.

Before bringing your new puppy home . . .

Look at your house from your puppy's point of view. Get down on the floor and make there aren't any coins, electrical cords, paper clips, rubber bands, panty hose, clothing, loose nails, plastic bags or other objects that your puppy will want to chew on or put in its mouth and swallow.

Move all household cleaners, laundry detergents, mothballs, antifreeze, insect poisons, rat poisons, etc. out of your puppy's reach. Some of these items taste good to your puppy and can be deadly. (dogs and cats love the taste of antifreeze)

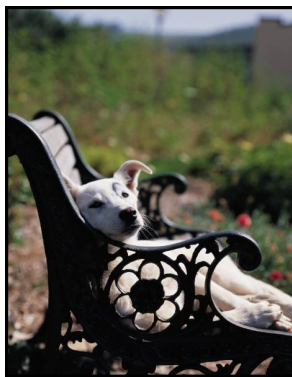
Call your local poison control center or you can click on the ASPCA's Poison Control website to find out more information on this topic:
www.aspca.org

Check your plants. Many plants in and around your house can make your puppy sick and even be fatal.



Puppy Tips

- Handle the face, ears and feet of your puppy daily. This gets them accustomed to people handling them. When you have to clean ears, give medications, brush teeth etc, this will make it much easier
- Be sure as many different people as possible hold and give snacks to your puppy. This will teach them that people are friendly and fun
- At least once daily, take their food away from them for 30 seconds then give it back to them. This will lessen the chance that they will have food aggression
- Brush their teeth from the day you get your new puppy
- Bathe them every two weeks or so. This will get them accustomed to that type of activity
- DO NOT take your puppy to parks, playgrounds or other public areas until fully vaccinated at approximately 4 . 6 months of age. Parvo virus is deadly to puppies and can be picked up without even seeing another dog
- Crate training is a valuable tool in training and raising your puppy. Your puppy can be as destructive (which is normal puppy behavior) and they generally will not urinate or defecate in their bed, so it aids in housetraining
- DO NOT let your puppy bite even in a playful manner
- We begin vaccines at 6-8 weeks of age and continue them every three weeks until they are 4-5 months of age
- We begin heartworm preventative at the first puppy visit. Heartworms are extremely prevalent in Texas. Monthly prevention all year long is a MUST!



YOUR PUPPY WELLNESS PLAN

Below you will find our vaccine and puppy visit protocols for your new puppy. Vaccines are an important part of your puppy's next few months. As he/she grows, they will receive vaccines every 3 weeks to keep their immune system working at peak performance

At 6 to 8 Weeks -We introduce the following topics during your first puppy visit:

*Housetraining *Socialization *Positive Reinforcement *Parvo Virus
*Heartworm Disease and Prevention *Feeding & Nutrition

We obtain a fecal sample in order to test for intestinal parasites. Your puppy will be given a prophylactic dewormer. Should your puppy's fecal test show positive an additional dewormer may be given.

The Veterinarian will perform a complete physical examination to be certain your new puppy is in good physical condition

We will begin your puppy's heartworm prevention at this visit. At each visit he/she will be weighed and the appropriate size heartworm prevention will be dispensed to your puppy

The Vaccines generally given at this visit are DHPP (distemper, hepatitis, parvo, parainfluenza) and Bordetella

At 9 - 11 weeks -We revisit the items discussed in the first visit and add to that grooming issues and oral care

If necessary an appropriate dewormer will be given

The Veterinarian will perform a complete physical examination to be sure your puppy is growing and maintaining good physical condition

We will dispense the appropriate size heartworm prevention.

The vaccines generally given at this visit are DHPP and Bordetella.

At 12 - 14 weeks - We will again discuss all the above topics along with spaying and neutering

The Veterinarian will perform complete exam making sure your puppy is growing and maintaining good physical condition

If necessary an appropriate dewormer will be given

We will dispense the appropriate size heartworm prevention.

The vaccines generally given at this visit are DHPP, Leptospirosis and Rabies

At 15 - 18 weeks - We will again discuss all the above topics and schedule your pup's spay or neuter.

