



THE DIRT



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573-446-4070 • www.MuddPuppies.org

About Paws • 573-268-0678

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From the Editor

Inside Columbia has started their nominations for the Best Of. Unfortunately it's kind of lacking in the pet industry categories, but it's still there. Of course we'd appreciate your nomination, but would also encourage you to nominate and vote for your favorite locally owned business. Nominations are being accepted through the first week of December at www.insidecolumbia.net/best-of/.

I've also been taking steps to add private dog training to our services. This will be me teaching you how to teach your dog with hands-on lessons and "homework" for you to practice. More information will be available on the website soon. Something will be mentioned here when it is available as well.

This is something that was in my original business plan and has been long in coming. Understand that socializing is a very important part of having a dog, but there are instances where private lessons can be beneficial.

Be sure to follow us on Twitter at [Mudd_Pupps_CoMO](https://twitter.com/Mudd_Pupps_CoMO) for regular discounts and specials. You can also follow us on Facebook at [Mudd-Puppies-Self-Serve-Dog-Wash-LLC](https://www.facebook.com/Mudd-Puppies-Self-Serve-Dog-Wash-LLC).

A Brief Overview of a Favored Author

Because the state of Missouri leads the country in the number of puppy mills, it is the strict policy of Mudd Puppies to not advertise, endorse, or recommend breeders. Instead, check with one of the many local shelters or rescues in and near Columbia.

Bright Beginnings' (<http://www.brightbeginningsrescue.org/>) "mission is to fight against breed discrimination and provide education to the general public in order to reduce fear and create a better understanding of Pitbulls and other bully breeds."

Central Missouri Humane Society (www.cmhspets.com) "exists to prevent and alleviate the suffering and uncontrolled reproduction of companion animals with an emphasis on public education, adoption and providing basic veterinary services for underserved pet owners." CMHS is an open door shelter meaning they will take in any animal and assists with housing puppy mill dogs

Columbia Second Chance (www.columbia2ndchance.org) "provide for the benevolent relief of unwanted animals. The organization will provide food, shelter, medical assistance, and general relief to those animals that have been made homeless through the acts or omissions of people; to provide this care for each animal while researching and approving permanent adoptive homes; to

educate the public regarding the health, exercise, and general needs of these animals..."

Dogs Deserve Better (www.dogsdeservebetter.com) "is a voice for chained and penned dogs, whose sadness speaks only through the eyes. Many of these dogs sit, lay, eat, and defecate within the same 10-foot radius. Chained by the neck, they exist without respect, love, exercise, social interaction, and sometimes even basic nourishment." Through education, advocacy, and rescues, it is DDB's goal to have dogs be companions in the home, not resigned to a life on a chain.

Happy Tails Animal Sanctuary (www.htsanctuary.com) is "dedicated to rehabilitating, caring for and finding permanent placements for abused, neglected and unwanted animals in danger of being euthanized."

Project Precious Paws (www.projectpreciouspaws.org) "is dedicated to finding forever homes by connecting the hearts of people and pets. Project Precious Paws will work to counteract the overpopulation of unwanted pets through spay and neuter programs by advancing humane education and creating programs beneficial to the human/animal bond."

If you are considering a puppy for X-mas, visit one of the local shelters and see some tips in our October, 2011 issue.

High and Dry and Hairy

The dryers available at Mudd Puppies are groomers' dryers. This means they blow forced air, but do not have a heating element, so there is no risk of scorching the dog. They do get a little warm from the heat of the motor, but not hot enough to be a risk. If using a hair dryer at home, it would be best to set it either to low or no heat.

desensitization can change a dog's association with the dryer.

If it is just the air blowing on them, setting the dryer to low and starting near the hips usually works. Once the dog becomes accustomed to the air you can get a bit more vigorous. If the dog is sensitive to that, you can start by removing the reducer on the hose to lesson the pressure

For noise sensitivity, usually using a dryer that is a bit further away so the noise isn't right next to the dog seems to work. Again, starting on the low setting will also keep the noise down to its minimum.

Mudd Puppies has the advantage of six foot hoses being attached to the dryers, so dogs can be dried in the tubs, as far from the noise of the dryer as possible. Drying them in the tub also minimizes the stress of moving the dog around more than is necessary.



Another tip, not so much for drying, but for getting rid of the excess hair is to blow the coat while the conditioner is in. The conditioner

provided with the basic set-up at Mudd Puppies is a dematting conditioner. It will loosen any hair that is about ready to come out. Using the blow dryer at this stage will get the hair off the dog and

leave it in the tub. Care should be taken not to dry the coat, but rinse the conditioner first.

When drying the coat, the nozzle should be held such that it blows across the coat and not into it. Blowing into the coat pushes the water down to the skin whereas blowing across the coat blows the water off, away from the skin, and allows it to evaporate.

Some dogs are sensitive to the air blowing or the noise of the dryer. Simple counter-conditioning and

of the air and hold the hose a little further back.

Leaving the dog in the tub and drying him there will allow you to "ricochet" the air off the sides of the tub onto the dog to lessen the pressure even more. Some dogs find this more aversive though, because they can't escape the air flow. So best judgement should be used.

