

# Newfie News



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## It's Unlawful in Many States to Leave an Animal in a Parked Car: What You Can Do About It

Closed cars on a sunny day - even 70 degrees - are deadly for dogs. Temperatures can quickly spike to over 100 in just 10 minutes, resulting in brain damage or death. Cracking the window(s) does not lower the temperature. For Newfs, the danger is even higher with their thick coats and dark fur.

Approximately 31 states have laws regarding animals left in unattended vehicles, most stipulating that the animal must be confined or unattended in a parked or stationary vehicle and the conditions have to endanger the animal's life - which can happen quickly. About half of the laws require rescue by animal or law enforcement, but recently, 15 states have enacted laws that allow any person to rescue a distressed animal, including CT, MA, VT.

**New Hampshire** law [N.H. Rev. Stat. 644:8-aa](#) deems it cruelty to confine an animal in a motor vehicle or other enclosed space in which the temperature is either so high or so low as to cause serious harm to the animal. The person witnessing this should call 911 immediately and stay with the animal until help arrives.

Any law enforcement officer or agent of a licensed humane organization may take action necessary to rescue a confined animal endangered by extreme temperatures, and to remove the threat of further serious harm.

**Massachusetts** law [M.G.L.A. 140 § 174F](#) prohibits pet owners from leaving animals inside vehicles during extreme cold or heat that risk the health or safety of the animal. An animal control officer, law enforcement officer or fire fighter may remove the animal from the vehicle.

A bystander may also remove an animal in imminent danger or harm from a vehicle after making reasonable efforts to locate the vehicle's owner. Then, the person must notify law enforcement or call 911 before entering the vehicle; determine that the motor vehicle is locked and use no more force than reasonably necessary. The person must remain with the animal until law enforcement or another first responder arrives.

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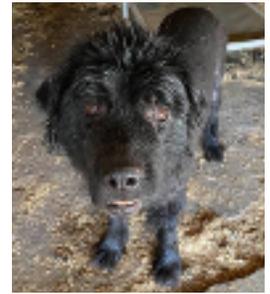
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## Recently Adopted

**Big Boy** has been at TNP since July 25, surrendered due to family hardship. This happy, sweet male has a wonderful disposition. He will turn 11 this month, but is in great shape and doesn't act a day over 7. After a great vet check, he went to his new home at the end of July. Watch for an update in the next issue of the newsletter.



Ruby (l) & Angus (r)

**Angus** (formerly Gus) celebrated Independence Day with his new family in southern NH, the Shydo's: Brandie, Rob, sons Robert, 6, and Thomas, 3, TNP alum 6 year-old Ruby, and 17-year-old Maine Coon cat Carter.

Angus is the Shydo's 3rd Newfoundland. Maggie came to them through the Newfoundland Club of New England (NCNE). She passed away in 2015, and a couple of weeks later they submitted another application to NCNE. Ten minutes later they received a phone call with a referral to Cathy at TNP. Ruby came home a few weeks later.

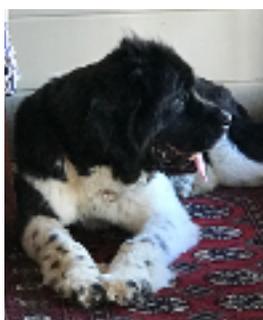
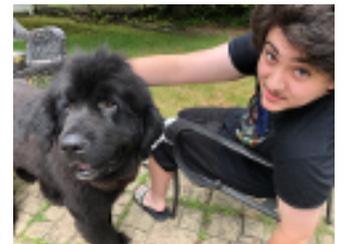
The Shydo's had been thinking of getting a second Newfoundland to help Ruby, who is very attached to Rob, ease her anxiety. With Brandie home at least for a year due to COVID-19 and Thomas not returning to daycare, the timing was right. So far, the relationship between the dogs is going well. "Ruby is tolerating him better than I expected," said Brandie.

Brandie, who has a medical background as an EMT and in medical marketing, hopes to train Angus for therapy work, if he shows an interest. Right now, he's happy being a puppy and getting lots of attention from his new family. "He's going to fit in really well," Brandie said. "He's an excellent addition to the family."

**Alfie** arrived at TNP in late June and went home to Dudley, MA with Tracy, Michael and 16-year old Nate on July 6.

Six-year -old Alfie is the Brown's 3rd Newf from TNP, and 5th overall. They adopted Hunter and Sully in 2015 and had been without a Newfoundland since Dec 2019, when Hunter passed.

Alfie is still settling in. He's getting used to the stairs and is frightened by the many different noises in a new home. But, Tracy says he "is very gentle and loves to be cuddled." With time, Alfie is bound to make a great companion for the family.