The Veterinarian will perform a complete exam making sure your puppy is growing and maintaining good physical condition

We will dispense the appropriate size heartworm prevention

The vaccines generally given at this visit are DHPP and Leptospirosis.

PUPPY NUTRITION

During the first six months of life, your puppy will need more protein and fat than adult dogs. These are the building blocks that will help it grow and develop strong bones and muscles. They will also need a food that's highly digestible, to make it easier on their tender digestive systems. The dry kibble is easier and better for their teeth.

Ideally, you should select a diet that's designed for the specific nutritional needs of puppies. While most commercial foods are complete and balanced, the more expensive diets tend to use higher quality proteins. They have even developed diets specifically for large and small breed puppies. Since they also are made with less fillers, your dog can actually eat smaller quantities, and still receive all the nutrients it needs. Better yet, with less filler, there's less for you to pick up in the back yard.



Commercial diets contain all the vitamins and minerals that your puppy needs. In fact, adding supplements can actually be dangerous. Consult your veterinarian before considering any diet supplementation.

Care should be taken not to overfeed your puppy. Because obesity early in life can lead to musculoskeletal, circulatory, liver and pancreas disorders later in life. So make sure your puppy gets lots of exercise, and plenty of fresh, clean water.

If you decide to change your puppy's food, it is best to do it gradually because sudden changes in diet can lead to vomiting and diarrhea. To change diets, simply mix progressively smaller portions of its current food with progressively larger portions of the new food, until your puppy is eating only the new food. This should be done over a period of at least a week to allow your puppy's system to adjust to the new diet.

Young puppies (6-8 weeks of age) need to eat at least two to three times daily. The toy breeds, such as Chihuahuas, Pomeranians, Yorkshire Terriers, etc need to have frequent small meals. This helps prevent hypoglycemia (low blood sugar).



HOUSEBREAKING A PUPPY

Bonnie Beaver, D.V.M.

Frequently, a puppy becomes a member of a family that is unaccustomed to the behavior of a canine youngster. A pup might be the first pet in a home, the companion for a geriatric dog, or a replacement to fill the spot vacated by a deceased pet. The introduction of a puppy into a home can create chaos or, with proper training of the animal, result in a loving human-animal bond.

Of all a puppy's lessons, acquisition of acceptable toilet habits is a priority. The number one rule to remember during a dog's adolescence is that accidents will happen despite the most conscientious efforts of the owner. These incidents are not purposeful attempts by the pet to get even with the owner. Instead, they represent a skill not mastered or, often, unreasonable expectations from the owner. Areas such as carpeting must, from the beginning, be delineated as off limits.

Patience and consistency are essential. It is a common mistake to take the puppy out for a few minutes, returning to the house just when the puppy is ready to defecate. This happens most often during inclement weather when neither the owner nor puppy wants to stay outside. Make sure the puppy has completed urinating and defecating before it comes back in.

Housetraining should begin when the puppy is between 8 and 16 weeks old and capable of learning short lessons. At this time, the young dog also learns to use a canine group elimination area. Simplified house-training involves adherence to a schedule, a confined bedding area, and lavish amounts of verbal reward.

SCHEDULE

There are four times a puppy typically eliminates:

A puppy usually eliminates soon after it wakes up. For example a pup will urinate after a nap. It is important to remember that puppies sleep several times a day, and thus have several waking periods. After eating, the gastro colic response produces a bowel movement. With three or four feedings each day, young puppies require a considerable number of trips outside. Intense activity by the dog stimulates elimination. Dogs normally eliminate before bedding-down at night.

Strict schedules and a regular routine of resting, eating, and playing regulate the elimination process. When family members pursue random activities, the puppy's schedule, including the need to eliminate, varies also. In households where the puppy is left alone for 8 to 10 hours at a time, the pet tends to sleep most of the day. Occasionally accidents will happen because, at this age, the puppy's bladder simply does not have the required capacity.

