



It's almost **SUMMER 2012!** Go outside and **PLAY!!!**

But REMEMBER this: When it's 80 degrees outside, a car can heat up to over 120 degrees in just minutes. Also, asphalt can be really hot! Take care of your dog's paws! Keep him safe and happy!

Important dates to remember:

May 19th 1 pm at Paws 'n Claws - **Tools of the Trade - walking tools to help your dog**

Learn more about the proper use of the Gentle Leader and the Easy Walk Harness. These tools can be very useful in teaching your dog to walk with you instead of pulling on leash. There's a right way and a wrong way to use them. The Gentle leader requires skill and timing to help your dog learn. It's very easy to abuse a dog using the Gentle Leader inappropriately. The Easy Walk harness is easier to use and can take a lot of pulling pressure off the leash. It can also help to curtail reactive episodes when used correctly. The instructors from Total Teamwork Training will be available to give you some great tips! Stop by Paws 'n Claws to sign up!

May 21st 6:30 pm - at Bud Werner Library **Ask a Trainer**

Stop by the library and visit with us! We'll be answering your training and behavior questions. Write them down along with your contact information. We'll address as many as we can on Monday and send out information on the more complicated questions that might require follow up.

Did you get the Memo? ...The Red Bandana™ Help for our Fearful or Reactive Dogs

Last week the Steamboat Pilot published a news article about Fearful and Reactive Dogs, written by me, as part of our continuing education series called A Dog's Eye View.

We are launching a new campaign to use the Red Bandana™ rule for reactive and fearful dogs in public places. When you see a dog wearing this Red Bandana™ it means that this dog should not be approached or petted. Please help owners who have fearful or reactive dogs by giving them a little space. We now have these red bandanas available and Paws 'n Claws has them in stock too. Stop by and check them out!



Here's what to do:

Instructions:

It is our job to protect our fearful dog from well meaning people. With your help we can educate children and adults about fearful or reactive dogs.

When someone approaches you and your dog please ask them to "STOP." Point out this red bandana and tell them this Red Bandana™ means your dog should not be approached. Ask them to spread the word. Dogs wearing this Red Bandana™ are either afraid or they are not friendly to all people and other dogs. Ask them to please give you and your dog a little extra space.

Teach your dog to sit/stay and focus on you. If you see a person and dog coming down the trail, you can move off the trail several yards and ask your dog to sit/stay. You and your dog should move far enough away so that he does not become reactive. Reward your dog for maintaining the sit/stay while others walk by. Let them go past and point out the Red Bandana™ and let them know you and your dog are training. For fearful or reactive dogs, the use of positive reinforcement training should always be a first choice.

Dogs off leash can be a real problem.

If a person is walking their dog off leash, call out to them that you have a “Red Bandana dog” and they should not allow their dog to meet your dog. You move off the trail and work on the sit/stay while they walk by. Remember to maintain enough distance so that your dog does not react. Help more and more people to become aware that fearful or reactive dogs need additional space.



Children should be taught to NEVER approach a dog without permission. Even the cutest dog can be afraid of strangers. The Red Bandana™ will become a visual signal to children to not approach that dog.

For help call us! When rehabilitating your fearful or reactive dog, seek the advice of a certified professional dog trainer with experience or certification in dog behavior (CPDT-KA) or (ACDBC).

Laura Tyler CPDT-KA ACDBC 1-970-629-1507
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Certification Council for Professional Dog Trainers: www.ccpdt.org
International Association of Animal Behavior Consultants: www.iaabc.org
For general dog obedience training you can find a trainer at: Association of Pet Dog Trainers: www.apdt.com
Visit our web site for more information: www.totalteamworktraining.com

Please help keep all dogs safe!

Do not approach or let your dog approach a dog wearing this Red Bandana™.

The Red Bandana shows that this particular dog is fearful or reactive when other dogs or people get too close. Share our trails, parks and sidewalks with all who choose to walk with their dogs.

Red Bandana™ dogs should always be on leash!

