

GREAT LAKES IRISH WOLFHOUND ASSOCIATION

Midwest Wolfhound



Lazy Hazy Crazy Days of Summer Edition

A quarterly newsletter for Irish Wolfhounds & their people

*Volume LVI
Summer 2020*

Secretary's Report

- Track progress of the club and view the official record of each board meeting
- May Meeting Minutes

Wolfhound Walk 2020

- 2020 Wolfhound Walk in Kenosha, WI

Calendar of Events

- Find locations, dates, & details of events GLIWA is participating in. Please join us!

Rescue Report

- The latest news on wolfhounds in need of support & rehoming via GLIWA rescue

Spotlight on Health

- The health & wellbeing of our hounds is our highest priority. Here you will find articles on health care, behavior, training and nutrition
 - [Staying Safe in the Summer Heat](#)
 - [Most Common Summer Ailments for Dogs](#)
 - [Pet Stress during COVID-19](#)

Lazy Hazy Crazy Days of Summer...

- It's summer! And we are locked away, isolated, and trying to make the most of the situation we are in. Here are some ideas for staying active and keeping your hounds active & safe too.
 - [Inspiration for GLIWA activities](#)
 - [Do We Not Owe Them a Rich Mental Life Too?](#)
 - [Can All Dogs Swim?](#)
 - [Water Hounds: courtesy of Christina Rappel](#)

Quarterly Photos & Brags

- Please submit any photos or articles that best show our breed's multifaceted personality: "Gentle when stroked, fierce when provoked". Brags from shows, agility, therapy, & community events welcome too! Email RE: Midwest Wolfhound Quarterly Photos to editors.
- Enjoy this edition's photos of our dogs being lazy (or crazy) this summer

In Remembrance

- Tributes to our hounds who are out of sight, but forever in our hearts

PRESIDENT

Maria Lubera

VICE-PRESIDENT

Risha Cupit-Berzins

TREASURER

Joe Mahoney

SECRETARY

Claire Morrison

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Scott Mortenson

Elissa Culp

Debbie Greene

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Bodhi- Victoria Greene

Secretary's Report



Great Lakes Irish Wolfhound Association Board Members Meeting of May 30, 2020

The meeting was called to order at: 11:02 am

Board members present: Maria Lubera, Risha Berzins, Scott Mortenson, Mark Bettin, Debbie Greene, Michelle Whittenhall, Joe Mahoney

Absent: Claire Morrison & Elissa Culp

Maria welcomed the group and asked for approval of the Annual Member's Meeting Minutes as printed in Midwest Wolfhound.

Motion to approve minutes by Risha Berzins

Seconded by Scott Mortenson

Motion Passed.

Reports

President-

Not much to report due to COVID crisis cancelling the GLIWA picnic and shows.

VP: None

Secretary / Membership

Our total members are at 92 with 3 new members & 3 cancelled since January 2020. 10 members still in arrears. Claire will notify them personally.

Website. The club was losing revenue from members paying their dues using PayPal. No one would add the \$2. Mike Philpott was able to automatically add the \$2.00 fee. Mike has been a tremendous help to us using the new website!

Treasurer - See Joe's report sent May 20.

Motion to approve Treasurer's Report as presented by Debbie Greene

Seconded by Risha Berzins

Motion Passed.

Activities-

Mark Bettin discussed setting up some future club walks. Kenosha has a nice path and is very popular (Petrifying Springs Park). There's a clubhouse where everyone can eat. Path had a lot of pavilions for picnics. Need to figure out a date but considered June 20 or 21. Will update events page on website once known.

Michelle Whittenhall discussed a new event request. Lake Geneva's St. Frances de Sales asked GLIWA to participate in their Irish Fest September 27, 2020. Michelle will ask about what they specifically want and post online.

Maria discussed a coursing seminar - the previous location GLIWA utilized can't be used since owner of property moved to PA. Maria checking in to see if Greater Racine Kennel Club can host (not fenced).

Maria will check with another WI member who has property to see if he can accommodate.

Fun Match-

Risha discussed GLIWA Match with regards to COVID. We had ordered mugs before COVID crisis happened. The match was originally set for Oct 17-18, 2020. GLIWA will take a wait and see approach to hosting/cancelling. In the meantime...

Risha will look into cancellation policy for kennel club.

Debbie Greene will check with Pilcher Park in Joliet to see if it's a possibility to host there again.

Dave Berzins will check with Joe Rolland to ensure he is still willing to judge.

Hospitality- Nothing to note.

Publications- Nothing to note.

Rescue- Nothing to note.

Meeting adjourned at 11:51 am.

Wolfhound Walk 2020



Thanks to those who came out to the Wolfhound walk in Kenosha, WI

By: Scott Mortenson

On Father's Day, ten of our furry kids took their Dads and Moms for a hike on a hot day at Petrifying Springs Park in Kenosha, Wisconsin. There was a nice breeze that brought some cooler air in off Lake Michigan and the trails we used were on a boardwalk over the Pike River, under the forest canopy. So, we were bathing in nature under trees. After our hike we headed to the other end of the park where we had reservations at the Petrifying Springs Biergarten. This was dog friendly and all the picnic benches were spaced out for proper social distancing. They kindly reserved our tables under a beautiful tree so the dogs would have plenty of shade.

In addition, the dogs were served fresh water in large bowls while we drank German beer, ate a variety of sausages and giant pretzels see photos on next page).

Though it was a bit hot, the dogs did well and everyone had fun.

Please keep checking our event calendar for future Irish Wolfhound Walks.



Petrifying Springs Hike, part II



GREAT LAKES IRISH WOLFHOUND ASSOCIATION

Below, after the walk the group enjoyed some well-deserved rest, refreshments, and maybe even a little yoga!





GLIWA Calendar 2020

Come join us and enjoy the day with your wolfhounds!

Summer/Fall Events:



~ NEW EVENT: ST FRANCIS DE SALES IRISH FEST ~

Sunday, September 27th
Lake Geneva, WI
Noon- 4:00 PM

St. Francis de Sales Parish is excited to be hosting their annual Irish Festival including Irish music from Evan and Tom Leahy, Trinity Irish dancers, a wonderful corned beef and cabbage dinner and more. More details to be provided...

~ ANNUAL GLIWA FUN MATCH ~

SAVE THE DATE
Saturday, October 17, 2020
Judge, Joe Roland, Noble IW

Currently relocating to an outdoor venue for safe, social distancing.

More info to follow on the website.