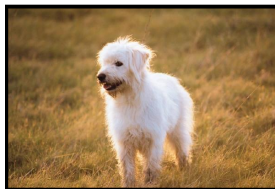
HOUSEBREAKING A PUPPY continued

CONFINED AREA

When alone, the young dog should be confined in a small area like a bathroom, utility room, or an 8qx 8qcrate. A space this size is large enough for water bowl and clearly defined bedding area, yet limits the amount of space in which accidents can happen. Dogs prefer not to soil their bed area. They tend to retain urine and feces until they have access to an acceptable location for elimination.

Puppies can be confined to very small areas, such as crates, when owners are only gone for a few hours at a time. If confined for long periods, the dog can learn to disregard cleanliness standards of the bed area if they are not allowed to go outside at appropriate times. On the other hand, puppies given the run of the house have a hard time associating the entire area as off limits.

Dogs learn to prefer one surface for elimination, to the exclusion of all others. Newspaper, grass, concrete, or asphalt commonly becomes the chosen surface, at the prompting of the owner. Dogs that will be expected to eliminate outdoors as adults should learn that as puppies. Do not start them on newspaper and expect them to adjust later. When dogs raised outside are allowed into the house, carpeting often serves as the surface most closely resembling grass.



VERBAL REWARD

Praise is a strong motivator to reinforce the learning process in a dog. The effective memory span for a puppy is no longer than 30 seconds, so praise is best given when the dog is actually eliminating. This means going out with the puppy during this learning process. The word no serves as a sufficient negative response to accidents and should be followed by praise when the puppy completes the elimination process in the designated area.

CONCLUSION

Despite tenacious efforts by the owner, certain dogs do not seem to learn housetraining. Some breeds have been bred selectively to retain juvenile characteristic, primarily their small size (less than 10 pounds). These dogs often retain juvenile behavior patterns as well. This includes an inability to learn toilet training.

Housebreaking becomes a simple procedure when the owner is properly informed about the importance of maintaining a schedule, confining the puppy properly, and praising the animal for appropriate behavior.

Socialization of New Puppies

Bonnie Beaver, D.V.M.

A new puppy in the family is a time for fun, but those first few weeks are also a very important time for forming behavior patterns that will be critical as the puppy matures into adulthood. The process called socialization is a very important lesson for a young puppy.

SOCIALIZATION

All animals, humans, included, go through a process called socialization. In it, the individual learns what it is (species identification) and what other types of animals to accept in its immediate proximity without fear. The amazing part is that socialization is limited to a specific time period . 3-12 weeks in a dog. After the twelfth week, the puppy will be fearful of or aggressive to strange animal species.

Specifically what does that mean for a puppy? If the puppy is to get along with other dogs when it grows up, it must learn that it is a dog by being around dogs before 12 weeks of age. If it is ever to breed, it must know what another dog is. If it is to be boarded or live around other dogs, this species identification is critical. If the dog is to ever live with cats, it should learn what cats are by 12 weeks. Puppies also need to learn what humans are, and it is important that they be around small children as well as adults. Because visual learning involves forms not details, the unique proportions of small children are considered different from those of an adult, and puppies must learn both forms. After weeks, the lessons should be occasionally reinforced to make sure they are not forgotten.

If a puppy is not socialized, but is instead raised in a relatively isolated environment with only its owners, it will show problems when taken into social situations as an adult. It may hide from guests, not eat when boarded or cared for by friends, or bite guests or veterinary personnel. These reactions express fear in social situations. Unfortunately, owners cannot reason the fears away for the dog so the pet becomes socially dependent on the owner and extremely fearful of new situation.

In order to prevent these negative things, owners should take their puppies to puppy socialization classes, if they are offered in their community. If these classes are not available or even if they are, puppies should be introduced to lots of adults and children, dogs, and other animals before 12 weeks and occasionally thereafter. This permits the development of a well adjusted dog.

Raising a puppy can be a very exciting adventure, but it is important to remember that this early stage determines a lot about how the pet will behave as an adult. Be sure the puppy is well socialized to dogs, children, grownups and other animals before 12 weeks.

