

MARCH 2023

THE PAW



OUR MISSION

WOUNDED PAW PROJECT® IS A 501(C)(3) THAT FOCUSES ON THE PREVENTION OF ANIMAL ABUSE AND THE REHABILITATION OF ABUSED AND RESCUED DOGS.

Welcome to The Paw, Wounded Paw Project's ® monthly newsletter that keeps you up to date on how you and Wounded Paw Project® are making a difference for abused and rescued dogs. Each month, you'll get tips that you can use for your own pet and since Wounded Paw Project® was founded by a Purple Heart recipient, we'll also provide veterans with information they may not know.

This month meet Diva, an abandoned dog from Phoenix that was rescued with the help of a Good Samaritan and went from landfill to luxury. Keep reading to learn her story and what you should do if you come across an abandoned dog.

We hope you enjoy this month's newsletter and don't forget to follow us throughout the month on our social media platforms.

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WPP.dog

News@wpp.org

From landfill to luxury!



Meet Diva! Diva was rescued from a Pheonix, AZ landfill along with her sister, Luna. In November 2019, a Good Samaritan working at the landfill discovered a doggie family (Mom, Dad, and five puppies) living among the trash. The Good Samaritan was able to save only two puppies—Diva and Luna—and contacted Wounded Paw Project® for help.

Diva immediately got her shots and was spaded. She began working with a dog behavior trainer to help her with socialization with people, potty training, and basic obedience. The Good Samaritan became Diva's foster family while Wounded Paw Project® made arrangements for Diva to come to Virginia...but then COVID-19 hit.

With the country shut down, Diva was in foster care until late June 2020 when she and her sister were picked up by Wounded Paw Project® founder in an RV. Diva did great driving cross country and this was the first of many RV trips she has been on. Since being rescued, Diva has taken RV trips to Ohio, New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Colorado, Nevada, California, Louisiana, Florida, Maine, and Massachusetts just to name a few.

Diva is also a service dog in training! Diva has displayed a calm demeanor and confidence when entering stores and restaurants. Diva even got to show her service dog in training progress at Walt Disney World's Animal Kingdom resort.

Wounded Paw Project® would like to thank all the people who have helped to give Diva a great life that went from landfill to luxury! If you would like to help more dogs like Diva, please visit our website and donate today.



IF YOU FIND AN ABANDONED DOG

Don't approach the dog if the dog is behaving aggressively or foaming at the mouth. Call your local animal control officer or animal shelter for help. Keep yourself SAFE!

Approach the dog slowly and with caution. You'll probably need to bribe the dog with lots of treats (put them on the ground or in a bowl...don't use your hands to feed the dog treats until you are confident the dog trusts you). Once you are able to, put a loop leash on the dog. Now you are able to guide the dog to where you want to go and check to see if the dog has any identification.

Still not sure what to do...call 1-844-SAVAPAW and we'll try to help.

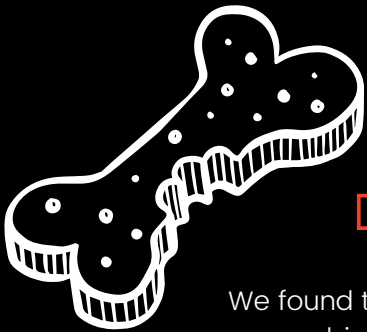
Help...my puppy keeps chewing up my stuff!

It can be frustrating to come home and see that your puppy chewed up everything from your furniture to your shoes but there are some things you can do to help stop the chewing.

First, if you are able to, put anything you don't want your puppy to chew out of your puppy's reach! Don't want your puppy chewing your paperback book...put it up. Don't want your puppy chewing your sunglasses...put it up. Don't want your puppy chewing your shoes...put it up. You get the point.

Next, the best thing you can do to help your puppy to stop chewing things is divert your puppy's attention to something else. That's right. Distract. Distract. Distract. If you see your puppy chewing something your puppy shouldn't be replace it with a chew toy. Make sure your puppy is getting plenty of exercise so your puppy is too tired to chew your favorite belongings.

If you have to leave your puppy alone at home, create a puppy safe area. This can be a room or any area that is blocked off that your puppy can be free of tempting items to chew. Make sure the room or space is free of electrical cords, trash cans, shoes, etc. Give your puppy a comfy place to lay down (like a doggie bed with a blanket) and leave a tv or radio on to provide soothing sounds. Don't forget to leave items in the puppy safe area to keep your puppy busy like your puppy's favorite toy or a Kong toy with a frozen treat in it.



DOGGIE WAFFLES

We found this recipe on thehomespunchics.com. It's great for that waffle iron you have sitting in your cabinets. After cooked, the waffles will last a few days on the counter or make a batch to freeze and let thaw before giving to your doggie.

