

Monthly Scoop

Staycation Tips

It seems this year there is quite the buzz about saving money and have a "Staycation".



Well Pooh Busters is as hip and up-to-date with the latest trends as anyone! So with Staycations in mind, let's explore what we can do with our dogs to make our vacation at home fun for all members of the family.

Let's focus on some FREE things we can do with our fur-kids while hanging out at home.

- Set some time aside to groom our pals! Not only do most dogs enjoy a good brushing, they require it! Get those tangles on our long-haired friends out and the short-haired variety get a nice massage and cleaning out of some grooming. Not to mention the rhythmic motions and soothing nature of brushing actions prove to be the relaxing break you both need.
- Take your dog to a place where people don't or can't have dogs. What could be more satisfying than seeing the joy your dog's presence can bring to a senior citizen's face? Watch as

a hospitalized individual light up at the sight of your dog.

- Take a much needed nap! How many times have you looked over at your pooch to see them sprawled out in the sun catching a mid-afternoon snooze? Didn't you say, "I wish I was doing that"? Well take the much need break. Curl up next to your dog on the sofa or on the bed is something you both will benefit from. Your dog will love the closeness of having you next to them and you will love the time-out!
- Don't just play with your dog...PLAY with your dog! Set aside some uninterrupted time when you can get down and dirty with your pal. Walking and tossing a ball is fun too but get down on your hands and knees and really have some one on one fun!
- Finally don't forget the parks! Dogs love the off-leash parks. The sights and smells are new and exciting and he or she get to run their little hearts out!

So include your dog in your Staycation plans this year, they'll love you for it! Almost as much as they love you for having Pooh Busters come in to clean your yard weekly.

Happy summer everyone!

NEWSLETTER

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Did you know:

- ☺ ...that the Calgary Stampede is being held from July 3 to July 12 this year?
- ☺ ...that at the Stampede you can go watch the World Stock Dog championship? Watch dogs from around the world herd three sheep around barrels and through chutes!
- ☺ ...that the Superdogs will be appearing at the Stampede again this year? Don't miss them as they present "Holly-woof High" at the Corral!

Poooper of the Month

Pooh Busters is proud to present **Molly** as July's Poooper of the Month!



Get your dog featured for Poooper of the Month 2009 is full, now accepting pics and bios for 2010!

Email your dog's pictures and bios to Big Nate at

BigNate@PoohBusters.com

Pawsitively Pooched!

We wanted to take a moment to let you know about a wonderful dog service located in NW Calgary. The Pooh Busters team dropped by this facility to check out all the amenities it provides to all their doggie clients. We were very impressed with all it has to offer! We're talking a full service spa here! Day care, as-

isted swimming, grooming, training and retail products. These folks have been around for over four years and were even voted the best doggy daycare in Calgary by the readers of FFWD Magazine!

To celebrate their success, they are holding a Customer Appreciation day on August 8th. It's going to be quite the event with pro-

ceeds going to the Cochrane Humane Society.

There will be a BBQ from M&M Meats, Dog Washes for \$20, adoptable dogs from the Cochrane Humane Society, swims demos, training info & much, much more! To get more details, visit their site at:

www.pawsitivelypooched.com/

How to Travel with Your Dog

Not doing a Staycation this year? Then if you *are* planning a trip, have you considered whether or not your dog gets to come along? Do you know how to travel with your dog? Traveling with your dog can be loads of fun if you make all the right arrangements. However, poor planning can really ruin the vacation for everyone. Learning how to travel with your dog can make the experience less stressful and a lot of fun!

Getting there by Air

Air travel for dogs is not always a great idea. Though canines are not cargo to us pet parents, they are usually considered such by the airlines. The cargo hold does not make for a pleasant travel experience, even for relaxed dogs. This is not to say that flying is not an option, just that it is not ideal. Small dog owners are in luck, though. Some airlines will allow you to bring your pet in a carrier if it can fit under the seat in front of you. Learn the finer details of air travel with dogs so you can be fully informed before you book a flight.

Getting there by Automobile

The automobile is usually the best way to travel with dogs. If you own a vehicle, chances are your dog has ridden in it for trips to the vets, the park and so on. If not, now is the time to start. Some dogs have anxiety over riding in cars. The more positive your dog's automobile experiences are, the more likely he will enjoy the rides. If your dog only rides in the car for vet visits, and he dislikes the vet, his anxiety is understandable. Try taking him for short, frequent car rides that end up at the park, dog supply store (where he will get a toy or treat), or another pleasant place. If your dog does not adjust to the car, then a road trip is not a good option. If you *must* bring your dog for a long car ride, ask your vet about possible anti-anxiety medications that can make the trip a bit easier on everyone. Otherwise, you should seek out other options. Remember, medications should be used sparingly.

If you've decided that Rover can handle the trip, make sure you make all the proper arrangements.

Plan Ahead

Plot rest stops along the way while traveling with your dog, and plan to stop every 3-5 hours to allow your dog to relieve himself, drink water and stretch his legs (more or less depending on your dog's needs). Make a list of several veterinary hospitals that are easily accessible from your route, preferably within one hour's drive from any given point. Check that they will be open during your travel.

Bring for the car ride:

- Lists of rest stops and veterinary hospitals
- Leash
- Dog seat belt or crate / kennel
- Water and Bowls
- Treats
- One or two toys

- Blanket and/or dog bed
- Bags to pick up waste
- Medications, if applicable
- Your dog's medical records

Hotels and Bed & Breakfasts

A pet-friendly hotel is more than just one that *allows* pets - it is one that *welcomes* them. Ask what amenities are available for your dog, but remember to find out what cost is involved. Research the internet for pet-friendly hotels.



Camping

Camping with your dog can be the perfect way to spend time together while communing with nature. However, camping with dogs is not always a wise choice. Before you decide to bring your dog, make sure the campground you are considering actually allows dogs. Many state and national parks do not allow dogs. Above all, learn how to have fun *and* stay safe while camping.

If you think it would be best for your dog to stay behind, then call Pooh Busters for a pet sitter or for advice on to how to find a kennel where you can board your dog. We can help provide you and your dog with the best care possible while you are away. Nothing is worse than trying to enjoy your vacation while worrying about how your pets are doing at home without you there to take care of them.

So get out there and take advantage of Summer 2009!

Top Ten Signs You Spoil Your Dog

1. You think begging for table scraps is beneath him, so you let your dog eat at the table with you.
 2. You take him to the supermarket and let him pick out his own dog food.
 3. Your husband comes home from work, looks at the stew on the stove and asks: "Is this people food or dog food?"
 4. You bought matching His & Hers place mats for your dog and yourself.
 5. At dinner parties you always have to double-check the butter for visible lick marks, before putting it on the table.
 6. Your dog gets to vote on where to spend the next family vacation.
 7. You don't care if you or your spouse are comfortable at night, as long as Fido has enough room on the bed.
 8. You complain about the rising costs of groceries, but you don't think twice about spending a fortune on doggie treats.
 9. Your dog always gets the best spot on the couch and sometimes he even gets to hold the remote.
 10. He has his own e-mail address.
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