Benefits of Dog-Dog Socialization

Whiskers and Paws Pet Resort at Murphy Road Animal Hospital is now offering a fun, safe, and affordable opportunity to give you and your dog what you both truly need and deserve: A day off! Our doggie daycare service provides dogs with the perfect atmosphere to run, jump, play, and interact with one another in a secure, clean, and controlled atmosphere. This social interaction with other dogs and people is necessary on a regular basis for optimal emotional and physical health (and to help keep them out of trouble at home).



Doggie daycare helps dogs learn how to interact with unfamiliar dogs and people appropriately. Dogs need socialization throughout their lives; lack of continued social experience can result in undesired behaviors. As little as one day a week at doggie daycare can develop a calmer, happier dog at home. Dogs enjoy spending time in social packs. Being left home alone for long periods of time is unhealthy and can lead to several behavior problems such as: destructive chewing, digging, excessive barking, house training accidents, obsessive behavior, extreme attention seeking, frustration, anxiety, and even aggression. On-leash walks alone are insufficient to satisfy the needs of many active young dogs.



While dog parks can be a fun experience and an excellent way to expend some of your dog's incessant exuberance, they may also be very stressful and may even result in gruesome dog fights. Remember, it simply takes one irresponsible owner and one unbalanced, under-socialized dog to start a dog scuffle.

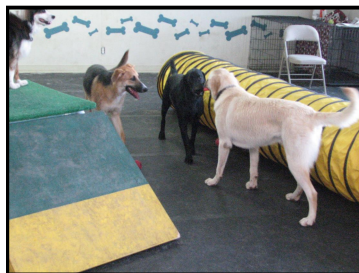
Benefits of Dog-Dog Socialization Continued

Our well-managed daycare center is a great place for socializing your dog. Unlike dog parks, daycare play sessions are supervised by experienced, trained staff that is capable of identifying subtle signals that would alert them to a potentially dangerous situation. Playgroups are limited in number, and dogs are grouped together by similar size and energy levels. Owners are interviewed and dogs temperament-tested to help ensure a safer pack dynamic in the daycare setting.



Whiskers & Paws mission is to provide your dog with a safe and healthy engaging play environment to enrich their spirit, enhance their social skills, and give hours of activity to stimulate their mind and body. Basic obedience and manners are incorporated into our daily activities and a webcam is available for you to view your dog having a great time throughout the day.

Our program offers play on playground equipment and an agility tunnel, snack time, splashing in our cool outdoor pool and sprinklers during the summer, chewing on bones and toys, or just having fun running around our 800 square foot indoor or 9,000 square foot outdoor area. When dogs are tired, they are welcome to enjoy a nice nap before starting all over again! At the end of the day you will find your much-loved pet just as ready to retire to a quiet, relaxing evening at home as you are. Aside from a happy, healthy dog, we offer the peace of mind that comes with knowing that your dog is under the care and supervision of our trustworthy and experienced resort family 100% of the time.



WHISKERS AND PAWS PET RESORT AT MURPHY ROAD ANIMAL HOSPITAL



OVERNIGHT BOARDING – CANINE AND FELINE

Indoor, climate controlled facility

Different size accommodations to fit your family member

Feline guests are in separate quarters

Walked three times daily in our fenced yard

We provide bedding, bowls, and food.

Guests who have special dietary requirements are encouraged to bring their own food

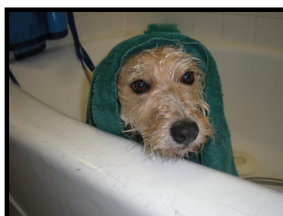
All guests receive personal attention from our caring staff

Extra play time may be purchased upon request

DOGGIE PLAYCARE

Our well-managed playcare center is a great place for socializing your dog. Unlike dog parks, playcare sessions are **constantly** supervised by experienced, trained staff members

- Under the care and supervision of our trustworthy and experienced resort staff 100% of the time
- Playgroups are limited in size
- Playgroups are formed matching temperament and energy levels
- All dogs must be temperament-tested prior to joining a play group to help ensure a safe dynamic
- Free play is allowed in our 800 sq ft indoor space and outside in our 9,000 sq ft fenced yard
- Play is encouraged with toys, water and agility equipment
- At the end of the day you will find your pet ready for a quiet, relaxing evening at home
- Helps dogs learn how to interact with unfamiliar dogs and people appropriately
- Provides a secure, clean and controlled atmosphere for socialization
- Develops a calmer, happier dog at home
- Can help prevent behavior problems



ANCILLARY SERVICES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST:

- Extra play time while boarding
 - Bathing
 - Brushing out
- Medical services available with the Murphy Road Animal Hospital Staff
- Grooming available with Precious Pups at 972-496-1636

Reservations at 972-496-4126 or access your Pet Portal through www.murphyroadah.com.

