

Newfie News



June 2023

VOLUME 4

ISSUE 10

Are you Ready for the Upkeep of a Newfoundland? Grooming Tools to Keep Your Newf in Good Condition

with TNP staff Nancy Molnar

If you own a Newf it's important to develop a weekly routine of grooming. If proper brushing and sometimes raking is not done on a regular basis, your Newf can end up having mats. Mats can cause skin irritation, pain from pulling and sometimes "Hot Spots" or open sores (these can become infected with oozing and cause a trip to the vet for medications).

Sitting on the floor with your Newf can be an effective way to groom, or you may want to buy a grooming table. Be sure the table is made for extra-large breeds with a length of about 48 inches. If you find the height is too tall for you, you can trim some off the legs. It can be a learning curve getting your Newf to get up on the table. Use a ramp or stairs to get your Newf on the table or train them to put their front paws on the table while you boost their hind end up. NEVER LET YOUR NEWF JUMP OFF! Always help them down.

Grooming tools

First and foremost you do not need to spend a lot of money for everyday grooming tools. You can find good deals online at Amazon, Chewy, or Pet Edge. Following is a list of basic tools you will need for grooming:

Slicker Brush- The Slicker Brush is the most important tool for you and your Newf. You want to make sure that the brush is large to extra-large in size. The bristles need to be firm in order to remove the undercoat. I highly recommend a wooden handle over plastic; they last a lot longer and are stronger. When using the slicker brush on a Newf, you want to always lift the hair up in order to remove the undercoat. Not lifting up the "fuzz" of the undercoat is called "surface brushing."



Continued on page 4

What's Inside

Who's at TNP?
Available Dogs Update
Page 2-3

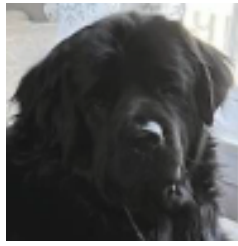
Recently Adopted
Page 3

Expert Excerpts
Page 3

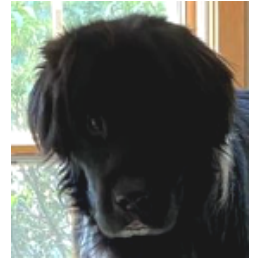
Upcoming Events
Page 7 & 8

Who's at TNP?

Three-year-old **Layla** arrived at TNP on April 15 because her family did not have enough time for her. Layla was scheduled to be spayed in May but went into heat and will now be spayed in June. She is being fostered by Nancy Weaver in New Jersey. Layla has a family waiting for her. Stay tuned for updates in future newsletters and the TNP Facebook page.



Kai is a 4-year-old male being fostered with Faith Ferguson in Connecticut. Kai is an owner surrender and has a family waiting for him after he heals from neuter surgery. Stay tuned for updates in future newsletters and the TNP Facebook page.



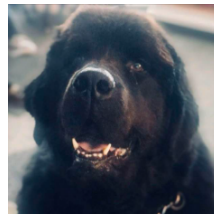
Eight-year-old **Ruthie's** owner went into assisted living and now Ruthie is looking for a new home. She has been in foster care with Brenda Claire in Pennsylvania since May 17. This sweet girl has already been spayed. Stay tuned for updates in future newsletters and the TNP Facebook page.



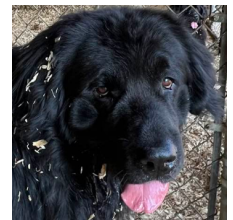
Neptune has been in foster care with Nancy Weaver in New Jersey since May 15. His family is expecting their fourth child and did not have the time to care for this 16-month old boy so he found his way to TNP. Neptune was just neutered on May 22 and has a family waiting for him. Watch for updates in future newsletters and the TNP Facebook page.



Jasper is 6-years-old and in foster care with Nancy Weaver in New Jersey. He was surrendered to TNP on May 19 due to family hardship. Jasper has already been neutered and a potential family has been identified. Stay tuned for updates in future newsletters and the TNP Facebook page.



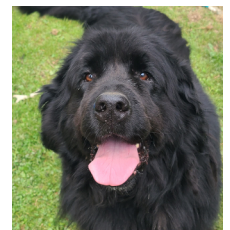
Yoggi is a 3-year-old who arrived at TNP on May 20 due to family hardship. This energetic, beautiful boy is good with kids and scheduled for neuter surgery soon. Watch for updates in future newsletters and the TNP Facebook page.



Matilda arrived at TNP on May 20 due to family hardship. She is a lovey and smart 3-year-old girl scheduled for spay soon and will then be ready for her new family. Watch for updates in future newsletters and the TNP Facebook page.



