

SEPTEMBER 2025

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.

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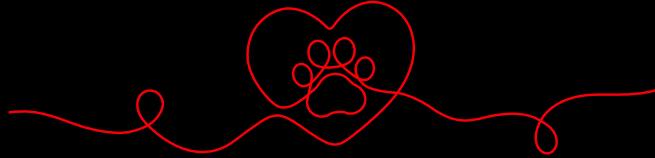
SPOTLIGHT:

UNDERSTANDING THE
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WPP.dog

News@wpp.org

SERVICE, SUPPORT, OR THERAPY? UNDERSTANDING THE PAWS THAT HEAL



Canine therapy is a powerful way to support emotional, physical, and mental well-being, but not all canine therapy dogs serve the same role. Understanding the differences can help you determine the right fit for your needs.

Therapy Dogs are specially trained to provide comfort and companionship in settings like hospitals, schools, and nursing homes. Their job is to bring joy and reduce stress for groups of people, but they are not trained to perform specific medical tasks.



Service Dogs undergo extensive training to assist individuals with disabilities. These dogs can guide the visually impaired, alert their handlers to seizures, retrieve objects, or provide mobility support. Service dogs are legally recognized under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and have full public access rights.



Emotional Support Animals (ESAs) offer comfort simply through their presence. They don't need specialized task training, but they are prescribed by a licensed mental health professional to help with conditions such as anxiety, depression, or PTSD. ESAs do not have the same public access rights as service dogs.

When choosing, consider your personal needs: Is it emotional comfort, medical task assistance, or community healing? The right type of canine therapy depends on the support you require—and the bond you're ready to build.



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 CLEANING UP AFTER YOUR PET KEEPS PUBLIC SPACES SAFE, CLEAN, AND ENJOYABLE FOR EVERYONE— PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF PARASITES AND BACTERIA. IT'S NOT JUST GOOD MANNERS, IT'S AN ACT OF RESPECT THAT PROTECTS NEIGHBORS, OTHER ANIMALS, AND THE ENVIRONMENT.



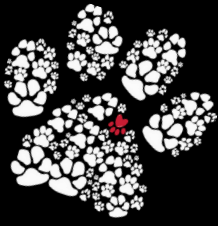
DOG-SAFE TAILGATING FOODS

September comes football season and with football season there's tailgating! Here are some dog-friendly food ideas you can serve your pup so they can feel like they are part of the party!

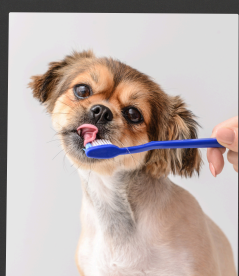
- Grilled Meats (plain) – chicken, turkey, or beef without seasoning, onions, or garlic.
- Sweet Potatoes – roasted or grilled, plain (no butter or salt).
- Carrot Sticks – crunchy and good for their teeth.
- Apple Slices – just remove seeds and core.



**DID
YOU
KNOW?**



**NATIONAL RESPONSIBLE
DOG OWNERSHIP DAY IS
SEPTEMBER 20TH! THIS
DAY REMINDS US THAT
HAVING A DOG IS MORE THAN LOVE AND
CUDDLES—IT'S A LIFELONG COMMITMENT.
FROM PROVIDING PROPER NUTRITION,
TRAINING, AND EXERCISE TO REGULAR VET
VISITS AND SAFE ENVIRONMENTS, THIS
DAY ALSO HIGHLIGHTS THE IMPORTANCE OF
GIVING OUR PUPS THE CARE THEY DESERVE
SO THEY CAN THRIVE AS LOYAL
COMPANIONS.**