Please continue to check <https://www.gliwa.org/events> for additional group events & walks!

Rescue Report



By: Debbie Greene

On July 11th we rescued an adorable female one-year old Irish Wolfhound named Flannery. She is sweet, lovable, and extremely snuggly! She is a brown/grey brindle. Beautiful coat. She is going to be a fabulous pet for someone! She is FAST! She CHEWS, as all puppies do! She especially likes antiques as evidenced by her love of our antique half round table! She is inquisitive! She is nosey! Our cat does NOT like her, and she is much too interested in the cat! She is a leaner and jumps up on your lap. You can see she was someone's lap baby! I think she would be good with active children over 7-8 but not with toddlers. She is definitely not a lazy dog! Are you wishing to rescue a dog from GLIWA? If you are looking for a great pet GLIWA rescue might be your answer. They arrive to you in need of lots of love! They are mostly older dogs but actually...we never know what age, size, shape or temperament of dog is going to come in at any given time. Some years we rehome 5 and some years more! The fewer the better in our minds, but we know there are some of you out there with tons of love to give a Wolfhound that needs some TLC and some stability. Also, keep in mind these dogs have already been in one home and sometimes, like our first rescue Aile, 3 or more. We have had a couple that have had three homes in a YEAR! So, with that in mind please keep us in your mind as an option.

The rescue fee is \$350.00 plus a \$20.00 Membership fee to join GLIWA and that covers a spay or neuter if that needs to be done, a vet visit, up to date shots and evaluation to see if you are a good fit for a particular dog, and the mileage for the GLIWA member doing the transport. The evaluation is of the dog mostly. We want them to be in their FOREVER home. We want to make sure you get a pet that fits into your home too. IF, you have not filled out an application in the last FIVE years and still want to be considered, or if you are a new applicant please complete the form and email it to us!

See photos of Flannery on the next page...

GLIWA Rescue- Flannery Photos



Spotlight on Health



Staying Safe in the Summer Heat



DEHYDRATION, HEATSTROKE ARE PREVENTABLE

Ironically, the dog days of summer – the hottest time of the year – are not always good for dogs. Dr. Jennifer Reinhart, a specialist in veterinary internal medicine at the University of Illinois Veterinary Teaching Hospital in Urbana, shares tips on preventing dehydration and other hot weather hazards that could require a trip to the emergency room.

Signs of Dehydration

“Dehydration is the absence of water from tissue, and mild dehydration is virtually impossible to spot,” says Dr. Reinhart. “When it gets serious, the big signal is a decreased skin turgor.”

Turgor is the level of fullness and tension. One way to test the skin is to lightly pinch your dog’s scruff; when you let go, if his skin continues to look pinched instead of snapping back into place, that indicates low skin turgor and may mean your dog is dehydrated. Dr. Reinhart points out that older dogs normally lose that springiness in their skin, so dehydration may be harder to detect in elderly pets using this method. Another way to check for dehydration is to lift your dog’s lip (if he lets you) and examine the gums. If the tissue seems drier than normal, this could be a sign of water loss. If a dog is severely dehydrated and sick already, his eyes may actually sink a little in their sockets. Of course, dehydration also makes dogs less active, so owners should pick up on any cues that their dogs is slowing down, especially when exercising outside. “Most dogs and other animals with adequate access to water will keep themselves properly hydrated,” says Dr. Reinhart.

Risks of Dehydration

Problems arise when the dog doesn’t have free access to water. A dog kept outside during the day may not have a large enough bowl and may drain the dish long before you get home to refill it. (An outdoor dog also needs access to shade, whether from trees, the porch, or a dog house.)

Certain conditions, including being very active, may make dogs more susceptible to dehydration. “If you’re out jogging with your pet and notice he has slowed down, stop and offer him some water,” advises Dr. Reinhart. “If he doesn’t bounce back after a drink and a rest, he may require medical care.”

Larger, hairier breeds, especially those that originated in colder regions, can be at a higher risk of dehydration in hot, humid weather; their risk of heatstroke is even greater. A nervous dog that tends to pant excessively will need additional water, because panting increases water loss. Overweight animals will also need more water. Lastly, keep in mind that puppies may not yet know their own limits and will play to exhaustion (as many owners know!), so make sure they have access to water.

Out and About

When hiking or camping with your dog, remember to bring extra water and a bowl for him. Avoid letting your dog drink from ponds, brooks, and other natural water sources that may be contaminated, and never let him drink from sources of standing water, such as puddles and swampy pools. A good rule to follow concerning sources of drinking water is: “if you wouldn’t, your dog shouldn’t.” Remember to stop occasionally to offer him water, and he won’t need to go looking for it when he gets thirsty.

Dogs with motion sickness present another dehydration worry. In addition to the smell and mess in your car, vomiting results in your dog losing a lot of moisture. During long car trips in hot months, your dog may be panting from both heat and nerves and may need to drink frequently to replace the water lost. If your dog is prone to these, Dr. Reinhart advises asking your veterinarian before your trip about anti-anxiety medicine or drugs to prevent motion sickness to save your dog and yourself from avoidable heartache.

A Word on Heatstroke

Dogs, cars, and summer add up to an even more serious concern: deadly heatstroke. If your car is too hot for you to stay in it, then it’s too hot to leave your dog inside. Cracking open the window is not sufficient. Remember that your dog is wearing a fur coat at all times and has no thumbs to operate the air conditioning.

While it can be brought on by the same things – hot weather and exertion – heatstroke is not the same as dehydration. Heatstroke is a condition in which the body loses its ability to regulate its own temperature. Unlike dehydration, heatstroke can develop very quickly, in as little as ten minutes. If your dog collapses suddenly while playing outside, giving him water is not the solution: get him inside and cool him down, or take him straight to the ER.

“One example of heatstroke that is pretty common is the dog that is taken on a run during the early morning,” notes Dr. Caroline Tonozzi, a small animal emergency and critical care specialist at the Illinois Veterinary Teaching Hospital. “The dog seems okay at first, but as the day progresses, the dog is panting, lethargic, and seems less playful. Instead of being brought inside, he stays out with his owners, where he risks a rapid decline in health.”

In such cases, if the dog’s body temperature becomes too high, he will require emergency veterinary care. Dr. Tonozzi says other common scenarios leading to emergency room visits for heatstroke include dogs left in the car for “just a minute” or pets accustomed to running during the cooler evenings taken out for a jog at midday. Short-faced dogs like pugs can also be at high risk because of their unusual airways, and it’s best to keep them inside when it gets really hot.