Six-year-old **Val** is in foster care in New York with Lori Babcock. Val came in with Jelly Bean from a hoarding situation on May 21. Val was just spayed and will be ready for a new family once healed. She is a laid back and easy going girl. Stay tuned for updates in future newsletters and the TNP Facebook page.



Continued on page 3

Expert Excerpts

What you need to know about Canine Influenza

Canine Influenza Virus, also called dog flu, is a contagious airborne disease affecting dogs and cats. The disease has been present in the US for nearly 20 years, has been identified in most states, and like the human variety, can morph into different strains. Canine Influenza can also affect different animal species, but there are no reports of humans infected with dog flu.

Symptoms & Diagnosis

Symptoms of dog flu are similar to the human variety: cough, runny nose, sneezing, and fever. The most common sign of canine influenza is a cough that does not respond to antibiotic or cough suppressant therapy and lasts 10-21 days. The cough can present as moist or dry. Decreased appetite and lethargy can accompany the cough. Other symptoms include eye discharge and vomiting/diarrhea.

Most dogs infected with canine influenza will display some signs, even if mild. Most will recover without complications; however, some dogs may develop pneumonia and a small percentage of canine deaths (1-5%) from dog flu have been reported. Older dogs and dogs with heart or respiratory conditions are at a higher risk for canine influenza. Infections can occur at any time of the year. Your veterinarian can test for canine influenza with a nasal swab within the first few days of the onset of

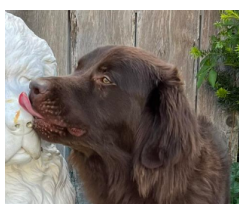
continued on page 8

Who's at TNP? continued

On May 21, 18-month old **Jelly Bean** arrived in New York and is being fostered by Lori Babcock in New York. Jelly Bean arrived with Val from a hoarding situation and was just spayed. Jelly Bean immediately made herself home in the kiddie pool and may do well in a home with a water source nearby. This sweet girl will need basic training and some time to get used to the leash. Watch for updates in future newsletters and the TNP Facebook page.



13-month-old **Hershey** arrived on May 25 and is being fostered by Rebecca White in Rhode Island. Hershey is



an unneutered male, surrendered because his owners did not have enough time for him. Stay tuned for updates in future newsletters and the TNP. Facebook page.

Interested in adopting from TNP?

All dogs are placed only in APPROVED homes. Email Nancy for an application: nancy@thatnewfoundlandplace.org. Home checks are also required (virtual or in person).

Keep in mind that TNP places dogs in homes that are in the best interest of the dog, but welcomes applicants to express interest in dogs through TNP Facebook posts.

Recently Adopted

Princy was adopted by Beth Finucane-Albert and Brett Albert on May 5. Princy is now living in Westwood, Massachusetts after a few transitions over the last several months; she was initially surrendered to TNP because her owner did not have enough time for her, then found a nice home in March but was returned to TNP due to an allergy from a close extended family member. The Alberts intend to make their home Princy's final destination. Watch for an update in next month's newsletter.



Steel Comb- Combs can be used to clean the hair out of your brush and are useful to comb the hair on your Newfs ears and top of their head. You can also use a comb to break apart small mats.



Rake- Another important grooming tool is the Undercoat Grooming Rake with 2 sets of pins, often called rotating pins. During the shedding seasons this will help to get the dead undercoat out of your Newf.

Furminator- The Furminator DE Shedding Tool is a very handy tool. Make sure to buy the one for large to extra-large breeds and, more importantly, the one for long haired dogs. This tool will go through the topcoat easily to remove loose hair and reach the undercoat.



Coat conditioner- Once your Newf has been groomed and you and your floor are covered with several piles of hair, you can use a scented spray/coat conditioner for a finished look. A few brand names that I have used previously for over 30 years are: Show Groom Conditioner with Mink Oil, Miracle Coat Lusterizer Spray (tea tree oil & vitamins), Mr. Groom Coat & Skin Dog Conditioner Spray, Crown Royale Bodifier (mix with water in spray bottle following directions on the bottle) or even Pet Wipes. Your Newf will smell terrific.

Other Areas to Clean

It is also important to wipe off your Newf's behind and genitals when grooming. Although dogs lick themselves to keep clean, this will help them be cleaner. **Baby wipe cloths** -unscented or with Aloe Vera – work nicely.

It is highly recommended to check & clean your Newf ears frequently. You can buy various ear cleaners and ear wipes. Ask your veterinarian what they recommend. Be sure to keep the hair inside the ear flap trimmed to allow air flow.

