

Supplies Are Always Needed

Bellwether Harbor is a non-profit entity that relies on the gifts of donors and volunteers to continue its mission of helping animals and people make a connection through education, training and adoption. If you or someone you know is interested in donating any of the following items to the animals at Bellwether Harbor contact the shelter at 231-924-9230. All donations are tax deductible.

- Hard Dog Toys
- Purina Dog, Puppy, Cat and Kitten Chow
- Peanut Butter for Kongs
- Cat Toys
- Liq. All Free Detergent
- Newspapers (no inserts)
- Clorox Bleach & Wipes
- Fabric softener sheets unscented
- Copy Paper
- Unscented Clay cat litter
- Used Blankets and Comforters (no zippers)
- Crates, Wire Cages
- Pet Carriers
- Large Garbage Bags
- Leashes



How to Get a Good Night's Sleep for You and Your Dog

Dog keeping you from a good night's sleep? With just a few easy pointers, you can ensure that both you and your dog get all the rest you need.



1. With a new puppy, it is very important to establish a set sleeping place for him on the very first night. -This can include a kennel or a crate if using it for training. Be sure to line the kennel or crate with newspaper in case of any night time accidents. Have an elevated area at the back of the sleep area, possibly a dog bed or pillow, so your dog is not sleeping in its own waste.

2. Let your dog "find" his sleeping space. -It is important that you choose the place for your dog to sleep, but you need to train him to go to this area at will. Lead him with a treat to connect a positive reward with his sleeping area. Never pick up your dog and place him in his sleep area, or he will associate being there with a negative experience.

3. Though you may want to share your bed with your new dog, don't do this right away. -It is important to get him used to your sleeping arrangements before allowing him to participate in this intimate connection. If your dog whines or cries during the night, do not react. Cooing or comforting your dog will reinforce his whining and send the signal that your dog can summon you at will.

4. Invite your dog into your bedroom. -Never allow him to enter your room on his own or crawl onto the bed uninvited. Your dog is not a concierge; wake up on your own terms, and make sure he waits calmly for you to start his structured day.

5. If changing your dog's sleeping arrangements, be sure he has plenty of exercise and food. -If your dog is tired out and full, he should adjust fairly easily to a new sleeping place.

6. It's important that you feel comfortable with your dog's sleeping arrangements. -If you are up all night worrying about your dog, not only will you be tired, the dog will be able to read your negative energy. With these tips, you should be able to ensure your dog gets all the rest it needs with not as much fuss!

www.cesarsway.com/cesarstips/Tips-for-Doggy-Sleeping-Arrangements

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HARBOR HAPPENINGS

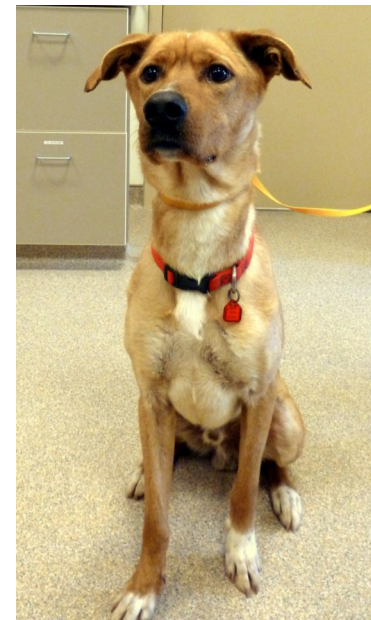
Jack's Journal

It was the end of February when a concerned pet lover found Jack and contacted Bellwether Harbor. We had recent adoptions and had the available room to take Jack into the shelter. Handsome Jack was severely emaciated but still full of life. It's been a slow, steady process getting him back to a healthy weight,



but he is improving every day. When he arrived, he weighed only 52 lbs; Jack should weigh about 70 lbs and as of April 16th Jack weighs 63 lbs.

Jack was a trained sled dog that will take a patient person to work with him. He has started obedience training, but still has quite a ways to go. He is eager to learn and with all of his set backs he is all around one of the happiest dogs. Jack is available for adoption, but it will be a few weeks



yet until he reaches a healthy weight. When he is ready, an active family with a securely fenced yard is a must!

Jack is current on vaccines, is heartworm negative and will be neutered as soon as he is healthy enough. He will also be micro chipped before going home. Jack is an Alaskan Husky, a mix of husky and sight hound. These guys are bred to run and are high energy. His approximate date of birth was 03/08/09 and his date of arrival was 03/07/13.