Other Heat Health Hazards

Two less-deadly summer hazards Dr. Tonozzi cautions against are swelling in the throat from excessive panting as the dog works to lower an elevated body temperature and unprotected paws getting burned from walking on hot concrete or asphalt and irritation. If a surface is too hot for you to walk on with bare feet, it will burn your dog’s paws just as easily.

Taking steps to prevent dehydration, heatstroke, and other summer hazards will allow you to enjoy your fun in the sun with your pets.

If you have questions about pet health and hot weather, consult your local veterinarian.

By Jake Smiley https://vetmed.illinois.edu/pet_column/hot-weather-hazards/



Most Common Summer Ailments in Dogs



What are the Most Common Summer Diseases in Dogs?

Here we explore the most common diseases that will plague your dog this spring and summer: [Heartworm](#), [Lyme disease](#), [Ehrlichia](#), [Parvovirus](#), [Fleas](#) and [Ticks](#).

Dr. Sheldon Rubin delivered sobering news to the owner of a [Schnauzer](#) during a recent visit to his Chicago practice. The dog tested positive for **heartworm** and faced a long, expensive treatment involving painful shots, says Dr. Rubin, DVM, who is president of the American Heartworm Society.

The **heartworm** parasite in this case was most likely an unwelcome souvenir from last summer, believes Dr. Rubin, who is also a spokesperson for the **American Veterinary Medical Association**.

In this case, **heartworm** is just one dog disease that is spread by vectors like **mosquitoes**, **fleas** and **ticks**. Vectors spread parasites and organisms by biting an infected animal then transporting the disease when they bite healthy animals. Although your dog can contract a vector-borne illness year-round, summer is a prime time for these diseases.



Summer Trouble for Your Dog

It makes sense that the risk expands exponentially in the summer. Time spent outside frolicking with your pal, whether in the backyard, at the beach or camping, means more potential exposure to diseases such as **heartworm** and **Lyme disease**. The same warm summer temperatures that lure us outdoors are the same ones that jumpstart **mosquito**, **flea** and **tick** populations. "It only takes one mosquito bite," Dr. Rubin says of mosquitoes carrying the **heartworm** parasite. "It's not like it takes a bunch of mosquito bites to infect your animal."

Dr. Stephen Steep believes yet another factor plays a role in spreading vector-borne diseases among dogs during the summer. We hit the road more at this time, and many of us bring our dogs along for the ride, says Dr. Steep, DVM, an Oxford, Mich., veterinarian and past president of the **Michigan Veterinary Medical Association**. Unfortunately bug pests can hitch a ride during such trips. "We've dramatically increased our exposure," he says. "If you go to a dog park, a dog there might have visited another part of the country and brought back a parasite."

He and other [veterinarians](#) suggest that all dog owners, whether or not they are planning a summer trip, should educate themselves about these vector-borne diseases.

Heartworm Disease in Dogs

Heartworm Vector: Mosquito. Heartworm is now present in all 50 states, says Dr. Rubin.

Heartworm Symptoms:

Look for loss of breath, lack of stamina or coughing in your dog. By the time your pal shows symptoms, however, the disease is usually advanced. **Heartworms** infest the chamber of the right side of the heart and the arteries in the lungs. Chances are you've seen graphic depictions of the disease at your [veterinarian's](#) office.

Heartworm Prevention:

Heartworm is easily prevented through topical medication or a monthly pill, says Dr. Rubin. While some pet owners dispense the medication just during the height of mosquito season, Dr. Rubin recommends a year-round program. You'll see an added bonus, he says. "Almost all of the heartworm medications prevent intestinal parasites."

Can Heartworm in Dogs be Cured?

Heartworm is easier to prevent than to treat, but the good news is that in most cases, dogs can be cured from the disease. The key to treatment is the stabilization of your dog and then killing all adult and immature worms.

What are the First Signs of Heartworms in Dogs?

In the early stages many dogs show very mild or no symptoms at all. Once they do appear symptoms can include a decreased appetite, weight loss, a mild persistent cough, a reluctance to exercise and fatigue after exercise.

How Long Will a Dog Live With Heartworms?

Heartworm larvae take about 6 months to mature into adult worms. The adult worms can then live between 5 - 7 years inside your dog. Each summer when mosquitoes are active, can lead to more larvae entering your dog. This then increases the number of heartworms living inside your pet. Heartworms can cause severe damage to your dog's organs and blood vessels. A dog may live for months or even years with untreated heartworms.

Can Dogs Live With Heartworms?

If left untreated, few dogs survive living with severe heartworm disease.

Lyme Disease in Dogs

Lyme Disease Vector: Deer tick. Even if you're a conscientious dog owner who conducts **tick** checks on your dog, it's not enough, says Dr. Steep. **Deer ticks**, the size of poppy seeds, are difficult to detect.

Lyme Disease Symptoms:

Lyme disease is also difficult to recognize, and its symptoms resemble other diseases, says Dr. Steep. Look for muscle weakness, joint pain and limping in one front leg. Your dog will likely run a

temperature. **Lyme disease** is treated with antibiotics.

Lyme Disease Prevention:

A vaccine is available to protect against **Lyme disease**. Consider asking about it during your dog's next visit to the [veterinarian](#), since some dogs are at greater risk than others because of lifestyle or geographic location.

What are the Symptoms of Lyme Disease in Dogs?

Symptoms of Lyme disease include loss of appetite, swollen and painful joints, fever, lameness and lethargy.

Can Lyme Disease in Dogs be Cured?

Most dogs make a full recovery post treatment with antibiotics.

How Long Does Lyme Disease Last in Dogs?

Treatment for Lyme disease usually lasts for around one month. Symptoms should ease relatively quickly once treatment begins, however, in some cases, extended treatment may be required.

What Happens if Lyme Disease goes Untreated in Dogs?

If left untreated Lyme disease may cause life-threatening kidney inflammation and dysfunction in your dog.

Ehrlichia in Dogs

Ehrlichia Vector: Tick. The tick carries an organism that can infect the white blood cells of your dog.

Ehrlichia Symptoms:

Ehrlichia, as for other parasitic ailments, can resemble different diseases. Look for spots of bleeding on your dog's gums, lethargy or a loss of appetite. **Ehrlichia** develops in stages. The prognosis is good if the disease is diagnosed before the chronic stage. Because it is hard to recognize in its earliest phases, [veterinarians](#) will sometimes treat **ehrlichia** with antibiotics before they make a firm diagnosis.

