

It's Important Not Only Because WE Say So...

In light of some recent happenings at some of our favorite local dog parks cleaning up after your dog is more important than ever! Not only can it ruin a nice relaxing stroll (and a decent pair of shoes) around the park when you "stumble" upon a lovely pile of poo that was ignored and not cleaned up, that same pile can cause a multitude of health problems for you, your family and the environment.



Waste that goes without being picked up kills the grass it is on because of its high nitrogen content. The grass in public areas, such as parks, is already fertilized and has enough nitrogen stored away that any unneeded additional amounts will burn the grass turning it yellow and dry.

Yellow spots not reason enough to remember your pick up bags when you go out with your pups? How about a little coliform and streptococci bacteria to go with your rain water? Dog feces carry these bacteria and it is possible for it to travel its way into our drinking water. This bacteria-filled runoff also can contribute to high nutrient levels in ponds and lakes. That in turn, come late summer, can promote algae growth which cuts off oxygen to fish living in those bodies of water.

Worst of all these unwanted "gifts" hold millions of parasites like roundworm. If not picked up in a timely manner the roundworm parasites can remain in the soil for years to come! This means that months later your three year old can trip and touch this spot in the park and five minutes later eat a cracker or rub their eyes and they have just ingested the roundworm parasites.

So not only is it our jobs as responsible pet owners to clean up after our pets every time they go number two, it is also our duty to make sure we have a clean place to take our pets!

Dog Days Of Summer Are Winding Down...

As summer is quickly coming to an end Englewood Unleashed is just getting warmed up! We have a calendar chalk full of fun for you and your dog for the month of September.



Bastardino

Come join us on September 12th between 10:00 am and 3:00 pm to benefit Freedom Service Dogs at their 2nd Annual Festival of the Bastardino. Enjoy shopping for your pet, agility equipment, fun, and games at this great fundraising event. This event is located at one of 5 off leash approved parks in Englewood, Centennial Park.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Bastardino

September 12, 10-3:00 pm
Centennial Park

Summerset Festival

September 20, 10-5:00 pm
Clement Park, Littleton

Jason Park

Pooperazzi Brunch

September 13, 10:00 am
October 11, 10:00 am

Canine Corral

Pooperazzi Brunch

September 26, 10:00 am
October 24, 10:00 am

Board Meetings

at Malley Senior Center

September 22, 7:00 pm
October 27, 7:00 pm
November 24, 7:00 pm
December 15, Semi-Annual
Membership Meeting, 7:30

Complete details, changes, or cancellations can be found at www.EnglewoodUnleashed.org as the date nears.



Continued on next page

Parks with Off-Leash Privileges



Canine Corral: The crown jewel of Englewood Unleashed. A large fenced in area with tables, benches and plenty of shade.



Jason Park: One of the largest and most popular parks in Englewood. Lots of room to run, romp and fetch.



Centennial Park: A large park complete with picnic area and fishing. Take your pooch for walk around the lake.



Northwest Belt: Perhaps the most under-utilized off-leash area. It has large, unfenced grassy areas and water running through in a small concrete stream.



Duncan Park: A small residential park. The north half of the park is fenced on three sides.

[Please follow all park rules when visiting these parks - including picking up after your pet.](#)

Dog Days of Summer

Summerset Festival

On September 20th (Fun Day for the Dogs) we will be maintaining a booth at the 25th annual Summerset Festival at Clement Park in Littleton. This is a great way to send summer off with a great big bang! There are so many wonderful events going on at this three day festival it's a great way to spend some quality time with your family and four legged friends. Go to <http://www.summersetfest.com> for more information.

Brunch Clean-Ups

In the meantime, Englewood Unleashed hosts park clean ups and brunches at Jason Park and the Canine Corral every month. Join us on Sunday September 13th at 10:00am at Jason Park for bagels, coffee, and some fun with the pups. We will also be at Canine Corral on Saturday September 26th at 10:00 with doughnuts, juice, coffee and now you can have your dog try out our new agility equipment! These park clean ups are a great way to meet new people, get information on how to support EU, and help maintain our wonderful parks that we in Englewood are fortunate enough to have right at our fingertips.

So come on out to see us at any or all of these events! Show your support for dogs, off leash parks and have a wonderful time with your family.

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Feel free to email any of us at contactus@englewoodunleashed.org

Happy Birthday Fido!!

So your dog's birthday is coming up and you want to give them a great treat. He/she deserves something better than the bones out of the box. Here is a really simple and fun birthday cake recipe for your dog!

Homemade Dog Party Cake

2/3 cup ripe mashed bananas
1/2 cup softened butter
3 large eggs
3/4 cup water
2 cups Unbleached Flour
2 teaspoons baking powder
1 teaspoon baking soda
2 teaspoons cinnamon
1/2 cup chopped pecans



Frosting

2 cup mashed banana
1 tablespoon butter
6 tablespoon carob flour
2 teaspoons vanilla
3 tablespoon unbleached flour
1 teaspoon cinnamon

Cake

In mixing bowl, beat together mashed bananas and butter until creamy. Add eggs and water. Beat well. Stir in dry ingredients. Beat until smooth. Add nuts and raisins. Spoon batter evenly into oiled and floured bundt cake pan. Bake at 350 degrees for about 35 minutes. Cool on wire rack 5 minutes, remove from pan, replace on rack and cool.