Ingredients

Waffles:

- 1 cup oatmeal
- 1 banana, very ripe
- 1 egg
- 1/3 cup of creamy peanut butter
- coconut oil to grease the waffle iron (optional)

To make:

1. Preheat waffle iron.
2. In a medium size bowl, mix all the ingredients together except the coconut oil. Use a fork to smash the banana and the other ingredients will bind in.
3. Once the waffle iron is heated, brush a little bit of the coconut oil to grease the plates. Scoop 2 Tbsp of batter into the center of each section and close the lid to cook. Cook until golden brown.
4. Cut into small pieces and give to your doggies. Enjoy!

IS YOUR LAWN SAFE FOR YOUR PET?

Now that the weather is turning nicer and Spring is here, it's important that the lawn care regimen you use is safe for your pet. You should ensure that your fertilizer and pest control products are pet friendly.

One thing that is often overlooked is ensuring that the grass you are growing and the plants you are using in your landscaping are non-toxic and safe for pets.

Safe grass for pets:

- Tall Fescue
- Kentucky Bluegrass
- Perennial Ryegrass
- Bermudagrass
- Zoysiagrass

Common safe plants for pets are:

- Roses
- Sunflowers
- Hibiscus
- African Violet
- Marigolds

Common toxic plants:

- Hydrangeas
- Lily of the Valley
- Tulips
- Aloe Vera
- Daffodils

When in doubt, contact your local nursery and find out for sure!

Weed and insect control is often applied as a spray on most grasses. Large amounts of these products are not intended for pet consumption. Let your grass dry for at least 30-45 minutes before letting your pet go in the grass. By letting your pet walk in grass that still has wet weed control and insecticides on it, you run the risk of your pet's paws being irritated and if ingested, could cause slight to mild diarrhea.

There are many lawn care companies that offer comprehensive lawn care services for your lawn. Just make sure that the applicator is licensed and that they are using products that are safe for your



MEET SADIE THE MO'PITTIE... THE MORKIE WHO THINKS SHE'S A PITBULL. EACH MONTH, SADIE WILL GIVE YOU TIPS TO HELP YOU HAVE A SAFE AND HEALTHY PET.

THIS MONTH, SADIE WANTS TO REMIND YOU THAT IT'S IMPORTANT TO GIVE YOUR PET TICK AND FLEA MEDICATION TO HELP PREVENT ILLNESS AND KEEP YOU AND YOUR HOME TICK AND FLEA FREE!

Sign our petition!



SCAN CLICK SIGN

Help us end Breed Specific Legislation (BSL) on military installations by signing our petition! BSL bans the ownership of dozens of safe breeds and is based on junk science that says a dog is bad based only on its breed and not the aggressive behavior taught by the owner. BSL is not consistent between military installations so if you adopt a dog at one base, receive orders to another, you may be required to give your dog away. This creates trauma for the family and may even result in the dog being euthanized all because the dog was welcomed at one installation and not another. Let's keep military families in tact by signing our petition.



VET-2-VET

Each month The Paw provides valuable information to our Nation's veterans on services and opportunities that may not be common knowledge to Vets.

VA ID CARD

Did you know that there is an ID card specifically for veterans? A Veteran ID Card (VIC) is a form of ID that you can use to get discounts at restaurants, hotels, stores and can even get your medical care at CVS' Minute Clinic.

To be eligible, you must have served on active duty, in the Reserves, or in the National Guard (including Coast Guard) AND you must have received an honorable or general discharge (under honorable conditions). To apply you must have the following information available:

- Your social security number
- A digital copy of your DD214, DD256, DD257, or NGB22 that you can upload. This can be in a .pdf, jpeg, or .png file format
- A copy of a current and valid government issued ID, such as a driver's license, passport, or state-issued identification card.
- A digital color photo of yourself from the shoulders up. The photo should show a full front view of your face and neck (with no hat, head covering, or headphones covering or casting shadows on your hairline or face. The photo should be cropped from your shoulders up (like a passport photo), show your eyes open and a natural expression, be taken in clothing you'd wear for a driver's license photo, be square size and have a white or plain-color background (with no scenery or other people in the photo...again think passport picture), show what you look like now and be uploaded as a .jpeg, .png, .bmp, or .tiff file.

Sign in to your [Login.gov](#), [ID.me](#), [DS Logon](#), or [My HealtheVet](#) account to apply.

COMMONLY USED VA PHONE NUMBERS

VA MAIN INFORMATION LINE
1-800-698-2411

VA BENEFITS HOTLINE
1-800-827-1000

VA HEALTH BENEFITS HOTLINE
1-877-222-8387

WOMEN VETERANS HOTLINE
1-855-829-6636

CAREGIVER SUPPORT LINE
1-855-260-3274

eBENEFITS TECHNICAL SUPPORT
1-800-983-0937

**ARE YOU A VET
IN CRISIS?
CALL FOR HELP
DIAL 988 THEN
PRESS 1**



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