Non-Aggressive Training for Puppies

Bonnie Beaver, D.V.M.

Although raising a puppy can be fun, too often the animal is allowed to become a monster. The importance of obedience classes for puppies and owners cannot be overstated. Early training is needed particularly for large dogs and those with dominant personalities.

It is critical that a puppy learns to be subordinate to its owner just as it would to a pack leader. Many times, the owner relinquishes the right to this control. Even putting a collar on the dog without its permission becomes impossible. Once established, this behavior is difficult to reverse.

Stable learning begins in puppies at approximately 8 weeks of age. Puppies have an extremely short attention span, so lessons should be kept short. Many training classes for puppies incorporate learning activities in games. Such instruction is not offered in all communities; however, an owner can work with a puppy to establish dominance even before the puppy is old enough to attend formal obedience classes.

METHODS

Non-aggressive training for puppies basically means do not let the puppy do anything that would be unacceptable if it were an adult. Puppies bite in play. This is when the dog learns how much jaw pressure is necessary to create pain. Many owners endure bites by puppy's needle-sharp teeth because the puppy is so cute, although painful. When a puppy bites a littermate, a yelp is elicited, play ceases, and the biting stops. In effect, the littermate has said, "When you bite that hard, it hurts." Thus, a puppy should be discouraged from biting people by diverting its attention or stopping play. Discipline is generally not effective because it is not understood.

Chewing also should be discouraged. Mouth-oriented games such as tug of war or grab the sock tend to encourage use of the mouth. Chewing and biting then become even bigger problems. Too many toys can encourage destructive chewing. To a puppy, old knotted socks are not different from good socks. Old shoes are essentially the same as new shoes, and sticks are similar to chair legs. A program of plentiful outdoor exercise reduces the puppy's tendency toward rough indoor play and the ensuing problems.

Non-Aggressive Training for Puppies- Continued

Puppies must also learn to accept dominant behavior from their owners. Taking food away from a pup while it is eating ensures that food can be safely taken from the animal when it is older. If the puppy growls, the dish is not returned to it for at least five minutes. This process is repeated until the pup no longer reacts hostilely. Children in the family should practice this procedure under supervision, before the puppy becomes large enough to harm the child.

There are other subtle lessons to achieve dominance over puppies. The puppy can be held down on its back until it no longer resists. Frequent clipping of the toenails will accustom the pup to having its feet handled. Other helpful procedures include: holding the puppy in the air by its chest until it stops struggling, grasping the puppy's tail and moving it in different directions, gently holding the puppy's mouth closed, manipulating the ears, applying a collar, and leading the puppy by holding the collar. Although each of these activities last only a few seconds, they help the puppy become accustomed to its owners control.

By 6 months of age, the puppy's attention span is longer and training can become intense. This is a good age to start formal obedience training. Training can make the pet more enjoyable, but only if the owner is involved in the class. Sending dogs to trainers establishes a proper relationship between the dog and the trainer; it does not teach the owner how to insist on the same results.

Comments:

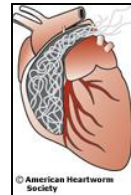
Owners of young puppies should take a few minutes each day to establish dominance over the dog. These concepts will ensure that the owner will rule the life of the pet and not vice versa.

HEARTWORM DISEASE IN DOGS

Heartworm infection is a major risk for dogs in all areas throughout the world, with Antarctica being the only exception. The mosquito is responsible for transmitting the parasite. Therefore some of the highest incidence of heartworm infections are found in dogs that live within 150 miles of the Atlantic coast from Texas to New Jersey and along the Mississippi River. In these areas, up to 45% of dogs that are not on heartworm preventatives have been found to become infected. 70 different species of mosquitoes have been discovered to carry heartworms.