Ehrlichia Prevention:

Tick control is the key. Don't settle for a flea and tick collar, advises Dr. Steep. Collars often provide protection, but only for the region near your dog's neck. Use prevention such as **Frontline**, **Advantage** or **Revolution**, which work systemically and provide whole-body protection.

Can Ehrlichiosis in Dogs be Cured?

Ehrlichiosis if caught early can be cured. Treatment needs to last for several weeks even though improvements can usually be seen after a few days.

What are the Symptoms of Ehrlichia in Dogs?

Symptoms of Ehrlichia can include poor appetite, fever, lethargy, lameness, and abnormal bruising and bleeding. Symptoms usually last for 2 – 4 weeks before abating. Most dogs eventually enter the chronic stage of the disease after some months or even years after onset. Treatment is particularly difficult in the chronic stage, and needs to be sought early for the best prognosis for your dog.

Prevention is Better than the Cure for Your Dog

Fortunately, **West Nile virus** and **encephalitis**, two other troubling vector-borne diseases, do not often affect dogs, says Dr. Rubin. For those diseases that do pose summertime threats, just a little work on your part can help prevent the debilitating and sometimes life-threatening health problems that could impact your tail-thumping pal. Your efforts carry an even greater reward, since many of these ailments, such as **Lyme disease**, can affect humans as well.

Think prevention, says Dr. Steep. Talk to your [veterinarian](#), and educate yourself about which diseases are prevalent in your part of your country. Your [veterinarian](#) is also likely to know which medicines and products will work best in your area. Year-round prevention efforts are advised, says Dr. Rubin.

“Don’t put this off. Know that the potential exists,” says Dr. Steep. “Ask your [veterinarian](#). It’s on our radar, and we’re thinking about it all the time.”

Parvovirus in Dogs

When seven dogs in the same county die of the same thing within two and a half weeks, people tend to take notice. That’s what happened recently in Lancaster County, Pa., as multiple cases of canine **parvovirus** proved lethal. According to **Dr. Katy Nelson**, an emergency veterinarian in Alexandria, Va., **parvovirus** can pop up in bunches, especially in summer.

Why is Parvovirus More Common in Summer?

“Our pets become more active in the summer, and **parvovirus** can live longer in a warmer environment,” says Nelson. “I’ve seen multiple animals at a time present similar signs, for example, multiple puppies of the same litter, multiple unvaccinated dogs from the same environment and multiple unvaccinated dogs exposed to an infectious source.”

How Does a Dog Get Parvovirus?

Parvovirus transmits from dog to dog mainly through direct or indirect contact with the feces of an affected canine, which is why being outdoors often can raise your pet’s chances of getting it. But according to **Dr. Patricia Joyce**, an emergency clinician at **NYC Veterinary Specialists** in New York City, it’s not just an “outdoor disease” since dogs can track it inside and leave microscopic yet live traces of it all over the floor. “If one dog is affected in a household or kennel where there are several other dogs, it would be easy to spread,” says Nelson.

What are the Symptoms of Parvovirus?

Like other viruses, **parvovirus** has mutated over the years since it first appeared in the 1970s.

Although the strains can vary from year to year, they're fairly indistinguishable when it comes to testing and symptoms. The most common symptoms of the virus show up in the gastrointestinal (GI) tract, such as severe vomiting and diarrhea, as well as a sudden loss of appetite. Left untreated, it can progress to bloody diarrhea, overall weakness, fever, pale mucous membranes, coma and eventually death. Puppies are particularly vulnerable.

"This virus not only affects the GI tract, as most people know, it affects all rapidly dividing cells within the body – the bone marrow, the GI lining, the myocardial tissues, and the lymph tissues," says Nelson. "Severe disease can develop rapidly, and may or may not be reversible with appropriate therapy."

Prevention of Canine Parvovirus

Prevention is simple and relatively inexpensive. "Only unvaccinated or inadequately vaccinated dogs are at risk," says Joyce. "It's part of the standard vaccine protocol given as three shots to puppies, and as an annual or every two- to three-year booster to adults." If your dog is up to date on its DAPP vaccine (distemper, adenovirus, parvovirus, parainfluenza), he or she is safe. The cost of the vaccine may be about \$30, with variations depending on which part of the country you live in, according to Nelson.

Aside from vaccination, Joyce points out a few other control measures:

- Clean contaminated areas with a household bleach solution.
- Regularly disinfect food bowls, water bowls, toys and bedding.
- Disinfect clothing and shoes.
- Immediately clean up and dispose of waste outdoors.
- Prevent your pooch from having contact with other dogs' feces outdoors (no sniffing).

Treatment of Canine Parvovirus

The cost to treat an affected dog, however, can be significant. Nelson says she has seen it run into the \$7,000 to \$8,000 range. And it's not the kind of illness where you can wait and consider your options. "When these dogs hit the doors of your hospital, everything must shift into overdrive. A diagnosis needs to be made quickly and efficiently, severity of the disease needs to be assessed immediately, and treatment needs to be initiated as soon as possible," she says. "Delaying therapy is in general considered hastening death."

For those who do lose a dog to **parvovirus**, Nelson says most veterinarians advise not getting a new puppy for six months. By then, it's assumed the virus will be cleared from the environment, if proper cleaning and disinfecting procedures have been employed.

The biggest message that both she and Joyce stress is that this is an easily preventable illness. Vaccination protocols have been extremely successful in controlling the spread of parvovirus. If your dog is not up to date on the vaccine, you should aim to correct that immediately.

Can a Dog Survive from Parvovirus?

Your dog has a good chance of surviving parvo providing treatment by your [veterinarian](#) is sought early.

Is Parvovirus Contagious to Humans?

There are many forms of parvovirus. Generally canine parvo is limited to canines, and human parvo is limited to humans. So although humans do not develop canine parvo, they do play a major role in its transmission by handling infected dogs and objects, before touching unaffected dogs.

How Do You Treat a Dog with Parvovirus?

Dogs are administered intravenous fluids and antibiotics. Plasma transfusions may be required if the case is severe.

Fleas and Ticks in Dogs

Chances are your dog has had **fleas** and **ticks**, which have been bothering animals, including humans, since time immemorial. They are out in force this spring, which exterminator **Alan Pendarvis** of Texas credits to weather changes that are speeding up the parasites' life cycles. However, your dog doesn't have to suffer this spring and summer. New products and a better understanding of how to combat **flea** and **tick** infestations can help your dog to steer clear of them.