Frosting

Blend thoroughly and spread on cool cake. Sprinkle with chopped pecans. The frosting contains carob, which is a safe (almost tastes like) chocolate substitute.

Visit www.bullwrinkle.com for more fun recipes that are homemade and healthier than processed treats from the super market.

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Dog Parks: The “Most Basic” Social Network

By Gail Carissimi

My friends tell me that I’m Old School. I choose not to have a Facebook wall or a MySpace page. I don’t “tweet,” text, download music or navigate web pages from a cell phone.

How does any of this relate to canines and the humans who love them?

It’s simple: we at Englewood Unleashed are part of an ancient “social network” – the unleashed dog park – which allows our dogs to taste the freedom that their ancestors enjoyed.

Today’s family dog has journeyed thousands of miles over many centuries. According to Wikipedia, today’s domesticated dog descended from the gray wolf (*Canis lupus*). While experts largely disagree over specific details of dog domestication, they agree that human interaction played a significant role.

Because they are pack animals by nature, dogs use behaviors and nonverbal communication to determine each dog’s rank in a social situation. Our canine companions play out these rituals every day at the dog park and they allow us humans the pleasure of watching them.

Before “discovering” Canine Corral, my husband Jon and I had checked out several other dog parks. Though they were fenced and provided a safe play environment, they lacked shade trees, picnic benches, grassy areas and (too often) responsible pet parents.

On our first visit to Canine Corral, people and their dogs welcomed Smokey, Cooper and our three-legged foster dog Obie. Over the past year or so, our dogs have made new friends and we have, too. While some of us “regulars” are currently unemployed or underemployed, we value the time we get to spend with our furry best friend(s).

We’re grateful for the recent improvements to the park (bark mulch and enviro-friendly poop bags) and appreciate the continued support of the City of Englewood. We also give a “high five” paw to people who pick up after other people’s dogs.

So, the next time someone yammers on about Twitter or some other social networking technology, just smile and think about your next trip to the Canine Corral.

We’ll see you there!



Is Pet Insurance Right For Your Dog?

A few years ago, before we even had thought of getting a dog, I remember hearing about pet insurance. “How ridiculous is that?”; that was my first thought. I couldn’t understand why anybody would pay money to some company for insurance on their dog or cat. It seemed like such a waste of money.

We now have a two and a half year old English Bulldog named Izzy. Luckily we have had very few and minor reasons to take her to the vet’s office. We recently acquired Izzy’s dad Puck for a few months as a favor to my brother. Within the first month we had our first ordeal with “hot spots”. I had heard of them but never knew what they were exactly. One tiny round spot the size of a nickel on Sunday turned into a huge bloody mess the size of a dollar bill by Wednesday morning. Into the vet we go and out with medications, a cone and \$130 bill. Exactly one week later yet another spot just on the other side! In we go again. This trip was just for medications but was an interesting one none the less.

As we are sitting in the waiting room, in walks a couple here to visit one of their two



Golden Retrievers. While we were waiting the husband was telling us about how in the past two months they had to have both their dogs in at separate times for knee surgeries and ACL repairs. They had spent close to \$4000 in the past few weeks. He let us know

that he was glad they had pet insurance for the Golden Retrievers since they would be reimbursed for a large portion of that money.

That reason alone was a large part of them being able to have all of this care for their two dogs.

After hearing their stories and seeing the parade of people in and out of the vet office every time we are there it made us think about whether we should investigate pet insurance for Izzy.

As we were leaving the vet’s office that Saturday I saw a bulletin board flyer about pet insurance. A website listed on the paper was www.petinsurancereview.com. Once we got home I went to the site and was really impressed. It had all of the US Pet Insurers listed with customer reviews and rankings. Customers can log on and give praises about their experiences or can warn new comers that a certain company might not be a good investment. You can even get quotes from all of the insurances with just a few clicks of the mouse.

This site explains how to decide which plan is best for your pet, what to look for in a policy and the best part really is all of the helpful reviews from actual customers.

I haven’t quite made a decision just yet but with the help of this website I definitely feel I am able to make the right decision for my budget and my dog.



Most Popular Dog Names of 2008

According to an article on msnbc.com Veterinary Pet Insurance gathered over 466,000 names of insured dogs in the United States. From this list of names they narrowed them down to the 50 most popular names in the country. They then voted on the top ten names for dogs. There was also a vote for the top "unusual" dog names.

Do your four legged friends make the cut?

Most Popular Names

1. Max
2. Bailey
3. Bella
4. Molly
5. Lucy
6. Buddy
7. Maggie
8. Daisy
9. Sophie
10. Chloe

Best "Unusual" Dog Name

1. Rush Limbark
2. Sirius Lee Handsome
3. Rafikikadiki
4. Low Jack
5. Meatwad
6. Peanut Wigglebutt
7. Scuddles Unterfuss
8. Sophie Touch & Pee
9. Admiral Toot
10. Spatula

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In this Issue of NEWSBITES:

- Important News for All
- Dog Days of Summer
- Birthday Cake Recipe for a Dog
- Pet Insurance
- Social Networking at the Dog Park
- Most Popular Dog Names of 2008



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