Heartworms Are a *Serious Threat*:

In 2004, more than 250,000 dogs in the United States tested positive for heartworms. In Texas alone there were 42,000

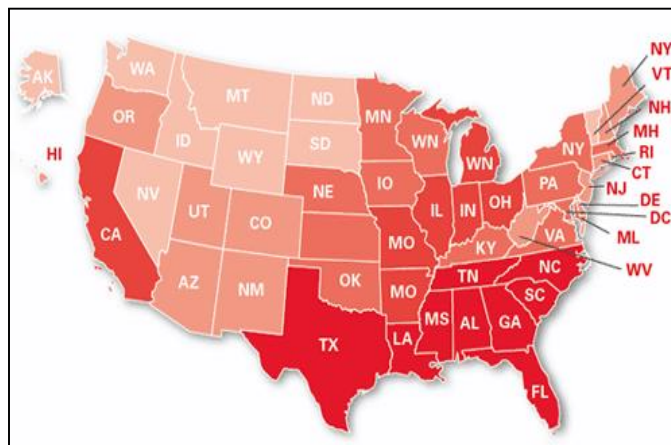


CLINICAL SIGNS:

Heartworms may cause dysfunction affecting blood circulation, heart, liver and kidneys. Heart and lung are the most common organs that can contain heartworms. Often, dogs do not show signs of heartworm disease for up to two years. When the disease is recognized, it is often well advanced.

DIAGNOSIS:

Your veterinarian can detect the presence of heartworms by conducting a blood test. The test we use is a counter top test that is completed in our office. It is a blood parasite test that also detects two tick bone diseases, Lyme disease and Ehrlichia Canis. These tests are conducted yearly so we can verify that your dog has not contracted heartworms. The earlier we know, the earlier we can begin treatment hopefully before any symptoms or permanent damage has occurred.



There are several product available for prevention of heartworms.



HEARTGARD PLUS Chewable that provides protection against Heartworms, and treats and controls Roundworms and Hookworms.



TRIFEXIS is a monthly chewable tablet for dogs that kills fleas, prevents heartworm disease and treats and controls adult hookworm, roundworm and whipworm infections.



NEXGARD is a chewable medication which is used for flea and tick prevention. NexGard for dogs kills adult fleas before they lay eggs, and kills ticks, too. All in a delicious, soft chew that dogs love,

As your puppy reaches 6 months of age he/she would be old enough to receive a ProHeart Injection which is an injectable heartworm prevention that lasts for 6 months. No more remembering to give that monthly prevention. This product has met the needs of many families.

The ABC's to a Healthy Puppy

Always have fresh water available for your puppy.

Be the boss and set the rules for your puppy.

Chocolate is toxic to dogs. Don't even give them a taste.

Don't leave puppies unsupervised. They chew and will swallow everything.

Exercise your puppy every day. Exercise is good for your puppy's health, it helps them release extra energy, and it helps minimize undesirable behavior.

Feed your puppy a nutritious puppy food. Food allowances can be found on the back of the package.

Give your puppy praise when he/she does something right. This reinforces the correct behavior.

Household cleaners are poisonous to puppies. Place cleaners out of the reach of your dog.

Invest in a training class for your dog.

Jumping up to greet you is a common puppy behavior. Train your puppy not to jump-firmly say no and tell it to sit, then greet it. You may think jumping is cute when he's 10 pounds, but when he's 100 pounds he's going to knock you over.

Kee your puppy away from electrical cords, wires, household cleaners, coins, and other objects your puppy might like to chew on and swallow.

Love your dog, give it a lot of attention, take it to the vet for regular check-ups, feed it a healthy diet, train it, and play with it.

Make sure you get a dog license for your puppy and have an ID tag on its collar. An identification chip such as "Avid" can be easily inserted at your veterinarian's office.

Nylabones, Kong toys, or sterilized bones are good chew toys for your puppy.

Opportunities to meet other pets will help socialize your puppy.