Why Fleas and Ticks Are Bad News for Dogs

Aside from the yuck factor, both **fleas** and **ticks** can spread diseases from dog to dog, and from dogs to humans. **Nancy Hinkle**, a **University of Georgia** entomologist, notes that **fleas** can transmit **tapeworms**. "An infected **flea** can pass on **tapeworm** if a dog happens to swallow a **flea** while using its teeth to scratch, but the **tapeworm** is not transmitted if the **flea** only bites the dog," says Hinkle. "Some animals are also highly sensitive to **flea** saliva, which can lead to secondary infections and dermatitis from incessant itching."

Ticks are equally awful, burying their heads into the skin of your dog and then sucking blood for survival. This too can spread infectious diseases.

Plan of Action: Flea and Tick Avoidance and Removal

New pest control products abound this spring, with many major manufacturers introducing new and improved versions of their already popular lines. Thanks to a clever plastic gizmo, topical liquids for some lines are easier to apply, helping to keep owners' hands away from the skin-penetrating product.

A number of natural and/or organic alternatives are also on the market now. In addition to shampoos, you can find **electric flea traps** that attract fleas with heat and light and then zap them. Food-grade diatomaceous earth, a chalk-like powder that clings to the bodies of insects, works by cutting into their waxy coating and then gradually desiccating them. A drawback is that it can be a bit dusty and messy to use.

Buying Over-The-Counter Medications Doesn't Mean You Should Forget Your Veterinarian

With so many products on the market, why did a recent pet health survey conducted by Banfield Pet Hospital find that **flea** infestation is one of the top 10 reasons owners bring their dogs to the vet? "I think this might result partly from pet owners buying preventive medications at retail outlets and not talking with their [veterinarian](#) about which product is best for their pet, how to apply it and

how to avoid environmental contamination from **fleas** and **flea** eggs,” says **Dr. Jeffrey Klausner**, veterinarian, senior vice president and chief medical officer for **Banfield**.

He and other [veterinarians](#) can provide fast-acting medications that may provide quick relief. **Nitenpyram**, usually administered in pill form, starts working in 30 minutes and can eliminate **fleas** within three to four hours. **Spinosad**, a chewable tablet, works in about the same amount of time and prevents infestation for a whole month. These are just a few of the possible remedies.

No product is free from potential side effects, however, so follow user guidelines carefully. **Kimberly Chambers** of **VetDepot** offers this additional advice:

- Consult your [veterinarian](#) first. Even if you plan to purchase an over-the-counter remedy, talk to your [veterinarian](#) beforehand.
- Pay attention to age and weight guidelines. Failing to allow for these “could result in a dangerous overdose.”
- Do not use a cat product on your dog, and vice versa.
- Avoid getting topical flea-control products in your dog’s eyes and mouth.

“**Flea** protection is an important part of pet ownership,” says Chambers. “It not only saves pets from suffering from an itchy and uncomfortable infestation, but also protects pets from the dangers associated with **fleas**, including **anemia**.”

Finally, keep your home clean. Be sure to wash your pet’s bedding regularly and vacuum affected areas, including curtains, furniture and mattresses.

Article written by Authors: [Kim Boatman](#), [Jennifer Viegas](#), [Elijah Merrill](#), and The Dog Daily Expert
https://www.thedogdaily.com/health/seasonal/summer_disease/



Pet Stress During COVID-19



A veterinary behaviorist discusses why the new stay-at-home normal is hard on cats and dogs – and shares tips for fostering healthy behaviors for us all

“Pets’ world just suddenly turned upside down,” said Stephanie Borns-Weil. “And while individual dogs and cats may vary in their reactions, change in general is very challenging for most animals.”

As the COVID-19 pandemic closes many schools for the rest of the year and confines nonessential workers and the unemployed to staying at home, many of us are going a little stir crazy, not to mention experiencing feelings of anxiety about what the future holds.

Even the youngest elementary school kid can probably understand to some degree why what’s happening is happening – and how she feels about the loss of her usual routine.

But dogs and cats aren’t equipped to process what has happened or to guess how to adapt.

“Pets’ world just suddenly turned upside down,” said [Stephanie Borns-Weil](#) [2], V07, head of the behavior service at [Cummings Veterinary Medical Center](#) [2]. “And while individual dogs and cats may vary in their reactions, change in general is very challenging for most animals.”

Although our pets may enjoy getting to spend more time with us, the dramatic shift in their routines stresses many of them out. As a result, many people who may have dreamed of being home all day with their pets have realized that, in reality, it can be. . . challenging.

Many pets are acting needier than usual, noted Borns-Weil. This may include constantly being underfoot, relentlessly nosing us to pet them, or barking incessantly to go outside.

“A lot of it is because routines are upended, and pets have no idea how to function in the new world order,” she explained. “Some of it is due to opportunity – pets have us around all the time, so



why not keep begging for their next meal or sitting at the door? And much of it is that pets are looking for our attention to relieve their own stress or anxiety, and they only have one or two ways of asking us for that.”

Other pandemic pet problems are behaviors that probably happened at other times, such as barking at passersby.

“Everybody and their brother are out walking their dogs or taking walks all day because that’s the only exercise we can get with the gyms closed and our schedules disrupted,” said Borns-Weil. “So now you may be seeing more [territorial barking](#) [3]. When you used to experience that on the weekend, it wasn’t a big deal. But when you’re on a teleconference call with an important client, the constant barking becomes a big issue.”

Cats in general experience stress differently than dogs, noted Borns-Weil. “Cats can be overwhelmed by having people around when they weren’t expecting them, especially young kids, who tend to add more noise and chaos.”

Cats can express stress – as do a much smaller number of dogs – through unwelcome changes in bathroom behavior, such as urinating outside the litter box.

And while dogs are more apt to turn toward us when they’re feeling stressed, cats are more prone to turn away, Borns-Weil said. “So that’s something to look out for – is your cat becoming depressed and hiding all day? If your cat has the opportunity to engage with members of the family, are they avoiding them instead?”

Although none of these pet-behavior problems are insurmountable, “when we’re all trapped in the house together 24/7 and have to get things done, any of these situations can put a lot of tension on the human-animal bond,” said Borns-Weil.

Fortunately, there are a few strategies you can follow to get back on track.

Be patient with your pet. For all of us, all the rules have changed, said Borns-Weil. “If you feel yourself getting angry with your pet, remember that they’re not trying to be naughty. Animals don’t know how to be vindictive.