**We're
Looking for**



Volunteers

GET INVOLVED

Report animal abuse

Adopt / Foster a shelter dog

Volunteer at Wounded Paw Project® or your local animal shelter

Sign our advocacy petition

Help someone who needs help with a pet

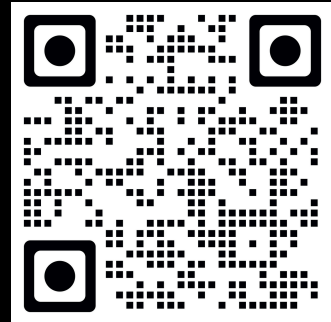
SPREAD THE WORD

Wear our T-shirts

Subscribe to our newsletter

Tell your family and friends about us

Follow us on our social media platforms



SCAN TO DONATE

DONATE

Make a cash donation at WPP.dog

Donate your car, truck, or boat through our CARS program

Bequeath money or real estate to Wounded Paw Project®



WOUNDED PAW
PROJECT®

www.WPP.dog



Each month The Paw highlights businesses, organizations or individuals that share Wounded Paw Project®'s focus on helping abused and rescued animals as well as Veterans.

This month Wounded Paw Project® gives a “Bark Out” to pH Wellness, a drug and alcohol rehab facility nestled in the hills of Southern California that allows you to recover with the comfort and support of your pet by your side! A special thanks to Samantha Craft, an Addiction Treatment Outreach Specialist who submitted the following article. Please check out their website at <https://phwellness.com>

Building Resilience Together: Veterans and Their Canine Companions

Submitted by: Samatha Craft

At pH Wellness in southern CA, we've seen firsthand how resilience grows when veterans and dogs come together. Both have often faced challenges—whether it's a veteran working through PTSD, depression, or substance use, or a dog recovering from neglect or life in a shelter. When paired, they help each other heal in remarkable ways.

For many veterans, the transition to civilian life can feel isolating and overwhelming. Service dogs and companion animals bring comfort, routine, and unconditional love into that journey. Studies show that dogs can lower stress, ease anxiety, and even encourage veterans to stay active and connected with others. What begins as a simple bond often evolves into a powerful source of hope and strength.

At pH Wellness, our team provides comprehensive mental health and addiction treatment services, including therapy, medical care, and holistic approaches to healing. For veterans, we know that wellness extends beyond the therapy room. That's why we encourage the use of animal-assisted support whenever possible. Whether it's walking a dog as part of a daily routine, experiencing the calming presence of a canine companion during recovery, or simply finding joy in a wagging tail, these moments help veterans reclaim a sense of purpose and stability.

The resilience of veterans mirrors the resilience of the dogs who stand by their side. Both have known hardship, yet together they rediscover strength. At pH Wellness, we're honored to walk alongside veterans as they build healthier, more fulfilling lives—proving that healing is always possible, especially with a loyal companion nearby.





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.

NATIONAL RESOURCE DIRECTORY

The National Resource Directory (NRD) is a resource website that connects wounded warriors, Service Members, Veterans, their families, and caregivers to programs and services that support them. The NRD is hosted, managed, maintained, sustained and developed by the Defense Health Agency's Recovery Coordination Program.

It provides access to services and resources at the national, state and local levels to support recovery, rehabilitation and community reintegration. Visitors can find information on a variety of topics that supply an abundance of vetted resources. For help finding resources on the site, visit the How to Use this Site section of the NRD.

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**



RE/MAX
AGILITY

MilitaryTimes



WANT TO SEE YOUR
BUSINESS OR
ORGANIZATION
HIGHLIGHTED HERE?
SEND US AN EMAIL AT
NEWS@WPP.ORG

GOODNESS FROM FARM TO PAW®



PAWVILLE FARMS® is Coming Soon!

Join the Journey

Learn More at Wounded Paw Project®



Healing, Farming, and Second Chances

Pawville Farms® is a healing sanctuary where rescued dogs and veterans grow, give, and thrive together. From garden beds to dog bowls, we're creating a place of purpose that's rooted in compassion.

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Mortgage Savings for Wounded Paw Project Supporters

Get the Best Mortgage with our Price Match Guarantee¹ + Capital Bank
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Wounded Paw Project®
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Telephone
1-844-SAVAPAW
(1-844-728-2729)

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