Puppies learn what behavior is acceptable by the way that you react to their behavior. If you praise a dog and pet it when it does something right it will want to repeat that behavior so it receives the positive attention.

Quiet dogs are trained to be quiet. Puppies learn what behavior is acceptable by the way that you react to their behavior. If you run to your puppy every time it barks or whines, it will bark and whine every time it wants your attention...and it won't stop until you give it your attention. If you ignore your dog when it is barking and whining it will eventually stop-just make sure he's not barking because he has to go to the bathroom.

Read books and websites about proper puppy care.

Spay or neuter your dog when it's the appropriate age. Thousands of dogs are put to sleep each year because they don't have homes.

Toys that contain small hard parts, such as squeakers are dangerous if swallowed.

Supervise your dog when they are playing with these types of toys.

Use every opportunity to train your dog.

Vaccinate your puppy and schedule check-ups every 3 weeks until he/she is 16 weeks old.

Whining and barking should not be rewarded with attention. If your puppy barks or whines when you put it in the training crate, ignore him/her-if you're sure it doesn't need to go to the bathroom. Otherwise, your puppy will learn that if it barks or whines you'll let it out.

X-Rays and vet care treatments are costly and avoidable. Keep your dog on a leash so it doesn't run into traffic and get hit by a car.

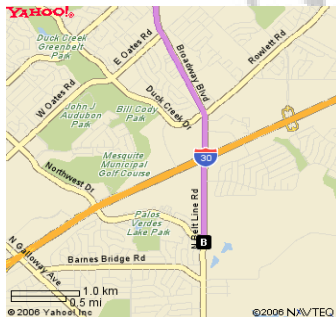
You are the most important person to your puppy. You are the key to his/her happiness. Your puppy will behave only as good as you train it. Read the book "Good Owners...Great Dogs" by Brian Kilcommons.

MURPHY ROAD...

Dr. James Moebius practiced in south Garland after graduating from Texas A&M in 1990. He and his wife, Carolyn, opened Murphy Road Animal Hospital early in January of 1998. Linda Juergens, practice manager, joined the staff in May of that year. In 2002, Dr. Susan Ferguson, a 2000 graduate of Texas A&M, became our first Associate Veterinarian. Dr. Lamping was a member of our staff from April 2003 until May of 2009. When Dr. Ferguson moved to McKinney in 2007, she made a place for Dr. Katherine Mathes. Dr. Mathes, a 1995 graduate of Purdue University, was a relief doctor at MRAH beginning in 2001 and has now joined the staff full time. In November of 2008 Dr. Ferguson returned as a part time associate. Early in 2011 Dr. Ferguson began teaching full time. Dr. Shaye Hohner, a graduate of Oklahoma State Veterinary College, joined us as a full time Associate Veterinarian in 2011.

Murphy Road Animal Hospital has remained committed to continuing education and being on the cutting edge of veterinary medical technology. We have incorporated a surgical laser and digital dental x-ray machine into our practice. We have therapeutic laser which enables us to treat pain and wounds in a non invasive manner. The doctors and staff meet regularly for team meetings and take advantage of local, state, and national continuing education opportunities. Our doctors are members of several professional organizations.

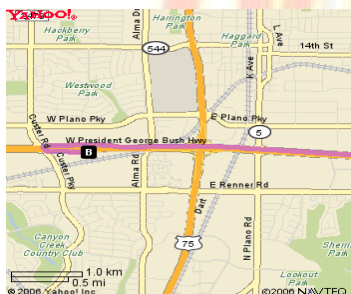
Our veterinarians believe in being active in the community and have made a commitment to community service. Staff members participate in writing veterinary articles for the Murphy Messenger, a local newspaper and Murphy Maize Days. Dr. Moebius has served on the Board of Directors for the Sachse Chamber of Commerce and was the Murphy Chamber of Commerce.



**LAKE RAY HUBBARD
EMERGENCY PET CARE**
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972-226-3377



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CLINIC OF COLLIN COUNTY**
10225 Custer Rd Plano, TX 75084
972-517-7155



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Richardson, TX 75080
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..A HISTORY