“They don’t know our buttons – so if they push them, it’s by accident. Our pets are engaging in frustrating behaviors because they don’t know what’s going on and are trying to communicate an unmet need. What they’re saying is, ‘I need more enrichment’ or ‘I’m worried and I’m trying to get your attention.’”

“Cats can be overwhelmed by having people around when they weren’t expecting them, especially young kids, who tend to add more noise and chaos,” said Stephanie Borns-Weil.

Create and stick to a routine. The more consistent we can be with a daily routine, the clearer we are about what pets can expect during this time of change. Stick to regular meal and walk times for your pet and schedule in opportunities for social interactions such as play time and cuddling.

And be proactive about avoiding situations that may inadvertently reinforce [attention-seeking behavior](#) [4]. For example, Borns-Weil advised, “just before you sit down in your home office, take your dog for a walk and then give him a Kong or another enrichment toy so he is otherwise occupied while you have a Zoom meeting with that important client.”

Give dogs and cats some space. Pets need both quiet time and boundaries. “Being around people all day, every day, can be a lot for animals,” said Borns-Weil. “To put it in human terms, they may start to feel like they’re like they’re always on call.”

Give dogs and cats places they can escape to for a break. Whether it’s a beanbag bed, open crate, or corner of the couch for your dog or a window perch or chair back for your cat, designate their favorite spot as a place where no one is allowed to bother them.

“And when your pet is in that place, don’t let anyone pick them up, move them, pet them, or feed them,” she said. “This will help your animal build their resilience and ability to cope with unusually high levels of social interaction.”

Ensure a child-safe environment. “Parents may be used to keeping an eye on children around pets for limited periods of time,” said Borns-Weil. “But with kids around in the house all day, every day, parents need to re-visit if the home is truly a child-safe environment with respect to the pets.”

Never leave babies or small children alone with an animal. Make sure there are plenty of elevated surfaces where your cat can quickly get out of reach of a child before she loses her patience. And install a gate if necessary to keep children away from the dog’s feeding area and resting place to [prevent common dog-bite situations](#) [5].

Plan for an eventual return to normal. “If your cat is loving having you home all day, she may start to feel some separation distress when we return to real life,” Borns-Weil said. Make sure to guard against that by including some time away from pets in your pandemic routine. Go for a drive or walk or otherwise engage in safe activities elsewhere that do not include pets. This will help dogs and cats retain the skills of being able to entertain themselves and enjoy their alone time.

Although the new stay-at-home normal can be tough on us all, Borns-Weil said there may be a silver lining for our pets. “I think we’ll come out of this with a much deeper sense of empathy for what our animals go through when we leave them locked in a house alone all day,” she said.

“Look at how hard we are all striving to maintain mental stimulation, physical activity, and social connections now that we are stuck at home all day. When we’re not doing our jobs from home,

GREAT LAKES IRISH WOLFHOUND ASSOCIATION

we're doing puzzles, watching movies, working out in our basements, and holding online parties with our friends," she said.

"We have gotten a taste of how most pets lived when they were spending all day home alone, every day, during normal times. But they need mental stimulation, social contact, and exercise during the day to be happy, too. And I hope this universal experience will end up being good for our pets going forward."

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[3] <https://news.vet.tufts.edu/2020/04/how-to-stop-territorial-barking/>

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[5] <https://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/dog-care/dog-bite-prevention>

[6] <mailto:genevieve.rajewski@tufts.edu>

Lazy, Hazy, Crazy Days of Summer



Unique Inspiration for GLIWA Activities



Do you ever wonder where the ideas for GLIWA activities come from? Sometimes it is just a random detour! Sometimes it is a conversation about a beautiful place you once visited. [Kemil Beach](#) is just such a place! Mark Bettin frequently posts beautiful photos of Bo on their walks along the beach. He found a place that is part of the [Indiana Dunes National Park](#). It is an easy drive for those in Southern Wisconsin and Northern Illinois and beautiful enough to entice folks from all over the Great Lakes Region to get out with their dogs drive a bit and enjoy a beautiful day! Mark is thinking the Kemil Beach walk will be late August or early September so keep your eyes peeled for an announcement on the [GLIWA website](#).

There are some easy trails like the [Great Marsh Trail](#) that are short (less than one mile) and paved for wheelchair accessibility. And some much harder ones like [Mount Baldy](#) which is about the same length but has steep climbs in sand! There are also some magnificent turn of the century homes along the beachfront. At the end of the walk we can all sit under a tent or beach umbrellas if you have them and eat lunch!

I know many of you have a bunch of Facebook friends with Wolfhounds who are from all over the world. So, it's not surprising that pictures from Yulia Butkevich (St. Petersburg, Russia) inspired this walk idea too! Yulia frequently posts photos of herself and others on the beach with their Wolfhounds.

So, when you are out and about please keep your eyes peeled for the next fun place to go for a GLIWA walk! When you spot it get out of your car and take your dogs for a walk! If they love it (and you do too) please let GLIWA know. Perhaps it can be another in a series of great destinations that we can share with our hounds!



Above: Bo during one of her "inspiration walks".

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Enjoying some fun in the Russian sun with Wolfhounds & friends.
Photo Credit: Yulia Butkevich from St. Petersburg





Do We Not Owe Them a Rich Mental Life Too?



April 6, 2018 Posted by [Bob McMillan](#) [Behavior](#), [Training](#), [Travel](#), [Uncategorized](#)

We promised that big-eyed, trusting puppy that we'd give him the very best life possible. But that's so much more than food and shelter. Are we growing his mind, too?

I remember bringing my first Irish Wolfhound puppy, Finn, home. His life was an open highway and I planned to do everything I could to show him as much of the world as I could. He traveled with us all over the Southeast, too. We went for walks exploring every corner of our town every day and I had him in training classes for his first three years, anything to do something new, grow his mind and tighten our bond.

It's been the same with Oona and Oisin, too, looking for new adventures and sights and sounds like most wolfhound owners do because we know they're devilishly smart, we don't want them being bored and we know they have huge potential. All dogs do.

They're born with mad skills – super-hearing, phenomenal senses of smell, quick reactions, speed and power, but they have a mind like ours. They need stimulation, fresh input regularly. We read a book, see a movie, and take a trip to stir the stuff in our heads. They snooze on the couch for extended periods because they have few other options to pass the time. They are at the mercy of our schedules so they need our help.