**Rita** came in with Alfie in late June and was in her new home with the Savage family in Deerfield, MA, a couple of weeks later, on July 6. She is Lisa, Jay, Sophie, Granger and Porter's second Newf from TNP. Their male Aslan passed away about 11 years ago.

Rita joins almost 10-year-old male Lab mix Zabbu and is quickly coming out of her shell. "She's mirroring what the other dog does, which is what I wanted," Lisa said, as Zabbu is calm and well behaved.

Rita is showing her Newf personality already. "She seeks attention constantly, follows us around, and is super friendly to everyone," Lisa said. Rita is also showing her "Newfie pose," laying on her back. Clearly, she's comfortable in her new home.

## Expert Excerpts

*With Dr. Lauren Flanagan of  
Pepperell (MA) Veterinary Hospital*

### Signs and Treatment of Heat Stroke

Elevated body temperatures occur in dogs naturally as a response to infection (fever), secondary to seizures, certain poisonings, as well as many other primary conditions. Body temperature may also be elevated under certain environmental conditions. The latter is most commonly referred to as "heat stroke," and most often occurs in our patients during the hot, humid days of summer. Excessive weight, cardiac disease, respiratory disease, breed related conformation, and high levels of activity in the heat all contribute to increased risk of heat stroke. It is important to note that heat stroke can occur simply by being outside without adequate shade on a hot, humid day.

Dogs dissipate heat by panting, and, to a small degree, "sweating" through the pads of their feet. Unlike people, they do not truly sweat, so there is no body cooling through perspiration. In addition to heat and humidity, poor ventilation contributes to heat stroke in dogs because they rely on the air to help cool themselves.

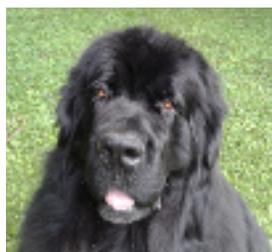
The earliest sign that a dog is overheating is excessive panting. Now is the time to take action. Take your dog to a cool, well ventilated location and keep them still. Offering cool fresh water to drink (don't force it) or applying cool water to pulse points will help speed the cool down process. Covered ice packs (no ice packs directly on skin) or cool wet towels placed in the arm pits and in between the rear legs is ideal.

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## TNP Alumni

A little patience can lead to amazing rewards. Kathy and Cliff Lavell of Gibson Township, PA are reaping those rewards.

Kathy and Cliff adopted Clara, age 4, on December 1, 2018 from TNP, after being rescued from a backyard breeder a few weeks earlier. Clara had some struggles early on, but the Lavells never gave up on her. "We got her on a Saturday and she peed once on the following Tuesday and then once on Friday," Kathy said. Cliff soon made a kennel run for Clara with pine shavings, similar to the one she was in at TNP, to make her more comfortable.



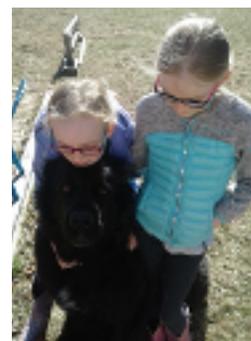
That helped, but Kathy and Cliff noticed other ways in which Clara was fearful. "She had to be lifted in and out of the car for 3 weeks," Kathy said.

She was also afraid of paper sounds (crumpling or ruffling) and stairs, and it took 4 months before Clara would urinate while on a leash and 5 more months before she would defecate.

Clara took comfort in her crate in the kitchen, which always had an open door. She spent time with Kathy and Cliff in other parts of the house, but it took several months before she was really comfortable. "She would run back to her crate when we got up from the chair," Kathy said.

Despite her fear, Kathy said, "Clara was always gentle and great with kids." She was also good in the house, with Kathy reporting that she never chewed.

Clara shares her home with 14-year-old cat Atilla, chickens, and rabbits. She is gentle with all of them, including horses and cows. "She is a mother hen and watches over the chickens,"



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*It's Unlawful in Many States to Leave an Animal in a Parked Car Continued from page 1*

A person who removes an animal from a motor vehicle under these circumstances is immune from criminal or civil liability resulting from removal, as are animal control officers, law enforcement officers and fire fighters.

**Maine** law [7 MRSA § 4019](#) states that a law enforcement officer, humane agent, animal control officer, firefighter, first responder, or licensed security guard may take all steps that are reasonably necessary to remove an animal from a vehicle if the animal's safety, health or well-being appears to be in immediate danger from heat, cold or lack of adequate ventilation and the conditions could reasonably be expected to cause extreme suffering or death. Written notice bearing the officer's or agent's name and office and the address of the location where the animal may be claimed must be left for the owner.

Two **Vermont** laws [13 V.S.A. § 386](#) and [12 V.S.A. § 5784](#) address animals left unattended in a standing or parked motor vehicle in a manner that would endanger the health or safety of the animal.

