

News From OurDogHouse

May 2008 Issue

May 21, 2008

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1. New from the DogHouse



Father's Day is just a few weeks away, but there's still time to get Dad a great gift! We have a variety of barbeque aprons and caps if your dad is an outdoorsman. If he's more of the indoor type, we suggest a new mouse pad or mug for his home office or a clock for his workshop. Don't forget about the granddads and other special men in your life and in your pooch's.

Big plans are underway as OurDogHouse gets ready to celebrate our 5th birthday next month! We'll be unleashing a new contest so you can be part of the celebration. Be sure to fetch your copy of the June issue of our newsletter for details.

[Click here](#) to go to OurDogHouse online store



OurDogHouse is proud to announce NEW personalized food and water bowls for your pet! Made of ceramic and available in two sizes, you can add a name or favorite saying, even a photo, too! Click on Rosco's bowl to see some examples. To order, use the link at the top of the page in our Custom Zone to contact OurDogHouse and tell us how you would like to customize your bowl.

2. Recycle for Life

[Recycle for Life](#)

Recycling your used inkjet cartridges and cellular phones can help save the environment, but did you know that you can help save

homeless pets by recycling your used inkjet cartridges and cellular phones with the PetSmart Charities Recycle for Life program?

It's free and easy, too! Just visit your nearest PetSmart store and look for the PetSmart Charities recycling display. Pick up a free postage-paid, pre-addressed envelope for your cartridge or phone. Drop it in the mail and PetSmart Charities will receive a \$2-\$15 donation for every cartridge or phone recycled through this program. If you would like more information on the program, [please visit](#) PetSmart Charities.

You can complete the circle of recycling by purchasing recycled and refilled inkjet and laser cartridges. For every cartridge you buy, PetSmart Charities will receive a \$2-\$5 donation to help save homeless pets. Visit To check out our past issues of our newsletter [to buy your cartridge today.](#)

3. Lap it Up!

Lap it Up! Copyright © OurDogHouse

With temperatures rising as summer approaches, it is especially important to remember that proper hydration is essential for humans as well as pets in order to survive. To better understand why water is so essential to your pet's overall health, let's take a closer look at what water actually does. Water acts as a transport. It aids in the body's ability to flush waste out, thus detoxifying the body. It has a remarkable ability to stabilize heat, thereby regulating body temperature. Water also helps to keep Fido's joints and body tissues well lubricated.

Dogs lose a great deal of water daily by means of urination, evaporation and respiration. Just like us, dogs need more water on hot days and when they have engaged in arduous activity. In order to maintain a proper level of body fluids, it is important for them to have an adequate water supply at all times. A loss of 10% of the body's water will cause serious illness and a 15% loss will cause death if not replaced quickly. You should also keep in mind that an older dog may dehydrate more quickly than a younger dog.

Dogs will normally drink enough to maintain the proper balance of body fluids when clean water is available. However, there are many reasons why a pet may become dehydrated. Vomiting, fever, pregnancy or nursing, and overexertion are a few of these. Any type of stress that increases respiration, panting or drooling will also result in a loss of fluids.

Some signs of dehydration to look for in your pet are:

- Dryness-pet's mouth, eyes or gums appear dry and are not as moist as usual.
- Loss of skin elasticity-carefully pull up a small amount of skin

along the back and let it go; the skin should retract immediately.

- General fatigue or weakness.
- Sunken eyes.

If you feel your pet is dehydrated, consult your vet.

As you can see, even a small amount of water loss can cause health issues in your pet. Therefore, a supply of clean, fresh water is vital at all times.

For those of you who are new subscribers to our newsletter, we welcome you! To our long-time readers, we thank you for your continuing support! We hope you have enjoyed this month's newsletter and we welcome you to forward this issue to anyone else who might also enjoy it. If you have suggestions for future stories, we'd love to hear them! Please feel free to email your comments and suggestions to [OurDogHouse](#)