Most of us wouldn't want to use a wolfhound for what it was bred for – chasing down and killing wolves, but many try lure coursing to stretch those legs and tickle their hunt drive. Others try obedience or agility with their hounds. Therapy work is popular because wolfhounds are so hugely empathetic and compassionate. We keep looking for ways to broaden their horizons.

But we all have those spells, where we and our furry friend are just lethargic and dull. It may have been weeks since we had a good ramble through town. They lie on the couch, stupefied. Their eyes barely flicker when you mention food... and you remember all those promises, roll over and groan.

Time to get moving again, physically *and* mentally. Besides the stimulation of daily walks, there are plenty of mind-games on the Internet. Check out [this](#) ... and [this](#) for example.

Oisin, who's still prone to bouts of juvenile crazy, enjoys a simple game of "touch" whenever it's raining sideways outside and the other dogs are all giving him the stink eye. I hold out my palm at various levels and positions, he enthusiastically taps it with his nose and gets a treat.

Scent games are fun and let them use their favorite organ. Shell games challenge their

concentration skills and the hot-cold game is a great shaping game that makes them think while doing their favorite thing, studying you.

The AKC recommends several [brain-boosting toys](#) that make them think and manipulate objects to get treats. But most wolfhounds are already devilishly handy at opening latches, lids, and baby gates and manipulating you to get all the treats they want. Still, anything to keep them out of the pantry for five minutes and give you time to think of something *else* new.

What about Dog TV? <https://www.dogtv.com> too. When you're away at work they watch programming with sights and sounds designed by behavior experts to mentally stimulate your dog, relieve the stress of your being away and ward off the blues.

Spending time with you is what your dog *really* craves. You'll find your love and respect for your hound will propel you on into new things and experiences. Like freestyle dog dancing, maybe. It's another reason having a dog is good for you, right? You'll expand your horizons, too.



Can All Dogs Swim?



By [Stephanie Gibeault, MSc, CPDT](#)

[AKC Source Link](#)

Does your dog run with excitement to every body of water in sight? Maybe you can't walk past a creek or pond without your pup diving in. Or maybe your dog treats water like the enemy and will do anything to stay dry. Every dog is different and not all are born with a love of getting wet. But can all dogs swim?

Depending on the breed, your dog might be a natural in the water or swimming might be challenging. However, whether your dog enjoys taking the plunge or prefers staying on land, it's essential for safety that your dog learn to be comfortable in and around water. You might want to go boating together, go to the beach, or enjoy a cottage vacation. You might even have a backyard swimming pool or visit somebody who does. Read on for pointers for training dog swimming skills and tips on water safety.

Not Every Breed Is a Natural Swimmer

If you think about a breed's traditional purpose, it becomes obvious that some will be drawn to the water. Certain breeds were born to swim because they were developed for water jobs. Consider the Labrador Retriever or the Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever. These dogs were bred to retrieve water birds for the hunter. Some breeds even have water in their name like the Portuguese Water Dog who was developed to work in the water as a fisherman's helper or the Irish Water Spaniel with the distinctive curly and water-repellent coat. These dogs have the physical structure to be excellent swimmers and most will love nothing more than playing in the water.

According to Michele Godlevski, NADD Dock Diving Judge, Certified Professional Dog Trainer, Certified Canine Behavior Consultant, and owner of [Teamworks Dog Training](#) in Raleigh, NC, some breeds seem to know how to swim from the moment they see a body of water whereas others just don't see the point of swimming. "There are also some breeds who have a weight distribution (Bulldogs for example) that would not make it possible for them to swim very well without a life vest." Short-legged, long-bodied breeds like Dachshunds can also struggle in the water. So, can all dogs swim? Although it's a myth that all dogs are natural swimmers, with a life vest and some dog swimming lessons from you, every breed should be able to get around in the water.

The Importance of a Dog Life Jacket

Godlevski says a life vest is always a good idea. And purchasing and fitting a dog flotation device is the first step in her dog swimming lessons. She advises, "Buy a doggie life vest that fits your dog comfortably. No matter what breed you have, you always want that first experience to be fun, and not scary."

Which means never tossing your dog in the water and letting him figure things out on his own. According to Godlevski, "Throwing a puppy or young dog in the water is not only a terrible idea, but it may, in fact, damage the dog's courage about swimming for life." Godlevski has taught many dogs to swim over the years, and she strongly believes that dog swimming is all about courage. Which is another reason for the life jacket. A first-time swimmer in a life vest will have more confidence and therefore feel braver than one without.

Even dogs who seem confident, such as those running into the water as they chase a toy or another dog, can end up in trouble. Godlevski says, "They often just chase that dog right into the water without realizing that the surface has changed." You don't want your dog to panic upon realizing the ground has disappeared.

Godlevski says, "In my experience, dogs who run into the water for the first time, do so like a cartoon character running off a cliff. In other words, the drop-off is a complete surprise." Dogs in a life vest will simply float while they get their bearings and realize they can paddle their feet. But the dog without a flotation device might panic, gulp water, and drown in the few seconds it takes for the paddling reflex to kick in.

Another reason for the life vest for the newbie dog swimmer is what Godlevski calls "front wheel drive." In other words, dogs learning to swim only paddle their front feet while their rear legs dangle down usually trying to find the bottom. "On the other hand, if you have a life vest on a dog, the dog's back stays level with the water. When the dog's back is level, it occurs to the dog that they actually do have "four-wheel drive" and all four paws paddle. Before you know it, your dog is moving through the water smoothly and confidently."

Choosing a Dog Flotation Device

Whether your dog is a swimming breed just starting out or a breed who needs some extra buoyancy, be sure to choose the most suitable style of life jacket. And even the experienced swimmer should have a properly fitting life vest. Your dog might become tired or get disoriented and the extra buoyancy will help with safety and confidence. Finally, a doggie flotation device is essential for boating. If your dog falls overboard, there could be rough water or strong currents, and that life vest could be a life-saver.



Look for a life jacket that is durable and made of waterproof materials. It should also be adjustable so you can ensure a snug fit on your dog. Consider reflective trim if you plan on any evening water-based activities. Along the same lines, brightly colored fabric is a bonus for visibility. You might also look for an extra flotation piece under the chin to help keep your dog's head above water if that kind of extra support is needed.

Also, ensure the device has a handle. This can help you lift your dog out of the water, grab him if he's struggling, and guide him as he learns to swim. But Godlevski advises the handle should be sturdy enough to actually lift the dog out of the water. You might also look for a D-ring that will allow you to attach a leash. That can be useful at public beaches for example.