Brushing the dog while the conditioner is in is also a good idea for getting rid of any excess hair. Care should always be taken not to over-brush to the point of thinning the hair or brushing so hard that the skin is damaged.

The “P” Word

I've had two people ask me about potty training lately. One was about an older dog, and one about a puppy. So, let's go over some basics.

It should be understood that dogs do not soil in the house out of spite, vindictiveness, or some form or marking their territory. Dogs are just not geared that way. They do it because they have to go and they most likely either do not know better or they are unable to hold it. In the case of “marking,” this is more akin to the dog saying “I was here” rather than “this is mine.” Scolding them may also cause them to urinate out of fear or anxiety.

It should also be remembered that punishing the dog after the fact is not productive. Current thinking is that dogs do not associate the act of going to the bathroom with a soiled spot in the wrong place. For example, suppose you eat a bag of potato chips and throw the empty bag in the trash but you don't realize you miss the can and it falls on the floor. Now suppose a parent sees the bag and reprimands you. Are you being reprimanded for eating the chips and spoiling your dinner or letting the bag fall on the floor?

After making sure there are no health issues he most important rule to potty training is consistency.

A dog's bladder does not fully develop until 6 to 9 months. Asking them to have control before that is like asking a 3 month old child to be potty trained. You will have some success,

but there are going to be accidents.

Particularly with puppies, the key to potty training is consistency. As annoying as it may be, you may have to take her out every 15 minutes, particularly after eating, when she first gets up, after lots of activity like playing, after drinking a lot, etc. Make sure she actually goes. Some puppies will get so interested in checking out their environment that they forget to potty when they are out.

At first, or if you need to retrain, it is a good idea to take your dog out on a leash, even in a fenced yard. Take the dog to a spot where she usually goes and walk her back and forth around that spot. If she starts sniffing, stop and wait to see if she will go. If you want to put going potty on cue, wait until she is just about done and say the word you choose to use. She may associate the word faster if you say it just as she is starting, but this will interrupt some dogs and they will stop going, hence

adding the word after she's finished.

As mentioned above, if she was potty trained and has regressed, it would be worth having her checked out by her vet. A number of things can cause a dog to lose the ability to wait to go the bathroom. Once any physical ailment has been ruled out or cured, you may have to back up in your training to get her used to not soiling in the house again. This should only take a short time as she had already learned the behavior.

There are several products on the market to get rid of the smell and actually break down the urine so it does not become habit to go in the same place. A cap full of ammonia has worked well in some instances. Just check that it won't stain your carpet.

Something else to consider is crate training. Dogs will not go in a place where they sleep if they can help it.

If you have a question you would like to see addressed, send it to Mudd.Puppies@gmail.com or call us at 446-4070.



Calendar of Events

Twin Lakes Recreation Area Road Closed - Until Work is Completed
7:00 a.m - 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday
The MKT and the new County House Trail accesses into the park will remain open.

Paw Print Ornament Yappy Hour - December 1

500 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. at Lizzi & Rocco's

CMHS Adoption Event - December 3

11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at Treats Unleashed

Natural Pet Care Seminar with Dr. Sherri Russell - December 3

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. at Lizzi & Rocco's

Puppy Picasso - December 3

10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at Treats Unleashed

Photo Shoot - December 4

12:00 noon - 4:00 p.m. at Lizzi & Rocco's

If you are hosting or know of a dog related event in Columbia or Central Missouri, e-mail us the information at Mudd.Puppies@gmail.com and we will include it in our newsletter.

Mock Odor Recognition and Canine Good Citizen Test - December 10

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. (ORT)

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. (CGC) at CCSC

Odor Recognition Test - December 10

Time TBA at CCSC

Pictures with Santa - December 10

11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at Treats Unleashed

Photo Shoot - December 11

12:00 noon - 4:00 p.m. at Lizzi & Rocco's

CMHS Adoption Event - December 17

11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at Lizzi & Rocco's

CMHS Adoption Event - December 24

11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at Award Pet Supply

Contacts

- **About Paws Quality Cat and Dog Grooming**
268-0678 • www.aboutpawscolumbia.com
- **Award Pet Supply**
445-8249 • www.awardpetsupply.com
- **Boone & Brinkley's Boutique**
www.booneandbrinkleysboutique.com
- **Bright Beginnings Rescue**
brightbeginningsrescue.org
- **Central Missouri Humane Society (CMHS)**
573-443-7387 • www.cmhspets.com
- **Columbia Canine Sports Center (CCSC)**
817-2272 • www.columbiak9sportscenter.com
- **Columbia Parks and Recreation**
874-7460 • www.gocolumbiamo.com/ParksandRec
- **Columbia Second Chance (CSC)**
660-882-5050 • www.columbia2ndchance.org
- **Dogs Deserve Better**
www.dogsdeservebetter.com
- **Happy Tails Animal Sanctuary**
445-1680 • www.htsanctuary.com
- **Lizzi & Rocco's**
875-2288 • www.lizziandroccos.com
- **Mudd Puppies**
446-4070 • www.muddpuppies.org
- **Project Precious Paws (P3)**
886-9869 • www.projectpreciouspaws.org
- **South Paw Acres**
446-2733 • www.southpawacres.com
- **Treats Unleashed**
234-2275 • www.treats-unleashed.com