There's one grooming tool that many people don't realize is so very important - a **TOOTHBRUSH**. A child-sized toothbrush with soft bristles works perfectly and is much less expensive than pet toothbrushes. Use a toothpaste recommended for dogs or make your own (although your dog will not find it as tasty). Mix a tablespoon of baking soda with a teaspoon of water into a paste. Dip the toothbrush into the paste and brush the teeth. Try to brush your dog's teeth at least two to three times per week. This will prevent dental/gum disease and in most cases save you the cost of a cleaning at the vet.



If you wish to try clipping toenails in between a full grooming, I highly recommend using **clippers with hinges** (the ones that look like a pair of pliers) so you can easily see the nail tips. Using a guillotine style on large breed dogs is not recommended due to the thickness of the nails. You can try using a **Dremel** tool, but most dogs do not like the vibrations. With time & patience, however, your Newf can learn to tolerate nail trimming. Start training on this as young as possible. Note that some rescue dogs will not like their feet touched. If this is the case, start gradually by rubbing your hands on their paws to gain their trust. Once you and your Newf feel comfortable, start trying to slowly trim their nails. Always have styptic powder called "Kwik Stop" on hand when nail trimming in case you cut a nail too short, causing it to bleed.



Dremel nail file

Continued on page 5

Trimming hair around their feet can be a challenge but is important to give your dog proper traction in the house. And, when outside, debris, pitch, snow, and ice can collect in-between the pads causing irritation and possibly leading your Newf to chew their feet. This can cause very sore feet and an infection in-between the pads, which may require a trip to your veterinarian for treatment. Trimming the hair can be done with a pair of **curved, blunt tip, or ball tip pair of scissors** (about 6 1/2" to 7" long). You can spend upward of \$100 for professional grooming scissors, but you can also buy a pair for \$10 to \$20 that will serve the purpose.



curved scissors

How often to groom

I recommend brushing your Newf at least once a week. However, twice a week is even better. You will spend quality time with your Newf and be able to feel your dog all over. This can help find not only ticks and bug bites but also any lumps or bumps.

Be especially mindful of grooming during "blow out" when your Newf gets a new coat. This happens in the spring and normally starts by the shoulders or "withers". Blow out happens again in the fall when dogs get their heavier winter coat, again starting at the shoulders.

Being aware of commitment and requirements for Newfoundland grooming is essential when you consider adding the gentle giant to your family. Having proper tools for grooming will keep your Newf's coat in good conditions for years.

Next month: Advanced grooming tools

Nancy Molnar was a professional groomer for show Newfoundlands, pet Newfoundlands, and pets of all breeds. She owned a grooming business for 15 years and one of the first mobile groomers in her area in Hudson, New Hampshire. Nancy also taught grooming classes at her high school.

Why Do Dogs Lick Their Paw?

You may have noticed your Newf licking his paws on a fairly regular basis. Should you be concerned? Licking is a common and completely normal behavior. Dogs groom themselves, just like their feline counterparts – although not so meticulously. If, however, your Newf's paw licking is constant or aggressive, it may be worth a closer look.

First, check if there is any sign of cut or injury to the paw. Look in between the toes and pads for any foreign objects or signs of a sting, bite, or puncture. Check the pads for a burn or irritation. Small wounds can be treated with your pet first aid kit, but any injury should be seen by a veterinarian.



©UK Pets

Dogs also lick themselves to manage pain such as arthritis or pain in the foot or leg. They may even lick their paw when they are experiencing pain in other parts of their body. If you suspect this is the reason, have your Newf checked out by your veterinarian.

Since your Newf explores everything with her feet, they may develop dry or itchy skin from environmental allergies. Grasses, weeds – like Wandering Jew and poison ivy - and dust can all irritate the feet. Dogs lick to try to relieve the itchiness. If they are also sneezing, have swollen eyes or a runny nose, you may be looking at an allergy. Cleaning your Newf's paws when they come in can help alleviate environmental allergy-related symptoms. Itchy paws

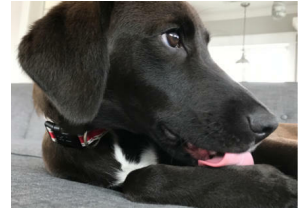
Continued on page 7

Why Do Dogs Lick Their Paw? continued from page 6

can also be a sign of food allergies. If you notice the behavior following mealtimes or snacks, it could be a food allergy. Consult your veterinarian if you suspect any kind of allergy.

Parasites - fleas, ticks, lice, and mites - can cause dogs to be very itchy, including paws, leading to licking. If you notice scratching or licking in other parts of the body, parasites may be to blame. Your veterinarian can help you manage an infestation.

