



**NORTHWEST CANADIAN
GREYHOUND LEAGUE**

**Providing Greyhound Rescue and Adoption Services to
Northwest Canada**

Charitable Organization 89972 9214 RR0001

Web Site: www.ncgl.ca

Please note: Due to high expenses our adoption fee has gone up January 1 to \$315 and will rise to \$350 on July 1. The adoption fee for seniors (dogs 8 years of age and up) has risen to \$250. Our average cost per dog last year was \$600. In order to keep helping dogs, we need to raise our adoption fee. We will also now include a tag collar (along with the collar/lead/muzzle/tag that we always provided).

***Rainbow Bridge
Dogs we said goodbye to so far this year***

Mondo (Snake Man)	Zissou (Benny Goodman)
Iruska Tino	Ginny (Cotton Gin)
Wilson	Lacy
Dancer (Clear Victory)	Sally (Optimal Position)
Pretty Patches	Timo (Bird Dog)
Pluto (Mickey)	Vegas (Twilite Deal)
Flare (WS Bright Flare)	

Household items that are poisonous to dogs

The worst is medications: human prescription meds, over-the-counter human medications or veterinary meds. Do not leave any medication where your dog can reach it. Not on nightstands or counters or in purses on the floor; they should be behind cupboard doors. (I keep mine in a clear plastic container on the counter. I can see them but the dog can't get them.) Dogs are attracted to things you handle a lot, and that bottle of pills or puffer beside your bed might be handy for you, but it's also very easy for them to grab them.

Cleaning supplies of all types, whether liquid or powder. This includes things like paint, bleach, etc. all of which can be toxic in small amounts.

Some human foods are also poisonous to animals. Most people know about chocolate but onions, garlic, macadamia nuts, avocados, raisins and grapes, and anything containing xylitol (often used as a sweetener in baked goods) can be harmful to your dog. Alcohol is also dangerous as are all cooked bones.

Many plants, indoors or outdoors, can be harmful if eaten. Bulbs like tulips, daffodils, and hyacinths are bad whether dug up, or ingested while you are waiting to plant them. As well, fertilizers can attract dogs (particularly composted manure or fish fertilizer) and can be harmful if eaten, but also can be harmful to your dog's feet and legs if they are walking in fertilized grass. Keep them off playing fields that often have lime applied to them too.

Good veggies for your dog

Sweet potatoes, lots of vitamins, fibre and energy.

White potatoes, carbs and provide calories and energy.

Carrots

Green beans, these are great if your dog needs to lose weight as they are low in calories.

Peas

Broccoli – also a good source of vitamins.

Greyhounds and Heat – two things that don't mix well

Some years ago I heard that two greyhounds had died in a car in the heat in Vancouver. On investigation I found it was true. Sadly the owner had made what was to be a 20 minute stop, the weather was a bit drizzly and about 18 C. He didn't open any windows and his quick stop turned into two hours. When he got to the car both his greyhounds were in distress, and the vet was unable to save either of them. Always leave a window open no matter what, and if it is warm, or could turn sunny, leave your dogs at home. No one wants this to happen to their dogs, especially knowing it was their fault. ☹

Also be careful that your dog does not run around too much and overheat. Greyhounds don't do well in the heat, whether it's from the sun or self-inflicted by too much running. Your dog does not know when to stop so it's your job to stop them before they've had too much. (See article in Oct. 14 newsletter).

Congratulations to Griffin!

Congratulations to Griffin on getting his Canine Good Neighbor and for passing all 3 DOT (Designated Odor Test) in Nosework! Great job Cathy for taking the tiny little goofer looking puppy he was when he came into us and turning him into the absolutely brilliant, well behaved handsome man he is today! (Have a look at the pictures on our facebook page.)

Check out this link to see Greyhound speed versus Cheetah speed!

<https://www.facebook.com/curiositydotcom/photos/a.293459797348511.88330.206936646000827/1039326202761863/?type=1&theater>

And here's another great youtube to watch:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aV7GHgxPEzI&feature=youtu.be>

And a good one for health information:

www.greyhoundadoptionofoh.org/Greyhound_Health_Packet_08.pdf

Before going to the dog park....

Whenever dogs gather there is an inherent risk that contagious diseases may spread from one animal to another. Consult your veterinarian to determine which vaccines are appropriate for your dog and region — and be sure to keep them up to date (personally I do every third year and nothing after age 9 but you and your vet need to decide what works for you), especially before going to places like the dog park. Often veterinarians will recommend administering core vaccines, which protect against deadly diseases like canine [parvovirus](#), [distemper](#) virus, and [rabies](#).

Note: Parvo has been noted in Central Saanich and just recently two cases of leptospirosis have shown up in Sidney, BC. Before adoption your dog will have received a parvo vaccine but not lepto. Lepto often has side effects so it has been eliminated from the general shot they usually get. I am not advocating running out and getting vaccines, just be aware of what might be in your neighbourhood. Talk to your veterinarian.

Also make sure to use flea and/or tick preparations before heading to the park. Anywhere you have lots of different dogs, there's a risk of picking up fleas. If your area has a lot of ticks, then protection against them is better than finding them later once they are engorged on your dog.

Your undivided attention is required at the dog park in case an incident or emergency should present itself. That means no burying yourself on the cell phone screen! And know where the closest vet's office is just in case you do have an emergency. Enjoy your walk and spending time with your dog.

Pet Insurance

Vet costs continue to grow (but often our incomes don't keep up). There are several good companies out there now providing levels of insurance for those vet bills. Look at several before choosing. Most have varying amounts of coverage depending on how much you can afford. Another way to do this is to save a specific amount per month with the understanding that money is for your vet costs. This is often a better option for people who have several animals. Insurance costs are anywhere from \$45 – 100 per month. There is always a deductible that you have to pay first, but one serious illness or injury can take a big chunk out of your bank account. You may want to speak to your vet to ask which they feel is the best value for your money. Also make sure that you don't have an age limit on coverage. If your pet is insured while still relatively young, you should be covered well into old age. Also look for companies that have some coverage for non-traditional vet costs like acupuncture or chiropractic.

Corns

Some greyhounds have or develop corns on their feet. These are not the same thing as corns on people. The easiest way to tell if your dog has corns is to look at its pads. If there are round circular areas that are raised, or if you wipe the paw with a damp cloth and then see circular areas, your dog probably has corns. Some people have them surgically removed. This is expensive, very painful for the dog, and they come back. Others have them hulled, either doing it themselves or having their vet do it. They come back.

Having owned greys with corns before, I have learned quite a lot about them! The best, cheapest and easiest way to deal with them is to buy booties. I personally have used TheraPaws and been very happy with them. I only used them for walking on pavement, gravel or packed hard dirt. Grass or inside the house they aren't needed. I did find a product that also works to eliminate them (again if you stop they come back) – it is called NeoStrata skin smoothing cream, with glycolic acid. Ladies' wrinkle cream essentially. ☺ Put a tiny dab on the corn twice a day to start, then once a day. The corn will disappear. But it will come back if you stop. So if your dog gets corns, please don't panic. And if you suddenly have a slightly lame dog, before spending hundreds (and in some cases thousands) of dollars, have a look at their pads. Therapaws can be ordered online individually. The site explains how to measure. Ember wore hers for over 4 years and they weren't worn out. Cost about \$100 for both back feet including shipping.