Follow Jack's process on our facebook page www.facebook.com/BellwetherHarbor

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Bellwether's Mission Statement

"Helping animals and people make a connection through education, training and adoption"



More Volunteers Are Always Welcome and Very Much Needed

Bellwether Harbor is always looking for committed volunteers to help at the shelter. The animals love you for it! Volunteers are needed in all areas including:

- Socializing cats and dogs
- Bathing and grooming animals
- Housekeeping
- Fundraising
- Kennel Cleaning
- Grant Writing
- Special events
- Marketing
- Dog Walking
- Education
- Photography
- Advertizing

Volunteers must be 15 years of age or older. For more information about volunteering and how you can help at Bellwether Harbor, visit the shelter or contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Carmen Froehle at 231-924-9230 ext. 3 or carmen@bellwetherharbor.org.

Why Did My Cat Stop Using the Litter Box?

By Dr. Stephanie Janeczko, D.V.M., Medical Director for Animal Care & Control of New York City

Although we often take for granted that our cats will use whatever litter box we provide for them, it is perhaps more surprising that they are usually so willing to do so. Feral cats don't seek out dark, often smelly caves that they can barely fit into do their business - but that is often what we ask of our domestic feline friends!

When cats stop using their litter boxes, it is usually for one of two broad reasons:

1. They associate the litter box with something they don't like.
2. They don't like something about their litter box

At first glance, these may seem to be the two ways of saying the same thing, but there is a subtle difference here. The first reason includes things like pain when urinating or defecating or being trapped in the litter box by a bully cat, whereby the cat associates the litter box with something unpleasant. The second reason is pretty obvious, but is covered in great length further on.

Some cats are perfectly content with their litter box, but may avoid using it because of conflict with other animals. This is a frequent problem in households with multiple cats, and often the unhappy, stressed cat will quickly go back to using his litter box once placed in an environment where he or she is the only cat. Even if there is no social conflict, the "line for the bathroom" can result in a cat using an alternative site if the one litter box in the house is already in use when the cat needs to go!

Other cats want to do the right thing and use their litter box, but have an underlying medical condition that causes them to go elsewhere in your house. If your cat is urinating or defecating outside of the litter box it is always a good idea to have him seen by your veterinarian to rule out a medical problem.

www.petfinder.com/pet-training/cat-wont-use-litter-box.html



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Is your pet wearing an I.D. tag? ID tags should be worn by your animal at all times. A dog or cat can easily slip out through an open door and run off. The tag should be worn on a properly fitted collar, reducing the chances of the collar slipping off.

Do you have up-to-date information on the ID tag? Make sure to update your pet's ID tag or microchip information immediately when you move or change phone numbers. We offer both services here at Bellwether Harbor. Available anytime are tags which are engraved here while you wait, for a reasonable price. An ID tag will allow anyone who finds your animal to immediately call you or return your dog to your house.

Get your pet(s) Micro Chipped!

Microchips are a great source of identifying lost pets; a veterinarian or shelter can scan the chip and bring up the owner's information. Standard ID tags are still highly recommended to use along with a microchip. Microchip clinics are held every second Saturday of the month or by special appointment.

Heartworm Disease and Prevention

Capable of causing severe illness and death in dogs, heartworm has become an important factor in your animal's health. Transferred by mosquitoes, the baby worms (microfilaria) are picked up from an infected dog during a blood meal. The mosquitoes then bites the non-infected dog, passing the next larval stage into the blood stream. Once the microfilaria are in the blood stream they travel to the heart and mature into adult worms. It takes 6 months for the heartworms to mature in the final host. They commonly reside in the right chamber of the heart and pulmonary arteries, which send blood to the lungs.

These adult worms reproduce and spread microfilaria into the blood of the infected dog, which can then be picked up by another mosquito and transferred to yet another dog. A dog with heartworm disease may have the following symptoms; coughing, lethargy, and low exercise tolerance. Heartworm disease can often be treated depending on how advanced the disease has become. The treatment can be problematic under certain conditions.

A heartworm preventative can efficiently prevent this from occurring in your pets. There are many heartworm preventives out there, the most common being monthly treatments. These come in either an oral form (by mouth) or topical form (applied to the skin). Heartworm prevention is an easy and effective way to keep your pet safe from heartworm disease. Ask your Veterinarian if you are concerned about your pet or need more information on heartworm preventative options.

Resources: Merk Manual eighth edition

Visit Us On The Web: www.bellwetherharbor.org

Our current website has information about Bellwether Harbor, its policies and how to adopt an animal. It also has tips for owners needing to find a home for their cat or dog. An adoption application is accessible on the site, as well as a lot other useful tips. Look at photographs, read bios, and watch video of Bellwether's amazing pets. Get the latest news with activities or just read up on shelter news. New the site is an online volunteer application and a calendar of events.