If your Newf is alone for a good part of the day, they may become bored or develop separation anxiety, which can lead to excessive licking. Provide toys and treat puzzles to keep him occupied when you are away. When you are home, increasing exercise and play time with you and other dogs will use up additional energy and help to quiet your pet when he's alone. Check with your veterinarian if you are not able to manage your Newf's anxiety.



©Dreamstime

It's important to act swiftly if your Newf's paw licking is constant. Frequent licking can cause a constant state of moisture on the paw, which can lead to a bacterial or yeast infection. This will result in further licking and possibly swelling or redness. Should you notice these symptoms, a trip to the veterinarian is in order. Constant licking can also cause hot spots - open wounds caused by licking - which will require treatment to dry out the wound and heal.

Recognizing relentless paw licking and the conditions surrounding it will help you to determine the cause and get your Newf some much needed relief.

Sources:

<https://www.fourpaws.com/pets-101/health-and-wellness/why-do-dogs-lick-their-paws#:~:text=When%20you%20think%20of%20pets,suggest%20otherwise%20during%20bathtime!>

<https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/health/why-does-my-dog-lick-and-chew-his-paws/#:~:text=As%20with%20other%20dog%20behaviors,allergies%3B%20and%20boredom%20or%20anxiety>

Hot Cars Kill Animals



infographic from ASPCA

On an 85 degree day, it takes only 10 minutes for the inside of your car to reach 102 degrees. On average, Car temperatures can rise by 30 degrees in just 20 minutes, even with the windows open, putting your pet at risk for heat stroke or even death.

In many states it is illegal to leave an animal unattended in a motor vehicle under dangerous conditions, which includes hot days.

On warm days, do yourself and your Newf a favor and leave him at home if it means he will need to spend any time in the car alone.



Over 700K cancer deaths in the United States is the projection for 2023.

We all know someone affected by cancer.

The funds we hope to raise will help sustain critical research and patient services. Every dollar really does count.

What: **Relay for Life of Northeastern CT "A Newf for Life" team, lots of fun for a great cause.**

We NEED YOU and your NEWFs on our team!!

When: **Saturday, June 10th (ends 10am June 11th for those that stay overnight)**

Where: **Roseland Park, 205 Roseland Park Rd, Woodstock CT**



Pictures from "A Newf for Life" team 2022

Contact Christina McKenna-Weinberg for more details

Cell: 860-455-3770 camckenna2000@gmail.com

Relay For Life is a movement, a community of like-minded survivors, caregivers, volunteers, and participants who believe that the future can be free from cancer. For over 35 years, communities across the world have come together to honor and remember loved ones and take action for lifesaving change. Funds raised through Relay For Life directly support breakthrough research, 24/7 support for cancer patients, access to lifesaving screenings, and much more.

symptoms or a blood test to check for antibodies after four days of the illness.

Transmission

Canine influenza is transmitted through respiratory droplets released from coughing, barking and sneezing. Dog flu can also be spread through walls and floors, food and water bowls, collars and leashes, crates, tables, and clothing and skin of people who come in contact with infected dogs. Dogs in close contact with infected dogs, such as in kennels, groomers, day care facilities, and shelters are at increased risk of infection.

Next month: Control, Treatment, and Vaccines

Sources:

<https://www.avma.org/resources-tools/animal-health-and-welfare/canine-influenza>

<https://vcahospitals.com/know-your-pet/canine-influenza-the-dog-flu>

<https://www.newfdoghealth.org/canineflu.html>

<https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/health/the-dog-flu-symptoms-you-need-to-know/>

Next TNP Open House Scheduled for June 4

Don't miss the next TNP Open House on **June 4** from noon to 3pm at 554 Pucker St, Coventry, Connecticut. The final Open House of the Year will be on **August 20**.

Meet with TNP adopters and folks interested in learning about Newfoundlands and TNP rescue as well as some of the available dogs. All well behaved, leashed dogs are welcome to attend, but be mindful of extreme heat. Pizza and soft drinks will be available.

Applications for adoption, TNP's adoption agreement and other information will be available. Dogs are not adopted during an Open House; they are meet and greet events only.

And don't forget to mark your calendar for **October 1** for the Annual Reunion and Fundraiser. Enjoy an amazing Newfoundland themed raffle, fabulous food and cupcakes, and of course all the Newfoundland dogs who will be in attendance.

All TNP events are held rain or shine.

Watch future newsletters and the TNP Facebook page for more information.

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Donations can be mailed to
That Newfoundland Place, Inc.
554 Pucker Street
Coventry CT 06238



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