Any humane officer or member of a fire and rescue service may use reasonable force to remove any such animal from a motor vehicle, and, similar to Massachusetts law, a person may forcibly enter a motor vehicle to remove an animal if the vehicle is locked, believes that the animal is in imminent danger or harm, notifies



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law enforcement or 911 prior to forcibly entering the vehicle, uses no more force than necessary to enter and remove the animal, remains with the animal until authorities arrive, and places a note on the vehicle that the authorities have been notified and indicates the location of the animal. Under these conditions, the person shall not be subject to civil liability for damages arising from the forcible entry.

For a complete list of laws by state go to:

<https://www.animallaw.info/topic/table-state-laws-protect-animals-left-parked-vehicles>

Next month, a review of the laws in CT, RI and NY.

other source:[http://k9rescueme.com/k9rescueme/Main\\_files/heat\\_alert%5B1%5D.pdf](http://k9rescueme.com/k9rescueme/Main_files/heat_alert%5B1%5D.pdf)

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*Expert Excerpts: Signs and Treatment of Heat Stroke Continued from page 3*

You can also wet their ear flaps and feet with cool water.

If left untreated during the early stages, the symptoms will progress. The dog will act distressed while continuing to pant excessively. They will be restless, they may drool excessively, and their gums may look very dark pink to red, eventually progressing to blue/purple in color. The dog may appear unsteady and weak, or even collapse. Untreated heat stroke is fatal. As the body temperature rises all body systems are affected and these systems will begin to shut down.

Heat stroke is a true emergency. Even if you have taken the initial steps to cool your dog down, they should always be evaluated by a veterinarian. Cooling them down does not always address the cascade of events that is occurring internally during a hyper thermic event. Transport your dog to the veterinarian as quickly as possible while continuing to cool them with cool water-soaked towels during the trip. It is important to note that overcooling is harmful as well. The goal is to drop their body temperature to between 102-103 degrees Fahrenheit with external cooling. When that body temperature is reached, remove the external cooling support.

## Upcoming Events

### All Events Canceled for the Remainder of the Year

That Newfoundland Place has decided that because of the continued threat to safety around COVID-19, the Annual Fundraiser and Reunion and all events for the remainder of 2020 are canceled.

TNP will continue with rescue and placement of dogs during the health crisis. COVID-19 has not slowed down incoming dogs in need and placements. New home checks will be conducted when possible by following the proper guidelines to keep everyone safe. This will include virtual means and, in many cases, travelling to the home location after asking various questions to ensure that everyone is healthy. Home checks will be completed by staying outside, social distancing and wearing masks, for everyone's safety.

Check the [TNP website](#), Facebook page and future issues of the newsletter for the latest updates.

*TNP Alumni - Clara*  
*Continued from page 3*

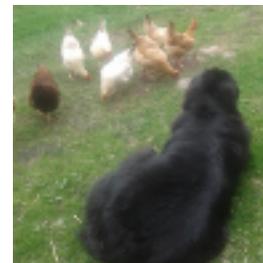
Kathy said. "She notices when something is not right."

The Lavells are no strangers to Newfies, with Clara being their 12th. Having had Newfs for over 40 years, they were the ideal family to adopt Clara, having much experience and patience. They've had a mixture of Newfs from breeders and rescues, puppies to adults, the first being a puppy with a heart problem from a breeder in 1977, then an adopted adult from the Newfoundland Club of New Jersey. Many of the Newfs had a long life, with some males living to age 12 and females to age 15.

Molly was Kathy and Cliff's last Newfoundland, having gotten her as a puppy and living to age 13. After Molly died, the Lavells traveled quite a bit and did not have a dog for 2 years, but decided it was time for another Newf in their life – an adult – so Kathy began calling breeders she knew and was referred to That Newfoundland Place, and eventually welcomed Clara into the family.

Clara has now settled in with Kathy and Cliff and is able to act more like a dog. She likes to go in the car all the time and love to walk on the lead. "She loves her home," Kathy said. "Now she doesn't want to be in the kennel. As soon as she does her business, she barks to get inside the house." Clara has also become very attached to Kathy, doubling as her "shadow."

"We let her adapt on her own and learn to know us," Kathy said. That has certainly paid off for Kathy, Cliff, and Clara.



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That Newfoundland Place Inc. is a nonprofit corporation organized and operated exclusively for charitable purposes. Specifically, this organization has been formed to prevent cruelty to animals. Our mission is to offer quality of life to senior dogs of various breeds, to assist in rescue, rehabilitation, and re-homing of dogs in need, with a focus on Newfoundland dogs, and to provide humane education as related to care and life quality. of animals. Cathy Derench, President      *Newsletter editor and publisher Joanna Dumas: joanna.l.dumas@gmail.com*