Teaching Your Dog to Swim

When you start dog swimming lessons, it's key that you entice your flotation-device wearing dog into the water. Whether it's playing with you or with a toy, create a situation that encourages your dog to enter the water on his own. Godlevski suggests, "Bring a toy or a ball. If your dog will come to you from the shore or edge, you can carry the dog around in the water, holding the handle of the life vest, to allow your dog to paddle." Don't pull your dog into the water and be sure to wear a life vest of your own. If your dog panics, he might climb on you to escape, and particularly with a large dog, this can put your safety at risk.

Another method Godlevski recommends is finding a friend with a dog who is a confident swimmer already. "Arrange a time for your dog to watch the other dog swim. If the two dogs are friendly, let your dog follow the other dog around, wearing a life vest." With this technique, your dog can watch and learn, but even more importantly, see how fun the water can be.

If possible, start in shallow water and be close to your dog. Let your dog get used to simply having wet feet. Don't move out of the shallows until your dog seems happy where he is. Encourage gradual movement into deeper water, and use lots of praise and positive reinforcement – if you [reward your dog](#) for being in the water, your dog wants to go in the water again. Anytime your dog seems overwhelmed, move to shallower water or the dry land and let your dog calm down before trying again.

It's also important to teach your dog how to exit the water. Godlevski advises pointing your dog to the shore or pool ramp while you're swimming together. If you're not able to enter the water with your dog, she says it's important you stay near the exit to help your dog find the way. Continue to repeat these steps until your dog understands how to get out of the water.

There are many places to teach your dog to swim, from the lake to the pool, but Godlevski advises that it definitely helps to have a gradual slope into the water. In addition, she says the bright blue water in a pool can look unnatural to dogs which may make them reluctant to get in. (Another reason to get in there with them!) However, she stresses, "Usually a pond or lake seems a bit more natural for the dog, but water is water. If they don't like being wet, it doesn't matter what color the water is!"

Water Safety Tips for Dogs

There are a number of precautions to take whenever you have your dog in or near water. The first is temperature. Godlevski advises making sure the water temperature plus the air temperature equals at least 100 degrees Fahrenheit before letting your dog swim. When the water temperature is too cold, you risk your dog suffering from cold tail, also known as limber tail or swimmer's tail. This is a condition where the tail will droop and no longer wag or lift up. Your dog could also experience hypothermia, which is even more serious. Godlevski says puppies are particularly sensitive, and she cautions, "If your dog jumps into water that is too cold and begins to shiver or not use his tail, please see a veterinarian immediately."

Water toxicity is another issue Godlevski advises watching out for. This is when a dog swallows too much water while swimming. A common sign is throwing up after swimming. To prevent water toxicity, Godlevski suggests keeping swimming sessions short, 10 minutes maximum. Also, she says, "Do not throw a large toy in the water for your dog. A flat, small toy, like a soft flying disc, is best. After your dog comes out of the pool, you can feed your dog some dehydrated or freeze-dried food, to help absorb the excess water in the stomach."

And of course, if your dog is swimming in a natural body of water, Godlevski says to be cautious of other critters such as water snakes or snapping turtles. There can even be alligators in saltwater or inland coastal waters in the south. And the ocean can present even more dangers. Finally, Godlevski says fish hooks with bait on them are another risk in natural bodies of water. "Dogs will gobble up fish bait - hook, line, and sinker before you know what happened. If this happens, get to the emergency vet as soon as possible." Never leave your dog unsupervised in or near the water and keep your eyes peeled for hazards.

And whenever your dog is outside in the sun, be sure to provide access to shade as well as fresh, clean drinking water. Your dog might otherwise be tempted to sip from the pool, ocean, or lake, and that isn't the healthiest choice. And don't forget the sun protection. Hairless breeds like the Chinese Crested or even light-coated dogs can get bad sunburns. And Godlevski says not to forget to put sunscreen on the pink nose of any dog.

So, what if your dog never takes to swimming despite all your lessons and encouragement? He may still enjoy water-side activities or a sized down version of taking a swim, particularly on a hot summer's day. Godlevski suggests a cooling jacket or a plastic kiddie pool. "While some dogs love a baby pool, many dogs are afraid of the slippery surface. You can make that surface less scary by putting kennel decking or a rubber drainage mat (the kind with circular holes in it) on the bottom to provide traction for your dog."

See next page for some of our own GLIWA Wolfhounds learning to swim...

Water Hounds



BELOW: Penumbra pups learning to swim at SwimDog Wellness Center with business owner/trainer Stephanie VerVoot.

Also, checkout Mojo during one of his swim lessons (stopping for a treat of course) [Click Link here](#)

Pink vest: Penumbra Love Potion Number 9 CGC

White vest: Penumbra Bibbidi Bobbidi Boo (Also pictured swimming by his human Deborah Rohloff)

Orange vest: Penumbra Got My Mojo Working



Quarterly Photos & Brags



Roll out those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer!

“Sully having a lazy summer day while camping at Silver Lake State Park!”
Emily Newhouse



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"This is Remy, my work-from-home buddy. As you can see, he thinks working from home is exhausting!"

Kim
Oliver &
Mike
Cherry



GREAT LAKES IRISH WOLFHOUND ASSOCIATION

Hot days call for cool coats at the Mortenson household!
Scott Mortenson



In Remembrance



R.I.P. Ulster's Celtic Wish (FREYA) 11/17/2014 to 7/5/2020

Last week, Freya passed peacefully in her sleep. To summarize her life, "She never met a human whom she could not love nor a dog that she could not correct." She came to us from Ulster Kennels, in Canada, and arrived as a lovely wheaten puppy, curious about her two big brothers, Odie and Loki, and her playmate, Thor (our rat terrier "grand pup" who was living with us while our daughter was in grad school). She relentlessly chased Thor around the back yard, as well as any other dogs who entered her orbit aka her playground. Her world exploded when we moved to Wisconsin, and Odd Duck Farm. Freya could run to her heart's content, and perfected her favorite trick - racing the mail truck around our corner lot pasture - always from her side of the fence, fortunately! She was the bane of vehicles who dared come down her street, but adored all humans who entered our doors. She had no love of dog shows, but was always ready for a cuddle on the couch with whomever crossed our threshold.

She joins her big brothers, Odie and Loki on a hill overlooking the pasture with her very own toy mail truck. Thanks for the memories Freya; run with the wind.

